Gap Year Adventures

Editor's Note: For a few years now, the Norwich Times has been featuring our young people thinking, doing, and living outside the box. Rather than follow the traditional four-years-of-high-school onto four-years-of-college route, these adventurous souls are recognizing that there are many paths, and that some may lead to a whole new world to explore. Read about Ebben Whitehair, Gabrielle Alexandrescu, and Sarah Bibeau as they tell us about their exciting travels to distant lands and about their humbling experiences back home.

Continued on page 10

Lauren Whittlesey

Norwich native Brendan Rhim has a busy season ahead of him. Now in his second year cycling with the Holowesco-Citadel racing team, Brendan is taking time off of his undergraduate studies to focus on his racing career.

Brendan started bike racing when he was a student at Hanover High School. He rode his bike to school every day, and joined a Tuesday night racing group in Claremont, New Hampshire. “I was instantly hooked,” he says. He joined the cycling team at the Killington Mountain School, which is a designated USA Cycling Center of Excellence. He trained with the Killington Mountain School team while attending Hanover High School, and raced both in the juniors (high school) category and in the collegiate league. Brendan explains, “There are so few racing teams in New England for 18 and under, you join the team even if you

Continued on page 8

Tutti’s Promise
Holocaust History for Youth

When I was a student, I avoided history. Both my brothers and my dad are dyslexic, and sometimes I feel like I am, too, says Heidi Fishman of Norwich. “I never aspired to be a writer.” So how did she come to be the author of a compelling historical novel about surviving the Holocaust? The story that so strongly moved her beyond her experience as a student, and her practice as a psychologist, was the tale of her mother, Ruth ‘Tutti’ Lichtenstern Fishman, a child survivor of the Holocaust. The result of Heidi’s work is Tutti’s Promise.

Continued on page 10

Ebben Whitehair in Patagonia, Chile

Ruth Sylvester

Tutti with her mother, Margret, and her brother, Robbie, circa 1939

Ebben Whitehair in Patagonia, Chile

Brendan Rhim Rides His Way Through a Busy Season

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Continued on page 10
GOOD JOB!

Dr. Maura Sanders

Maura Sanders, DMD had departed the Upper Valley following her graduation from Hanover High School in 1998, and followed a winding path that would lead her to the profession of dentistry. The Norwich native had been inspired by an unfortunate accident as a young girl that knocked out her two front teeth. Maura had always retained a vivid memory of that event and carried it with her. Leaving the Upper Valley behind, Maura enrolled at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee and majored in neurophysiology. From there she attended dental school at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. With degree in hand, Maura completed a one-year residency at the University of Massachusetts. The journey to becoming a dentist was complete.

“When I was about 11 or 12 years old, I remember running and falling into a table and, as a result, knocked out two of my front teeth,” Maura recalled. “A Norwich dentist by the name of Dr. Bachner treated me and put in my missing teeth and fixed them so I was back looking normal. I never forgot that experience. Dentistry remained in my mind from that point on.”

Maura’s desire to aid others with her newly acquired dentistry skills increased when she joined the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) and she spent the next seven years doing Public Health Dentistry in Worcester, Massachusetts. NHSC helps bring health care to those who need it in the areas of the United States that have limited access to professional health and dental treatment.

“In Worcester, we treated people in need of dental care with limited income such as the homeless or those on public assistance. Overall, I have discovered dentistry to be a very rewarding profession. It is such a wonderful feeling to see the reaction when you help them regain their appearance or relieve the pain they are suffering.”

Her connection with dentistry apparently was sealed by fate. While working in Worcester, Maura met her husband Rambert Ramirez, who was born in the Dominican Republic, and was serving with her as a dental assistant. They now have three beautiful children Aidan (6), Azlynn (4), and Austin (1). That growing family helped spur the couple’s decision to return to the Upper Valley.

“At the time of our decision, my son was about to enter kindergarten and my connection to the Upper Valley remained strong. Remember, I grew up there and my parents, Gail and Nick Sanders, lived in Norwich for 35 years. I go all the way back to the Marion Cross School. We wanted to raise our children here because it is such a great place to bring up a family and to live. We took up residence in Plainfield and one critical decision there was that they offer K-8 grade.”

Recently Maura’s husband Rambert, who had become a dental lab technician, established his own dental laboratory named A&A Dental Lab in Meriden, New Hampshire. With both locked into the same profession, it would be easy to guess the topic at the dinner table.

“Oh, yes! We talk a lot about teeth that is for sure!” Maura stated with a laugh. “It is nice to be able to compare our day with each other and share our common experiences. Returning to the Upper Valley has been a great experience for me. There have been a lot of changes since I left, but it still feels the same.”

Dr. Sanders is a three-year associate at Hanover Road Dental Health and sees new patients and patients of record Tuesday through Friday.

Hanover Road Dental Health

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Heroes & Leaders Celebration Honors UV Young Leaders

Event Benefits Vital Communities’ Leadership Upper Valley Program

Vital Communities recognized 11 young leaders and their contributions to the Upper Valley at the sixth annual Heroes & Leaders Celebration on Wednesday, May 24, at the Quechee Club in Quechee, Vt. The annual dinner, which benefits the Leadership Upper Valley program of Vital Communities, honors community members who have made significant positive impacts in the region.

“The young leaders we’re honoring this year are passionate about building the Upper Valley community—and their accomplishments are truly inspiring,” said Vital Communities Executive Director Tom Roberts. “From addressing the region’s opiate epidemic, to bringing aquaponics into schools nationwide, to strengthening the local economy, these young leaders represent a range of approaches toward a common goal: community. We’re so pleased to recognize these eleven and know there are many more young leaders making our region a better place to live, work, and play every day.”

This year’s Heroes & Leaders honorees are:

- Paul Coats, Lebanon Recreation & Parks
- Noah Crane, Upper Valley Nighthawks
- Elyse Crossman, Greater Claremont Chamber of Commerce
- Emily Donaldson, Cultivating Action
- Sam Drazin, Changing Perspectives
- Gordon Ehret, Hypertherm
- Nicole LaBombard, Dartmouth-Hitchcock
- Dan McGee, Red River
- Merritt Partridge, Tuck School of Business
- Stephanie Thompson, Springfield Prevention Coalition
- Holly West, Friends of Mascoma Foundation
- Attorney Markell Ripps of Norwich firm, Grossman and Ripps, Board member and past chair of Upper Valley Young Professionals and a Vital Communities board member and graduate of Leadership Upper Valley, provided closing remarks for the evening.

Leadership Upper Valley is a 10-month professional and personal development program that inspires, educates, and engages community members to better serve the Upper Valley by building their networks and their knowledge of the region’s challenges, opportunities, and resources.

Vital Communities’ work is at the heart of a vibrant Upper Valley region. We bring citizens, organizations, and municipalities together to address issues where an independent voice and regional approach are essential.

Norwich resident, Jenny Levy, honoring Hypertherm colleague, Gordon Ehret, one of this year’s Heroes and Leaders honorees.
With ambassadors like our Norwich youth representing the US out and about in the world, we can all rest assured that goodness prevails. Read about Ebben, Gabby, and Sarah, featured on the cover, as they describe their mind-opening journeys both abroad and at home.

And, if looking to the next generation to make good on past mistakes, let us be encouraged that everyday people like Heidi Fishman are moved to write a historical-fiction novel, Tutti’s Promise, about her mother, a Holocaust survivor, geared toward the young teen reader. I hope it inspires you to share her work with the young people in your life so they can prevent history from repeating itself.

Evolving and changing and learning from our mistakes is best described by Mr. Bill in our School Days column on page 24. What a gift he is to our community and to the young people he serves. If every child could be treated with the respect and dignity that he uses to guide and teach... current and future problems solved!

Let’s congratulate and honor longtime Norwich resident, Dr. Dean Seibert. His organization, ACTS (Americans Caring Teaching Sharing), continues to do uplifting work in Honduras since its inception in 1986. Recently, he received an honor that became his “proudest moment.” Read about him on page 9.

For some good-work news closer to home, how about joining in the fun when the Norwich Fair comes to town by entering a float in the soon-to-be resurrected Norwich Fair Parade! See pages 20-21 for all the details. Get involved! Town traditions such as these are what make Norwich such a special place to live.

Also along the keep-it-local theme, the Norwich Times is featuring local businesses that have advertised with us for years. Please read their stories and thank the proprietors when you see them. Without our loyal advertisers, we would not have been able to bring you the good news about your beloved town for the past... 20 YEARS! The upcoming fall issue will mark our 20th anniversary!

On that note, please let us know what you like best about the Norwich Times and about any special story or feature that has made an impact on you. Share on our website at www.norwichtimes.com or on our Facebook page!

– Jen MacMillen

Correction: Please see the Spotlight on Chippers (page 19) which was inadvertently omitted in the Winter/Spring issue when they sponsored Your Green Spaces.
One of Hanover’s most sought after homes, this iconic colonial overlooking Occom Pond delights the senses. The warm and inviting Arts & Crafts interior is complimented by an attached English conservatory providing exquisite light and air in every season. The meticulous state-of-the-art renovation, waterfront views, organic gardens, fruit trees, meandering paths, private pool, and well-tended perennial beds creates an executive estate which inspires the soul!

