



Cabot Chronicle
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The Cabot Chronicle

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Vol. 10, No. 10

P.O. Box 245, Cabot, Vermont 05647

October 2017

Cabot Celebrates 57th Annual Fall Foliage Festival

The town of Cabot will celebrate its 57th Annual Fall Foliage Festival on Tuesday, October 3, and invites locals and visitors alike to enjoy the fall colors, spectacular views and all the other things that make Cabot special.

Executive Director Lori Augustyniak is excited to share this year's lineup, which welcomes back many favorite activities from previous years along with a few new talents and events scattered throughout town. "Cabot's Annual Fall Foliage Festival has a well-rounded mix of events that explore the best of Cabot and Vermont - a diverse offering of art, music, nature, history and food."

At the 2017 Cabot Fall Foliage Event you will enjoy:

- Browsing wares produced by Cabot area artists and craftspeople.
- Reveling in the colors of Cabot's fall foliage with a trail walk, hike, historic tours and car tours highlighting some of the best views in Vermont.
- Listening to vignettes of Vermont and Cabot history with our Master Storyteller David Carpenter.
- Great live music including:
 - ~ Country tunes with Katie Trautz, Lee Blackwell & R.D. Eno
 - ~ A 20-piece original alt-pop funk orchestra, redefining the concept of "school band"
 - ~ American roots and original songs with Susan and Dana Robinson
 - ~ And an Old-Time Jam session with R.D. Eno, Susan and Dana Robinson, and others
- Displays of Cabot and Vermont history at the Cabot His-

torical Society.

- Homemade meals for lunch and supper –
 - ~ Corn chowder and chili lunch – seatings at 11:30 a.m., 12:30 and 1:15 p.m. (\$6 adults, \$2.50 children)
- Turkey supper - seatings at 5:00 and 6:15 p.m. (\$15 adults, \$5 children)
- Touring local points of interest including, the Cabot Creamery, Burt's Apple Orchard, Hooker Mountain Farm & Distillery, Vermont Floorcloths and Hillcrest Adirondack Furniture.
- The grand finale to the day – a New England Contra Dance featuring Adina Gordon (caller), David Carpenter and the Cabot Contraband.

Cabot's Fall Foliage Festival is made possible by the Cabot Community Association, Cabot Church, Cabot Historical Society, Cabot Arts, Cabot School, Cabot Community Fund, the Town of Cabot and many area business owners & volunteers.

For meal reservations call Rose Bothfeld, 802-563-2715. For a schedule of events and more event details, visit cabotvermont.org. For other information, call the Cabot Community Association at 802-563-3338 or info@cabotvermont.org.

Cabot's Fall Foliage Festival is part of the North East Kingdom Fall Foliage Festival - a special week of events (October 2 – 8, 2017) showcasing the beauty of autumn and providing authentic Vermont experiences in seven NEK towns. More information can be found at <http://www.nekchamber.com/media/2017%20NEK%20FFF.pdf>.

Cabot's 57th Annual Fall Foliage Festival

Tuesday, October 3rd, 2017

2017 Cabot Fall Foliage Highlights:

- Browsing wares produced by Cabot area artists
- Reveling in the colors of Cabot's fall foliage
- Listening to vignettes of Vermont and Cabot history
- Visiting displays of Cabot and Vermont history

Lunch - 11:30 am, 12:30 pm & 1:15 pm

Corn chowder and chili lunch

\$6 adults, \$2.50 children

Supper - 5:00 pm & 6:15 pm

Turkey supper

\$15 adults, \$5 children

Great Live Music:

- Country tunes with Katie Trautz, Lee Blackwell & R.D. Eno
- A 20-piece original alt-pop funk orchestra
- American roots and original songs with Susan and Dana Robinson
- An Old-Time Jam session with R.D. Eno, Susan and Dana Robinson, et. al.

Touring Local Businesses

The Cabot Creamery • Burt's Apple Orchard
Hooker Mountain Farm & Distillery • Vermont Floorcloths • Hillcrest Adirondack Furniture

Grand Finale

A New England Contra Dance featuring Adina Gordon (caller), David Carpenter and the Cabot Contraband.

For meal reservations call Rose Bothfeld, 802-563-2715

For more information, call the Cabot Community Association at 802-563-3338

For a schedule of events and more event details, visit cabotvermont.org



Cabot Apple Pie Festival

Saturday, October 14, 2017

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. ~ Cabot School Gymnasium

Please support Cabot history and the community by attending, selling your crafts, or baking pies to sell.
Consider entering your pie into the Pie Baking Contest - you could go home with a trophy. See ad on page 12.

*Annual Fundraiser for
Cabot Historical Society
For operating expenses
related to acquiring and
preserving artifacts related
to history of Cabot, VT*

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2017 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE CABOT ♦ DANVILLE ♦ PEACHHAM

By Representative Catherine (Kitty) Toll

Commerce and Workforce Development:

Every year, approximately 3000 young Vermonters enter the workforce with weak or no job skills. Data shows that fifty percent of Vermont's high school seniors do not seek higher educational opportunities after graduation and twenty-five percent of the prior year's graduating classes leave postsecondary education after the first year. Workforce readiness, ranging from very basic skills to higher level marketable skills, is at a crisis level in Vermont. In 2016, the Workforce Development workgroup reported that "... having now conducted over 40 workforce needs assessment visits with employers representing more than 20,000 Vermont employees, it has become clear that the state has neither the breadth nor depth of talent in place to meet its business demands. The critical implications of this issue should prompt stakeholders—including government agencies, economic development practitioners, employers, and educators—to rethink the alignment of its talent and workforce development strategies." The Economic Development Bill that was passed by the Legislature this year and signed into law by the Governor creates important initiatives to address this critical issue.

First, the Commissioner of Labor and the State Workforce Development Board will convene a working group to assess current workforce education and training and develop a comprehensive strategy that meets the needs of employers and employees.

Secondly, a Career Pathways Coordinator position has been created within the Agency of Education to work across agencies to develop a Career Pathways System to link students to careers and workplaces. The bill funded career training and planning for younger Vermonters beginning in middle school. Apprenticeships are an excellent and proven pathway to future employment.

The bill directs the Agency of Education to work closely with the Vermont State Colleges/Universities and the University of Vermont to strengthen partnerships with Career and Technical Education Centers (CTE) and increase recognition of the academic and technical course work completed by CTE students

throughout Vermont. Career and Technical Education Centers provide advanced level courses similar to traditional advanced placement courses.

Affordable Workforce Housing:

The Vermont Housing Needs Assessment found building a substantial number of new housing units would reduce housing as a constraint to economic success and produce the homes and communities that Vermont needs in order to attract and build an able workforce. The Economic Development bill streamlines and sets permitting priorities to encourage both affordable and workforce housing. The Governor and the Legislature joined forces to support \$35 million in bonding capacity to develop ownership and rental housing for working Vermonters who find housing to be a challenge. Priority for funding will be based on need, areas ready to proceed with projects and areas designated for growth. Eligible projects include the construction and rehabilitation of multi-family rental properties and single family housing units. The goal of this initiative is to create and improve 550 – 650 units of housing. Applications will be considered by the Vermont Housing Finance Agency (VHFA) and made over the next 3 years.

TIF Districts:

Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) Districts are one of the State's most effective economic development tools. The Legislature voted to lift the cap on TIF districts and six new districts were created statewide. Structural changes were adopted to address concerns regarding the effect TIFs have on the Education Fund. To enable smaller projects, a new municipal-only TIF district was created. To further ease the application process, legislation clarified the criteria for establishing these districts and important language was included giving economically depressed areas preference. In 2016, \$2.25 million in state tax incentives supported 21 projects in downtown and village center construction and rehabilitation in the amount of \$47 million dollars. Tax credits available have been increased by \$200,000.

Small Business Development:

The Micro Business Development Program of the Vermont Community Action Agencies has launched or expanded more

than 2,000 Vermont businesses by low and moderate income Vermonters and additional investments have been added to this highly successful program. The Legislature also authorized the creation of the Climate Economy Business Accelerator Program to foster climate economy startups. Additionally, the Small Business Development Centers' business advisors have been expanded to cover underserved regions of the state subject to available resources. In 2016, the SBDC was responsible for 403 new jobs, \$26.5 million raised in new capital and 66 new businesses started.

Consumer Protection:

Home repair is an area where some Vermonters fall victim to contractors charging for repairs that are either never completed or completed in a shoddy manner. This bill asks the Secretary of State's Office of Professional Regulation to conduct a sunrise review that will determine whether construction contractors should be licensed. As part of its review and report, the Office will compile information on how other states address consumer protection in home improvement contracts including whether contracts should be in writing and if so, at what threshold amount. The Office will recommend how such protections should be incorporated into any regulatory structure.

Escrow Accounts:

At the present time lenders with escrow accounts are only obliged to make reasonable estimates on total annual charges for escrow accounts. This bill requires an annual recalculation of escrow charges with consideration of the borrower's current tax liability after any applicable adjustments for a State credit on property taxes. Further, upon receipt of a revised property tax bill, the lender shall review and verify the reduction and conduct a new recalculation analysis. The legislation also allows lenders to increase the escrow from one month to two

months. The majority of residential mortgages are resold on the secondary market and this puts Vermont mortgages in line with the secondary market and increases marketability. Importantly, increased marketability lends itself to lower interest rates on the mortgages.

Minimum Wage and Benefits Cliff Study:

The 2016 Vermont Livable Wage was calculated to be \$13.03 an hour for a single person in a two person household on a basic needs budget. The wage increases to \$21.97 per parent in a two parent/two child household in an urban setting and \$20.30 for those living in rural areas of Vermont. State and federal taxes subsidize the difference between earnings and need. A study on the impact of an increased minimum wage to \$15.00, to be increased over a set period of time, will be completed and submitted to the legislature by January 2018. In tandem with the minimum wage study a detailed analysis of the loss of benefits due to increased wages will be included. This loss is known as the benefits cliff. It is a term that describes what happens when state or federal benefits programs phase down or out and lead to reduction or loss of benefits for families as household earnings increase. As seen, many cannot risk accepting a higher wage because the increase is not enough for self-sufficiency to be reached and many families find themselves in a worse economic position.

For additional information on any bill or action taken by the House or Senate or standing committee please visit: www.leg.state.vt.us. These are live pages and are updated regularly. Please contact me directly with your questions and concerns. As always, it is an honor to represent our communities at the State House.

kittytoll@live.com
ktoll@leg.state.vt.us
PO Box 192 Danville, VT 05828
802-684-3671 (Home)

The Cabot Chronicle Submission Guidelines

The Chronicle welcomes letters written with an economy of words. The maximum length is recommended to be no longer than 400 words. Letters may be edited for clarity and length or returned to the author with suggestions for re-submittal. All letters and commentary published in The Cabot Chronicle represent the opinions of the authors and not necessarily the opinions of staff.

The Cabot Chronicle reserves the right to reject letters that may contain unsuitable material for our readers. Letters will not be considered for publication unless signed and accompanied by a phone number. We will gladly consider articles and photographs for publication.

