

APRIL 2018

# HALIFAX NEWS

## A DOG'S ADVENTURE IN WINTRY HALIFAX

While driving north toward Jacksonville en route to Dover on January 19 Martha Witte of Westport CT noticed a beagle on the porch of the hunter's cabin on Route 112. As the bridge to the cabin had recently washed out again it was a mystery how the dog had gotten there, so she stopped and called to it. The dog was alert and came down to the river's edge, but the water was very high, so the dog retreated to the porch. The following Tuesday she saw the dog was still there and decided to call her friend's son Thomas Drummey of Halifax.



Thomas tracked down nearby homeowner David Harris who was shoveling snow from a barn roof. David had not seen the dog and confirmed it was not his. Thomas, Martha and David convened across the river from the cabin to assess the situation: the beagle was on the porch, very much alive but not at all interested in leaving his shelter from the cold rain. The owners of the cabin and their guests had rarely brought dogs and David had never seen a beagle there. Dog tracks were evident in the snow, though no human tracks were visible. Plus, the weather had been consistently cold and wet since last week. The beagle had apparently been alone outside at the cabin for at least four days and was most likely cold, tired and hungry.

With the river high from the rain and snowmelt there was no option to cross near the cabin. Thomas decided to hike in to the cabin from below the Vermont border. The cabin can be accessed from rough logging trails beginning off of Thompson Road in Colrain, just across the steel bridge on 112, though the paths are poorly marked, and the going was going to be very sloppy in the snow and rain. Thomas brought a leash and dog food with him and drove off while Martha stood vigil and David retreated inside to make coffee.

About 40 minutes later Thomas reached the camp to find the beagle in good spirits and happy to have company – and some food. Thomas called out the phone number from its tags to Martha, who then relayed to David. The owner Peter was overjoyed to hear the beagle Shilo had been found: the dog was from Rowe (!) Mass and had indeed been missing since the prior week. Peter and his wife left immediately for Halifax.

Thomas had remained at the cabin to rest from his hike. After the status update from Martha he left to retrace his footsteps back to his car in Colrain, beagle now in tow. In a case of serendipity both Martha and David found they are from the same part of Connecticut, and Martha has worked closely with David's sister-in-law. In a second case of serendipity, both Peter and Thomas arrived in David's driveway at nearly the same time. Peter was relieved to see Shilo; Shilo was even happier and began baying loudly and straining on his leash.

Peter revealed that last week the dog had been with his 90-year old father in Whitingham. The team had been hunting rabbits when Shilo bounded off after catching a scent. He must have continued until he was lost, then reached the hunters cabin by crossing over the mountain from the west. No surprise then that he was tired and hungry and did not want to leave the cabin porch. He also did not want to get in Peter's truck

to go home, instead enjoying the social gathering and pulling heavily on leash to hunt again. With no small effort he was eventually loaded, and all parties departed.

Postscript: After leaving, Thomas drove north on Route 112 towards Jacksonville. He reported that Peter's truck was pulled over at the First Stop filling station and a party of 7-8 people had gathered at to welcome Shilo home.

Extra special thanks to Thomas who did all the hard work on the cold, slushy January afternoon.

- David Harris, January 19, 2018, Halifax Vermont

# Community News

## COMMUNITY CLUB

The Halifax Community Club did not meet in March. The next regular meeting will be at 6:45 pm on Monday, April 16, at Art & Lynda Copeland's house, 1581 Hanson Road. We are raising funds to insulate the floor of the Community Hall (walls are next!), clean the big windows, and fix up the plumbing and a few other things around the property. Contact [LaurelACopeland@gmail.com](mailto:LaurelACopeland@gmail.com) or 368-2439 with questions & ideas.

## Benefit Breakfast



On Saturday, March 24, from 8 am to 11 am at the Halifax Community Hall, 20 Brook Road in West Halifax, the people of Halifax served up and enjoyed a breakfast to remember! Led by Coopers Coop of Metcalf Road, family and friends gave us Eggs Benedict made with Halifax eggs, Vermont Ham, Sausage made in Jacksonville, Scrambled Eggs, Fried Redskin Potatoes, and 3 kinds of Pancakes: plain, chocolate chip, and fresh blueberry. Topped off with maple syrup tapped and

boiled in Halifax. Mmmm! The breakfast was a great success: we received many, many "that was a great breakfast" comments from many happy folks! A huge 'thank you' to the "breakfast & suppers clan" that organized it, solicited food donations, and made it a success. Also a big THANK YOU to ALL who helped that day, doing many dishes, serving, pouring coffee, cleaning off and resetting tables, taking tickets, cooking and all the tasks that are needed to be done to put on a meal.