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NORWICH CONSERVATION

Take Only Photographs, Leave Only Footprints

Norwich has many fantastic trails around town, where people can enjoy exercising, botanizing, wildlife watching, or simply walking in the woods. The Trails Committee does an excellent job of monitoring and maintaining all the public trails, and many land owners are very generous in allowing trails across their properties. Fellow trail users, trail workers, and land owners are greatly deserving of courtesies and respectful treatment from all of us. What follows is a list of reminders about important components of trail etiquette. If you do not agree with what we lay out as appropriate trail etiquette, please do not hesitate to come and share your ideas and concerns with us.

In a previous article, we mentioned the importance of controlling dogs on the trails. It is worth repeating how off-leash dogs can upset fellow trail users and wildlife. There are many people who are not comfortable being approached by dogs they do not know. There are also many people who would rather see un-spooked wildlife in the forest beside the trail instead of a dog running rampant.

Recent work on Green Up Day reminds many of us that not all our fellow citizens adhere to the adage ‘leave no trace.’ People especially do not want to see refuse, including dog droppings, during their walk in the woods. Please ‘leave only footprints.’

And leave those footprints only on the trail. The trails are constructed to handle foot traffic, the forest floor is not. If the trail is a single-track, use it as such. Please don’t walk in a group four wide if the trail cannot accommodate that width of humanity.

Further speaking of footprints, it is important that all posted trail instructions be followed, even if the instruction is that the trail is closed. Permitted uses, redirected trails, trail closures (for mud season for example), and other trail instructions are decisions made by people dedicated to the long-term care and maintenance of trails, people who spend time learning about best trail practices. Those instructions about and temporary closures of trails are done to alleviate the damage that too many footprints can have on fragile trailside areas and soft, wet trails.

Regarding trailside areas, remember to also take only photographs. The plants within our trail corridors are part of natural communities and they have roles to play in their ecosystem. They are not there for a few of us to take, take, take. Collecting has already made wild ginsing very rare and cucumber root much less common. Let’s not add to the list of the over-harvested; let’s instead have all the plant species remain part of their ecosystem and be there for all to see.

Many of our trails are multi-use and these different ways of using trails can lead to some questions, the proper etiquette of which may be conditional. For example, on flat terrain it may well be appropriate for bikers to yield to walkers, whereas on steep terrain it may well be better for walkers to step aside for bikers; however, a biker should never expect a hiker to yield on a multi-use trail.

There can also be winter multi-use etiquette questions. If someone has gone to the effort of breaking trail and setting a ski track, be courteous by not obliterating their work with your snowshoes. Why not simply snowshoe beside the ski trail? Besides, snowshoes are designed to provide loft in unbroken snow, not tramp around on packed trails and ski tracks.

Well, mud season is a memory. Get out there, be courteous, and enjoy the trails!

~ Norwich Conservation Commission

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~ Norwich Conservation Commission
NORWICH WOMEN’S CLUB NEWS

Summer Calendar
• Tuesday, June 13, 11am-1pm
   Annual Luncheon, Partridge House
• June 16, 6-8pm, Summer Concert
   Brian Cook Band, Norwich Green
• July 28, 6-8pm, Summer Concert
   The Flames, Norwich Green
• Aug 18, 6-8pm, Summer Concert,
   Pillsbury Slow Boys, Norwich Green
• Monday, August 28, 10-11am
   Coffee and Conversation, Norwich Inn
• October 19-21
   Fall Nearly New Sale, Tracy Hall

For more information on these events,
find us on Facebook or
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Administrator, Harvest Hill
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The Woodlands
Timothy Martin
Administrator, The Woodlands
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deserve to do. When was the last time you
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Hanover, attended a Dartmouth game or simply
took a scenic hike? You can enjoy all that the
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July 28th * The Flames
Aug 18th * Pillsbury Slow Boys

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Heidi gathered the anecdotes her mother had told her and her brothers as they grew up, and conducted research in Holocaust archives. The book is aimed at middle-school readers, but is a worthwhile read for adults as well. It is told largely through Tutti’s eyes. She was almost five years old when the Nazis invaded the Netherlands; her family had moved there from Germany in 1936 to avoid Nazi rule.

Knowledge and Points of View

An adult reading the book hears the child’s voice which whined for more and nicer food, for time outside and trips to the park, and also understands the anger born of fear and frustration which drove Tutti’s father, Heinz, to snap at his family. Tutti’s mother, Margret, astounds the adult reader with her seemingly bottomless strength and calm. The parents’ obvious tension penetrates their daughter, stifling her complaints and leading her to help entertain her younger brother, Robbie.

The family’s situation was unusual and fortunate in two ways. Heinz was a metals trader, and his expertise and connections were especially valuable in the war. Furthermore, he had become good friends with Egbert de Jong, the Dutch minister of non-ferrous metals. The Nazi commissioner of the office of Reichs Metal wanted de Jong to stay at his job, and confided to him the Nazi plans for eliminating all Jews from the Netherlands. De Jong was not Jewish, but he was horrified by the Nazis’ plans, and, like a small-scale Schindler’s list, did what he could to get some of his Jewish friends declared essential workers as scrap-metal traders. The commandant of the transit camp was eager to turn it into a work camp for sorting scrap metal, since he knew most of the Dutch Jews had been shipped out, and he feared he’d be sent to the front if the camp closed.

This system worked for a while.

As you read, you can’t help thinking of the genocidal wars of the current era. Will help come from the outside if sufferers hold out long enough? Is escape to a safe zone possible? The parents’ efforts to hide the deadly reality of the situation from their children heightens these thoughts, by pointing out the ignorance of the big picture – and of the historical outcome – of the people involved.

Tutti’s Promise provides an excellent model for young writers. It is illustrated with relevant photos and images of documents, all usefully captioned. It has historical notes and references to further sources. It has pronunciations and translations of words from Dutch, German, and Yiddish.

Finding a Publisher

Heidi worked on her book for five years, visiting sites in the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, and Germany, and researching archives in Europe, Israel, and the US. Eventually her thoughts turned to looking for a publisher, but she was given the usual advice to find an agent first. She began this daunting process in September 2014.

About a year ago, Heidi was trying to track down the yellow star which Tutti remembered giving to a high school boy who was interviewing her in 1975. There was some thought that he’d donated it to a historical society... How to find out? The boy’s name... Was it Cutler? Confusion reigned. Heidi’s father was listening to this discussion, and interrupted to say the name was Catler, and he’d worked with the boy’s father, who was a manager for a heating and air conditioning company who had retired to Florida. Heidi hunted around and left some phone messages. Not much later, she was staying at her mother’s house, and her mother came bursting in waving the phone when Heidi was in the shower.

"There I was, standing in my childhood bedroom, dripping wet,” talking to the former high school student. Heidi continues, "He remembers the story, the house, the doll, but not the star. And then he starts asking some really pointed questions, and I can hear a voice in the background saying, ‘Ask her...’” The voice belonged to the man’s partner, Margie Blumberg, principal of MB Publishing, which publishes books aimed at middle grade students, and had recently published a Holocaust book. It was an excellent match.

Heidi has been careful to keep the reading level of Tutti’s Promise appropriate for middle grades. “My mother tells the stories as she remembers them as a child, so that helps keep the level good for kids,” Heidi notes. "I had to be careful in the part about the metal dealers." While she found fascinating the machinations of de Jong and the Jews he helped, she recognized that most children would not want too much detail on this topic. She’s starting to plan for a book she thinks of as Scraps of Hope to delve into the topic.

A Good Message to Take Away

Some of the wisdom Heidi’s mother hopes to impart with her visits to schools closes the book. “Don’t judge,” she says. “Don’t bully. Help when you can... When you see bad things happening in the world, step up and do something. Even if that thing is small. We all have to work to make this world better...” Mly story... reminds us that we must never forget what prejudice and hatred can lead to if we don’t confront them together."
Dean Seibert: Distinguished Physician and Humanitarian

When the historians finally compile the legacy of Norwich's Dr. Dean Seibert, there may be a slight conflict when published. Will his distinguished medical career be in the forefront of that legacy or will his dedicated world-wide service to humanity take center stage? In both categories, Dean Seibert has become a living legend.

Perhaps we can take a hint from the man himself. During a visit to his Norwich home on a rainy spring morning, Dr. Seibert gave some insight into that issue. At age 84, he is still very active, both as a physician and for the last 25 years as a volunteer for the ACTS (Americans Caring Teaching Sharing) Honduras organization. ACTS was established originally in 1986 to foster cross-cultural understanding and to promote, with our Honduran partners, sustainable programs for health, education, agriculture and economic development.

After looking back at all those trips to Honduras, Dr. Seibert narrowed down his list of highlights and memories by reciting his favorite quote from American anthropologist Margaret Mead.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

"Yes, that is my favorite quotation and it sums up perfectly the work and dedication by ACTS volunteers," Dr. Seibert noted. "For the last five or six years, I have traveled with a team of volunteers to Honduras twice a year. We would stay there anywhere from ten days to two weeks and I think that was a key to our success. Short visits to help the people there decide their priorities whether it be medical needs, engineering aid, or agricultural. Especially with supplying a source of clean water. Thanks to the Engineers Without Borders organization, that is becoming a reality. What a critical element. With clean water everything is possible."

Honduras is one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere and is roughly the size of Tennessee with a population of approximately 8.5 million. The economy in recent years has experienced slow growth, but the distribution of wealth is polarized with 50% of the population living below the poverty level.