The Cabot Chronicle is not responsible for errors in submitted material. Nor does The Cabot Chronicle assume responsibility for claims arising in connection with products or services advertised on these pages.

If you have editorial questions or would like advertising information, call our office at 563-3338, visit our website, www.CabotVermont.org or email us at inbox@cabotchronicle.org. Letters and other inquiries can also be sent to: The Cabot Chronicle, P.O. Box 245, Cabot, VT 05647.



E-mail: inbox@cabotchronicle.org
Phone: 802-563-3338

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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: 802-595-7710 • Email: inbox@cabotchronicle.org
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www.cabotvermont.org



Cabot Arcana

Stories From The Cabot Historical Society

Boundary Changes Around Joe's Pond

By Jane Coyle McKay
Cabot Historical Society Archivist

The Town of Cabot is six miles square, give or take.

Jesse Leavenworth built mills at the outlet of what is now known as Joe's Pond in 1785, believing he was in the Town of Cabot. Jesse missed the mark by only about half a mile. When the area was surveyed and lotted the following year, Leavenworth found his mills were actually in Deweyburg Gore, a boot-shaped tract of land southwest of the pond. Deweyburg was later divided between Danville and Peacham, with Danville getting land along the southern shore of the pond that included Leavenworth's mills.

When Cabot was lotted in 1786, it was divided into 72 numbered lots, each one mile wide by one-half mile deep, measuring 320 acres. Lots 10, 11, and 12, in the southeastern corner of the town, had only a small amount of land, mostly shoreline and swamp. The rest was water.

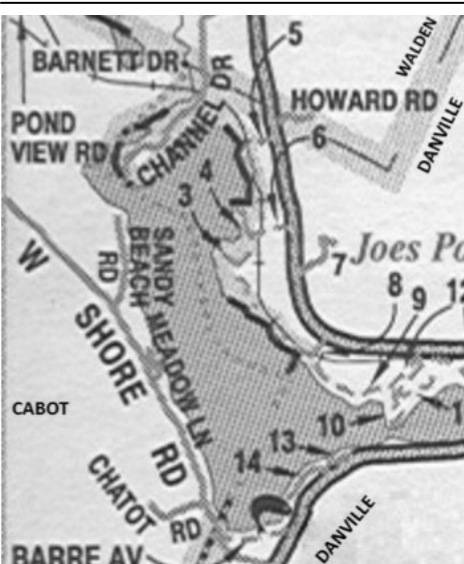
Old maps show the town line between Cabot and Danville going straight across the pond from where Barre Avenue is today to the eastern shore approximately where Brown Road is now, and extending east a few rods to meet the Walden town line. That strip of land on the eastern shore of the pond was not connected to the rest of Cabot, and the only way it could be reached was by going around the pond through either Walden or West Danville, several miles either way, except in winter when travelers crossed the pond on the ice.

As more settlers arrived in the region, the trails that connected communities became roads that each town was expected to keep passable. The road that is present day Route 15 from West Danville north on the eastern side of Joe's Pond, crossed Cabot's small triangle of land about a mile from West Danville. For a number of years, Cabot paid Danville to take care of the short stretch of dirt road. However, the land was of little use to Cabot and the expense of keeping the road was a burden to the town, so in 1887, Cabot and Danville reached an agreement, the state legislature approved it, and the road and land became part of the Town of Danville.

What Cabot gave up – a small amount of farmland and a long, irregular, swampy



Original town lines previous to 1887.



Town lines after 1887. Broken line in middle of pond indicate the boundary between Cabot and Danville.

shoreline – was considered mostly worthless at the time. Today that shoreline between Brown Road and the Walden town line is packed with summer homes on North Shore Road, Cove Road and Clubhouse Circle, including the Joe's Pond Association recreation area and pavilion, plus several homes in the wetlands area on Channel Drive and Island Drive. Cabot also forfeited Toll's Island, the larger of the two islands in Joe's Pond, but the smaller island that Sim Whittier built, now called Pearl's Island, remains in Cabot.

And that is why the Town of Cabot is "six miles square, give or take."

Planning Notes

By Karen Deasy
Zoning Administrator and Planner

Water system upcoming bond vote.

As we plan for replacement of the Danville Hill Water line, we will be starting field work and preparation of construction documents. You will see folks out in the field measuring and surveying for this project. We anticipate scheduling a bond vote in November, with the vote for next year's six month municipal budget. Costs for the project are posted on the Town's web site and will be at the Town Clerk's office for review. We are third on the priority funding list for this important project and are anticipating spring construction.

Hazard Mitigation projects

Family Emergency preparedness guide. Copies are now available at the Town Clerks office. For those not registered on VT Alert, information is included in the guide and on www.vtalert.gov. VT Alert is an emergency notification service that will send you notifications of events that may impact Cabot. You can choose the notifications you wish to receive and if you would like those notifications by phone,

cell phone, text or email, or a combination of these.

Porter Road is proceeding and will be a spring construction project. Town funds to match the project will be held in reserve, no additional funding will be required from the Town to complete this project. Green Mountain Power has also contributed towards completion of this project. Easements and permitting will be completed this fall. A spring bid followed by construction will wrap up the last of our large culvert projects identified in the May 2011 flooding.

Sawmill Dam removal. We are pursuing a variety of funding sources to complete this project and intend to finish the necessary work at no cost to the Town. Both FEMA and CDBG are working with the Town to remove this structure and the accessory buildings on site. Completion of this work will modify the flood plain area in Lower Cabot and mitigate risks to properties in the area. Purchase of the property should be completed this fall once the environmental assessments are completed, we anticipate dam removal and the structures to be removed in the spring.



AUCTIONS

3BR Classic Vermont Farmhouse on 4 Acres
Large High Barn • Detached Garage • 1-Stall Barn

Friday, October 20 @ 1PM

271 Shady Rill Road, Middlesex VT

OPEN HOUSE: Wed., October 4 from 2-4PM



Large open kitchen with pantry and direct access to front porch and large dining room. First floor has full bath, living room with fireplace and master bedroom or additional living space, office. Upstairs has 2 bedrooms and storage. Great location with quiet & private country life, easy commute to Montpelier.



Cars, Tools and Personal Property will be sold at 10AM

Partial List Including:
• Snap-on professional mechanic's tool chest
• Large qty of hand tools from snap-on, Craftsman & more

• Low-mileage Ford F250 4x4
• Horse-drawn buggy
• Vintage Appalachian Trail sign
AND MORE!
Subject to Change

Foreclosure: Country Home with Garage

Tuesday October 24 @3PM

606 West Hill Pond Road, Marshfield, VT



• 3 Bedroom
• 1 Bathroom
• 2± Acres
• Detached 2-Car Garage
• Private Location

Thomas Hirchak Company • THCAuction.com • 800-634-7653

Cabot Historical Society Seeks Your Memories

The Cabot Historical Society invites community members to share memories concerning Cabot's history for possible publication in *The Cabot Chronicle* Cabot Arcana column. All submissions would become property of the Cabot Historical Society, to be added to the local history collection.

Submissions may be emailed to
CabotHistorical@gmail.com, or
mailed to P.O. Box 275, Cabot, VT 05647.

OBITUARIES & MEMORIALS

Rena Y. Rogers



Rena Yvonne Rogers, 79, of Barre Town, passed away on Thursday, September 7, 2017, at home with her loving family by her bedside.

Born Nov. 14, 1937, in Colebrook, New Hampshire, she was the daughter of Gerard and Yvonne (Gosselin) Lamoureux. Rena attended elementary school at St. Monica's and graduated from Spaulding High School with the class of 1955. After high school, she attended nursing school at Trinity College in Burlington.

On Jan. 4, 1958, she married the love of her life, John M. Rogers Jr., in the St. Monica Catholic Church in Barre. After they married, they built their current home and lived there for 59 years.

Rena was a bookkeeper for many years for the family businesses, John Rogers and Sons, Rogers Brothers, and Rogers Sawmill.

She was a member of the Bible Baptist Church in Berlin. In her spare time, she enjoyed traveling, gardening - espe-

cially growing her own flowers - reading, going to camp in Cabot in the summer months and Florida in the winter months, boating on the Suwannee River. Most of all, she loved spending time with her family.

Survivors include her husband, John Rogers Jr., of Barre Town; her sons, John Rogers III, of Calais, Jeffrey Rogers and his wife, Lisa, of Barre Town, James Rogers and his wife, Lynn, of Cabot; her daughter-in-law, Kathy Rogers, of Barre Town; nine grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren; her sisters, Jacqueline Isabelle, of Barre, and Lucille Laprade, of Georgia; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her grandson, Christopher Rogers.

The service to honor and celebrate her life was held on Wednesday, September 13, 2017, in the Bible Baptist Church of Berlin. For a memorial guestbook, visit www.hookerwhitcomb.com. Memorial contributions may be made to Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice, 600 Granger Road, Barre, VT 05641

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Accchione and Goodrich

Maria Acchione and James Goodrich were married Sunday, September 10, in a private ceremony at their home. The ceremony was presided over by Christina Findlay, pastor of the Cabot Church. The marriage was followed by a small gathering of family and the couple's "Friday-Night Group." It was professionally catered by Miss Lorelai Bastress of Cabot. Flowers were provided by Amanda's Greenhouse.



Heart of Vermont Chamber of Commerce

FALL FOLIAGE CRAFT FAIR

Featuring Jewelry, Candles, Pottery, Clothing, Photography, Fiber Arts and other fine crafts.

OCTOBER 7th

9 ~ 4

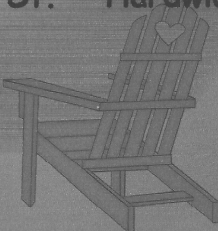
Elementary School ~ S. Main St. ~ Hardwick, VT

\$25 Shopping Spree Drawing

11 am ~ 1 pm ~ 3 pm

(You must be present to win)

The Heart of Vermont



Cabot Recycling

By Ben Davis

As we head into the fall recycling season, here are a few thoughts on using the Cabot recycling Center, and other recycling services.

Disposing of your old summer tires is now simple and low cost. You can bring your tires to the Recycling Center. A fee of \$4 per tire is charged to cover disposal and transportation costs. Some tires may have a higher fee. Check with the Center attendant for more information.

If you still have household hazardous materials to dispose of, you may do so at the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District (NEKWMD) Recycling Center in Lyndonville. Call ahead at 626-3532 to be sure an attendant will be on site to process your wastes.

The NEKWMD continues to generate a significant share of its operating revenue from the sale of recyclable materials.

Commodities markets remain strong. Cardboard is selling for around \$180 per ton. Office paper is down slightly, but stays strong at around \$95 per ton. Steel is up at \$35 per ton. Plastic at \$70 per ton remains low due to low oil prices. Electronics are worth \$.09 per pound, and the District is shipping about three tractor-trailers a month. Finally, the district has procured a new market for ag plastic, which is being made into plastic lumber and other plastic products.

In addition to recycling services, trash is collected at the Center for a fee. An attendant is on site during hours of operation (8:00 a.m. to noon on Saturdays) to assist you. The Center is located on Sawmill Road in Lower Cabot.

