



WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

Volume VI - Issue 2

Sept/October 2008

Tater Hill

by Donna L. Koutrakos

When you are a teenage girl living in the suburbs of Buffalo in the Town of Tonawanda, NY, and your father announces that the family is moving to rural Vermont to build and run a golf course you get a little nervous. Even though you have spent every summer of your life at your grandparents' cottage in Londonderry, VT, the thought of living there year round is daunting to say the least. Popple Dungeon Road, Windham, Vermont sounded like the end of the world to us girls in 1966.

With his wife, Lucille, two teenaged daughters, Donna & Judy, and 7 year old youngest son, Donny, Donald Warner did just that. Having formed Tater Hill Corporation in 1964 with an original group of members consisting of Rex Doane, Joe Grover, Harry Littleton, Wayne Peck, Glen Foster, Erwin Dostal, Ray Landman, and Robert Ulbrich from the towns of Londonderry, Weston, Jamaica, and Chester, Don designed the golf course with the help of his son David. Plans were in place for tennis courts, a practice putting green, and a swimming pool, all of which were built in 1966 - 1967.

The nine hole golf course was under construction the day we arrived and although the house had undergone a lot of work such as all new windows, a new heating system, and cosmetic painting. I will never forget the grass out front as well as all around the house and barn was at least a foot tall, it looked like a hayfield. We soon learned that the house was one of the oldest in the Town of Windham, the frame being held together with wooden pegs. These were clearly evident in the basement and attic of the house. There were 3 fireplaces, the huge beautiful kitchen fireplace that I could practically stand in with two brick baking ovens, one fireplace in the living room and another in one of the upstairs bedrooms that had been used for heating purposes.

There were bulldozers, tractors, excavators, and dump trucks at work in the fields surrounding the farm house. Having been a potato farm for years, the fields were perfect for the newly planned golf course. Hence the name, Tater Hill Country Club. Construction of ponds for irrigation, clearing the fairways of rocks and the planting of trees to separate the various holes were ongoing. The very detailed building of the greens on each hole took all that spring and summer. There was a shed-like room originally used for wood storage that connected the house and barn that would become the first Pro-Shop. Since it was right off the kitchen of the house, it also became a light luncheonette for golfers the first couple years. Mom said she worked harder those first few years than she had raising her 5 children. She made lunches, ran the pro-shop and greeted people. In 1967, the first year of operation, a full season's membership for one person was \$69.00. (*Continued page 3*)



Tater Hill Farmhouse

State Primaries September 9

By Edith Serke

Primary elections for state offices will be held on Tuesday, September 9, from 10AM to 7 PM at the Town Office in Windham. Voters may vote for one party only, or their ballots will be void.

In the Democratic Party, there is a contest for Representative to Congress, between incumbent Peter Welch and Craig Barclay Hill of Montpelier. There are two contenders for Lieutenant Governor: Thomas W. Costello of Brattleboro and Nate Freeman of Northfield. Other current office holders as of now have no challengers, but write-in candidates will be considered.

In the Republican Party, there are currently no challengers to Governor Jim Douglas and Lieutenant Governor Brian E. Dubie. Write-ins are possible.

Jane Newton of Londonderry is a candidate for the U.S. Congress under the Liberty Union party's banner. Thomas James Hermann of Barre City is the Progressive Party's candidate for Congress.

Reminder

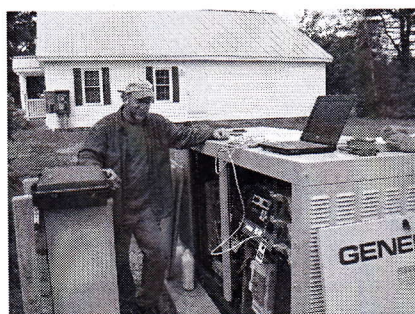
2008 TAXES

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OCTOBER 31, 2008

SELECT BOARD NEWS

As the summer winds down we look back to reflect on a beautiful, if sometimes wet, summer. Most of us will soon be turning our attention to putting the gardens to bed and getting in the last of the firewood to prepare for winter.



As for the Town of Windham, the new emergency generator for the school and town office has been installed and tested. Bob Kehoe of Sparky Electric did the wiring and served as coordinator of the project with Controlled Power Co. of White River Junction who supplied the equipment. We are grateful for Bob's input and help to get this big job accomplished. If you recall from earlier issues, we have received two grants of matching funds from the State totaling \$17,000.00 and will apply for the third in October. Although the final numbers aren't in, the total cost to the town, due to the grants and to careful shopping, will be only a fraction of the original estimate of nearly 40,000.00. Completion of the project puts in place a major piece in our Emergency Preparedness Plan.

