Volume 11, Issue 3 "To Educate and Inform the Citizens of Lyndeborough" June, July, August 2011

The History of Citizens' Hall

By Dr. Stephanie Roper

This is the third installment in a series of articles by the Heritage Commission on the built environment of Lyndeborough. It is the mission of Lyndeborough's Heritage Commission to identify and try to preserve Lyndeborough's unique buildings and other structures and surroundings that have been created or altered by people over the years. Our first two descriptions in past Views editions were South Lyndeborough's Baptist Church and the Village Store. This chapter in Lyndeborough's history will be devoted to Citizens' Hall.

For the first century of Lyndeborough's history, South Lyndeborough's Village was at best a small four corners, distant from the center of town government and much of the population. Yet in the last half of the nineteenth century, what had been nicknamed Putnam's Corner became a thriving hub of activity. In the 1860's, Lyndeborough's largest industry—and greatest claim to fame—the Lyndeborough Glass Company, opened just a stone's throw from the Baptist Church and the four corners. In the 1870's, the railroad came through the village, crossing the Forest Road and drawing more people to South Lyndeborough. By the 1880's, the village was well established, complete with a depot and hotel, as well as being home to Lyndeborough's own militia unit—the Lafayette Artillery.

By 1888, the Lafayette Artillery had been centered in Lyndeborough for over a half century and had been hosting the annual February 22nd Levee and Ball for a decade. Over three hundred people crowded into inadequate spaces above the depot (now the parsonage) and

(Continued on page 7)

Donations for the Community Day Silent Auction Needed

The Community Day Committee is looking for all types of items, services, gift certificates, etc., to offer in the Silent Auction. Last year we received a lot of donations that helped us with local organizations, families, and students. We were overwhelmed with everyone's generosity. This year Community Day is on Saturday, August 20th.

If you would like to donate or have questions about donating a specific item please contact Ellen Pomer, 654-5420 or email ellenpomer@mac.com.

J. A. Tarbell Library Celebrates 100 Years

by Bob Rogers

On **Sunday, June 12th, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**, the J. A. Tarbell Library will celebrate its 100th birthday and also the Grand Opening of the new library addition. There will be refreshments, live music, and a continuous slideshow of the construction of the addition. There will be a door prize and two baskets will be raffled off.

Come and appreciate what your generous contributions and your tax dollars have added to the community. You'll see that it's far more than just a place for books!

SPRING IS HERE

By Garrett McQuade

Spring is here
Spring is coming along the way
Spring is a great time
Plants are growing, no more shoveling
Green grass is here and no more snow
No more snow melting those fiery flames
Sledding is fun
But swimming and spring is so much better
Leaves are falling, raking is exhausting
No more delays of school
No more snow on branches

SPRING

By Hannah Simard

Troubles seldom reach the ears
Of the little growing seed
And thus it grows in happiness
Unknowing of the troubles up above.

It grows in silence underground
And when it breaks the surface
Looks upon the world around
With gently sparkling eyes.

I've seen the little flower bud
It nods to wind and rain
And every sparrow flying passed
They all bid him good day.

The little flowers in my garden
Nod to one another
And bob so gently, rooted fast
In this beautiful spring weather.

Dear Lyndeborough Residents,

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation for the way Lyndeborough residents have received me. No matter where I am in town, residents are quick to express a wave and a friendly greeting. In response, I want the townspeople to know that I am working hard to make this town a safer place to live.

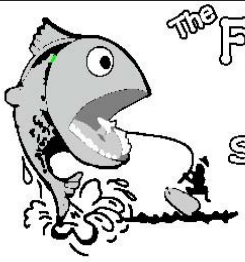
One of my goals is to create a maximum police coverage model, while remaining within the budget restraints. Additionally, I am trying to focus the patrol division on a strong community policing approach, by patrolling the back roads and remote areas where residents live. I believe the residents like seeing the cruiser in their neighborhood, whereas the burglars do not. I am happy to report we have not had a residential burglary in over two months.

A recent addition to LPD is police prosecutor, Paul Roy. Officer Roy comes to town with over 28 years of police experience and I believe his skills and knowledge will bring a higher level of service to Lyndeborough.

In an attempt to establish a rapport with the youth of the community, the Police Department visits Lyndeborough's Central School at least once a week. Also, Officer Gary Potter assists with a girls' softball team, which has several residents on the team. I believe the LCS students' familiarity with members of the LPD as well as Officer Potter's involvement with the team will also help create a bond with the town's kids.

If residents have any additional questions or concerns please contact me at the police station. I will be at the Community Day in August; I hope to meet many of our residents during the day.

Captain Thomas Burke
Lyndeborough Police Department



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What Do Cemetery Trustees Do?

