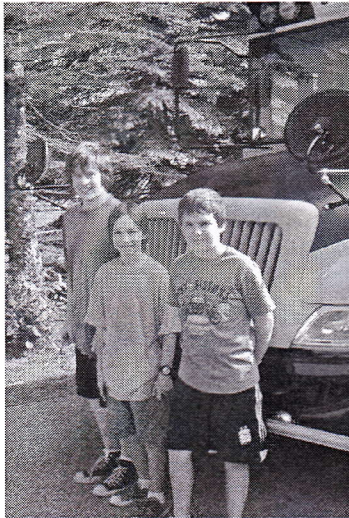




WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

Volume VIII- Issue 1

July/Aug 2010



2010 Elementary Grads by Imme Maurath

Our 3 graduates this year were asked where they were attending high school and what they will miss most about Windham Elementary.

Here are their responses:
Hunter Peters (right) is going to Leland and Grey, and he says he is going to miss his outstanding teachers Gail, Mrs. Kehoe, Sally, and Mr. PJ.

Owen McDonald (middle) is also going to Leland and Grey and says he will miss playing soccer with all of his friends.
Andrew Persa (left) will be on the bus with Owen and Hunter as he is also going to L&G. Andrew says he will miss being the oldest student in the school.. Congratulations and best of luck.

HEARING FOR PROPOSED ZONING REGULATIONS

The Planning Commission will hold a Hearing at the Town Office, 5976 Windham Hill Rd., Windham, VT. 05359 at 7:15 PM, Thursday, July 8, 2010 for interested parties for comments on the proposed Zoning Regulations for the Town of Windham, Vermont.

To conform to the Town Plan, the Planning Commission has been revising the Zoning Regulations. The primary changes will encourage multifamily housing to better comply with state regulations. A large segment has been added for Flood Regulations so as to comply with Federal Regulations and allow those presently in a Flood Plain to obtain Flood Insurance. There will be separate Town Ordinances in the near future for Junk Yards, Storage Vehicles and Recreation Vehicles.

Copies of the Proposed Zoning Regulations will be posted on the web site 'townofwindhamvermont.org'. Hard copies are available at the Town Office.

2010 Vermont Primaries

In consideration of our troops overseas, this year's primaries are moved from September to

Tuesday, August 24, 2010

to allow for more time for absentee ballots

WCO Chicken BBQ and Raffle

Come Hungry

This year's Chicken BBQ sponsored by the Windham Community Organization will be held on Sat. July 17th @ 5 PM at the Windham Meeting House.

You know the "can't go wrong" menu...Walter's chicken from the barbie...potato salad, baked beans, and sweet breads made fresh by our members, and strawberry shortcake picked at a local farm topped with fresh whipped cream—\$10/adult, \$5/child, \$25/family

This year we have a very special raffle. All the prizes are made or donated from our multi talented Windham residents. So far we have:

Quilted table runner-Louise Johnson
3 Decorative pressed flower plates - Marcia Clinton
Hand-painted decorative birdhouse - Louise Johnson
Felted mittens-Lydia France Pope
Quilted as you go bag-Cindy Kehoe
Size 4, girl or boy wool sweater-Bev Carmichael
Waterwheel Quilt Shop gift certificate-Shelly Sas
Quilted table runner-Mary Boyer
Reiki session-Mary McCoy
Country French Provincial placemats-Gina Noel
Quilted wall hanging-Arline Hay
Flower bouquet-Dawn Bower
Turned wooden bowl -Heath Boyer

A bucket will be placed in front of each item so YOU get to pick which prize you'd like to win.

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Select Board News

We hope you are enjoying the long hours of daylight, moderate temperatures and the return to those outdoor chores that we all put aside over the long winter season.

We are turning our focus to the repairs and tidying that the summer months permit. Culverts will be repaired or replaced, bridges examined for wear and tear, dirt roads attended to and roadsides mowed. Please drive slowly, especially on our dirt roads. You never know when you will come around the bend only to face a piece of road equipment that can't easily get out of your way, or someone on horseback.

In May we met with John Alexander, the regional representative for VTrans. He has assured us that the yearly Dept. of Transportation grant that is an important element of our roads budget will be forthcoming for 2010. Our road crew has noticed the wear and tear to the bridge on Route 121 near Grafton. The State will do an assessment of it to see if it needs replacement or if repair will be sufficient. We also brought to John's attention the poor condition of the southern end of Windham Hill Road.

We have written continuously about our attempts to modify our Financial Reports to make them more transparent and concise. Now, in the second year of that process we are revising the Expense reports. We have had input from several residents that has been thoughtful and helpful.

