

# Aggie News

Volume 9 Issue 2

June 2006



## From The Editor:

Greetings Classmates,

The alumni officers and board of directors met last March in Smith Hall on the school campus. A report about what took place starts on page 3 of this newsletter.

The board would like to thank all who have sent in membership dues and donations this year so that we may continue with our programs.  
*Charlie Main* Class of '56

## Alumni Scholarship:



\$500 scholarship awarded by Essex Aggie Alumni Association. This scholarship is awarded to the winner of a 500 word essay contest and can be used towards college tuition or college books. This year's winner was Renee Malioneck of Danvers shown here with Mr. Charles Saulnier, Environmental Science, the subject of her essay.

## Alden W. Sanford Scholarship:



\$500 scholarship awarded by Dr. Lee M. Sanford, Class of '64 in memory of his father, Alden W. Sanford. The Alden W. Sanford Scholarship was awarded to Erin Hensley of Lynn.

# Hidden Acres Farm

Easement will preserve Newton farm forever  
By Erik Zygmunt (From seacoastonline.com)

NEWTON - The sun is shining, birds are chirping, and the first signs of spring are clearly visible at Hidden Acres Farm in Newton.

The farm has witnessed this scene year after year for almost a century, and thanks to its owner, 82-year-old Forrest Reynolds, it will welcome spring as a rural landmark for many years to come. Reynolds recently helped the town obtain an historic and conservation easement on his property. The easement's aim is to preserve Hidden Acres, including its grounds and selected buildings, "in perpetuity," or forever.

The 22-acre farm, with its large post-and-beam barn, turn-of-the-century Victorian house, and old forge, is a living reminder of the past. With the help of the Newton Stewardship Committee, which was formed to oversee the easement, it will remain that way.

"The committee makes sure that the easement is being honored," said Mary Marshall, Stewardship Committee chairwoman.

The committee walked the property to check its condition and boundary markers, and has the power to pay for upkeep on the property, if necessary.

"If the fields get overgrown, we can have someone come and mow them," said Marshall.

The committee also takes yearly photographs of the large barn and house, to annually monitor their condition. According to Marshall, Reynolds himself was the driving force behind the Hidden Acres conservation easement.

"He has a good sense of what it means to have all of the local farms disappearing," she said.

And he should. Reynolds has been involved in farming his whole life, starting in his childhood when he helped his grandfather and cousins, and continuing to the present. "I always knew I was going to be a farmer," he said.

Reynolds graduated from Essex County Agricultural School at the top of his class, specializing in genetics, and began working at Hidden Acres Farm in 1938. He soon bought the farm from his parents, and he has worked there almost continuously, raising dairy cattle before moving on to poultry.

At 82, Reynolds is still very active in the upkeep of Hidden Acres. "He's on the tractor every day," said his nephew, Ed Batchelder, who also works on the farm. The two men maintain an orchard, keep bees, and grow

blueberries, grapes and raspberries on the property. Reynolds said that he pushed for the easement after years of seeing old farms replaced with houses.

"I was going to make sure that this little parcel of Hidden Acres is preserved," he said.

His appreciation for the past is consistent with his town involvement; he has been a member of the Historical Society and the Conservation Commission.

Along with Reynolds, the state of New Hampshire was also instrumental in obtaining the easement, according to Mary Marshall and Ed Batchelder. The state's Land and Community Heritage Investment Program, or LCHIP, provided half the funding for the easement.

"I think LCHIP opened the opportunity for (Hidden Acres) to remain a farm," said Batchelder.

"Newton is fortunate in getting state support for this 50-50 matching easement," said Marshall.

Marshall said that the LCHIP program initially funded about \$6 million per year in grants, but because of cuts now funds around \$2 million annually. She said that there is a movement to put money back into the program, because of a state budget surplus.

The easement on Hidden Acres applies to the farm's 22-acre grounds and the large barn and house on the property. The forge building, which used to manufacture carriage hardware, does not fall under the easement, Marshall said, because it is "too far gone."

The building is visibly leaning to one side. But Reynolds and Batchelder are trying to restore the forge.

"I have a plan for that building, and falling into the ground isn't part of it," Batchelder said. He added, "My real dream for Hidden Acres would be to have a living farm museum. Having an older farmer here makes it even more authentic."





## News From The Classes:

### Kent Martin, Class of 1960

I wanted to pass on some news. Perhaps some of you are aware by now. I've just completed a CD of 14 love songs. It includes just about every kind of love. Happy, sad, unrequited, upbeat and torch. I made it at the urging of several people, but had several holdups (losing pianists), in the project. It is now, however, finally done, with a great stride jazz pianist, without arrangements, or charts, in the true piano bar style. I had a great time doing it, and all that have heard it, said it came out great! I've been on about 24 different recordings in my singing career, but this is the first time I have ever done everything myself; the singing of course, the mixing and tuning, and overseeing all the artwork and marketing. The CDs have been ordered and the shipment to me is expected in June.

