

# Montpelier/Barre Tour

November 14, 2007

145 miles

It seems I have been living in a bubble.

As I'm whiling away the hours listening to podcasts and knitting hats, the rest of the world is cooking turkeys and vats of mashed potatoes and decorating Christmas trees! How did this happen? I feel like Rumpelstiltskin.

And so it was with this Seasonal Denial Disorder that I made my way through the streets of Montpelier and Barre. This tour took on a different tone than the others, more talking with people and less cleaning and rotating. Partly because the Hannaford and Price Chopper were both rotated pretty well and only needed a quick dusting. I had to exchange 5 Tres from Barre Hannaford that was over 11 weeks old. They're not moving the CAG and Tres at this store by my observations but you'll want to check with Cari on this. I hung a Christmas stocking at both stores.

I stopped at the Hunger Mountain Co-op and hung a stocking. The shelves were filled to capacity with coffee. I visited with Chris for awhile. They're moving their Bulk coffees to local roasters. Chris said they got a new grinder but it hasn't been put out near the Bulk coffees yet. In other news. . . he bought a house in Berlin and is moving in it on December 14th. He's very excited.

Then it was on to L.A.C.E. where I spent a lot of time. I talked with Ariel, who is one of the owners. Her husband is the other. Ariel explained that LACE is a non-profit outreach program educating people about buying local, while the Market, which shares the same space, is a for-profit place to sell local products...produce, meat, eggs, cheese, chips, salsa, honey, knitted items, soap, and on and on. What I could see is that they area Deli, a Cafe, a Market, a Community Kitchen, and a Play Group. Sunday Brunch is their busiest time. She says Demos during this time are a big hit! I left her with a half pound of our Espresso. She seems real open to taking us on.

I loved this wall sculpture by Janet van Fleet.

Lily done-for-the-day

