

book is truly a labor of love. His addition of background stories helps provide greater insight and meaning to the photographs included and through his photography and the recent addition of writing to his repertoire, he gives a face, and a voice, to Vermonters.

Peter lives the lifestyle he captures in his photography. A Vermonter for over five decades, he has embraced the way of life that makes the State so special. Like his black and white photographs that draw focus squarely on the subject of the piece, rather than relying on flashy colors to convey a message, he is not interested in glitz and glam. His books have themes that exemplify Vermont: farm women, gathering places, small communities. He laments the waning of iconic farms, the erosion of small town values, and the fading of the once impermeable Vermont way of life. His resiliency is remarkable and his uncanny ability to display the beauty of Vermont in a way words cannot do justice serves as an inspiration for photographers everywhere. I ask unanimous consent that an article in the VT Digger that highlights the lifetime of accomplishments of this extraordinary man be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From VT Digger, Nov. 10, 2013]

IN THIS STATE: FOR PHOTOGRAPHER PETER MILLER, A WONDERFUL LIFE IN BLACK AND WHITE, AND A FUTURE COLORED WITH GRAY

Photographer Peter Miller has spent a lifetime seeing the world in black and white while portraying it in all its colors, both with his pictures and writing.

It's a mysterious gift that has blessed him with a distinguished, adventurous career that spans close to 60 years. His latest book, "A Lifetime of Vermont People," is a 208-page paean to the art of black and white portraiture, capturing not only remarkable faces and places, but through sheer passage of time, vanished landscapes and passing eras in the Green Mountains.

Published in June, the cloth-bound coffee-table book and its impeccably printed photos should be the capstone of his illustrious life. But as he wanders closer to the threshold of 80, Miller acutely feels part of a vanishing era himself, his view of the world not unlike an old snapshot: a bit faded and worn, its luster dimmed by the years.

After putting his heart and soul and significant money into his latest book, he honestly admits he's at loose ends: filled with ideas, beset with projects left to do, wondering how he's going to find energy to do them, let alone pay for them. "Lifetime," for all its striking portraits, just about killed him. It sapped his strength, and if you talk with him a while, you sense, some of his spirit.

"Sitting behind that computer for a year, seven days a week, finished me. I had a lot of stress. I put on weight. My right leg swelled up because I was in the same position, and I could hardly walk," he says. He also had to raise the money to self-publish and print 2,500 copies of the book, using his own funds and a Kickstarter campaign.

"I ended up with \$2,000 to my name, and I said to myself, 'I'm getting awfully close to the edge,'" he says.

Having put some distance between the book's release and having sold around 1,000 copies, he can now breathe a little easier and look back on the past 18 months with a sense of perspective.

"I'm not depressed about life," he says, but there's no doubt he feels things have changed in ways he doesn't like and doesn't respect—Ben & Jerry's, gentrification, Stowe-style luxe tourism and massive trophy houses are ripe topics, for starters.

In looking askance at change, Miller is not unlike many others whose life trajectory has spanned 79 years. But it seems particularly poignant irony that after six decades of exceptional artistry, painting lives in film and then digital pixels, he's come to feel as much a historical artifact as his portrait subjects—trappers, farmers, hunters, law-makers, auctioneers, iconic Vermonters all—who have now passed on.

What chafes most is that his old life, where you could make a living as a "stock" photographer selling your work, is no longer possible. People tell him his photos are in calendars and are even used as screensavers in Russia, yet he never sees a penny. He is miffed at markets that have vanished. Recalling an interview request with the Associated Press, he told them, "I don't know if I want to talk to you people, all you do is steal stuff."

It's tempting to wield the label curmudgeon after talking with Miller, but if you listen a little harder, more likely words like honest, opinionated, frustrated and baffled come to mind.

"All these things are being taken, and frankly, I don't know how to make a living," he explains.

He was raised in Weston, where his passion for photography blossomed in 1950 as a 17-year-old, when he started capturing the way of life he saw around him. After school at Burr & Burton and college in Toronto, he became a carefree U.S. Army photographer, footloose in Paris with a 35mm Leica, a Rolleiflex twin-lens camera, and a young man's energy and budding sharp eye. Then came travels across Europe in the mid-1950s as the set-up man for famed Canadian photographer Yousuf Karsh, meeting people like Pablo Casals, Picasso, Pope John XXIII, Christian Dior, and Albert Schweitzer, soaking up culture and the good life with food and wine.

Wanting to write, he then had a dream stint as a reporter for Life magazine, but disliked the constraints of corporate life—he's kind of a "loner," he admits—and struck out on his own path. It took him all over Vermont and America, producing acclaimed books such as "People of the Great Plains," and "Vermont People," which was rejected by 13 publishers. So he took a radical, then almost unheard of step and self-published it in 1990. It eventually sold 15,000 copies.

