

INSIDE THE KINGDOM

October 26, 2016

the Chronicle

Section B — 20 Pages

North Country Union High School

Students take science classroom to South Africa

by Elizabeth Trail

Lions have a reputation, but hippos kill more people in Africa than big cats do. At least that's what their tour guide told a group of North Country Union High School (NCUHS) students on the second day of their wildlife conservation tour of South Africa and Swaziland. The important thing is not to get between a hippo and the water, he said.

A few hours later, some the students were sitting out late in front of their bungalow at a riverside camp when they heard animal noises.

Zack Lisner pointed his thermal camera into the night and took a shot.

Though the photo didn't turn out very well, it was definitely a hippo, making its way back to the water in the dark.

There was no fence between the hippo and the North Country teens.

The hippo was thin and had probably left the river in search of food.

"It's been a bad year for hippos because of the drought," Avery Ellis said in a recent interview about the trip.

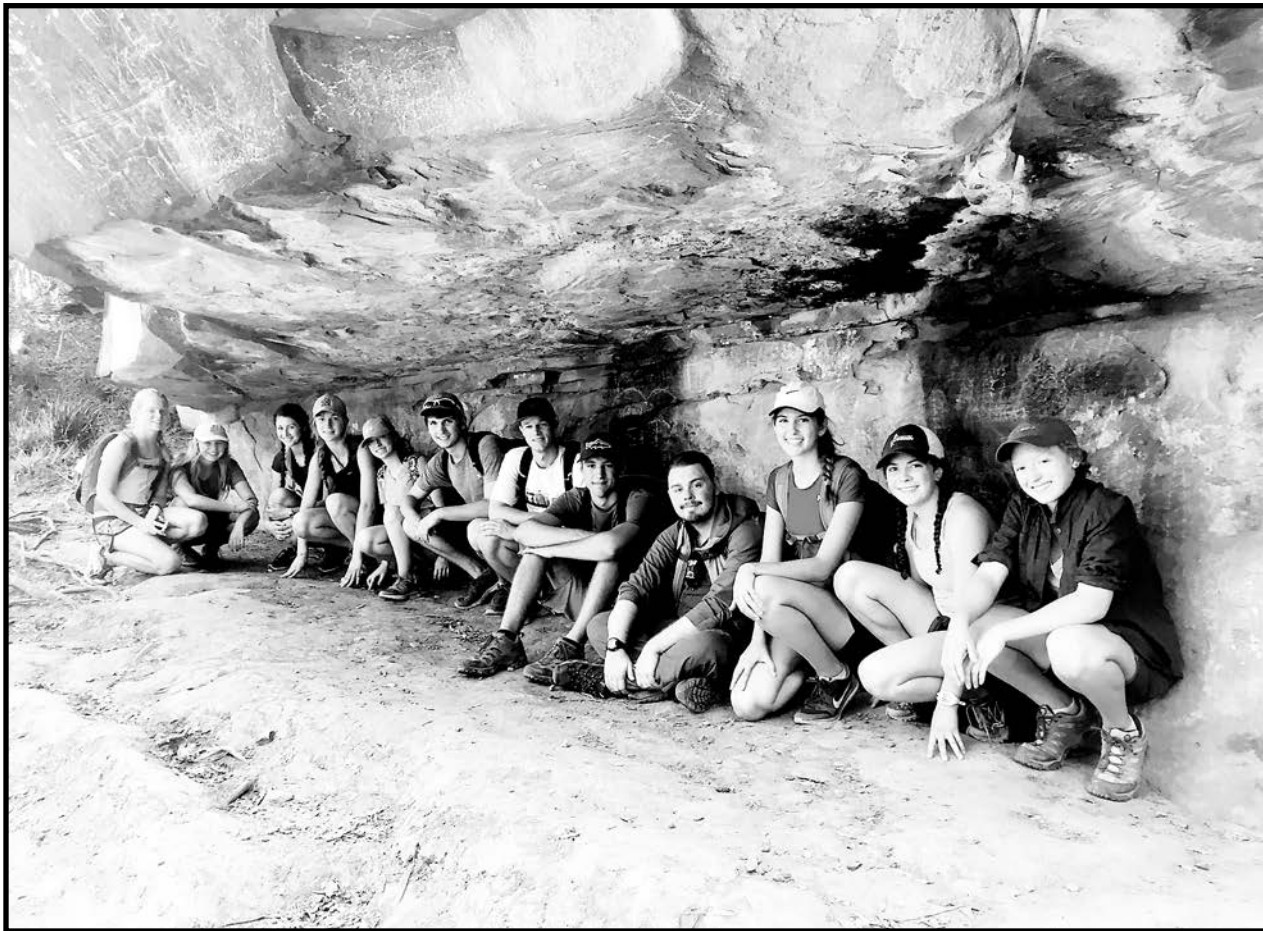
The 16-day wildlife conservation trip was the brainchild of Elaine Lockwood and her husband, the late Gerry Hunt. The couple had traveled in South Africa themselves, and was eager to have North Country students experience not just the wildlife, but also other cultures.

Students competed for slots on the trip via an essay contest.

The organizers had intended to take nine students along, but they received so many good essays that they ended up choosing 12.

The students were Callie Young, Lucca Abele, Alyssa Hilliker, Brooke Gentry, Avery Ellis, Liam Bailey-Rowe, Zach Lisner, Emma Stuart, Camden Fort, Laura Masi, Loren Searles, and Ben Myrick.

Everyone pitched in to earn as much of the



North Country Union High School students shelter under a boulder in the Drakensberg Mountains after a hike during their trip to South Africa and Swaziland. From left to right are Callie Young, Emma Stuart, Lucca Abele, Loren Searles, Laura Masi, Ben Myrick, Camden Fort, Liam Bailey-Rowe, Zack Lisner, Alyssa Hilliker, Avery Ellis, and Brook Gentry. Photo by Chris Shaffer

money for the trip as they could. The rest of the tab was picked up by the families on a sliding scale with help from a nonprofit that Ms. Lockwood set up, Vermont Students to Africa.

An Africa trip was a bit of a hard sell to parents and officials, said Chris Shaffer, the NCUHS science teacher who was one of the chaperones. There were a lot of fears and misinformation to overcome, he said.

But in the end, a dozen North Country students headed to Africa prepared to camp for the better part of two weeks. Half the group also packed their running shoes to keep in shape for Saturday's Northern Vermont Athletic Conference cross-country league meet, held less than two weeks after their return.

Unused to the African heat — described by one of the Vermont runners as over 100 degrees, but by Mr. Shaffer as merely 90 — the student track stars even ran in a circle in the swimming pool at one of the camps, much to the delight of some African children, who played in the whirlpool that formed in the center of the pool.

But the runners' diligence was rewarded with a second for the girls team and a third for the boys at Saturday's meet.

The hippo encounter was just one of many experiences with wildlife that the North Country teens had on their trip.

The students jumped up eagerly for the 4:30 a.m. game drives, because that's when animals come out to feed.

On the early morning trips through Kruger National Park, they saw elephants, giraffes, all sorts of antelopes, and even a rare wild dog.

And on bush walks — escorted by well-trained and armed park rangers — they ran into lions and a troupe of baboons. The lions' roars were so loud the air vibrated, they said.

"I wasn't afraid," Callie said. "I knew the rangers really knew what they were doing."

All of the animal encounters ended peaceably — even the one where Ben Myrick picked up his pants in the morning and a three-inch scorpion fell out.

After he got over the surprise, Ben caught the scorpion and turned it loose well away from the tents.

"We weren't supposed to harm any wildlife," he said.