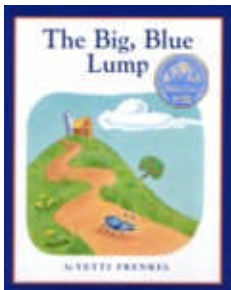
Kent Martin '60

2280 Rabenton Road, Deltona Florida, 32738.

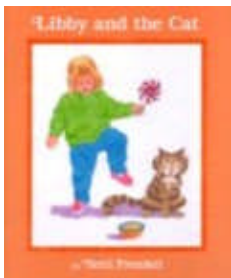
Contact: [themastercarpenter@cfl.rr.com](mailto:themastercarpenter@cfl.rr.com)

### Yetti Frenkel Class of 1978

Two of Yetti's self published children's books have won national awards.



*The Big, Blue Lump* was selected as a Children's Choice 2006 through the International Reading Association and the children's Book Council.



*Libby and the Cat* was selected as a KIND Honor Book by NAHEE, the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education.

Yetti Frenkel '78

294 Lynn St. Peabody, MA 01960

Web site: [www.snowtreebooks.com](http://www.snowtreebooks.com)

Contact: [yeti@snowtreebooks.com](mailto:yeti@snowtreebooks.com)

### Daniel & Patricia (Bell) Nihan Class of 1993

Daniel and Patricia Nihan will be celebrating their 10th anniversary June 9th and welcoming their second child June 16th.

### Board of Directors Report:

The 2006 Spring meeting of the Essex Aggie Alumni Association Board of Directors took place March 31, 2006 in Smith Hall on the school campus. The meeting was hosted by Peter Tierney. In attendance were Peter Tierney '75, Charles Main '56, Robert Gaudet '56, Henry Zawadzki '68, Kenneth Elwell '75, Michael Gaudette '74 and Thomas Blair '81.

#### OPENING REMARKS:

We were pleased to have as our guest Animal Science Department Head Edward White who opened the meeting by updating us on the current direction of the school's programs and answered many questions concerning the upcoming merger with North Shore Technical High School in Middleton and Peabody High School's vocational programs.

With the elimination of Peter McCarthy as a candidate for the as yet unfilled school Superintendent/Director position attention has turned to the possibility of Acting Superintendent/Director Helen Hegarty accepting the position. Not a very good way for Helen to begin her upcoming retirement but it would certainly be good news for everyone else.

#### BY-LAWS ARTICLE IX & X:

A motion was made to modify Article IX - By-Law Amendments to make it less difficult to make minor changes in the wording if and when the need arises. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made to modify Article X - Quorum to change the 10 member quorum requirement to 2/3 of the board membership. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### NON PROFIT / TAX FREE STATUS:

Treasurer Bob Gaudet was assigned the task of looking into the possibility of submitting an application for 501 (c) Federal Tax Exempt Status.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT FROM THE SCHOOL:

A discussion took place about the concern by some board members that the school does not currently recognize and/or promote the Essex Aggie Alumni Association as the official organization representing Essex Aggie alumni. The school's web site Alumni page contains information about students keeping in touch with the school, alumni transcripts, solicitation for gifts, and the school's scholarship fund. Buried among all that information is a two line statement; "Essex Aggie Alumni can link to a web page (link) that is operated independently of the school by an Aggie alumnus, Charles Main."

Looking at that web page from the outside it certainly doesn't look like we are much of a factor. With 5,545 records in our database and 1,077 alumni on our mailing list and with our web site averaging between 300 to 400 (continued on page 5)

## Deceased Classmates:

### Lloyd E. Potter (Staff)

DANVERS — Lloyd E. Potter, 88, died April 2, 2006, at a local nursing facility, following a lengthy illness. He was the husband of the late Helen (Lachance) Potter.

Born in Peabody on Sept. 2, 1917, he was the son of the late Chester and Josephine (Little) Potter. He was raised and educated in Peabody, and had resided in Danvers for over 60 years.

An honorably discharged veteran, Lloyd served in the U.S. Army during World War II. For many years, Mr. Potter was employed at the Essex Agricultural School, retiring as buildings and grounds foreman. A long-time member of the former Danvers Grange, he was currently a member of the Beverly Grange. He was also a member of VFW Post #2359 in Danvers.

### Richard Hellard, Class of 1965

#### Article: Bob Corthell, '66

I attended the Aggie from 1962-1966. I knew people that graduated from 1963-1969. Some only briefly and others for longer periods. Still others from different classes participated with in sports or clubs.

I graduated in 1966 and like many of my contemporaries entered the military service. This was during the Vietnam conflict. I was fortunate and served in Germany and left the military in 1969. I learned of one 1965 Aggie Grad that was killed in the conflict and heard of another but that was never confirmed.

