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One Angry Moose

This is a true story. One day we were out hunting in a swamp north of Hinesburg. I was with my cousin Alan. It was early in the morning, around 5:30. We both split up and I went down over the bank. In the middle of the woods there was a little patch of tall grass. I could hear a bunch of turkeys in the distance making their call.

I started sneaking through the tall grass and noticed a female moose laying down nursing her young one. I never saw the male until he made all kinds of racket that sounded like a human being sneezing. He was upset to say the least.

Before I knew it, he started chasing me. I dropped everything I had in my hands and ran as fast as I could. I grabbed the branches of the closest tree and pulled myself up. He was close enough that I could see that he was beautiful. Before long, he moseyed back to his mate. I climbed down the tree, picked up my stuff and went looking for my cousin to warn him.

We never got the turkey that day but we did get a good story.

Steve Moulton
Leicester



Peaceful

My heart is so peaceful.
My body so calm.
My mind is wandering...
To the most magical places of all.
Places not true in life.
No thoughts of sorrow,
Just love and peace.
My heart is thinking of loves to come.
My mind the things I wish to do...

Rachel Raymond
Morrisville

Dream

You were there and so was I.
You in your dream, me in mine,
And our worlds just too small.
Together we would unite,
Leaving our worlds behind -
Creating a new world together
One that we would share forever.

Now here we are -
In a world that we created
For only you and me -

No longer in our own worlds,
But together in a dream world!

Rachel Raymond
Morrisville

INSIDE

Who We Are in Bennington....p. 4,5

Editorial.....p. 8

When you look at me who do you see?
Someone who is pretty,
someone who is unique?
Someone who is understandable
or someone you don't understand?

Those are the questions that
you ask yourself when you
look at me. Who is she?
What is she like? Do I know
her and if
I don't, do I want to?

But this is me, being as
real as I can be,
but this is just me, me
as a misunderstood teenager
that is put
into some wacked out mold,
some statistic.

What is to misunderstand?
Let me lay it out for you. To be misunderstood
is to be someone that no one
knows who you are. Some
one everyone else
looks at and says who the
hell is she?
But they don't
know the real me.

If they did, then they would see.
They would see me as naked
as could be,
the truth,
every nook and cranny of me.

They will know when I am mad,
when I am sad and
when to stand clear.
Like an open book that is there
for everyone to see,
for everyone to read.

When you look at me who do you see?
Someone who is pretty,
someone who is unique?
Someone who is understandable
or someone you
don't understand?

These are the questions
that you ask yourself
when you look at me.

**Christina Campbell
Bennington**

Our Trip to the Shelburne Museum

Our English class went to the Shelburne Museum with our teacher. We saw many different things: beautiful quilts, the Ticonderoga ship, a circus train, a big white house, the Beach Lodge (hunting lodge), a stencil house and Mary Cassatt's art work.

All the beautiful things are in a very lovely setting with lilacs blooming in the spring.

From the Morrisville ESOL group: **Malani, Jayasean, Aoi, Therese, Nancy and Preeda**



My Ocean Getaway (This is a relaxation exercise.)

Sit up straight in your chair. Get relaxed. Close your eyes. Breathe in (pause) and breathe out (pause).

Now picture yourself at the beach, kick off your shoes, feel the sand between your toes. So relaxing. (pause)

Look around at the people swimming and tanning and the lifeguard on duty. Walk toward the water and listen to the waves crashing in and out on the shore. (pause)

Stick your toe in the water to test the water. Let the waves hit your ankles and just feel the waves coming in (pause) and going out (pause).

Then put both feet into the water. It's nice and refreshing. Stare out into the ocean, and all you see is miles of water and lots of boats everywhere. (pause)