The community club is grateful. The proceeds will help to get some much-needed insulation under the cold, cold floor.

The breakfast & suppers clan (affectionately known as 'the BS clan') hopes to bring back some of the Halifax suppers soon. Watch your newsletter for announcements about when. It is so uplifting to me (Joan) to see new and younger folks step up to the plate to revive the breakfasts and suppers that were so very popular in Halifax...and with new and interesting menus!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The Community Club will be having a COMMUNITY *pot luck* at the hall on Saturday, April 28 (mark that on your calendar!). All are invited to bring a dish to share, come meet neighbors and friends and make some new friends. It begins at **5 p.m.** and runs to 7 p.m. at the community hall at 20 Brook Road in W. Halifax.

If you missed it, look for our next one! Proceeds go toward insulation projects for the Halifax Community Hall.

## FIREMEN NEWS

On 3/2, at 9:45 A.M. three men and one truck responded to a wire down in the road on Green River road.

On 3/8, at 9:10 P.M. three men responded to Jacksonville Stage Road to assist Deerfield Valley & Whitingham Rescue and ambulance for a man down.

On 3/13, at 2:30 A.M. seven men and one truck responded to Readsboro to a structure fire.

On 3/14, at 4:30 A.M. two men responded to Jacksonville Stage Road to assist Rescue and ambulance for a man with severe breathing problems.

On 3/18, at 4:40 A.M. two men responded to Hanson Road to assist Rescue and ambulance for a man with severe leg pain unable to move.

On 3/20, at 1:30 A.M. two men responded to Hanson Road to assist Rescue and ambulance for an incoherent person.

On 3/23, at 10:13 A.M. five men responded on Collins Road for an automatic fire alarm sounding. Nothing found.

## SENIOR MEAL

April 20 is the next Halifax Senior Meal held at the Community Hall, 20 Brook Road, West Halifax. Serving at noon. The menu is: fruit, sausage gravy and homemade biscuits, home fries, vegetable, old fashioned vegetable jello salad, and dessert. Come on in and enjoy our 18th year of senior meals in Halifax! Sponsored by Senior Solutions. A call to Joan is appreciated 802-368-7733 or e-mail at [jwcinvt@gmail.com](mailto:jwcinvt@gmail.com).

☺ All seniors are welcome.

## SIGHTINGS

There is still a lot of snow on the ground. March was relentless with its Nor'easters that dumped way too much snow in Halifax and lots of other areas. IT IS TIME FOR SOME SPRING WEATHER!!!!!!!!!!

The Spring birds are arriving in spite of all the snow and doing their best to find food. Thankfully many folks are still keeping their feeders full. I know I am feeding a lot of birds at this time. Cathy Harder had a Flicker, David and Susan King had two Red-Breasted Nuthatches. I had one for quite some time, but David and Susan's place must have looked more inviting because I am not seeing my Red-Breasted Nuthatch now. I told David to please send him back to the village, he needs to share!!

Liz Hull called with quite the unusual sighting she had a Kestrel, and Ian Hull said he had a mink running up and down the pole to his feeder snatching some of his sunflower seeds. That mink must have been very hungry! With the depth of snow we have it is difficult for many wild animals to get around. I am worried about the wild Turkey.

Fox are being seen trying to get thru the deep snow; I am sure most of the wildlife are struggling and hungry.

I still have the Rufus-sided Towhee; he has survived the winter so far. Believe it or not a few of the Goldfinch are turning their beautiful spring and summer yellow. I am enjoying the Cardinal couple. The Brown-headed Cowbirds are here as are Red-Winged blackbirds. I had four male and female Grosbeak for a few days, numerous Sparrow, Purple Finch, Titmouse, Blue Jays, Shiny Headed Blackbirds, Chickadees, and lots of Mourning Dove.