The lawsuit in which we were participating over the flooding of the Hamm Pit Lake is finally resolved. Permits have been issued and easements signed. Installation of an extensive drainage and siphon system will begin soon. In addition to constructing and maintaining the system, US Talc has agreed to hold \$500,000 in escrow which reflects the projected cost of replacing the entire system within the next twenty years. US Talc has also agreed to replenish the level of this performance bond to an amount necessary for the future replacement of the system. We feel this is very good protection for Windham and are grateful to our attorney Bob Fisher for his diligence, patience and advocacy on behalf of Windham's taxpayers.

Congratulations to all our graduates - the three 6th graders from Windham Elementary and all the other grads as well. We are proud of you and wish you success as you move forward to your next challenge. Kudos also to the Leland and Gray baseball team. Congratulations on winning the state championship.

—Mary Boyer, Walter Woodruff, Margaret Dwyer



Theater Comes To Windham

On Sunday, August 8, at 3 pm, Mud Time Theater will present two original plays about Vermont:

Mildred Taken Crazy concerns a famous Montpelier murder of 1897, and what became of the young lady who committed it. This play has been performed in many Vermont locations as well as in New York City, Washington, DC, and Europe.

The Nine Questions, based on a Rockingham legend from the 18th Century, is about a farm wife lost for months in the trackless forest, and how her husband copes with her mysterious homecoming. This play will be performed in the round. The two

plays will be performed in two different parts of the Meeting House, with and intermission between.

Steve Friedman and Denny Partridge, the co-founders of Mud Time Theater, have worked together since 1970, on some 60 different productions. Both are members of Actors' Equity. They live in Bellows Falls. Denny did much of her growing up in Windham and has been drawn back to it unceasingly ever since. She looks forward to seeing some familiar faces at this performance, and some new ones too.

Mud Time likes to say that its plays are always funny, no matter how serious. Admission is free, but donations are welcome. The plays are suitable for age 12 and older. For more information about the performance, please visit www.mudtimetheater.org or write to mudtimetheater@gmail.com

Norman Bills Honored by WCO

by Edith Serke

On May 25, the Windham Community Organization presented its first Outstanding Citizen Award to Norman Bills, our friendly mail carrier for the past 15 years. Over fifty Windham residents gathered at the Meeting House for a pot luck supper to show their appreciation and friendship to Norman. He was accompanied by his wife Melissa and children Nick and Madison.

Many of us thought that Norman was exclusively "Our Mailman". However, we were told that in addition to Windham, Norman also delivers mail to Jamaica, West Townshend, Wardsboro, Stratton, and Winhall. That's a huge area, but you would never guess, because Norman is very prompt, and no snow or ice prevents him from delivering our mail. He joked, "Bills always come through". Severe weather or four feet of snow may prevent the newspaper delivery, but it doesn't stop Norman. Thank you, Norman!



Donna Koutrakos, Dawn Bower, Norman Bills and Edith Serke

Windham Library News by Beverly Carmichael

There are lots of exciting things to report this month at the library. We applied for and received FREE day passes for all Vermont State Parks and Vermont Historic Sites. These passes are at the library and can be signed out for your family's enjoyment.

Even though our state is small, we can proudly boast a rich historical heritage. Ranging from Revolutionary War sites to the private homesteads of U.S. Presidents, Vermont's Historic Sites chronicle that heritage and bring it to you. We also have a library ECHO Pass available until October 10, 2010. Ask to borrow the ECHO Pass, and up to two adults and three youths will be admitted to ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center, at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, for just two dollars each.

Borrow a book. Borrow the Pass.

Special Thanks To Our Subscribers And Advertisers

Where would we be without you? Your loyalty and continued support allow us to keep this newsletter strong and helps us provide a invaluable community service. Thank you so much for your generous contributions, Windham News & Notes Staff



WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

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Published six times a year

Send donations to address
below

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Bev Carmichael

Leila Erhardt

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Mary McCoy

Gina Noel

Edith Serke

Margaret Woodruff

Acknowledgements

Thanks to all who provided articles. Their names are noted with their submissions

Send articles of around 300 words to the address below. We prefer emailed submissions to windhamnews@hotmail.com

Next deadline

Aug 18, 2010

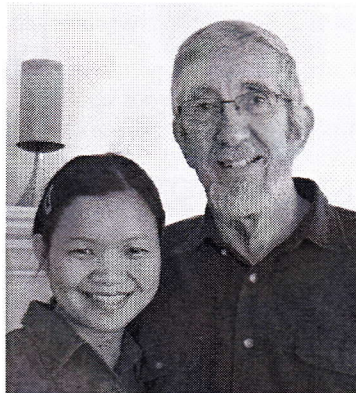
Windham News & Notes

5976 Windham Hill Rd.

Windham, VT 05359

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Mission work calls Bill Farace *by Mary McCoy*



On the other side of the world, in a remote area of the Philippine Islands, people know about our town. They might not know where we are in the U.S.A., but they know that they or their neighbors have been saved by medical supplies from Bill Farace, Sr. of Windham, Vermont.