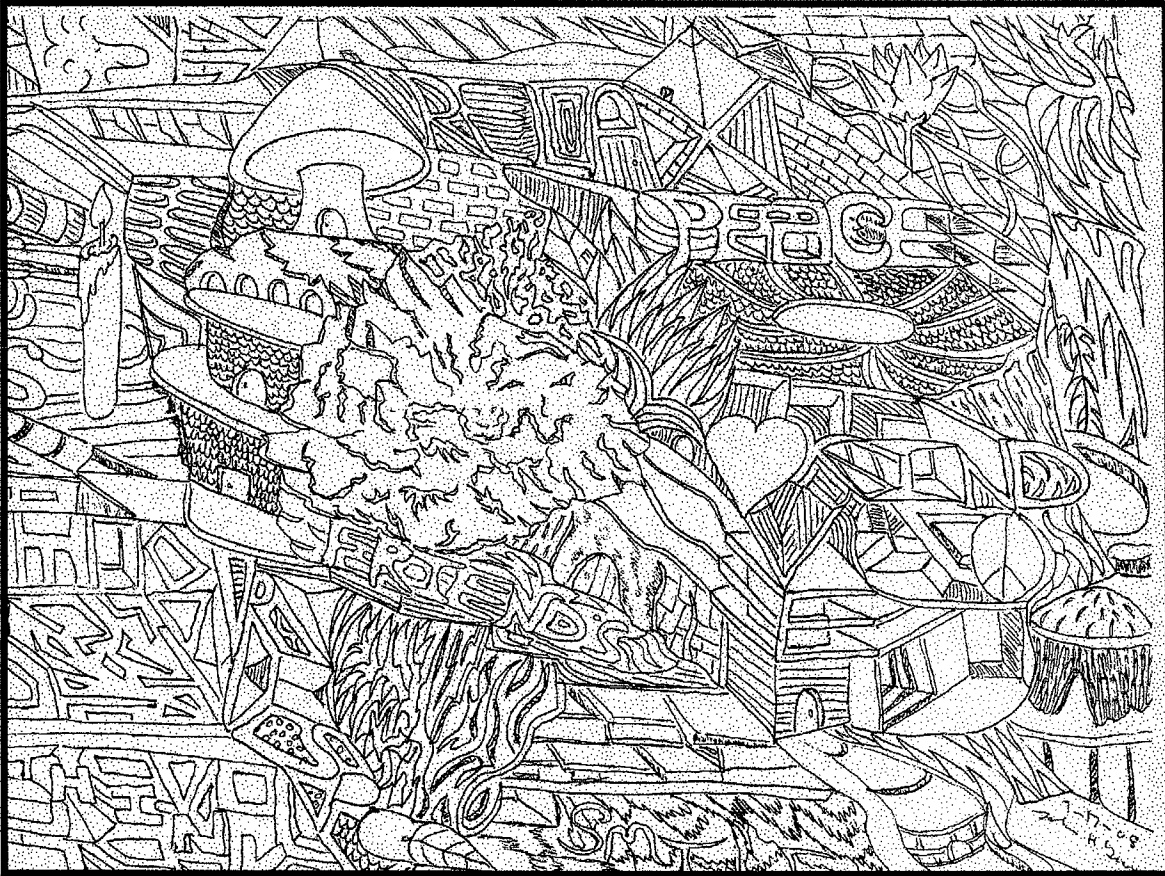
Now go out to your knees and feel the waves a little stronger, hitting your body. Feel the motion of the waves coming in (pause) and going out. (pause)

Go lay on the beach with your towel you brought with you. Feel the sun warming you after your dip in the cool water. As you lie there, you notice other people doing the same thing you're doing, or they're still in the water. (pause)

You're looking at your surroundings and taking it all in. Now we're at the end of our day. Time to head home. Now breathe in (pause) and breathe out. (pause)

Now it's time to slowly open your eyes and enjoy the rest of your day.

**Tina Derepentigny
West Rutland**



by John Lawrence
Middlebury

The Birth of My Son

Keaton was born on July 22. Three days after he was born, his doctors noticed that his breathing was irregular. The doctors decided to take a couple x-rays of his chest. The x-rays revealed he had a couple of air pockets around his lungs.

I said a brief goodbye to Keaton before they decided it was best to send him to Fletcher Allen Health Care. Keaton was sent by ambulance. The doctors decided to put him in the N.I.C.U. for observation. I was not able to go and see him until I was released from Porter Hospital.

It was three days after Keaton had gotten to the N.I.C.U., I was able to see him. I went up there to see my son not knowing what to expect. I had so many frightening thoughts running through my head at the time. I arrived with my mother and my sister. Looking around I saw lots of other babies, some of them only weighing three to four pounds, others were really sick. That made me realize that I was lucky to have a healthy baby.