Scorpions aren't as dangerous as most people think, he added. A sting can kill the very old or very young. But Anthony Washford, the South African tour guide, has been stung many times with no permanent harm.

The worst episode made Mr. Washford sick for three days, unable to sleep because of the pain.

"This was just a small one, so it probably wouldn't have been that bad," Ben said. "But I wouldn't have wanted to miss any of the trip."

The students, all juniors and seniors, spent the months before their adventure doing independent research. The assignment was to compare a wildlife conservation problem in Vermont to a similar problem in South Africa.

For example, Callie looked at the effect of agriculture on wildlife in both places. Ben studied conservation of birds of prey here and there, and Lucca compared poaching elephants to poaching deer.

Most of the trip was designed around the students' projects.

The itinerary included camping in several national parks, hiking in the Drakensberg Mountains, visiting a cheetah conservation center and a bird of prey sanctuary, and talking to rangers at an anti-poaching training camp.

(Continued on page 6B.)



Callie Young at a place called God's Window in the Blyde River Canyon Nature Reserve in the Drakensberg escarpment in South Africa. The area provides long-range views across the low veld.

Photo by Laura Masi

Ruminations

If you want your kids to cook, buy a cookbook

by Tena Starr

When I was a kid my mother gave me a cookbook. I still have it, or its tattered remains. Keep in mind, it's been a long time since I was in third grade. Its front cover is gone, along with a few of its pages, and the rest are stained, yellowed, and torn.

I'm not a hoarder, or collector. In fact, the more stuff I can get rid of, the better. It's a lot easier to have a house that at least looks relatively clean and tidy if you don't have much to clutter it up. So now and then, when I find the time, I get rid of things. Recycling, trash, burning — however, as long as things go away. But I'm attached to books and have too many, including that half-century-old cookbook for children.

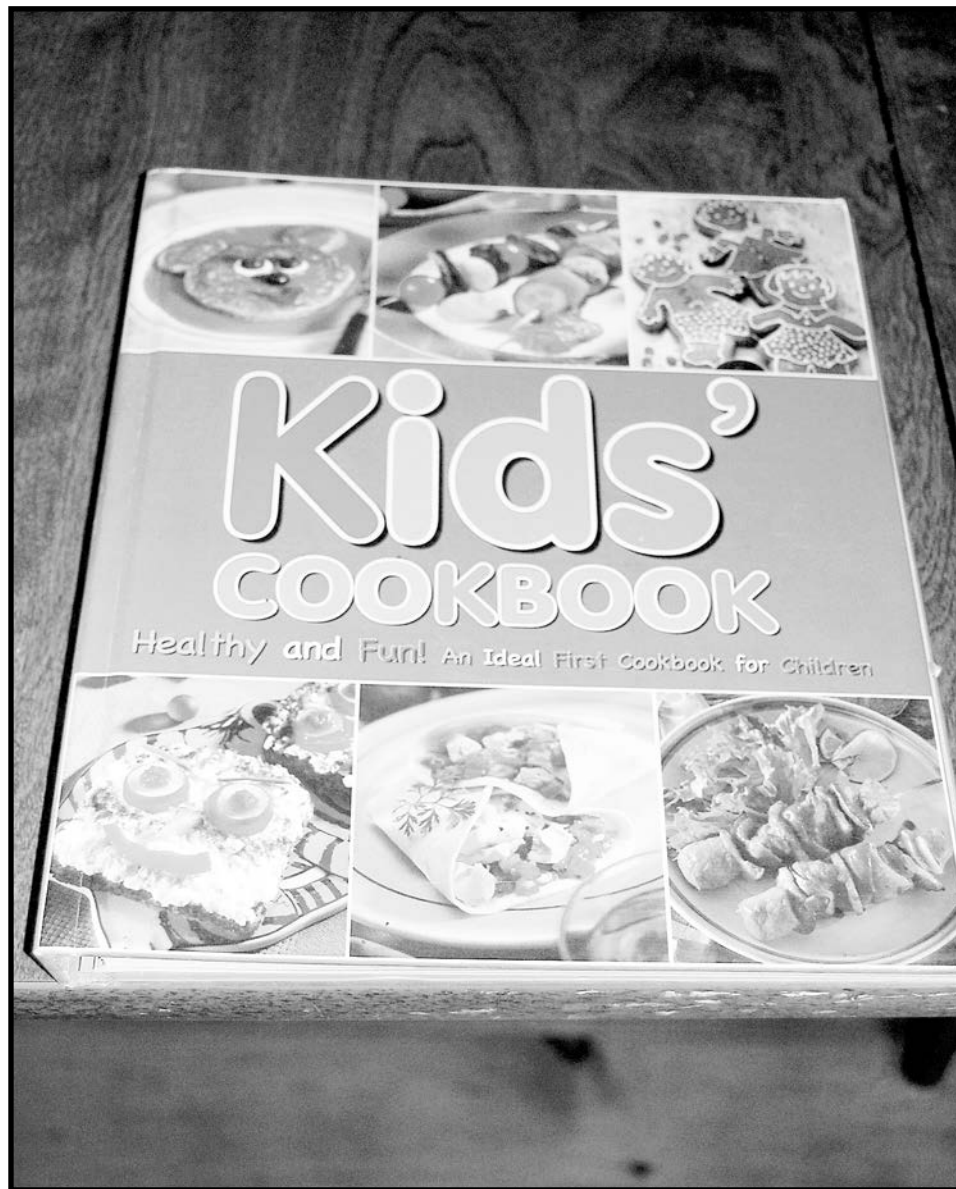
You might think Mom bought me a cookbook because I was a girl, and girls were/are supposed to learn to cook. And maybe she did, but when my son was little she bought him one, too. And he used it. He's been an enthusiastic and creative cook.

I have a lot of cookbooks, mostly ethnic ones, or cookbooks with vegetarian recipes, or claim to include simple, fast, healthy meals. I hardly ever use them. Well, that's not true. I use them for ideas. Anyone who's been largely responsible for making a family's meals well knows those go-blank days when you can't think of a thing to make for dinner that you haven't made about 2,000 times already.

I often use the Internet for actual recipes. Since I have a garden and try to largely buy local meat, I'm less looking at a recipe and going out to buy the ingredients, more looking at what's in the freezer, or outside, and what I can do with what I have.

I was thinking, though, that the way I use cookbooks is a good way for children to use them so they get interested in food and cooking. I recall pouring over my cookbook, practically drooling over some of the recipes for, say, Kookie Kat Sundaes, opera fudge, or that gorgeous cake that looked like a castle. It had upside down ice cream cones for towers, slabs of chocolate for windows and a drawbridge. Tiny pillow mints were the ramparts, and blue frosting was the moat.

One section in that old book says: Be an artist — design your own cookie shapes. And it shows cookie



Cookbooks geared toward children can inspire kids to get into the kitchen.

Photo by Tena Starr

cutter cookies — a horse, a butterfly, a bird, with colored icing painted on them. I do remember making those, although they were disappointing, not because of the recipe, but because I have zero artistic talent. There's a recipe for brownie slowpokes, which are frosted chocolate cookies with pecans and made to look like brown turtles. Not, of course, that you'd have to dress up a cookie to get a kid to eat it.

In the end, since we didn't keep on hand many of the ingredients needed for the fancy desserts — pillow mints, pecans, slabs of chocolate — I made more practical things, like muffins, pigs in blankets, and radish roses.

