The Barnard Bulletin

SEPTEMBER 2014 **Vol. XXIX No. 9**

SELECTMEN'S NEWS

Tax bills are out and first payment due Wednesday, August 27th. Hard to find much good news in managing to get it over two dollars this year. I think it was only two years ago that our total tax was what just the education tax is now! While some may think our municipal and highway budgets are plenty high enough, they are nonetheless only 17% of my tax bill (this may vary some depending on Current Use enrollments and other factors) so while you can get us right by our chicken necks at Town Meeting, no matter how much we squeeze, we can accomplish only so much. And we don't think the problem is equity in appraising; Listers have only one appeal beyond Grievance to the Board of Civil Authority this year. Clearly, as most by now know, the problem is the State set and town administered education tax. I don't have the answer; if you do or even a clue, communicate it to Representative Teo Zagar or our Senators.

With regard to recent articles in the Valley News and Vermont Standard implying that Barnard Academy will be closing in a consolidation effort with nearby towns, Barnard Academy School Board Directors have advised us "not quite so!" Barnard Academy is, in fact, participating in a Vermont Department of Education exploration of the positive and negative consequences of consolidation; however, according to School Board Chair David Green, "We have a fine school. It is possible that in future years some sort of consolidation with other schools will make sense for Barnard, however, the School Board thinks that consolidation does not make sense for Barnard at this time."

In always exciting solid waste news, this year's last Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection day is this Saturday, August 23rd, 8-12 at the Bethel-Royalton Transfer Facility. They now subscribe to PaintCare (www.paintcare.org) under Vermont's Paint Stewardship Law and take all kinds of paint except spray cans year-round. See fliers around Town or call them at 763-2232 for more info on either program. We're filling that (almost) Zero Sort box weekly with some continuing problems with contamination, mostly glass, cardboard and plastic bags all of which still have to be sorted out. Please take just a minute to read the signs delineating what goes and what doesn't. And last but not least, last Wednesday hours this season will be 9/24.

Our new all- wheel drive truck chassis has showed up at Lucky's! Imagine, a Peterbilt! They gave us a good, competitive price on this Cadillac of trucks and we expect additional savings down the road in not having to pay for tows to Colchester for repairs. Big trucks like cars are pretty much computer driven these days so even a minor glitch usually causes a shut-down and a call for the Hook. The chassis will be serviced and sent to Fairfield Equipment in Barre for hydraulics, dump body, plow, wing, scraper and all the stuff that makes it a working municipal truck, albeit not a cheap one!

In other Highway news, we spent a week over in East Barnard repairing Walker Hill and other roads following a serious scud on July 28th. We had a man on vacation so they had to tolerate my "help" again; it's always a good hands-on reminder that what these guys do all year is serious business, not particularly easy or fun. We are fortunate to have men with their dedication, knowledge of how to do it and skill in equipment operation. You wouldn't believe the difference between knowing how to drive one of those things and how to operate it! You can probably guess I'm mostly in the first category. The additional good news is the scud left considerably more damage in other towns and may qualify as a reimbursable FEMA event.

We've been remiss all summer in not complimenting the Progressive Club for the beautiful flower gardens and box at the Town Hall and at the intersection near BGS. So, thanks Ladies; it makes coming in to tackle the never ending and ever growing administrative crap for all of us down here almost inviting.

It's the dogs days of high summer even though it's felt like October. Compliments to the 20th Annual Street Dance volunteers led by Jo Oliver and Jillian Bradley for a great, well organized, successful event with twenty some vendors, all-day games and face painting for children and lots of great music and good food. Even the Sheriff's deputies said they were having fun. We also recently finally got over to the Feast and Field weekly market and community get-together for music and yummy tacos and saw BarnArts' Willy Wonka. A pretty rich life we have here in Barnard, Vermont. And if not enough, I snagged a five pounder last time I was over on the River, the CORN sign is out and the tomatoes are ripe! I don't know how life could be much better, damn tax bill notwithstanding.