By Ginny Chrisenton, Cemetery Trustee

The obvious answer is they take care of the town's cemeteries, but what does that really mean? It's easiest to start at the beginning, but hard to tell where the beginning is, as Cemetery Trustees are responsible for the cemeteries from tree tops to six feet under and to keep the records from the past through the present for the future.

Each season has a job. Spring is a busy time. Care for the grounds starts with the annual spring inspection of all cemeteries, then the clean up begins. Last year at the end of April, we were lucky to have a wonderful group of young citizens do Community Service. They worked hard to clean up the winter debris from South and Johnson Corner Cemeteries. Everything has to be in tip top condition for Memorial Day as many families visit gravesites and add flowers or plants at that time. The grounds crew has to work hard to get everything mowed and weed whacked. Veteran flags magically appear through the hard work of the Lafayette Artillery. The large flags in Center and South are raised for the season.

Summer consists of mowing, mowing and more mowing, with checking the budget and maintenance of equipment thrown in for good measure.

Fall is the time to wind down, prune bushes, have leaning stones straightened, finish "Special Projects", do the final cleanup for the year, put the mowers and weed whackers away, and after Veteran's Day, remove the individual flags and take down the large flags.

The final job of the year is to balance the books and prepare for the audit. This simple sentence doesn't begin to cover the meticulous care taken to reconcile the hours worked in each cemetery and to calculate the amounts held in the Trust Funds for the care of individual lots.

Winter is the quiet time. There are no burials after the ground freezes or snow falls.

At any time during the year, if someone wants to purchase a grave site, they call a Trustee. We meet with the buyer and lay out the lot. The person has to decide if they want to buy an urn lot for a cremation ($75), or a full lot ($150). Their next decision is whether to buy corner stones from the Trustees ($60) or from a stone cutter. We require corner stone's to make it easier to find the corners in the future. The lot is recorded on the official cemetery map and the paperwork placed in the "book of lots." At this point, the lot just sits there growing grass until we get a call from a funeral home or a family member. This call is where things get interesting. We have old maps, Tedo Rocca's 3x5 card file and our new computerized maps, but they don't necessarily tell us what we need to know. On occasion, we easily find the lot. Remember those corner stones? Other times, we measure to make sure we have the exact spot. Next, we have to decide where to dig. Usually a family member knows who is buried where and who is going to be buried next to whom. If we're lucky, there are clear indications that tell us where on the lot someone is already buried. Sometimes the vegetation tells us where to dig, i.e. new grass vs. old moss. For a couple, the man is usually buried on the left and the woman on the right. If there is an urn to bury, the Trustees dig the hole by hand. If there is a full burial, we coordinate with Kent Perry, Road Agent, to find time for the town backhoe to dig the grave. A Trustee is always present when a hole is dug, as what happens in the cemetery is our responsibility. The funeral home or family gives us an approximate time for the graveside ceremony and one or more trustees are on hand to direct traffic, if needed, and observe in the background. For a full burial, the funeral home's responsibilities end once the cover is on the vault, then it's the Trustees' responsibility to wait by the open grave until a town backhoe can be freed to fill the hole. Grass seed is sprinkled, the flowers are arranged and a veteran flag is placed, if needed. Lastly, the burial is recorded on the official map.

The job of the Cemetery Trustees is a group effort to care for our cemeteries' past, present and future.

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Namory Keita – Djembefola

By Ellen Pomer

There is a song and the lyrics go something like this, "I don't want to work, just want to play on this drum all day!" Fortunately, for many of us, Namory Keita's life work IS playing his drum and teaching African Drumming to students from all over the world. Namory has taught workshops in Guinea as well as in Germany, Poland, France, Portugal, and the United States. People from Europe, Japan, Canada, the United States, and Australia have traveled to Guinea specifically to study with Namory.

Namory's village is located in West Africa, in the Hamana region of Guinea. There, he is referred to as the Djembefola meaning lead drummer. The title 'Djembefola' is formed from two words; 'djembe' is the name of the type of drum he plays and 'fola' means play. As is the tradition at his home, Namory began learning to play the drums as a preschooler, banging on empty jugs, eventually progressing to small drums and then on to larger 'adult' sized drums.

Just outside the village the djembes and dununs (another type of drum) are made. The drums are a combination of musical instrument and work of art. The djembes are made from beautifully hand carved, hourglass-like shaped wood and a goatskin drumhead while the dununs are cylindrical shaped with goatskin heads on each end. It is easy to see that these drums are made from the hands of highly skilled craftsmen.

Although he resides in Guinea, his 'home base' while staying in the USA, is the home of Loa and Mark Bersen, Mason Road, Lyndeborough. During 2010 Namory spent six months teaching African drums, running workshops and playing at various venues throughout North America and 2011 marks Namory's second six-month stay.