The point is, looking at the cookbook was inspiring. It made me want to cook. Those enticing photos made even radishes fun food. Next to the photo of radish roses is a plate of vegetable creatures made of upright carrot curls as bodies,

topped with cherry tomatoes or black olives as heads with a necklace of parsley, held together with a toothpick and tethered in a bed of cottage cheese. It's a totally fun and creative way for a child to put together a vegetable dish.

My son's cookbook, issued decades later, uses similar methods to get children interested in cooking, or at least putting together food. It opens with a full-page photo of milkshakes. But these milkshakes are made with peanut butter and bananas. I noticed that the page called "pancake pals," which has a photo of little pancakes with blueberries and strawberries on them to make a face, is noticeably well used, a little warped from something spilled, and it has flour stains.

If you want your kids to grow up to be cooks, buy them a cookbook

Here's a couple of recipes that might interest them, and you.

Smiley sandwiches

"These are like paintings that you can eat and you can make them

different every time. The faces can be decorated with any ingredients you have in the kitchen."

6 tbsp. cottage cheese
2 slices of bread
alfalfa sprouts
paprika
slices of radishes
slices of bell pepper
slices of cucumber

Spread the cottage cheese on the bread. Sprinkle alfalfa sprouts at the top of the slice for hair and dust a little paprika across the center for red cheeks. For the eyes, use two slices of radish with a dot of salsa in the center. For eyebrows, use two strips of cucumber, and for the nose, use a little triangle of cucumber, and for the mouth a slice of pepper.

Below is a good seasonal recipe. The last time I made pumpkin soup in a pumpkin, I scraped too much flesh out of the bottom, set the whole thing directly on an oven rack, and the bottom fell out. Believe me, you don't want that much pumpkin soup on the bottom of your oven. So if you want to heat or reheat the soup in the pumpkin, which is a cool way to serve it, place the pumpkin in a baking pan or sheet.

Halloween pumpkin soup

Ingredients

1 big pumpkin (about 3 pounds)
2 Tbsp. olive oil
1 big onion, chopped
2 garlic cloves, minced
2 tsp. cumin
2 tsp. paprika
1 Tbsp. coriander
2 1/4 cups vegetable broth
2 cups milk
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. black pepper

Hollow out the pumpkin. Cut a big hole in the top and then scrape out the seeds and the flesh. Heat the oil in a saucepan and add the onion and garlic. Cook on low heat for ten minutes, or until the onion is soft. Add the spices and stir for two or three minutes before adding the rest of the ingredients, including the pumpkin flesh. Simmer for 30 minutes.

Let the mixture cool for about 20 minutes, then pour it into the blender and whiz it up until it's really smooth. Pour the soup back into the saucepan and heat it up. To make this even better, you can pour it back into the hollowed out pumpkin and stick it back in the oven for reheating and serving.



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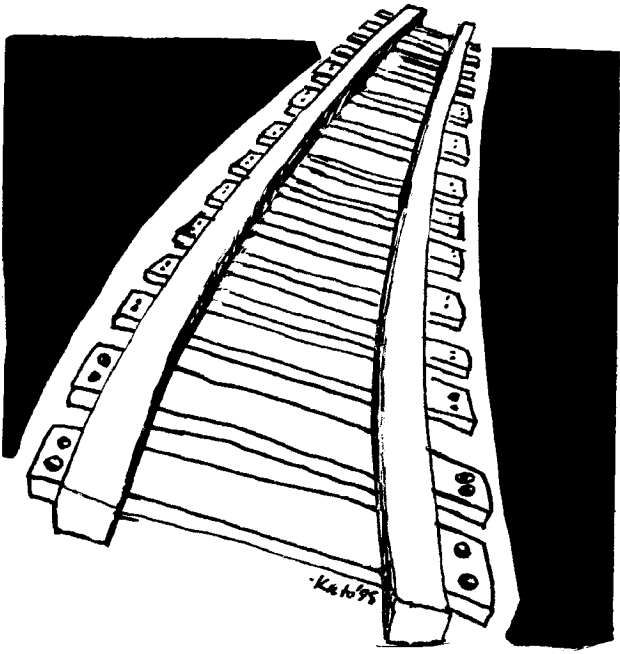
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5	1	3	8	6	4	9	2	7
6	9	8	1	7	2	3	4	5
1	7	5	2	8	3	4	9	6
9	6	4	7	5	1	2	8	3
8	3	2	4	9	6	7	5	1
7	8	6	9	2	5	1	3	4
4	5	9	3	1	7	8	6	2
3	2	1	6	4	8	5	7	9

No fair cheating



Yours from the Perimeter

by Paul Lefebvre

Twice, the trail back from camp had deceived me. Each time I had expected to see the chain that stretches across the trail and separates it from the road where I park my truck, always nose first and heading out of the woods. But twice there had been no chain and no truck. Just trees and raspberry bushes bowed by the weight of the snow that had fallen overnight.

In fact, the first time it happened I blamed my confusion on the snow. A snow-covered woods had left me feeling disoriented before: mistaking the second knoll for the last, and expecting to see camp from the crest. But the second time wasn't as easy to dismiss. If it wasn't the snow, then what?

To my surprise, the answer came very quickly. I wanted to be off the trail and in the truck so I wouldn't have to stop and take a break, so I could have that small satisfaction of knowing I could still carry a chainsaw from the camp to the truck without stopping to rest.

These days, for whatever reason, aging is becoming more and more like taking a test. And like most tests that measure who we are, or what is important, this one never seems to end. I picked up the saw, stepped over the chain in one determined motion, and walked up to the truck while rummaging through my mind for clues on why I was making such a challenge out of the morning.

The challenges had started early, true enough. It was just after three when a series of dull thumping sounds outside the house had woken me up. The longer I listened, the more it sounded like a shutter caught in the wind. Except there are no shutters on my house. When the dog started barking, I turned on the light, got

out of bed, and went downstairs in the dark, except for the focused beam of a headlight. I stuck my head outside the kitchen door and couldn't believe my eyes: Thick, wet snow covered everything.

Upon hearing the noise again, I put on my boots and stepped outside. Soon I realized the sound was being caused by clumps of snow coming off the metal roof and hitting the ground with the noise of someone beating a rug with a stick. I went back to bed, and the dog soon followed.

In the morning I noticed the wind had blown the branches nearly bare on the poplar trees behind the woodshed. Their yellow leaves were strewn across the lawn, and from the driveway I could see where the wind had scattered branches down the road. I measured the snow on the deck's railing: five inches. By the time I left the house, the snow had changed into a light rain, turning the road by Center Pond bare and slick.

A tree across the road down East Hill, caused me to turn around and take another road to East Burke, where the impact of the storm had been much lighter. Still, people inside the general store were talking about the snow, and there were fewer than the usual crowd of cyclists milling around in the parking lot. I felt a wet wind in my face when I stopped on the return trip home and bought a dozen eggs out of a roadside cooler.

By the time I got back on the Center Pond Road, there was light breaking through in the southern sky, and the rain was intermittent. It didn't last. The clouds closed in, shutting out the sun, and when I passed my neighbor from up the hill going by in his pickup, he appeared as if he were trying to convey something to me. I didn't get it and he didn't stop.

I was a bend-in-the-road away from my driveway and thinking about what I was going to have for breakfast when a blow-down stopped my forward progress. Since my departure, the wind had toppled a decaying spruce tree that was just large and unwieldy enough to prevent me from taking it by one end and swinging it out of the road.

I considered my predicament. I was only a short walk away from home, but my chainsaw was in camp, a long ways off. I shut the truck off and started walking. Inside the woodshed I found the bucksaw that I usually take on a camping trip, and returned to the truck carrying it in one hand and a limbing ax in the other.

