



The Cabot Chronicle

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Alicia Esser Visits the Willey Building Willey Memorial Hall



Alicia Esser researches references to her great uncles' generosity.

By Staff Writer

Who is Alicia Esser? She rode into town on a motorcycle last month, touring Cabot sights and scenery that she had heard so much about from her grandmother, Elizabeth Dickenson. Elizabeth Dickenson, herself, a grand niece of C.A. Willey, lives in Solvang, CA, and is a long-time supporter of the Cabot Library. For many years, Elizabeth has boxed up books and sent them to the library in honor of her great uncle. Elizabeth Dickenson has often told Alicia about her grandmother's older brother, C.A. Willey, and his story of finding fortune. By Alicia's account, her grandmother tells that C.A. Willey lived on a farm outside of town, where he sugared and painted coaches for a living. Working with paints, he managed to develop a lacquer for coaches that would stand up to Vermont's harsh weather conditions. This weatherproof coating caught the attention of the Ford Motor Company, who bought this lacquer and contributed to C.A. Willey becoming quite a successful businessman.

After Alicia's Willey Building visit, she headed for the Elm Street Cemetery, where her grandmother directed her to



Alicia Esser delights in the painting of C.A. Willey she had heard about her entire life.

seek out the headstones of other relatives, both Willeys and Mallors. Ms. Esser is eager to connect with anyone who knowingly is a descendant of the Willey Family or the Mallor Family. Call the Chronicle for the contact information for either Alicia Esser or Elizabeth Dickenson.



Willey Memorial Hall, circa 1922. Photo compliments of the Cabot Historical Society.

By Jane Brown

Willey Memorial Hall is so much a part of the Town of Cabot that many of us pass by it daily or even enter it on a regular basis and don't think about it except that it's big and gray and the stairs creak as you climb them and sometimes the elevator doesn't work. We use the library to sign out books or as a quiet place to read a magazine or use a computer, and downstairs, the business of the town is conducted, with records kept in neat files or the big walk-in vault. On the top floor of the building is a large and very pleasant auditorium with a stage and a balcony. The building is a treasure for our town and probably wouldn't exist were it not for the hard work of the Judith Lyford Woman's Club and the generosity of one Charles A. Willey.

Cabot first established a public library in 1896. There were only a dozen or fifteen books at any one time in the collection, supplied by the state and circulating libraries. The books were kept at the post office, in private houses or at Farrington's store. The Judith Lyford Woman's Club, named for the brave, or some might say foolhardy, woman who stole a bear cub from its mother some 100 years earlier, was organized in 1912. One of the primary concerns the ladies had was the lack of permanent space for the town's "library" which would allow for expansion and more diversity of reading material – in other words, a proper library.

Mr. Willey, a former resident of Cabot and owner of a prosperous company in New York City that produced "Automobile, Carriage and Car Paints, Colors and Varnishes, Etc.," was invited to speak during the Old Home Week festivities in 1916. While in town, he learned of the ladies' effort to build

a library and he offered to match, two for one, every dollar they raised for the project, which was to include space for town offices and a community meeting hall.

The ladies, brave as Judith, took the challenge, and within a year had earned \$3,573.15. Charles Willey sent them his check for \$7,646.36. Architect F. A. Walker in Montpelier was paid \$46.50 for preliminary design and building plans and was then hired for \$350 to complete the project. Dr. L. W. Burbank was named head of the building committee. He kept meticulous records. People donated their time or materials, as well as money, to complete the project. Dr. Burbank set it all down in his notebook. The building was completed in 1921, at a total cost of \$15,829. Mr. Willey died in 1918, so never saw the impressive building which his generosity had made possible.

Judith Lyford Woman's Club supported the library until May, 1971, when the club disbanded. On April 16, 1974, Willey Memorial Hall was deeded to the town with the provision they would continue to support the library. In 1996, the building was renovated at a cost of \$300,000 to bring it to today's building code standards, increase energy efficiency, and allow expansion of the library and town office spaces, but the sturdy Greek Revival design of the building remains intact, and Mr. Charles A. Willey would no doubt be pleased it still serves his boyhood community well.

Dr. Burbank's original notebook is on display at the Cabot Historical Society museum, along with papers pertaining to the 1995-6 renovation. All have been scanned for use by the public and originals properly archived. Jane Brown is a volunteer archivist at the Cabot Historical Society.

Abigail Runs The Cash Register



"NEXT!" Abby Searles operates a cash register at the Cabot Village Store like a seasoned professional, at only eight years of age. She'll probably ring through her first million in sales long before she's old enough to vote! Staff photo.

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Future of Visioning Brings Cabot Into Focus



By Irene Nagle

A gathering of about 40 Cabot residents turned out for a community planning forum hosted by the Cabot Planning Commission on September 13 at the Willey Building. This was the second in a series of events designed to gather input from the community that will help define the goals and objectives contained in the 2011 Cabot Town Plan. The first was the community-wide planning survey conducted this past June that gathered the opinions of 85 Cabot residents.

As people entered they were directed to a map of the town, where they marked the location of their residence with a pin. By the end of the evening, it was evident that attendees came from all areas of Cabot. A buffet dinner was followed by a presentation by Gary Gulka, Planning Commission Chairman, on the purpose of and benefits to Cabot of having a Town Plan. Irene Nagle, assistant to the Cabot Planning Commission, presented highlights from the recently conducted community planning survey followed by Bill McMaster, Community Resource Specialist with UVM Extension, who provided insight into to the characteristics of Town residents, including age, level of education and income. Copies of the presentations are available for viewing through the Town's website, www.cabotvt.us.

All residents at the meeting were then given the task of describing the

ideal and desired Cabot of the year 2030. After breaking into smaller groups to brainstorm, and then reconvening to share what had emerged from each group, the attendees began the task of identifying themes that were evident in the various vision statements.

Sentiments expressed included the desire for a vibrant village center, a strong local economy, a quality educational system, effective local governance, and greater self-reliance in energy and food. There was also debate concerning growth, and whether realization of the various visions may or may not be dependent on growth. The end result was a list of the many statements describing the ideal Cabot of the future, organized by theme. This collection of statements will provide the raw material for the Planning Commission to craft a vision that will serve as a guide for the goals and plans of action contained in the 2011 Cabot Town Plan.

The Planning Commission plans to host additional issue-specific forums beginning in the fall and continuing throughout the winter. They will focus on topics such as housing, energy, transportation, economic development, land use and recreation. Visit the Town website for notices of these future events, or e-mail cabotplanning@gmail.com and ask to be placed on the Planning Commission's e-mail list.

Selectboard seeks advisory committee to draft a town parking and traffic plan

The Select Board will be appointing an ad hoc advisory committee to make recommendations about parking and traffic issues in Cabot and is looking for interested community members to help draft a plan for the select board in preparation for town meeting 2011. Please make your interest known to the Town Clerk's office at 563- 2279, tcocabot@fairpoint.net, or call or email Caleb Pitkin at 563-9965 or cpitkin@fairpoint.net.

Public Notice For GENERAL ELECTION

By Tara Rogerson

A General Election will be held at the Cabot School Gym on Tuesday, November 2, 2010, from 10 am to 7pm to vote on a proposal to the Vermont Constitution and to vote for candidates for the following offices:

US Senator	US Representative
Governor	Lt. Governor
State Treasurer	Secretary of State
Auditor of Accounts	Attorney General
State Representative(s)	State Senator(s)
Probate Judge	Assistant Judge(s)
State's Attorney	Sheriff
High Bailiff	Justice of the Peace

To see if the voters will amend the Vermont Constitution by amending Chapter II §42 to read:

§42. [Voter's Qualifications and Oath]

Every person of the full age of eighteen years who is a citizen of the United States, having resided in the State for the period established by the General Assembly and who is of a quiet and peaceable behavior, and will take the following oath or affirmation, shall be entitled to all the privileges of a voter of this state:

You solemnly swear (or affirm) that whenever you give your vote or suffrage, touching any matter that concerns the State of Vermont, you will do it so as in your own conscience you shall judge will most conduce to the best good of the same, as established by the Constitution, without fear or favor of any person.

Every person who will attain the full age of eighteen years by the date of the general election who is a citizen of the United States, having resided in the State for the period established by the General Assembly and who is of a quiet and peaceable behavior, and will take the oath or affirmation set forth in this section, shall be entitled to vote in the primary election.

Due to the Primary Election recount, absentee ballots for the General Election will not be available in the Cabot Town Clerk's Office until October 4, 2010. If you are unable to attend the General Election, please call 802-563-2279 to have an absentee ballot mailed to you, or stop in to pick up or fill out your absentee ballot in the office at the Willey Building, 3084 Main Street, Cabot.

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The Cabot Chronicle

The Cabot Chronicle is distributed the first day of the month and is provided locally free of charge. ~ Mission Statement ~

The mission of The Cabot Chronicle is to regularly publish local news for the residents of the Cabot Area. Our purpose is to share information that will help readers become better involved in their Community.