The Select Board along with members of the fire company, and interested community members have completed 8 hours of State-provided basic training in emergency management and passed an exam. We now turn our attention to applying to the National Flood Insurance Plan. The town is required to participate in this plan before residents can purchase flood insurance. In addition, participation in the NFIP has become a requirement for getting FEMA grants to cover the costs of repairing flood damage such as occurred in Windham in 2003.

We had a public hearing on the new Town Plan on Monday, July 28th, and several residents attended. Some minor changes were suggested which are now incorporated into the plan, and a new hearing is scheduled for Sept 8th at 6:30 at the Town Office.

A handicapped accessibility committee has been formed to examine the possibility of making the second floor of the Meeting House fully accessible to handicapped people. The Select Board is participating with the Friends of the Meeting House and the Church Building Committee to gather information regarding feasibility and costs for a moving stair or a lift. If you have an opinion or would like to participate in this process, please contact one of us or Jerry Dyke, chair of the Meeting House Building Committee at 874-4428.

You may not have noticed in your drive-bys that there is a small change to the Town Office Building. We now have safety railings on either side of the front entrance. In addition to preventing falls, we feel the railing has improved the appearance of the building. Thanks to Bill Koutrakos for suggesting this improvement and to Jerry Dyke for building and installing the railings.

Several residents have expressed their concerns regarding the speed of cars and trucks traveling on Windham Hill Road. We hope you have noticed the new warnings about horse traffic. Horses can be startled by fast-moving traffic, so please be on the lookout for our local equestrians, and slow down. We will also be replacing lost or stolen speed signs. Windham Hill Road is winding and hilly and we never know what is around the next turn. For your own safety and that of your friends and neighbors, please slow down and be alert.

The physical condition of our roads and bridges continues to be a major part of our budget and consequently our concern. The State has condemned the bridge on Golding Road and we have taken bids for its replacement. The contract has been awarded to Gurney Brothers Construction. A temporary bridge will be built while the steel plate structure is being completed. We have applied for a VTrans grant to help cover the cost of \$176,000. We know this will be an inconvenience for those affected but we have no alternative to replacement.

The recent frequent and heavy rains have taken a toll on some of our dirt roads. The road crew is working hard to repair and regrade. Please bear with them.

We look forward to a beautiful leaf season, regret the passing of another summer and wish all our students good grades in the coming school year.

Your Select Board,

Margaret Dwyer, Chairperson; Walter Woodruff and Mary Boyer

Thank You For Supporting the News and Notes

By Edith Serke

With our last issue, we reminded all our local residents as well as our out-of-town property owners that it was time to renew their subscriptions to the Windham News and Notes. We had an overwhelming response and some very nice and complimentary comments. We also had some suggestions as to what people liked to read about and what else they would like to see in the News & Notes, e.g. more historical stories about Windham. If you have such records or information, we would love to include it in future issues. And if you would like to join the News and Notes Team to help with any of the tasks of writing, editing, layout, production, and mailing, just call any of us on the Team.

TATER HILL (Continued from page 1)

The huge barn became the "club house", complete with a kitchen, bar, and dining area, the hand hewn barn beams were very much a big part of its country charm. It has been expanded and changed several times over the years.

We all learned to play golf! The course had and has amazing views from any of the holes. It became a very special place in our lives. I remember the first winter getting on a toboggan with Donny & Judy and sledding from the second green, at the time up behind the tennis courts, all the way down the hill, onto the road, past the cemetery for another ½ mile before we came to a stop.

Don's dream of it becoming a family gathering place came true. There were a lot of "family memberships" that included the golf course, swimming pool, and tennis courts. I remember meeting and making lots of friends there that I still have today.

Both my sister and I became life guards at the pool and did many other jobs. Donny did a lot of mowing while he was growing up there. The course became a place of employment for several local Windham residents. Paul Wyman, who had lived in the house himself when he was growing up, was the greens-keeper for years. Others have worked there over the years in maintenance, restaurant work, and for several winters there was a cross country ski shop and trails as well as snowmobiling.

There was also the landing strip Dad built across the street from the course. Dad, golf pro, was also a licensed flight instructor for small planes. He had his own plane and flew in and out of there in the summer, keeping it in Springfield the rest of the year. It was not an official airport as it was not usable during mud season or in the winter. By the way, I did not even know what "mud season" was until we moved to Popple Dungeon Road.

