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Fri, Apr 11, 2025 1:21PM 54:56

SPEAKERS

Speaker 2, Speaker 4, Speaker 3, Speaker 1, Speaker 5



00:00

I guess I could say I got an old or something, because I used to go to the visit people and the nursing homes are at their house. And few years back, I was sitting here and I says, you know, I haven't been to see anybody for the last couple years. Well, crime of sakes they're all gone? Yeah, yeah. Ain't nobody. Nobody living anymore. What



00:26

happens as you age? Yeah, right. So I'm going to start us off with just a few facts, and then we're going to talk about your life. And you can tell stories. Tell us anything you want, about growing up here and farming, and especially Underhill.



00:46

oh, you should get Freddie Fletcher. You know Freddie, Freddie Fletcher



00:51

has already done two interviews for us. And I love Freddie. He's just such a good guy. Oh, he likes to get in that stuff, and he knows it all, yeah, yeah, he does. He does,



01:02

yeah. He knows everything goes on. He keeps track every little thing right now,



01:06

He made us a map, a great big map that showed all of the dairy farms that he remembered going to and their picking up milk, Jericho and Underhill. And it was all from memory. Yeah, he just ran the roads around and underneath the title he put how many cans was at each house, each farm. Amazing. He still remembers it, right? So anyway, I have to start off with some facts. Today is Wednesday,



01:44
April 9, 2025,



01:47
and John Connell and Jean Archibald are sitting with Ed Stygles in his farmhouse, and we're going to talk with him for a little while about life growing up in Jericho and Underhill, with an emphasis on Underhill, because we're the Underhill Historical Society, but we know that the two towns are kind of joined at the hip.



02:27
By the way, is not going to go beyond us, and it doesn't go anywhere else. We put it in a on the on the computer,



02:35
it's, it's local Jill. So, so, um, when and where were you born ?



02:46
in Burlington, moved. All we ever do is move. My father would move all the time. Never sat idle to get a good farm traded off for a rocky farm, and and I could never figure it out, even when I was young, why do you do it? Because you'd wake up in the morning. You never knew where you were going to go to school if you were in school. And one time, we always woke up one morning in this big house we lived in, and my sister and I were little, and we stayed in that bed, and they hollered and got time to go. Well, they had their truck all backed up by the house, loading the stuff in, and there was a barrel up in the front of the cab, by the back of the cab, and somebody stood up on the thing and grabbed their hand, dropped the snap barrel. Seemed like we went forever in that barrel, back of that truck. And where were you going to move to another place?



03:50
How many so in your childhood? How many places? Oh,



03:54
my God, I don't know. I still know so many of the places. And you Why do you think he moved? He just liked to do that. Some people like that. Did your mother like it? Oh, I don't think so. She never had time to unpack all her stuff.



04:12
So, how? So how? How old were you when you ended up here on and



04:17

I come here when I was about 21 maybe,



04:23

yeah, and that and, and you were farming it.



04:27

Yeah, I lived at St Dennis farm. I didn't live. I rented a barn and the land over there, and Tourville. Bob Torvile rented the house and, and I came up here and back in. Well, maybe you don't get too rich now. But anyway, everybody wanted me to go over to the ange and work and go to different places. And I said, No, I want to farm. And so we farmed it, and I had the best wife in the world, and then she got cancer.



05:01

We need a few names. Your parents' names were Everett, Marjorie, Everett and Marjorie, and they didn't live here. You did. He



05:12

had lived here before in World War Two. My uncle had a store in the Burdett Stygles store, and then he had that in World War Two, and my father come here and worked with him, because I remember the war broke out. I was down there, the little kid and my mother come out screaming, the war started. And I remember that second world war two.



05:39

So your uncle was Burdett Styegles right? And Jesse, he's



05:44

the one, you know, he's good at fixing up a paper crimee My brother brought up his papers.

What the hell is this? Well, I had all my aunt, my uncle's name on it, their kid, somebody up in there, and I called him up, or went up and helped. He said, Oh, I just picked out names. I just happened to come across them. You remember that?



06:11

So you were 20 when you started to farm here, and who was living with you here, your parents? No,



06:19

no, no, I was just getting married a short time after that, and then moved in and she was up. Man, remember Glenn Towle there? Yes, it was his stepdaughter. And what was her name? Jane. Jane. Jane was your wife, the best person. Oh that's cool. That's really cool. How many children did you have? Two and then my oldest son died. He had cancer here two years ago. And yeah, so



06:49

you had a son and a daughter, two sons, two sons, and their names,



06:54

Kenny was the oldest one, and Raymond. Okay,



06:58

yeah, so did you? Did you live in Underhill at all,



07:03

or always? My brothers did after I left home. My three brothers started in Jericho. They lived in Underhill, Cambridge, Fairfax, Westford. They made that whole goddamn law right around my farm? Well, I got one brother that does, yeah, but



07:27

no, it sure does change. So



07:29

you and your brother are the remaining of your generation here. And



07:37

yeah, yeah. A lot of them said, Why don't you get out of farming? You're never going to get anywhere. But I had such a good wife that she knew how to make and she knew how to operate a farm too, and run equipment, and so we've done well,




07:53

why do you think she was so good at it? She just it was instinctive for her.