Phone: 802-563-3338 • Email: inbox@cabotchronicle.org

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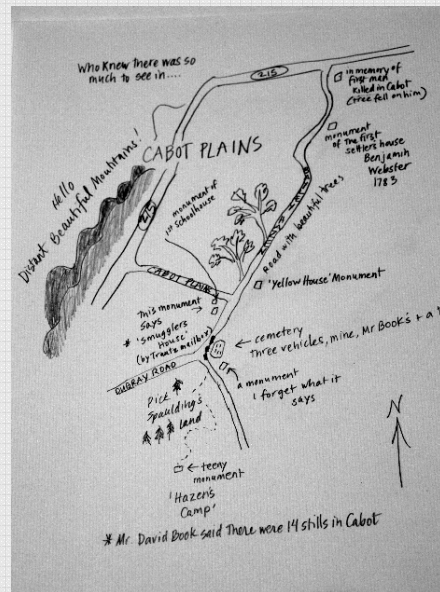
Editor: Anne Nadel

Pagination: Todd Jones

Find current news, great links to your community, discussion forums and more about our paper on the web at www.cabotchronicle.org

Cabot, Our Town

By Julia Shipley



Don't give up. We're here to help.

CABOT CONFIDENTIAL

A note from the Chronicle staff about this new feature: The Cabot Cameos are one of the most distinctive and well-received features of this newspaper, but cub reporter, Julia Shipley wanted to take the idea one step further. Instead of asking three to five people the same question and collecting their answers, she wanted to focus on one Cabot community member and ask him or her three to five questions. The purpose of this new column is to help readers realize, recognize, and get to know a little bit more about their neighbors.

Martha Foster

By Julia Shipley

Martha Foster is the owner of the Old Crow Craft Farm, a store in her home full of decorative signs and furnishings with an old time country flair. She graciously agreed to be the first subject of the column.



What's your favorite item in the store?

Well, I like the dolls a lot, and my signs, and the penny rugs. [The penny rug is a decorative table runner or wall hanging made of felt pieces sewn together].



How did you come up with the name "Old Crow"?

I wanted to name it "As the Crow Flies" but someone already had that name. I didn't want to keep submitting names to the state to register. I knew nobody would have taken the name "Old Crow."



Why are they called penny rugs?

Because they used to use a penny to cut out the penny sized pieces that go on them.

Why did you locate your Craft Farm in Cabot?

Well, we owned the hardware store here [in Cabot] for 12 years. My husband's father went to Cabot School, my husband went to Cabot School, my kids all went to Cabot School and my grandkids graduated from Cabot School! I guess we're Cabot people.

Faith In Action

Northern Communities Partnership Report

By Bill Cobb

We are now settling into our Food Share and small office space in the former Cabot Masonic Building where the first floor is slowly being transformed into a Community Center for Cabot. The new kitchen is in with two new electric stoves, a three-bay sink and quality wooden oak cabinets. Both the kitchen and Food Share/office rooms have been insulated with foam in the ceilings, aluminum coated insulating boards added to the existing blown insulation in the outside walls, with new 5/8-inch, fire-coded sheetrock throughout. In addition to Faith In Action's \$5,000 cash investment in the project, 12,000 to 15,000 hours of skilled Volunteer labor and a portion of the UDAG funds approved by voters at Town Meeting, has gone into this first round of interior projects.

Join us for a free Community Dinner on **Monday, October 4th from 5pm to 7pm** giving everyone a chance to see the improvements and enjoy a time of fellowship. We hope, also, to have some local musicians to help enliven the evening. Owing to fire laws, we can only sit 50 people at a time, so will stagger servings to see that everyone has a chance to enjoy this meal. The seating restriction will be lifted once a second egress is installed.

Meantime, we are on the lookout for a decent, low-backed piano (but not spinet) or a small baby Grand Piano for the Community Center, as well as additional stackable cushioned chairs, a good scanner and a color printer.

Thanks for your continuing help and support and please do come check out our new facilities and enjoy some good food and fellowship.



CABOT CAMEOS

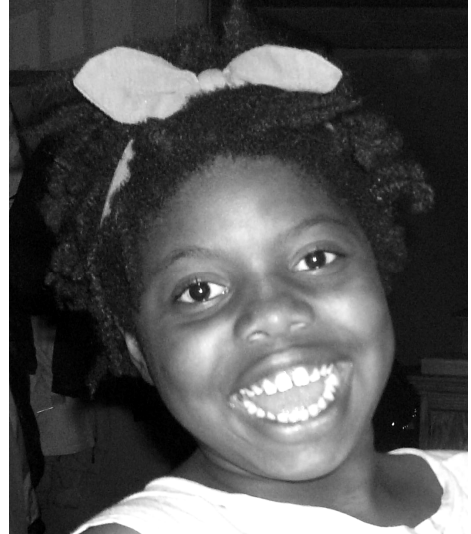
THE ORIGINAL FACEBOOK

By Lela Jones

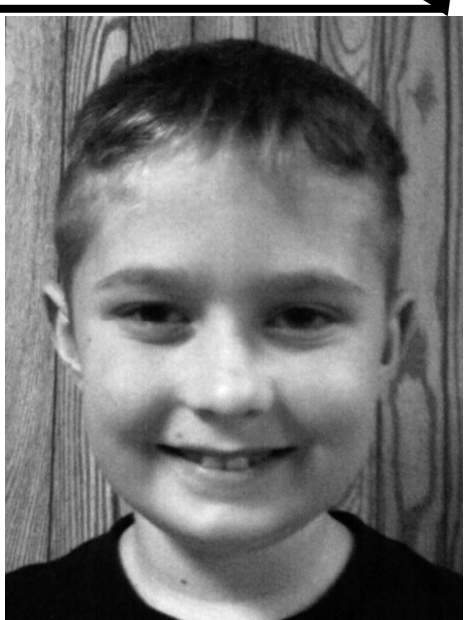
As a Halloween Treat, young Lela Jones queried her fellow celebrants about their Halloween plans. She also answered the same questions they did. Her questions included, "What are your plans for Halloween?," "What is your favorite Halloween treat?" and "What are you going to be (dressed up as) for Halloween?" Their answers follow.



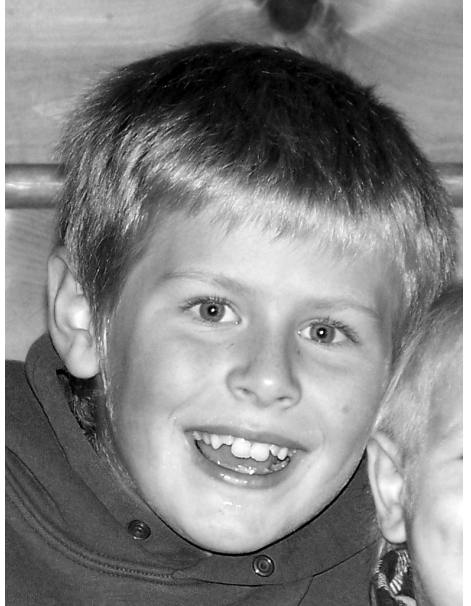
Lela Jones said, "We're going to put out musical skulls and tombstones and I am going to collect candy with my daddy." Her favorite treats are "toys and chocolate," and Lela plans to dress up as "a vampire."



Rachel Younce answered the questions by saying, as far as her plans, "I don't know yet." Her favorite treats are gummies, and as to her costume, "I don't know, maybe an Egyptian princess."

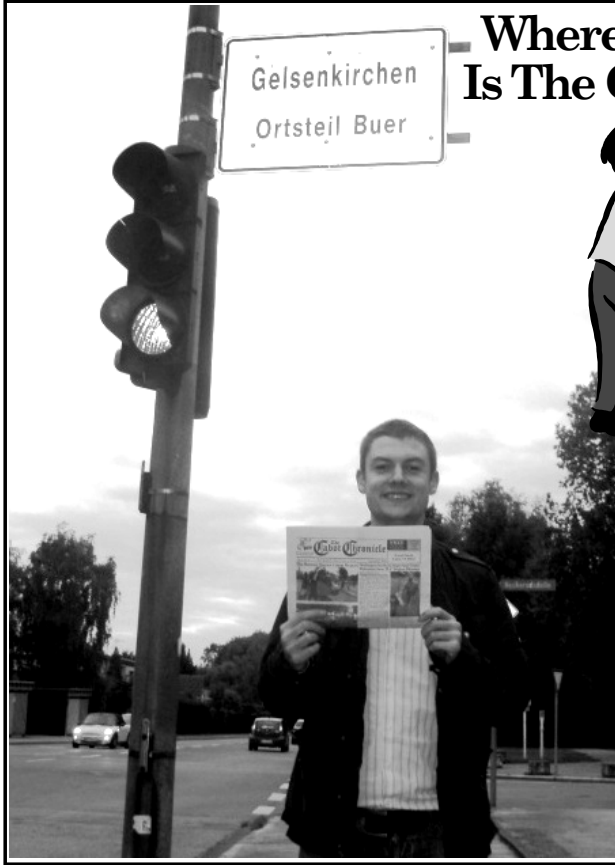


Caleb Blair was vague in his plans, saying, "Um, I don't really know if I am even going to go to Halloween, but I am still going to celebrate." His favorite treat? "That is easy...chocolate bars." As for his costume, he said, "I would say I'm going to be an army dude."