I can't remember how many years Dad ran the snowmobile rentals out of the barn across the street. I do remember helping pull people out of snow banks or leading a trail ride once in awhile. Some people we had to limit to the landing strip area as they were too inexperienced to venture farther than that. The snowmobiles were constantly breaking down and eventually insurance became an expensive option for renting them. That also was true of the horse back riding we had one summer.

The cost of running a golf course in Vermont with its short summer season was the reason that Tater Hill Corporation eventually had to sell it. Since then, it has had several owners, undergone many changes, and had different names, such as Windham Heights Country Club, over the last 42+ years. The many changes include the fact that it is now a beautiful full 18 hole golf course, the second nine expanding into the town of Andover. Sadly the swimming pool was filled in years ago. Okemo Mountain Resort purchased the course in 2004 renaming it Tater Hill Golf Club reviving it with many renovations to greens and the back nine holes.

My father, Don Warner, ran Tater Hill for years for the corporation and for some of the subsequent owners. When I called him to ask advice for this article, he was on the golf course near his home in Florida. At 90 years of age, he is still out there playing almost every day.

As for Tater Hill Golf Club, it always makes me smile and is nice to drive by and see people enjoying our wonderful Windham outdoors!

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WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

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Acknowledgements

Thanks to all who provided articles. Their names are noted with their submissions

We welcome submissions.

Send articles of around 300 words to the address below. We prefer emailed submissions.

Next deadline**October 17, 2008**

Windham News & Notes

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Windham Congregational Church News

By Nancy Dyke

BROWN BAG SUNDAY

The second Sunday of the month has been designated as Brown Bag Sunday by the Windham Congregational Church. On or around this day people are invited to bring a brown grocery bag for the Food Pantry box, containing non-perishable foods, paper products, and cleaning products. **COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.** The Food Pantry box is located in the front hall of the Meeting House and items can be dropped off any time the Meeting House is open. The contents of the box will be taken to the Londonderry Food Pantry after the second Sunday of the month. For more information, contact Ian Bailes.

SUMMER DAY CAMP

Summer 2008 Day Camp took on a different face. The Windham Congregational Church did not conduct its own Day Camp at the Meeting House as it has in the past. Instead, it offered scholarships to Windham children to attend other camps. Several students took advantage of the offer and chose to attend the Explorer's Camp in Newfane sponsored by the Central Supervisory Union. During this time the Day Camp Committee of the church has been evaluating its past program and is planning to conduct its own Summer Camp program again in 2009 with some important changes and improvements. Announcements about those plans will be forthcoming.

A NEW TIME FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION

Prayer and Meditation time, led by Ian Bailes is now scheduled for Thursday rather than Wednesday evenings at the Meeting House at 6:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend this time of centering and intercession.

PEACE SUNDAY

Paul and Dorothy Alberti from Londonderry will be guests at the Windham Congregational Church on International Peace Sunday on September 21. Special activities are planned for the 9:30 AM service to which everyone is invited. Watch for a "Peace Pole" to appear at the Meeting House.

VOLUNTEER COOKS WELCOMED AT RUTLAND DISMAS HOUSE

By David Crittenden

Since 1990 Rutland Dismas House has been welcoming former prisoners back to Vermont. Founded in 1973 in Nashville as a residential community for adults making the transition from prison to society, there are now Dismas Houses throughout the United States. They are drug-free communities of, by, and for the people. For about a year now, Windham volunteers have cooked, served, and shared dinner once a month with Dismas residents in Rutland. Anyone is welcome to participate by providing home-cooked food, by going to Rutland to serve the food and chat with the residents, or both.

On August 11th, Ginny and Dave Crittenden served roast pork prepared by Bill Koutrakos, carrot cake made by Ken Fenner, and Ginny's trimmings. I sat next to a man who had arrived that afternoon after seven years in an Oklahoma prison and a 21-hour trip in leg-irons. He told me that eating that meal with that mix of people sitting around the table was a freedom he hadn't known in many, many years. Many families have volunteered – Friedli, Dyke, Fenner, Chase, Scott, Crittenden, diMonda, Trask, Koutrakos, Erhardt – and more are encouraged to help this under-served population. If you are interested, sign up on the list in the Meeting House or call Dave Crittenden at 874-4049.