When I saw my son Keaton, I couldn't keep it together. I got emotional. I needed some time by myself outside of his room. I then got myself pulled together. When I felt like I could control myself, I went back in.

They had Keaton under a heating lamp for the jaundice that he had. Jaundice is a yellow color to the skin. Keaton had wires connected to him. They were hooked to a heart monitor. I was told that I was unable to hold Keaton at first. I could only watch him sleep. That was all I did for that day.

Keaton was only in there for a week, but it just seemed so much longer. I was relieved when he was released. I finally could hold my son and love him. Now Keaton is five years old and a happy, healthy child.



Keaton at one year



Keaton at five years

WHO WE ARE at the Bennington Tutorial Center



Hi, my name is **Annie**. I have a daughter that's 11 months and another on the way. I'm due November 12. I have been attending the Tutorial Center for about a year and a half. In that time I have accomplished a lot of my goals. I have learned that math isn't that hard as long as I put my mind to it. I have passed my Math test with a great score! I enjoy math now. I have also passed my Reading test. It wasn't as bad as I thought it would have been.

I have done a lot of studying and practicing in order to accomplish my goals. The Tutorial Center has been providing all the help I need. Hopefully, within the next year I will have achieved my GED. I'm getting ready to take my Social Studies test. I'm excited to take the rest of my tests. I just need to practice more in order to take the rest of them. My teacher Barb has helped me the most with getting prepared for the tests and showing me things that I didn't know how to do! I hope to finish my GED by next year. The Tutorial Center has been a great help to me and also to my husband.



My name is **Gloria**. I left my native Bogota, Colombia and my great family to come to the United States. I came to this country for better opportunities of welfare and safety for my daughter Gina and me. The first state that I lived in was New Jersey.

In New Jersey, most of the people spoke Spanish. Many had no desire to learn English. I knew it was imperative for Gina and me to learn English. Soon, I moved to Bennington, Vermont where I enrolled at the Tutorial Center to learn English.

The instructors at the Tutorial Center have patience and understanding for their students. They are very dedicated. My instructor Barbara and her assistant Sharon make a good team. Thank you, to the Tutorial Center and their wonderful program for ESOL students.

Hi, my name is **Lauren**. I was born in Smithfield, North Carolina. When I was two, my mom and dad split up and I moved with my mom to Schenectady, New York. I lived with her until I was ten. Then I moved to Bennington, Vermont. I still live here today. I'm twenty now, but February 5 I'll be twenty-one.

I had a rough high school year at Mount Anthony Union High, so I dropped out my junior year. I heard about the Tutorial Center through a friend and I started going there in 2006 for a few months. Later, I moved to Woodford, Vermont and didn't have a ride to the Tutorial Center every morning. Therefore, I stopped going.

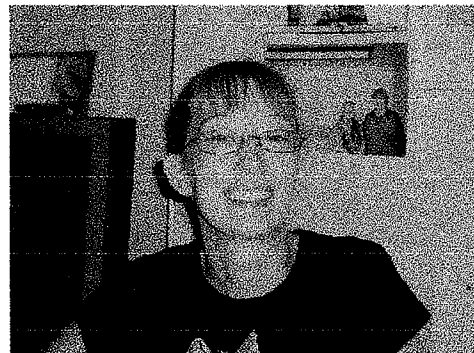
In 2007, I moved back to Bennington. I got reconnected and took two of my GED tests. I scored well on Science and Reading. This encouraged me to keep on going.

I started going out with a young man named Jesse and things got serious and Jesse and I decided to get married and have a baby. On October 6, 2007 Jesse and I got married in Woodford, on the beach. It was such a wonderful day! When Jesse and I got married, I also became a step-mother. Jesse has a beautiful daughter, Dakota Lynn, who I adore so very much!

Later that month I found out I was having a baby boy and was due February 6, the day after my birthday! The whole time I was pregnant I still came to the Tutorial Center and worked on the Social Studies test. Then in December when it was getting close to my due date, I stayed home. I had my son, Skyler Landen, February 13, 2008, eight days after my birthday! I stayed home for another six months until Jesse and I worked out a schedule so I could go back and work on the last three tests of my GED.