 07:57

Wow. Glen Towle, you remember him. He had a brace. He couldn't do much. She had to do everything up there. Her sister wouldn't do nothing. And Jane worked all the time, and she liked that hard work. She wouldn't leave that brand to him. Every Dan cow was tended. Yeah. Can you say it's changed. How has it changed? Fireman, oh, well, it's got really big now, and it's another swing they've had here where only the big ones are going to last. Is only two in Jericho and left, Burton Rawson and then Gary Davis.

 08:56

 08:59

 09:05

these other ones here you remember Clifford Hill and his brother was down there to Bristol away and climb my sakes I got, oh, I would dare over two, probably a couple 1000 cows or something. We kept her around 75 head and all, and roughly around 40 cows or a little bit over some time.

 09:34

That's a pretty big farm for that time. Yeah. Well,

 09:39

how much acreage do you have here?

 09:42

270, something. I think

 09:47

you have some memories of some things that happened here. Oh, plenty of them. Head, go for one. Tell us a story. I don't

 09:55

know, like there'd be plenty of now. I can't even think about it. Which. I don't know, just it was so good with like your wife was right there every minute with you.



10:07

How about as a kid, did you get it? Did you help on the farm? You



10:12

sure did. We left Williston right, crossing the white church in town, and we moved up here, and I was about 12, I think. And it was then when he started putting you on a tractor and mowing hay or anything that had to be done. And in the mornings, a big barn up area had to shovel all the manure, dump it. In the wintertime that'll sled down back of the barn or anything and dump it into that. And then if you didn't make it to the corner of the bus, come, because that's Essex up there, and you'd have to walk to school down here, or to go to school down here, where the town clerk says, oh,



10:57

15 there, yeah. What was that? Like



11:02

you have a good teacher?



11:03

I only had one good teacher in my life, and it was Mrs. Small. The other ones never taught me anything, and she was the only one I can remember when we lived in Williston. But I don't know, it's probably me. I I don't have too many brains. I guess that to be studying like that. Did



11:28

you like school?



11:29

No, you didn't want to stay on, just work. And the old man, he knew how to work you too. So as a kid, did you enjoy every chore you had to do, or did you not know any different? Was life every day, right? Yeah. That was, yeah, yeah. Weekends, if you got any time off, I had some goats. I take them for a walk out through the woods or something like that.



11:59

That was what was fun, was to have the goats.



12:02

That's about there too much out school goes on, you know,



12:05

did you have winter sports to just slide on hills? Yeah, wooden



12:10

skis? You know, that's cool leather there. And and go up and further frown up there, and ski down through there, and to go over to to Durbrow ski



12:23

Oh, you did so ski



12:27

Bowl



12:29

That's cool. Yeah, that was pretty well fun compared to when anything else you usually do



12:37

you didn't go to Burlington or go out to the movies or anything like



12:41

that. Well, I got a little older. Used to go out a little bit, but not, yeah, not too much. Go roller skating down Malletts Bay and



12:52



12:55

Oh, you don't remember where that was on the corner when you're going down by the lake and swings and

yeah,



13:03

into our skating rink. Yeah. How'd



13:05

you meet your wife?



13:07

She just lived up here, and in Underhill What was her maiden name? She was a Jones, and Glenn Towle was her stepfather. Well, you know where the road the place is, yeah, yeah.



13:24

So who, who do you remember doing stuff with friends, people, people from Joe Rotunda



13:30

did with him, Freddie Powell and others, different ones. I had quite a few friends, and I get chance to go anywhere. Somebody was usually waiting to do something.



13:43

So Joe Rotunda, the one who ran the store,



13:47

no Young Joe, right? He was Young Joe.



13:50

He was Young Joe. So were you involved? When? When did the fire happen? When the store



13:57

this?



14:01

There was Joe Rotunda store, his father's store right on the corner there. Yeah,

 14:08

Some houses there are still down there. But the store burned. I was trying to think that the store burn> or did the house burn below it?

 14:20

I remember the store, because that's where we used to get all our groceries. Was from Joe, yeah, and remember

 14:31

they used to deliver the groceries? Yes, absolutely. Yeah. Burdett did, in Stygles store? Yep, yeah.

 14:44

And, I mean, I know there's a house way up 15 all the way into Westford. There were some old ladies were living, yeah,

 14:53

right by that corner the road shoots down, yeah, yeah. I remember. I've been up there before with them. Joe

 15:00

used to take groceries to them all the time because they didn't go anywhere, right? Yeah,

 15:04

They were out to cut and brush ,them women, I was outside working all the time, so you knew the three women just to go there, you know, for there were three of them. I forgot. I knew they would help

 15:16

them out. Yeah, what do you think

 15:22

if someone said, Well, what? What's, how do you live to be your age?