HELP WANTED—SCHOOL CUSTODIAN

Custodian wanted for the Windham Elementary school. Duties will include light cleaning and maintenance throughout the school year and occasional setup and cleanup work for school events. Person must be able to work additional hours during the summer for seasonal cleaning and maintenance. Flexible schedule. Local person preferred. Please contact Roberta Stradling, principal at 874-4159 or 463-1988



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Valley Bible Church News

Vacation Bible School—Dino Detectives!

By Kathy Griffin



We at Valley Bible Church had a great week during this summer's Vacation Bible School Dino Detectives. With 30 children per day, we were able to "dig" into God's Word and learn about the creation of the world and the creation of dinosaurs. We discussed such questions as "When did dinosaurs arrive on earth?", "Did Noah really have an ark?" and "What happened to the dinosaurs?". The children explored our "museum", made lots of neat crafts, and had fun playing games together. They were also able to meet new friends including Aunt BB and her niece Jill, Tuff Stuff Triceratops, and Digger Dave. Our staff really enjoyed the time with the children during the lessons and activity times and we look forward to next summer's VBS adventure!

Windham Teen "Cowboys Up" to the Challenge

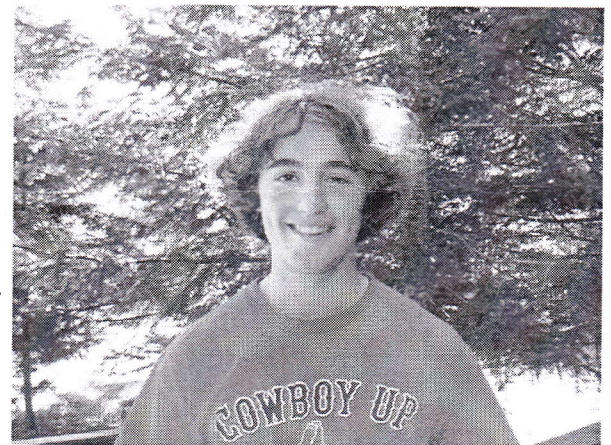
By Gina Noel

The Leland & Gray Rebels hadn't reached the State Division III baseball finals in 29 years and an injury to star pitcher, Ryan Lawley, put the outlook for 2008 in question.

Fortunately, Gabe Pozzi and a number of other underclassmen stepped up to the challenge and helped the team achieve the ultimate goal. A key game in the run to the State Championship was the meeting late in the season with eventual state runner-up, Poultney. Sophomore pitcher, Gabe Pozzi, led the team to 9-4 win in Townshend. Late in the State Quarterfinals against Northfield, Gabe relieved Ryan Lawley in the seventh inning and struck out all three batters in the eighth inning to give the Rebels an opportunity to win the crucial game and continue their march to the State Championship win.

As Gabe enters his junior year at Leland & Gray and thinks about the future, his dream is to play professional baseball but is still considering other options.

Gabe also loves other sports and the outdoors: soccer, mountain biking and snowboarding to name a few. Gabe likes to hang out with friends and go to movies – comedies are his favorite, pizza is a bonus.



It seems like a really short summer when you return to school in August, but Gabe is ready and anticipating another winning year. Windham wishes Gabe the best of luck.

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RECOGNIZING A STROKE—Call 911 Immediately If.....

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking the person to do these simple tasks:

SMILE—Is their smile lopsided?

Stick out your **TONGUE**—Does it go to one side or the other?

TALK or say a simple sentence like, "the sun is shining today".

RAISE-- Raise both arms simultaneously.

.....Describe symptoms to dispatcher.

Christie Hidy Knows No Strangers

by Mary McCoy

Ask 81 year-old Christie Hidy to tell you about herself, and you will quickly discover that she is a people person. She replies by telling you about others, including her four children, six grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren whose photos decorate her home on Horsenail Hill Road. She begins with Edward Rawson, a distant relative in her father's family who came to America from England in 1636. Originally settling in Massachusetts, the Rawsons moved to Townshend, then founded Rawsonville, south of South Londonderry. A monument on Route 30, erected in 1913, marks the early history of the area.

Christie's grandfather, a paperhanger and jeweler, kept a diary from 1913 to 1939 which recorded many details about the family and life in Vermont. Christie's grandmother took in boarders, salesmen and railroad men, from the train that stopped in Londonderry at that time. Christie's father, Ethelbert (known as Thub) and her mother, Cecilia, had ten children who attended school and church in South Londonderry. Christie was the second oldest, and the youngest was Robert who now lives next door to her and at 72 still works at Bromley managing water systems.