Bill moved to Vermont in 1969 after his first marriage ended. A carpenter by trade, he renovated a place in South Londonderry for himself and his two children, Bill Farace, Jr. and Holly Scott, who also now live in Windham. Bill describes his life at the time as "one you wouldn't want to tell your mother about." Then in 1972, he married a former policewoman named Jane. In his words, it was a "terrible marriage" in the beginning.

Things changed in 1976 when a friend dragged him to church, and Bill surrendered his life to Christ. "Years of sadness -- my divorce, my new marriage -- all lifted," he says. Jane was not convinced, calling him a "Jesus freak" until she saw that the changes in Bill were sincere. After a year, she too became a believer in Christ. They left Vermont for a fresh start and

built a house in Connecticut.

An evangelist encouraged Bill to go to seminary, an idea that did not appeal to him. So he prayed, asking God to find a buyer for his house, which had been on the market for two years, if He wanted Bill to go. That same week, the house sold, one of many such incidents that have convinced Bill "the Lord provides." After four years at Zion Bible College, Bill began mission work to help people with problems such as drug addiction, poverty, and hurricane devastation.

In 1986, he and Jane decided to come back to Vermont where he felt they would now "fit in" better. Rusty Pringle told him about land on Ingalls Road. It was all trees, but Bill could tell it was a beautiful spot. "That was the beginning of 19 years of forced labor," Bill jokes, as it took that long to finish the work on what is now a lovely home surrounded by a large apple orchard.

Jane did not see the place's final completion. In 1992, she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. The mission work was limited during her long illness in and out of hospitals. Her last eight months were spent at home. Bill had some medical knowledge, having been trained as an EMT-I (Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate), and he received help from neighbors like Carol Bellucci and Dawn Bower, who spent some nights there to give Bill a break. After Jane died in 2001, Bill went on a mission with his grandson Zachary to a Hopi Reservation.

Then he decided to go to the Philippines where his medical experience was needed, feeling spiritually called there despite the heat, the jungles, the corrupt government, the violent rebels, and the recent kidnapping of two missionaries. When he arrived, he stepped out of the plane into "an oven," then rode in the back of a truck to his new home, one room with a toilet bowl that emptied onto the ground right outside. Insects covered his bamboo couch. Water was there sometimes; other times not. After two weeks, he left swearing he would never go back.

But the experience stuck with him, knowing the people had even less than he had been given, including very little medical help. He especially could not forget the faces of the children. So the next year he returned with medical supplies. One boy in the village was so ill that Bill took him to the city hospital, which was also in dire need. Disposable gloves were washed and hung on the line. Sutures were reused. Patients slept on concrete floors or on wooden platforms. A dozen patients crowded in each room with family members staying there too, cooking. Soon Bill was returning regularly, bringing medical supplies.

One day, Bill found himself talking with three young women, all encouraging him to tell them about his life. They had studied English since elementary school, but rarely got to hear an American speak. One of them was Ghing (pronounced "gang"), a recent college graduate with a degree in Banking. When Bill returned to Vermont, he and Ghing continued to communicate through emails, and Bill was surprised by her maturity. Despite a 40-year difference in their ages, a bond developed which grew when Bill returned to the Islands. He asked Ghing if she would share his mission work, and when she readily agreed, they married in 2004.

Ghing's support helped Bill expand his efforts. They formed a nonprofit organization called Renewed Life - Philippines Mission. They reached out to more U.S. medical facilities, requesting unwanted supplies and equipment, things that were slightly outdated or had been replaced by newer models. Bill says he has received help that others might call luck but which he considers divine intervention. He gives the example of a hospital donating 32 bed frames and a few days later another hospital elsewhere donating 32 mattresses. **(Continued on Page 6)**

Carolyn Chase Remembered *by Mary Boyer*

Carolyn Heidle Chase will long be remembered for her light spirit and mischievous humor. She never took credit for her ability to bring levity to the most serious situation. If ever she was acknowledged for making us laugh her explanation was that it was always just "a family trait".

Carolyn and her first husband started vacationing in Windham in the mid 70's. Not long after she met Milford Chase, a humble, loving man, born and raised in Windham. Milford looked after their cabin when the family was at home in Meriden, CT. It did not take long for Carolyn and Milford to realize they were meant to be together. They had many beautiful years here in Windham in the house that Milford built. Milford died last year. On his picture, Carolyn placed a note that read, "I loved you before I met you".

Carolyn loved her simple life. And she probably thought of herself as a simple woman. But that would belie the complex mind and spirit that warmed those of us who spent time with her. She loved words and wrote beautiful, clear, straightforward poetry. On sleepless nights she would play word games in her head to pass the time. She would challenge herself to rhyme and search her mind for analogies, puns and even palindromes.