15:28

You know, how? What's the what



15:31

would, what would you advise someone how to live?



15:33

What's a secret, how to live? Yeah, don't die.



15:40

I don't know if you die, you're, you aren't going to be living. Oh, this farm makes a healthy way of life, isn't it? Yeah, I don't know. My wife got cancer at 55 years old. My son got it, and he was early 60s.



15:59



15:59

That's, that's sad, that's, that's, that's, I'm sure it was



16:03

tough every day right now, boys, oh, it's on there, yep, yeah, yeah. My wife wanted to be put up there, made a cross and put it up on the hill. And I said no, just let the cows go. I came, been doing there and and, so right now there's four.



16:27

Mike, is that



16:29

for four or five people?



16:33

Six of them up there already? Yeah, up back here in the past. So it's your own Summit,



16:42

a little cemetery. That's not where



16:45

your parents



16:46

from Burlington. My mother was down there somewhere. My father was, well, his father always had that traveling circus, you know, sort of Stygles . Hey, Mike.

(Mike Barnard comes in to visit)



16:59

Hello, Mike. We're recording, so come on in and you can join us.



17:03

Is this one of those podcasts?



17:07

It's an interview



17:10

from the Underhill Historical Society, informal anywhere, just pull a chair up so you're close to the mike.



17:19


With all kinds of wisdom, Oh, yeah. Oh, he





17:23

does. He has a lot of wisdom, like a safe well, we better get that recorded done if he's got all not me, him. Oh, this guy, yeah, just


 17:31
like


 17:34
a human computer with your brain and

 17:36
the people last night. And I said, when you come in, can have coffee, and you just took right off. So I


 17:42
was after seven. I figured you would have been napping. Hey,

 17:47
Jill Can Can you move up closer to my

 17:50
Do I have to send a waiver? No,

 17:55
no waiver. No waiver.

Your used to live up in Underhill

 18:01
Bottom pf Sandhill road, the log cabin where a Vermont ski safety. Oh yeah. He was a professor . His wife is still
up there. I grew up

 18:13
in the house.

 18:16

No, down by the village there. Marie Barrett used to be down. How long have you lived in Underhill? Since 76 okay, I graduated in 78 so yep, and what? In the Navy, but my father worked for GE but he transferred in 80 to New Mexico, really. He was in Lynn Massachusetts, and then in 60 moved to Underhill, and then 80 to



18:43

So you grew up in Underhill, just for the record, say your whole name,



18:48

Michael Barnard, B, A R N, A R D. There you



18:51

go. And you are related to Ed. No, you're just a friend, not just a friend, one of one of his millions of friends.



19:01

So who else might turn up here? Ed,



19:03

never know my brother was going to come, but he had to go get his taxes and relatives that



19:10

probably taking a while. But



19:15

did you know each other way back then? No,



19:19

I wrestled in high school, I wrestled with his son, Raymond. Raymond a year ahead of me, right? Raymond was one year ahead of me. So we wrestled. I don't think I came to the farm till Cook was up here.



19:33

Warden, Cook used to deal with Ed.



19:36

You must know him again. So



19:38

you mean came to the farm. You worked here.



19:40

No, no visit. I'll visit. Okay, I started turkey hunting up here with a warden Cook, and then he got done, retired with the state warden and



19:52

moved out of state, and I just continued to come up



19:56



19:56

now my then my son started joining me, and. Now my grandson joins me. So it's a nice place to nice, a privilege to be able to come up here.



20:07

That's, I agree. It's, it's certainly



20:12

so tell us another story. When you were a little kid,



20:18

I don't know what kind of a story, I



20:20

mean, you worked on the farm. What'd you do for fun?



20:24

Well, you go once in a while, swim. It mostly the fun was working on the ground. You didn't have no choice. Yeah, my father was pretty, pretty tough. If you don't get stuff done, you you didn't mind slapping your side to head



20:40

as you age Ed, do you? Do you find that certain memories stand out. Something comes to like you remember when you were 10? Oh, yeah,



20:49

I do a lot. I said, Jesus, it would be nice to to be young again and go out and do something, you know, up there. And now, when you get older, you where you get as old as I am, you're gonna slow up.



21:04

Yeah, you haven't told us how old you are. Do you want to or not? 90? You're 90.



21:16

I'm 80. You must be 43. 64



21:21

that's a good age being



21:23

retired



21:26

50 something. I retired at 57, UPS. I was a UPS driver. Oh yeah.



21:32

What about school did you have? What was that like?