These days, Christie spends time with her many friends and family members, including at the annual Rawson reunion with relatives from around the country. Her other activities include reading, working crossword puzzles, exercising, and attending the senior Brown Bag Lunches. She has earned her relaxation after a busy life.

Christie's father rented two dairy farms off Route 11. When Christie graduated from high school in 1945, she moved to South Chicago to help care for the children of the farms' owner's brother. She attended dances at Fort Sheridan for the soldiers there, sponsored by Curtis Candy. At only five-feet-tall, Christie avoided the scramble when candy was thrown onto the floor for the dancers, fearful she'd be knocked over. Jack Hidy offered to get some for her. The next year they married.

After Jack returned from the war, they lived in Buffalo, NY, but they liked Vermont better and eventually returned, settling in Bellows Falls, where he worked in plumbing. They had four children – Cheryl, Rosemary, Stuart, and Rebecca – and in 1961 when they were all in school, Christie went to work as an aide in a nursing home, where she stayed for 13 years. Her father gave them land in Windham to use as a camp, but they came here so often, they decided to make it their permanent home and moved in 1965. Christie drove to Bellows Falls each day with Ralph Wyman's mother, Olive, the nursing home's cook.

Tragedy struck in November '65 when their 14-year-old daughter Rebecca was diagnosed with cancer. Each week, they drove her to Boston for treatments. Christie said, "On the 8th of June 1966, she was in school. On the 10th, she died." This was not the first or last time Christie lost a loved one. Her own mother died unexpectedly at 58. Christie had lost a fifth child at birth. Then in 1974, her husband became ill with inoperable cancer and began chemotherapy and radiation treatments. Jack was strong and had never been previously ill, working at Bromley in the generator room, driving a school bus, and serving as a Windham lister. He fought off his illness for nine years and passed on at age 58.

When Jack first became ill, Christie took a job closer to home at the Londonderry Inn, each day waiting breakfast tables, working in housekeeping, then waiting dinner tables. She liked the inn and the owners, but it got to be too much. In 1981, she moved to Dostal's Motel at Magic Mt., cleaning rooms, as well as cleaning houses on the side. After Jack died, she got a job with the Vermont Country Store, packing merchandise, first in Weston, then Manchester, and eventually in Clarendon. She didn't like the winter drive over Mt. Holly and declared herself retired at age 67½. Still, she continued to help out in the busy season and took care of her sister-in-law's mother. Retirement finally came at age 69.

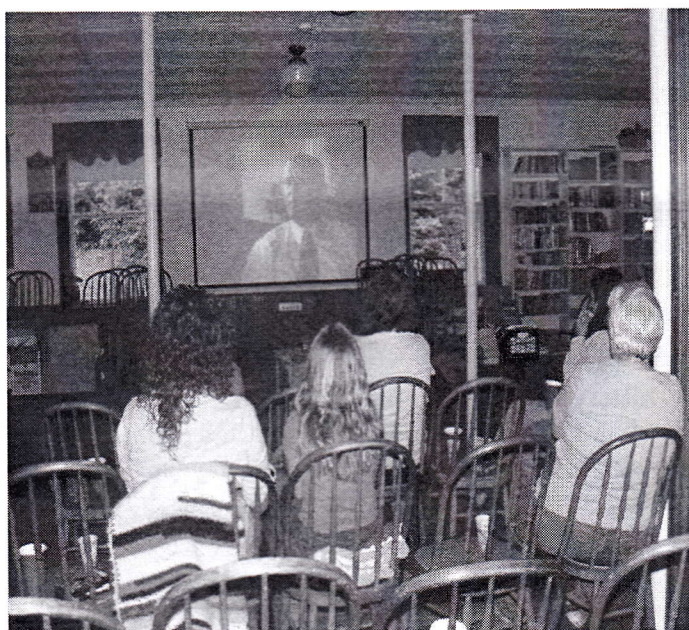
Christie had celebrated her 65th birthday with a party, which a widower Fay Dryden attended. He took her photo, delivered it to her, and they became great friends. Known as Brick for his once red hair, he took her to truck

pulls to watch his sons complete and to other events and places. They were companions for seven years when one day he did not come to her house as planned, having suffered a fatal heart attack. "I expected my husband's death," Christie said. "But not Fay's."

Christie has had two heart attacks herself, and when she refers to them, being a people person, she describes her doctors and care givers. But how does she deal with her own illnesses and losses? She thinks a moment and responds, "I don't get depressed, and I don't think about mortality. If something bothers me, I get it out, have a crying spell. I don't dwell on it. If I don't feel well, I don't worry others about it. If there's pain, like I have with my arthritis, I just do what I have to do." She laughs, "Oh, it helps to groan a little."

