



The Buglers:

Angelika B.
Phil C.
Max K.
Nancy R.
Cari B.

Linda C.
Lois K.
Russ L.
Ron R.

Why Does EastView Need an Endowment?

Russ L.

A friend posed that question to me a few months ago when I mentioned that I was co-chairing the endowment planning committee. My first answer, which was that non-profits build endowments to provide a nest egg to sustain themselves through difficult times and to use interest accrued by the endowment for needs not ordinarily covered by the operating budget, was too general to be convincing. After all, EV covers its costs through its annual fees, which, it would seem, can be increased to the extent necessary, in a market where there is strong demand for its services.

But, as a member of EV's Board, I have learned what can happen when unexpected financial pressures occur, such as the difficulties EV currently faces in staffing in an environment with intense competition for skilled employees. Several years ago, EV faced a different kind of financial problem when the "great recession" made it difficult to remain financially stable without laying-off staff. These are times when a healthy endowment can provide enough additional financial support to allow EV to avoid difficult decisions.

Another concern is that of maintaining the spirit of a caring community when residents might find themselves, through no fault of their own, unable to meet EV's monthly fees. That is, what happens when a resident simply outlives her/his savings and has no family members able or willing to bear the costs of her/his residency, perhaps including additional assisted living costs? This sort of situation does not happen often, but when it does, revenue from a healthy endowment could be used to cover at least a portion of those costs.

Over the next couple of *Bugle* issues, we will describe just how an endowment works, and the different ways in which donors can make contributions that best serve their particular financial interests. Also, our committee will be holding small group sessions, with Connie, to talk about the endowment as well as about EV's future more generally.



Photo by Max K.

Chair of the EastView Board of Directors



John P. was born and raised in Addison County and has recently returned after a decade working overseas in food and beverage production. For those keeping score, John’s mother and father (Jane and George), Uncle Bert, and Grandfather Dud all attended Middlebury College and have lived in town since. John decided to join his grandmother as the only black sheep who didn’t pursue a Middlebury degree. After going all the way to New Hampshire for his college education, John has progressively moved further and further away from home, having worked in real estate development in New York City and Brazil, and later in high tech agriculture in Australia. After leading the team that built a \$200mm greenhouse and renewable energy installation in South Australia, John decided he’d rather leave work with a six pack of beer at the end of the day as opposed to a truss of tomatoes, and he took a job as CEO of a craft brewery in the same state. That brewery was eventually sold to AB InBev (the parent company of Anheuser-Busch and Budweiser), and John and his family moved across the country to Brisbane, where he ran another craft brewery.

After managing two businesses through the worst of the pandemic, and having not seen US-based family in several years, John and his wife returned for Christmas in 2022 and decided to hang up their traveling boots and relocate back to the US. Although his Australian-raised children didn’t own long pants upon their return to Ripton (much less snow pants), they are now avid skiers and sledders and are working on their Vermont accents. John is deeply appreciative of the opportunity to work with EastView and to further (re)connect with the community he calls home.

Question of the Month

We introduced this feature in the December issue of the *Bugle*. Each month, we will pose a question from a list which appeared in a solicitation received by Angelika and Buz from an Indian School on the Lakota (Sioux) Reservation in South Dakota. Here are the replies to last month’s question, “If you could have tea with one fictional character, who would it be?”

If I could have tea with any fictional character, it would be Emily Bronte’s Mr. Darcy—civilized, loquacious, sexy and handsome!

Janet G.

I am not a tea drinker, but I wouldn't mind having a beer with Huck Finn.

Lois F.

If I could have tea with a fictional character it would be Turnadot: A person capable of extreme violence and also of genuine love. Really?

Angelika B.

The question for this month is, “What is the nicest thing someone has done for you?” Please submit your response to any Bugler, so that it can be published in next month’s *Bugle*.



February Birthdays

Nancy W.	2/5	Judy L.	2/17
Bob G.	2/9	Russ K.	2/18
Mimi R.	2/13	Eleanor I.	2/20
Cilla L.	2/13	Jean H.	2/21

A Valentine to EastView

Deb V.

I love living at EastView.

I love my window-filled cottage. In warmer weather, I love sitting out back on my patio, just enjoying the birds and planning my next foray into my garden. I do not always enjoy living in a wind tunnel, although I will say that by and large it does discourage any mosquitoes that might have been considering visiting me. It always surprises me when I wander around to the front to find out how much warmer (hotter!) it is out there.