My first encounter with Namory and Loa was Lyndeborough Community Day last August 2010. He asked for a spot to play drums during the open-mike session in the afternoon. Having hosted foreign exchange students in the past I automatically assumed he was a student and Loa Bersen was his host and teacher. I was pleasantly surprised to find out Loa was the student and Namory was the teacher. After hearing Namory play along with the other members of his group, all dressed in the traditional colorful garb, my husband John and I were fascinated. A group of people drumming away, smiling, laughing and in general, just having a wonderful time, thoroughly enjoying every minute! This seemed to be something we wanted to try!

Loa provided us the necessary information regarding Namory's website www.namorykeita.com. We reviewed the schedule of classes then John and I signed up for the next available class, which was held in Concord, NH. Not having a drum of our own, we were generously provided 'loaner drums' to use during class time and also to take home to practice our newly learned skills. The class was comprised of approximately twenty people from all walks of life, in all age groups and with all ability levels. Namory's classes are not only instructional, they are informational and most of all fun! He often reminds his students to relax, to have fun and that they are the two most important ingredients to make beautiful African Drum music.

(Continued on page 13)

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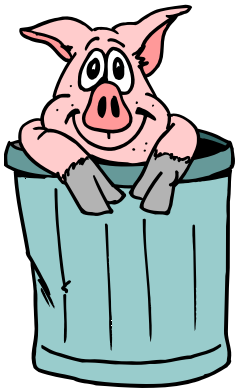

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News from the Selectmen's Office

By Jim Bingham, Town Administrator

Since town meeting the staff at the Selectmen's Office has been busy with several projects to improve service and security and reduce costs. The most noticeable project is upgrading all aspects of the town's Information Technology (IT) system.

Mainstay Technologies, Inc., coming highly recommended by other municipalities, has been contracted to offer technical consultation and IT support services for the town. Mainstay Technologies developed a plan to upgrade our IT system as well as an equipment replacement schedule. The hardware and software configurations of every PC in the building were inventoried, tuned up, cleaned of unnecessary files that impede speed and performance and had anti-virus software upgraded. We extended warranties on key pieces of hardware including the server.

We also replaced the bookkeeper's PC, which was the oldest one in use, with a faster, more powerful PC. This will help Kay Hopkins perform her accounting functions more quickly and securely. The old PC has been re-formatted and will be set up in the meeting room in the coming weeks for citizens to look up the most current property assessment information online.

The server also received a full review of its operations. The data backup systems are being updated and improved to prevent any significant loss of electronic information. Mainstay will be assisting us in updating town policies relating to computer use and creating a disaster recovery plan for the town's electronic data and information.

After nine years of service, the photo copier, which was scheduled to last only six years, has been replaced with a new Konica-Minolta copier. The new copier has been networked into the office IT system and also acts as a printer, scanner and fax machine for our office. The old copier was sent to the Police Department, and the fax machine is being set up in the town clerk's office so that Trish Schultz and Linda Hopkins can send their daily faxes without having to lock up their office and come to the Selectmen's Office every time.

Additionally, the office is reviewing its phone usage, including the number of phone lines, in an effort to maximize line use and eliminate unnecessary lines to save money. All this work will ensure that information in our electronic files, which is so critical to the town, will be safer and more secure. This investment in our IT system will be well utilized and is long overdue.

News from the Lyndeborough Church

By Mary Lemire

Please join us in welcoming American missionaries Dave and Deb Barton and their children to Lyndeborough. The Barton's are currently serving in Papua, New Guinea, with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Dave, originally from Amherst, is a pilot and airplane mechanic, and his wife Deb is an office manager. Along with their two young sons, they are guests of the United Church of Lyndeborough, utilizing the church's parsonage as a home base while on furlough for one year.

During this year they will be traveling throughout the United States, updating and reconnecting with those who support their work overseas. Stop by sometime when they are in town; they would love to meet you.

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Poison Ivy – *Yikes!!*

By Sharon Kinney, Lyndeborough Health Officer

Poison ivy grows as a vine or a bush and has three leaves on each stem. The leaves are green until the fall when they start to turn a deep red color. When someone or something comes in contact with the plant, it releases oil from the roots, stems or leaves. It is the oil that causes the allergic reaction and it is not necessary to come in direct contact with the plant to be exposed. You can get an allergic reaction from oils on a garden tool, clothes, animal fur or even inhaling burning plants.

