

~~1“It’s the people not the property that makes a town.”~~

Centerville

~~As I look out my window I can see miles and miles of trees. What a beautiful place to live. A small town at the end of the earth, in the middle of Washington County’s blueberry lands and hunting grounds, a place unknown to many, but a place I call my home. Even though Centerville- with only twenty five residents-[Centerville] is a very solitary place to grow up, its unique charm is something I would never change.~~

~~I have lived in Centerville for most of my eighteen years. At times it’s hard living in the smallest town in New England, but usually I can find something to keep myself occupied. Whether it be going for a walk out back to see the fall foliage or curling up beside the fire to read a good book. I also have the luxury of going partridge hunting whenever I want. I know, strange, right? But I grew up with a Maine State Game Warden as my father, and so I’ve always had a passion for hunting. Nothing could come more natural.~~

~~Being in the outdoors has always been a pastime of mine, from fishing on the weekends to four-wheeling with my friends on the blueberry barrens. It is so exhilarating to be outside in the fresh air. I know that when I go to college it won’t be the same. Instead I’ll be in my dorm room working on homework, studying for exams, or just reading a good book. Being in such a different environment will be a big change, but this small town girl is ready for the big city atmosphere.~~

~~Living in such a small town has its drawback, like being teased because I live in the “middle of nowhere,” or having to travel 10 miles for a loaf of bread or to rent a movie. Those drawbacks are small compared to the joys that come with living in Centerville.~~

There weren't enough people in the town to take over the town jobs so ~~unfortunately,~~ Centerville was just recently declared a township. Going from a town to a township means that the local people don't have control over where the money goes. Instead, the state decides what happens in the town. I have always felt special for living in the smallest town in New England. I had hoped to be able to vote when I'm eighteen in the little town hall up the road, but now that will not happen. Instead I will have to go to the next town over.

A few months ago I ~~had the opportunity to attend~~[ed] the last town meeting in Centerville's history. ~~It was an experience of a lifetime that I will never forget.~~ "It's the people not the property that makes a town," First Selectwomen, Margret Dorsey, remarked in her closing statement. Six neat rows of old school house benches were lined up with thirteen kids, teenagers, and adults (more than half the town) quietly sitting for the town's last meeting.

Centerville has made me who I am ~~today~~ by giving me experiences and character that other town's couldn't have. I am proud to say that I live here. It has been a privilege to grow p in such a unique town as, Centerville.