21:35

Just like any school go down there and you hate it, couldn't wait till the bell rang. So Burdett

 21:41

Jesse taught down there. Yeah, she taught in that building. I sent out her as a teacher, yeah? Loretta Casey, remember her? Loretta Casey, I remember her very well, yes.

 21:53

Oh, Queenie. Queenie Williams, where the candy place is? Helen

 21:58

Williams, yeah, she was pretty fierce.

 22:03

She wasn't. I remember one time she said, You're staying after school. I didn't think I did anything. I sat there so long she'd look up because I knew I would be in more trouble if I weren't home working than I was sitting in that desk. So I kept getting up. She's like I wouldn't be if I was you. Well, you weren't me, because I knew when I got home, my old man would kick my butt. I wasn't there because you had to stay up to school. No, yeah, because I went, Yeah, doing chores. So I just headed home, and he didn't care. My mother was death against you. She wanted to get an education. And and my father, he didn't really care about it. He wanted your home working. Yeah, so

 22:52

Helen Williams, Loretta, Casey,

 22:57

Jesse Stygles who else was teaching in those days. Yes, I can't remember. I can't remember any more than that. Yeah,

 23:05

Well, you're smarter than I am. You should remember

 23:10

more. What about transportation? How'd you get around?



23:14

Yeah, on the on the school, yeah, Ralph, could you had they call it a paddy wagon. It was some thing they used to move prisoners in somewhere where you got it and had long benches you're sitting every time the corner it all fire.



23:31

Mean it like it was a van with anything and benches



23:34

facing this way instead of this way. Yeah, on his side. That's the thing you sit here against your back, against a long and tip over



23:46

so you got picked up where
so you got picked up where



23:48

to go down the corner down here, because they fixed it where we could go to Jericho school. But we lived in Essex when he was up there, right the line cuts across. Yes, it does. And



24:02

so that's how that worked. You



2



24:12

So what are you up to today? I'm



24:14

actually going to Phoenix tomorrow, so I come up to let Ed know I wouldn't be here for



24:18

a week. Phoenix Arizona. Yeah, well, I



24:21

I know it took me three months to come back after the winter break, and it's coming up on turkey season, so I kind of make more frequent stops to look in the fields and but that moose, remember the moose I got? Yeah, I'm going out to Arizona for some convention there.



24:40

Oh yeah, you send down because



24:42

of having gotten the moose



24:44

well, it was a big moose. Where'd you get it? Up in Bloomfield,



24:49

and he shot



24:50

with a bow. No kidding, but it's the



24:52

third largest one ever taken in Vermont.



24:57

How many pounds was it? 875? It.



25:01

How big did they get?



25:03

Our largest one ever taken was just over 1000



25:07

so the third one here,



25:09

no, wait, it's the antler size. Oh, I see. Okay. So the configuration, the measuring, and the number of inches, the score. So inches, the score. So



25:19

tell us about getting it. What was it like? Experience



25:23

of a lifetime? To be honest with you, I just go ahead tell us, well, it's a lottery system in Vermont, and they've got it now in only two areas. The Northeast Kingdom is the only two places that you can hunt them currently. And the lottery. And I drew a tag for archery in a particular area. And I invited a gentleman. You can bring three people. I invited a gentleman who happens to be a state turkey calling champion. He's great with vocalizations. And I knew he had area knowledge. He'd been up to the Northeast Kingdom on moose hunt. So I asked him, he's so we did it together. And you can have three people that do it with archery. Thought it'd be easier with just two people.



2



26:11

Day two ended up calling it in and shot, didn't see the animal fall. So common practice is to leave them for a while. We actually came back three hours and commenced And following a trail,, yep, dragged it out with a horse. And



26:29

must have been excited when



26:32

you and with a bow with an arrow



26:37

straight to a certain place. Basically,



26:39

The theory behind the archery is the broadhead does cutting, yeah, so hemorrhaging. So when you're able, you're aiming for the lungs. Nothing can survive, yeah? Or, or, in this case, he ran out of air before he could bleed before he could bleed



26:54

out pretty quick.



26:55

Yeah. Oh, you know, I just wanted to stop



26:57

and say you saw that picture



27:01

mine, yes, yeah, my brothers, my brother's grandson, got the biggest this year. Went to horns or something. Yeah, there's two, three other pictures and probably an interview. You probably



27:14

never stopped talking. A cell



27:24

phone. Just say hello.



27:25

I'm gonna say hello, and then I'm gonna have to stop and see you later, or some whatever. I gotta hang up.