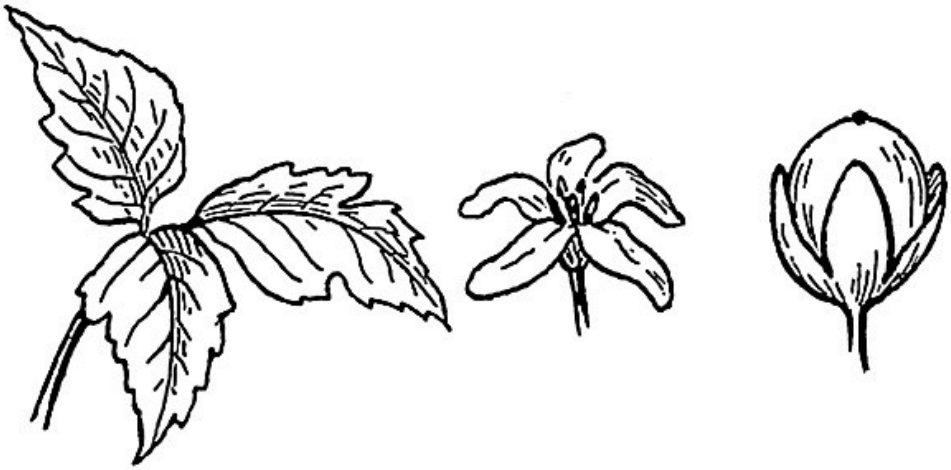
If you have been exposed you can experience red blotches, either raised or flat, itching which can be severe, blisters, fever, headache, and swelling. If you inhale the smoke generated from burning the plant, you could have sudden wheezing and difficulty breathing. The symptoms usually begin within 1-2 days of contact and severity of symptoms differ greatly on how allergic you are and how much contact you have had.

After exposure you should wash all exposed skin gently with soap and water. Remove your clothes and wash them in hot water. Don't forget to clean your shoes as they could carry the oil, as well. Once the oil has been cleansed from your skin, it is reported that the rash cannot be spread by scratching skin or from oozing blisters; however, there is controversy as to whether the oozing can spread the allergic reaction.

Benadryl can be used for the itching, and calamine lotion can be applied to the rash. Soaking in a warm bath with ½ cup of cornstarch or oatmeal can be soothing. If you begin with a fever, extreme redness, pus or any other severe symptoms, you will need to see a physician. At this point you may be given a steroid ointment or cream, and you may be given oral corticosteroid such as Prednisone. It could take up to 1-3 weeks for the rash to heal completely.

Prevention can be your best defense. Wear long-sleeved shirts if you are going to be in an area of poison ivy. Use Ivy Block skin cream which is made specifically to block poison ivy. Keep an eye open for the three leaved plant. "Leaves of three--let them be" is an old saying and a good thing to follow. After working outside, be sure to wash your clothes in hot water and detergent to remove any oils. Clean shoes, tools, or anything else that may have come in contact with the plants. If you think your pets have come in contact with the plant be sure to bathe them using gloves.

Leaves of three beware of thee!!! The flower and the berries.



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Citizens' Hall……. *(Continued from page 1)*

above Tarbell's Store (now the upstairs of the Village Store.) Since both places were reportedly crowded to their utmost capacities and the event was getting more popular every year, Artillery members felt it was necessary to have a larger community hall. Thus, the group decided to buy a portion of an apple orchard from former Artillery member, Joseph A. Johnson, "provided … that the Lafayette Artillery Company shall build a hall suitable to accommodate the public." This site was chosen on the hill overlooking the four corners, church, and depot so that those on the railroad could be impressed by this new and imposing structure. In fact, at the time, with few trees to stand in the way, Citizens' Hall could be seen from over a mile away in some directions.

Since the entire town would benefit from this community building, the Artillery transferred ownership of the property to the town in exchange for help in paying construction costs. At the town meeting in 1888, voters of Lyndeborough agreed to share the costs of building the hall with the Artillery, contributing $2,000. Shortly after this vote, several disgruntled townspeople, most notably lawyer and former selectman Rufus Chamberlain, complained that tax money should not go to a building for the Artillery. After a summer of controversy and a special town meeting, voters rebuffed Chamberlain's argument and again voted to build what would be called Citizens' Hall. Yet, the bad blood over the hall remained for years and some residents reportedly refused to ever step foot in it.

Citizens' Hall was constructed to maintain the general architectural patterns of the surrounding buildings, especially the new stick-style architecture that was popular in that era and was the style that graced the Baptist church in its recent major remodeling earlier in 1888. The hall went up quickly—going from empty lot to occupied structure in a mere four months after the second vote in September 1888. The first event hosted at the hall was the golden wedding anniversary of Joel and Esther Tarbell on January 15, 1889. Two weeks later, a formal dedication ceremony and ball officially opened the building in style. That year's Washington's Birthday Levee and Ball lasted from 10:00 a.m. until after 3:00 a.m. the following morning.