As for his costume, Damon Dunham said, "I'm probably going to be like the guy on Friday the 13th. I'm going to be a scary person." Twix bars are his favorite treat, and his plans are very specific; "We're going to carve our pumpkins the night before Halloween. Then on Halloween night we'll get dressed and drive down to Cabot. After that we'll go over to Plainfield maybe."

Where In The World Is The Chronicle Now?



On September 18th, Julian Dicks reads the Cabot Chronicle on a street corner in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, where he awaits a bus to take him to the Dusseldorf Airport. He is on his way to visit Cabot, the U.S. town where he graduated High School in 2003

OBITUARIES

Tristan H. A. Southworth

Tristan Howard Altman Southworth, 21, died on August 22, 2010 as a result of injuries sustained in a battle in Afghanistan.

Tristan was born on October 19, 1988 in Denville, New Jersey. He moved to Walden, Vermont in August of 1990 with his mom. He went to Walden Elementary School and graduated from Hazen Union H.S. in 2007. He played soccer, basketball, and baseball throughout high school. He joined the Vermont Army National Guard during his junior year. Upon graduation, he spent one year at the University of Colorado at Boulder. In 2009, he was activated for deployment to Afghanistan.

Tristan enjoyed all aspects of life. He loved to be around family and friends. He was always willing to help anyone in need. He loved children and German shepherds. He had a special love for the game of baseball and a strong need to serve his country.

Tristan is survived by his mom and dad, Julie and Michael Southworth; brothers Matt and Robert Southworth; grandparents Zollie and Maren Altman of South Wheelock; Keith and Kathleen Southworth of West Pawlet; aunts, un-



cles and cousins, who held a special place in his heart; he also leaves behind his "Brothers," still deployed in Afghanistan.

Funeral services were conducted in the Hazen Union gym, followed by internment with full military honors in Main Street Cemetery in Hardwick.

Contributions may be made, in memory of Tristan to a charity of ones choice.

Arrangements were in the care of des Groseilliers Funeral Homes, Church St., Hardwick.

Townsfolk Pay Tribute To Southworth



Vietnam Veteran, Ken Gokey, just steps from his own front porch, respectfully and grievously salutes as Tristan's procession passes by.

By Staff Writer

On Sunday, August 29th the remains of Vermont National Guard Soldier Sargeant Tristan Southworth of Walden, were delivered via a procession of Army Honor Guard, police, family and veterans on motorcycles. Those who were aware of the procession came out to pay tribute to this young soldier from Vermont, who gave his life in Afghanistan last month.

The Southworth procession was expected to pass through Cabot at ap-

proximately 10:30 am. As word spread about the procession, townsfolk began to line Main Street. Rita Durgin, who's husband is currently serving in the military overseas, together with her son, Matt, walked the length of Main Street, handing out small flags to the onlookers.

The procession finally passed through town with a somber climax well after 11 am, while the flags that line Main Street were flying at half-mast.

BIRTHS

Bella Grace Miller

Brock Miller and Lydia Pitkin are the proud parents of Bella Grace Miller, who entered this world on Monday, September 13, 2010 at 8:31pm. She is a 9th generation Vermonter. Bella was named in memory of her great-grandfather, Belmont Pitkin.



In Memoriam: Dorothy Sucher

By Peter Dannenberg

Tiny Vermont has its share of year-round and seasonal residents whose achievements influence life beyond our borders. On Aug. 22, we lost one. Dorothy Sucher, a renaissance woman—mystery writer, journalist, essayist, writing teacher, watercolorist, feminist, champion of freedom of the press and psychotherapist, died at her home in Silver Spring, Md., at age 77.

Until 2009, Sucher and husband Joseph, professor emeritus of physics at the University of Maryland, owned a home in Cabot, Vt., where they spent half the year. In her 1999 collection of essays, "The Invisible Garden", she wrote about transforming the old blue farmhouse by a stream and its 10 overgrown acres into a summer home with flower gardens.

Sucher knew nothing of gardening when she started. She wrote with humor and a psychotherapist's insight about the hard work and the people she met. Rural ways were new to an urban woman. With the help of her Cabot neighbors, she learned gardening was both harder and more rewarding than she imagined.

Sucher wrote two mystery novels, "Dead Men Don't Give Seminars" in 1988 and "Dead Men Don't Marry" in 1989. The strong, smart female detective hero echoed her own outspoken nature. She also published articles and short stories in *Vermont Life*, *The Washington Post Magazine* and *Mystery Readers Journal*.

For four years, she was treasurer of Sisters in Crime, an international group of female mystery writers. She founded a Maryland chapter. Sucher taught creative writing in the late 1980s and early 1990s at Duke University, Georgetown University and the Writer's Center in Bethesda, Md. She also led a summertime memoir-writing workshop at Twin Valley Senior Center in Marshfield, Vt. Her insights and coaching helped many new writers. Both Dorothy and Joseph were members of the Cabot Historical Society.

Sucher was most widely known for a freedom of the press lawsuit that became a U.S. Supreme Court test case. She was a \$5 a week columnist for the weekly *Greenbelt News Review* in 1965. She covered a Greenbelt (MD) City Council meeting. The city wanted to buy land from a developer to build a high school. The developer rejected the offer, but said he would reconsider, if the city



would rezone two other properties he owned. Several people said that was "blackmail," and Sucher quoted them.

The developer, who was a state delegate, sued for libel. A county court ruled against the paper. The Maryland Court of Appeals agreed. In 1970, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the verdict unanimously. Justice Potter Stewart wrote that readers would know that "blackmail" was "a vigorous epithet" made in heated debate. The newspaper could use the word, because there was no intent to accuse the developer of being a criminal and journalists may report events that happened at a public meeting. Sucher started a book about the four years she spent fighting the lawsuit, but as of now, it remains unpublished.

Sucher continued with the *Greenbelt News Review* until 2004. She was editor in chief for two years. She practiced as a psychotherapist for 12 years in Washington, D.C. and Maryland. At age 70, she returned to an early love, art, and exhibited and sold watercolor landscapes and paintings of flowers.

Sucher was active in the women's movement in the 1970s. She and her husband were delegates to the National Organization for Women's State Council. She donated a collection of publications about the Maryland women's movement in the 1970s to the University of Maryland.

Joseph, her husband of 58 years, two sons, Gabriel and Anatol and a granddaughter, survive Sucher. Two other children predeceased her.



RE★ELECT

Kitty Beattie Toll

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Friday, 10/1

Opening Day for Tupelo Music Hall in White River Junction, www.tupelomusichallvermont.com. See November edition of the Cabot Chronicle for more information.

Friday, 10/1-9

Dead North - Farmland of Terror, Great Vermont Corn Maze, Danville, admission. This year's haunt will include wagon rides, a ½ mile walk of terror through a haunted cornfield and buildings including animatronics, the mostly live residents of Dead North and special effects. Not recommended for young children or persons with health concerns. Occurs rain or shine, so dress appropriately. Information: 748-1399.

Saturday, 10/2

Family Activity Day at North Branch Nature Center, Montpelier, 10:00 through 11:30 a.m., \$5 for adults, kids free. Mysterious mushrooms: explore the field and forest surrounding the nature center. There will be games, crafts, and activities to learn more. Please pre-register: 229-6206.

Oktoberfest at Trapp Family Lodge, Stowe, 3:00 through 10:30 p.m., \$10 adults, under 6 free. Traditional Austrian Oktoberfest fare, children's activities, field games. Information: 253-8511 or www.trappfamily.com.

The Mellow Yellow Experience, The Hardwick Town House, doors open at 6:30 p.m., show at 7:00 p.m., \$12 /\$10 seniors. Musical theater featuring music of "Baby Boomers" generation. Live music, costumes and multi-media video light show. Information: 472-5920 or www.nekarts.org.

27th Annual Fall Foliage Craft Fair, Hardwick Elementary School, 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. Featuring jewelry, candles, quilts, pottery, prints, fiber art and more.

Sunday, 10/3

Autumn on the Green, Danville, 10 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. free. Award-winning exhibition for 150 artisans and crafters amid the spectacular views and color of autumn. Information: 684-2528 or 535-7378.

Monday, 10/4

Book Discussion Series, Cabot Public Library, 6 p.m., *In The Year Of The Boar* and Jackie Robinson.

Free Community Dinner, 5-7 p.m. Sponsored by Faith In Action at Masonic Hall.

Thursday, 10/7

Agatha Christie: Creator of Ms. Jane Marple and Hercule Poirot, Aldrich Public, 6:30 p.m., free. Learn about the life of Agatha Christie in this living history performance by Helene Lang. Information: 476-6908.

Friday, 10/8-10

27th Annual Stowe Foliage Arts Festival, Stowe, 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., admission. 200 artisans sell their work under gorgeous Camelot tents. Information: 425-3399.

Saturday, 10/9

Small electric tool, appliance, vacuum and lamp repair workshop, Greater Hardwick Community Learning Exchange. Troubleshooting, parts, manuals. Free. Please register with Frank: 472-3036.

Sunday, 10/10

The Giant Pumpkin Regatta, Burlington, 10:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m., free. The event features community members racing giant hollowed out pumpkins on Lake Champlain in addition to a fun-filled family festival. Includes local food vendors, craft vendors,

kids' activities, pie eating contests, and a fall inspired pet costume contest! The event is a fundraiser for Linking Learning to Life's PILOT program. Information: www.LLLvt.org/pumpkin.