After clearing the limbs away with the ax, I waited a few minutes in the forlorn hope someone might come by in a truck with a chainsaw. But

no one came, so I began sawing, stopping and starting over with a curse on my breath whenever the saw blade became bound in the tree. Finally it was done. I swung each half of the tree onto the respective shoulders of the road and drove home, feeling proud and happy. I still had what it takes to get out of a jam on my own.

At the house I read the paper and fixed a large Sunday breakfast of eggs, corned beef hash, home fries, and toast, and washed it all down with a bottle of cold beer. Outside the wind and rain continued, until it seemed highly unlikely the Fireman would still be coming into camp to work on the bridge.

Never mind, I told myself, you should go anyway and bring your chainsaw home, where it belongs. Besides, the first snow of the season usually fills me with a desire to drive through the woods on slick dirt roads. An opportunity to see how much life is left in last year's snow tires, and check out the high and low range of my four-wheel drive.

As I suspected, there were no tracks on the lower road into camp, and the gate on the upper road was still locked. The snow was thick enough to cling to my boots, as I fumbled to open the padlock. I drove all the way up the hill, past the chained trailhead and beyond the entrance of an old hunting camp long gone to seed, where I turned around. I checked for any signs of game before shifting into low range four-wheel drive and creeping back down the hill, feathering the brake pedal.

The camp was cold, and I only stayed long enough to pull the saw out from under the bunk bed. Back on the trail, I was pleased with how the day had been going, until I began taking stock of how well I had done, carrying the chainsaw out of camp. As I was waiting for the truck to warm up, I went back over the number of stops I had made and recalled the time when I had humped a full, 20-pound gas cylinder into camp on my back, stopping only once at the bridge just below camp.

I knew that today's performance didn't measure up, but at least two years had passed since that day. Besides, I could have waited another day for the Fireman or Fast Eddy to come by on a four-wheeler and take the saw back to the truck when they left. But that would have been cheating.

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Obituaries

James Sherman Masson

 James Sherman Masson died peacefully among family on October 17, 2016, at North Country Hospital in Newport.

Mr. Masson was born February 9, 1921, in McAdam, New Brunswick. He was the son of Lula (Phillips) and George Masson and husband of the late Elizabeth (Betty or Lizzie) Filby. He graduated from McAdam Composite High School in 1938. At the time, he was too young to join the Air Force so he completed a machinist course in Moncton, New Brunswick. At age 19, he joined the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). He served as a sergeant in charge of the Boomers and Gunners Armaments Division. He met Betty while stationed at Mossbank, Saskatchewan, and they were married on New Year's Eve, 1943, at the United Church in Ochre River, Manitoba. They enjoyed 71 years of married life together.

After World War II, they settled in McAdam, and raised three children: Marlene, Lawrence, and Robert. He was employed by the Canadian Pacific Railway Supplies Division which stocked and

distributed supplies for trains and buildings. He began his career in McAdam, transferred to Sherbrooke, Quebec, when train transportation declined, and consequently to Newport; the town where he settled after retirement with his family.

Mr. Masson was very active in his community and enjoyed sports. In McAdam, he served as a deacon at the Rockland Drive United Baptist church, superintendent of Sunday school programs, member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Grand Master Ashlar Masonic Lodge, and on the school and hospital boards. As president, he was awarded a lifetime membership to the Border Curling Club in Beebe, Quebec. Mr. Masson was the team skip for many years, leading them to victory on numerous occasions. Additionally, he bowled regularly in leagues at Ayres's Cliff, Quebec and Newport, well into his ninetieth year.

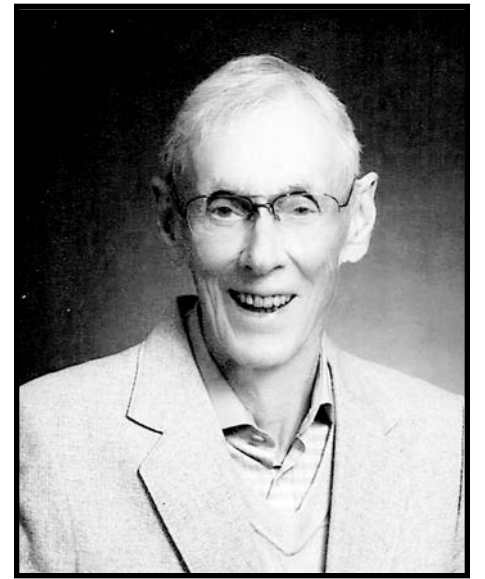
He was a member of the Newport Community Circle, Forever Young Club, Newport Baptist Church, and several bowling leagues. His interests included carpentry, woodworking, gardening,

hunting, fishing, card games and his family. He loved to dance and was a great dancer, the envy of many.

His brother George Alfred Masson (1919 — 1993) of Stoney Lake, Ontario, predeceased him. Often Mr. Masson was his brother's guide in the New Brunswick woods during deer hunting season.

He leaves behind three children: Marlene Dalley and her husband, Angus, of Ottawa, Ontario, Lawrence Masson, of Toronto, Ontario, and Robert "Bob," and his wife, Betty Ann Yetter, of Newport. He was the proud grandfather of five grandchildren from Newport, and Ottawa: Robert Masson Jr. and his wife, Arla, Andrew Dalley and his wife, Cecilia, Jennifer Masson and her husband, Rick Morin, Michael Dalley and his wife, Alana, and Darlene Masson and her husband, Patrick Haugwitz; and 12 great-grandchildren: Hunter and Kaitlyn Masson, Maeve and Lydia Dalley, Christopher, Riley and Gabriel Morin, Baron, Stuart, and Mira Dalley, and Alex and Sophie Haugwitz.

Funeral services were held on October 22 at the East Main Street



Baptist Church in Newport, with the Reverend David Lisner officiating. Interment will take place in McAdam at a later date. In lieu of flowers, should friends desire, contributions in his memory may be made to the East Main Street Baptist Church, 306 East Main Street, Newport, Vermont 05855, or to the Forever Young Club, 222 Main Street, Newport, Vermont 05855.

Online condolences can be made at Curtis-Britch.com.

Death notice

Thank you, St. Jude, for recent prayers answered. P.T.

Robert "Bob" Nadeau Jr.

Robert "Bob" Nadeau Jr., 60, of Coventry, beloved husband of Shirley (Blanchard) Nadeau, died at the University of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington on Saturday, October 22, 2016.

Visiting hours will be held on Friday, October 28, at the Curtis-Britch-Converse-Rushford

Funeral Home located at 4670 Darling Hill Road in Newport, from 6 to 8 p.m.

A Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, October 29, at 11 a.m., at St. Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Newport.

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Obituaries

Anita E. Fournier

Anita E. Fournier, 86, a former longtime resident of Windsor, died Sunday morning, October 16, at The Residence at Shelburne Bay in Shelburne surrounded by her family.

She was born May 29, 1930 in Chicopee, Massachusetts, the daughter of Archie and Dezilda (Roulleau) Turgeon.

She received her schooling in Newport Center. She married Germain "Jim" Fournier at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Newport on August 21, 1950. They moved to Windsor in 1952. Mrs. Fournier was employed at the former W.T. Grant's and later at Rich's Department Store, both in West Lebanon, for 19 years until her retirement in 1991. She also worked with her husband operating his store, Jim's Paint and Wallpaper, in Windsor for many years until his retirement in 1993.

They owned a "little piece of heaven" on Crystal Lake in Enfield, New Hampshire, where they lived year-round for many years, then seasonally. There they spent countless summers enjoying their time with their children and grandchildren, which meant the world to Mr. and Mrs. Fournier.