His "Lifetime of Vermont People" expands on the idea, with 211 photos and 60 profiles of ordinary and extraordinary Vermonters.

Why use black and white?

"I think you can get inside a person more in black and white," he explains, saying it's more abstract, and not having a color background distracts less. His talent in distilling the essence of a person in a photo is something that he still doesn't completely understand, along with where his "drive" and persistence comes from. He does know he doesn't just shoot, but "visits" with people, putting them at ease, which is something he learned from his mentor, Karsh.

"I don't quite understand the whole process," he admits, calling it "something magical." Miller is gracious and full of tales as he ambles about the second floor of his pale yellow, rambling, much-bigger-than-he-needs and way-too-trafficked house. It's in

Colbyville, a Route 100 hamlet swallowed up and masticated into something indistinguishable by the voracious maw of tourism development at the I-89 interchange in Waterbury. What got lost animates "Nothing Hardly Every Happens in Colbyville, Vermont," a book of essays that riffs with trenchant humor on bird hunting, tourism and life before and after the Ben & Jerry's ice cream theme park up the street.

The smell of smoke from two wood stoves permeates the slope-roofed rooms as he shows a visitor around his house, its walls rich with photos he's taken and art—especially paintings and sculptures of woodcock, a bird he loves to hunt. Are they good to eat? Oh yes, wonderful, he says.

With a ruddy square face younger than his years, a still-full mop of white hair and small round eyeglasses that gives him a look of constant curiosity, Miller moves more cautiously than the vigorous outdoorsman he once was.

"I went out bird hunting yesterday," he says. "I was slow, man. I wasn't too stable in the woods."

A self-admitted "loner" with two daughters (in England and Peru) from a former marriage, he lives by himself moving between an airy studio, a bedroom, small office, living room and kitchen. Downstairs is a little-visited gallery and sparsely heated shipping room stacked with boxes that hold just under 1,400 copies of his latest book.

"I hope to sell a lot over Christmas," he says, noting he still has a living to make. Despite the ordeal of his last book, he has more he wants to do, like an exhibit or book of photos he took in the 1950s of Margaux, France, in the famed Bordeaux wine region.

That period, that landscape, he says, "is completely gone now." But he wonders if he can find the time and energy and if there is a market for the photos. After a lifetime of black and white, life seems to offer only a lot of gray areas.

"I don't know what I am anymore," he says.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROGER SANT

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I am joined by fellow regents to the Smithsonian, Senators LEAHY and COCHRAN, in paying tribute to an individual who has provided exceptional leadership to the Smithsonian Institution as a citizen regent, Roger Sant.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, Mr. Sant was appointed to the Smithsonian Board of Regents on October 24, 2001. He served as chair of the Executive Committee and the Board during the Smithsonian's governance reform efforts. As a leader in the energy field and a committed conservationist, Mr. Sant has generously supported the National Museum of Natural History. His gifts to the Smithsonian have supported the Sant Ocean Hall, the Sant Chair for Marine Science, and an endowment to support the Director's position at the National Museum of Natural History. His service and generosity have kept with and advanced the Smithsonian's founding mission to promote and share knowledge.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, Roger Sant's service to the Smithsonian is an example of his strong commitment to the public good. Prior to founding the AES Corporation in 1981, Mr. Sant served as the Assistant Administrator

for Energy Conservation and the Environment at the Federal Energy Administration. He also directed the Energy Productivity Center, an energy research organization affiliated with the Mellon Institute at Carnegie-Mellon University. He is the chairman of the Summit Foundation and the Summit Fund of Washington. He serves on the boards of the World Wildlife Fund-U.S. and the DC College Access Program.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the institution, the Smithsonian Board of Regents conferred the title of Regent Emeritus on him in October. His service has helped the Smithsonian become a stronger institution.

Mr. REED. We invite our colleagues to join us in commending Roger Sant, and we wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA STONESIFER

Mr. REED. Mr. President, as regents to the Smithsonian, Senator LEAHY, Senator COCHRAN, and I would like to pay tribute to an individual who has provided exceptional leadership to the Smithsonian Institution as a citizen regent, Patricia Stonesifer.

Ms. Stonesifer was appointed to the Smithsonian Board of Regents on December 21, 2001. During her tenure, which included 3 years of service as chair of the Board of Regents, Ms. Stonesifer helped lead the Smithsonian's governance reform efforts.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, Patty Stonesifer's leadership and experience in the corporate sector, coupled with her committed philanthropic work, helped the Smithsonian secure major grants from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to create an endowment to expand youth access to the Smithsonian; to support the construction of the National Museum of African American History and Culture; and to support interdisciplinary scholarship and projects to address the Smithsonian's Four Grand Challenges of "Understanding the American Experience, Valuing World Cultures, Understanding and Sustaining a Bio-diverse Planet, and Unlocking the Mysteries of the Universe." Her service helped advance the very mission of the Smithsonian, and her commitment to public service continues today through her work at Martha's Table.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, Ms. Stonesifer's service to the Smithsonian is just one example of her commitment to the public good. She currently serves as president and CEO of Martha's Table, a nonprofit organization dedicated to developing sustainable solutions to poverty in the Washington, DC community. She was the founding CEO of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for 10 years, leading the efforts to strengthen public libraries and improve education in the United States and to improve world health by mobi-

lizing the fight against polio, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and other devastating diseases. In 2010, she was appointed chair of the White House Council on Community Solutions by President Obama.