Tuesday, 10/12

Poetry Reading, Cabot Public Library, 6:30 p.m. Lorrie and Barry Goldensohn.

Friday 10/15

Legislative Forum, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. followed by dinner. Call 454-7750 for dinner reservations. See article on page 11.

Saturday, 10/16

Cabot Apple Pie Festival, Cabot, 9:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m., free. Games, pie making contests, local entertainment, homemade award-winning pies for sale to take home, raffles and many tables of local artisans' crafts. Information: 563-2526.

Family Activity Day at North Branch Nature Center, Montpelier, 10:00 through 11:30 a.m., \$5 for adults, kids free. Trees In Autumn: they will explore the field and forest surrounding the nature center. There will be games, crafts, and activities to learn more about the topic of the day. Please pre-register: 229-6206.

Sunday, 10/17

Dead Creek Snow Goose Viewing and Lake Champlain Valley with the NEK Audubon Society: Last year we saw thousands of Snow Geese, Blackbirds and Black Scoters. Let's see if we can top that. Registration required 626-9071 or blackpoll@myfairpoint.net.

Tuesday, 10/19

Get to know your sewing machine for the first time or all over again, Greater Hardwick Community Learning Exchange. Please register with Bobbie: 533-7727 or brnisbet@wirelessvt.net. Cost: item for food shelf.

Saturday, 10/23

Sense of Place Mapping Workshops, Cabot Public Library, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Julia Shipley facilitator.

Monday, 10/25

Book Discussion Series, Cabot Public Library, 6 p.m., *An Island Like You: Stories Of The Barrio*.

Book Reading, Jaquith Library, 7 p.m., *Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson. Bringing Chicago circa 1893 to vivid life, Erik Larson's spellbinding bestseller intertwines the true tale of two men-the brilliant architect behind the legendary 1893 World's Fair, striving to secure America's place in the world; and the cunning serial killer who used the fair to lure his victims to their death. Combining meticulous research with nail-biting storytelling, Erik Larson has crafted a narrative with all the wonder of newly discovered history and the thrills of the best fiction.

Saturday, 10/30

The Kingdom Challenge Half Marathon and 5K, Lyndonville & St. Johnsbury, 1/2 \$30; 5K \$15, 8:30 a.m. Typical Vermont terrain, including a couple of hills, four covered bridges, and scenic Vermont back roads. Information email: thekingdomchallenge@yahoo.com.

Ongoing:

Adventure Book Club, Every Tuesday, Cabot Public Library, 3-4 p.m. Come read tales of courage and adventure!

Story Hour, Tuesdays, at the Cabot Public Library, 10:30 a.m.

Game Club, Wednesdays, starting 10/6, Cabot Public Library, 3-4 p.m., Game Club

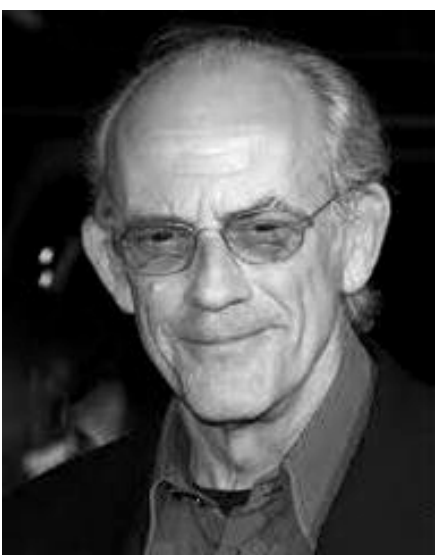
Cabot Playgroup, Every Wednesday 9:30 through 11:00 a.m., Cabot United Church basement, free, through age four. Snacks provided, all are welcome. Information: 563-2184 or 563-2034.

The Great Vermont Corn Maze open for the 2010 Season, Danville. Information: 748-1399.

Volunteer Work Day at Kingdom Trails, the first Sunday of every month (June-October) we meet at the Darling Memorial Park at 9:00 a.m. for a day of trail maintenance. You can get to the park by driving through the village of East Burke, north on VT Route 114, about 1/4 mile past the village on the left you will see the playground and parking area. Dress appropriately and bring plenty of water. We supply tools, but bring along one of your own if you want. We usually wrap up the day around 1:00 p.m., or so. Phone: 802-626-0737.

Danville Farmer's Market, every Wednesday 9:00 a.m. through noon through October. Many local gardeners and farmers will be set up every week with fresh vegetables, most picked that day. Others sell donuts and bread they have made, yarn they have woven, maple syrup they have processed and goat's cheese they have made. This year the new product is Vermont made wine, you can even sample it before you buy. New vendors and new shoppers always welcome. Town Green, Danville, VT

Climate Meetings, Tuesdays, Center for Agricultural Economy (next to Claire's on Main St.), Hardwick. If you are unable to attend, but would like notes, email Nancy Notterman, nancyn@together.net.

DID YOU KNOW?

Christopher Lloyd (Back to the Future movie series, Addams Family film, Taxi television series), has been starring as Willie Loman in the Weston Playhouse production of the classic "Death of a Salesman" from August 26 through September 11, and will tour theaters throughout New England. But, first, there are a few remaining opportunities to see the performance in Vermont this month:

- ♦ **7:30 p.m. Oct. 7-8, \$29**
Town Hall Theater,
Middlebury, Vermont
802-382-9222
www.townhalltheater.org.
- ♦ **8 p.m. Oct. 9, \$32-\$39**
Flynn Center,
Burlington, Vermont
802-863-5966
www.flynntix.org.
- ♦ **7 p.m. Oct. 10, \$20-\$42**
Fuller Hall,
St. Johnsbury Vermont
802-748-2600
www.catamountarts.org.

CABOT APPLE PIE FESTIVAL



**Pie Baking Contests ~ Prizes ~ Craft Fair ~ Silent Auction
Pies And Other Food Sold ~ Live Music ~ Raffles**

Saturday, October 16, 2010

At the Cabot Gymnasium ~ 9 am to 3 pm

Held every year on the Saturday after Columbus Day, the Apple Pie Festival is a six hour affair of games, pie baking contests and sales, local entertainment, raffles and many tables of local artisans crafts.

The pie contest has two divisions, one for adults and one for juniors (school age). Enter to win or just come to enjoy.

***For information or to register your craft table at the festival, please contact:**

Martha Foster ~ Apple Pie Floor Manager
(802)563-2526*

Cabot Creamery Cooperative COMMUNITY FORUM

*Cabot Creamery invites community members to attend
a forum on Cabot's Landspreading Program.*

WHEN: Tuesday, October 12th, 2010, 6:00pm to 8:00pm

WHERE: Old Schoolhouse Common, 122 School Street, Marshfield, VT

WHAT: The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) has announced a public hearing on the permit renewal of Cabot Creamery's landspreading program for Monday, October 18th at 6pm at Twinfield Union School. The ANR hearing will be an opportunity to provide testimony on the Indirect Discharge Permit Renewal, but is not a questions-and-answers format. Cabot Creamery is holding the October 12th forum to provide a better understanding of this program and to address questions that community members may have.

WHO: The event will be moderated by Con Hogan, will feature a short overview presentation on Cabot Creamery's landspreading program by Ed Pcolar, Cabot Creamery VP Operations. Ed will then be joined on a panel by program experts, including Dr. Peter Huettl and Mr. James Bowes. Farmers/landowners participating in the program, also in attendance.

Light refreshments will be served.



**Owned by Dairy Farmers
Since 1919**

We know that substance use by youth is a problem across Vermont and the nation, but ...



What do we know about alcohol, tobacco and other drug use by Cabot youth?

Find out at the next Cabot Coalition meeting.

The coalition's evaluator, Monika Baege, will join us to discuss data from the mentor program and middle school prevention curriculum. John Searles from the VT Department of Health will join us to discuss Cabot's Youth Risk Behavior Survey data and how it compares to other Pre K-12 schools.

**Tuesday, October 19
6:00 p.m.
Willey Building**

**All parents, youth and community members are
encouraged to attend.**

For more information or to RSVP for dinner,
please call 563-3338.
Child care available upon request.



I AM DRUG-FREE™

CELEBRATE RED RIBBON WEEK

October 23 - 31, 2010

Show your personal commitment to a drug-free lifestyle
through the symbol of the Red Ribbon

The Red Ribbon Campaign was started when drug traffickers in Mexico City murdered DEA agent Kiki Camarena in 1985. This began the continuing tradition of displaying Red Ribbons as a symbol of intolerance towards the use of drugs. The mission of the Red Ribbon Campaign is to present a visible commitment towards the creation of a drug-free community.



Save Your Bottles and Unwanted Items

**Please Help Students Raise Money
for 2011 Belize Trip**

Planning has begun for the multi-grade trip to Belize in April 2011. Costs are covered by fundraising and the students and their families. Any assistance you can provide will be deeply appreciated. Bottle drives are scheduled for the following weekends:

November 28 ~ January 2 ~ *Saturday after Super Bowl*

If you'd rather not stockpile returnables, another option is to drop them off at the Cabot Village Store in a bag marked "Belize Trip". Bob Searles has kindly agreed to accept bottle donations, and he's already begun a "Belize Fund". There will also be an auction in December, and students will begin requesting donations soon. Please watch for items you no longer need and set them aside to support the Marine Biology and Cultural Anthropology students. Your support is greatly appreciated by students, parents and teachers alike.