Only the shell of the hall had been completed before the dedication. Over the ensuing three years, volunteers completed work on the interior of the first floor. Citizens' Hall originally had a ticket room and a "clothes room", a banquet hall, kitchen, and the Artillery's armory on the first floor. Among the most unique aspects of the hall, in the days before running water, the building could boast a remarkable two-storey backhouse, with two holes on the first floor and one on the second. This backhouse remained attached to Citizens' Hall until 1993.

Citizens' Hall quickly became the premier social spot in Lyndeborough. The February 22nd Levee and Ball could bring in as many as 400 people, even at a time when fewer than that number lived in the town. The event remained an annual staple until the 1950's, and has appeared sporadically since then. Although the annual ball may have been the most anticipated event at the hall, through the years, Citizens' Hall has performed many other services for the town. Memorial Day services often began at the hall with speeches. Through the years, many local organizations performed plays, musicals, and dances, and held many parties there. Basketball and indoor baseball were played upstairs on the spring floor. In addition, in the attic, Artillery members installed a giant circular saw blade so that they could use the space as a shooting range and bullet fragments still remain from errant shots over the years.

Citizens' Hall remained a staple of the community with few alterations until the 1960's. It was wired for electricity in 1929, paid for by the Artillery. Once the Artillery no longer held their annual balls, the hall lost its main purpose but continued to be rented for weddings, anniversaries, and other parties. Yet, as Lyndeborough's population increased after the Second World War, it was no longer feasible to hold town meetings in the cramped town hall, with

(Continued on page 12)

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@ Center Hall, Center Rd. Lyndeborough, NH

Civil War Encampment
Lafayette Artillery

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Silent Auction – Old Town Hall
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Trail Ride
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Carriage Rides
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Scavenger Hunt – 3 age categories - Prizes
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Lunch
Sponsored by Lafayette Artillery – Artillery Encampment

Open Mic
Open to musicians, poets, comedians, etc.

Edie Clark
NH Author & Speaker

Flag Retirement Ceremony
Lafayette Artillery- Artillery Encampment

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Magicians from the Society of American Magicians Assembly 118 of Nashua will entertain and bewilder the crowds

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5:30 PM – 7:00 PM Music by **Sweet Tooth**

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Paradise Farm, Wayne & Adrienne Colsia, www.paradisefarmnh.com, 345-0860, 468 Center Rd.
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Ledge Top Farm, Tom Mitchell, www.ledgetopfarm.com, 654-6002, 487 Center Rd, Wilton & Lyndeborough. Ledge Top Farm grows & sells chemical free vegetables, berries and eggs. Blueberries, raspberries and strawberries will be available for sale.

Purgatory Falls Alpacas, Tim & Dana Welch, www.purgatoryfallsalpacas.com, 654-7690, 195 Purgatory Falls Rd. Purgatory Falls Alpacas specialize in fiber primarily from alpacas but they also have angora rabbits, etc. Demonstrations will include: spinning with a drop spindle and with a wheel, knitting and weaving with a knitting machine and a 48 inch portable loom. Stop by to see the Alpacas & other animals.

Butch B's Worm Factory, Butch, 619 New Road, 487-2281.
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Feel Good Farm, Larry & Sharon Boisvert, www.feelgoodfarminc.com , 654-2001, 54 Johnson Corner Rd. What makes you feel happy? Picking blue berries, horse & buggy rides, disc golf (Frisbee golf). Stop by and enjoy the farm, weather permitting. See you there.

The Maple Guys, Chris Pfeil & Chris Schoen, www.mapleguys.com, 888-627-5349, 146 School House Rd. Boiling demonstrations (water) on our hobby evaporator, warm maple syrup, maple candy and maple cream samples, maple products (syrup, candy and cream) available for sale. Interested in making your own maple syrup? Beginner set-ups, supplies and instruction available.

Maple Lane Farm, Karen Grybko & Richard Herfurth, 654-5362, 24 Maple Lane
Samples and sales of Karen's famous homemade pies, salsa's, and pickles will be available as well as a petting farm with all types of farm animals. Sicilian miniature donkeys are raised at the farm.
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Fishn Shanty & Redneck Farm, Greg & Carol Otto, 654-2883, 340 Winn Rd.
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r updates: http://town.lyndeborough.nh.us

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On Thursday, April 21, the entire Lyndeborough Central School spent the day at the Hampshire Dome in Milford as part of their annual Fitness Day. It was a day of fun physical activity with various stations run by the PTA. There were also two exercise courses with experienced instructors from Hampshire Hills. After the activities the students went back to the school where they discussed nutrition to end the day. Fitness Day is sponsored by the PTA, which provided a healthy snack, and T-shirts were generously supplied by Victory Sports Medicine in Merrimack. The Central School does not have a gym so getting their students in an environment where they can run further and jump higher and play sports in a bigger venue is a great health opportunity to them.