* * * * * * * * *

LIBRARY NEWS

The Danforth Library wishes to thank Richard Fenimore for his generous donation of a refrigerator for the Holway community room at the Library. The Library would also like to thank Janice Grahran and Finni Trimpi for the two desk chairs they gave to the library.

NEWS FROM HELPING HANDS

Where has summer gone! It is hard to believe that school will resume in a few weeks and many of our summer residents will soon be heading home. Our gardens are lagging behind, thanks to the cool temperatures, but hopefully we will have a warm and sunny September to help all the veggies fully ripen.

With the feeling of fall in the air, our attention is turning to wood stoves and firewood. Our annual Firewood Fest has been scheduled for Saturday, September 27th, with Saturday, October 4th as the rain date. We will again be holding this event at the Ward's Log Landing on Route 12. Wood will be available for pick up from 9:30 until 1. We want to thank Ralph, Justin and Jason Ward for their help and for allowing us to use their landing and equipment. We are looking for volunteers to help with cutting, splitting and loading wood. We could also use another a splitter or pick up truck, which could be used for delivery. Please let us know if you or someone you know could use some help with firewood this year. This will give us an idea as to how much we need to have on hand. For wood or to volunteer, please call Mary at 234-5541.

We are grateful to those of you who keep adding items to our BGS food shelf collection box. We deliver the contents of the box to either the Woodstock or Bethel food shelf whenever the box is full. We would love to make weekly deliveries, but we depend on your help to fill up the box. Please consider adding an item to the box each time you buy something at the BGS. They always need the following items: peanut butter, tuna fish, canned meat, stews or soups, pasta and pasta sauce, rice, any canned fruits and vegetables, hot or cold cereals, coffee, tea, sugar and personal care items such as shampoo, toothpaste and toilet paper. Thank you for supporting the food shelves!

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you or someone you know could use a helping hand. We have people ready and willing to help. If the job is too big for us to handle, we can refer you to other available resources.

Heidi White – 234-6965 -heidi@hwfreelancecopywriter.com, Linda Beaumariage – 234-5624 letvt@mac.com, Louie Ahlen – 457-2621 lahlen8920@aol.com, Mary Blanton – 234-5541 marywbvt@gmail.com, Patty Hasson – 457-3886, patty.hasson@wildapple.com, Deb Rice – 234-5349 - debarice@gmail.com, Jo Oliver-Yeager - 234-6448 – jooliveryeager@gmail.com, Joann Ference – 234-9324, vtscapeartist@gmail.com, Leah Crowley, leahgocrowley@gmail.com

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LOCAL CRYPTOGRAM

A cryptogram is a code in which one letter is substituted for another. For example, the word "Church" could be written BWMSBW. The letter B would be the letter C and would be throughout the entire message. In this message **K = S**. The solution is found by trial and error.

"OGT DIQEUHT GUK CTTP QIKEPH

EOK DATKGPTKK OGAIRHG OGT

ZIPOG ID URHRKO, UPY GTAT

UPY OGTAT U JTQQIV QTUD

KGIVK EOKTQD QEFT OGT

DEAKO HAUJ GUEA UZEYKO

OGT QIBFK ID U CTUROJ VGI

GUK KTTP IPT KTUKIP OII ZUPJ."

-IQEWTA VTPYTQQ GIQZT

The answer to the CRYPTOGRAM can be found on the inside of the back page.

NOTICES

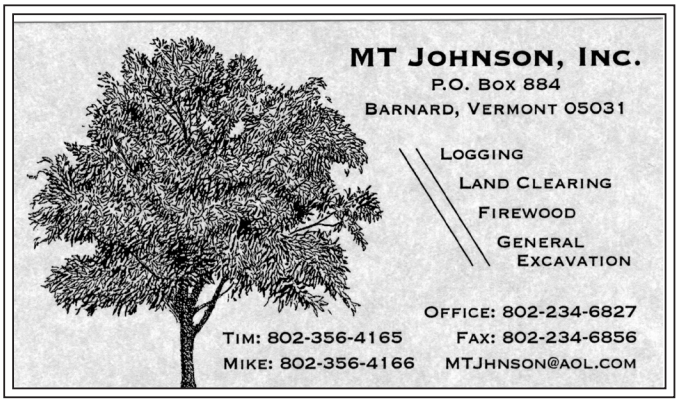
ANNUAL MEETING OF. THE BARNARD SILVER LAKE ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD THURS EVE AUGUST. 28, 7 PM AT THE BARNARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, RT. 12.