In the morning I wake up watching the sun rise up over the tree line and the Green Mountains, listening to the birds checking out my feeders and their baths. And in the evening, as I work in my kitchen, I watch the sky turn glorious shades of pink and blue and yellow as the sun sinks down behind the trees and the Adirondacks. I feel blessed to have ended up here, not only for the setting, but also for my neighbors and the EastView staff who enhance my life.

It never ceases to amaze me that when I have a mechanical or electrical malfunction, instead of spending fruitless hours trying to snag a serviceman, I just call maintenance and generally speaking, my problem is solved.

Did I tell you that I love EastView? In a lifetime of GREAT decisions, EastView ranks as one of my best. We have such a wealth of diverse, interesting fellow residents, many of whom share their passions with us, through conversations, lectures, and exhibits. We are so fortunate to have a receptive and enthusiastic program director who not only solicits our advice for presentations and activities; she then does her best to act on it. I am awed.

I was poking around some old EastView documents the other day, and I came across a Cottage Residents list from June 2012. I was interested to see that in the past twelve years, of the 26 original residents, 11 of us are still living in our cottages; one never lived here; three have moved up to the Inn; five have died; and six have moved away.

There is a comparable record for the initial residents of the EastView Apartments. 18 of 30 independent living apartments were occupied as of July 2012. Five of those residents are still here; to my knowledge, two have moved elsewhere; eight have died; and I'm not sure about the remaining three.

But what I do feel sure about is that this retention record is, in itself, a Valentine to EastView.

Can This be a Hobby?

Gordon C.

H-O-B-B-Y (noun): The Collins Dictionary defines it as any activity that you enjoy doing in your spare time.

Gordon C. asks: Is public speaking a hobby? Wait! Before bundling him off to the loony bin, please finish reading.

In 1976 his employer encouraged the formation of a Toastmasters Club to meet once a week on a noon hour. His involvement proved to be a huge benefit to himself and, by extension, to his employer. Prior to that time his progress as an engineer was lacklustre. Blame it on his nature as an introvert. (That's still the case). Soon afterwards he found himself delivering reports at management review meetings and technical papers at professional society symposia. Then he transferred to a department more visible within the company and more engaged with the company's mission.

In retirement and in his move to Vermont he joined a local Toastmasters Club. He knew that if he didn't do this his introversion would pull him back into a rabbit hole where he would rot.

He volunteered at the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum conserving artifacts that were brought up from the deep. This gave him an appreciation of the maritime world and much material for short non-technical talks, many of which are given at P.R.E.S.T.O.!

Let's revisit the initial question. Can public speaking be a hobby? Answer is "yes". True, there is some anxiety when delivering a talk and one knows that it won't go quite as planned. But researching a subject is fun. Formatting it for delivery keeps the person's mind alert. And the audience feedback is gratifying.

Coming Home

David B.

It was November 15 and I was enjoying the sunny clear morning driving back to EastView from my doctor's appointment (so what else is new!). I looked to the East where the Green Mountains were unusually sharp and not so distant on this crisp fall day, and above the Ripton Gap I could see the snow dusted top of Bread Loaf Mountain, something I've not seen for years. In my early adult years, I skied at the Snow Bowl and did cross-country in Vermont's NE Kingdom. What a great pleasure to be home for some real winters again!

I was born in Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn, NY on March 10, 1934. On that day in 2024 I will turn 90.

I feel so blessed with 62 precious years of marriage, and two children, Catherine and Peter, who have careers in music and psychotherapy. I have two grandchildren and my first great-grandson Parker! But the one outcome right now I'm most happy about is my decision a couple of years ago to return to this beautiful state of my youth, where I grew up in the summers during the 1930's on my grandfather's farm, and subsequently in the 1940's at my Mom and Dad's camp on the same forested property in Salisbury, VT (that my son owns). Now, at any time of the year, I have the deep pleasure of visiting our beloved "Pine Needle," walk our woods (29 acres) or sit beside Halnon Brook that runs through our property, which provided my father and grandfather years of wonderful fly fishing for native brook trout. It's so healthy to be close by for peaceful and restorative visits, and maybe even some snow shoeing in our woods this winter!