Keep up the great work of keeping a clean flow of materials coming out of Cabot and Marshfield. More information on recycling is available on line at www.nekwmd.org.

Cabot Listers' Corner

Understanding Current Use

Benefits

Land will be taxed based on its use value, which is established annually by the Current Use Advisory Board.

Requirements and Terms

Property must be managed according to the approved forest or conservation management plan and according to state standards. It will be inspected at least once every 10 years. The main objective in requiring a management plan is to assure that the land is managed carefully. It is not intended to force a landowner into a particular type of management. A private consulting forester may be asked to prepare, or help prepare, a management plan which meets the landowner's objectives as well as the state standards.

A management plan for forestland and conservation land also includes maps that meet the Current Use Program Mapping Standards. Agricultural land does not require a management plan, but does require maps that meet the map standards. These maps are typically prepared by a consulting forester. The Vermont Center for Geographic Information (VCGI) has a number of shapefiles that are available for creating these maps.

A Forest Management Activity Report must be filed by Feb. 1 with the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation to report any management activity which occurred in the previous year. For further details on Use Value Appraisal of Forestland in Vermont, visit the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation website.

Development and Penalties

Once land is enrolled, it is subject to a lien. If this land is *ever* developed, the owner at the time of development must pay the Land Use Change Tax. The land use change tax is calculated as 10% of the fair market value of the developed parcel or portion of a parcel. When a portion of a parcel is withdrawn or developed, the fair market value of the portion is determined by valuing the portion as a stand-alone parcel.

In this program, development includes any of the following:

- Subdivision so that one or more of the resulting parcels is less than 25 acres
- Construction of buildings, roads, or

structures not used for forestry purposes

- Commercial mining, excavation or landfill activity, or cutting timber contrary to the management plan or contrary to state standards

The obligation to pay this tax runs with the land in perpetuity. The tax is not due unless and until the land is developed; however, it may be prepaid if the landowner wishes to clear the lien.

CURRENT USE IN CABOT – 61% OF CABOT ACREAGE

As of April 1, 2017, Cabot had 145 parcels enrolled in Current Use, representing 13,832.67 acres of land valued at its state-set use value rather than its grand list valuation. This represents 61% of Cabot acreage. The State will reimburse the Town approximately \$91,666 for lost tax revenue due to this reduction.

For next tax year, we currently have 149 certified parcels and 4 parcels pending approval by the State Current Use Program.

CABOT'S GRAND LIST

There are a total of 22,643.86 acres accounted for in the Town of Cabot Grand List, which are divided into 887 taxable parcels this year, of which 25 are business personal property. The total number of parcels fluctuates as lots are subdivided and merged with changing ownership.

Also included in the Grand List are nine veterans qualified by the State for the Veterans Exemption (\$10,000 reduction in property valuation for tax purposes legislated by the State and an additional \$30,000 reduction approved by Cabot voters), and two parcels owned by Cabot Historical Society (a non-profit organization) exempted from paying taxes until 2019 by Cabot voters. Cabot's Grand List also includes 24 town-owned parcels (town garage, cemeteries, town hall, recreation field, school, Masonic Hall, water system, etc.) and four State parcels (Mollys Falls State Park and fishing and boating accesses at Coits Pond, West Hill Pond and Molly's Falls State Park).

School Board Update

Since our community forum in August, the Cabot School Board has continued to gather information about the options available to Cabot School to meet the requirements of Act 46. Enacted in 2015, Act 46 requires school districts in Vermont with fewer than 900 students to increase opportunities for students and improve efficiency. Districts can meet those requirements by either merging with other districts or by developing an "alternative governance structure" proposal (AGS) to remain as an unmerged, independent district. In either case, the Vermont State Board of Education must approve a district's plan.

In Cabot's case, we've focused our research in the past month on two options. Under the first option, Cabot would close its high school and would pay tuition for its high school students to attend the high school of their choice. Under the second option, Cabot would keep its high school.

During the month of October, we will share what we've found out about these two options with the Cabot community, and gather community members' input on them before making a decision as a board on which option to pursue.

The most likely route to option one above would be for Cabot to merge with the school districts of the "Caledonia Cooperative" (Walden, Waterford, and Barre). These districts voted to merge together in May: as a unified district they would go from having three separate school boards to one, and the costs of educating students in the three towns would be shared by taxpayers across the new, unified district.

If Cabot joined as a fourth member of the Caledonia Cooperative unified district, Cabot and the other three towns would also qualify for financial incentives from the State of Vermont. These include reductions in the Homestead Property Tax rate for the first four years of the unified district's existence (FY 2019-FY 2022), and a continuation of the Small Schools Grant that has for many years been provided to small schools by the State of Vermont. The tax rate reduction would start out at eight cents for the first year, and decrease by two cents in each of the three years following. Cabot School received a Small Schools Grant of \$147,000 in support of its program in this current year.

In order for Cabot to join this Caledonia Cooperative, we and the other three districts would have to craft a new proposal. That proposal would have to be both approved as meeting the goals of Act 46 by the VT State Board of Education, and be approved by voters in each of the four towns (Walden, Waterford, Barre, and Cabot). In order to qualify for the state incentives, voters would have to approve the four-way merger by November 30, 2017.

Prior to beginning the work of discussing and crafting a new proposal that would add Cabot to the Caledonia Cooperative, we've forwarded financial information for Cabot School to the members of the Caledonia Cooperative's 706b (merger) Committee, so that group could get a sense of how Cabot's entry might impact the unified district's cost-per-

pupil and potential savings. We hope to hear in the coming week if that Committee would like to continue discussions with us about Cabot joining the Caledonia Cooperative District.

Our board has also been working on the second option for Cabot - to continue operating a preK-12 school in Cabot. In order to have that option approved as meeting the goals of Act 46 by the State Board of Education, our school would have to begin some major improvements.

Among those improvements is an investment in staffing to enhance the program available for students at Cabot High School. With the help of the Act 46 Working Group and discussions with our Principal Dave Schilling, we have been gathering information on the kind of programs that would best serve our Cabot students into the future. Beyond bringing all four core high school staff back to full-time positions, discussion of other potential program additions has included design technology, connecting students with learning opportunities in the community, and using existing community resources to build a program focused on agriculture and sustainability.

We have also been researching how the high school program could be enhanced by collaborations with other schools. We are scheduled to meet with the Danville School Board in late September to discuss ways that students in each of our schools could access strong programs in both schools.

We have also begun looking at the pieces that need to be included in the Alternative Governance Structure (AGS) proposal that would have to be filed with the State of Vermont prior to December 26, 2017. That proposal would present how our Cabot School District is planning to meet the goals of Act 46 as a non-merged, independent district. Some of that information was already gathered as part of our Cabot/Danville/Twinfield merger proposal, and we're starting to gather other needed information in the event that we decide to file an AGS proposal.

In October, we will share the information that our board has gathered on these two options with Cabot residents and will solicit feedback on them prior to making a decision on which option to move forward on. We will hold a community forum to present information and answer questions on these options on Thursday, October 5, at 6:00 p.m. at the CSPAC.

We hope to see you there!

Chris Tormey
Cabot School Board



Cabot High School Not Out Of Options, Yet

What would you say if you were told that a reasonable option exists ensuring a robust high school program for Cabot students while creating economic opportunities for Cabot families *and* it does not rely on increasing the tax rate for Cabot residents? Intrigued? Well, then, read on.

The premise of this option, simply stated, is to create a non-profit entity to run a residential boarding and enrichment program for out-of-state students who would live with Cabot families while attending Cabot's incredibly unique educational institution. Broken down into individual parts, it looks like this:

First, the non-profit would be established, independent from the school, with its own governing board. The Cabot School Board and the non-profit board would operate separately, yet collaboratively, through a contract that clearly delineates roles and responsibilities.

Second, the non-profit would create the structure for recruiting students, place those students in homes with Cabot families, and develop a comprehensive enrichment program (e.g. visual and performing arts, music, field trips, workshops, courses, and speakers) for *all* high school students.

Unlike international exchange programs, Cabot host families would receive a generous stipend for room and board under this scenario. Hosting families would also enjoy many of the same benefits of an international exchange program, such as expanding their family circle, engaging and exploring different ways of doing things, creating new friendships and experiences, all while sharing the myriad attributes and advantages of the rural community lifestyle.

Any good idea needs to be backed with a solid business plan, and the framework

for this option has already been thoroughly crafted. The boarding and enrichment program would be funded though the fees that sending parents pay each year. The fees would be allocated proportionately to cover admin and staffing, tuition to the Cabot school, host family stipend, and funding curricular and extracurricular enhancements for the high school.

The first years of developing the program would be supported by a combination of grants and zero interest loans from the UDAG fund. First year grant-funded expenses include staffing, marketing, and recruitment. Assuming success in recruitment, a UDAG loan would bridge the gap years between initial enrollment (two to four students) and full capacity (perhaps as many as 32 boarding students) at which point revenues from fees would not only sustain the program but also pay back the loan in full within 10 years.

This is not a new idea, but one that has not been well aired until recently, as Cabot is faced with the real possibility of closing the high school. If you believe there is still something very special about Cabot high school, if you think economic activity and additional revenues are beneficial to the town and to local families, if the investment in your home and property values are worth protecting, if you want to see spirited young people turned out on the common at recess, then plan to attend the upcoming public meetings this Fall and learn more about this option. Information announcing these meetings is forthcoming and an outline of this option along with a proposed budget will be available at the door.

Susan Alexander
Jack Daniels

Fran Voight
Karen Alexander

Cabot Welcomes Two Exchange Students Through CIEE

This August, two international high school exchange students arrived in Cabot on the CIEE High School Exchange program. Tanyatorn (Num) from Thailand is staying with the Kampf family and is most excited to improve her English and try new things, like camping in the woods and participating in events like Halloween and Thanksgiving. The Kampf family has hosted once before with CIEE, and they are eager to have a new family member join their household this summer.

Cabot is also welcoming Rodrigo from Mexico, who is staying with first-time host family, the Lehoe's.

Both students are attend the Cabot School and will stay for a full academic year.

Each year, international high school students representing more than 70 nationalities come to the U.S. to experience American culture as part of CIEE's High School Exchange program. Students attend local high schools, live with American host families, and participate in extracurricular activities and athletics. During their stay, students also give

back to their host communities by participating in volunteer projects and community service activities. Through the High School Exchange program, CIEE provides life-changing cultural exchange opportunities that help students, families, and schools gain new perspectives and develop lifelong relationships that cross borders and cultures.

Interested in hosting an international exchange student next academic year? Contact Susan Kuegel, CIEE Local Coordinator, at susankuegel10@gmail.com, 279-2158, or visit ciee.org/highschool to learn more.