About 15 years ago, the "Moving Wall" came to Haverhill, my home town. My wife and I visited the wall at that time. We looked up the names of people we knew in the directory and located their names. I also looked for this other 1965 grad's name in the directory. However, I didn't find his name. I dismissed his death as being a mistake and didn't think anything more of him until this week.

My wife and I visited Washington, DC from March 13 until March 17, 2006. We visited many sites.

We also visited the Vietnam Memorial for the first time. There are 58,000 +/- names on the wall. We again needed to look up in the directories the names of friends killed in Vietnam to locate the panels and rows that they were listed on. All the names we looked up were on the eastern end, the furthest end on the monument. We walked past the western end and the center to the eastern end, located the panels containing our friends' names, paid our respects and took pictures.

We walked back towards the entrance of the Memorial past the center and along the western panels when out of no where on panel 49 W line # 8 in the center of the line the name Richard W. Hellard Jr. jumped out at me. I called to my wife and pointed out the name and told her who I thought it was and how we had never found his name when we visited the moving wall.

We then went to the directories and looked up Richard Hellard. The directories listed his home as Beverly, Ma, His DOB as 1947 and KIA in August of 1968. We returned to the panel, paid our respects and took several pictures. When I returned home this evening, I got out the 1965 yearbook and verified that the Richard Hellard I knew was from Beverly, Ma.

Richard was a year ahead of me in school. He was a quiet person and we played on the football team together for two seasons, 1963 and 1964. I do not recall any specific interaction other than we knew one another. But this seemed to me that he was reaching out to me asking that he not be forgotten. I will not forget.

This has been the most unusual, weirdest, spookiest thing that has ever happened to me! How can one name out of thousands jump out at you as you pass? This event will remain with me the remainder of my life. I served my country as my country asked. I felt fortunate to be assigned to Germany when others were sent west. I do not know of any men that I served with in the Army who where killed in Vietnam. I have never felt guilt for serving in Germany nor do I feel that I should.

*Bob Corthell '66*

## Reunion News:

### Class of 1956 50<sup>th</sup> Year Reunion

The class of '56 Essex County Agricultural School & Essex County Homemaking School will hold its 50th year class reunion at the 1877 House, St John Drive, Phippsburg, Maine in the Morse Mountain Conservation Area. The dates are Sunday, Monday & Tuesday - September 17, 18 & 19.

Sunday afternoon - Catered - Maine Lobster Bake - 1 1/4 pound Lobster, Steamed Clams, Clam Broth & Melted Butter, Fresh Corn on the Cob, Red Skin Potato, Cole Slaw, Fresh Rolls & Butter, Watermelon, Lemonade & Iced Tea.

Monday evening - Catered - Beal Street Barbeque Sandwich Platter. The Beal Street Barbeque includes: BBQ Sandwich Platter - on a Bun or Cornbread, Pulled Pork or Pulled Chicken or Shredded Beef Brisket, Choice of Coleslaw, BBQ Beans, French Fries, Rice

Contact: Charlie Main for details

## Deceased Classmates:

### John Luciano, Jr. (Class of 1998)

John Luciano Jr., 25 of Lynn, formerly of Salem, died May 17, 2006 in Boston. He had been a singer and songwriter for the Beverly based band, 13 Below. He was known for his artistic work, was especially fond of black and white drawings and aspired to be a tattoo artist.

## News From The Classes:

### Fara Heather (Beeman) Andre, class of '96

married Michael Andre on Saturday, May 20 in Old Orchard Beach Maine.

## E-Mail Addresses:

Don't forget to check your class roster page on the alumni web site and let us know if your info needs to be updated. We still have a huge amount of invalid e-mail addresses listed. We have been forced to discontinue sending out Aggie Gram e-mail & news announcements because of the volume of e-mail rejections.

### Board of Directors Report (cont. from page 3)

visitors per day, we are a factor. The heartfelt expressions of appreciation that we often receive from alumnus and from sons & daughters of alumnus is truly inspiring.

Peter Tierney has volunteered to talk to Helen Hegarty about this situation for clarification as to the school's position and also about the possibility of providing us with a bit more presence on the school's "Alumni" web page.

### LIFE-TIME MEMBERSHIPS:

The subject of our beginning to offer life-time memberships in the association was discussed. Due to the objection of such a plan by some board members the item was tabled for further study.

### FUND RAISING DONE PROFESSIONALLY:

The possibility of hiring a professional fund raiser was discussed briefly and tabled.

### SCHOLARSHIPS:

Interest in expanding the number of scholarships was expressed and if we can somehow increase our revenues this will be done.