27:33

Uh, I'm interrupting. We're having a bit of a confusion here on the tape. Side track. Side track. We have one story going from Mark Mike, sorry about getting the moose, which was third biggest in the state of Vermont, since



27:51

they've been keeping records, yeah, yeah. With the bow, there's bigger, but bigger, but yeah. And
And



27:57

so now you're going to a convention because of having done that,



28:01

or well, the organization that keeps the records, the national organization, is called Pope and Young. So in the Vermont Big Game Trophy Club record book, I'm number three with archery for inches of antlers in this country, just for every month. Oh, okay, in the country. I don't know where it falls in the country, but the convention, they do every other year, or every biannual, every two years. So for the years 22 and 23 I shot, they wouldn't tell me if it was number one or it was number five, but one of the top five moose for that species. Now there's Yukon in Canada and Alaska. That's a Yukon moose. We have Canada moose in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, a different space, and then the Shiraz in the southwest, like Utah, Colorado. So for my subspecies, for those two years. Mine is either one through five somewhere, and I'm supposed to be recognized and



29:06

they're going to give you a medal or something, I believe,



29:09

a plaque, a plaque, some sort of wall. Okay, bravo. I had to ship the moose. I shipped the horns to prove it, so they could rescore officially, their organization could re-score it. What do they do when they rescore it? Come up with,

hopefully the same number? Oh, I see. I see.

 29:27

So while Mike's telling us this story, we get a call from Nate Sullivan, who was interviewed just last month

 29:47

He has a lot of memories for his age, because he's not as old as you think he is. He's

 29:54

not as though anywhere near your age

 30:03

I want to ask you a question. Did you ever go to church?

 30:06

Sure, that was the one thing I didn't like going to church for. You're sitting in your own pew

 30:20


I have that problem. Was

 30:21

it? What church? What's church? Was it up to Underhill St Thomas, yeah. And when we're young, my mother used to send us for catechism and all this stuff, but my old man, he didn't care if you ever went. And then, when my mother was so sick, their sisters down there, she would, they would call, come up, pick up the boys and, well, they didn't want to go to catechism and church stuff. And my mother sure tried to get them to go. Not

 30:59

something's part of your life now at all? Yeah, no, now,

 31:05

how many years since you been to church?



31:09

I don't know. Not too long since I've been up for breakfast. There you go.



31:13

That counts, right? That counts.



31:14

You're under



31:16

the you're under the roof,



31:19

yeah? What was your favorite thing to do as a kid?



31:23

I don't know, I used to try to go fishing once in a while, but the old man wants you right back here. And I didn't ever do a heck of a lot.



31:33

You fish down here in the Browns River, yeah, some,



31:36

You know, I didn't do a lot, but I did some. Never did you think about it. And had horses on the farm, you'd ride them some and



31:48

What are your chores that you're doing now while you're living here?



31:54

Now? Yeah, what do you do now? Not milking any cows, just got beef cattle, and I was going to call you up last night.

And tell you, forget about coming. The snow was coming, and I got cows calving and and I was worried about them. I opened up the barn so the calves, they all went right in. Everything was fine. There last night. How many calves have you got? It only got three. So Friday I'm not going to have a couple more, because I'm cutting way down, I knew this day was coming, and I shipped those older cows for beef, and as they got older, it's worked out pretty good. But now I don't think I really want to get out of it, but I know I've got to get out of it. Yeah, I can't,



32:37

can't do it. So it's kind of hanging on to farming. Yeah,



32:43

my dog. She loves to help out there, so I should keep them for her. But



32:48

she looks like she's a herder, like she likes to herd, she likes to



32:54

Mike opened up the gate. But I see she was doing the job. She put the cows on the backside there



33:01

Last night, he brought a round bale out for the cows back there, and I got the gate open for him so he didn't have to get off the tractor. Yeah, and Jill, Jill, he's on the tractor. Yeah, and you're helping. I just swung the gate. And



33:15


she must be part Border Collie,



33:17

Border Collie and Australian Shepherd, maybe a dozen other things I don't I bought her way out by Little Falls, New York. You know, where that is way beyond Saratoga. Wow. And I lost my other dog. My son and nephew. They took off. And when all day, I took my truck and got this one dog, I said, I don't think it's a good idea, because it's time for somebody to pick out a dog, and bring her back. And why did that dog come? Right to me, she was a little thing, and I tried to give her some scraps, meats and stuff. She had turned her nose up because they didn't feed him that well, boy, cook. She got a taste of that. That food is last there, and she wants to scratch. How old is she now? At three, I think, Oh,

 34:10

 34:10
She's young.

 34:15

She's good, well mannered. She even listens to me. I'll start up through the field, and she'll kind of start going, and I'll tell her to go back home, and she turns around, comes back. Border Collies

 34:25

are just so smart. They're so smart. Yeah,

 34:28

she's been a good little dog. And one thing is, I don't like when I go across here, get her from back, back, back, oh. I holler at her, and she'll run ahead of me and bark and jump up and down. And are

 34:44

are you able to get around on your land?

 34:47

Not too much you can do out there. Now you ride your

 34:51

tractor. But I mean, when the weather's good, you can get all around everywhere. Oh, you

 34:57

i mean my house. Yeah, yeah. I. Can, but getting so it's not as easy as it used to be, because I have some heart trouble and I have to stop and sit down or lay down or something. Yeah,

 35:14

where did you live in Underhill?