Founded in 1947, CIEE is the country's oldest and largest nonprofit study abroad and intercultural exchange organization, serving over 300 U.S. colleges and universities, 1,000 U.S. high schools, and more than 35,000 international exchange students each year. CIEE operates 60 study centers in 40 countries, sponsors international faculty training programs, teach abroad programs, and various specialty and custom programs for secondary, post-secondary, and international students. Visit www.ciee.org.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

~ OCTOBER ~

Sunday, 10/1

23rd Annual Lawn and Bake Sale Noon-3:00 p.m. Montpelier. Bethany Church at 115 Main street will have household and office items, clothing and jewelry, toys, sport and crafting items, silent auction, baked goods and Barbecue.

Accordion Book making with artist Elissa Campbell. 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Calais. Create a accordion book using recycled papers and books at Kent Museum. Each participant will leave with a completed book and basic knowledge of bookbinding techniques. No previous experience required, great class for a beginner. \$45.00 registration plus \$10.00 material fee.

WORDS OUT LOUD 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Calais. At the Old West Church the reading series Poets Greg Delanty and Madeleine May Kunin, former governor of VT. Readings by authors with Fall's Art at the Kent exhibit REFUGE.

Soovin Kim and Gloria Chien 2:30 p.m. Barre. Celebration series of internationally renowned violinist and pianist performing Schumann A minor sonata, Ives sonata, Strauss sonata. Takes place at the Barre Opera House. Price tickets \$27, \$23 and \$20.00 call 802-476-8188.

Monday, 10/2

WALDEN Northeast Kingdom Fall Foliage day 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Begins with registration, coffee and donuts at 9:00 a.m. Walden Church in Noyesville village (signs-just off Route 15). Local crafters, driving caravan tours to local artisans. Soup and sandwich lunch (\$5.00). Musical entertainment and family style barbecue beef supper starting 5:30 p.m. (\$12.00). For supper reservations and information, call Judy evenings 802-563-2777 or daily 802-793-5011. Day of event 802-563-2265.

Tuesday, 10/3

CABOT Northeast Kingdom Fall Foliage day 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Coffee, donuts, crafts and entertainment at the Willey Building from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Sign up for tours and make lunch and supper reservations. Tour historical locations, Cabot Creamery, visit local craft shops, and a hayride to a sugar house. Hike up Nichols ledge and take the scenic shutterbug tour. Lunch of Corn chowder or chili and dessert. (\$6.00 adults, \$2.50 children) at the Cabot church 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 1:15 p.m. Turkey supper (\$12.00 adults, \$5.00 children at the Cabot Church 5:00 p.m. and 6:15. Ticket reservations Rose Bothfeld 802-563-2715. Fall foliage contra dance at Willey Building, 7:00 p.m. Adina Gordon calling.

Wednesday, 10/4

PLAINFIELD Northeast Kingdom Fall Foliage day 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. A full day of activities starts with Coffee Hour at 9:00 a.m. and registration at Grace United Methodist Church. Foliage tours available 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Tours of many places, some available on a self-guided basis, check on them during coffee hour. Cafeteria-style luncheon from

11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. \$5.00. Barbecued chicken, mostaccioli and baked bean supper 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. \$12.00. For reservations contact Joanne 802-454-7301 or Joyce 802-454-8306.

Stories of the Stars: Myths of the Zodiac with Kelley Hunter. 7:00 p.m. Marshfield. Come hear tales of the twelve constellations, including the magical 13th constellation! Zodiac is the path of the sun, moon and planets, if the sky is clear we may do some star gazing!! Jaquith Public Library.

Thursday, 10/5

PEACHAM Northeast Kingdom Fall Foliage day 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Welcome to Peacham!! Arts and Crafts Sale 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. Tickets for bus ride, lunch, ghost walk, and dinner available there. Exhibits at the Blacksmith Shop, the Roller Barn and Historical House. Library book sale 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Scenic bus tour 10:15 a.m. \$5.00. Lunch at the Elementary School 11:00 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. \$7.00. Northern Skies Observatory (near the school) open 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Harp music concert at the church 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Spaghetti Supper church social hall seatings 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Adults \$10.00, children \$5.00, under 6 FREE. Tickets available at the door.

Kids Cartooning Club 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Marshfield. A six week program for kids ages 8-12. Each session will start with a mini-lesson or drawing challenge and then kids will free draw and create their own comics. Supplies and snacks provided. Jaquith Public Library.

Pink Martini Night 5:00 p.m. South Barre. October is Breast Cancer Month. Public Welcome. Hosted by Wilkins Harley-Davidson.

Cabot School Board public forum on school options, 6:00 p.m. at CSPAC.

Friday, 10/6

BARNET Northeast Kingdom Fall Foliage day 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Pancake breakfast at Barnet Center church for 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Arts and Craft sale in the church vestry all day. Free Bus tour at 10:00 a.m. Soup and sandwich lunch served at 11:30 a.m. and European Coffee hour 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. at church. Ham dinner \$10.00/take-out available at 4:00 p.m. For reservations contact Bob at 802-633-2242. On the day of event 802-633-4397.

35th Stowe Foliage Art Festival. 10:00 a.m. Stowe. 160 juried artists and artisans in warm tents. rain or shine. Food tents/food courts, live music. craft demos, Vermont craft beers by Idletyme Brewery and more. Adults \$10.00, kids free. Topnotch Field on Rte 108.

Saturday, 10/7

GROTON Northeast Kingdom Fall Foliage day 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Lumberjack breakfast in the Methodist church 7:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Library book sale 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Annual parade 1:30 p.m. led by the Blue Mountain School band. Old Fashioned Hymn Sing at the Methodist Church 8:00 p.m. Again serving our World Famous Chicken Pie Supper servings 4:30, 5:30, 6:30 and 7:30p.m. Tickets

\$12.00 adults, \$6.00 children under 12. For reservations contact Peter 802-584-3020 for breakfast and supper.

Live Music at The Den 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Cabot. Sean Kelly Murray a 12 string guitarist out of Williamstown. Sean plays originals to classic rock of the 60s and the present. Come and enjoy a beer and this talented musician at Harry's Hardware on Main Street.

2nd Annual Central Vermont Brew Fest 2017 3:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Randolph. Enjoy Fall in the heart of Vermont. Local music, food, local farms and the best local craft beer. Hosted by Ayers Brook Goat Dairy. Presented by One Main Tap and Grill and one man filling station.

Sunday, 10/8

MARSHFIELD Northeast Kingdom Fall Foliage day 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Free activities face painting, cider pressing, arts and crafts, field games, music from local bands. Book sale, bake sale, horse and wagon rides, flea market. Chili-Cook-off 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. \$8.00 adults and \$4 children. Salads and corn bread. Jaquith Public Library grounds, Old Schoolhouse Common, 122 School Street.

Wednesday, 10/11

The World Famous Glenn Miller Orchestra 7:00 p.m. Colchester. Performs at the newly renovated Colchester Performing Arts Theatre at the Colchester High School. 2 hour concert concluding with CHS Jazz Band. Join them on-stage for their signature tune "In the Mood". Orchestra will be selling souvenirs and more, Snack concession will be present.

Friday, 10/13

An evening with Sam Bush. 8:00 p.m. Barre. Mandolin player of gleefully picks and chooses from jazz, blues, folk, reggae, country swing, bluegrass. Many of the songs are true stories. At the Barre Opera House. Price tickets \$35-39.00 call 802-476-8188.

Rocktacotoberfest 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Danville. Get down with Chad Hollister and Primo and chowing down on Caja Madeira tacos!! Hosted by Red Barn Brewing, 2170 Oneida Road.

Saturday, 10/14

Cabot Historical Society 18th Annual Apple Pie Festival 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Cabot. Apple pie contest in the adult and junior categories. Entry fee is either a second donated pie to sell or \$5.00 adults and children \$2.50. Registration 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Entered pies sold after judging. Craft show, lunch and pies made by

community members for sale, raffles. Free admission, handicapped accessible, family friendly, free parking. Cabot School Gym.

Randolph Road Rally. 10:00 a.m.-12 noon. Randolph Center. Check in at 10:00 a.m. Vermont Technical College parking lot, 124 Admin Drive. \$5 per person. All proceeds go to The Tara Stratton Memorial Nursing Scholarship at Randolph Tech Career Center.

Keith Greeninger 8:00 p.m. Lower Cabot. Concerts at the Schoolhouse of the home of Dana and Susan Robinson. Keith Greeninger is bringing deep engaging guitar rhythms and husky, heart-wrenching vocals to the schoolhouse. A concert not to miss!! \$15.00 suggested donation. Seating is limited. Reservations advance are required. Contact Dana at 802-793-3016.

Celebrate Art Fall Gala at the Wood. 5:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Montpelier. Includes dancing with the CBT band, piano music with Andy Christiansen, silent auction (including original artwork of Vermont artists, gift certificates and more. Art action stations, mask decorating, selfies and printmaking cards, global soul food, beer and wine. \$50.00 a person will support all gallery programs. Tickets purchased by contacting 262-6035 or going to eventbrite.com. T. W. Wood Gallery, Barre Street.

Beers Brats and Flannel 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. South Barre. Public welcome. Hosted by Wilkins Harley-Davidson dealership.

Cabot Old Time Family Contra and Square Dance, Willey Building, 7:30 p.m. Traditional New England dances to live music, with Dudley Laufman calling. All ages and abilities welcome! \$5 donation requested, or \$15 for families.

Sunday, 10/15

Country Club of Barre Bridal Show and Company Event Expo 12 noon-2:00 p.m. Barre. Newly renovated banquet room and function space. Connect with local vendors including caterers, bridal shops, tux rentals, DJs, photographers, jewelers, bakers, and florists. Win fantastic door prizes. Book a wedding reception or company event on October 15th at the show and get 20% off your event rental fee.

Beautiful Tree Walk 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Marshfield. At the Stranahan Town Forest with Brett Engstrom. Contact Jaquith Public Library for more information.

(Continued on page 7)

FREE FOOD SHARE AND FOOD DROP DATES

~ FOR THE NEEDY ~

CABOT FOOD SHARE
Wednesday,
OCTOBER 11
Noon-2:00 p.m.

Wednesday,
OCTOBER 25
Noon-2:00 p.m.

Cabot Masonic Hall
3339 Main Street

FAITH IN ACTION NORTHERN
COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP INC.



Available for Cabot Residents

MARSHFIELD FOOD DROP
Second Saturday of every month.

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 14

Food pick up at 8:00 a.m.

Open until food is gone - usually 9:30 am



Onion River Food Shelf
Old Schoolhouse Common
School Street, Marshfield

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

~ CONTINUED ~

Monday, 10/16

History of Racism with Netdahe Stoddard. 3:15p.m. Marshfield. Discussion about the history of racism in the United States. The importance of identifying, learning, talking and confronting for each of us. Open to ages 12 and up. Jaquith Public Library.

Wednesday, 10/18

Movie Night at the Jaquith Library. 7:00 p.m. Marshfield. An eclectic selection of movies that deserve a big screen with perspective we do not usually see, and humor. Tito and Me (1992) This film centers on a quirky 10 year old in 1950s Yugoslavia who worships Tito, the country's president. The movie is one of the last films made before the war split Yugoslavia.

Friday, 10/20

Vampire Movie Night 7:00 p.m. Marshfield. See the first vampire movie Nosferatu filmed in 1922 by Murnau and Herzog-1977 remake of it! At the Jaquith Public Library.