Following their retirement, they moved to Vero Beach, Florida, and later to Rochester Hills, Michigan.

Mrs. Fournier was a former member of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Windsor.

Her loving husband of 62 years died on October 15, 2012. She was also predeceased by one son, Ronald Fournier; by her parents; and by four brothers and one sister.

Survivors include two daughters: Patricia Sottile and her husband, Frank, and Debra Quintana and her husband, Michael; one sister, Lorraine

Choquette; four brothers: Norman Turgeon, Roger Turgeon, Roland Turgeon, and Gerald Turgeon; five grandchildren: Michael "MJ" Quintana, Peter Sottile, Emily Quintana-John and her husband, Eric, Stephanie Sottile Harris and her husband, David, and Melanie Sottile; and three great-grandchildren: Eleanor John, and Adam and Oliver Sottile.

A Mass was celebrated on October 22 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Windsor by the Reverend Charles R. Danielson, followed by committal services for both Mr. and Mrs. Fournier at the St. Francis Cemetery. Condolences may be expressed to Mrs. Fournier's family in an online guestbook at www.knightfuneralhomes.com.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Anita E. Fournier to the VNA of Chittenden and Grand Isle County, Hospice



Program, 1110 Prim Road, Colchester, Vermont 05446, or online at www.vnacares.org/donating-to-vna/make-an-online-donation/.

Lionel Sicotte

Lionel Sicotte, 82, of Derby died on Friday, October 14, 2016.

He was born in Ste. Hyacinthe, Quebec, on June 22, 1934. He was the son of the late Auguste and Florina (Tetreault) Sicotte.

He moved to Westfield in 1940, where he worked and operated a dairy farm along with family members. The farm was sold in 1958 and he moved to Newport.

One of his great passions was playing the violin along with his sister Jeannine on the piano and his brother Johnny on the drum.

He attended Newport Center High School and graduated from Champlain College with an associate's degree in business.

Upon graduation he moved to South Burlington. There he worked

for many years selling real estate for the Allen Agency in Burlington. In 1985 he, along with his brother Johnny Sicotte, bought the Pierre Motel in Barre. The motel was sold in 2000 and he moved to Derby and worked at the Newport Country Club for several years.

He was a devoted brother and uncle to his family, nieces, and nephews, and a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Newport.

Mr. Sicotte is survived by his sister Jeannine Sicotte of Derby Line; his nephews: Richard Sicotte and his wife, Linda, of Rocky Hill, Connecticut, Raymond Sicotte of Colchester, Reynold Sicotte and his wife, Francine, of Newport, Marc Sicotte and his wife, Gail, of Lowell, and Sylvain "Fred" Sicotte and his

wife, Sandi, of Colchester; and by several great-nieces and -nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents; his sister Suzanne Sicotte; his brother Johnny Sicotte; his brothers and sisters-in-law, Guy and Marie Jeanne Sicotte, and Albert and Helene Sicotte.

Should friends desire, contributions can be made in his memory to Mater Dei Parish Renovation Fund, 191 Clermont Terrace, Newport, Vermont 05855.

Funeral services were held on October 22 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, followed by burial at St. Ignatius Cemetery in Lowell.

Online condolences can be made at curtis-britch.com.



Darlene Joy Sweeney

Darlene Joy Sweeney, 65, of Craftsbury, died at her home in Craftsbury with her loving family by her side after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

She was the daughter of the late Martha Ouellette. She was born December 15, 1950, in Windsor and was adopted by Ethel and Dean Wheeler of Newport, where she lived during her adolescent years. Later in life she was joyfully reunited with her birth mother and three siblings: Jay Shattuck, Paul Shattuck and Pam Frasier.

Ms. Sweeney had a love of cooking and she shared this with many through her career as a cook, working over the years at Sterling College, the Craftsbury Outdoor Center, and Windridge Tennis Camp. Her memory will live on in

those who were lucky enough to have tasted her bread. Ms. Sweeney also had a great passion for sewing. Whether it was making quilts for family members or friends, or mending clothing for her grandchildren, her love of the art and for those she was sewing for was evident. Although these were wonderful skills, her true gift was that of kindness. She was often heard saying, "I might not forget but I will always forgive." She not only lived this philosophy but also encouraged others to practice it as well. Ms. Sweeney was an incredibly brave and resilient woman who not only endured cancer but found a way to do this with keeping her sense of humor intact, which is not an easy task. When facing the grim prognosis of

unbeatable cancer she said, "I don't want any tears of sadness," and she worked her hardest to ensure this for herself and for her family members whom she loved with all her heart.

Ms. Sweeney leaves her husband of 38 years, Rodney Sweeney, of Craftsbury; her sons Torin Hammond of Fayetteville, North Carolina, and Seth Sweeney and his wife, Mindy, of Craftsbury; daughter Fawn Lanphere and her husband, Brent, of North Hyde Park; and her four grandchildren: Hunter Hammond, Ethan Griggs, Sakoya Sweeney, and Sage Sweeney. Countless other family and friends will mourn her passing.

The family would like to express a special thanks to Rachel Macneal for her time and devotion in helping



Ms. Sweeney to live out her dying wish by spending her final days at home.

A celebration of life will be held on Friday, October 28, at the North Hyde Park/Eden Fire Station from 1 to 4 p.m.



Students earned trip through essay contest

(Continued from page 1B.)

Mr. Washford's tour company, African Adventure Safaris, specializes in "tailor-made safaris." He even read all of the students' research papers ahead of time to anticipate their questions.

"He was like every field guide you could buy and Google, all in one guy," Mr. Shaffer said.

Although nearly everyone the students met spoke at least some English, walking down the streets of Johannesburg, the teens found themselves surrounded by people speaking in Afrikaans, Zulu, Swazi, and other languages.

For Ben, the detail that jumped out at him was that every home and building was surrounded by a tall wall topped with razor wire.

For Lucca, it was seeing neighborhoods of wealthy hilltop homes surrounded by shanty towns, without the gradual transition through suburbs and middle-class neighborhoods that she's used to here.

For Callie, it was going into a neighborhood where families shared outhouses, and women had to carry water home from a public pump.

And for several, the highlight was visiting a local high school and chatting with students.

One of the first stops on the trip was the apartheid museum in Johannesburg. That gave the North Country teens — born after the end of segregation in South Africa — some context for the poverty and inequality they saw around them.

"It was an eye-opener," Callie said. "None of us knew the details."

When the students visited a Zulu village, they just happened to arrive on a day that a family was holding a traditional memorial service for someone who'd died earlier in the year. The students were welcomed to join in.

"It was a family gathering," Callie said. "Not set up for us. It was cool to be part of it. Really, really, cool."

The boys were even handed sticks and invited to dance along with the men, while the girls watched and kept up the beat alongside the African women.

"The dance was like a simulated hunt," Ben said. The Zulu men carried real spears.

For the all white students, it was the first time they'd experienced being the racial minority.

At one of the campgrounds, the Vermont teens found themselves in a swimming pool with



North Country students went to South Africa concerned about elephant poaching. At a visit to ProTrack, a camp where people train to work on private anti-poaching patrols, students learned that there's even more poaching of rhinos. Photo by Callie Young

a big group of African sixth-graders.

The youngsters, who were older than sixth-graders would typically be in this country, were fascinated by the Americans.

"They were touching our hair and rubbing our skin," Avery said. "It was really strange. I've never been a minority."

"Walking through an everyday place like a grocery store, we got looks from strangers, telling us with their eyes that we did not belong," Laura wrote in an e-mail.