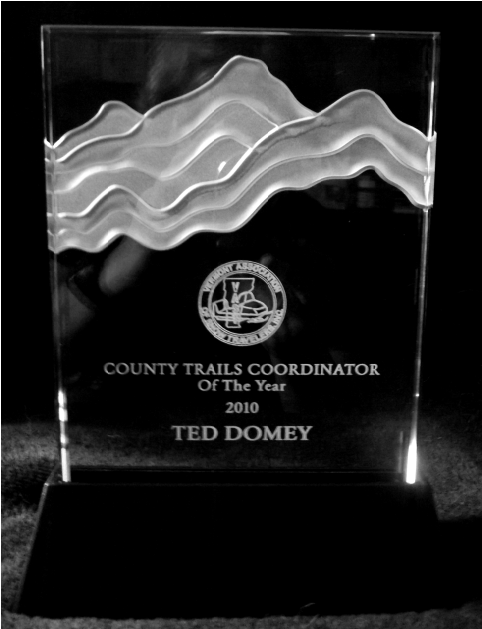
RECREATION NEWS

Cabot Recognized at VAST Annual Meeting

2010 County Trails Coordinator Award

Ted Domey received the 2010 County Trails Coordinator Award at the VAST (Vermont Association of Snow Travelers) Annual Meeting on Saturday, August 28, in Dover, Vermont. Ted represents Washington County snowmobile clubs within the statewide organization. Here is what Alexis Nelson, VAST Trails Administrator, had to say about the award:

“**County Trails Coordinator:** This is a special position within the VAST family as the direct contact between the club trailmasters and project directors to the VAST Trails Team. The County Trails Coordinators are responsible for meeting with the clubs to look at trail projects and have a good understanding of what happens on the trails year round. They also serve on an important committee that crafts and reviews trail policy. This County Trails Coordinator has overcome some hardship in recent times and has put forth the extra effort in continuing his duties and responsibilities by making himself available to look at projects in all sorts of inclement weather and addressing issues around the county. When he’s not traveling all



over the state for his job, he is actively involved in his community and in his local snowmobile club. **This year’s County Trails Coordinator of the Year Award goes to Ted Domey of Washington County and the Cabot Skylighters.**“

Recreation Department News

By Libby Hale

Soccer season is under way and Recreation Department volunteers are very excited about our teams and coaches. This year, the teams are playing smaller numbers on the field so each player actually plays more and has more ball “touches” to gain increased experiences and skills.

The 5-6 grade team is led by Niels Larsen, who has years of excellent experience to share with his team. The 3 -4 team has been split into two smaller teams so participants can also gain more experience with the ball and stay more focused. The Green Team is led by Rebecca Nally and the White Team is led by Bonne Dunham.

Steve Towne is leading the pre-school through second grade group in a

fun soccer skills development program on Saturdays. Please see the game schedules in the paper and around town and come support these teams.

We owe many thanks to the many folks who helped to bring about the first Recreation Department soccer season. All those who stepped up to coach, help the coaches, produce the paperwork and forms, discuss and approve the forms, create beautiful posters and flyers, order equipment, supply uniforms, coordinate fields and schedules, assist and allow communication and organization through the school, drive your kids and others’ to games, officiate games, offer expertise and advice; thank you. To all who have helped and continue to help, it truly does take a town.



3/4 WHITE SOCCER SCHEDULE

DATE	OPP.	TIME	LOC.	FMT.
Tues.				
10/05	Hardwick	4:00pm	Hardwick	TBD
Wed.	Twinfield		Larry's	
10/06	3/4 White	5:00pm	Field	7on7
Sat.	Twinfield		Away	
10/09	Jamboree	TBD	TBD	TBD
Sat.				
10/16	Hardwick	11:00am	Hardwick	TBD
Wed.				
10/20	Lakeview	4:15pm	Greensboro	TBD
Thurs.	Twinfield		Away	
10/21	3/4 Red	4:30pm	TBD	7on7

3/4 GREEN SOCCER SCHEDULE

DATE	OPP.	TIME	LOC.	FMT.
Fri.			Larry's	
10/01	Hardwick	4:00pm	Field	TBD
Sat.	Twinfield		Away	
10/09	Jamboree	TBD	TBD	TBD
Tues.	Twinfield		Away	
10/12	3/4 Red	5:00pm	TBD	7on7

3/4 GREEN SOCCER SCHEDULE

DATE	OPP.	TIME	LOC.	FMT.
Thurs.			Larry's	
10/14	Lakeview	4:15pm	Field	TBD
Sat.				
10/16	Hardwick	10:00am	Hardwick	TBD

5/6 SOCCER SCHEDULE

DATE	OPP.	TIME	LOC.	FMT.
Sat.				
10/02	Danville	2:30pm	Danville	11on11
Mon.	Twinfield		Away	
10/04	5/6 Red	5:00pm	TBD	7on7
Fri.				
10/08	Lakeview	4:15pm	Greensboro	TBD
Thurs.				
10/14	Woodbury	4:15pm	Woodbury	TBD
Fri.			Larry's	
10/15	Lakeview	4:15pm	Field	TBD
Mon.	Twinfield		Larry's	
10/18	5/6 White	4:30pm	Field	7on7
Thurs.			Larry's	
10/21	Walden	4:00pm	Field	TBD

LIBRARY CORNER

News From The Cabot Public Library

Our numbers are in from the Summer Reading programs. It was a huge success this summer as 53 children and young adults participated in reading more than 880 books. There were also 244 children and adults who enjoyed the variety of story hour and evening programs. Thanks for coming out to our programs and reading lots of books. We look forward to next summer.

Tuesday, Oct. 12, 6:30 p.m., Poetry Reading: Lorrie and Barry Goldensohn, both widely published poets whose work has appeared in *Poetry*, *The New Yorker*, the *New York Review of Books*, *The Yale Review*, *Salmagundi*, and many anthologies and in their own books, will be reading their poems on October 12 at the Cabot Public Library. Barry and Lorrie spend their summers in Cabot and have written a poem entitled “East Long Pond” based on their experiences here.

Book Group: This year’s Fall Book Discussion Group is doing the Vermont Humanities Council series *Immigrants Coming to America*. The program is being moderated by Fran Cerulli and will be held on Monday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the Library. This is free and open to everyone.

The second book is *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson* by Bette Bao Lord. A brief summary states: In 1947, a Chinese child comes to Brooklyn where she becomes Americanized at school, in her apartment building, and by her love for baseball.

The schedule for the Book Group series is as follows. October 4, *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson*; October 25, *An Island Like You : Stories of the Barrio*; November 15, *Yang the Youngest and His Terrible Ear*.

Together, the Cabot Public Library and the Cabot Public School have applied for and been awarded 50 copies of Barre author Katherine Paterson’s new book, *The Day of the Pelican*, by the Vermont Humanities Council’s 2010 Vermont Reads program. Vermont Reads brings communities and people of diverse ages, abilities, and experiences together in reading and discussing a book of high quality and acclaim. The program promotes community building, open dialogue, intergenerational exchange, a focus on the humanities, and literacy. Stay tuned this fall for a listing of events for the entire community/school to enjoy together.

The Adventure Book Club starts Tuesday Oct 12, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Come read tales of courage and adventure. This Adventure Book Club is great

for any interested adventurers. One book we’ll read is *My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George. We will discuss the book and go outside for adventures.

The Amazon review states: “Every kid thinks about running away at one point or another; few get farther than the end of the block. Young Sam Gribbley gets to the end of the block and keeps going--all the way to the Catskill Mountains of upstate New York...sets up house in a huge hollowed-out tree, with a falcon and a weasel for companions and his wits as his tool for survival...and grows up a little in the process. Blizzards, hunters, loneliness, and fear all battle to drive Sam back to city life. But his desire for freedom, independence, and adventure is stronger. No reader will be immune to the compulsion to go right out and start whittling fishhooks and befriending raccoons.”

Game Club takes place on Wednesdays, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., starting October 6. Back by popular demand, bring your own game or come play ours. All are welcome. Light snacks will be provided. Computers will be turned off during Game Club.

If you have Library materials hiding in a corner, under a bed, or in a closet, please return them. We are trying to get our books, magazines, and movies back to the Library. We need to get them into the automation system. Thank you.

One final note: Many thanks to Janet Whitlock for helping with preschool story hour art project ideas.

Also, thanks so much to Lorrie and Barry Goldensohn for their generous gift of time for the poetry reading this month and for their donation of *American War Poetry: An Anthology*.

See you at the Library!
Kathleen Hoyne and Anne Walker



Cabot Library Reminders:

- Story Hour on Tuesdays, at 10:30 am
- **Fall Hours**
Tue 9-6, Wed 2-6, Thu 11-6, Sat 9-2
Closed Sunday, Monday, and Friday
- State Parks, Historic Sites, Echo, and Historical Society Passes available to borrow
- Listen UP! Vermont! Online, downloadable audiobooks for free
- MP3 Players to borrow (thanks to the Friends of the Cabot Public Library)
We will load the audiobook for you from the Listen UP! Vermont! Website.