Business matters, Officers reports and a focus on the proximity of Eurasian Milfoil will be covered.

All are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

The Sermon at the Aug. 24th service at the 10:30 Service at The Barnard Universalist Church is entitled "Imagine".

BarnArts Center for the Arts in coordination with Sculpturefest presents Patrick Barlow's adaptation of THE 39 STEPS based on the 1935 movie by Alfred Hitchcock at 7:30 p.m. September 5th, 6th, 12th, 13th and 5 p.m. September 7th and 14th at King Farm Barn in Woodstock. Tickets are $15 for adults, and $10 for students.



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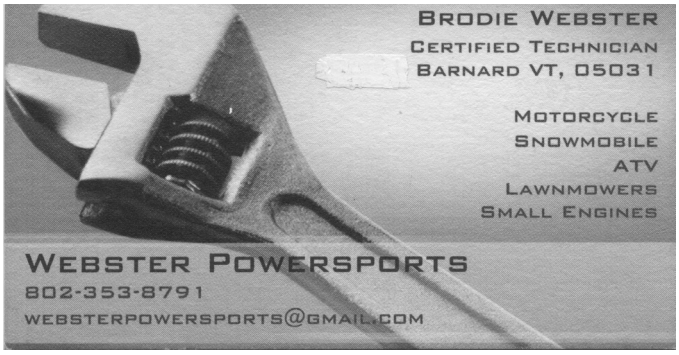

HAS ECFIBER FORGOTTEN BARNARD?

Well..., no. ECFcfiber has been working on continuing the development of its fiber network in the 24 member towns that make up ECFiber. Starting with Barnard and parts of Bethel in 2010, ECFiber now has a presence in Barnard, Bethel, Royalton, Sharon, Strafford, Norwich, Thetford, Tunbridge, Chelsea, Vershire and West Fairlee. With significant help from the Vermont Telecom Authority, connections will soon extend into Stockbridge, Rochester, Hancock, Braintree, Brookfield, Pomfret, West Windsor, and Randolph.

That means that parts of 19 towns have, or soon will have, a connection to ECFiber's fiber optic network, and this has been done with less than 6 million in fund raising. An amazing result considering that the original plan to cover the 24 towns was based on funding of around 90 million dollars.

The areas currently connected are the more productive, and easier to build, parts of the network. For the most part private investments, and connections per mile, govern ECFiber's expansion policies. On average, it costs ECFiber $30,000 to build one mile of the network. In general, investors along these routes have supplied the money by investing.

Since it is not efficient to build out the network for just one customer, the building of a spur will require a minimum of $30,000 per mile in funding and six customers on that spur that are committed to purchasing ECFiber services.

With the exception of very limited state and federal funds, private notes are ECFiber's only funding source for network expansion. There are a number of investors that continue to reinvest in ECFiber by buying additional notes each year.

If you are in an unserved area of Barnard, the quickest way to get ECFiber service is to get your friends and neighbors to raise $30,000 or more, and partake in the next fund raiser. Remember that these funds are an investment and the money is paid back with interest over the life of the note.

The next fund raising date is September 29th. If you wish to invest please contact John Roy, john.roy@ecfiber.net, or send a request for information to ECFiber, 415 Waterman Road, Royalton VT 05068,

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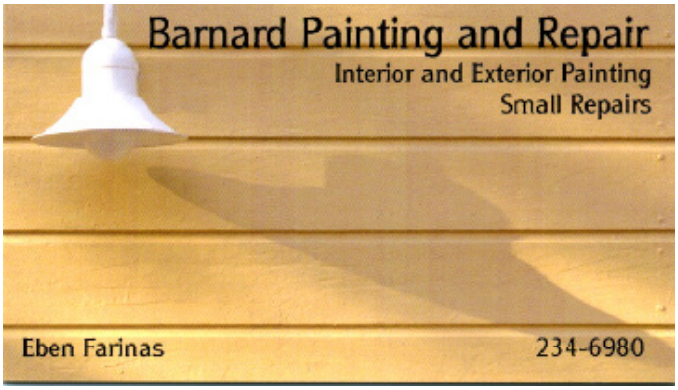
School opens on September 1st. Please watch for the school busses that will be on the roads.