"It was a chance for them to experience what it's like for a student of color to walk into a classroom at North Country and be the only one who looks different," Mr. Shaffer said.

The students brought a lot home besides souvenirs and photos.

At the Protrack anti-poaching camp, the students heard that authorities are often involved in wildlife poaching, or are paid off to ignore it.

South Africa just had an election, and the

North Country students said some of the young people they met were talking about broken campaign promises, including one about making higher education possible for more people.

"I hadn't heard much about it before," Lucca said. "Most people over here don't pay a lot of attention. But now when I hear anything from South Africa, I listen."

She thinks it will be a lifelong lesson.

Few people understand how enormous Africa is, Mr. Shaffer said.

There's always some kind of distortion when mapmakers try to draw a round world on a flat piece of paper.

Most world maps picture continents in the southern hemisphere a lot smaller than they really are.

India, China, and North America could fit inside Africa and there'd still be room for more, Mr. Shaffer said.

(Continued on page 7B.)

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Focus was on shared conservation issues

(Continued from page 6B.)

It took more than seven hours of the 15-hour flight to reach the closest part of Africa — the rounded shoulder of West Africa that sticks out into the Atlantic Ocean. But from there, they were in the air another seven hours before they landed in Johannesburg, Mr. Shaffer said.

“People here asked me about the danger of ebola,” he said. “But London and Paris are closer to the countries that have had ebola than we were.”

Now that the students are back at North Country, each one has to do at least two public presentations about the experience.

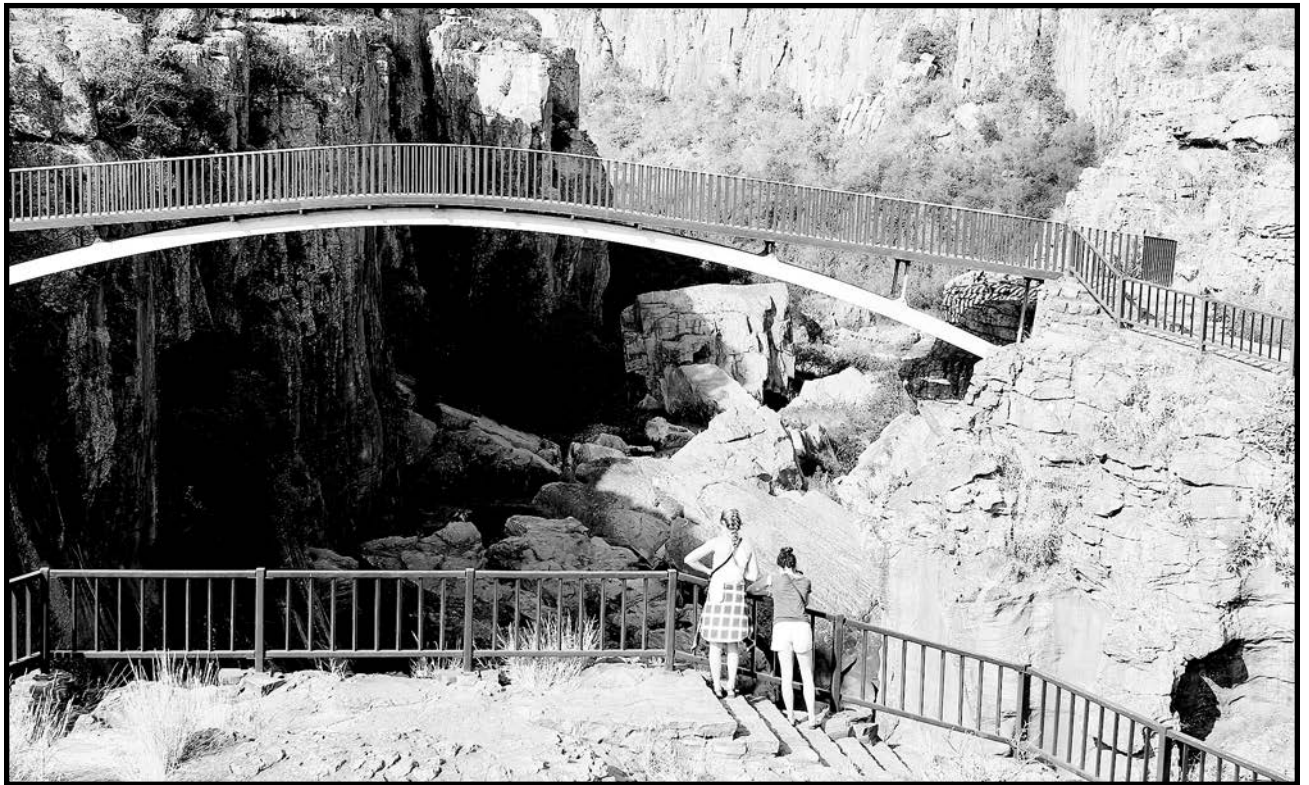
“Otherwise, it’s a vacuum,” Mr. Shaffer said.

Students will get a full year’s science credit for their independent research, the trip, and their presentations.

One of the hopes of the trip organizers is that some of the students, at least, will go into conservation.

And already Mr. Shaffer has heard that a couple of students were so interested in the people angle that they’re thinking about anthropology.

“I’ll be interested to see what their majors are in college,” he said.



Loren Searles (left) and Avery Ellis at Bourke’s Luck Potholes in South Africa’s Mpumalanga province. The water-carved canyon is one of many places students visited. Photo by Laura Masi

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SkillsUSA plans clothing swap

SkillsUSA is a national student organization that empowers its members to become world class workers, leaders, and responsible American citizens.

The North Country Career Center chapter is focusing on seven skills and goals: professional development, employment, fund-raising, social activities, competitions, community service, and public relations.

The group is planning several community service events, the first of which is the third annual clothing swap and drop, hosted by the Elks Club on Friday and Saturday, November 18 and 19. Friday will be strictly for dropping off gently used clothing between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. On Saturday, members of the community are invited to come to the Elks Club and shop. A \$1 donation is requested for each bag of clothing

taken, small or large. Proceeds will be donated to the NEKCA Food Shelf. For further information or questions, please call 334-5469, extension 3435.

Newly elected officers at the North Country chapter of SkillsUSA are Cheyenne Falconer as president; Sabrina Carter, vice-president; secretary, Sierra Daigle; treasurer, Kyra Birchard; historian, Breanne Silvestro; reporters, Emily Perkins and Brianna Crouch; and parliamentarian, Alexis Loukes.

Membership is comprised of 22 enthusiastic health sciences students. Currently, the local chapter has a fund-raiser selling RADA cutlery, dip and soup mixes, and cookbooks, from which proceeds are used for chapter activities. For more information about SkillsUSA, go to skillsusa.org. — from the North Country Career Center.

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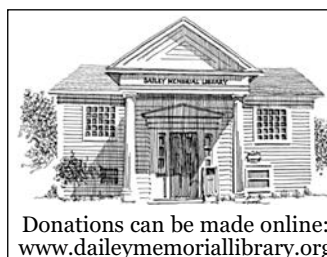
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Open enrollment is underway for Medicare

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services are urging Vermonters to check their health and drug coverage for 2017. Medicare's open enrollment period began on October 15 and runs until December 7. Any changes made will take effect on January 1, 2017.

Open enrollment is the best time to make sure health and drug plans still meet individual needs, especially for people who have had any changes in their health.

The average monthly premium for a Medicare Advantage plan will drop by \$1.19 to \$31.40, while the average monthly premium for a basic drug plan will inch up \$1.50 to \$34.00.