Up on Hanson Road the Copelands have seen both little grey foxes and a larger red fox, many blue jays and very large crows, and 1 dove. Laurel saw 3 wild turkeys on Hall Road.



Please share your bird and other animal sightings with us: e-mail [jwcinvt@gmail.com](mailto:jwcinvt@gmail.com).

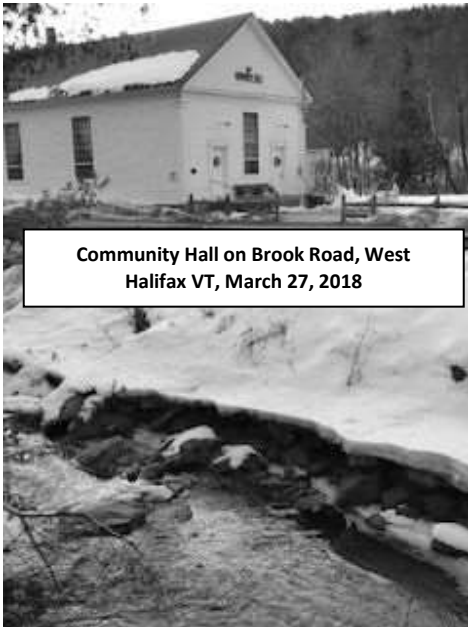
## SORROW

Halifax has lost a good friend. John Smith, 84, for years a resident of Old County Road, passed Saturday, March 24. He and his wife Alane had moved to Northfield, MA two years ago to be nearer family. John drove a milk truck for Elwell Trucking and also drove for Carroll Bro. Express for many years. John and Alane loved living in a remote spot in Halifax and especially loved seeing all the wildlife and feeding the birds in that area. John will be greatly missed by many folks. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Alane, and family.

## NEWSLETTER NEWS

We are looking to you, folk, for local stories -- especially front-page stories/articles. I know there are some great, interesting stories to be told by many of our Halifax folks and readers of the newsletter. PLEASE contact Joan if you would be willing to contribute a story for us: [jwcinvt@gmail.com](mailto:jwcinvt@gmail.com) 802.368.7733 or [laurelacopeland@gmail.com](mailto:laurelacopeland@gmail.com). We don't want the newsletter to end.

ALSO... when your subscription expires (date in red on your address label) the subscription price is now \$7.00 per year, mailed to PO Box 27, W. Halifax, VT 05358.



Community Hall on Brook Road, West Halifax VT, March 27, 2018



Sugar House, West Halifax VT, March 27, 2018



The heavy snows plowed up from the road barricaded the sap buckets for more than 2 weeks. Finally able to collect this week. Halifax VT, March 27, 2018



Sunrise over Halifax VT, March 27, 2018

## WEST HALIFAX

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver LaValley, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Goodenough, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Reandeau, Harold, Theresa and Louise LaValley and Mik Fennell of Brattleboro and Joseph Newton of Stoneham, Mass., were week-end visitors at Rupert Goodenough's.

Harold Weaver, Jr., began work Monday at the Sears, Roebuck store in Greenfield.

Callers at Leon LaRock's Sunday were Mrs. George Burgess and Olive [unclear] of [unclear] Mass.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis King and Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Deane attended the junior prom in Jacksonville Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Rafus and Ralph Wheeler of this town, accompanied by Jesse Wheeler of Somerset, and Henry Wheeler of Hawley, Mass., attended the funeral of their brother-in-law, Hobart Carpenter, in Greenfield, Mass., Saturday.

L. Leslie Clark of Stamford Conn., spent the week end at David Gaither's.

Guests of Z. A. Leonard and Mrs. Mahlon Dupee and children, Bradley and Diana May, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Cowan of Dedham, Mass. Miss Rosine Vance of Waban, Mass., spent last week with Mrs. Dupee.

Arthur Allen of Rochester, Mich., visited friends in town Tuesday.

Mrs. Clifton Deane went to South Deerfield, Mass., last week Thursday to open the home of her aunt, who

## HALIFAX

Mrs. Grace Hill of Brattleboro is visiting her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Crosier.

Two of William Cadorette's brothers from Boston spent the week end at "Deer Park."

to Malcolm Burnett's new house on the Branch.