"You have to realize that in Honduras, the residents there are extremely lucky if they graduate from the sixth grade. The poverty level is simply incredible and education opportunities are almost non-existent. There is no comparison to living here in an affluent community like Norwich and living in some of those remote villages. Traveling back and forth is a stunning shock to the system. It opens one's eyes to the reality of this world."

Dr. Seibert stated.

When asked to break down all those trips and experiences and pick a favorite for the past 25 years, Dr. Seibert's eyes sparkled and a warm smile spread across his face. He was quick to respond.

"Well... five or six years ago, we started a project where we converted an old building in a local Honduras community and made it into a library. Now, you have to understand that very few of the people here have the ability to read and that is what made this so incredible. When completed, we had – believe it or not – a modern, high-tech library where they could learn to read and benefit from the educational offerings. My proudest moment came when they named the building The Dr. Dean Biblioteca (Library)."

Dr. Seibert's complete résumé could fill many pages. He was hired by the Dartmouth Medical School in 1965 as an instructor in medicine and the director of graduate medical education. He was familiar with the school having done a fellowship in hematology at Dartmouth-Hitchcock from 1961 to 1963. Dr. Seibert earned his M.D. at Albany Medical College in 1958 and completed his residency at Albany Medical Center in 1961. In 2004, he was the recipient of his alma mater's humanitarian award. Following that, he worked for a few years at the National Cancer Institute and then served as a commissioned officer in the US Public Health Service. From his earliest days at Dartmouth, he has helped to bring a more global orientation to the medical school and its students.

Dr. Seibert and his wife Anne moved to their Main Street home in Norwich in 1965. ■
GAP YEAR – continued from page 1

Ebben Whitehair

I don’t plan anything in advance. Just ask my Mom. I started out my gap year knowing that college immediately after high school wouldn’t work for me. I also knew that I had no idea what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. I hoped that by taking a gap year I could figure that out.

To give some background, I’d never been on a plane before this year. Take that as you will, but other than two roadtrips south with my family, I hadn’t seen much of the world. I knew that I wanted part of my gap year to involve traveling somewhere. But I needed money to travel, so I had to do some work as well.

I’d gotten my EMT certification a few months before school ended and realized I could use it to make some money to fund my travels. I got in touch with some friends who worked at a local ambulance service and secured a job as a per-diem EMT. It made me happy; I had spent time and money earning my EMT and now I had a chance to use it.

On my first shift, I was lost. Working in the real world was so much different than learning things in a class. In class, we just worked on simulated patients in fake situations. In real life, people’s lives depended on our actions. But I liked it! Never knowing what was going to happen next helped me get through every day and made me eager to come back. I started picking up more shifts, earned some money, and my hopes of being able to see the world became more of a reality.

Later in the year, my friend, Nils, and I decided to make a trip to Chile; my first real trip out of the country. Nils has extended family outside of Santiago, so we decided to start our trip there. We purchased some plane tickets and in mid-October we set off. We had two deadlines: we had to be in Santiago 24 hours after we took off in order to use a borrowed car, and had to meet another friend two weeks later over 1000 kilometers south. It was the first time I’d been far away from home, just a friend and me, with a whole country to explore. We travelled all over, speaking extremely broken Spanish and trying to spend as little money as possible. We ended up in places I never imagined, and admittedly made some mistakes. One time, we misread some directions and ended up on a dead-end road, literally ending in the ocean. The whole trip made me feel free; and I wouldn’t have changed anything.

Back in the states from my Chilean travels, I longed for more adventure. But once again I was short on money. Winter had arrived and I was back to my ambulance job, and I had also returned to ski patrolling. While most of my friends were off at school, I was working between seventy and eighty hours a week. Admittedly, it may have been too much for me. But, once again money was adding up, making more traveling feasible.

Once ski patrol was over, I looked at my travel choices again. I was looking for a few things, but the most important was a place to stay for free. After talking with some friends, I concocted a plan to visit a friend in Germany for a few days, head to Holland and stay with some family friends for close to a week, and then go to London and spend a week with yet another friend who was studying abroad. This trip felt different than South America. I was on my own, going from country to country on my own. If nothing else, I felt like I’d grown up and found some courage to get out into the world.

I learned that college isn’t the only answer after high school. At this point, it doesn’t look like I’m headed off to a four-year school next fall. I hope to continue to do what I’ve been doing: help people through my ambulance work, find myself through some travel, and grow up into the person I want to be.

Gabby Alexandrescu

Taking a gap year has, without a doubt, been the best decision I’ve made. I made the decision quite late, about three weeks before graduation. I wasn’t entirely sure of what I would do with my life or what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. I thought it would be very difficult to ‘stay behind’ while all of my close friends went to college. If anything, it gave me a whole new outlook on life and the sort of person I would like to become. Working made me grateful for the opportunity to go to college, and eager to set and achieve higher goals than I had ever previously imagined. Along with all of that, it was wonderful to spend that much time with my mom we became absolutely inseparable. More than the work experience, I am most thankful to have spent that time with her.

I learned a lot more than I ever imagined by working. The purpose was to give myself some real life experience, to see what life outside of high school is like, and what life without college would look like. I worked at my mom’s chocolate shop, My Brigadeiro, as a full-time manager. Being there was a positive experience. I thought it would be very difficult to ‘stay behind’ while all of my close friends went to college. If anything, it gave me a whole new outlook on life and the sort of person I would like to become. Working made me grateful for the opportunity to go to college, and eager to set and achieve higher goals than I had ever previously imagined. Along with all of that, it was wonderful to spend that much time with my mom we became absolutely inseparable. More than the work experience, I am most thankful to have spent that time with her.

As for the second half of my year, I knew I wanted to go abroad, but it took some time to decide on where and what kind of experience I wanted. I finally determined that what was most important to me was to give my time and energy to someone else while immersing myself into a culture far different from my own. With that, I decided to spend time in Nepal, working with several different childcare initiatives.
Every child made an impact on Gabby’s life, including at the Rainbow Children Home Nepal.

I discovered Nepal through an organization known as IVHQ which connects volunteers with local NGOs (non-governmental organizations) in countries looking for assistance. The thing that appealed to me the most about volunteer-based travel is that you are completely out of your element (culture, language, etc.), all while making a difference.

I spent my first two weeks in Nepal touring two different cities. The highlight by far was being able to ride and bathe an elephant, and getting an elephant trunk shower in return! After my initial travel, I was ready to start my volunteer work.

One of the best things about being in Nepal was being able to live with a host family. This truly allowed me to experience day-to-day life within the culture, rather than as an outsider. I lived a 20-minute walk from the tourist hub, in a suburb known as Masbar, entirely local with very few tourists venturing anywhere near. I really enjoyed this because it made me feel a part of the culture, and less like a tourist. After a while, I became very familiar with my neighbors and really felt like I was living there, not just staying for a period of time.

I have nothing but positive things to say about my host family: father, Dharma; his wife, Sandhi; and their two sons, Santosh (16) and Sabodh (13). The first thing that my host father said to me when I arrived will always stick with me: “Starting today, we are your second family and we will care for and love you as we do our own children. Welcome to your new home.” They were beyond kind to me. I can never thank them enough for all that they did for me.

I spent most of my time in a local orphanage known as Rainbow Children Home Nepal. The orphanage cares for 43 children and is run by a woman named Goma and her family who welcomed me with open arms each day. Although the orphanage itself is rather self-sufficient, it was still struggling. The children only had two sets of clothing: their school uniforms and one set they could wear when not in school. The living situation was not ideal. Eight children (ages 3-19) shared two sets of bunk beds per room. In other words, two children per twin bed!

Before I left for Nepal, I started a fundraiser through GoFundMe to help raise some money to donate to the orphanage. With the help of my friends and family, I was able to bring around $1000. One of my favorite days in Nepal was going with the orphanage owner to buy new school uniforms and bedding for all 43 of the children. I felt that the orphanage was the place that needed the most help, and the gratitude I received was indescribable.

In addition to the time I volunteered at the orphanage, I helped my host father who ran before-and-after-school tutoring sessions for the local village children. I also discovered and helped out at the Laboring Children’s School Project which focused on local children who cannot go to school because they, in fact, work to provide an income for their families.

I will never be able to fully describe my experience working with the children that I came across. Each one made an impact on my life and I can only hope that I did on theirs as well. The whole experience was nothing but a blessing. What was most amazing to me is that these kids, whose lives are more difficult than I could ever imagine, are some of the happiest people I’ve ever seen. All smiles all the time. They find happiness in nearly anything.

To round out my experience in Nepal, I was fortunate enough to join a trekking group and spend 20 days in the Himalayas. This gave me the opportunity to

Continued on page 12
to experience a whole other layer to Nepal, and a different kind of beauty that I had never seen before. Being able to see some of the tallest mountains in the world (Mount Everest especially) was one of the most special moments of my life.

Sarah Bibeau

I never intended on taking a gap year or gap. I wanted the typical college experience: get paired up with a roommate, decorate a dorm room, go on an orientation trip... When I got my acceptance letter to Colby College, there was a slight hitch. I had been accepted into their Global Entry Semester Program. Instead of driving up to Waterville, Maine, in the fall, I would be flying across the ocean to Dijon, France.

Summer quickly passed and then it was time to go. We reached the airport and I recognized one of the girls in my group. We said our awkward hellos and our parents introduced themselves. Soon it was time for us to say goodbye to our parents, and then it became real. I would be with these people for the next three-and-a-half months in a foreign country.