### CONDITION AND POSSIBLE RENOVATION OF ALUMNI FIELD HOUSE:

Peter Tierney and Henry Zawadzki have agreed to meet with Helen Hegarty in the near future for the purpose of obtaining information on the current status of the Alumni Field House. Subjects to be discussed include; the current condition of the building, its current and future use, what effect the upcoming merger would have on the future use of the facility. The alumni Association would be interested in conducting a fund raising campaign if repairs are needed for the building.

Another important topic would be the possibility of establishing an alumni office in the facility. Treasurer Gaudet produced a document indicating that the alumni association once donated funds for such use but they were never used. The possibility exists that we may never be able to find volunteers to man an office on campus but at the very least the old Alumni Field House, besides it's historic importance, would be a perfect place for us to hold board and general membership meetings.

Of course, if the Field House would be scheduled for demolition and/or replacement because of the upcoming merger then all of the above would become irrelevant and any further discussion would be closed.

### OTHER BUSINESS:

### CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS:

The possibility of soliciting corporate sponsorships for future revenues was discussed. Peter Tierney and Michael Gaudette volunteered to look into the matter. It (continued on page 6)

## History Corner:

### Topsfield Fair FFA Cider Stand

Tom Hinds, class of '59 found this while going through some old newspaper clippings. The headline proclaims that the FFA stand was a "Money-Maker" while the cider sold for a mere 10 cents per cup! Tom is behind the counter. Pictured on the right is Essex Aggie icon, Ellery Metcalf.



The modern version of the FFA Cider Stand. Things have changed a bit as the price of cider is now \$1.50 to \$2.00.



## Board of Directors Report (continued from page 5)

was mentioned that Elaine Flanagan (not present) would also serve on the corporate sponsorship committee.

### PURCHASE CDs:

Treasurer Gaudet suggested that we invest a portion of our bank account funds in short term cd's so that we can benefit from the additional interest that they would provide and that will be done.

### BACKUP WEBMASTER:

Peter Tierney has volunteered to become the backup webmaster. A list of all the necessary software plus technical & password information was provided. A motion was made that we purchase web site design and maintenance software that will be owned and registered by the alumni association. The motion was passed unanimously.

### SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

It was suggested that we look into the possibility of having an alumni member appointed to the school Board of Trustees. Peter Tierney will look into the matter.

### FINANCIAL AUDIT:

Due to the fact that:

- A) We have not accomplished the job of having an audit done on the association's financial records after several years of on and off discussions.
- B) A professional accountant that was engaged to perform an audit has not done so after having the books in his possession for several months.
- C) The board has still not been advised as to the expected cost of the audit.

Treasurer Gaudet was directed to cancel the audit if possible and we will perform the audit in house and at no cost using alumni personnel.

Thanks to all who participated with their ideas, opinions and votes. And let us not forget, if anyone has any ideas or opinions on subjects old or new, there is no need to wait for another annual meeting to bring it up.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles Main, Secretary



## Alumni Association Membership Report:

The results are in for the 2006 memberships. We have a total of 1,077 people on our mailing list (registered members). Out of that hefty number we have received only 80 paid memberships. That comes out to 7.5% of the registered alumnus who are supporting the alumni association.

Paid memberships and donations are our only means of support which includes office expenses, publishing the alumni newsletter, maintaining the alumni web site & all the services that it offers and student scholarship awards.

The breakdown of paid members by decade is as follows:

1930s – (1) 1940s – (6) 1950s – (45) 1960s – (13) 1970s – (10) 1980s – (3) 1990s – (2)  
2000s – (0) College Div. – (0)

The two statistics that pop out from viewing the registration and membership lists are:

A) It appears that the classes of the 1950s are the only group interested in supporting the alumni association financially. That one decade supplies over half of the total financial support.

B) The 2 1/2 decades from 1980 to 2006 comprise nearly 50 % of the registered alumni with a financial support (membership) rate of just over 1 %.

*Charles Main*, Secretary

**For those who have not yet acquired their 2006 membership, we provide the form below.**

### **Essex Aggie Alumni Association Membership Registration Form 2006**

Membership dues for 2006 will be \$20.00

(Term of membership is Jan 1 to Dec 31)

Please fill out the form below - We need your support

#### **Member Name and Address: (Please Print)**

Class of \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) High School Division (\_\_\_\_) College Division

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Please register my membership for 2006**

I am enclosing my check for \$20.00 for 2006 Membership: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In addition, I would like to donate to the Scholarship fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In addition, I would like to donate to the General Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed for membership & donations: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Check should be made out to: Essex Aggie Alumni**

**Mail this form to: Essex Aggie Alumni Association, Robert Gaudet, Treasurer, P.O. Box 685, Newburyport, MA 01950**

# The Aggie News

Essex Aggie Alumni Association

643 Main Road

Phippsburg, ME 04562

*"Getting old friends and classmates together"*

[www.essexaggie.org](http://www.essexaggie.org)