I currently am ready to take my Social Studies Test and will take it on September 18, 2008. I'm almost there! After getting my GED, I want to do the "Bridge to College" program, so I'll be ready to go to CCV (Community College of Vermont). Then get my degree in Massage Therapy and work in the local area at a salon or spa.

I thank the Tutorial Center so much for being there for me and being so flexible with my crazy life! The teachers and staff are so very nice and willing to help anyone who needs it, which makes going here a lot nicer than the high school. I also get to learn on my own and at my own pace. I thank you so much.



Hi, my name is **Shelly**. I grew up in Bennington, Vermont. I left high school in the tenth grade, right after my father passed away. I was 18 years old, which was in October of 1995. My mother and I moved to North Adams, Massachusetts, and I started to attend high school there. I was asked to leave when they found out that I was pregnant with my daughter. So I left.

I now live in Shaftsbury, Vermont with my husband and three children. They encouraged me to go back to school and finish my education. So here I am at the Tutorial Center taking my General Education Development Test (GED). I want to better myself as a person and get my GED, so I can become a Licensed Practical Nurse some day and earn good money.

I told my children to never quit school; I told them I was going back to better myself and to set a good example for them. I know that my children won't quit school because they see how hard I am working for this at the age of 31.



My name is **Alda**. I'm from Bogota, Colombia. I have lived in Bennington, Vermont for four years. The reason I came to the USA was because there were more opportunities for my family and me. I work as a housekeeper for a very nice family in Bennington. I'm very happy working.

Bennington is a little town with wonderful people. I come to the Tutorial Center two times during the week to learn English. English is very difficult for me, but I'm determined to master English. Everyday I understand more and more English.



I came to the Tutorial Center because the high school was too hard and there was a lot of drama. In my sophomore year I left, and I came right to the Tutorial Center. I dropped out, but I did not want to be a screw-up, so I came right to the Tutorial Center to get the education I needed to succeed in life.

I love coming to the Tutorial Center. I have two classes a week for three hours each. Everyone here is very nice. We all get along well with each other. The instructors are wonderful. They are there for students and want them to succeed at getting their education. They will push for their students.

I am still planning to get my high school diploma. I will most likely be graduating with my original class from high school. That will be great because I would be able to graduate with all of my friends.

The Tutorial Center will give me the opportunity to do whatever I want in life. I am so glad that I have the opportunity to go there and get my full education with the wonderful instructors.

Natasha

My name is **Melissa**. I have been attending classes at the Tutorial Center for a while now. I came to the center because I needed help with math and English. Since coming to the Tutorial Center, I have come a long way. I have mastered many skills.

I have plans on going to the Community College of Vermont, (CCV). I plan on taking art classes. I want to get my Associate's Degree in Graphic Arts or cartooning. My goal is to be in the art field.

I love being here at the Tutorial Center. The instructors are great people. They take time to help when you are having a problem. They are very understanding!!! Thanks for helping me!



Hi, my name is **Bonnie**. I have been attending the Tutorial Center for one year. I am busy working on my GED. I have taken the Science and Reading Tests and passed them with flying colors. I have more self-confidence now and feel like I can achieve any goal. I really enjoy learning. The teachers are excellent and really care about each person. They give each student one hundred percent of their time.



Some people lie, some people cheat.
 Some people only cause anger and deceit.
 Some give love, and only get shoved.
 Why do you make me cry?
 Make me feel so small inside?
 Some people get their pleasure from my pain.
 All I'm trying to do is gain something positive
 So that this life isn't a waste of time.
 Some people sit and wait for a change.
 Some people suffocate and only let society win.
 I feel like I'm drowning
 And everyone just keeps pushing me under.
 As the water fills my lungs,
 The pain slowly slips away
 Then I can finally say, "I'm free."
 I wish people would stop to see
 How much they're hurting me.
 Hear my plea for help.
 Save me from myself.
 Save me from this hell
 I know all too well.

I try to change,
 Rearrange my life,
 But when I turn around
 The only thing to be found
 Is another cut from another knife.
 Dreams of a different life.
 Drama free
 Where I can just be me.