Our group of fourteen and our program director/professor, Jon Weiss, arrived in Dijon after a two-hour bus ride. That night we stayed in a hotel and ate pizza in Jon's apartment in the center of town while easing into getting to know each other. We made it back to the hotel and after almost twenty-four hours of traveling, it was finally time for bed. I just lay there thinking, “This is real, this is happening, this is my life.” I was excited and terrified at the same time.

The next couple of days consisted of getting settled and going through our orientation. After a couple of days, we finally moved in with our host families. Being an only child, I had asked Jon for host siblings, and he delivered. I had five host siblings under the age of fourteen. They were funny, cute, and kind and helped me feel more comfortable in my new home. My host mom, Éliette, and my host dad, François, were wonderful as well.

We began classes at the Université de Bourgogne. At first we were split into two groups for an intensive language course before we would start our normal classes. Although I was in a classroom for a couple hours every day, my proficiency in French was growing exponentially outside of the classroom. Sitting at the dinner table, eating at a restaurant, just walking around the city... everything helped. We met people everywhere who were interested in our ‘American-ness’ just as much as we were in learning their language.

For the next couple weeks, we stayed in Dijon and before we knew it, it was our ‘fall break.’ We had a week off from classes and many people’s parents came to visit, including mine. We traveled the whole week. We started in Dijon and drove to the border of France and Germany where we spent two days exploring Vieux Charmant and Colmar, cities of my great-great grandparents heritage. We then crossed into Germany and then continued on to Bern, Switzerland. We finished our exciting week in Paris. Having the opportunity to share with my parents what I had been experiencing for the past six weeks was a gift.

The day my parents left, I caught a flight to Scotland to visit one of my best friends at Saint Andrews University. After I landed in Edinburgh, I was lucky enough to find a Saint Andrew’s student heading back to school who helped me navigate the bus to the university. As we chatted, the student revealed that one of his dreams in life was to hike the Appalachian Trail, which happens to pass through one of the tallest mountains in the world.
through Norwich! Hearing this, I once again realized no matter how far you travel, the world really is quite small.

Classes resumed in Dijon for the next couple of weeks, and our group became even closer. The following weekend, my three closest friends and I hopped on a train to Switzerland. We were able to stay at a family friend’s house in the beautiful city of Lausanne. We walked around the city, I rode a horse, and two of my friends jumped in Lake Geneva. It was a perfect weekend.

After another week of classes, a large number of us planned a trip to Barcelona for All Saints Day long weekend. We got an AirBnB in the center of the old part of the city and made the most of our three days. After a beautiful, warm, relaxing weekend in Spain, we returned to Dijon where we once again dove back into our studies.

My last weeks in Dijon were incredible. The city had been decorated with lights and the Christmas markets were in full swing. For my last weekend in France, instead of traveling I stayed home and spent it with my family. I had no desire to add another country to my list; I was home, and it was perfect. The last five days flew by, and suddenly it was my last meal with my family, my last sleep in my bed. I said goodbye to each of my siblings, holding on as long as I could. I sat on my bed and burst into tears. I was excited to go home, but I was heartbroken to leave. The hurt made me realize what I had accomplished in only three-and-a-half months. I had become a part of a family. I fell in love with a city, a culture, and a language, and I had found a new home. If you had asked me what my goals were at the beginning of the trip, I would have said to become fluent in French, to travel as much as possible, and to make great friends. While I accomplished all of those, I gained more than I could have ever imagined. I will never forget my time in Dijon, and will be forever grateful for the opportunity I didn’t even know I wanted.
Callie’s Journey Home

Molly O’Hara

Meet Callie, a six-year-old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel who was rescued last October. We – my family and I – adopted her on October 20th and just passed the sixth-month mark. We have been so lucky to have Callie come into our lives. As my daughter said to me early on, “Mom, I feel like something just snapped into place when we got Callie; like our little family fits right, now.”

Callie came from a puppy mill. She had what I call ‘whoa’ eyes in her picture... major whoa eyes. We could see the whites of her eyes the whole way around. My wife felt a connection with Callie; she loved the puppy’s “wooly-bear eyebrows,” serious expression, and her beautiful coloring. I wish I had saved a copy of her rescue photo.

She was a breeding dog at this mill, so from the time she had her first heat until approximately seven weeks before we got her, she was either pregnant or having puppies. A puppy mill tends to be a large-scale breeding facility – although they can be smaller breeders – where female dogs churn out puppies for profit with little to no genuine care for the health and welfare of the dogs.

These dogs are left to live in kennels for their entire lives with minimal human contact. The females are bred every heat starting at 6-10 months, and their puppies are either sold locally, online, and at pet stores nationwide. There are a few things that can get a dog kicked out of the puppy mill: 1) Being too old to have puppies; 2) hitting age two without getting pregnant; and 3) not being sold as a puppy.

Those dogs, the ones deemed unfit for the mills, are either grabbed by rescues ahead of time or sold at breeder auctions where rescue organizations try to purchase as many dogs as they can possibly rehome. Lucky for us, Callie was one of those dogs grabbed ahead of the auction block by a Vermont rescue organization.

There can be unexpected differences between adopting a rescue dog and adopting what is sometimes referred to as a ‘puppy mill survivor.’ All rescues will have had different life experiences that will color their reaction to their adoptive families and new life. Usually however, rescue dogs in general are excited to meet their new people, their house, toys, and love. Puppy mill rescues tend to be very shut down when you first adopt them. They don’t understand the concept of love, playing, toys, or humans that touch them kindly.

It took Callie about two months to start reacting excitedly when our daughter arrived, about four months before she began really reacting to me, and recently until she started behaving like she is one of the family, sometimes. She still doesn’t understand what toys are for or how to play. We’ve introduced her to a few safe dogs, and my favorite, a Lab, scares her a bit because he’s too bouncy. She can’t figure out what he is doing when he is playing with us, with the cat, or trying to play with her. He’s learned to leave her alone.

Callie is a relatively happy dog now. She still has her oddities, but every dog does. She will always have the trauma of the puppy mill behind her, but every time she goes on a new adventure, every time she gets to cuddle up with our daughter, every time Callie gets a bone, she settles in a little bit more.

We work very hard to accommodate some of Callie’s issues that we know will never go away. For instance, we know that the only time she saw a groomer was when she was rescued. That groomer had to do several of the rescue dogs that day, so she had to work quickly, she shaved her down (likely due to mats in her fur from being stuck in a cage), clipped her nails very short, and the next day the rescue organization took Callie to be spayed.

Due to this experience, we are aware that Callie is scared of going to the groomers. There would be several other dogs there waiting and stressing, it is an unfamiliar place, and I wouldn’t be there with her. Instead, we chose to hire an in-home groomer. The groomer, Dirk who owns Fresh & Furry Pet Grooming, was fantastic. He spent about 15 minutes on the floor with her first, just talking to her and letting her sniff him, his equipment, and such.

When I put her on the table, she didn’t freak out or try to get away. She sat stoically, or stood, depending on what he needed, for a long time. I never left the room; he and I charted the whole time – either to each other or her – and she took it in stride for a while. Dirk recognized the signs when she started to get overwhelmed, and he stopped. While her grooming might not have been entirely finished, he did a fantastic job. I was impressed with my girl and with him.

I have made a concerted effort to socialize Callie as one would a puppy. She goes into the stores where she is allowed, and she meets new people all the time. Together we walk up to ‘scary’ things so she can sniff them. And we recently took an obedience class with Caron Bronstein at the S.A.V.E.S. Canine Club.

Callie still won’t let strangers reach for her to pet most of the time, even when she goes running up to greet them. They have to go for her sides, and sometimes I have to be petting her, too. But that is only true when it comes to adults. Kids are Callie’s one true love. She can be surrounded, in a way that might make another dog feel overwhelmed, and will be more comfortable than she is anywhere else.

We had thought about training Callie as a therapy dog. Now we know we have to. There is nothing she would love better than to show up in a place like the children’s cancer wing and bring smiles to the kids there.
LOOKING FORWARD AT NHS

As part of our strategic planning effort last fall, we surveyed Norwich residents to find out what you value most about the town. You told us you value the community’s ability to ground you; to give you a sense of place; and to provide roots for your children. Our work is all about sustaining this wonderful sense of place that we all cherish. We established several goals to provide direction for our work:

• **Build a firm foundation** by strengthening our core resources in finance, collections, and facilities.

• **Improve access to our collections and programs** by digitizing our collections and putting exhibitions online.

• **Create meaningful and engaging experiences** by continuing to bring Norwich’s history out to the community through walking tours, collaborative programs, and participatory workshops.

As we look ahead, we are grateful to Judy Brown, our gracious and capable Director for the past five years, who has retired from NHS. She not only kept us afloat, but moved us forward over her tenure. She has been a wonderful colleague and we are sad to see her go. We wish her all the best in her new adventures.

Sarah Rooker has taken the reins as Director. She brings over 20 years of experience connecting communities to their heritage through her work in museum administration and history education. As custodians of the town’s past, the Norwich Historical Society looks forward to expanding its educational and archiving mission under her leadership.

Norwich Historical Society meets its operations budget through memberships, annual gifts, grants, fundraising events and this town appropriation. Thank you for the many ways you support your community’s historical society and history. Please check out our web site or the list serve for the rich calendar of events offered in 2017.