Friday, 10/27

Celebrate Halloween 7:00 p. m. Marshfield. Come and watch the 2014 vampire mockumentary film "What We Do in the Shadows". About a group of vampires who share an apartment. Takes place at the Jaquith Public Library.

Saturday 10/28

Hawg-O-Ween! 10:00 a.m. South Barre. Bring the kids, we will have trick or treating for kids around the dealership. Best dressed Moms and Dads will have a chance at some awesome prizes. Hosted by Wilkins Harley-Davidson dealership.

Free Community Dinner with Music and "A Country Twang", chicken & biscuits and vegetable, desserts and beverage, Dinner 5:30 p.m., Music 6:00 p.m. Cabot Masonic Hall. Info 802-563-3322.

Halloween Celebration at The Den at Harry's Hardware, 5-9:00 p.m.. Tastings by Hooker Mountain Distillery and live music. Come in costume or dressed as yourself.

Sunday 10/29

Bottle and Can Drive 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Barre. Bottle and Can Drive, 15 Ayers Street. Come and help support Tender Loving Respite House. All proceeds help the expenses for TLRH.

Dance, Sing and Jump Around's Halloween Dance. 3:00 p.m.-4:30p.m. Plainfield. Our first family dance of this season. Wear a costume you will be comfortable dancing in. Suggested donation

adults 5.00, children free. You will learn circle and line dances and singing games. Live traditional music with a caller at Plainfield Town Hall Opera House on Rte. 2.

Tuesday, 10/31

HAVE A SAFE AND FUN HALLOWEEN EVENING TRICK OR TREATERS!!

SEEKING VENDORS for Marshfield Harvest Festival October 8. We would like to invite any local vendors to sell craft items, antiques, flea market items, or local produce. Bring your own tables/tent. To reserve a space email kathyfiske@gmail.com or call Kathy at 426-3708. Fundraiser for library, \$10.00 a space, limit two tables. We are listed on the Northeast Kingdom Fall Foliage Festival calendar. Visit our website for more details, or stay tuned on Front Porch forum.

Fur Fest Tickets Now Available RSVP before October 5. Tickets \$35.00 per person available at www.centralvermonthumane.org or call Linnea 802-476-3811 x110. Want to have fun and help animals at the same time?? **We have an event for you!! October 14, 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.** Fur Fest is our feel good fundraiser and we promise you will have a wonderful time! This year the event will be held at the Vermont Granite Museum, 7 Jones Brothers Way, Barre. There will be delicious hors d'oeuvres from Delicate Decadence and desserts from Birchgrove Baking, cash bar, heartwarming stories of saving animal lives, silent as well as a live auction of unique items to bid on. All proceeds go to help Central Vermont Humane Society save homeless animals.

Holiday Pop-up Art Shop Needs Local Artists Work. Submit samples of work for the T.W. WOOD Gallery in Montpelier.. The Gallery Annual Holiday pop-up art shop hallway shop will feature artwork, crafts, prints, cards, pottery, jewelry, etc. All work will be sold on a commission basis and must be made by residents of Vermont. The shop will open October 31, so contact us soon!! email gcallan@twwoodgallery.org subject Holiday Pop-up Art Shop.

ANNUAL NORTHEAST KINGDOM FALL FOLIAGE FESTIVAL 2017

Seven festivals in seven days, each in a different town, each has something unique to offer, music, crafts, tours, history and great food. Walden, Cabot, Plainfield, Peacham, Barre, Groton, Marshfield.

Please be sure to check them out. You will be glad you did!! Will be listed in the calendar of events!!

Harvest. Hunting. Halloween... Harry's!



Just in time for hunting season,
CHECK OUT OUR EXPANDED SPORTING GOODS SECTION
*...and we now stock **AMMO!***

Join us for a

HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION



Saturday - October 28th
5pm - 9pm

Tastings by Hooker Mt. Distillery & Live Music
Come in costume or dressed as yourself...
whichever is scarier!

3087 Main St., Cabot, VT 05647 | harryshardwarevt.com | (802) 563-2291



FREE COMMUNITY DINNER & MUSIC

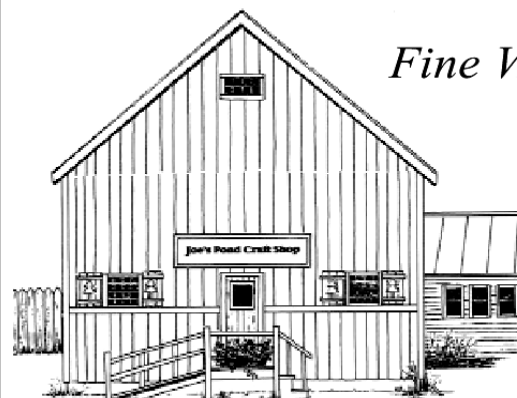
With "A Country Twang"
CHICKEN & BISCUITS + VEGETABLES ASSORTED DESSERTS, AND BEVERAGE

DATE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21
TIME: DINNER 5:30, MUSIC 6:00 P.M.
WHERE: MASONIC HALL, 3339 MAIN ST. CABOT

Sponsored by: Faith in Action, 3339 Main St, Cabot. Ph: 802-563-3322

Joe's Pond Craft Shop

Fine Vermont Handcrafts



OPEN:

May-December:
Tue.-Sat. 9:30-5:30
Sunday 9:30-1
Closed on Mondays
802.684.2192

Intersection of Rt. 2 & 15
West Danville, Vermont

www.joespondcrafts.com

CABOT ARTS SHOW AND TELL

Sunday, October 22, 3:00-5:00 p.m.
At The Willey Building

Cabot Arts Show and Tell invites visual artists (folks that make things we can see) of all kinds to join us once a month on a Sunday afternoon from 3:00 to 5:00 in the Willey Building for discussion of works presented and happenings in the area.

Roz Daniels

What's "Contra Dancing" Anyway?

By Karen Mueller-Harder

I was recently talking with someone from Cabot who had seen the publicity for the Cabot Old Time Family Contra and Square Dance, but hadn't been inclined to come, because she didn't really know what contra dancing was. I thought others might be in the same boat, so I thought I'd explain a bit.

Basically, contra and square dancing are the same thing, but in two different shaped sets. If you've ever done a square dance, with four pairs of people in a square shape, with circles, stars, and do-si-dos, you're already in the right ballpark. In contra dances, you stand across from your partner, in a longways set of dancers--the Virginia Reel is a contra dance many are familiar with. In most contra dances, you do a few figures with one other couple, then end up switching places with them, and dance the same figures with the next couple. No special footwork is needed, and the dances are easy to learn.

In New England, both square and contra formations have co-existed since colonial times, but the long, narrow town halls led to contras being more popular, while in the American south and west, square dances have predominated, due to the wider formats of their dance halls. At the Cabot dance, we do a mixture of both formations, with dances from New England and other places in the U.S., plus occasional opportunities to do a polka or waltz.

You can come to the dance alone, with a friend or spouse, or your whole family. Each dance is taught without music, then is "called" or prompted while you dance with the music, until everyone has it down. People typically change partners between dances, and anyone can dance either part (usually called "ladies" and "gents" for convenience). The Cabot dance is particularly beginner-friendly, so we hope you will give it a try! In October, there are two opportunities to dance, both in the Willey Building, with its nice resurfaced floor!

On Tuesday, October 3, at 7:00 p.m., there will be a special Fall Foliage dance, with Adina Gordon calling, and she will also be the caller for the regular November 11 monthly second Saturday dance. Adina brings clarity and enthusiasm to her teaching and calling, and is always a favorite caller at the Cabot dance.

And on Apple Pie Festival day, October 14, at 7:30 p.m., the regular second Saturday dance will feature a special caller: the renowned Dudley Laufman, from Canterbury, New Hampshire, who has been calling contra, square, and barn dances for 65 years! Famous for his dry wit, and his ability to get everyone dancing with a minimum of fuss, he rarely calls in Vermont, so take advantage of this great opportunity to dance to his calling!

Hope to see you at the dance!

A New Season for Vermont Destination Imagination

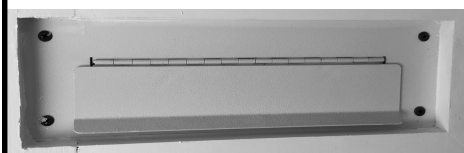
By Jane Youngbaer

Destination Imagination is a non-profit for creativity and teamwork. Kids from preschool through high school (and college in other locations) work together to develop creative solutions to complex challenges that involve the arts, service learning, engineering, science, and more. Each team of up to seven students has an adult facilitator, but all the ideas and hands-on work must come from the kids. Teams work on Instant Challenges that last less than ten minutes, and a Central Challenge that is developed over several months. Challenges are presented at the

State Tournament in Burlington, this year on March 24. This is a competition for grades 3 and up, and non-competitive for grade 2 and younger. Teams are starting once again in Cabot and throughout the state, the country, and many nations around the world. New members are always welcome, including homeschool and community groups. Cabot has participated in Destination Imagination since 2001, and it looks like this will be another great year. Previews of this year's new challenges and other info at: www.destinationimagination.org.

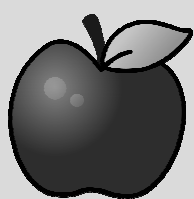
For more information, please contact janeyoungbaer@gmail.com.

TOWN CLERK SECURE DROP BOX



The Town Clerk's office now has a secure drop box where you can drop off your payments for taxes and water/wastewater. This is located in the entryway to the back entrance. We also have the capability of taking credit or debit cards for these payments. There is a 3% charge that that will be charged to your card.

Apple Pie Festival Vendors



Apple Pie Festival volunteers have rearranged the school layout, and, therefore, can accommodate more crafters/vendors than in the past. Spaces are still available. Contact Marcy Martin at 563-2766 or mmarcy563@gmail.com for a registration form or to ask questions.

Update on Willey Building Committee Projects

By Niels Larsen for the Willey Building Committee

The work done to perform needed Willey Building wall repairs and the painting of the exterior walls have been visible for all to see as the summer has moved along. Once the work to repair the water and ice damage to the siding began, it became clear that the problems were a lot more extensive than expected. It was not an option to ignore that fact and just paint over the problem. As an example, the entrance to the Cabot Community Association office was so structurally deficient that it needed to be rebuilt to install a new exterior door. The Willey Building Committee, therefore, gave the green light to the contractor, George Colgrove, to do what needed to be done to keep the building exterior healthy for many more years. From a budget estimate of \$6,300 to a bid of \$12,000, the actual cost was \$29,400.

Fortunately, we were able to reduce the scope of the refinishing of the Auditorium floor, originally planned to include sanding as well as refinishing of both the Auditorium floor and the balcony with related stairs. This was scaled back to just a screening and refinishing of the auditorium floor with 4 coats of high quality finish. From a budget of \$19,000 the cost was reduced to \$5,080. While this leaves some old scuff marks visible, the floor now has a durable finish that will stand up for many years of use. Delairs Carpet and Flooring who did this project also completed the retiling of the back entrance and made re-

pairs to water damaged tiles at the basement level at an additional cost of \$565.

