

## New Business: Bähler Chocolate

Kahlua and caramel. Pinot noir. Piña colada. No, they're not summertime drinks. They're just a few of the flavors produced by Bähler Chocolates. They're delicious, made in Enfield, and you don't have to be 21 to buy them.

Bähler Chocolate is the enterprise of Karl and Nicole Bähler, who moved to Enfield from Buffalo, N.Y., nine years ago. Karl has operated Sustainable Forest Systems in the Copeland Block since 2005, and Nicole teaches part-time for the Lebanon school district. But Karl has always had a passion for chocolate. "I'd been making truffles for years," he says. "And there's only so many you can give away to family and friends. I wanted to improve my skills and see if there's a market for the chocolates." So, last October, he and his wife unveiled their new company.

Karl Bähler crafts the hand-dipped truffles in his kitchen at home. In addition to the liquor-infused chocolates, including orange liqueur ("There's really very little liquor in them," he says), he makes malted milk, habanero, espresso, and dulce de leche truffles. He also makes cakes, hand-dipped fruit, and other seasonal goodies.

Thanks to Nicole Bähler's marketing efforts, the candy currently is available locally at the Lebanon Farmers' Market and Seasons Restaurant. The Enfield Farmers Market, Seasons Marketplace, and the Hanover and Lebanon Co-op Food Stores will carry the truffles in the months ahead. The Bählers' website ([www.bahlerchocolate.com](http://www.bahlerchocolate.com)) extends the company's reach beyond the Upper Valley.

Karl admits the couple's venture into the food industry has been a learning experience for them, so they have welcomed advice where they find it—whether it's new flavor suggestions from friends and relatives or advice on packaging from the state inspector. The company is doing well, he says, but he remains cautious: "I'm not about to quit my day job yet."

## New Preschool Opens Downtown



Businesses on Main Street have a new neighbor. Extensive renovations have been made by Home Partners and Martin Mechanical to the barn-shaped building next to the Copeland Block downtown to provide

a home for the new Village Traditional Primary School. Gary Flynn, who has extensive public-school teaching experience in Massachusetts and California, will own and operate the new school. In addition to traditional learning, the school will remain open to early evening child care, allowing plenty of time for parents who commute to leave work and pick up their children.

Flynn is accepting students for the beginning of a spring semester. For more information, call him at 603-523-9132 or (cell) 603-667-1088 or contact him by email at [gpwf@worldnet.att.net](mailto:gpwf@worldnet.att.net).

## Sweet Treats by the Numbers

Number of years Sweet Treats has taken place: **8**

Number of bakers contributing goodies: **20**

Number of volunteer organizers and staffers: **13**

Pounds of chocolate consumed per person: **We don't want to know!**

Number of miles to walk off those calories: **We really don't want to know!**





Enfield Village Association  
PO Box 763  
Enfield, NH 03748

Nonprofit  
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POSTAL PATRON

## What's Happening

Would you like to receive monthly updates on what's happening in the village? Send your email to [EVA@interdial.net](mailto:EVA@interdial.net) and ask to be put on our e-newsletter list.

# Save the Dates!

*Upcoming Spring, Summer, and Fall Events*



### Spring Cleanup/ Green-Up Day

Saturday, May 24,  
9 a.m.–12 p.m. Rain date:  
Sunday, May 25, 1–4 p.m.

### Shaker 7 Road Race

Sunday, June 29



### Art and Garden Tour

Saturday, July 12

### Farmers Market

Wednesdays,  
July 2–October 1  
3–6 p.m.



For more information about all these events, visit [www.enfieldmainstreet.org](http://www.enfieldmainstreet.org), call the EVA office at 632-7197, or email [EVA@interdial.net](mailto:EVA@interdial.net).

## Building Bridges with Theater

“A theater is a bridge in a lot of ways; it’s designed to connect people.” That’s Bill Coons, founder and artistic director of Enfield’s Shaker Bridge Theatre, speaking about the name he chose for his new venture, which is “dedicated to discovering and creating provocative contemporary theatre.”

On the eve of its fourth production in Whitney Hall, the troupe is already making connections with audiences from Enfield and beyond. “The plays have drawn hundreds of people to Enfield who’ve never been here before,” says Coons. He himself was scarcely familiar with the town until he directed a play whose cast included actor and Enfield selectman Rebecca Stewart. When Stewart showed him the auditorium in Whitney Hall, Coons knew it would work for his planned theater-in-the-round. With help from town officials and residents, whom he describes as welcoming and supportive, Coons’s vision came to life.

All seats are good seats at Shaker Bridge Theatre; none is more than six feet from the stage, so productions are intimate and involving. That works well for what Coons describes as the small, lesser-known gems from off Broadway that he showcases in Enfield. The theater extends its local connections by offering special prices for a dinner/theater package at Mickey’s Roadside Café and Seasons Restaurant. Every opening night performance is followed by a free reception at Seasons, where playgoers can meet the director and actors.