People in Vermont in Medicare's original fee-for-service program can choose from 21 drug plans with monthly premiums ranging from \$14.60 to \$127.70.

Beyond premiums, the only way to determine the true cost of drug coverage is to consider other factors like deductibles, co-payments, and co-insurance.

Medicare Advantage remains a strong

alternative for people who prefer to receive care through a private insurer rather than through Medicare's original fee-for-service program. Enrollment in the private Medicare Advantage plans is expected to grow by 1.2 million to 18.5 million people in 2017.

Even people satisfied with their coverage can benefit from reviewing all the options. Shopping around may save money or improve coverage.

Medicare's website — www.medicare.gov — has a tool for helping people narrow the search for a new health or drug plan. On the website, just click on "Find Health and Drug Plans." People can also use the Medicare Plan Finder tool to compare coverage and out-of-pocket costs under different plans.

The quality of a health or drug plan's customer service should be considered, too. The Plan Finder provides star ratings for each plan. A gold star will show plans with the highest, five-star rating, while a warning icon will mark plans that have performed poorly for at least the past three years.

Individuals can also call Medicare's toll-free help line at (800) Medicare or (800) 633-4227, or consult the "Medicare & You 2017 Handbook," which was mailed to enrollees in late September.

One-on-one benefits counseling is also available through the State Health Insurance Assistance Program. Call (800) 642-5119.

The health care law provides more savings on prescriptions in 2017 for people in the coverage gap, known as the doughnut hole. They receive a 60 percent discount on brand-name drugs and a 49 percent discount on generic drugs while in the gap. The doughnut hole begins once a person's drug plan has spent \$3,700 on medications.

People having difficulty affording their medications may qualify for extra help with their drug coverage premiums, deductibles, and co-payments. To learn more, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp or call Social Security at (800) 772-1213. — from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid.

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Birth

HUTZ

Zoe Hutz, daughter of Stephanie and Joshua Hutz of Morgan, is pleased to announce the birth of her sister, Mia Noelle Antoinette Hutz. Mia was born at Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital in St. Johnsbury on March 28 at 10:23 p.m. Mia weighed 6 pounds, 15.6 ounces and measured 19.75 inches long. Mia is the fourth grandchild of maternal grandparents Christine and Gary Sykes of Norton. Celebrating their second grandchild are paternal grandparents Jackie and Bill Hutz of Butler, Pennsylvania, and Laurie and Tim Dougherty of North Carolina.



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THE KINGDOM CALENDAR

STRICT DEADLINE FOR EVENTS: MONDAY AT NOON. We reserve the right to reject or edit events. We do not take events over the phone. E-mail events to ads@bartonchronicle.com

FAIRBANKS MUSEUM
1302 Main Street, St. Johnsbury. 748-2372.
www.fairbanksmuseum.org. Open seven days, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

GLOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM
Bean Hill Road in Glover, second floor in Municipal Building.
www.gloverhistoricalsociety.org. Open by appointment only: Call Joan at 525-6212 or Randy or Betsy at 525-4051.

GRACE GALLERY
Old Firehouse, 59 Mill Street, downtown Hardwick. 472-6857.
www.graceart.org. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. **Community Workshops** are held weekly on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and are open to all community members.

GREENSBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
29 Breezy Avenue, Greensboro. 533-2457.
www.greensborohistoricalsociety.org. Open Tues., Wed., and Thurs. from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. Check out our powerful new tool for researching Greensboro families stored in our archives! **Permanent Exhibit: Hill Homestead: the Story of Greensboro: Faces of Our Town** has been updated and displays tools and ledgers, kitchen gadgets, and farm implements, and parlor furniture from the 19th century.

LOOKING GLASS MUSEUM AT CLAN OF THE HAWK
The Looking Glass Museum is located on the grounds of the Clan of the Hawk off Route 58 in Evansville. Free admittance. This is a museum dedicated to the local Native American groups. For more information, call 754-2817 or e-mail etpvt@aol.com.

MAC CENTER FOR THE ARTS
158 Main Street, Newport. 334-1966. Hours: Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Over 45 Vermont visual artists and handcrafters offer their work in the 2,000+ square foot gallery. MAC Center for the Arts also offers special events, exhibits, musical performances, and classes/workshops for adults and children. Visit www.memphremagartscollaborative.com.

MEMPHREMAGOG HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF NEWPORT
Second floor of Emory Hebard State Office Building, Main Street, Newport. Open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Showcasing Newport's forever changing history and landmarks.

MILLER'S THUMB GALLERY
14 Breezy Ave., Greensboro. 533-2045 or eve@millerthumbgallery.com.

NATIVE AMERICAN MUSEUM (NATIVE CULTURAL SOCIETY, INC.)
56 Church Street in Newport Center. 334-6770. Open from 11 a.m.–6:30 p.m., closed Mondays. No admission fee.

NEWPORT NATURAL CAFÉ GALLERY
194 Main Street, Newport. 334-2626. Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m.–8 p.m., and Sundays from 10 a.m.–6 p.m. On display will be a few watercolor and ink drawings depicting the Vermont river by the self taught artist Olga Lawson.

NORTHEAST KINGDOM ARTISANS GUILD (BACKROOM GALLERY)
430 Railroad Street, St. Johnsbury. 748-0158.
www.nekartisansguild.com. Open Monday through Saturday, 10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. "New Turf, Old Haunts," a collection of recent paintings by Ben Barnes, on display until November 19.

OLD STONE HOUSE MUSEUM (ORLEANS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY)
109 Old Stone House Road, Brownington. 754-2022.
info@oldstonehousemuseum.org. www.oldstonehousemuseum.org. Museum is closed until May 15, but the Alexander Twilight Visitors' Center and gift shop are open year-round, Wednesday–Sunday, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Monday and Tuesday.
Craft Circles (all welcome!): Spinner's Circle meets the third Wednesday of every month from noon to 4 p.m. (bring lunch). Quilter's circle meets the fourth Wednesday of every month from 1 to 3 p.m.

PARKER PIE GALLERY
West Glover Village. Exhibiting works by local artists. Victoria Mathiesen: Paintings of near and far landscapes on display until November 7.

PARSON'S CORNER
Parson's Corner Restaurant in Barton exhibits artwork by local artists. Changes monthly. Open every day until 2 p.m. except Tuesdays.

PEACHAM CORNER GUILD
The Peacham Corner Guild is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Tuesdays. The guild features small antiques, fine handcrafted gifts and specialty foods. Located at 643 Bayley Hazen Road in Peacham. 802-592-3332

PLEASANT VALLEY ART GALLERY
146 White Road, Irasburg. 754-2000. Open Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m or call for an appointment anytime.

ROWE DESIGNS CUSTOM PICTURE FRAMING & GALLERY
287 East Main Street, Newport. Open Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.–5 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m.–noon. Featuring wood carvings by Al Diem, scenic and nature photography by Robert Lyons and Gustav Verderber, Bella Doni Pottery, Edgewater Jewelry, original art by John Rowe, Ely Maze, Deb Cowan, Pat Lipinsky.

ST. JOHNSBURY ATHENAEUM GALLERY
1171 Main Street, St. Johnsbury. 748-8291. www.sjathenaeum.org. Open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. The **Art Gallery** at the Athenaeum contains one of America's unique collections of 19th century American paintings. Admission fees: \$8 for adults; free for age 12 and under, St. Johnsbury residents, and nonresident patrons. Second floor gallery features exhibits by local artists.