We are extremely happy with the result of the exterior painting, carried out by the Dunham Brothers Painting, Inc. The Willey Building again presents itself as a beautiful Cabot landmark. The bid price was slightly less than the budgeted amount.

The door of the old refrigerator in the kitchen would no longer close. It was replaced and the wiring serving it brought up to code. Finally, the piano on the auditorium stage is again made playable by piano tuning expert Eric Brinkerhoff of Melody Hill Farm in Danville. This project was funded by the Cabot Community Association on the recommendation of Cabot Arts. The piano will be made available to individuals who would like a piano for practice, possibly for someone interested in teaching Cabot children and for musicians performing in the auditorium. The Town Clerk keep a calendar of auditorium bookings and should be contacted to reserve a time.

The Dunham Brothers was also engaged paint the west and north walls of the Masonic Hall at a cost approximately \$4,000 below the estimate, because the contractor was able move the equipment directly from the Willey Building location to the Masonic Hall. As a result we will also install a gutter on the north wall to help keep the basement dry, reconfigure the ductwork, install a new door on the parking lot side and possibly get other minor projects done this year.



**BURTT'S
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Charlie Bothfeld - A Veteran and a Gardener

By Amanda Legare

The cool spring temperatures and abundance of rain this growing season made gardening more of a challenge than usual for those of us in northern Vermont, yet Charlie Bothfeld's Cabot garden has thrived. The four varieties of sweet corn were easily knee high by the fourth of July and the beets and carrots had terrific germination. He claims he battles the weeds, but he is clearly the victor. What makes his gardening prowess particularly outstanding is that Charlie is 98-years-old.

Raised in Sherborn, MA, Charlie was the second oldest in a family of seven. In 1936, most of his family moved to Cabot to farm. They had 2,000 layer hens in Massachusetts and he and his older brother Ted stayed behind to tend the farm, which included 25 dairy cows, an apple orchard and 2,000 layer hens. Egg deliveries were made to Wellesley and Newton, and in the fall they harvested 2,000 bushels of Baldwin apples. They also had a three-acre garden, and Charlie was active in 4-H gardening groups. He was awarded a gardening medal by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

He attended Stockbridge School of Agriculture in Amherst MA, where he had "placement training" for the Medfield State Hospital, a psychiatric hospital that, at its height, had a capacity for 2,200 patients. He was hired there as soon as he graduated.

"They had 35 - 40 acres of vegetables, along with dairy, poultry and pigs," he remembered. Every three weeks they butchered 15 pigs. The farm supplied the hospital patients and sometimes other institutions in the area.

In 1937, Charlie had a blind date with a 19-year-old named Norma Sayer.

"In those days, you didn't think about marriage until you were financially stable," he said. They dated on and off for four years before they married, a marriage that remained strong for 72 years, until Norma passed in 2013.

Six weeks after Charlie and Norma got married, Pearl Harbor was attacked and Charlie was no longer a farmer.

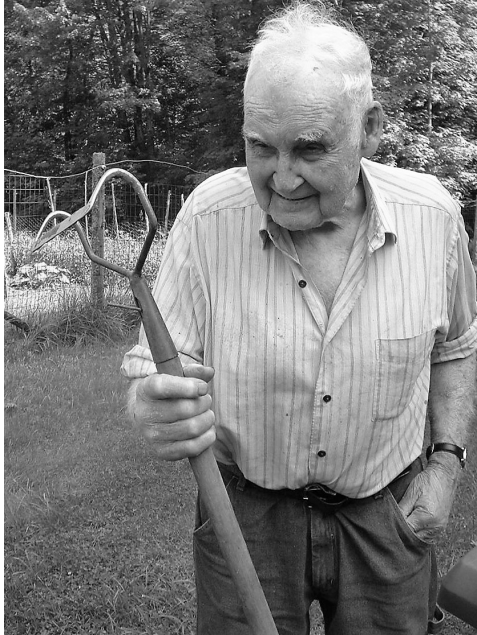
"I got the notice from the draft board to report within 24 hours," he recalled. "We were in the process of buying a farm. We lost it all."

After training and working in several areas, he was assigned to the 10th Armor Division in Fort Benning, GA.

"The army decided I had an adequate IQ for officers' training," he recalled. He reported to Officers' Training School as a private. Upon graduation, he became a second lieutenant. He ended up in a tank battalion in Fort Knox, KY, training soldiers about the tanks.

On December 13, 1944, he set sail with troops from New Jersey. The convoy was bombed en route. They landed in Liverpool and went to France, where they drove tanks to Belgium where the Battle of the Bulge had taken place. There was snow on the ground... and bodies to be picked up.

Charlie spent four and one-half years serving the US as a soldier. He had several near death experiences and was awarded the bronze star medal "...for heroic or meritorious achievement or service."



"A tank had been hit by a panzerfaust," (a recoilless anti-tank weapon), he said. "The Germans were shooting and one person was killed. The rest of the crew got out. I made sure the guys were dead in the fox hole and I got the medics up there."

Like so many veterans, for years Charlie did not discuss his war experiences. "There's lots about me that nobody knows," he said. "On July 4, (1945) the war was over in Europe and I was in San Luis Obispo in California, getting ready to invade Japan, when they gave up." He went back to New York and got Norma for a seven-day drive across the country in a 1940 Mercury.

"We had a grand time," he said. He was discharged from the Army as a Captain. Eventually, he purchased a farm in New Albion, NY. "In those days, you could make a living milking 20 cows," he remembered. They produced maple syrup and, of course, had a huge garden. He was offered a job at the Medfield State Hospital, where he had worked before the war. They sold the farm and moved back to Massachusetts. The pigs were gone, but as assistant head farmer, he still tended more than 35 acres of garden, 70 cows and a couple thousand laying hens.

The farm played an important role in the lives of the patients and the economy of the hospital. "We often worked with patients," he remembered. "They liked it and it kept them from being bored."

"We had good river bottom land," he recalled. The farm ran along the Charles River. Among the crops were more than three acres of carrots. He worked there for 20 years.

In 1974, he retired from the hospital and moved to 14 acres in Cabot. "There was an old house in disrepair that we burned. Hunters had poked a hole through the roof and used it for hunting deer," he explained. A new house was built, a small greenhouse went up and gardens were created.

The property includes a pond and a huge lawn which Charlie maintains himself. He also cuts down trees and uses the wood for his furnace, which is located in the basement. This made life briefly difficult when he was 95-years-old and had both of his knees replaced.

Charlie and his "little" brothers, Walter, 90, of Cabot, and Clark, 86, of North-

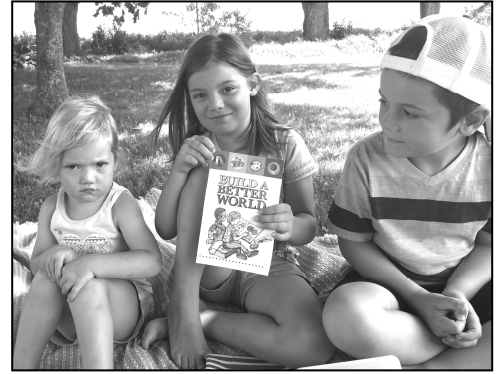
Summer Readers Succeed!

M.J. Wright,
Cabot School Literacy Interventionist

This summer, all Cabot incoming First, Second, and Third Graders had the opportunity to participate in a Summer Reading Bingo activity with me. Students could choose from a Bingo board of reading activities to get a Bingo, all in a row, or to fill the ENTIRE board out. Our vacation time, while so important for relaxing and recharging, often results in what is called the "Summer Slide" where students can lose some of their developing reading skills. My goal was to encourage students to keep reading this summer.

The following students got Bingo and received a note and a surprise from me: Chandler Bothfeld, Losada Stoddard, Owen Maxfield, and Freya Van Deusen. Great job, readers!

There were also three readers that chose to fill the WHOLE Bingo board out, so they completed either 16 or 25 reading activities, based on their grade level. Meeting that challenge meant that I would bring a picnic meal of their choice to enjoy with them at their home. They could invite their siblings to join us, too. The students who worked extra



hard this summer are: Addison Goodrich, Chandler Bothfeld (yes, again!), and Kasey Greaves. We enjoyed our picnic meals sitting outside while talking about summer activities, and, of course, books. These students also received a hand selected book for each of them and a fun activity. It was so great to spend time with these students who did a LOT of reading this summer.

I hope that next year there will be even more students that choose to participate. If anyone has questions about encouraging more reading at home, please contact me at school or via email: mjwright@cabotschool.org.

For Weekly Articles on Cabot, Marshfield, Calais, Walden and Twinfield, Cabot and Walden Schools



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field, enjoy attending the Vermont Mountaineers baseball games in Montpelier. He also likes caning chairs, something he does during the winter months.

Gardening remains his favorite activity. "I like to see things grow," he stated simply. A large patch of blueberries yield well every year and he also has a separate asparagus patch. He grows raspberries and likes "thimbleberries" (black berries). The climate makes it difficult for him to grow some of his favorite vegetables that he liked to grow in Massachusetts.

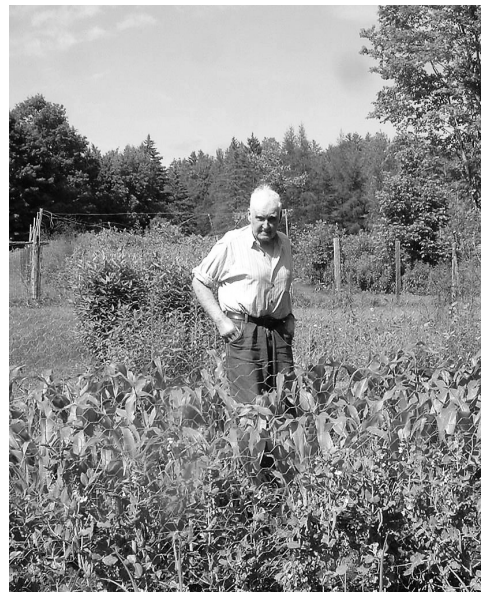
"I always try to grow lima beans," he explained. "And I loved growing popcorn, braiding it and hanging it up to dry."

Charlie makes his own compost for his gardens and does the first tilling with a hand driven rototiller. After that, he clears between the rows with his favorite stirrup hoe. From the beginning, he has ordered from the Harris Seed Company, and still plants some of the same varieties: Kentucky Pole beans, Lincoln peas, Detroit Dark Red beets and Ithaca head lettuce.

"I won't plant any zucchini," he said. He does like yellow crookneck squash. He also likes the more recent hybrid tomato, Juliet, which is a sweet-flavored grape tomato that grows in clusters. He used to grow blue hubbard squash, but has switched to butternut and buttercup.

His green thumb yields far more than he, neighbors and area family can consume. One of many benefactors of his gardening skills is the Twin Valley Senior Center in East Montpelier. "Charlie is unbelievable," said Rita Copeland, director of the center. "He brings us produce from his garden for every meal and we couldn't have such great vegetables without him. He is such a sweetheart."