35:18

35:18

I didn't live in Underhill. Well, you never. The kids did. They lived by Mert Mills. You know, Mert Mills store, where the parking lot is now, my brother had that house, and there they lived in. There

35:32

is that the little house. That's the next one up from the jolly store. It

35:36

was one there they took him down, had a big opening. Was a store at one time, yeah?

35:44

Oh, north, going north, just the

35:46

on the other side of Merts, right, and there's a parking lot where they got cars they parked for the store in there. Now, were you a friend of MERS? Yeah, he come down and alked and stuff, yeah?

35:58

So had he lived, he'd have been about your age? No,

36:01

you're older, not older. Oh yeah,

36:05

yeah, he

36:07


When he died, then Gracie was trying to sell the place, and then finally she did, and it's a big park. It's so cool for the community, but I remember Mert's store, yeah,

 36:24

I worked there. Did you ,senior? You weren't from? No, I worked for Gracie. Nobody worked for Mert. Everybody worked for

 36:35

Gracie. Gracie was supposed to, not supposed to be about me, but I do have to tell one thing about Gracie. She was my basketball coach. Oh, really, there was a group of ladies. When I first moved to Jericho center in 1958 I had children and I and I heard about this basketball team up in the center. You know where the community center is now. It was a school. It was a high school and a gym, small gym, I know now

 37:06

the people are tossing it like they wouldn't have to run to the hall and they toss it and put it in the basket, you know?

 37:15

Yeah, Jesus. That was your gym, right? Did you go to that school?

 37:20

Yeah, I rode donkeys in there before remembering I usually rode donkeys there. Yeah, they used to go around these jackasses and burros, and they would run, get people in there, and people that pay to come in and watch, and then raise money for, like,

 37:34

Worthams were those little ponies,

 37:38

the donkeys up those steps, and then, oh yeah,

 37:40

they go anyway. Yeah, they go anyway, yeah, I remember Bob Breen trying ,was gonna ride him, well he was clumsy anyway, and it ifted him on one side he fell right off the other..



37:53

How many donkeys at one time?



37:56

Oh, they had a game in there. So, yeah, quite a few basketball game, yeah, I don't know how many. Well,



38:03

this lady's team was Marge Hunt and other people. What about her? Marge Hunt was on it? Oh, really. And Gert Hunt from , remember, you know them, so I went up and joined them, and we Gracie was our coach, and she was a chain smoker, and she swore, oh yeah, she swore at us if we didn't do the right thing. And we had games all over. We played nurses from Burlington and , and we never won anything. You had fun, though? It was fun. Yeah, I still remember. I



38:49

thought she would still be here forever. She was on. There's a little calf out there. Now, you look through the pen there and see, see the fence little ones? Yeah, they're getting born the other day. That's cool. Girl. I figured that she was going to live forever. She was in such good shape. Yeah,



39:13

When you were on the farm, where you still are, did you pretty much raise all your own food? Well,



39:19

my wife would have a pretty good garden. Yeah, yeah, vegetables and yeah, cabbage. She'd have cabbage. There were some bigger ones splitting right open. I remember that and trying to give them to the people and everything else. And big cabbages would just pop right open. Chickens,



39:37

huh? Chickens? Were there ever chickens on the farm?



39:41

Most farms had chickens. People complain now they don't live anywhere near a rooster crowing. I think that's one of the nicest things to go and listen to a rooster crow. If people don't like it, move out.

 39:55

 39:55

What's wrong with a turkey? Gobblin?

 39:58

Yeah. Right, but

 40:03

about to so you had your own meat and your own milk, obviously, yeah,

 40:10

pigs. You have many pigs used to raise your pigs, so you got caught a few buildings here, you must have had plenty of room for animals. Well, the

 40:17

old barn used to be a little stable. Then for heifers, that was a big door there for the hay, horse barn was over in this end And

 40:31

What horses did you have?

 40:34

Well, in the beginning they had work horseshoes. And then for a lot, my wife liked saddle horses. So she usually had a horse or two, and she liked breaking them and stuff. And did she ride them around her? Yeah? She probably didn't have much time to do, no, but she could sneak a thing in a horse show. She liked to ride and compete in that stuff. She always done good,

 41:01

yeah. But did you? Did you hay with the horses

 41:04

At all?, very little when I come here, but before that, they did go for that. They used to when I was little. When we lived here, I used to have to sit on the horse to cultivate corn. You know, they pull a cultivator. Well, a horse, you were little, you reached down and were going to get corn. Oh, man, would holler at you, you know? Well, we little kid couldn't pull out big horse up. He pulled his head down, grab some corn, you know,

 41:33

I guess some of the good old days,

 41:36

see, you'd be riding the horse while your father or somebody, yeah,

 41:41

walk behind the cultivator. That's how a lot of the small farms did all their

 41:47

cultivating. What about logging? Did you cut trees at all? Oh,

 41:53

I was old enough to get going. My old man would make me cut him and take him with a horse. I remember, I wished I got a picture. It was a big sled. I had that thing roll so high I put chains around the bunk and took a horse and put a chain under the law and rolled them right up on and took them to the sawmill. I remember when I went down to Boy, that's a load, okay, and what was the sawmill right down here by the Sawmill Road? No, the river. You know, the sawmill right here?