Friends of Cabot Library News

Autumn has come to Cabot after a wonderfully warm (albeit dry) summer season. With September’s cooler weather came the daunting task of reviewing and clearing out old boxes of outdated and outmoded books to get ready for our upcoming book sale at the Apple Pie Festival on October 16. If you have any books, movies, or music you wish to donate, please contact the library soon to arrange a review and pick up date with us.

In addition to the upcoming book sale, we are busy getting ready for our Annual Meeting, to be held Saturday, October 9, at 9:30 in the Willey Building Meeting Room. The Annual Meeting is where we vote on officers for the board, as well as plan fundraiser events for the coming year. If you’d like to be considered for one of the positions and/or be a part of this terrific group, please let us know. Being a Friend of the Library normally requires minimal time and effort overall for what we accomplish, and we’d really love to hear some fresh ideas on how we

can best serve the library’s needs next year. Won’t you come join us? Don’t you want to be our ‘Friend’? ;))

And lastly, the recent (and painstaking) review of our stock helped us decide that we need to keep only the categories that sell easily – thus enabling us to eliminate unnecessary storage for unwanted and unsalable books. We found the books that are especially desirable are recent novels (within 5-6 years), children’s books, craft and hobby books, cookbooks, and those considered ‘New Age’. Unfortunately, books we can no longer consider for donation (due to limited sales) are school text books, old travel guides, instruction manuals, unusual language, science, or religious books, and those topics most likely to have limited readership. All others will be considered for salability at the discretion of the reviewer. We hope this helps everyone as much as it did us.

Until next time –
The Friends of Cabot Library Team

COMMUNITY NEWS

Cabot Across the Globe



Palmer Legare has started an organization which helped to fund a school in a Guatemalan community that is threatened with destruction. Here he visits with two of the students.

Cabot Man Threatened in Guatemala

Palmer Legare, a 1998 graduate of Cabot School, was filming the illegal burning of a building last month in northern Guatemala when he was attacked, beaten and robbed of his camera.

The Times Argus reported: "A member of a rich Guatemalan family took out a pistol, held it against Legare's chest and said he was going to kill the 30-year-old Vermont native."

"That was the first time I felt I might be killed," Legare said. "People were running over the hill to come and protect me, but it was a scary moment."

He has since been told that an arrest warrant has been issued for him and that the wealthy family has put a bounty on his head.

"We tried to meet with authorities, but they refused to see us," Legare said. "And when we tried to report the assaults to the police, they threatened the victims with arrest."

The newspaper report continued: "Legare is alive, but still in danger and possibly in trouble with Guatemalan police – all because he videotaped the organized destruction of a poor farming community caught in the middle of a violent land dispute in the lawless, northern part of the Central American country."

Legare has been working with two charitable organizations, the Guatemalan Solidarity Project (which he co-founded) and the Committee of Peasant Unity, and he has helped poor farmers build homes, schools and irrigation systems.

Legare's mother, Amanda Legare of Amanda's Greenhouse, explained that Palmer first went to Guatemala to learn Spanish.

"Palmer appreciates their culture and says it's more about having a positive relationship with nature than about accumulating money," she said. "It reminds me of what happened to the native Americans."

She explained that he has been working with a community of 30 families which purchased their land 20 years ago. One of the original owner's daughters is now claiming her father never sold the land and it belongs to her. The last time members of that wealthy fam-

ily visited the village they poured gasoline on a home and torched it while a 9-month-old boy was sleeping inside. Members of the community got the boy out of the home.

"Guatemala is a poor country so people of wealth have power," Amanda Legare, Palmer's mother, said. "Palmer tells me that the police and legal authorities have turned a blind eye to their attempts to intimidate the farmers to leave the land."

Legare is especially worried that the family will run the community off the land just in time for the harvest of the cardamom crop, a popular spice, which takes four or five years to grow. A new crop of the plant is expected to be harvested in the next several months.

"Of course I am worried silly about him," his mother continued. "But in typical selfless Palmer fashion, he doesn't want people to be concerned about him."

In a recent e-mail to his mother he wrote: "People shouldn't worry about the 'problem' that Palmer won't come home. This is not the problem at all - the problem is that violent criminals are being allowed to continue their crimes." He gave his mother a list of reasons why he will not return soon to Cabot.

1. The US Ambassador told me that he can't guarantee that I wouldn't be arrested while boarding the plane - so by trying to leave I may actually be taking a larger risk than staying with friends inside Guatemala.
2. I believe US citizens have the right to travel, work and volunteer abroad.
3. I believe that the people in the community are in great danger and I want to work with them to support their rights.
4. I love Guatemala and have many friends here and I want to continue living here.
5. I am the coordinator of the Guatemala Solidarity Project and have committed to this work until next year.
6. I believe I am gaining a lot from the situation, much more than I am giving. I am learning a lot, and my life has improved greatly because of it."

If anyone cares to support Palmer's work they can call (426-3783) or send money using PayPal to PalmerinGuatemala@yahoo.com. He would be thrilled with a \$5 donation, as he can make that money go a long way."

You Didn't Hear It From Me...

Collected commentary from about town.

According to a native German speaker, Theron Lay-Sleeper speaks excellent German, without any American accent! Wunderbar! (Translation: "Kudos" - "Wonderful".)

The Lower Cabot Store is being spiffed up – a painter has been spotted on-site. Rumor is that a sale of some sort is on the horizon. Inquiring minds have wanted to know!

How do you recognize equality? Do we really want to be treated identically? There seems to be a buzz about what kids can be allowed to wear at the recreation field in really hot weather. At soccer practice, should the boys be allowed to take off their shirts if the girls can't? If the girls are allowed to wear just their sports bras, should the boys be allowed to play in their undergarments? What is the goal? Are girls' sports bras equal to boys' shirts? Or to jock straps and underwear? What's the real problem here; and, if there is a problem, what is a fair solution?

A well-dressed man was spotted prowling around the Cabot Inn property. Upon investigation, it turns out he is the insurance agent for Gary Smith of Hyde Park, the new owner, who was doing a property assessment. The insurer opined that the property owner hoped to re-open the restaurant, and rent out two apartments upstairs. It is believed the building went for \$99,000 at the auction on July 18.

Blanche Lamore is recovering quite well from her recent surgery and bout with pneumonia. She was transferred to rehab on September 27. You can send your get well wishes to: Blanche Lamore, RFD 1, Marshfield, VT 05658.

Congratulations to new grandparents, Caleb Pitkin and Mary Miller and Bob and Peggy Miller and of course, to the proud parents of baby Bella, Brock Miller and Lydia Pitkin.

A little birdie heard that Cabot elementary teacher, Janet Byrd, was stranded on one of the Champlain Islands one Sunday in September, due to six foot waves. She could not get back to shore until the next day! What an adventure.

Thanks and kudos to Helen Morrison, Shelby Maurice and Lori Augustyniak for putting together an active and engaging Healthy Start, back-to-school initiative. An interactive, positive beginning for the school year.

Thanks, also to Karen Stewart, new Principal, and Nancy Thomas, new

Superintendent, for participating in the Freshman welcome and orientation ice cream social at the recreation field. That kind of participation is meaningful and appreciated.

A tip of the hat, also, to Cathleen Maines and Lars Torres for opening their home to parents and teachers for a gathering at the beginning of the school year. Thanks, again, to the Principal and Superintendent for being part of it.

A pat on the back to Linda Savoca for keeping the ball rolling, greasing the skids, and a variety of other axioms, in a much-appreciated effort to maintain continuity in the transition to a new school year with new school leadership.

Sorry to see the creemie stand close for the season. It was a welcome addition to Main Street, and a nice opportunity for a few teens to have a job right in town.

Congratulations to Ken Christman for winning his 10th Junkyard Warriors race of the season.

The Library staff thanks the community for their patience while transferring over to a new automated system. The improvement in operations should make it worthwhile.

When driving to town from Cabot Plains, be mindful that Burt's Farm is now open. Visitors are at the roadside stand, many of them children picking apples. Driving slowly past the farm is greatly appreciated.

With the afternoons growing darker, remember to wear appropriate reflective clothing when riding your bike or walking.

Long Field Farm, with a mix of goats, friends and family witnesses, was the site of a beautiful Fall wedding on September 25th. Best Wishes to Stephen and Sarah.

Gwen Considine, along with other Food shelf volunteers, picked over 1200 ears of corn for the September 8th food distribution in Cabot. Richie and Connie Hourihan, owners of the Smith Farm on Thistle Hill, were generous in donating corn to the Food Shelf and also to the volunteers who helped pick.

CORRECTION

Last month's **YOU DIDN'T HEAR IT FROM ME**, was inadvertently credited to Jeannie Johnson; however, the entries come from many sources, and credit does not belong to any one person.

Do you want to quit tobacco use but need help?

For many tobacco users, support from others makes the difference in staying tobacco free.

These workshops will offer ways to change your behavior and help you start a tobacco-free lifestyle, with special attention to weight control & managing stress.

For more information and to register, please call 371-5945.

**A new class starts
October 7
And meets every Thursday
Until October 28**

5-6:00 p.m.

The Health Center
Plainfield, VT

Call 371-5945 or

Email Lisa.Willette@cvmc.org

To register for these **FREE** classes.