HOUSE AND GARDEN TOUR 2017

This year’s tour explores a lesser-known aspect of the town’s history: the expansion of dwellings beyond the town center in the 1950’s and 1960’s. There was little new building in Norwich in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and as a result we have few examples of Victorian, Arts and Crafts, or Art Deco style buildings.

**Between 1954 and 1974 low-slung homes of the style now known as Mid-Century Modern popped up on the hillside behind Bloody Brook. Growing out of styles pioneered by Frank Lloyd Wright and the Bauhaus school, these homes featured the abundant windows and open interiors that were seen as promoting modern, post-war American life. This was not the first large-scale conversion of farmland to housing in Norwich nor was it to be the last, but it is distinctive for the infusion of modernism into an otherwise traditional setting.**

Visitors may want to start at a modern aerie and Japanese garden in the Hawk Pine neighborhood (itself designed by Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired architect Robert Carl Williams) then proceed to two Mid-Century Modern dwellings, one designed by Allan Gelbin, an apprentice to Frank Lloyd Wright who lived in town in the 1970s.

Are you looking for that perfect antique for your home? This wonderful show and sale attracts some of the region’s finest dealers, showcasing fine country to formal antiques on the beautiful grounds of the Norwich Historical Society. As in the past, Bill Smith of William A. Smith Auctioneers & Appraisals has generously donated his tent for the show, and will offer an informal appraisal session in the barn. Come find out about your family treasure!
hands-on stenciling workshop

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Hands-on stenciling workshop

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See full list at www.norwichhistory.org

Last names in bold indicate individuals who are members of Norwich Historical Society.

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Jim and Becky Eakin
Jonathan and Corinne Fenton
Peter and Carol French
Carol Ann Frost and Clarke Cogsdill
Lene Gary and Peter Ciardelli
John and Catherine Girard
Tom and Linda Gray
Laurie and Jerry Halpern
Josie and Fran Hanlon
Kelley Hersey and Fred Faudie
Ann and Dean Seibert
Susan Voake
Suzanne and Graham Wallis
Jo Anne Withington

Individual ($25)
Susanne Abetti
Debra Birkenbaum
Edgar and Christine Bothe
Darden Carr
Peter H. Carter
Daniel Collison
Yvonne Cook
Courtney Dobyns
Margaret Galbraith
Anne Garrigue
Marion H. Gauthier
Norah Geraghty
Shirley Griggs
Barbara Hazen
Jean Kinney
Margaret Kuhns
Alice B. Lacey
John Lamperti
Heidi Lang
Glynis Price Leon
Reese Madden
Rosemary Mandelbaum
Virginia McClery
Carol Noblit
Margo Nutt
Robert G. Parker
Blanche Perkins
Tom Southworth
Jane L. Straight
Steven Wang
Chris Weinmann
Betty F. White

Senior ($15)
Terri and Chipher Ashley
Barbara R. Barnes
Judeen Barwood
William A. and Cyndy Bittinger
Elizabeth Blum
Inge Brown
Diane Miller Campbell
Edwin and Joyce Childs
Roger and Helen Hutchinson
Ralph and Cathy Hybels
Dana and Jerry Ireland
Tom Johnson and Jeannie Scheinin
Steve and Rita Lajoie
Jean and John Lawe
Amy and Craig Layne
Suzanne Leiter
Gary Lenhart and Louise Harlin
Reese Madden
Erin and Jonathan Marotti
John and Joanne McCormick
Judy and Norman Miller
John Moody
Martha Nelson
Carolyn and Alfred Purcell, Jr.
Sharon and Robert Racusin
Peter and Elizabeth Robbie
Beth Ryan and Jenny O’Flaherty
Barry and Sylvia Scherr
Peter and Anne Silberfarb
Andrew Stewart and Shyla Nelson Stewart
Jeremy Stonier and Jennifer MacCullough
Jonathan Streeter and Elizabeth McKinstry

GIFTS IN HONOR OF
Chad Finer
Signe Taylor and Joel Stettenheim
Mary Hill, my mother
Polly Forciere

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF
Connor Cook
Anne L. Cook
Jarrett H. (“Nik”) Folley, Jr.
Gillian F. White
Penny Folley Miller
Doris Foster
Michael Foster
Robert Ladd
Rose L. Bender
Glenn and Lena Merrill
Barbara J. Merrill
Garfield Miller
Dianne Miller

The Historical Society is grateful to our sponsors who underwrite our programs and events.

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Muscoota Savings Bank
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Stetson Family

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Chippers
Clean Yield Asset Management
Design Source + home
Four Seasons Sotheby’s International Realty
Kildeer farm

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Morano Gelato
Norwich Bookstore
Norwich Square Properties

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Shepard Butler Landscape Architects
Solarfect Energy
Village Green Publishing

The jail and hearse provide a spooky backdrop for Halloween
**VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

This year we honored Gail Spencer Torkelson and Liz Julian Tuggle. Gail and Liz own Spencer Julian Antiques and bring their expertise to NHS every September for the Norwich Antiques Show, which they founded and have hosted and coordinated for 12 years. They recruit the dealers, organize publicity, arrange for the tent and feed the dealers, all while hosting their own booth. Over the years, this has become an important component of the Society’s fundraising and proceeds directly support our education and preservation work. We are grateful to the many volunteers who help at NHS with everything from hosting the House & Garden tour to working with schoolchildren.

---

**House & Garden Tour 2016**

Thank you to our generous Norwich homeowners for offering their beautiful homes and gardens for last year’s *Art of the Garden tour*:

Lisa Cashdan and Peter Stein
Janet and Steve Flanders
Susan and Dick Haedrich
Bill McLaughry
Jane and Bill Stetson

Special thanks to the painters of Odanaksis who brought their art to the gardens.

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**Norwich Historical Society**

**Condensed Balance Sheets:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>9/30/16</th>
<th>9/30/15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Equivalent</td>
<td>$48,357.76</td>
<td>$39,245.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>$562,433.47</td>
<td>$583,589.47</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restricted Gifts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$610,791.23</strong></td>
<td><strong>$622,832.42</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Liabilities & Equity** |             |             |
| Current Liabilities | $2,777.54 | $5,410.06  |
| Retained Earnings | $540,904.93 | $545,667.49 |
| Unrestricted Retained Earnings | $72,354.87 | $83,562.39 |
| Restricted Funds | $7,872.68 |             |
| **Net Income** | $(12,618.79) | $(11,807.52)  |
| **Total Liabilities & Equity** | **$610,791.23** | **$622,832.42** |

**Condensed Profit & Loss Statement for Years ending:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>9/30/16</th>
<th>9/30/15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Campaign</td>
<td>$19,341.97</td>
<td>$13,193.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>$11,330.00</td>
<td>$10,430.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Donors</td>
<td>$6,700.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Town Appropriation</td>
<td>$8,000.00</td>
<td>$4,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Events</td>
<td>$13,232.00</td>
<td>$18,980.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$10,804.95</td>
<td>$16,641.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$69,408.92</strong></td>
<td><strong>$63,245.04</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Expenses**   |             |             |
| Office Operations | $42,410.58 | $39,143.58 |
| Grounds and Maintenance | $7,994.78 | $11,095.86 |
| Depreciation | $21,156.00 | $20,893.00 |
| Other | $10,466.35 | $7,233.12  |
| **Total Expenses** | **$82,027.71** | **$78,365.56** |

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Charles Taylor, branch manager of Mascoma Savings Bank’s Norwich office, is nearing his fifth anniversary of working with Mascoma, and obviously loves his job. “It’s a wonderful place to work,” says Taylor.

Taylor worked in the banking industry for over twenty years, including several years with Citizens Bank. Working for Mascoma Savings offers Taylor not only a great banking career, but also the opportunity of involvement in many aspects of the Upper Valley community. “[Mascoma Savings] has a huge presence in community giving, and helping local charities,” he says.

The bank also encourages employees to volunteer with projects in the communities it serves. In Norwich, Taylor is involved with the Norwich Business Council, and takes part with the annual community breakfast held during The 19 Days of Norwich which benefits The Haven. As many know, Mascoma also sponsors community barbecues throughout the summer, with the Norwich branch barbecue coming up on June 23.

Moving to Mascoma Savings five years ago offered Taylor more responsibilities, and the opportunity to work with a significantly larger deposit base, he says. In addition, he likes the idea of working with an institution that features local leadership. In fact, Mascoma’s current president and CEO, Clay Adams, is a Norwich resident.

With a staff of three tellers and four personal bankers, the Norwich branch also oversees the operation of Mascoma’s satellite branch in South Strafford, VT. Taylor finds that Mascoma Savings offers a very supportive culture for employees. “We are very engaged... to help each other,” says Taylor of his staff. Staying current with technology is a critical factor in banking. Mascoma is, and will remain, a leader in technology for serving their customers, he adds.

~ Frank Orlowski

Mundy Wilson Piper, Chippers

The name Chippers came from the very first brush chipper, towed behind a tractor, to jobs around Woodstock in 1986. Founder Will Russell liked the upbeat sound of the word. Over the years the name and the ‘chipper’ attitude have served the company well. “My philosophy is that if we have people on our team who love the work we do and feel happy in their jobs, they’ll make our clients happy,” says owner and general manager Mundy Wilson Piper. Taking care of her personal family and her Chippers family is paramount, says Mundy emphatically.