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MILFOIL FOUND IN LIME POND

The Vermont Standard reported recently that the town has been informed by Ann Bove, a staff member of Vermont Watershed Management, that Lime Pond is now a home for Eurasian water milfoil. Cliff Aikens, a member of the Barnard Silver Lake association asked the Bulletin to reprint the information supplied by Ann that explains how to prevent the spread of milfoil. Following is a portion of the reprint.

-- For your information, the invasive aquatic plant Eurasian water milfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum) has been confirmed in 10-acre Lime Pond in Barnard. Eurasian water milfoil is a nonnative perennial aquatic plant that spreads primarily by plant fragments and whose dense growth can reduce recreational opportunities, may outcompete beneficial native aquatic plants and provides little value to wildlife. The infestation was discovered by Vermont Watershed Management staff conducting annual water quality sampling this season. This is the first confirmation of this species in the town of Barnard and this region of the state. Silver Lake is also located in the town of Barnard; as far as we are aware, Eurasian water milfoil is not known from Silver Lake.

A follow-up site visit in June confirmed Eurasian water milfoil is moderate with limited growth but throughout the shallow pond. It is likely that it has been in the pond for some time. As many of you are aware, Lime Pond has no official public access but people frequently access the pond via the road or a pull in across private property by the outlet. Staff were delayed in distributing this information publicly due to difficulty in reaching shoreline property owners to alert them of this discovery. Some but not all of the shoreline property owners have now been notified directly, as has the Town Barnard, the Silver Lake Association and Silver Lake State Park.

Lime Pond is the 68th lake/pond confirmed with a known population of Eurasian water milfoil. However, roughly 78% of Vermont's lakes and ponds are not known with Eurasian water milfoil or another aquatic invasive plant or animal. We encourage anyone using a Vermont water body to be responsible stewards of state waters and take precautions that will reduce the opportunity for aquatic invasive species or wildlife disease from hitchhiking with us. Practicing the following "best practices" can help prevent aquatic hitchhikers like Eurasian water milfoil from spreading from one water body to another.

Before leaving a lake or stream:

- Clean off any mud, plants (even small fragments), and animals from boats, trailers and equipment. Discard in the trash.
- Drain boat and equipment away from water.
- Dry anything that comes into contact with water.
- Always buy bait from licensed dealers.
- Never leave waters with live fish, or release plants or animals into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water.

To remove organisms you cannot see on your boat, waders or gear:

- Scrub equipment with hot soapy water
- Spray boat and trailer with high pressure water and/or dry in the sun for 5 days
- Soak clothes, waders and other absorbent items in hot soapy water for 30 minutes

For more information about "Best Practices" and "Disinfection Procedures" to keep your gear and possessions free of other invasive species and wildlife pathogens, visit: http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/waterq/lakes/htm/ans/lpans-index.htm --

Please follow these guidelines in order to prevent the spread of this invasive plant to other parts of Barnard

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THE PAST SCHOOLS OF BARNARD

The pictures below are four of the many schools that were a part of the Barnard educational system in the past. The Barnard Central School was renovated and later became the Barnard Academy. The renovations were made to increase classroom space to handle the growing student population, and to allow K-6 to stay in Barnard. With the recent decrease in the student population the State has been studying was to consolidate schools. There was no shortage of students when there were ten to twelve one room school houses in Barnard