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to the institution, the Smithsonian Board of Regents conferred the title of regent emeritus on her in October. The Smithsonian is a stronger organization because of her service.

Mr. REED. We invite our colleagues to join us in commending Patricia Stonesifer for her distinguished service to the Smithsonian Institution and the American people. We wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO DENNIS "PAT" WOOTON

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate a great public servant from my home State, the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Dennis "Pat" Wooton has devoted his life to service—service of his country in the Vietnam war, service of schoolchildren as a teacher in the Buckhorn school system, service of his State as Congressman HAL ROGERS's field representative, and now service of his hometown of Buckhorn as the city's newly appointed mayor.

Mayor Wooton was born 66 years ago in the same Kentucky town he now serves. After graduating from Buckhorn High School in 1963, he worked his way through Berea College, graduating in January of 1968.

In the same year of his graduation from Berea, Mr. Wooton was drafted into the U.S. Army and began his basic training at Fort Knox. After completing infantry training at Fort Polk, LA, he was assigned to the 1/5 Mechanized Infantry, 25th Infantry Division. Mr. Wooton bravely served his country in Vietnam from November 1968 to January 1970. A litany of medals and citations, including the highly revered Bronze Star, serve as testaments to his distinguished service.

Mayor Wooton returned from Vietnam in January 1970, but this did not mark the end of his military service. In 1976 he joined the Army Reserves, where he served as a drill sergeant until 1987.

Before reenlisting to train the next generation of American soldiers, Mr. Wooton returned to his alma mater in 1970 to teach the next generation of Buckhorn High School students. Over the next three decades he became a Buckhorn institution, serving as the school's principal for 14 years and being inducted into the Kentucky High School Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame. He retired in 2000 after 32 years of dedicated service.

But retirement from Buckhorn High School did not mean retirement from a life of service. In the intervening 13 years, Mayor Wooton continued to add to his already impressive record of pub-

lic service. This includes his election as Perry County sheriff, a post he served in from 2003 to 2006. Following his stint as sheriff, he served as Congressman HAL ROGERS's eastern Kentucky field representative from 2007 until April 2013. All of this in addition to his long list of volunteer activities which include, but are not limited to, training the Buckhorn Volunteer Fire Department and serving on the Governor's Smart Growth Task Force.

Now, Mr. Wooton has found yet another way to serve his community. Appointed as mayor of Buckhorn by the city council in June 2013, Mayor Wooton is already hard at work to better the lives of Buckhorn residents. In his first year, he is set his sights on expanding Buckhorn's water lines in an effort to remedy the city's water supply problems.

Pat Wooton's lifetime of service to his country, Commonwealth, and community embodies our great Kentucky motto, "United we stand, divided we fall." I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in recognizing an exemplary citizen.

The Hazard Herald recently published an article highlighting Pat's appointment as mayor of Buckhorn. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From The Hazard Herald, June 11, 2013]

CITY COUNCIL APPOINTS NEW MAYOR IN BUCKHORN

(By Chris Ritchie)

BUCKHORN—A new mayor has taken office in the city of Buckhorn.

It was last month when former Mayor Veda Wooton opted to resign as the city's mayor, a position which she had held for several years. Her vacancy was filled when the council voted to appoint her husband, Pat Wooton, who was elected to the council last year, as the new mayor. Veda Wooton, subsequently, was expected to be appointed to the council during a special-called meeting this week.

Mayor Pat Wooton, who most recently served as a field representative for Congressman Hal Rogers and also served a term as Perry County's sheriff from 2002 to 2006, noted the city essentially exists as a water company to provide service to area residents. But there are other projects he expects to continue working on while in office, including one which will extend waterlines in the area.

The Kentucky Division of Abandoned Mine Lands has approved funding for one waterline project at Cams Branch, Wooton said, while also approving the extension of new lines to serve a few more homes on Otter Creek Road. Buckhorn, which in the 2010 census recorded a population of 163 people, purchases water from the city of Hazard to supply its system.

The city, in conjunction with the fiscal court, has also taken what Wooton described as the "first few small steps" in what ultimately could be a 10-year project to build a water treatment plant at Buckhorn Lake. The plant, he said, would have to be a regional facility that could serve the surrounding area, including parts of other counties such as Breathitt and Clay.

An engineering company is currently working on a study for the project, and if the