She’s had thorough experience of the benefits of nurturing workers and clients. She joined the company in 2000, and four years later she and Will married. The company was growing and adding services, often by buying a related business and adding the personnel to the Chippers family. The business grew from its origins as a land care company to provide services in arboriculture, landscaping, turf and soil care, garden design and maintenance, forest management, and a maple sugaring operation. “When the recession hit in 2008, the first thing that happened, of course, was that Will and I stopped paying ourselves,” says Mundy. Other workers in the company agreed to pay-cuts and alternating furloughs. “We had spread the gain of success before the recession, and our people banded together to spread the pain also.”

In 2010, a more serious disaster struck: Will was diagnosed with a brain tumor, and in seven weeks he was gone. Mundy was out of the office from the time of his diagnosis till after his death, but, she says proudly, the people at Chippers kept the company running smoothly. “We are stronger and better because of what we went through as a team, and I’m really proud of all that we have accomplished in the intervening years. We’ve nurtured a really positive culture where everyone’s contributions are valued.” At a recent all-company training, they devised a new safety mantra ‘I Will’ which honors their late founder. (www.thisoldyard.net)

The company recruits according to their core values and holds on to good people – the average length of service is now over 10 years. “We’ve created a team with skill sets in balance. Everyone loves what we do, and shares our vision,” says Mundy. “We’ve even created jobs for people we know are a good fit for our culture.”

THE FRUITS OF TIME

Heirloom Apples, Then & Now
July 26-Oct. 15, 11:00 am-5:00 pm, Wed.-Sun.
Photographs, illustrations and compelling historical narratives tell the story of heirloom apples and show how to restore old trees.

Justin Morrill State Historic Site—a National Historic Landmark
214 Morrill Memorial Highway, Strafford, VT
www.morrillhomestead.org

The Friends of the Morrill Homestead Present
GALLERY IN THE GARDEN
Friday, June 30, 2017
4:00 pm—“Art of the Morrill Homestead”
Tours by Vermont Division for Historic Preservation
5:00 pm—Reception & Opening for “The Land & People” Art Exhibit
Music by Sam Moffatt – hammered dulcimer
Works by artists from Strafford & the Upper Valley
June 30–July 16, Wed–Sun, 11:00 am-5:00 pm
6:00 pm—Silent Auction of “Minis for Morrill”
Exquisite 4x4-inch paintings by regional & national artists

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The Norwich Times Summer 2017 Page 19
A pig roast, dunk tank, silent auction, live music, the ‘meadow muffin’ contest, kids’ amusement rides and, well, lots more, are on the agenda for this year’s Norwich Fair, set for the green in front of the Marion Cross School from Thursday, July 20 to Sunday, July 23.

The annual event, run by the Norwich Lions Club, will again include a pie baking contest and (most likely) bingo. Volunteers are needed to help the Lions Club before and during the fair. If you are interested in helping (even a little!), please contact Warren Thayer at 649-3737 or Rob or Laurie Sabatelle at 649-9080. And if you would like to know more about the Lions, or are interested in joining, the club meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:15pm downstairs at the Norwich Library.

This year’s event kicks off on Thursday, when a $20 bracelet is good for all rides for the entire night. There will be live music by Jamie O’Keefe, the Boy Scouts’ food concessions will open, and the dunk tank will see its first ‘victims.’ The concessions and the dunk tank will be open throughout the fair.

On Friday night, the annual pig roast begins at 5pm and bidding gets underway at the silent auction. There will be live music by either Tucks Rock Dojo or Socially Awkward.

On Saturday, there will be a parade, pony rides, pie contest, live music (again Tucks Rock Dojo or Socially Awkward), and fireworks once it gets dark enough, probably around 9pm.

And there will be more live music on Sunday, with one of the day’s highlights being the Meadow Muffin contest on the green. You can buy a $20 ‘deed’ for a square at the contest from any Lion starting now and up until the event. If a heifer does its business on the square that you ‘own’ on the green, your deed will be worth serious money.

The silent auction ends this day, so you’ll want to make one last visit before bidding closes. And grab a burger or a dog from the Boy Scouts while you’re there!

— Warren Thayer
Norwich Fair Parade

Thanks to the generous support of Norwich residents, the long-awaited return of The Norwich Fair Parade will happen again this year!

Originally, the parade – like the fair – was a homecoming for anyone and everyone who grew up in Norwich. When the addition was built on the Marion Cross School, the septic system prevented the large heavy rides from being placed on top of the system on the school green, and the fair was moved to the Route 5 site for many years. Things worked okay at that location, but it wasn’t the same.

In the meantime, Olde Home Day was established in September and a parade was part of that celebration. However, with both the fair and Olde Home Day in the same season, Norwich couldn’t support both, so Olde Home day didn’t last long.

The Norwich Fair has since returned to the green – it is smaller, with fewer rides, fewer games, and is much more oriented toward young families. It isn’t the homecoming draw for former Norwich residents that it once was, but hopefully the return of the parade will strengthen the role the fair plays in the community.

Back in its heyday, the parade boasted many, many floats, politicians, teams of oxen, horses, clowns, jugglers – you name it. It was large and successful... about an hour long and the kids lined the streets eager to catch the candy that was thrown out.

Here we are in 2017, ready to give it another shot. Rarely do towns have the opportunity to revive traditions that have been lost. In this case, we were given a second chance, thanks to the generosity of many residents.

Let’s make sure we keep this tradition, the fair itself, the Norwich Pageant, and other traditions that make Norwich special going strong. Please get involved in the parade – enter a float, support and attend. We can make it better than ever, but only with your help.

Thank you for keeping it local!

~ Dan Fraser
Peter Rutledge, Norwich Wines and Spirits

I’m sure I am not alone by saying that I really enjoy a good glass of wine from time to time, but am a bit intimidated by the vast array of wines available in the marketplace. Should I stick with American, or are European wines my best bet? Which variety of grape would be most to my liking? When faced with so many options, it might make the most sense to ask the advice of a professional who is knowledgeable of wines and of the industry.

Enter Peter Rutledge, owner of Norwich Wines and Spirits. For over 20 years, Rutledge has operated this gem of a store in the Burton House on Elm Street. Those who come to the store to buy their wine are able to take advantage of Rutledge’s vast experience regarding wines, and which wines will most likely suit that customer’s taste.

A 1988 graduate of Dartmouth College, Rutledge worked as a bartender, and later assistant manager at the Simon Pearce Restaurant after graduation. While working there, Rutledge says his restaurant manager was passionate about wine, and passed that passion on to him.

After leaving the Upper Valley, Rutledge moved to the San Francisco/Sonoma area of California, and worked in various facets of the wine industry, including helping to plant, and care for vineyards.

In the mid 1990’s, Rutledge returned to the Upper Valley, and soon after bought the store in Norwich which is now home to his retail operation. Upon taking ownership of Norwich Wine and Spirits, Rutledge expanded the store’s wine selection, establishing the reputation of the store as a place to find great wines and great advice about buying wines.

So how does Rutledge choose wines for his store, and how does he advise his customers when selecting wine? “It’s based on taste,” says Rutledge. He says that wine reps regularly bring new wines for his consideration. “Every week, I see a handful of new wines,” Rutledge says. When considering new wines, Rutledge says he will taste the wine, judge it, then determine into what price range the wine should fall; if his appraisal matches the price of the wine, it is a candidate for his selection. With seven different wine distributors offering various wines in Vermont, Rutledge says wine drinkers in the state have access to a great selection of offerings.

Wine customers also have a wide range of prices when searching for a wine selection. For those on a budget, Rutledge says his store offers a nice group of wines priced under $10.

Are wines from a certain geographic area better than others? “So many parts of the world produce good wines,” Rutledge says, adding that those same areas can also produce poorer quality wines. Rutledge says often, “People generalize too quickly,” regarding wines. For instance, if one finds a wine from a region they like, or dislike, they should not automatically assume that all wines from that same area will be similar.

Though one may think an entrepreneur in the wine business would travel extensively, Rutledge says this is not the case. Running the store is a full time commitment, though other interests occupy his time, too. “I’m avid about sailing and vintage cars,” says Rutledge, adding that spending time with his wife, Charlotte, and their new daughter, Sophie, is the most important aspect of his life.

Contact Norwich Wines and Spirits at 802-649-1970, or by email at norwichwines@aol.com.

~ Frank Orlowski

Jeff Wilmot Painting

Summer is the time when homeowners turn their attention to taking care of the home, particularly the outside projects. Landscaping, masonry, roofing, and exterior painting are projects that come to the forefront in summer.

Exterior painting is particularly weather dependent, with dry, warm conditions optimal for effective exterior painting.

One Upper Valley painting company with a long history of caring for area homes is Jeff Wilmot Painting & Wallpapering. Jeff Wilmot has owned and operated his firm for over 30 years.

Wilmot has spent his life working in the construction trades, starting with working for his father, who was a builder in Connecticut. Later, he worked with a painting contractor there, developing his skills in interior and exterior painting.

Contact Jeff Wilmot Painting & Wallpapering at 802-254-3412, or by email at info@jeffwilmotpainting.com.

~ Frank Orlowski

SUMMER Program Registration Now Open!

www.uvmusic.org . info@uvmusic.org . 603.448.1642 . 63 Hanover St. Lebanon, NH

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PLUS returning favorites for children, adults, beginners and advanced players!
painting. Deciding it was time to start his own business, Wilmot moved to the Upper Valley in the mid 1980’s, and opened his painting firm.