The Barnard Central School, now The Barnard Academy

The East Barnard School near the East Barnard Community Hall

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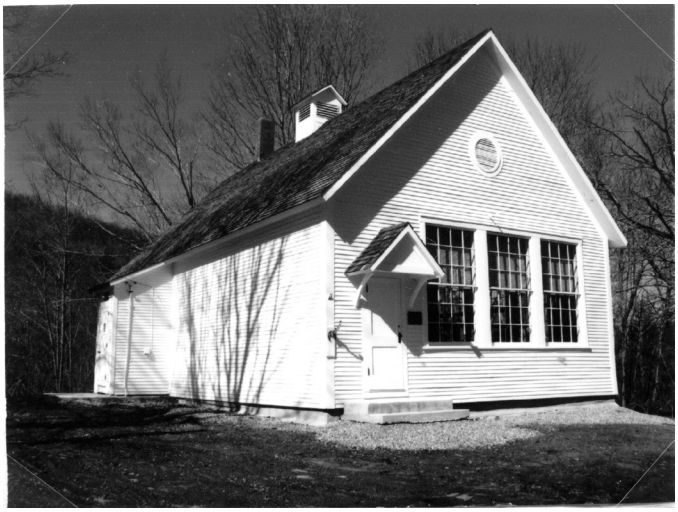
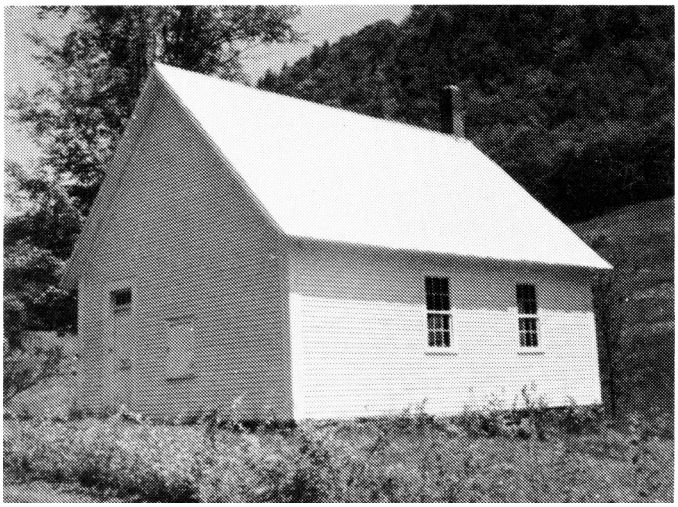
Although closing smaller, under utilized, schools to decrease the tax burden is an easy option, it is important to consider all facets of student education when considering changes to a school system. Not many years ago there were a number of alternative schools opened by people concerned with the industrialization of our public schools. Better teacher to student ratios was one of the concerns. Student populations tend to be cyclic and building new schools is very expensive. It is wise to think long term.



The Village School which is now the Barnard Historical Society



The Turkey Hollow School on Lime Pond Road

All photos are courtesy of Barbara Butler, Cliff Aikens and Eleanor Tatro, and are from the archives of the Barnard Historical Society.

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EAST BARNARD NEWS

"Largely Local Dinner" Celebrates Local Farms, Artisans, Businesses

by Virginia Glass Schlabach

Although the East Barnard Community Club's "3rd Annual Largely Local Dinner" is young when compared to our fire company's "58th Annual Oyster Stew Supper," we promise to treat diners to a memorable meal on Saturday, September 6. The menu features a complete roast turkey dinner with a dessert of apple crisp and ice cream replacing the pies served in the past. "Largely Local" celebrates our local farms, artisans, and businesses, among them Heartwood Farm Collective, Hurricane Flats, and Balla Machree Farm.

The dinner, served from 5:00-7:00 p.m. forms the centerpiece of activities at the Community Hall. A crafts bazaar is open at 4:00, and live music and dancing begin at 7:00. Dinner tickets are sold at the door with pricing as follows: $12 for adults, $6 under age 12, and $3 pre-schoolers. All proceeds from the dinner will go to the East Barnard Community Hall. Raffle tickets for the Gentleman's Fancy quilt will also be on sale, with the drawing scheduled for 7:30. Raffle tickets are $1 each or 6 for $5.