Coons’s future plans include adding summer productions to the schedule, “depending on whether we can find the funds for some air conditioners.” While Coons will continue to use local talent, he is looking to add more professional actors to the shows. There are plans for con-



*Scene from Table Manners; Photo courtesy of Bill Coons*

certs on Sunday evenings, which he’d like to combine with community dinners, and acting classes for adults and teens. Coons hopes to offer the teens’ classes at no charge. Coons clearly is passionate about involving the community. He notes proudly that “even though theater companies may dream about finding an angel [investor], everything about this theater has been totally funded by small contributions from many people.”

Jeffrey Hatcher’s *Murderers*, a dark-edged comedy, opens May 2 and runs through May 18. For more information, visit [www.shakerbridgetheatre.org](http://www.shakerbridgetheatre.org) or call 632-4013.

## Enfield Village Association

The Enfield Main Street Program is administered by the Enfield Village Association (EVA), a non-profit corporation whose mission is to promote and facilitate ideas and projects that will provide community pride in our historical, cultural, commercial, recreational, and natural resources for residents and visitors to the Enfield Village.

How to reach  
**EVA/Main Street Program**  
 Office: Copeland Block  
 56 Main Street, Room 202  
 PO Box 763  
 Enfield, NH 03748  
 Phone: 632-7197  
 Email: EVA@interdial.net  
 www.enfieldmainstreet.org

### Hours

Tues., Wed., Thurs., 9-2

### Board of Directors

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### Newsletter Editors

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## DIRECTOR'S TAKE

Grab your partner and do-si-do! One of the pleasures of being in the director's chair is enjoying the many opportunities to partner with other organizations, individuals, and businesses on projects and events that *keep the good things happening in Enfield*. Of course, our primary partners in EVA's endeavors are all the hardworking and dedicated volunteers, board members, and team members who make things happen. In a small community such as Enfield, many of us wear a lot of hats, and partnering is necessary to get the work done. So, let me share some of the partnering stories with you from the past year.

Our Design Committee worked with the Heritage Commission to create historic markers and write an accompanying walking tour brochure. The committee also partnered with Eagle Scout Luke Burritt to design and build a business sign at the junction of Route 4A and South Main Street.

Members of the Economic Restructuring (ER) Committee partnered with the Town to create a marketing piece to encourage and assist new businesses and are working with town and state officials to build a small town dock for convenient access to the village from the lake. The ER team also hosted an informational meeting to introduce MicroCredit-NH to Enfield businesses, which resulted in the establishment of an Enfield MicroCredit-NH group.

Sweet Treats chased away the midwinter blahs with the help of local bakers and our event sponsor, Cantlin Associates, REALTORS. Local businesses provided door prizes, including Alaview Music Studio, Bähler Chocolate, Becky Powell Weaving, Enfield House Of Pizza, Enfield Shaker Museum, Lasting Impressions Graphic Studio, Mickey's Roadside Café, Safflowers florist, Seasons Restaurant, Pearson Design Associates, and Whaleback ski area.

EVA board members worked with townspeople and home improvement business Home Partners to spruce up the historic flagpole in the village, giving it a much-needed coat of paint.

Our spring Cleanup/Green-Up Day committee partnered with the Crystal Lake Association and the Town, via the DPW and the transfer station, to remove and recycle trash from our roadsides.

The Shaker 7 Road Race team partnered with Enfield Shaker Museum to deliver a smooth-running race that attracted a record number of runners last year. The race also received vital support from area businesses and sponsors. We are indebted to our major sponsors, Retail Control Systems, Defiance Electric, Granite Northland Associates, Mascoma Savings Bank, Omer and Bob's, and Home Partners, as well as our supporters, Hanover Outdoors, Suzette's Image Centre, Carpet King & Tile, and Enfield Hardware.

EVA also partnered with Enfield Shaker Museum on the first annual Art and Garden Tour, with support from All Things Creative and Red Roof Gallery. This event could not have happened without the partnership of our fabulous gardeners and the generous support of our sponsors, Moose Mountain Realty, All Things Creative, and *Kearsarge Magazine* and *Upper Valley Life*, as well as the many donors of silent auction items.

Our summer-long Farmers Market is a partnership with the Town, which allows us to use the great space in Huse Park as well as convenient parking, and the Enfield United Methodist Church, which provides electricity and additional parking.

Our winter community event, Hometown Holidays, depends on the cooperation of local business owners for event locations as well as supplies. Our thanks to Elizabeth Cadle Moore, for the use of her studio space; Mike Davidson, for space in his building; and Seasons Restaurant, for use of the restaurant, bakery space, and about 100 gingerbread cookies. We also appreciate the support of the Enfield Public Library and the Town for the use of the Community Building to bring this popular children's event to Enfield. Special thanks to our event sponsor Shaker Valley Auto Center!

