

FORTY YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

Twins Cause A Stir In East Andover

By Amy Davis Diggett
For the Beacon

While McDonald's was introducing the Big Mac and the Beatles' *Hey, Jude* was playing on AM radio across the United States, a very rare occurrence in 1968 was happening in East Andover. A set of baby twin girls were being born at home in our little Flag-hole Road house.

The Mod Squad and *Dark Shadows* were popular television shows, as were *Star Trek* and *Lassie*. We still had milk delivered to our home twice a week by Bud, the milkman, and gas was only 37¢ a gallon.

Why there were so many unknown people at my house that rainy April morning was a mystery to me. There was a lot of commotion going on, and things were far from normal.

Dad was away at work and wouldn't be home until Friday. My Great Aunt Margie was very excited, and I could hear the sound of a siren in the far dis-

tance. My uncle Richard was helping my mother, but I had no idea why.

My little sister Bonny, my baby brother Randy, and I were much too young to understand we soon would be welcoming two new siblings into our family. While the world news was "Surgeons at the Hôpital de la Pitie, Paris, perform Europe's first heart transplant," the big news in Andover was posted in the Franklin Trumpeter: "Man Delivers Twins; Praised by Doctor" (see the original story below).

Happy 40th birthday to two very special people: Jeannette Davis Shedd and Nannette Davis Cain!

Today, proud parents Ransom and Nancy Davis still live in Andover. As for their children, Amy Diggett lives in Connecticut and Bonny Morris lives in Andover, as does Randy; Jeannette Shedd lives in South Danbury and Nannette Cain lives in Franklin; born after the twins, Matthew lives in Andover and Glen lives in Virginia.

From *The Franklin Trumpeter*, April 1968

Man Delivers Twins; Praised By Doctor

By Gladys Manyan
The Franklin Trumpeter
April, 1968

EAST ANDOVER — Twin daughters, born recently to Mr. and Mrs. Ransom Davis, took their first ride a few minutes after birth in a cardboard carton. The Andover Rescue Squad ambulance transported them from a trailer on Flaghole Road to Franklin Regional Hospital.

The mystery of who delivered them was solved when it was learned that Richard Lamos, whose only previous experience had been assisting cows, found himself at the scene with no alternative.

"He did a good job. If he hadn't been there anything could have happened," said Dr. Frank Kropp, who took over at the hospital.

Mrs. Marjorie Thisell, who is related to all parties concerned, said the first news of the impending birth was brought to her by Amy Davis, 4, who was sent by her expectant mother down the road about a quarter of a mile to Mrs. Thisell's house. Amy said her mother was sick.

Mrs. Thisell quickly jumped into a pickup truck and sped to the Davis trailer, taking Amy and her 14-year-old daughter, Roberta, with her to stay with the three small Davis children while she drove Mrs. Davis to the hospital.

When she realized Mrs. Davis was in advanced labor, she jumped back into the truck and sped down the road, leaning on the horn.

Mrs. Gerald Walker, who lives a short distance away, came out and Mrs. Thisell shouted to her to call a doctor and ambulance, then continued on to the home of another daughter, Mrs.



EMERGENCY DELIVERY — Richard Lamos of East Andover holding Davis twins which he delivered recently in their trailer when he discovered it was too late to get Mrs. Ransom Davis to the hospital.

Maurine Lamos.

[Richard] Lamos returned alone to the Davis trailer to find one of the twins arriving. He assisted, wrapped her in a blanket, emptied a banana carton containing toys, and gently put her in.

The second twin couldn't make up her mind, giving Lamos a "real bad" time, but finally arrived at the same time as the ambulance.

Frank Haley and Hazen Augerton, members of the rescue squad who came with the ambulance, helped get mother and babies to the hospital.

All concerned were re-united in the trailer, the twins sleeping peacefully when interviewed.

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The Clothesline Project Displays T-Shirts At Colby-Sawyer

Colby-Sawyer College will host the annual New Hampshire Clothesline Project from Wednesday, April 16, through Saturday, April 19.

The project is a visual display of more than 5,000 t-shirts that bear witness to domestic and sexual violence in our society. The project seeks to educate people about violence, to mourn those who have died as a result of this violence, and to honor survivors' courage and their struggle to heal.

During the event, clotheslines will be hung with thousands of t-shirts decorated by survivors of violence or someone who cares about a victim or survivor. Often the experience of viewing this overwhelming display of strength and remembrance is enough to encourage survivors to "break the silence" and contribute shirts of their own.

This is an important step in ending the vicious cycle of abuse, according to organizer Donna Brennan. "By hanging

a shirt out in the open, victims can leave behind some of their pain and continue to heal," she said.

The Clothesline Project now has projects in more than 40 states and five countries. In New Hampshire, the project is displayed each spring on the state house lawn in Concord and at Colby-Sawyer College in New London. Colby-Sawyer is the only location in the state to display the entire collection of more than 5,000 t-shirts, a number that grows each year by 250 to 600.

The event, sponsored by Colby-Sawyer's Department of Campus Safety Women's Initiative with support from the AmeriCorps Victim Assistance Program, will take place in the Mercer Hall gym. The event is open Wednesday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM and from 6 PM to 8 PM. On Saturday it is open from 9 AM to 4 PM.

The public is invited to view the exhibit and create a t-shirt. Admission is free.

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