Despite her Vermont roots going back to the 1800s, Christie's generous heart embraces newcomers. "I've heard others say that flat-landers come here because they like the way Vermont is, but then they want to change things. I don't think it's really that. Things are changing everywhere in the U.S. with more rules and regulations. I don't think we can operate like that, but I haven't seen that flat-landers are to blame." Similarly, she disagrees with "all this talk about gay people. I've worked with gay people, and they're kind people who will bend over backwards for you. Like all people, some might be pushy, but certainly not all."

For 43 years, Windham has been blessed to have Christie Hidy as a resident. This October, she will move to an apartment at Smith Haven, a senior center in Londonderry. "What do I need my five-bedroom house for?" she explains. This is Windham's loss. Christie, come visit us often!



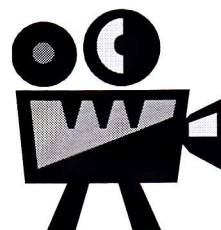
Movie Night at the Library

The Meeting House is now equipped with a large screen and a sound system.

The Library took advantage of it this summer to show movies for the children young and old on Tuesday nights.

We hope to continue showing movies for the entire community throughout the year.

Many thanks to Beverly Carmichael, our librarian, for putting this together - and serving free popcorn!



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NEXTEL



Windham History



South Windham Looking North

I do thank all of you who are re-subscribing to Windham News and Notes and thanks also to the many who mentioned how much they enjoy the Windham history pieces. I have discovered some new items and may possibly repeat a few old ones, so please bear with me, but we do have some new subscribers for whom this will be "new news".

When I was preparing to help out as the Pastor for the Meeting House in Windham, I learned that some of the earliest records were stored at the library in the University of Vermont. So I went to Burlington and spent several days there going through them. I was disappointed, however, as I realized that it was history that I wanted,

while the books kept by the church clerks were mainly involved in the "Hatching, Matching, and Dispatching" (births, marriages, deaths, pardon the pun!) However, I did find out a few things...

I secured a copy of the original, hand-written history of the town of Windham by James Harvey Upham, and delivered by him at a missionary meeting when he was twenty five years old. The Upham place was in West Windham, near where Paul Dutton has his apple orchard now.

Now, for a bit of James Upham's history: James Harvey Upham was born in Windham, on June 25th, 1826, the son of Gardner Upham and Eunice A. Emery, and grandson of Johnathan Upham and Squire Amos Emery, all of Windham. He graduated from Oberlin college; was married December 12th, 1854, to Harriet K. Hitchcock of Spenser Mass; prepared for the Christian ministry at Bangor Theological Seminary (where I also trained many years later); sadly, he died in Bangor on July 1st, 1856, two or three days before his graduation.

Without his effort we would have had very little of the early history of this town. This information was discovered by our Minister at the time, Rev. Raymond A. Beardslee. Back in 1967, the Windham School Club published a pamphlet which sold for a dollar. We thought that we might excerpt this material in the coming months in Windham News and Notes. We also have some pictures that I have not seen before, and will be publishing some of them, so stay tuned!

That's all for now, Margaret Woodruff



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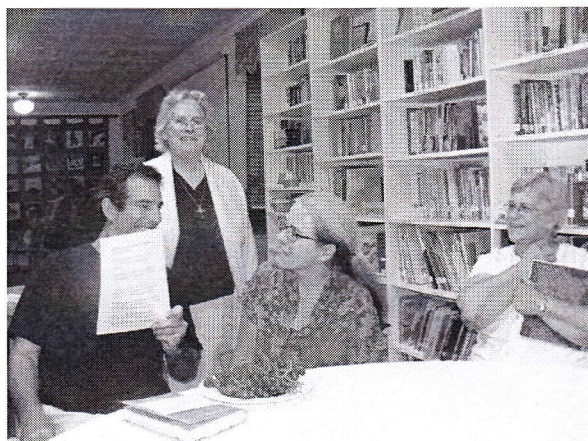
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Writing Group Hosts Published Author

By Beverly Carmichael

C. J. King, published author and fellow Vermonter paid a visit to the Windham Library this month. She met with our writing group to give us some advice about getting a book published. Her current book, "Four Marys and a Jessie," is now in its third printing. It is the story of the Lincoln women at Hildene. You can find a copy at our library. If you would like to sign it out, please come any Wednesday from 3 – 5.