YOUTH & SCHOOL NEWS

WNESU Superintendent's Update

By Nancy Thomas,
WNESU Superintendent

School is off to a great start in Twinfield and Cabot.

All staff of both schools gathered together for a joint kick-off to the new school year at the Twinfield cafeteria with opportunities to learn, work and have a fabulous pot-luck lunch together. This collaborative day set the stage for the direction of the new school year.

The new Washington Northeast Supervisory Union Leadership Team (principals and central office administrators) worked together to plan the activities for the three staff days prior to the students' arrival on August 31. In preparing for the year, the Leadership Team attended the Vermont Principal Association's annual summer Leadership Conference in early August. Tony Wagner, author of "The Global Achievement Gap", spoke powerfully about the need for American schools to focus on preparing our students for the **global knowledge economy**. Our students will enter careers we have not even thought of yet. Future employment will require problem solving, innovation, excellent communication and team work skills. He spoke of the "4 C's that will set students up for success: **Critical Thinking, Communication, Creativity and Collaboration**." Teaching these 21st century skills uses content to help students develop these important competencies. While success in reading, math and other content areas remains essential, our students must be also be problem solvers and life-long learners in order to be productive citizens in this global economy and in our rural communities.

Given the continuing need for students to be competent in reading, writing and math, what about the NECAPs (Vermont's state-wide student achievement tests)? In addition to education spending, the NECAP results get the most press, (outside of sports). Are they really that important?

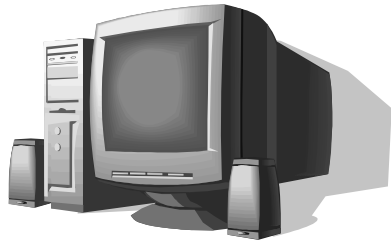
We know that reading, math and scientific inquiry are essential skills that are foundational for our students. Our students must be competent in these areas. NECAPs are just one of many ways of helping us to know if the instruction we are providing is having the results we want. They are not the end and be-all, but they provide information to inform instruction. Good instruction requires good data; indicators of how we are doing. Is our instruction working? Day to day *formative* assessments are also crucial in knowing what's working for groups of students as well as individual students. But NECAPs do provide useful information and they are an important component of the accountability measures for education.

Our students are now off and running. I have had the chance to participate with them in the Cabot First Day ceremony on the green, eat ice cream with students and staff at Twinfield's First Friday celebration and the Community Corn Roast. I've seen great beginnings as I have visited many classrooms. Both schools have committed and talented staff who are working together to foster these 21st century skills that our students will need as they grow into adulthood.

I am very excited to work with them as we continue to move ahead.

The Cabot Chronicle

For more pictures related to our stories and the Cabot Community, check out the online Photo Gallery at www.cabotchronicle.org



A Visit to Cabot Elementary School



Cabot's fourth and fifth grade harvested more than 200 pounds of squash from Larry Thompson's back yard. Last year's fourth grade class planted the squash. Fourth grade teacher Mary Anne Tormey, students, and Julia Telm, a visiting student teacher from Germany, are in the photograph. Photo from Julia Telm.

By Julia Telm

I live in a German city with approx. 260,000 inhabitants and I am studying at a University with nearly 25,000 students. To the next supermarket it is a two minute drive, the bakery is just a walk over the street and the way to my Elementary School was a five minute walk.

As I got to know that I would get the chance to do some observing at Cabot

Elementary School my first thought was "How can I get to school in the morning?" because I knew that the family I would stay with is not living in the village. I heard that even the Elementary School students go there by School bus. That was really unusual and new for me. We don't have that special bus, if you have to take one, you must take the public transport but not if you are that young.



CONCERNING EDUCATION

Pitfalls of School Consolidation

By Marty Strange, Policy Director,
Rural School and Community Trust

Note: *The Cabot Chronicle created 'Concerning Education', as a monthly feature to stimulate ongoing discussion about the future of education in Cabot.*

The issue of school and school district consolidation has been recurring since the early 1920s when nearly every state passed laws providing authority for school districts to pay to transport children to school and to consolidate schools. The number of schools nationally fell rapidly from nearly 250,000 to fewer than 100,000. School districts began to close most rapidly in the 1930s, dropping from nearly 120,000 to about 14,000 today.

Whenever states are in fiscal distress, or under court order to make their funding systems more equitable or more adequate, or whenever rural population is declining, especially when urban areas in the same state are prospering, political talk turns to the subject of closing rural schools. Nationally, there is now a perfect storm of these conditions, and in many states, the central rural education issue has become whether rural communities have a right to good schools close to home.

The Rural School and Community Trust is a national non-profit organization that tracks this issue very closely. You can learn a lot about small schools and school consolidation on our website at www.ruraledu.org.

Very briefly, here are six lessons learned from experience nationally with state-mandated or state-led school or school district consolidation.

Lesson 1: It is always about money; not saving it, but redistributing it between communities and among functions.

Lesson 2: Because it is about money, the real purpose of the move to close districts is to dismantle the political apparatus that protects schools. The only real way to cut costs is to close schools, reduce teaching force, and increase class size. Closing districts is always but a prelude to closing schools.

After solving that problem I got to know I could visit the fourth and fifth grade. That would be the third and fourth grade in Germany because we start school a year later than you do. So I went to school the next morning and got my visitor pass, I did not know that there was something like that.

On my way to the fourth and fifth grade classroom I had that feeling of being in a little village because of these different little buildings which are looking so beautiful.

I was introduced to the kids and I told them a bit about Germany. Some students even told me that they have German ancestors or relatives. I was really surprised because that was a little group. And that is the thing I realized when I entered the classroom, it was only a group of 12 students. That would be a dream of every teacher at my school; the classes there consist of 25 students or more.

I got the chance to see how both teachers create and construct their teaching and was really impressed how teachers work with students and how early they are taught to work on their own nearly without help; for example, with creative writing or the weekly changing jobs.

There are two things that really fascinated me. First, harvesting the squash and second, the music lesson with the fourth grade students. They harvested the squash that they sowed some time

ago. Finally, they got more than 260 pounds and every fourth and fifth grader really loves to do that.

Lesson 3: Consolidation plans ignore the reality that small schools are more efficient when measured on a per graduate basis rather than annual per pupil basis. That is because they have higher graduation rates.

Lesson 4: Consolidation is something the more powerful force on the less powerful. From Maine to Arkansas to West Virginia, everywhere states force consolidation, it is the more economically distressed communities that lose their schools.

Lesson 5: Forced consolidation has a blind eye about the lives of kids. One result of school consolidation is more hours on buses for students.

Lesson 6: Democracy matters to people. If you think it is difficult to get people to run for the school board, wait until you tell them that they can still come to the meetings, they just don't have any power. "Local control" may be a cost driver, but it is also a driver of public support for education.

People often make hard choices before bureaucracies do. They also look harder for alternatives. Better use of technology to share both students and faculties within a cluster of small schools and districts that maintain their autonomy. More shared services, including transportation planning and management, food services, and pooling risks associated with high level special education needs students.

If the time has come to close the school, the decision to do so will have many ramifications far beyond the school and the children. It will affect business, work place options, commuting patterns, child care arrangements, access to social services now provided by or in the school, and many other community activities. When these choices are made, they should be made with broad participation and fair and transparent procedures.

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ago. Finally, they got more than 260 pounds and every fourth and fifth grader really loves to do that.

I have never been to such a brilliant music class before. It was so awesome to see the students playing these African drums and dancing to that music I could really see how much they enjoyed it.

For me it was such a wonderful experience to spend these days at Cabot School. I am really fascinated that in a small school all these things can happen.

Vielen Dank für die tollen Tage an dieser wunderschönen Schule!



VERMONT'S VOTE-BY-PHONE (AT THE POLLS) VOTING SYSTEM

The Vote-by-Phone system is designed to enable people with disabilities to vote privately and independently at the polling place. This coming election, in addition to all of the other ways you can vote, people with disabilities will be given the option of voting by phone at the polls using the Vote-By-Phone system. In 2008, 29 people statewide voted by telephone in the General Election. For more details go to www.sec.state.vt.us/publications.html

FARM TO SCHOOL



Farm to School October Update

By Amy Hornblas

The results of the Cabot School Lunch Family Survey are in. Thank you to everyone who turned one in. There were 33 surveys returned, representing 52 students at the school (approximately 20 per cent of the population). Thirty-nine of the students responding eat breakfast at school, as well as lunch. The survey asked about how often students eat, why they do or do not participate in the school meal programs, and what they like most. We also asked for suggestions. Here's a little of what we found out.

The main reasons families participate in the program are convenience and cost.

The most popular breakfast items are (in order of preference): muffins made from scratch with local ingredients, juice, Cabot Berry Yogurt, and Vermont Applesauce. The least popular (with 13 votes) are the donuts. Grilled cheese and tomato soup was the most popular lunch item (pizza was not a choice, because we assumed it was the obvious favorite for most people), seconded by chicken fajitas and taco salad.

When given choices between processed, pre-packaged foods and similar choices made from scratch, most folks chose the latter. For example, baked chicken breast from scratch received 29 votes, while breaded and fried chicken (arrives processed and frozen) received four. A new idea that was very popular was fresh berries, with 29 respondents saying they would eat it frequently. Other new ideas received more of a lukewarm, though positive, response. They are, in order of preference: soup more often, hummus, zucchini sticks with dip, and corn relish.