 42:26

Oh, okay, by the bridge, yeah,

 42:30

yeah, quite a lot



42:31

of wood. Any accidents



42:35



42:35

ever? Not too serious? Would you go to the doctor ever? Yeah? Doc Town, yeah, yeah. I told him there one time he's going to give you a needle. I told him he's using the wrong end. Oh, Jesus. He had more needles in that flat dish, I can remember, toss him in there and Oh, Jesus, some of them needles are flat.



43:02

Did he ever pay a house call? Did he ever come up



43:05

here? Oh, they used to come down to my house, Father's house. Went to everybody's houses. Yeah, back in were you born at home? No, I guess born in Burlington, I guess I don't remember you were a little too little right?



43:24

Most people were born. People were born with, oh yeah,



43:27

oh yeah. Doctors visit the house and funerals, most of them, as a kid, take us along. You go to a person's house, and that's where the people werethey didn't have a lot of these other places, they usually just go over the



43:47

your wife and Kenny up here, right?



43:49

Yeah, he was talking about, yeah, there's several people up there. Now,



43:55

Many of the old houses had a birthing room too. Had a room in the house, in the farmhouse



44:01

where, because they had a lot of kids on their room,



44:05

they Well, it would be a small room where the the woman would go when she was about to give birth, because there was nowhere else to go, they would have to have the baby At home, Who's



44:17

the oldest resident in Underhill.



44:21

In Underhill, I don't know.



44:26

I don't know, like, what's his name? Tell me who was that? Oh, Mike hex. His name? Well, he says to get it when you're 70. And he says less than 1% that ever hit 70, really, that's why he says that's over now.



44:47

Well, people are living longer now. Well, the two people I think of are Doris Lamphere, who is actually 100 Oh, she is, she's 100 that



44:59

was. Her father, her husband, was



45:04

just beyond the Lehouillier farm right?



45:06

Yeah. Matt Parisi is getting

45:08

down. Oh yeah. He's in his 90s. Matt senior. Matt's in his 90s, and he's 90. He just, just about 90. Well, I don't know, is he still

45:20

in the house up there in the valley? Yep, he's more than Eli and I am

45:25

Matt Parisi No, yeah, I'll check and let you know we interviewed him.

45:31

and I am okay, well, I might be wrong. The other

45:37

One is Steve McClellan from Stevensville road. Oh no, him,

45:42

no. The other one's pretty old, too. What was his name? The tall guy used to walk. Oh shoot. And they live. If you go up to Packard road and take a left, they said they live there. She's still living. She's about 100 or so off of war Yeah, or yeah, they told me that's where she lived. I didn't know she was somebody was saying it, or what the heck was his name? Gert was on the right. Go, left, left, down in there. They said, What the heck was her name? He always walked to court a lot and tried to do stuff to help the town. Now, I like to chatter. Oh shit, I can't think of his name. Now, you just

46:23

said the word shoot. Did you ever get caught swearing

46:29

and swear words? No, younger, yeah. But yeah, you mean true.

46:36

I mean saying a swear word. Did you bother ever? Oh,



46:39

yeah. What do you do? Never. He didn't give a heck. I guess, long as you're there to work, is



46:47

His, his phrase, his catch phrase for me is Jesus, Jesus. I tell that to my Son, Jesus, Chrimis, Jesus Christ.



47:00

It Doesn't seem like I first heard Jesus crow. He says, so you say Crimis instead of crow, it's your own invention. Ed, huh,



47:11

Well, he's an innovator.



47:14

Did you travel much outside of Vermont?



47:17

No Burlington. Years lucky.



47:22

But that trip you took to Grand



47:24

Canyon or whatever? Yeah? Well, California, yeah, one couple of trips. I just wouldn't be right here. Don't bother me if I don't go off the road at all. Especially lately, my wife, she didn't even care. She went off road once a week. And I kind of go off some But lately I don't a lot of days I don't see anybody here. All the other people who just come around. I guess they all passed away or something. Well,



47:57

you're certainly living in a beautiful place. It's a beautiful place.



48:01

No, I've been happy just sitting here, but I know I'll miss the cows and but



48:10

How soon will you be without cows? Well, I



48:13

I don't know if I want to put in another winter with them, because my health ain't good. And my son, he says, Yeah, you ought to keep a few. And chrime sakes. He says, Christian, that's his grandson Thought you ought to be here. I haven't seen him, I don't think since deer season. Christian,



48:31

yeah, that's your grandson. Yeah.