I realize now that for many decades during my active adult years I had mentally suppressed my deep desire to live in Vermont. There were many solid reasons why it was unrealistic to consider such a move. But when I own up to my real feelings, there's such a plethora of reasons for my being here, full time for the rest of my life. So here's my list of "happy to do's."

Walking down to the Beaver Pond across from my grandparents' farmhouse to view early fall color and to look up at "Ole Slippery Rock" that dominates the mountain side above Salisbury plains. Ask me about the very special experience I had viewing this scene from the Pitch Pine trail, more recently installed just a half-mile away by Town of Salisbury volunteers.

Visiting neighbors and friends we've had in the area over the decades and still remain in touch.

Swimming in Lake Dunmore any day of the week during summer months, although this year I did an early October swim for the first time in my life!

Hiking the trail I made for my parents in their retirement in the 1970's behind our family camp and checking out the status of the pines, hemlocks, birch and many hardwoods covering our land. What a blessing to have such a natural property with a brook flowing through it.

Discovering how much our family heritage is connected to Vermont, starting in the 17th century with B.'s coming to Long Island, NY and then migrating to the Arlington and Manchester, VT areas. We may be linked to a C. J. B. who was on the Building Committee of the Middlebury Battell Bridge in the 1890's. There's also a B. Lane near the College. And I just learned, there was a B. general store on Merchant's Row in the early 1900's. Surely there's more to learn!

Enjoying car jaunts to many parts of the Champlain Valley and the western side of the Green Mountains is always at the top of my pleasures, as long as it's sure to include Mt. Moosalamoo, Silver Lake, the Ripton-Breadloaf-Lincoln areas as far north as Mt. Abraham. And don't leave out Route 100!

Attending music and art events in Addison County and following up supporting the great shows at the Town Hall Theater and chamber music performances by the summer faculty of Point Counter Point.

Riding my bike around Middlebury on 8-10 mile loops that give me current views across the Champlain Valley. I used to do 25-30 mile loops across Addison County with great views of Lake Champlain and the Adirondacks. What a joy for a boy who's mostly lived in cities. Biking is truly freeing and most surprisingly I confess, I'm more stable riding my bike than I am walking!

Certainly a high point of my life in Vermont is seen in the satisfaction of swimming across Lake Dunmore, the mile and quarter I can do in little over an hour. I've accomplished this twice as an octogenarian, with a gratifying account published in the Addison Independent in 2022 at age 88!

I am home in so many ways, including our family's Sunday worship at the Salisbury Congregational Church over several generations. My Dad preached there many times, as well as at Ripton, Brandon, and Middlebury churches. We not only have a family place here, our spiritual roots are here as well. That explains

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why I always exclaim in the car as I'm coming back across the Hudson River at Glens Falls, NY, "Praise God, I'm back in the North Country again!" I'M REALLY AT HOME HERE WITH GREAT HAPPINESS! AND HERE TO STAY!

Note: Our family burial spot in Holman Cemetery is located just off Route 7 in Salisbury, only 6 miles from my apartment! I'm grateful my parents and I chose a plot some 40 years ago with a special view east towards Mt. Moosalamoo. The mountains are always there for you! Refer to Psalm 121.



To all of you creative writers in our community: We want to publish your work in future editions of the Bugle and are certain that EV residents will enjoy reading your essays, poems or even short stories. So get your creative juices flowing and send your piece to one of the Buglers. Thank you.

Silversmithing

Angelika B.

My hobby used to be silversmithing. I made mainly buttons, bracelets, earrings, and belt buckles, until I found my niche in my love for animals and started animal necklaces.

The process involved buying sterling silver sheets, wires and beads in different gauges (thicknesses), cross-sections and sizes. A pattern drawn on paper was cut out and traced on the sterling sheet or drawn free-hand directly on it. The shape was then cut out with a coping saw, the edges were filed smooth and a special chasing tool was used. This tool was tapped along the silver sheet to create any desired lines for mouths, toes, folds on the animal's body or fins. For the eye, either a puncture mark or a bead was soldered on. Solid beads were made by scratching an indentation into a piece of charcoal and pouring melted silver into it. Depending on the amount of this silver used, it rolled up to all sizes of solid beads. Rough patches for texture on skin, tusks, ears, whiskers, or wings were produced by melting silver scraps until they were fused together and then soldered on. To connect the animals to the necklace, bars were soldered to the back of the animals, then holes were drilled in the ends of the bars and rings connected each to the next. In other designs of necklaces with stones, a bezel was made by filling a very thin strip of silver around the stone, the ends were joined and soldered onto a base. The bezel was then smoothly bent over the stone. Or claws were made to hold a stone.