"We plan Fitness Day to show students, that even if you do not play a sport you can still do physical activities and make good choices on nutrition and all the importance of being active through your life. We do not have a gym but we find the Hampshire Dome a great facility for the students to have fun in. We hope to host Fitness Day every year. We had great Sponsor's such as the a local bus company, Steve's School Bus, to help keep cost down on transportation and Victory Sports Medicine to help with the T-Shirts", said Lisa Balam, LCS-PTA member and organizer of Fitness Day.

ABOVE: Fourth through sixth graders enjoyed an exercise class at the Hampshire Dome as part of the Lyndeborough Central School's annual Fitness Day on April 21.

LEFT:
First through third graders enjoyed an exercise class that included kick boxing at the Hampshire Dome as part of the Lyndeborough Central School's Annual Fitness Day on April 21st.

Photos by Kathleen Humphreys

CHECK OUT TOWN EVENTS ON THE WEB!!!

Visit the Town of Lyndeborough's Web Site for current information, calendar of events and other town information.

http://town.lyndeborough.nh.us

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Founder & Chief Instructor

Project Appleseed—History in the Making

By Cindy Ginn

Project Appleseed is an activity of The Revolutionary War Veterans Association, a 501 (c)(3) non –profit organization, dedicated to teaching every American our shared history and heritage as well as traditional rifle marksmanship skills. In a few short years, Appleseed has grown from a single event into a nationwide program that will see over 1000 events and over 40,000 participants this year alone.

The instructors are all volunteers who have earned the "Rifleman" patch, and have decided to get involved in getting Americans off the couch and returning to our roots of being a nation of riflemen and skilled marksmen. Appleseed instructors are some of the most qualified in the country. They receive over 125 hours of advances training and are continuously tested before running an Appleseed event.

These rifle skills used to be part of growing up in America, but now have been in a steady decline for years. The skill and knowledge of what the founding fathers left to us is eroding in modern America and without deliberate action, they will be lost to ignorance and apathy.

The instructors are passionate about the need for all of us to learn not only to become riflemen but also to learn the stories of the men and women who sacrificed everything for us to live as free citizens of the greatest nation ever birthed.

During lunch and other breaks, we were told amazing stories of April 19, 1775, the day that our story as a free people began. I learned that Samuel Whittemore of Concord, MA was one of the greatest heroes of that significant day. I live in the original house of the Whittemore Land Grant in North Lyndeborough. Daniel Whittemore, who died in 1776, was most probably a Patriot. He is buried right here in the Whittemore burial ground.

The two-day clinics teach the six fundamentals of firing an accurate shot. Sight Alignment & Sight Picture, Respiratory Pause, Focus on the Target, Squeeze the Trigger, Call the Shot, and Follow Thru. I also learned about Rock Solid Shooting Positions, Using a Sling for Support, Natural Point of Aim, Shot Analysis, and Sight Adjustment.

Most of the shooters use the 10/22 rifle as the ammo is cheap and you can easily go thru 500 rounds in two days as you develop and practice the skills needed to attain the Rifleman Patch. Center fire rifles are also welcome. One needs to shoot a score of 210 on the AQT target at 25 meters with 40 shots in three shooting positions in a limited amount of time. Not easy!! I am finally up to a score of 191 after five clinics. Even experienced shooters take several events to be awarded "Rifleman".

At my first shoot, I was happy to just hit the target, get grounded in marksmanship skills, and learn about our American heritage that started on April 19, 1775. Shooting is not a spectator sport. So, I practiced a lot before the next Appleseed. This time I had a scope on my original rifle and acquired another one as a backup, so that a friend could also attend and use it. If you have never shot a rifle, do not own one, or are having trouble with yours, the instructors will often have extra rifles to loan out. The participants also are incredibly helpful. When my friend and I ran out of ammo on Sunday, a nice man gave us some of his, and wouldn't let us pay. He said that the same thing had happened to him, and he was just passing on the kindness.

The participants come from all walks of life. Military, men, women, old and young, experienced shooters, and those who have never shot a gun in their life, all are there. I recently went to an Appleseed in TN where two brothers, ages seven and nine completed the two-day clinic. For a child Appleseed is about leaning safety, gaining responsibility and confidence, sharing an experience with mom and dad, and learning the history that is no longer taught in the schools. Kids are our posterity. They will inherit this country, and this is perhaps the best reason to bring a child to Appleseed.

The cost to attend an Appleseed is the best value in the country. Women pay $10 and youths under 21 pay $5 for two days of instruction. Active military, Reserves, National Guard, Police, Elected officials are FREE. Men pay $70 for two days or $45 for one day. New this year, once you pay $20 to join RWVA, there is no charge for additional events until you earn "rifleman". A small range fee is often required at some locations.