Not surprisingly, Wilmot works on many older and historic homes. Many considerations come into play when working on old homes. When considering painting these homes, Wilmot says homeowners are concerned with retaining the historic value of the home. Dealing with lead paint removal is another consideration with older homes. State certification is required for those working with lead paint removal from an older home.

Historic buildings Wilmot’s firm has painted are scattered throughout the Upper Valley. Locally, Norwich residents may know Wilmot handled the painting of the Norwich Historical Society’s building on Main Street.

Weather, of course, provides many challenges for Upper Valley painters. For exterior jobs, “We don’t have a long season,” says Wilmot. Mid- to late-April is the earliest the exterior painting season begins, with late October usually the end.

Exterior painting is not the extent of Wilmot’s business. He also does interior painting, floor refinishing, and wallpapering. As those of us who have attempted wallpapering know, this is a challenging task, with knowledge and experience being crucial in success. Wilmot has considerable experience in wallpapering, including handling the wallpapering job at the Lake Morey resort several years back.

Wilmot employs eight full-time people in his business, all of whom have worked anywhere from 5 to 30 years for him. Though he does take on commercial projects, Wilmot says most of his work is with residential homeowners.

It is fun to hear from those involved in a life-long occupation, if they had chosen another career, what would that be? As is true with many, Wilmot’s answer is simple; “I don’t think I would want to do anything else.”

Contact Jeff Wilmot Painting & Wallpapering at 802-763-2055.
How Teaching Behavior is Like Teaching Math

While the idea of being sent to the principal probably scares most MCS children (and their parents), the truth is that when Mr. Bill meets with a student in his office to discuss problematic behavior, he focuses on teaching – not punishing – the student.

“At one point in educational history,” says Mr. Bill, “if a kid made a mistake in math, someone would have come by with ruler and hit his hand and said, ‘How could you make that mistake?’ I think we are still there a little bit with behavior. There is certainly a need for consequences, but sometimes natural consequences – people don’t want to play with you as much, you hurt yourself because you are not playing in a safe way – are the most powerful.

“We’ve learned that in teaching math, some people pick up ideas quickly and some take more time to master them, but in both cases people can learn math really well,” says Mr. Bill, who believes the same philosophy applies to teaching students about behavior.

“It would be naïve to think that kids come into school having mastered behavior,” says Mr. Bill. “The expectation used to be that students would know exactly what to do in circumstances that they’ve never encountered before.” While it might be easier for some kids, for some you have to take time and come back to it over and over again. “When you do that, the child internalizes the appropriate behavior, rather than just trying to avoid getting in trouble.

“If two kids are having a problem with each other, I could swoop in and solve it, just like I could solve the problem for a child who is having a hard time figuring out how to add 4 plus 6. But what would the child learn? Kids learn with guidance from adults to take care of problems by themselves.”

The first step, says Mr. Bill, is for the student to acknowledge there is a problem and recognize that he or she is responsible. That often comes with an apology of some sort, verbal or written. “The next step I take with a student is figuring out ways to do it differently, so he or she doesn’t end up in the same uncomfortable situation.

If a child does have repeat occurrences, Mr. Bill will likely ask for help shoveling the basketball court, picking up garbage around school, organizing the lost and found, or reading to a younger student. The work is intended not as a punishment, but rather as an opportunity to enrich the child’s emotional development. Mr. Bill talks to the student about how he or she felt during the incident that brought him or her to his office, and then again after the two have finished their community contribution.

“I want them to know that we can all use our energy and time in a way that is helpful to our community, rather than creating situations that make other people and ourselves feel worse.”

SCHOOL DAYS

How Teaching Behavior is Like Teaching Math

What Happens When Your Child is Sent to the Principal’s Office (and the Principal is Mr. Bill)

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“We’ve learned that in teaching math, some people pick up ideas quickly and some take more time to master them, but in both cases people can learn math really well,” says Mr. Bill, who believes the same philosophy applies to teaching students about behavior.

“It would be naïve to think that kids come into school having mastered behavior,” says Mr. Bill. “The expectation used to be that students would know exactly what to do in circumstances that they’ve never encountered before.” While it might be easier for some kids, for some you have to take time and come back to it over and over again. “When you do that, the child internalizes the appropriate behavior, rather than just trying to avoid getting in trouble.

“If two kids are having a problem with each other, I could swoop in and solve it, just like I could solve the problem for a child who is having a hard time figuring out how to add 4 plus 6. But what would the child learn? Kids learn with guidance from adults to take care of problems by themselves.”

The first step, says Mr. Bill, is for the student to acknowledge there is a problem and recognize that he or she is responsible. That often comes with an apology of some sort, verbal or written. “The next step I take with a student is figuring out ways to do it differently, so he or she doesn’t end up in the same uncomfortable situation.

If a child does have repeat occurrences, Mr. Bill will likely ask for help shoveling the basketball court, picking up garbage around school, organizing the lost and found, or reading to a younger student. The work is intended not as a punishment, but rather as an opportunity to enrich the child’s emotional development. Mr. Bill talks to the student about how he or she felt during the incident that brought him or her to his office, and then again after the two have finished their community contribution.

“I want them to know that we can all use our energy and time in a way that is helpful to our community, rather than creating situations that make other people and ourselves feel worse.”
When was the last time you tasted a wine that was completely unlike anything you had ever tried before? I don’t mean just a slightly different version of the same grape you usually enjoy, but something that really makes you do a double-take, looking at the glass, furrowing your brow, and finally smiling about your new discovery. Although not everyone enjoys such an experience, I find it just as exciting as a new dish that combines flavors in a way that is unfamiliar and delicious.

There are a few ways to go about this. One is to go to a restaurant that serves truly authentic ethnic food with regional wines to match. Look at the wine list and see if there’s a grape variety or type of wine you’ve never heard of, and ask for a little advice from the owner or manager. Rather than exploring a menu of new flavors with another bottle of Chardonnay or wine you know well, try something completely new. Extra points are earned in this game if you can’t pronounce the wine without a quick language lesson!

This same approach can be used in a good wine store. Ideally, someone there can help you with your search, but if shelves are organized by grape or country, see if there is a section labeled ‘other’ or a region of the world that has never even occurred to you as a wine region. Just like traveling to a different place, you will likely get to enjoy something entirely new that will make you wonder why you have been sticking with the same types of wine for years. I hope you enjoy the exploration as much as I do!
aren’t attending the school because it’s the only team that’s near you.”

When he was looking at colleges, Brendan chose Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina. The surrounding area is known as one of the best locations for riding in the country because of its great weather, bicycle-friendly culture, and its proximity to incredible mountain roads. Furman University is known for its collegiate cycling team. In addition, the Holowesko-Citadel Racing Team being based in Greenville makes it an ideal location for Brendan to pursue his studies as well as his racing career.

He ultimately signed a contract with Holowesko-Citadel, which is considered a semi-professional racing team. The team is focused on road bicycle racing and was developed by former professional racing cyclist George Hincapie. According to their website, the focus of the Holowesko-Citadel team is to develop young riders into top professional cyclists, and to continue the growth of the sport by supporting cycling’s next generation.

Now a junior at Furman, Brendan took the spring semester off from school to race. While the collegiate races are regional, Brendan’s time with the Holowesko-Citadel team takes him from coast to coast and abroad. He plans to add on an extra year at Furman so that he can finish college while also being able to fully commit himself to cycling during race season.

During the early season in February and March, Brendan attended a training camp with his Holowesko-Citadel teammates. The team gathered from all over the country and focused on putting in slower and longer rides, together as a group. After the initial training camp, the riders measure their rides on a week-to-week basis in hours, not miles. Brendan spends 15-25 hours a week of training on the bike. He spends his other training time working on stability and core exercises in the weight room, which adds up to about 30 hours of training per week. Brendan says, “When I’m on my own, it’s more independent, but when I’m with the team, the structure is to have the riders do as little as possible and just focus on the ride. My bike is taken care of by a mechanic, water bottles ready, food laid out, I get a massage. It’s kind of like a vacation when I go for a race! I get taken care of. It’s a bit of a shock to the system when you go home and have to make your own food!”

Brendan says being on tour and traveling around with his teammates is ultimately a lot of fun. “It’s always better to be at races, even if you’re getting your butt kicked, because you get to be doing all the good stuff, too.” The racing season runs from March until September and there’s typically a race every weekend. The team has a roster of 12 cyclists, but sometimes the race can only take 6 or 8 riders. Some weekends, Brendan is at home resting or training, and some weekends he’s out on tour and then someone else cycles into the roster. The team travels across the United States, as well as to Europe for races.

Although Brendan enjoys being on the road and having a break from school to train and race, he’s also invested in finishing school at the same time as his peers. He is a health science major, and wants to study to become a chiropractor, though he may put grad school on hold for a
year after his finishes his studies at Furman. Brendan only has three semesters left to finish his degree. “I have a life outside of cycling. I’m trying to get as much school done as quickly as possible,” he says.

At age 21, Brendan is the youngest rider on his team right now. He says his good results this year are a reflection of taking the time to train and prepare for the season, and focus exclusively on cycling. He wants to work his way from the third tier of professional cycling into the second tier and then into the first, but that progression depends on how well he’s riding and how much he can focus on his sport. Brendan’s goal is to be on a top-tier team in the next four years. “Whether I spend the next three years on this same team, or move up to a tier 2 team – either one is possible,” Brendan says. “It’s been a bit of a wild ride. I had a serious injury two summers ago and that held me back a little bit, but I’m fully recovered now.”