General praise included gratitude for the great selection that has always been offered in the school lunch program. Folks were also appreciative of the chef, the Farm to School program and the inclusion of more fresh, local options. Many people gave praise to the salad bar, and some even wanted it to be offered more than twice a week. One respondent encouraged us to remember that "you can't please all the people all of the time."

Popular suggestions included chop suey, homemade pickles, salad bar choices (such as cottage cheese and fruit salad), and other hints about what kids do and don't like (such as "no onions or mushy vegetables").

All in all, the support and enthusiasm reflected in the survey are encouraging. Thank you again for responding.

The \$10 gift card donated by the Cabot Store was given out to a lucky family who responded by the deadline. If you missed the survey but would like to share your feedback, feel free to pass it on to the Food Service Director or the Farm to School Coordinator directly. We are always open to suggestions.

The Fresh Fruits and Vegetables program is up and running, being offered on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons to the elementary students. After a few weeks of working out the bugs, the foods being offered will be posted ahead of time through the weekly bulletins. This way families and teachers can encourage the students to try it, explain the health benefits and other features of the food (where it comes from, how it grows,) and students with dietary needs can be prepared to participate. Please be looking for these announcements below the lunch update in the weekly bulletins.

On September 14, 2010, the Cabot community bread oven initiative took a huge leap forward into reality. A group of about 15 students, faculty and community members came together for a meeting with Joseph Keiffer of Foodworks to make a plan. Over yummy baked bread and cheese, the group discussed the possibilities and challenges that face us. The purpose is to create a functioning oven that can serve the entire Cabot community, to be used for gatherings, fundraisers and to spur entrepreneurship. The timeline is to build the foundation for the oven this fall, and finish the oven in the spring. We agreed to meet in another month to continue. If you would like to be added to the mailing/email list, please contact the Farm to School coordinator.

Cabot's Farm to School meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of every month from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the Cabot School Library. The next meeting is on October 27. For more information, the coordinator can be reached at Cabot School or amyhornblas@gmail.com. Happy Harvesting.



SENIOR NEWS

Twin Valley Senior Center Hosts Legislative Forum

By Stacey Sharp



On October 15th, Twin Valley Seniors, along with Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) and COVE (Community of Vermont Elders), is bringing to the Old Schoolhouse Common in Marshfield the Vermont Legislative Forum. Twin Valley was honored to be chosen to host this important forum for Central Vermont residents. A moderator will introduce a panel of Vermont legislators who will discuss the upcoming session in Montpelier and seek input from the community about what they would like to see in upcoming legislative activity. There will be plenty of time for a question and answer period. The forum will take place on October 15th at the Old Schoolhouse Common in Marshfield from 10 to 11:30 am. **Everyone in the community is invited** to join us for this exciting chance to learn what our legislators have planned and to provide valuable input about upcoming legislative topics. Morning refreshments will be served and there is a dinner after the forum at noon. You'll need to RSVP for

the dinner by October 11th at 802-454-7750 - just let us know how many will be attending. There is a suggested donation of \$4.00 for the dinner. We look forward to the community participation!

Twin Valley recently received a boost to our Meals on Wheels program with a donation of a new packaging machine from Wal-Mart. During this time of volunteer shortages, the machine allows the volunteers packing the meals to eliminate an entire step in the process. Antonio Flores, Berlin Wal-Mart manager, joined TVSC Director Rita Copeland in delivering meals to the center's Meals on Wheels homebound clients. Twin Valley is grateful to Wal-Mart for helping us to do our part to end senior hunger in our six towns. Our goal is that no six towns senior will go hungry or be alone.

It's getting to be flu season again, and TVSC is sponsoring a flu shot clinic on October 25th. The flu shots are free for those on Medicare, \$12 for those who are high risk without Medicare, and \$31 for those under 55 and healthy. Please call 454-7750 for information.

TVSC wants to thank everyone in the community who came to our yard sale, cheered us in the Plainfield parade, and made and signed cards for our deployed troops at Old Home Day in Plainfield. Special thanks go to our cadre of volunteers who made it all happen - Wanda Berte, Joyce Fowler, Fred Ducharme, Jackie DiMatteo, Tori Hodgkins, Paul Bicata, John Taylor, Karen Taylor, Waneta Mayhew, Shirley Boardman, and a special big thank you to Linda Fowler for her time on Sunday packing and cleaning up!

HEALTHY STARTS

Cabot High School's Healthy Start

Cabot High School's Healthy Start included a full day workshop with Calvin Day, a noted speaker on Diversity and Inclusion. He led small and large group-work throughout the day. Each group created a puzzle piece that depicted an aspect of inclusion. The pieces were then put together and displayed.



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4/11

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6/11

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6/11

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11/10

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11/10

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5/11

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10/10

CLASSIFIEDS

*Classified ads are 10 cents per word, for a minimum of \$2
(not including help wanted or employment classifieds).
For full details, see our media kit at www.cabotchronicle.org
or contact us at 563-3338.*

FOR SALE

Firewood - Green.
Delivery within 10 mi. of village. \$165/
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5/11

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8/11

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7/11

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Andrea Gilbert, D.V.M
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www.hardwickvet.com
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8/11

CHILDCARE

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5/10

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5/10



CREATIVE CORNER



By Cia Considine

With the popularity of home garden-
ing and the “eating local” movement,
there also has been a surge in canning
foods. Canning jars, once seen often at
garage sales, are suddenly scarce – not
to say that they cannot be purchased at
markets. It is just that the satisfaction
of canning in your own recycled jars or
an inherited supply, makes the process
all the more rewarding.

I don't know when I first learned how
to can. I watched my mother for years
and settled into my own favorite recipes,
and suddenly the sense about how to
insure a good seal, good color and taste
became second nature.

I don't profess to understand all the
chemistry that happens in processing
jams or dilled green beans, but I do un-
derstand that sugar and/or vinegar-
based recipes require a simpler canning
process than some other foods. My fam-
ily loves dilled green beans, pickled
beets, zucchini relish and jellies made
from everything from mint to choke-
cherries. All these recipes require only
a hot-water bath to seal. A favorite
ratatouille recipe, which requires pres-
sure canning, is worth the extra steps.
When a summer yield is abundant, I
can make ratatouille forever!

Having good use for those hard-
shelled, oversized zucchinis and sum-
mer squash is wonderful, although, this
year, everyone's abundance has left too
many “free” roadside offerings for even
me to rescue. Still, I never seem to tire
of making something delicious from
somebody else's cast offs.

I would like to suggest a ratatouille
recipe that I have made for years. This
recipe can be frozen, I prefer to can it.

1 lb. eggplant cubed
1 large onion diced
½ 1b. mushrooms sliced thin
1 cup green pepper diced
½ cup oil, butter or a mix of the two
2 large cloves garlic minced
½ cup fresh chopped parsley
Saute ingredients above until tender.

You CAN CAN! Ratatouille Forever

Add the following:
4 carrots diced
12 cups diced zucchini
*(This could be a mix of yellow squash
and zucchini. If the squash are large,
peel and seed them before dicing. If the
skins are still shiny and the seeds not too
large, you can leave both the skins and
seeds in the recipe.)*

1 - 28 oz. can diced tomatoes
12 oz. tomato paste 3 cups water
1-2 Tbsp salt 1 Tbsp basil
1 Tbsp oregano 1 tsp curry
2-1/2 tsp nutmeg 1 tsp cayenne

Simmer the pot for one hour. Recipe
makes 5+ quarts. The jars should be
pressure canned at 10 lbs. for 55 min-
utes.

THE PRESSURE CANNING PROCESS:

Unlike jelly, jams and most pickles,
which require a simpler canning
method, this ratatouille requires pres-
sure canning to insure a good sealing of
the jars. .

I keep the jars and lids in a sink full of
piping hot water with 1 Tbsp. of bleach
added. Just before filling, I rinse each
jar and its lid, with hot water.

I then ladle the ratatouille into clean
hot jars using a clean wide-mouthed
funnel that fits the jar opening. With a
clean wet cloth, I wipe off the jar rims to
be sure they are free of any
ratatouille drips.

I then put on the lids and screw on the
covers snugly. The covers then need to
be turned back about 1 inch. This is to
insure that air can escape in the can-
ning process.

The jars then go into a pressure
canner. I have a large canner that re-
quires about 1 quart of water. Once the
canner cover is put on, there are a few
steps to be sure that the canner is main-
taining the same pressure for the allot-
ted time of canning and also that the
canner is cooled down and de-
pressurized safely. This procedure will
be slightly different from canner to
canner, so be sure to read specific
canner instructions carefully.

CLIMATE CHANGE RALLY AND MUSIC EXTRAVANGANZA

Climate change is happening. It's changing our world for the worse.
We need to build a political movement to return the atmosphere to
350 parts per million CO2. **Let's get to work!**

**JOIN US ON SUNDAY 10/10/10 ~ 3-8 PM
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**GATHER at Hazen Union at 3:00
MARCH at 3:30 ~ RALLY at Hazen at 4:00**

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MUSIC AT 5:30 BY
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