The fire truck and men from here were called Friday noon for the fire which completely destroyed the so-called Ed Niles place in Halifax owned by Harry Murdock. Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Hardy, who were living in the house, were taken to Mr. Murdock's after the fire. Later that evening Mrs. Hardy was taken to Brattleboro Memorial Hospital by Mrs. Murdock and Mrs. Marion Han-

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Davis of Greenwich, Conn., accompanied by Arthur Luther, also of Greenwich have returned after spending their spring vacation at their summer home here. Mr. Davis tapped the maple trees around his buildings and made several gallons of sirup while here.

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Porter born April 3, a Franklin County Hospital, Greenfield, Mass., has been named Mar Evelyn.

William Cadorette of Deer Park has returned from New York City where he spent several days on business for the Lutz Lumber Company.

One of the team horses at the Deer Park suffered a broken leg and had to be killed.

week end at their summer home.

Mr. and Mrs. Emory Hebard and son, Roswell Hebard, entertained the following at a dinner party Saturday evening: Miss Nancy Donelson, Miss Helen Gilderdale, Mr. and Mrs. William Gilderdale and Myron Fish of Colrain, Mass., Miss Claire Hebard of Springfield, Mass., Miss Janet Hebard, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lively and son, Jimmie, and Gerald Lively of Greenfield, Mass.

The home demonstration group met with Mrs. Fred Pratt Tuesday, April 27. Fifteen enjoyed a dinner, after which the leader led the general business meeting and the home management leaders led discussion of the topic, "Table Setting and Centerpieces."

Mrs. Wesley Stone is caring for the children of Mrs. Joseph G. Darrow, Jr., while their mother is in Franklin County Hospital, Greenfield, Mass.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Upton and Mrs. Upton's sister, Miss Ruth Domin, of New Jersey spent Sunday at their camp.

Mr. and Mrs. Orvila Thibault and Mrs. Lida Couture of Providence R. I., and Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bushey and two sons of Bennington were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred May.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Deane and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Deane and daughter, Mildred, of Bernardston, Mass., visited Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Deane and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miner and daughter, Charlotte, at the Miner Farm Sunday.

Emory Hebard, and brother, Roswell Hebard. Other Sunday guests at the Hebard home included Miss Alice Donelson of Worcester, Mass.

Valley School will reopen Monday, April 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Burnett and family were at the Jones place Saturday and Sunday getting it ready to move into Saturday.

Wilfred Chagnon is helping Henry

### House Burns on Old Niles Place.

The house on the old Niles place, better known to many as the Fred Atherton place, now owned by Harry Murdock of Jacksonville and occupied for the past month by Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Hardy, was destroyed by fire early Friday afternoon.

The fire was discovered by school children and neighbors at about the same time shortly after noon. Neighbors warned the occupants. The Jacksonville fire truck was called and some articles were removed from the burning house.

The barn across the road was saved.

A pair of red-headed woodpeckers were seen at "Makepeace Farm" this week. This is the second time this spring that they have been observed in this locality. This woodpecker once was a regular summer resident but has come to be considered a migrant only and now is rarely seen east of

~ C. Lancaster, Halifax Historical Society



West Halifax, VT 05358  
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NEWSLETTER

# Halifax News

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## JACKSONVILLE

### Students Present Play.

A program of four one-act plays presented at North River Hall Friday night was attended by a full house. Each play was very well done. The proceeds from the evening go to the senior class. Flowers and gifts were presented to the coaches.

Specialties between the acts were: Trio, Edna Tracy, Helen Jillson and Roberta Morse, costumed in hill-billy fashion, who sang "Slap Her Down Again" and "You Are My Sunshine," solos, "Ballerina Dance" and "Now is the Hour," Lucille Allard; and solo, "I'm My Own Grandpa," and "Yankee Doodle Boy," by Stanley Russell. Mrs. Hazel Nelson was accompanist.

## The Vermont Phoenix

April 1948 - 70 years

While working at Sawyer's Mill last week Thursday Ernest Pierce was hit just above the left eye by a flying stick. Six stitches were necessary to close the wound.

The annual mud season has put in its appearance and the dirt roads are unpredictable. Fred Bowen arrived at the local post office with the Brattleboro mail at 11:45 last week Thursday night after harrowing experiences on Halifax roads.

~ C. Lancaster, Halifax Historical Society