This article appeared previously in The North Star Monthly.



TWIN VALLEY SENIOR CENTER



Twin Valley's recognizing National Senior Month has been a very hectic and wonderful time. I hope you all got a glance if you drove by Route 2 the sign that was hanging on the TVSC sign in front of the center. It stated National Senior Month and Everyone Welcome. That is every day we are opened and not just the month of September.

There are some folks who faithfully each month donate monetary gifts to the Senior Center whom I will not list by name. You know who you are and I very much want to thank you personally for your donations. I do not seem to stay ahead of the "Thank You notes" to you, but I am sure you know how grateful we are for your support.

To Steve & Emily Rappold and Pat Boyle for overseeing the TVSC Float and table at the Plainfield Old Home Days. I also thank them for overseeing the September 30 Craft Fair and Flea Market. There is a lot of hard work and preparations that go into these events, so know it is very much appreciated.

To Bill Wheeler, our volunteer from Cabot that delivers Meals on Wheels a very big "Thankyou" for hanging the signs at the center. To Fred Wilber volunteer for Meals on Wheels and at the center a big "Thank You" for making the dividers for the shelves that has been wanted for a very long time.

October 20 is Twin Valley Senior Center's fundraiser Dinner Raffle at the Canadian Club. Tickets are on sale now. \$100 dollar ticket buys dinner for two and a ticket in the evening's festivities. Cash Prizes are as follows: 1st place takes \$2500, 2nd place is \$1,000 and 3rd place is \$500. Contact Joyce at 454-8306 or George at 455-7731 or call the senior center @ 223-3322. Come for a great evening of good food and fun.

My most appreciative gratitude for all our guests that helped celebrate National Senior Center month with informative presentations. Some of the month's highlights were Scammers presented by David Gold from Edward Jones of Barre, Ellie Hayes from Central Vermont Council on Aging with information and assistance with 3 Squares VT, Attorney Michael Caccavo with estate planning and Advanced Directives, Annette (Boo) Smith for doing Blood Pressure checks. Registered Physical Therapist who did all the screenings for Fall Prevention September 22. To our Elected Officials who delivered Meals on wheels and visited the senior center, we thank you for listening to our concerns. To everyone who submitted letters for the officials, I thank you. Registered Dietician Pat Harrison from CVCOA we thank you for your most informative program on proper food and preparations for one to two people.

On Grandparent's Day, I had the pleasure of working with Fred Ducharme, Steve Davidson, Jay Copeland, Andrea Blanchard and Jean Lawson. On Sunday, September 10, these wonderful people went Above & Beyond, preparing a Grandparents Breakfast that was a fundraiser for the center. This was our first breakfast (except Deer Hunters) and I am truly interested in hearing from folks that attended or did not attend to get your feedback about having occasional breakfasts or brunches here at the center. I ask this of you as it is difficult to find volunteers to handle everything that is needed to host the events and do not want to pursue if there is no interest. I am always open for suggestions and would love feedback from you on existing events or new ones you would be interested in. I can be reached @ 223-3322 or twinvalleyseniors@myfairpoint.net.

A huge Thankyou to the Maple Fields Corporation for their generous donation of supplies to our Grandparents Breakfast held on September 10. Supplied by the Maplefield's store in Plainfield were all the ingredients to make a delicious breakfast. I want to say working with the Store Manager Samantha Greaves, Assistant Manager Trish Chounard and District Manager Willey Pacheco was wonderful. Samantha and Trish were so courteous and helpful and a follow up call to me from Willey asking if I had everything needed and to feel free to contact them if anything else was needed was a great customer experience for me. Maplefield's should be very proud of these three employees and I certainly salute them.

CVHHH & TVSC ANNUAL FLU CLINIC at TVSC: October 6, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. No appointment needed. Bring your insurance cards.

Flu shot charges:

- Medicare part B, BC/BS & MVP– no charge to individual; CVHHH will bill your insurance. What do you use at your doctor visit?
- No insurance, but meet high risk criteria (age, immune system issue, etc.) - \$15.
- Everyone else - \$35

PNEUMONIA VACCINATIONS: We will no longer be providing this vaccination and recommend you contact your PCP due to the complexity of the timing of these injections, Prevnar 13 & Pneumovax.

Bingo is back. October 3, Doors open @ 5:00 p.m., Games Start @ 6:00 p.m.

HELP WANTED Program Coordinator

Cabot Connects Mentoring Program seeks a coordinator for its community based mentoring program.

The desired candidate will have a bachelor's degree and/or experience in youth services, volunteer coordination, and basic digital literacy. A high priority will be placed on strong organizational and interpersonal skills and a collaborative working style. A flexible schedule will include some fund raising, and occasional weekend and evening hours.

The position is part time with a minimum of 15 hours a week at \$20.00 an hour.

For more information and a job description, please call Lynn Rockwell at 563-2999.

Send a letter of application and resume by October 15, 2017 to:

Cabot Connects Mentoring
PO Box 245, Cabot, Vermont 05647
Attn: Mentor Advisory Board

FROM THE CABOT PUBLIC LIBRARY



Billie O'Connor with her Cabot library bookmobile. Billie traveled to area daycare centers and Camp Laughing Turtle and read stories to the kids and left bundles of books for them. (inset) Eleanor, Benaiah, and James Mangan (back row) and Jonathan Mangan (front) - all wearing their Summer Reading Program t-shirts that say "Build a Better World".

Ongoing Programs

Story Hour – Tuesdays – NEW TIME – 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Preschool story hour – stories, songs and crafts – all are welcome!

Fall Foliage Festival – David Carpenter – Tuesday, October 3 – 11:00 a.m.-noon

David will play old time fiddle tunes of Vermont and tell stories of Vermont history and any topic pertaining to Vermont – bring your questions! Some topics for discussion might be fiddle and violin, dairy cows, beef cows, milking cows, what's a tedda?, growing vegetables, potatoes, maple syrup, the Republic of Vermont, other Vermont history...the range is limitless. David Carpenter has played traditional Vermont fiddle tunes and farmed for many years in Cabot.

Yoga and Stretching - with Alicia Feltus– Tuesdays, October 10 – 31 - 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Class will be a blend of yoga, active isolated stretching & strengthening, relaxation & breathing techniques! Learn simple exercises to practice anywhere. Naturally free your body from stress & tension and breathe more deeply! All levels & ages welcome! Wear comfortable clothes & bring a mat if you have one. Contact Alicia for more info 802-563-3220 or aliciafeltus@gmail.com. Donations welcome.

Meditation Group – First and Third Wednesdays, October 4 and 18 – 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Daria Babbitt has been teaching meditation for over 25 years and will introduce different meditation techniques designed to reduce stress. There will also be time for discussion about various healing techniques and inner spiritual growth. This workshop is open to all and donations are gratefully accepted.

Cabot Old Time Contra and Square Dance – Saturday, October 14 – 7:30 p.m.

This dance series consists of monthly dances on the second Saturday of the month September through May. All are invited. Music will be provided by David

Carpenter and friends. This month's caller will be Dudley Laufman, dean of New England contra dance callers. The dances are taught and are easily learned by young and old. The contra and square dances are traditional Vermont and New England social dances that have been danced for many generations in the town halls, barns, and kitchens around Vermont. The music is provided by piano and an assortment of fiddles, mandolins, guitars, and the occasional surprise instrument. Musicians are always invited to sit in and join with the fun of playing traditional dance tunes. There is a small suggested donation to help cover the cost of the caller. For more info, please call David Carpenter at 802-426-3225 or email samlyman@sover.net.

Movie Showing - Resilience – The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope – Wednesday, October 18 – 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

A documentary by James Redford. This fascinating documentary explores and explains how toxic stress during childhood impacts lifelong health. More importantly, we learn what can be done to mitigate the damage and build resilience for lifelong health and recovery. Movie showing by Elsa Ingpen, doctoral student at UVM in the Family Nurse Practitioner program.

Thank you!

Thanks so much to everyone who pitched in while I was away – Lorelai Bastress, Mary Lou DeLacy, Michelle Leclerc, Betty Ritter and Beth Wade. Thanks also to Lisa Olson and Vicki Palmer – couldn't have asked for better subs!

Cabot Library Reminders:

- Tuesday 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
- **Story Hour 11:00 am - NEW TIME**
- Wednesday 2:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
- Thursday 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
- Saturday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- Closed Sunday, Monday & Friday

See you at the Library!
Kathleen Hoyné

School Board Update

Since our community forum in August, the Cabot School Board has continued to gather information about the options available to Cabot School to meet the requirements of Act 46. Enacted in 2015, Act 46 requires school districts in Vermont with fewer than 900 students to increase opportunities for students and improve efficiency. Districts can meet those requirements by either merging with other districts or by developing an "alternative governance structure" proposal (AGS) to remain as an unmerged, independent district. In either case, the Vermont State Board of Education must approve a district's plan.

In Cabot's case, we've focused our research in the past month on two options. Under the first option, Cabot would close its high school and would pay tuition for its high school students to attend the high school of their choice. Under the second option, Cabot would keep its high school.

During the month of October, we will share what we've found out about these two options with the Cabot community, and gather community members' input on them before making a decision as a board on which option to pursue.

The most likely route to option one above would be for Cabot to merge with the school districts of the "Caledonia Cooperative" (Walden, Waterford, and Barre). These districts voted to merge together in May: as a unified district they would go from having three separate school boards to one, and the costs of educating students in the three towns would be shared by taxpayers across the new, unified district.

If Cabot joined as a fourth member of the Caledonia Cooperative unified district, Cabot and the other three towns would also qualify for financial incentives from the State of Vermont. These include reductions in the Homestead Property Tax rate for the first four years of the unified district's existence (FY 2019-FY 2022), and a continuation of the Small Schools Grant that has for many years been provided to small schools by the State of Vermont. The tax rate reduction would start out at eight cents for the first year, and decrease by two cents in each of the three years following. Cabot School received a Small Schools Grant of \$147,000 in support of its program in this current year.

In order for Cabot to join this Caledonia Cooperative, we and the other three districts would have to craft a new proposal. That proposal would have to be both approved as meeting the goals of Act 46 by the VT State Board of Education, and be approved by voters in each of the four towns (Walden, Waterford, Barre, and Cabot). In order to qualify for the state incentives, voters would have to approve the four-way merger by November 30, 2017.

Prior to beginning the work of discussing and crafting a new proposal that would add Cabot to the Caledonia Cooperative, we've forwarded financial information for Cabot School to the members of the Caledonia Cooperative's 706b (merger) Committee, so that group could get a sense of how Cabot's entry might impact the unified district's cost-per-

pupil and potential savings. We hope to hear in the coming week if that Committee would like to continue discussions with us about Cabot joining the Caledonia Cooperative District.

Our board has also been working on the second option for Cabot - to continue operating a preK-12 school in Cabot. In order to have that option approved as meeting the goals of Act 46 by the State Board of Education, our school would have to begin some major improvements.