Why Shooting? This is the only sport endorsed by the founding fathers. It is an American tradition. I encourage any interested person to go to www.appleseedinfo.org and see for yourself. The review written by the participants are wonderful reading, and all the dates and locations are easy to find. If anyone would like more information, please contact me at **whytemere@hughes.net.**

Citizens' Hall…… *(Continued from page 7)*

a break for dinner in the even-more-cramped upstairs of the town hall. In 1967, the town voted to appropriate a paltry $4,000 to renovate Citizens' Hall in order to bring the town government to South Lyndeborough village. The renovations took four years and volunteers did most of the work to install heating in place of the woodstoves and add restrooms where the Artillery's armory had stood. The armory was placed under the stairway in the ticket room and the Artillery shared the space with the town's police department. The office for the Board of Selectmen was moved to what had previously been the clothes room and some rather unfortunate choices were made in terms of color and construction in the effort to come in under budget.

The renovations in the 1970's did not fix all of Citizens' Hall's problems. In April 1988, after a high turnout for a school meeting, the fire marshal closed down the upstairs due to fire code violations. In addition, as the town's population continued to grow, all town departments required more space. The town clerk moved from a glorified closet the Artillery had built to the kitchen, while the police department took over the vacant second floor. In 1993, the town began a three-year project to make significant repairs to the hall, including installing a full basement, with the hope of placing at least the furnace if not the police department or a jail cell there. Unfortunately, in 1994 significant underground water problems developed, and those plans were scrapped. Many people at that point believed that the hall was a lost cause and seriously considered tearing it down and building a modern office building for town offices in Lyndeborough Center.

Ultimately, Citizens' Hall was saved by several people passionate about its rich history, as well as many townspeople who did not want to pay more money for a sterile office building in the center. In 1998, voters rejected the proposed new building and chose to spend $186,600 on major renovations to Citizens' Hall. In order to keep under budget, volunteers again stepped forward, saving the town an estimated $70,000 in construction costs. Over the course of two years, they turned the hall into the floor plan that we recognize today. Through the efforts of over sixty volunteers, the neglected hall was brought back to a useful state, devoid of the institutional green paint that had covered the entire first floor. This structure's history and importance for the community were featured when it was placed on both the National and state registers of historic places in 1999. With its long history, punctuated by notable parties, controversy, and stinginess, Citizens' Hall has stood tall on the hill overlooking the village and has remained an essential part of Lyndeborough since 1889.

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Namory Keita…. *Continued from page 4*

Namory is a gifted human being. In addition to being a skilled and talented musician, he is a kind, caring and patient teacher. There are many drummers in Guinea; but there are a very small number that can teach drumming, and a much smaller select group that can teach at all levels. Namory is a member of the much smaller select group of drummers. In order to illustrate Namory Keita's level of expertise and how fortunate his students are to have him, I have often compared taking drum lessons from him to taking guitar lessons from a famed guitar player, such as Les Paul.

As a Master Djembe player, Namory makes drum playing appear easy; but believe me, just like any other musical instrument, it is not as easy as he makes it look! There are many combinations of different drumming techniques and drum rhythms that can be used to create a variety of sounds for the music. In Guinea, there are very specific reasons for playing different drum rhythms. Some of these are not only easily recognized (after a lesson or two), but interwoven into the fabric of the songs you learn to play and drummers get their queues from them.

Beginners learn there are three basic sounds used when playing the djembe: 'bass', 'dun' and 'slap'. These basic sounds are created by location of the hand on the drum and form of the hand when it strikes the drum. In general, the bass is created by bringing your hand down into the center of the drum, the dun is created by contacting the drum close to the edge or rim with fingers closed and the slap is created in a similar area as the tone except the fingers are open. Using these sounds the student is taught drum rhythms in either 4/4 or 6/8 time. African drum music is comprised of music layers with different drums playing different rhythms and areas 'opened up' for solos. Once the students start to understand the drum rhythms and sounds, the concept of layering the drum music is introduced in stages. Initially, the students begin with a basic rhythm, then Loa plays another layer of drumming on the dunun and finally, Namory plays additional solo rhythms on his drum.

In addition to the drumming, students learn about his culture, the role drumming plays in the culture, songs and dances. I also experienced the power of music as a transcultural media.

Namory Keita is a featured artist at Lyndeborough's Community Day Saturday August 20th. He will be on stage starting at 3:45 providing the audience with a short history of the drums followed by an hour of African Drum music. If you want additional information please visit his website www.namorykeita.com or email info@namorykeita.com.

FISHING DERBY

The Annual Bruce Geiger Memorial Fishing Derby was held on May 15th at the pond adjacent to The Pinnacle Mountain Fish & Game Club in Lyndeborough.