And speaking of partnerships, I've had a long and enjoyable one with the Enfield Village Association, beginning as a charter board member in 2000, then board chair, and now executive director. It's been my pleasure to serve the town through this organization, but I look forward to official retirement in January 2009, when I will leave this riverside office to spend some time doing all those things retirees—and new grandmothers—love to do.

—Sharon Carr, Executive Director

# Out and About

## Volunteer Profile: Spencer Kulbacki



Photo by Nick Powell

At Sweet Treats in February, he seemed to be everywhere—shoveling the walk, showing guests where to hang their coats, serving up desserts, helping award door prizes. He even baked two of the goodies: a pumpkin coffee cake and brownie treats. “He” is

Spencer Kulbacki. At 11 years old, he is one of EVA’s youngest volunteers. This was the second year Spencer helped out at EVA’s annual dessert buffet. Last year, he also helped remove debris and litter with other Cleanup/Green-Up Day volunteers and, on occasion, he contributes his efforts and energy to the Community Lutheran Church, of which he is a member.

You might think the sixth grader would balk at spending his free time this way. But he says, “I like to do it. It’s fun.” Spencer admits he is interested in anything

that sounds interesting and challenging, particularly when it involves fixing and painting things. His mother, Babben Kulbacki, is an EVA board member, but Spencer says it was his decision to get involved with EVA.

*Volunteering, he says, “is not something you have to do. You choose to do it.”*

Volunteering, he says, “is not something you have to do. You choose to do it. You get to help out and work with others in EVA. I like that.”

## New Business: Lasting Impressions



Betsey Child loves what she’s been doing for the 28 years since she started Lasting Impressions Graphic Studio, a full-service graphic design business, and she’s delighted with her office in Hewitt House on Route 4.

Her office had been in White River Junction, but while lunching with friends in Enfield last June, she mentioned the possibility of relocating the business to her new hometown. Her friends took her straightaway to Hewitt House and introduced her to building owner Tony Lozeau, who showed her the sunny, spacious office at the front of the building. “I told him not to show it to anyone else and signed for it immediately,” she says. She moved in the last week of July 2007.

Her office is a comfortable base for the numerous projects she undertakes for individuals, large and small companies, and nonprofit organizations. Projects range from children’s books she’s designed to advertising pieces for local businesses and organizations.



Samples from Child’s portfolio

Child has spent her adult life involved with one aspect or another of publishing and printing. Following her childhood love of drawing, an inspiring high school art teacher encouraged her to study graphic arts in college. “I’d never even heard of graphic design when I got there,” she says, “but after taking a couple of courses, I knew it was my calling and got my degree in it.”

An Enfield resident, along with husband Jim Shibles, for nearly three years, Child is enjoying her new business location. “I just walk out the door and everything I need is there—my bank, the post office, food just down the street—and everyone says hi,” she says. Somehow, she also finds time and energy to spare as a volunteer for EVA. “I really enjoy being involved with this town; it’s a great place with wonderful people.”

## We Need Your Opinion

Help us shape the future of our Enfield Village Association! After eight years of existence, EVA has been a success, according to most Enfielders. Based on where we began, a lot of progress has been made, and we are still working hard to continue that progress. Our **community-building events** have become a part of Enfield's culture and the **improvements to our downtown** are clear for all to see. Small grants have helped some property owners enhance the look of our Main Street. More funding and leadership would ensure continued success.

Now, EVA is at a crossroads. Elsewhere in this newsletter, you've learned that EVA's only paid staff, Director Sharon Carr, is retiring. She has been the "flywheel" that keeps everything going day to day. Also, your hardworking, all-volunteer board is approaching an average age of 97 (sometimes it feels like that). We need new leadership, energy, contributions, and visions. Succinctly, we need a new generation in charge if EVA is to continue to help create the changes Enfielders enjoy and appreciate. Some of our options are:

1. eliminate the paid directorship (our biggest expense) and scale down to a totally volunteer organization,
2. reduce the number of EVA-sponsored events and ask the participants in such events (for example, the vendors at our Farmers Market) to take on the planning and tasks associated with running those operations,
3. see if other organizations would be interested in continuing (and profiting from) our increasingly successful Shaker 7 Road Race fund-raiser and our newly successful Art and Garden Tour,
4. shut down the present EVA and turn over any funds to the Town to use as town officials see fit for further downtown improvements,
5. or—one we especially like—find a new generation of volunteer leadership and financial supporters to pick up the EVA banner and "Keep the Good Things Happening in Enfield!"

Please give us your opinions, feedback, and any other thoughts on the questionnaire to the right and mail it to EVA, PO Box 763, Enfield, NH 03748. All answers we receive will be valuable in helping us shape the future of the Enfield Village Association.

Has EVA's job been done?

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Is there more to do?

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If so, what?

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Please rate the five options listed at left on the following scale:

A. Good idea!      B. Not sure      C. Bad idea!

1. \_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_

There are many ways to help, from spending a few hours in the office or at an event to becoming an event leader or director.

Would you be willing to help? \_\_\_\_

If so, how?

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Do you have any other ideas for EVA options?

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_