Among those improvements is an investment in staffing to enhance the program available for students at Cabot High School. With the help of the Act 46 Working Group and discussions with our Principal Dave Schilling, we have been gathering information on the kind of programs that would best serve our Cabot students into the future. Beyond bringing all four core high school staff back to full-time positions, discussion of other potential program additions has included design technology, connecting students with learning opportunities in the community, and using existing community resources to build a program focused on agriculture and sustainability.

We have also been researching how the high school program could be enhanced by collaborations with other schools. We are scheduled to meet with the Danville School Board in late September to discuss ways that students in each of our schools could access strong programs in both schools.

We have also begun looking at the pieces that need to be included in the Alternative Governance Structure (AGS) proposal that would have to be filed with the State of Vermont prior to December 26, 2017. That proposal would present how our Cabot School District is planning to meet the goals of Act 46 as a non-merged, independent district. Some of that information was already gathered as part of our Cabot/Danville/Twinfield merger proposal, and we're starting to gather other needed information in the event that we decide to file an AGS proposal.

In October, we will share the information that our board has gathered on these two options with Cabot residents and will solicit feedback on them prior to making a decision on which option to move forward on. We will hold a community forum to present information and answer questions on these options on Thursday, October 5, at 6:00 p.m. at the CSPAC.

We hope to see you there!

Chris Tormey
Cabot School Board



Cabot High School Not Out Of Options, Yet

What would you say if you were told that a reasonable option exists ensuring a robust high school program for Cabot students while creating economic opportunities for Cabot families *and* it does not rely on increasing the tax rate for Cabot residents? Intrigued? Well, then, read on.

The premise of this option, simply stated, is to create a non-profit entity to run a residential boarding and enrichment program for out-of-state students who would live with Cabot families while attending Cabot's incredibly unique educational institution. Broken down into individual parts, it looks like this:

First, the non-profit would be established, independent from the school, with its own governing board. The Cabot School Board and the non-profit board would operate separately, yet collaboratively, through a contract that clearly delineates roles and responsibilities.

Second, the non-profit would create the structure for recruiting students, place those students in homes with Cabot families, and develop a comprehensive enrichment program (e.g. visual and performing arts, music, field trips, workshops, courses, and speakers) for *all* high school students.

Unlike international exchange programs, Cabot host families would receive a generous stipend for room and board under this scenario. Hosting families would also enjoy many of the same benefits of an international exchange program, such as expanding their family circle, engaging and exploring different ways of doing things, creating new friendships and experiences, all while sharing the myriad attributes and advantages of the rural community lifestyle.

Any good idea needs to be backed with a solid business plan, and the framework

for this option has already been thoroughly crafted. The boarding and enrichment program would be funded though the fees that sending parents pay each year. The fees would be allocated proportionately to cover admin and staffing, tuition to the Cabot school, host family stipend, and funding curricular and extracurricular enhancements for the high school.

The first years of developing the program would be supported by a combination of grants and zero interest loans from the UDAG fund. First year grant-funded expenses include staffing, marketing, and recruitment. Assuming success in recruitment, a UDAG loan would bridge the gap years between initial enrollment (two to four students) and full capacity (perhaps as many as 32 boarding students) at which point revenues from fees would not only sustain the program but also pay back the loan in full within 10 years.

This is not a new idea, but one that has not been well aired until recently, as Cabot is faced with the real possibility of closing the high school. If you believe there is still something very special about Cabot high school, if you think economic activity and additional revenues are beneficial to the town and to local families, if the investment in your home and property values are worth protecting, if you want to see spirited young people turned out on the common at recess, then plan to attend the upcoming public meetings this Fall and learn more about this option. Information announcing these meetings is forthcoming and an outline of this option along with a proposed budget will be available at the door.

Susan Alexander
Jack Daniels

Fran Voight
Karen Alexander

Cabot Welcomes Two Exchange Students Through CIEE

This August, two international high school exchange students arrived in Cabot on the CIEE High School Exchange program. Tanyatorn (Num) from Thailand is staying with the Kampf family and is most excited to improve her English and try new things, like camping in the woods and participating in events like Halloween and Thanksgiving. The Kampf family has hosted once before with CIEE, and they are eager to have a new family member join their household this summer.

Cabot is also welcoming Rodrigo from Mexico, who is staying with first-time host family, the Lehoe's.

Both students are attending the Cabot School and will stay for a full academic year.

Each year, international high school students representing more than 70 nationalities come to the U.S. to experience American culture as part of CIEE's High School Exchange program. Students attend local high schools, live with American host families, and participate in extracurricular activities and athletics. During their stay, students also give

back to their host communities by participating in volunteer projects and community service activities. Through the High School Exchange program, CIEE provides life-changing cultural exchange opportunities that help students, families, and schools gain new perspectives and develop lifelong relationships that cross borders and cultures.

Interested in hosting an international exchange student next academic year? Contact Susan Kuegel, CIEE Local Coordinator, at susankuegel10@gmail.com, 279-2158, or visit ciee.org/highschool to learn more.

Founded in 1947, CIEE is the country's oldest and largest nonprofit study abroad and intercultural exchange organization, serving over 300 U.S. colleges and universities, 1,000 U.S. high schools, and more than 35,000 international exchange students each year. CIEE operates 60 study centers in 40 countries, sponsors international faculty training programs, teach abroad programs, and various specialty and custom programs for secondary, post-secondary, and international students. Visit www.ciee.org.



COUNTRY COMMENTARY

Puppies are hard to deal with in the beginning. All the late night pee and poo time. Watching to make sure that the cats and the other dog don't sit on her or kill her OY! I love babies but they are a lot of work. So worth it in the end but sometimes there seems to be no end in sight when you are lacking sleep and cleaning up the accidents. MY GOOD-NESS.

The family is doing fine but it looks like we are going to have an early winter. I hate to say but do because we should be prepared just in case it unfolds that way. Nothing worse than prepared.

Life is lively and we are drying kale and freezing blueberries the last of them were picked a while ago but the memory of them never fades because I love blueberry pancakes in winter. Hot and buttery with lots of maple syrup. YUM!!!!

I am reconnected with an old friend whose husband committed suicide due to his chronic pain and the Drs. wouldn't let him have the pain meds he needed to deal with the pain. He just couldn't take it and it is all due to the new opioids laws a crackdown on opioid usage. Suicide rates of people suffering from chronic pain has significantly increased due to this situation. Sufferers of chronic pain are lumped in with addicts and it just isn't right. It is like comparing apples to oranges, not the same.

My friend is an advocate for chronic pain sufferers and she is doing a bang job! I am so proud of her. It can't be easy but I bet her husband would be proud...at least it keeps her busy and moving forward. We all have to have something after such a great loss. I am proud of her.

Life isn't the same without a spouse that you have had a good relationship with for over twenty years. It is amazing all the little things you find you miss about them. I am so fortunate to have my partner in life still with me. I thank God for him every day. He is my light in a dark tunnel that life sometimes can be and I am his.

Life is strange and tricky but it can be navigated with time, patience and dignity and really that is all we can do to make the best of the worst. In this case it brought my friend and me even closer!

I hope if you know someone who suffers chronic pain that you will speak up and out for them! They need our help!

On a happier note having two dogs has its ups and downs but mostly ups. They are such great companions and the cats like them too. Many happy dog licks to you and loving purrs.

In Peace and love,
Laura Lee Smith



ADVICE FROM THE TREE WARDEN HELPER

By Roland (Slim) Payne

It's time to finish stump treatment of bush honeysuckle if you haven't done it yet by the end of September. If you are going to plant garlic, time is getting close, plant at the end of September or first of October.

As a lot of you know, I cut the spruce tree on the Green and put another one in its place. The big tree was getting too tall to put the lights on without some kind of equipment, so I put one in that is about ten feet tall. That is about what the big one was when it was planted there, because I used to shear it until it got too tall. So, hopefully, this one will live and grow to be enjoyed by all for some years to come. I donated the tree because I had it. I want to thank the Road Crew for removing the stump. And thank whoever rake cut the area that was disturbed. I went to do it, but it was

already done. But I don't know if it was seeded. I will try to find out. I have seed, if it wasn't done.

Things to come:

Cabot Fall Foliage Festival Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Apple Pie Festival Saturday, October 14, 2017, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Enjoy the Foliage Season.

Humor from the HELPER

Farmer Jones drove by little Timmy's house, towing a load of manure. "What do you have in the trailer?" asked Timmy. "Manure," replied Farmer Jones. "For what?" the boy asked. "To put on my strawberries," the farmer explained. "You really ought to come eat at our house," the boy said. "My Mom puts ice cream on our strawberries here."

UNITED CHURCH OF CABOT

2 Common Way, Cabot, Vermont 05647

Worship @ 10 am Sunday Morning
Communion offered the 1st Sunday of the Month

**No Matter who you are
or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome to travel with us
for as long as you need.**

The church is available for weddings, concerts, community organizations, birthday and anniversary celebrations and social gatherings.* To reserve a time call 563-2278 and leave a message. *FYI: the church is an alcohol and smoke free building.

Pastor: Christina Findlay, Mdiv
Music: Erma Perry, Bruce Westcott



Established in 1806
Moved to present location in 1849

Cabot Historical Society's

Eighteenth



Annual

Apple Pie Festival

Saturday, October 14, 2017

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Cabot School Gym - Main St., Rte. 215, Cabot, Vt.
**FREE Parking on the Common FREE admission - Fun, family friendly event,
lunch & plenty of apple pies for sale.**

*****To donate pies for the Historical Society to sell*****

Contact Betty Ritter e-mail tcocabot@fairpoint.net

Apple Pie Baking Contests! Cash, Ribbons, Prizes

Pies MUST be entered by 10:30 a.m. Judging begins at 11 a.m.

Entry fee - \$5, Adults - \$2.50, Youth OR donate a 2nd pie for the Historical Society to sell. (All pies are sold or auctioned after judging.)

Contact Michelle LeClerc - e-mail tcocabot@fairpoint.net

Craft Fair: Widely publicized event, draws a large crowd. Table space is \$30 (\$35 with elec.)
Call (802) 563-2766 to reserve space or
e-mail: [Marcy Martin](mailto:MarcyMartin@gmail.com) mmarcy563@gmail.com

Other info, e-mail: BonnieSD@Together.Net or call (802) 563-3396 or www.cabothistory.com



CONCERTS AT THE SCHOOLHOUSE

presents

KEITH GREENINGER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14TH AT 8PM

From Santa Cruz, California, KEITH GREENINGER is a founding member of the renowned trio City Folk. Keith paints intricate portraits of the human condition with powerful melodic images, deep engaging guitar rhythms and husky, heart-wrenching vocals. What Keith brings to music, and life for that matter, is authenticity. As a result, there are no barriers between Keith, his music and his audience. Visit Keith's website: www.keithgreeninger.com



AT THE HOME OF
DANA AND SUSAN ROBINSON
RT. 215 IN LOWER CABOT, VT
\$15 SUGGESTED DONATION

Seating is limited, advance reservations are required.
Contact Dana at (802) 793-3016 or robinsongs@fairpoint.net.
For more info, check out www.robinsongs.com.