Free In-Home Counseling Program for Seniors

The Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont, Inc. is offering a free in-home counseling program called PEARLS. PEARLS stands for Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives for Seniors. Often the losses we endure as we age (for example, loss of loved ones, independence, physical health, or social isolation) can lead to feelings of loneliness, sadness, frustration, irritability, anxiousness, or restlessness. Gone unattended, these feelings can lead to a common medical condition known as depression. Depression, even minor depression, interferes with how well we function, how active we are and how we interact with others. In short, it greatly affects our quality of life.

The PEARLS Program is for eligible seniors 60 years or older residing in Windham or Windsor Counties, who have been feeling down or blue or who have lost interest in doing things. The program teaches clients a method to solve problems associated with their depression. Clients also learn skills to manage these unpleasant feelings and improve their quality of life by increasing pleasant activities and becoming more socially and physically active.

The program involves meeting individually with a counselor and finding ways to meet challenges in life. If you want to learn more, call Kelly Wicker, PEARLS Counselor at:

1-802-885-2694 or toll free at 1-866-673-8376.

REMINDER...

The Senior Brown Bag Lunch group meets on the third Wednesday of each month at noon at the Meeting House for mutual support and to discuss any issues and/or concerns.



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AUNT LOTTIE AND THE YOUNG RUFFIANS

By Nancy Dyke

I've been thinking about Aunt Lottie lately which is unusual since I never knew her well. I was a teenager when she was in her eighties. I think my memory has been jogged by the current conversations in our town about "handicapped accessibility".

Aunt Lottie had a problem. She was missing church services now that she could no longer climb steps. The two half-flights in front of the building presented a huge barrier. Besides, what about the weekly chats with her friends at church, and, yes, the village gossip?

One day she was fussing about it to her neighbor, Fran, who went into action on the spot. "You just get yourself ready on time and we'll get you to church and up the steps," Fran insisted. True to her promise, Fran and her family drove her to church, helped her to the front steps and deposited her in a waiting parlor chair.

To one side stood a group of high school boys anticipating the coming event. At once Aunt Lottie began to have doubts, but Fran moved right ahead, choosing two hefty boys from the group. Before Aunt Lottie knew what had happened, the boys lifted the chair, tilted it slightly backwards and began moving her up the steps.

I couldn't have been the only bystander amused by the incongruence between the loud and boisterous teens and the frail but imperious elderly lady, for Aunt Lottie quickly assumed as much dignity as she could muster. First she pulled her coat more closely around herself, careful to avoid even the slightest breach of modesty. Then she sat primly with her small, veiled hat perched on her white head and her rather large black pocketbook clutched in her veined and wrinkled hands. Her whole countenance took on an air of detachment.

Once inside, the boys placed the chair carefully near the back of the sanctuary where she was the center of attention. She hadn't received this much attention since her 80th birthday party.

After the service the boys reversed the process. Aunt Lottie immediately assumed her regal air, hoping desperately that she wasn't making a spectacle of herself.

It was quick, gentle and effective, as Fran had hoped, but she couldn't help wondering if Aunt Lottie would agree to this again. Tentatively she phoned her near the end of the week. As she feared, Aunt Lottie gave her an earful. Why hadn't she been warned that she would be toted about by those young ruffians?

"It worked, didn't it?" Fran argued. "You participated in the church service again, and the boys had a chance to show off their muscles. Besides, don't you think it does them good to feel that they've helped someone?"

Aunt Lottie was quiet on the other end of the line, and she was ready every Sunday morning thereafter at 9:00 on the dot. Always, though, she insisted on referring to her porters as "those young ruffians."

Last week I saw the Lift Committee in our town, sort through pamphlets describing the latest in electronic chairs and lifts. I overhear conversations about price bids, feasibility studies, and projected use and I can't help wondering, "Where have all the young ruffians gone?"

Rain Didn't Interfere With Chicken BBQ

By Edith Serke

The threat of rain didn't stop people from lining up early for the WCO Annual Chicken BBQ on July 19th. There was a record turn-out and everybody had a great time, even the servers who got drenched toward the end of the food service. The proceeds from this event will be used to help out neighbors who may face temporary problems because of illness or other unforeseen problems, especially during the coming winter. We want to thank all those who so generously contributed to the raffle: *Lasser Ceramics, The New American Grille, Londonderry Hardware, Stoddard Exxon, Grandma Miller, Grandma Frisbie, Chris Fisher, Hot Glass Works, Misty River Books, Joy of Junque, Clark's IGA, Green Mountain Pharmacy, and Glebe Mountain Nursery*. Please help support these generous individuals and businesses.