Looking at the season ahead, Brendan and his teammates are headed to races from Oregon to Philadelphia, Canada to Tennessee. In June, they will take on the USA Pro Championships Road Race. Wherever Brendan winds up, one thing is for certain—he’s going to get there fast.
When does the past begin? Throughout Vermont, churches with their tall spires, rustic inns, and homes from the 18th and 19th centuries are revered and protected. But how old does a structure have to be to warrant a place in history? Fifty years? Twenty-five years?

The Norwich Historic Preservation Commission decided to answer this question by conducting a ‘windshield survey’ in 2015. This study, aided by a grant from the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, included a photo and a brief description of every structure in the village to document its architectural details, regardless of age.

The final report, written by historic preservationist Lyssa Papazian, recommended that the mid-century modern (MCM) homes up the hill from Blood Brook be considered for listing as a National Register District. If the district is approved, the collection of 15 homes, built between 1954 and 1974, would be officially recognized as an historic neighborhood, an acknowledgement that a half century ago something very special happened there.

According to the report, the Norwich Mid-Century Modern District is “one of the best concentrated collections of these styles (of homes) in Vermont.” Frank Lloyd Wright and Walter Gropius, the creators of the MCM design approach, greatly influenced the architects who created this Norwich neighborhood. Edgar and Margaret Hunter, both graduates of the Harvard School of Design, along with W. Brooke Fleck and his partner Edward C. Lewis, and Allan Gelbin, a Frank Lloyd Wright Taliesin Fellow, designed the majority of the ‘modern’ Norwich homes.

The mid-century modern structures flipped the idea of a home and let form follow function. The new homes were set into hillsides creating a structure that Frank Lloyd Wright felt “would be a companion to the horizon.” The roofs were flat or had a low pitch. Transitions from the interior to the exterior seemed seamless. In one home, large, flat stones were used on the path to the front door and continued right on into the interior entry. High windows were installed to allow for fuller views of the natural world. Living areas were open and spacious and according to architect Gelbin, “full of light, cheerful, and a delight to be inside.” The main entrance into several homes was from the second floor. Bedrooms were often on the lower levels. Fireplaces were created with local stones and brick. Shingles or clapboards were used to cover the exterior and sometimes plywood was installed in wide
panels between windows. From the outside, these homes emerged “from the tops of hills like a ship’s prow or an eagle’s aeries (and) make a strong statement through contrast.”

How strange these cutting-edge structures must have seemed among the quiet, traditional homes in Norwich. The upright clapboard capes with small rooms, shuttered windows, and steeply pitched roofs reflected a time when most citizens relied on agriculture to make a living and a home was a retreat from the land. With their flat roofs, expansive fenestration and open spaces, the mid-century modern homes seemed to grow naturally out of the landscape, proclaiming their rejection of the past. Rather than separating the new American family from the environment, they invited their owners to kick back on the patio with a Miles Davis LP on the hi-fi and a sleek Edsel in the carport. These homes were clearly built for a new kind of American family.

It would be interesting to read the reactions of long-time residents to this modern architecture that was plunked down in Norwich. However startling they may have seemed sixty years ago, today the mid-century modern homes nestle into the hillside above the town as naturally and unobtrusively as the architects first imagined them. The homes were not lavish, but they were original and organic. “This is not a field in which one can make a comfortable living,” observed Edgar Hunter in 1953, “yet it is the field that affords the deepest satisfaction.”

To explore two of the mid-century modern homes and several other homes, please attend the NHS Home and Garden Tour on June 24th.

Also, take in the mid-century modern exhibit at the Norwich Historical Society, which explores the architectural history of the movement in its broad and local context. The exhibit opens June 16 and runs through October.
MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Annabelle Starosta
Hickory Ridge Road

Where in Norwich do you spend the most time?
Probably at my house or Dan and Whits.
Where would you prefer to spend the most time?
Traveling to different countries
Describe Norwich in a word or short phrase.
Serene
To which local business are you most loyal and why?
Dan and Whits, hands down. They’ve never actually not had something I’ve needed, and I think that the outpour of support from the community earlier this year after what happened just goes to show how important the business and people affiliated with it are to the town of Norwich.
Which super powers would you choose and what good would you do with them?
I would speak every language, so I could travel and see the world and be able to communicate with every person that crosses my path.
If you could go anywhere in the world on vacation, where would it be?
Italy
Which local institution do you believe has the most positive impact on the Norwich community?
The Norwich rec department
In which stage of life would you prefer to spend the most time and why?
College. We learn responsibility, but aren’t thrown out to the real world just yet.
What are you most excited about in life right now?
Forrest Gump
What was your favorite grade in school, and why?
8th grade, because I started to get confident with myself around girls.
Where in Norwich do you spend the most time?
At my home, at my friend’s house, and playing volleyball at the Marion Cross gym...
Who is your local hero?
Gered Dunne and Jeff Hluchyj, I have to name both because I don’t want them to get jealous of the other.
Name one thing you’d want to add to Norwich.
Spanish classes in addition to French at the Marion. The more languages our kids can learn the better.
What do you wish there was more of in the world?
Those that take the time to volunteer.

Alberto Rodriquez
Beaver Meadow Road

Where in Norwich do you spend the most time?
Where would you prefer to spend the most time?
No specific place in particular...
Describe Norwich in a word or short phrase.
Beautiful and friendly place for a family
Do you see the forest or the trees?
Trees
To which local business are you most loyal and why?
Norwich Square Café. There’s good quality in all their products. I like to consume local.
Which super powers would you choose, and what good would you do with them?
Invisibility. I would like to help without people seeing me.
If you could go anywhere in the world on vacation, where would it be?
Iceland
In which stage of life would you prefer to spend the most time, and why?
Childhood, I would like to get the chance to enjoy my parents more.
What are you most excited about in life right now?
To see my kids grow up
What was your favorite grade in school and why?
8th grade, because I started to get confident with myself around girls.
Who is your local hero?
Cindy Pierce as my teacher! Talk about enthusiasm and energy. We still hoot about the funny moments and fun activities!
Name one thing you’d want to add to Norwich.
Nothing, I love Norwich just the way it is.
What do you wish there was more of in the world?
Those that take the time to volunteer.

Leah McLaughry
Bragg Hill

Where in Norwich do you spend the most time?
Probably my house, although I do love a quick walk or run around Lot 5.
Where would you prefer to spend the most time?
Our family cabin on Reservoir Pond
Describe Norwich in a word or short phrase.
“Do small things with great love.”
Do you see the forest or the trees?
Both! I don’t like to constrain my attention. Life is about balancing the big picture with the details.
To which local business are you the most loyal and why?
Interstate Tires is the best! Locally owned and operated since 1942 with excellent customer service!
Which super powers would you choose, and what good would you do with them?
The power to time travel and to heal others. Imagine living at Machu Picchu, or being in the crowd at Woodstock, or seeing your future self. I’d also love to heal those suffering from illness and pain.
What is your favorite quote?
“Do small things with great love.”
If you could go anywhere in the world on vacation, where would it be?
Swiss Alps... skiing and good chocolate! Need I say more?
Which local institution do you believe has the most positive impact on the Norwich community?
Marion Cross School hands down. I was a student there and loved every minute! With Mr. Bill at the helm and with all the incredible teachers and faculty there, it truly is a magical place for students to learn and grow! We are very lucky!
In which stage of life would you prefer to spend the most time, and why?
I’d love to be a kid again! Who wouldn’t?
What are you most excited about in life right now?
Still coming off the high of watching the Patriots win Superbowl LI (in person!).
What was your favorite grade in school, and why?
First grade with the one and only Cindy Pierce as my teacher! Talk about enthusiasm and energy. We still hoot about the funny moments and fun activities!
What do you wish there was more of in the world?
Kindness and compassion
Who is your local hero?
Those that take the time to volunteer.
Montshire Museum of Science
Norwich, VT • montshire.org • 802-649-2200

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The need in our community is great.

Join us in making a difference for more than 14,000 people each year in the Upper Valley who are facing poverty and homelessness.

Food Shelf  Adult, Family & Seasonal Shelters  Education Service Coordination  Children's Program  Volunteer Services

713 Hartford Avenue • White River Junction, VT 05001
(802) 295-6500 • uppervalleyhaven.org

Upper Valley Haven
LOCAL MARKET POINTS

• Upper Valley workforce housing inventory is lowest in years.
• The mid-range marketplace (defined as $350K-$750K) continues to show strong numbers, with buyers facing heavy competition. Reduced inventory plays a key role in this demand.
• $1 million + market is extremely price sensitive due to significant consumer choice (high inventory).
• First time buyers are trending towards newer, efficient homes near town centers.
• With inventory low and competition high, price is still king in almost all local marketplaces.

The first third of 2017 started out with a healthy real estate climate. Consumer confidence is up and the stock market has surged in recent months, while unemployment figures continue to drop. Diminishing affordability due to anticipated additional mortgage rate increases from the Federal Reserve has created a sense of urgency. Buyers are out in the marketplace and are committing quickly. All signs point towards continued momentum in the months to come.

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Market Watch
Winter-Spring 2017

SMOKEHOUSE SUNDAYS
Starts at 11 a.m.

Join us every Sunday at our Hanover store for a large selection of freshly smoked meats and savory side dishes.

Menu at coopfoodstore.coop/smokehousesundays

HANOVER STORE ONLY
45 South Park Street, Hanover