**Natasha Hamilton
 Brandon**

Trip to Shelburne

Our group went to the Shelburne Museum by bus. We saw Mary Cassatt paintings in the art building. Forty-seven people went. We all had a good time, and we had lunch. I sat on the carousel horse and had my picture taken. We went to the circus building.

**Mrs. Frances Hill
 Morrisville**

River Arts Event

Victoria Woodhull was played by Sarah Payne. She came to put on a play over to the River Arts building Wednesday, October 29, 2008. There were a lot of people that liked her.

**Mrs. Frances Hill
 Morrisville**

On August 5, 2008, the Rutland Student Advisory Board hosted a gathering for our new Program Manager, John Campbell.

Our student board thought that it would be a nice idea for the students and staff to have time to talk with him so we all get to know each other better.

The afternoon went well and John talked with the students and staff. I believe our new Program Manager will be a great component to our learning, and will give us the support that we need through our learning journey.

**Allie Bell, co-chair
 Rutland Student
 Advisory Board**

One Little Rose

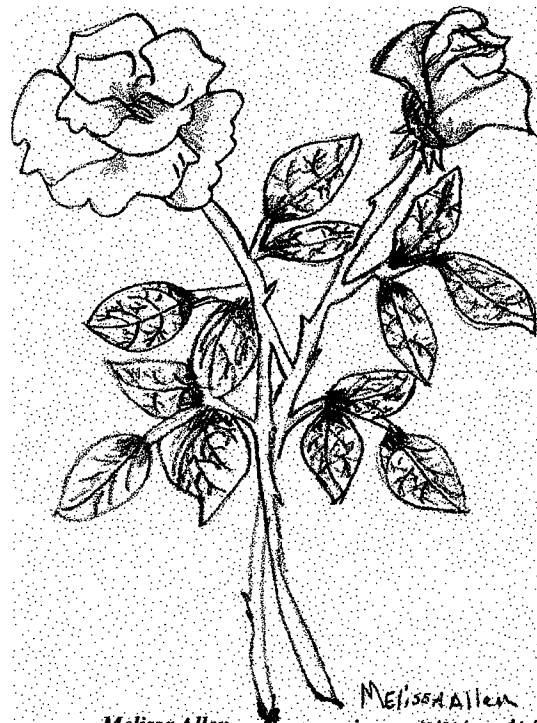
I would rather have one little rose
 From the garden of a friend
 Than to have the choicest flowers
 When my stay on this earth must end.

I would rather have one pleasant word
 In kindness said to me
 Than flattery when my heart is still
 And life has ceased to be.

I would rather have a loving smile
 From friends I know are true
 Than tears shed around my casket
 When this world I've bid adieu.

Bring me all your flowers today
 Whether pink, or white, or red,
 I'd rather have one blossom now
 Than a truckload when I'm dead.

**Kassi Franz
 Bennington**



*Melissa Allen
 Bennington*

Addison Student Advisory Board Surprises Staff

On Friday, September 26, Addison staff were called forth from staff meeting by a joyous group of students and Advisory Board members and invited to a feast of wonderful food and heartfelt appreciation. Printed here is a welcoming address by Sue Van Ornum, Chair of the Addison Student Advisory Board. She also read a poem written by her daughter Francine Sherman.

When I arrived home yesterday afternoon and got out of my car, I could hear the geese calling. I scanned the sky and saw the familiar V in the western sky and I thought "savor the moments." They are fleeting.

My daughter recently acquired a kitten, full of energy and inquisitiveness. It likes to climb legs, pounce on knees, and attack any toys that we can find to distract it from climbing legs and pouncing on knees. I thought "savor the moments" because time changes kittens into cats and moments become memories.

In appreciation from the Student Advisory Board and all the students, I would like to thank the staff for the moments that will or have become memories. Thank you for your dedication to our futures!

We will always "savor the memories."

Susan Van Ornum

Throughout our lives we have people
Who come and go.

The people that make an imprint on
Us are the ones we will always
Remember and know.

There are few times we are able to
Express our appreciation and when
The time comes that we are able to
Do this we should show it loud and
Clear.

