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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Winter Issue Features

Tropical Storm Irene

Web Exclusives

Meet Our Advertisers

About Vermont Life

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Advertise With Us

Guidelines For

Contributors  
Contact Us

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## ONE IN 625,741

# Every Vermont Has a Story

*Adam Howard: active, enterprising, self-sufficient, involved*

By James Askew  
Photographed by Caleb Kenna

**T**hough he lives off the grid in Cambridge, Adam Howard could hardly be more connected to life in Vermont. As the editorial and creative director of Height of Land Publications, a company he co-founded, this former builder and ski patroller works in Jeffersonville producing such adventure sports magazines as Backcountry, Alpinist and Tele-mark Skier. Howard also helped found the Cambridge Historical Society and the Brewster River Mountain Bike Club; he sits on the Cambridge Development Review Board and, at 37, is one of the youngest members of the state's House of Representatives. Howard is something of an anomaly in the capitol -- a libertarian Republican in a Statehouse controlled by Democrats -- but he says his life is more Vermont than it is either right or left. The



**VL:** Is there anything about skiing that has directly informed your political views and interests?  
**AH:** Absolutely. With skiing you get absolute freedom and absolute control, and you are the master of your destiny, from turn to turn and from mountain to mountain, and it is hard for me to not want to take that freedom and apply it elsewhere in my life. I live off the grid. I am a libertarian. I want less government control over my life and the lives around me, so I think there is a very strong parallel that can be drawn there.  
**VL:** How long were you a builder?  
**AH:** I was a builder from 1995 to 2002. I wanted to build my own home and wanted to learn the skills to do it, and that is what I did. For so many of us here in Vermont, it has been a great way to make a living.