THE 99 GALLERY AND CENTER
The 99 Gallery and Center on School Street behind 316 Main Street in downtown Newport. Work by Seattle surrealist Donald Peel and Northeast Kingdom artists, free classes, movies and community events. Open most afternoons till 5 p.m. 323-7759. On the Lower East Side: Paintings by Noel Oard Mapstead and Photographs by Diana Mara Henry, on display until November 15.

THE ART HOUSE GALLERY
67 South Craftsbury Road, Craftsbury. Open Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to noon. 586-2200. www.vermontarthouse.org.

THE THIRD FLOOR GALLERY
Hardwick Inn, 4 South Main Street, Hardwick. Call 472-9933 for information.

THE MUSEUM OF EVERYDAY LIFE
3482 Dry Pond Road (Route 16) in Glover (short distance south of Shadow Lake Road). Clare Dolan: 626-4409. www.museumofeverydaylife.org. New Exhibit: "Dust" on display now. Admission by donation. Self-service museum, open every day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

THE VIEUX FORGERON ART GALLERY
240a Dufferin St., Stanstead, Quebec. All are welcome! Hours: Thurs.–Sun. 11 a.m.–6 p.m. www.levieuxforgeron.com

WHITE WATER GALLERY
5 River Street by the bridge, East Hardwick Village. Open Sundays from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. or by appointment. Call Watergate at 563-2037. http://whitewatergallery.blogspot.com.

WOODEN HORSE ARTS GUILD (WHAG)
P.O. Box 502, North Troy 05859. 988-4300. www.woodenhorsearts.com. Wooden Horse Arts Guild is a 501c3 charitable organization composed of artists, crafters, writers, photographers, and musicians who live and work throughout Vermont and beyond. They support and encourage artistic excellence in the literary, visual, and performing arts. Their virtual gallery gives members an individual web page on www.woodenhorsearts.com. To read the news of members and arts around the area, visit http://blog.woodenhorsearts.com and Like them on Facebook.

YE OLD BLACKSMITH ART GALLERY
240 A Dufferin, Stanstead, Quebec. (819) 876-2282. Open Thursday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. In the heart of Rock Island in the historical Ye Olde Blacksmith overlooking the Tomifobia River. This historical blacksmith shop is now a cozy gallery featuring a variety of works from numerous local artists.



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Property transfers

Newport Center — October 2015 to June 2016

Recorded	Acres	Category	Sold for	Grand list	Seller	Buyer
10/13/15	10.5	Prim res	\$220,000	\$243,300	Gerald Baron, Cornelius, NC	Kevin & Suzanne Krzeminski, Pelham, NH
10/19/15	4.5	Other	\$27,900	\$12,700	Charles & Linda Traniello, Newport Center	Scott Cappellini, Hanson, MA
10/19/15	12.5	Open land	\$19,000	\$39,400	Betty Thompson, Derby	Rejean Roberge III, Derby
10/19/15	4.5	Other	\$27,900	\$12,700	Charles & Linda Traniello, Newport Center	Scott Cappellini, Hanson, MA
11/09/15	2	Prim res	\$157,350	\$199,800	Richard Dodds Estate, Burlington	Candace Lucas, Newport
11/18/15	1	Mobile home	\$82,000	\$70,500	Timothy Baraw, Newport Center	Andre & Raelene Couture, Newport
11/30/15	7.7	Open land	\$122,576	\$233,700	Vivian Desrochers, Newport	Otter Tailcove, LLC, Farmington, CT
12/02/15	10.6	Other	\$130,000	\$175,700	John & Donna England, Baltimore, OH	Forrest Rhodes, Inc., Steilacoom, WA
12/14/15	10.4	Prim res	\$136,000	\$163,800	J. Aidan Macfarlane, Oxford, England	Scott & Jessica Lawrence, Newport Center
12/23/15	0	Condo	\$154,000	\$164,900	Linda Prue, Troy	David Dalton & Ginette Fontaine, Livingston, TX
01/12/16	20.4	Farm bldgs	\$145,000	\$165,300	Glen & Fred Brown, Newport Center	Paul & Dorothy Elliott, Barton
01/19/16	25	Open land	\$39,000	\$171,800	Donald Bonneau, North Troy	Donald III & Brian Carr, Melrose, MA
01/20/16	86.7	Open land	\$70,000	\$68,700	Robin & Cheryl Emmett, Hagerstown, MD	Forrest Rhodes, Inc., Steilacoom, WA
02/01/16	1.6	Prim res	\$195,000	\$201,900	Norma Bushey, Derby	Ralph & Wendy Zimmerman, Tewksbury, MA
02/01/16	40	Open land	\$50,000	\$171,800	Donald Bonneau, North Troy	Arthur & Melissa Patnode, Northfield, MA
02/03/16	0	Condo	\$145,000	\$181,000	Jadwiga McConville, Montreal, QC	Donald Piette, Newport Center
02/03/16	45	Prim res	\$445,000	\$495,800	Stephen & Brenda Neff, Montpelier	Paul & Erika Lavoie, Newport Center
02/16/16	0.3	Prim res	\$67,000	\$80,500	Shane Wiggett & Amy Sanville, Newport	Tanguay Homes, Inc., Newport
02/18/16	0	Condo	\$170,000	\$181,000	Philip Doherty Living Trust, Wilmot, NH	Roger & Lorinda Knowlton, Marshfield
03/14/16	20	Prim res	\$219,000	\$224,800	Joseph & Amy Kelley, Newport Town	Stephany & Scott Whitehouse, Newport Center
04/10/16	0.9	Mobile home	\$90,000	\$96,905	Roland & Susan Brasseur, Newport Center	Tyshon & Kassandra Ferguson, Newport
04/18/16	2	Other - sub	\$8,899	\$134,700	Frank & Nancy Goad, Newport	Susan Babineau, Newport

* "sub" indicates property was subdivided, so town appraisal does not reflect current value of property



Model BL32 Leaf Blower

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<p>BALVENIE DOUBLEWOOD SINGLE MALT 750 mL</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$51⁹⁹ SAVE \$11.00</p>	<p>CROWN ROYAL 1.75 L</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$46⁹⁹ SAVE \$10.00</p>	<p>BASIL HAYDEN'S BOURBON 750 mL</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$34⁹⁹ SAVE \$7.00</p>	<p>JIM BEAM BOURBON 750 mL</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$14⁹⁹ SAVE \$3.00</p>	<p>FLEISCHMANN'S DRY GIN 1.75 L</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$15⁹⁹ SAVE \$3.00</p>
<p>SVEDKA STRAWBERRY LEMONADE VODKA 750 mL</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$9⁹⁹ SAVE \$4.00</p>	<p>PINNACLE VODKA 750 mL</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$8⁹⁹ SAVE \$4.00</p>	<p>CROWN RUSSE VODKA 1.75L</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$7⁹⁹ SAVE \$4.00</p>	<p>SKYY VODKA 750mL</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$13⁹⁹ SAVE \$5.00</p>	<p>ALLEN'S COFFEE BRANDY 750mL</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$7⁹⁹ SAVE \$2.00</p>
<p>KAMORA COFFEE LIQUOR 750 mL</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$9⁹⁹ SAVE \$3.00</p>	<p>JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE HONEY 750 mL</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$21⁷⁹ SAVE \$4.20</p>	<p>SOUTHERN COMFORT 70 PROOF 1.75L</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$23⁹⁹ SAVE \$5.00</p>	<p>OLD MEXICO TEQUILA BLANCO 1.75L</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$18⁹⁹ SAVE \$6.00</p>	<p>SAUZA EXTRA GOLD TEQUILA 750 mL</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$13⁹⁹ SAVE \$3.00</p>



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