So to all of the people who have
Helped change the lives of many
By helping them have a better
Life,

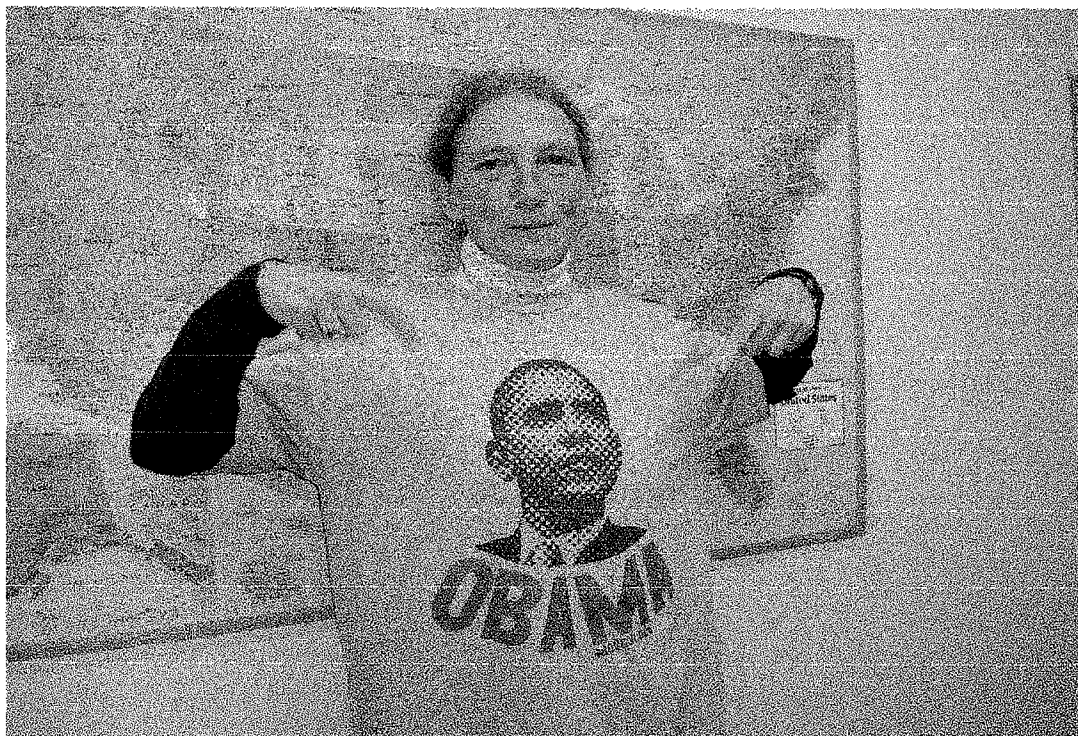
Let these people know they
were, will be and always are
Very dear.

Thank you for all you've done
to further the lives of others.

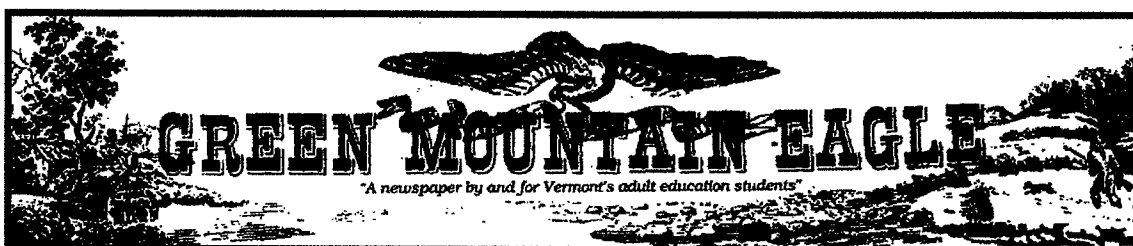
Francine Sherman



EDITORIAL



Robin Karov, computer teacher at VT Adult Learning in Middlebury and Chair of the State Student Advisory Board, joins us in celebrating Barack Obama's victory.



KEEP YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS COMING!

Address all comments, questions and contributions to:

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Please be sure to include your name, phone number and/or address or a way to reach you in case we have questions about your contribution.

We need your drawings and photos!

The more there are, the better the *Eagle* is. Send us your drawings done in dark ink on white, unlined paper. Send us photos!