48:35

And Raymond, he didn't. I called him up and I needed help on the cows to get them in the barn. Raymond never much of a farmer, yeah.



48:47

So who, if you really need some help here, do you call?



48:51

Well, I had, no, he's never called me. I wish he would come. I had, yeah,



48:56

I had, what's his name, my nephew up here. And then he died here a few weeks ago, and Carroll, yeah,



49:02

Carroll



49:05

lived up. I mean, Carol was he could, he could bring his four wheeler down, yeah? Or he could, he was, he was here frequently, every day, right?



49:13

Yeah, just now



49:16

it could get him, yeah, open gates or whatever, yeah,



49:21

made it handy, like I was yes yesterday, and Mike was here. He was going to go into the field, and I asked him, you want to open the gate? But my dog was right there, but I didn't want the cows to get out. So



49:37

Do you ever remember the cows getting out and going somewhere where they weren't supposed to go.



49:43

They go for a walk. Yeah, that's everybody find that



49:48

the council can't listen. Where would they go from here when they got down through the field, they don't Yeah, never easy to get them



49:55

back, usually, especially if you got a good dog.



49:59

Yeah? I got hit by the electric fence last night, closing that gate goodbye. And



50:04

really, I guess so,



50:08

which gate I closed, I grabbed the wrong wire. Oh, you mean for the cab. Yeah, I grabbed the wrong one



50:17

so I don't have to test it. No, it's good.



50:22

Shock. From Burlington, Burlington



50:26

Fire Department, and you want to do it, you've got a tester here, and you stick the hand on the ground and hit it. I told them how to work out where you could know you. And now look. He said, Boy, does that thing bite? What the heck did you do? He hung on the ground wire and stuck you out on the fence. Well,



50:51

he lives out on



50:54

Raceway road. His father was a captain or something up here to the fire department. Oh, what's his name? Can't think of



51:04

that. It'll come later.



51:07

I gotta go. I hate to run, but



51:08

you got all your interview, and now you're ready to go see if somebody else is taking the interview. I'm



51:15

going down the I gotta buy a pen down there to CVS so I can sign autographs. My



51:22

God, you keep talking to him, John, I'm gonna take my



51:25

trip out west. Thank



51:28

you. I'm taking Mike's picture.



51:32

Oh, my God, your camera's not gonna last long,



51:36

you say that. I'll bring up a picture of you, mister. I got one on my phone here. Of you



51:41

Oh really?



51:44

see if I can find it. We were sitting on the porch there, gabbing one day and a nice day. And Ed was kind enough to let me take look how proud he



51:57

He is proud. It's not taking. Oh, good, because I



52:01



52:01

was smiling too much.



52:02

You broke my camera, we believe



52:07

got it. How old is your house here? Oh,



52:10

Ivan White used to be at Cilley Hill



52:24

come up. Oh yeah, that's a porthole on the ship.



52:28

It's hard to do that out here. Yeah.



52:32

What was I saying? Oh,



52:33

the age of the house.



52:38

Oh yeah. Years ago,



52:39

Ken just saw. He said it was old when I was



52:44

see, when I was young, we lived here. That used to be



52:56

there. This would be



53:01

Mike. There's a door here. When that was a kitchen, the door is coming in here, and like I see that other kitchen,



53:12

you changed it. You remember when



53:17

the car came in? Are you that old



53:20

when the car came, when the



53:22

when the first cars came on. Mean,



53:25

automobile, yeah. I mean, do I remember how old do you think I am? I said I'm 90, not 602



53:37

hell, they've had cars for how long?



53:41

Early 20s or before that. He's insane. Time. I'll be back on the around the 18th, whenever,



53:47

whenever you want your picture taken again, you'll be around.



53:53

Let me, let me Lou. And you have all these, these paparazzi, and he's gonna be famous. He already is. I don't know why he doesn't do a podcast. No, he's talking about you. Oh, you. What's your highlight of Sunday? What do you do on Sunday? That's special every day. Instead of going to church, right? When you should be sitting in your pew, what are you doing, right? W O, K O, listen to the just Yeah,



54:15

yeah. Is that what he does? Oh yeah. He's on. W O, K O, well, he calls



54:19

in. I got this, I got that, or I'm looking forward to it, doesn't do any good.



54:24

You're probably famous on the radio



54:26

Oh, it's Ed again, that's what they say. Oh, it's calling again. Nice to meet you.



54:32

I think



54:34

we're going to wind down. Now, if you get anything you want to say that you never you didn't get to say,



54:41

Nice of you to come.



54:46

Nice, nice. Nice of you to do it. Thank you. Thank you so much.



54:51

Take care. Then it's going to



54:52

be on the computer. I