Yankee Male Chorus Visits Windham

On Thursday, August 7, The Yankee Male Chorus, under the direction of Nelson Burhans, David Lance, and Bruce Wagner, once again treated the residents of Windham to a concert. Although there were fewer singers this year, the music was as good, if not better, than previous years. It was a nice mix of patriotic songs, show tunes, and spirituals.

The concert was well attended and there were positive comments from both the audience and the singers.

Thanks to Billy Koutrakos and the crew, who provided dinner to the singers and their families, for a job well done!

Windham Fire Company Thanks Everyone

By The Windham Fire Company

Mother Nature let up on her endless days of rain to allow a sunny August 9 for the WFC to have their annual auction and barbeque.

It was a grand success beginning with the flea market and ending with the pie auction much later at night. It could never have happened without the usual people who donate countless hours of their time for the whole month before.

To them a simple thank you just doesn't seem to be enough.

Many businesses donated new items or gift certificates and for that we truly thank them.

To all who came to the auction and again to the barbeque later in the evening, we gratefully appreciate your participation.

For, without you, it would never happen. We of the Fire Co. hope everyone had as much fun that day as we had putting it together.

We look forward to seeing you all next year on the second Saturday of August.



Astonishing distant views, complete quiet, unparalleled privacy; Mtn. tops, valley streams & a pond, minutes from 4-season activities, this VT vernacular farmhouse offers contemporary updates & amenities plus room to grow. Newly hand-crafted P&B barn/garage with heated work-shop & loft is superb! Inspire your creative self, live where panoramic is real & nature thrives. \$668,000 Call Barrett & Valley Assoc., Inc at 843-2390.

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above address or preferably by email to
windhamnews@hotmail.com*

Windham Town Office

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GET INVOLVED
IN WINDHAM!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Every Sunday - **Windham Congregational Church (UCC)** has worship services at 9:30 AM; everyone invited.

Every Sunday and Thursday - **Valley Bible Church** has services: *Sunday* - 9:45 AM Sunday School, 11 AM Worship followed by lunch and 1 PM Bible Study; *Thursday* - 7:00 PM Prayer Meeting and Bible Study.

Every Wednesday - **Windham Town Library** open at Meeting House from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. Also at that time: reading group on first Wednesday of the month.

Tuesday, Sept 9—**Vermont Primary**—10:00 AM to 7:00 PM—Town Office

Monday, Sept 8 and 22 and Oct 13 and 27 - **Select Board** meets at 6:30 PM at the Town Office; Public Invited.

Monday, Sept 8 - **Windham Town Plan Public Hearing** at 6:30 PM at the Town Office

Wednesday, Sept 17 and Oct 15- **Brown Bag Chat Group** at noon at the Meeting House.

Wednesday, Sept 24 and Oct 29 - **Windham Community Organization** meets at 7:00 PM at the Meeting House

Thursday, Sept 11 and Oct 9 - **Windham Planning Commission** at 7:15 PM at the Town Office

Friday, Oct 31—**Real Estate Taxes Due**

Saturday, Nov 1—**Deadline for Submissions to Library Photo Contest! (See Insert)**

Saturday, Nov 8 - **Annual Harvest Supper** 5:00 PM at the Meeting House —**Save the date!**

Annual Windham Photo Contest
CAPTURING THE BEAUTY OF WINDHAM

Limit of 3 photos per person. Originals Preferred.

8" X 10" photos are best for display and judging.

Please do not mount or frame your photos.

Only photos of Windham will be considered for prizes and for the 2009
Windham calendar.

Mail or deliver to: Windham Town Office or
Windham Town Library
7071 Windham Hill Road
Windham, VT 05359

Photos will be exhibited in the library from November 1 – December 1
Judging, and voting for the 2009 calendar photos will occur during the
Christmas carol sing/tree lighting ceremony.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

Address _____

Please give this photo a title _____

Other details about the photo _____

Please read and sign below:

I understand that contest photos become the property of the Windham Town Library. Any income derived from the use of the photos will go to the Windham Town Library for the betterment of the library. Any use of a photo will credit the photographer. The photo may be included in the 2009 Windham Town Calendar.

I understand that this photo will be exhibited for public viewing in the Windham Town Library from November 1 – 30 and may also be exhibited at other Town events. I further understand that only photos of Windham will be considered for prizes and for the Windham Town Calendar.

Signed _____ Date _____