Polishing the necklace was tricky. It was laid flat on a piece of wood, the ends were held tightly onto the wood and guided lengthwise under the polishing machine. It was never polished crosswise—that would be very dangerous. Polishing and buffing took very long, because there was firescale, a discolored film over the piece from the flame of the Bunsen burner.

Later in my silversmithing, I also started to use brass, because it was cheaper, but unfortunately much harder to cut. Without a workshop, torch, drill, and polishing machine this hobby has ended.



Great Decisions

Lois K.

Attention all EastViewers! Don't miss the opportunity to participate in our Great Decisions course that is offered by the Foreign Policy Association. Beginning in March, eight sessions, each dealing with a different, current important world topic, will be presented in our Community Room. Each session will begin with an excellent video presented by the Foreign Policy Association. Then we will have a guest speaker (often a college professor or retiree) who will offer another viewpoint on the topic of the film. After that, there will be time for questions or comments. Many of you might have already purchased the booklet that accompanies this course, but even if you don't have the booklet and have read about the topic, I urge you to attend the program.

For many years, we have been fortunate to have had a knowledgeable, capable coordinator/leader here at EastView. George L. really brought the program to us. He was succeeded by Nick C. and then George J. We now rely on Cari B., aided by some residents, to organize the speakers for this course.

Details about the topic, speaker, and date will be forthcoming in future announcements.

A Look Abroad: Military Intelligence

Russ L.

The *New York Times* recently carried an article describing China's efforts to upgrade its major intelligence agency, the Ministry of State Security. Those efforts likely will encourage the U.S. to upgrade its counter-intelligence capabilities. It can get costly. The current combined annual budget of all US intelligence agencies is reported to be \$71.7 billion. The high costs come largely from the use of new technologies for collecting intelligence. States still use undercover agents, but there is greater reliance on surveillance satellites, communication intercepts, cyberespionage, and AI.

Is all of this effort worth its costs and risks? Intelligence agencies have a mixed record of successes and failures. President Biden was able to predict publicly that Russia was preparing to attack Ukraine. Many of us remember Adlai Stevenson's dramatic presentation of photographic evidence of Soviet missile sites in Cuba in his remarks before the UN Security Council during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962.

But there also have been spectacular failures. Israelis, outraged by the failure to anticipate the October 7 attacks, remember a similar failure to anticipate an attack by Egypt almost exactly 50 years earlier. The US has its own list: the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the 9/11 attacks, and the Tet offensive in Vietnam in 1968. Many of us remember Colin Powell exhibiting misleading photos of supposed Iraqi WMD sites to the UN Security Council in 2003.

Even with accurate intelligence, a state leader may hold biases that cause him to refuse to acknowledge its validity. Stalin received clear evidence days in advance of the German invasion of Russia in 1941, but he rejected it because it was contrary to his personal expectations. More often, the intelligence is ambiguous. In the case of the Pearl Harbor attack, there were reports of potential Japanese invasions of many different targets, as well as intelligence indicating that the Japanese lacked the military capability to conduct an air assault on a target so far from Japan.

Some of the causes of Israel's intelligence failure to anticipate the Hamas attack are eerily similar to the Pearl Harbor attack three-quarters of a century earlier. In both cases intelligence indicating the likelihood of an attack was discounted on the grounds that a weaker adversary would not start a war that it almost certainly would lose and that the adversary did not have the military capability (Japan's distance from the target, Hamas's ability to surmount Israel's "Iron Wall") to mount a major attack. Security and intelligence forces were not fully staffed because of a weekend (Pearl Harbor) or a holiday (Israel). Concerning movements (radar images at Pearl Harbor, physical preparations at the Gaza border), when reported by junior-level members of security, were discounted by senior officers because they did not fit preconceived expectations.

These failures had less to do with technology than with human preconceptions about the adversaries' intentions and capabilities. States will continue to spend more money on improving their technological intelligence capabilities, but the interpretation of intelligence always will depend on the quality of judgments by state leaders. Spending more money will not solve that problem.