What better way to spend the first Saturday evening of September than to wander the back roads into East Barnard, eat a festive meal among friends old and new, and tap your toes to some lively down home music. You might also find an early Christmas gift or two at the bazaar and you just might end up the winner of a gorgeous red and bronze quilt! Don't forget also to save the date - October 18 - for the Broad Brook Volunteer Fire Association's Oyster Stew Supper.

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LOGGING & FIREWOOD

THE OLD COUNTRY FIDDLER

Adam Boyce, who portrays Charles Ross Taggart, Vermont's Traveling Entertainer, will perform at the Barnard Historical Society's village school building, 6415 Vermont Route 12, on Tuesday, August 26 at 7:00 p.m.

Having grown up in Topsham, Vermont, Charles Ross Taggart went on to a forty-year career performing in countless stage shows across the country, including the famous Red Path Chautauqua circuit. Fiddler Adam Boyce portrays Mr. Taggart near the end of his career, circa 1936, sharing recollections of his life and career interspersed with live fiddling and humorous sketches.

Free, open to the public, and accessible to people with disabilities. Contact Caz Rozonewski at 234-9080 or magicialme@gmail.com for more information.

This is a Vermont Humanities Council event, hosted by the Barnard Historical Society, under a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the NEH or the Vermont Humanities Council.

Vermont Humanities Council 11 Loomis Street Montpelier, Vermont 05602 802.262.2626 vermonthumanities.org

CRYPTOGRAM ANSWER

"The foliage has been losing its freshness through the month of August, and here and there a yellow leaf shows itself like the first gray hair amidst the locks of a beauty who has seen one season too many."

- Oliver Wendell Holmes

FIBER ARTS BARNARD (FAB) - 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in the Barnard library community room, 3:30-5:30. Contact Janet Andersen, 234-5251, hywynds@aol.com, or Jenney Silva, 457-9000, hsilva86@yahoo.com.

THE BARNARD ACADEMY SCHOOL BOARD meets at 8:30 am at the school on the first Tuesday of each month.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION meets at 7:00pm in the Town Clerk's office on the following dates. 2013: June 3; August 5; October 7; November 4; December 2. 2014: January 6; February 3; March 10.

BARNARD LISTERS listers@barnardvt.us, 234-9576. Office hours, except holidays, Wednesday 9:00am - 11:00am, by appointment, or anytime we are in the office.

BARNARD ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S office hours are Mondays, 9:00am - 12:00 noon.

BARNARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION meets the second Monday of the month, 7:00 PM, Town Hall.

TOWN CLERK office hours are Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, 8:00am - 3:30pm,

THE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:00pm at the Barnard Town Hall as necessary.

SELECTMEN meet the second and forth Wednesday of the month at 7:00PM at the Town Clerk's office.

RECYCLING HOURS: Saturdays, 8:00am to 4:00pm.

BEES MEETINGS First Tuesday of each month allowing for school vacations, 6:00pm - 7:30pm, at the school library.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY meets the fourth Tuesday of the month. Call 457-3020 for location.

THE ENERGY COMMITTEE meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Barnard Town Offices.

DANFORTH LIBRARY is open Saturdays 10:00 to noon, Wednesday evenings from 6:00 - 8:00. The Book Club meets the first Wednesday at 7:00pm. The Library Trustees meet on the second Wednesday of each month in the Danforth Library book room at 6:30pm. Winter hours, starting Nov. 1st, are Sat. 10:00 - 12:00am & Wed. 3:00 - 5:00pm.

SILVER LAKE CHAPEL will be holding Sunday worship services on Sunday evenings at 6:00pm. Please contact Marty Bascom at 802-728-5764 for more information.

YOGA CLASSES offered at Danforth Library, Mondays 9:00 am - 10:30 am and 6:15pm -7:45pm with Amanda Anderson. Classes are by donation; for more info, contact theonlymissamanda@yahoo.com.

THE BARNARD BULLETIN, Box 161, Barnard VT 05031-0161, info@barnardbulletin.info, is published the 20th of each month and is sent to the legal residents of Barnard. Subscriptions are $10.00 a year. Tel. 802/457-1792.