Rain didn't stop more than a 100 people from coming out and enjoying the Annual Fishing Derby on Sunday. Young anglers and their families lined the banks of the pond and cast their rods. A good time was had by all despite the rain. Prizes were given in a few categories and each child took home a gift and enjoyed complimentary hot dogs and drinks.

ABOVE: Ryleigh Smith, 6 from Lyndeborough, is ready to have her fish weighed.

RIGHT:
Levi Hyde, 3 of Lyndeborough shows his catch.

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LCS Talent Show

Mrs. Julie Lemire and Mrs. Carrie Brodrick of the LCS worked with the students at the Central School in Lyndeborough to create routines and perform in the 3rd Annual Talent Show which opened to rave reviews by the community on Friday, April 22nd. The talent show featured eight acts from skits to card tricks, to dancing, singing and rip-sticking routine to a musical performance.

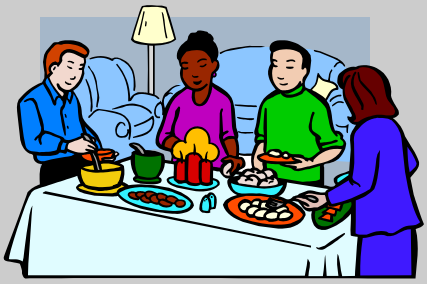
ABOVE:
A famous Beatles song, "Let it Be", was performed by Sydney Rose (vocals), Kendhal Rae (guitar), and Cody Johnson (drums) at the Third Annual LCS Talent Show. All 5th graders.

LEFT:
A funny and original skit was preformed about two ice fishermen who got caught making holes in the Monarch's Ice Arena looking for fish just hours before a Monarch's hockey game. The skit was performed by Josh Pouliot (facing camera), Spencer Oster (back to camera) and Owen Hughes (off camera).

Photos by Kathleen Humphreys

Community Suppers Continue!!

The yummy Community Suppers continue! They will be at Center Hall, 6:00 pm on June 11, July 9, and August 13 (the second Saturday of the month).
Enjoy great food with your neighbors in a historic setting.



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Maple Banana Spice Cake with Coconut-Almond Topping

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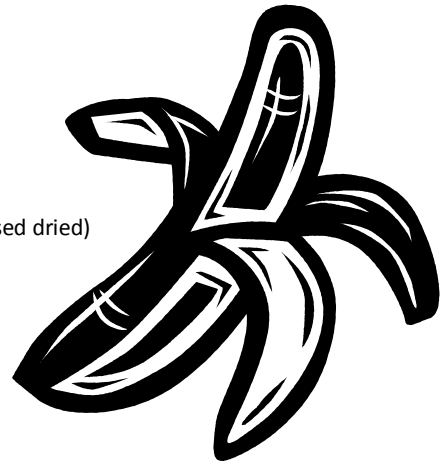
Makes 9 Servings



Cake Batter Ingredients:

2 large eggs, at room temperature
¾ C (about 2 medium) mashed very ripe bananas
½ C maple syrup
¼ C flavorless vegetable oil
1 tsp vanilla extract
¾ C unbleached flour
¾ C whole wheat flour
1 tsp baking powder
½ tsp baking soda
½ tsp salt
½ tsp ground cinnamon
½ tsp freshly grated nutmeg (I used dried)
½ tsp ground cloves
½ tsp ground ginger

Topping Ingredients

2 TBLs unsalted butter
2 TBLs maple syrup
¼ C unsweetened shredded coconut or sweetened flaked coconut
¼ C slivered or thinly sliced almonds

Directions

1. Butter an 8" square cake pan and preheat the oven to 375 degrees (350 if you're using glass.
2. Put the eggs, banana, maple syrup, oil, and vanilla into a mixing bowl and beat well with an electric mixer for one minute.
3. Into a separate bowl sift all the dry ingredients, adding any pieces of bran that remain in the sifter. Stir the dry ingredients into the wet mixture in two stages, just until uniformly blended.
4. Scrape batter into pan.
5. Immediately make topping; Melt the butter into a small saucepan, adding the maple syrup.
6. When butter is fully melted, stir in the coconut and almonds. Spoon the topping over the cake.
7. Bake for 30 minutes, until the center is springy to the touch and a tester inserted in the center comes out clean.
8. Cool on a rack for at least 20 minutes before slicing.

The author suggests serving with orange sherbet.

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Cover Photo: 2010 Memorial Day Observance in Lyndeborough taken by Kathleen Humphreys.

Submission deadline for the **September** issue of *Lyndeborough Views* is **August 17th**

Share your announcements, photos and stories!!

Lyndeborough Views is published quarterly by the Lyndeborough Communication Committee

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