Many of her poems were about the simple things she saw out her window. She was captivated by the moon, turtles, humming birds buzzing near her feeders, lady bugs and all the creatures that nature paraded before her penetrating gaze. If she didn't write a poem about these creatures she at least spoke enthusiastically of her observations. Her love for nature was a gentle reminder that our lives would be all the richer if we took note too.

Carolyn was a loyal friend. She had several friendships that spanned her entire life. Regular phone calls and notes kept those relationships strong thru thick and thin. She leaves behind many of us who were gently but noticeably touched by her presence.

We offer our deepest sympathy to Carolyn's family and friends for their loss. She leaves behind a world made sweeter by her presence.

The words of her poem, written in 2007 in honor of her deceased son seemed like a fitting way to remember her:

I feel your presence
when I'm lonely
I sense your sadness
when I cry
The wind chimes ring
your spirit lingers
It's your way of
saying hi
Sometimes I see you
big as life
I reach to touch you
You're not there
Not in real life
but in spirit
You show how much
you care~

Carolyn Heidel Chase



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Farace (continued from Page 4)

Over the years, Bill has sent five 40-foot cargo containers and two 20-foot ones, all full to the top with medical supplies. He has arranged for doctors from Vermont to go to the Philippines to perform badly needed surgeries. He has established a blood bank after learning many women die in child birth because they cannot afford blood transfusions. Last year, his mission spent \$9000 total to buy blood, to transport doctors from here, and to send \$450,000 in supplies. "No one gets paid," he says. "We are all volunteers."

Bill would like to stay in Windham in the house he built, and Ghing likes it here too, especially the four seasons. But Bill says he can't afford to keep the house and do what he wants, and Ghing agrees. So he prays and holds onto this scripture from Philipians 4.12: "Whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want, I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."

Bill and Ghing have a wish list of needs to support their efforts that appears in a box here. The most basic need is for funding so they are not constantly scrambling to get things done. The Filipinos served know the help comes from people in a place not unlike their own -- small, remote, and quiet. Of course, we here are rich in ways they can only imagine. Isn't it time for more of us to share our wealth with them?

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Renewed Life - Philippines Mission

308 Ingalls Road
Windham, VT 05359
802-874-4604
bgfarace@yahoo.com.sg

Volunteers are needed for:

Creating printed fund-raising materials
Helping with the website
Handling bookkeeping
Handling email communications
Providing basic computer skills

Donations are needed for:

Collecting, storing, and shipping donations
Purchasing blood for transfusions
Hiring skilled people for work if volunteers aren't available

**U.S.A. NATIONAL SNOWBOARD CHAMPIONSHIPS - APRIL 2010**

by Leila Erhardt

Andrew Weitzel, son of Linda & Rick was one of three Vermont residents to compete in the National Snowboard Championships Competition. The event was held at Copper Mountain, Colorado. A total of 200 girls and boys in age groups of 12 & 13 year olds were competed. Overall there were over 2,000 competitors at Copper Mountain. Andrew finished 43rd in his age group. Recently, on May 28th, Stratton Mountain held a "Mayhem Snowboard Railjam" with 50 people competing. Andrew finished in 1st place.

Congratulations Andrew!!!

Lyricist in our Midst by Gina Noel

Our Strong Living exercise classes switched to 30-second songs to break the monotony of counting for stretches. Mary Mc Coy took the initiative to write more apropos words to several well know melodies. Our favorite among them is written to the tune of "Oh Suzanna" and goes like this:

Oh, Dear Windham!

We came from near and far and wide
in this Green Mountain state
and settled on this high hillside
right here at heaven's gate.

The seasons turn from hot to cold,
lush green to deep white snow.
We find Nature's beauty so bold,
it wipes away the woe.

Oh, dear Windham!
We've got a great life here.
Though we might be slight in income,
we are rich in all that's dear.

We get much more than sights to see
by living on this land.
We gain a simple way to be
with much work done by hand.

We raise our food, knit and sew too.
We work with wood and stone.
We mend and fix, turn old to new
and take care of our own.

Chorus

Perhaps what we love best of all
here in our little town
is knowing should we need to call
a neighbor will come round'.

Our helpful crew is jolly too
Good times we often share.
And though this land binds us like glue,
we each keep our own flair.

Chorus**SAVE THE DATE: WINDHAM VOLUNTEER
FIRE COMPANY AUCTION & BBQ**

The Windham Vol. Fire Co. Auction & BBQ will be on August 14, 2010. If you have any items that you would like to donate and need help getting them to the fire house, please call Phil Talbot 875-2104 or Pete McDonald 874-4015. They will arrange to have it picked up.

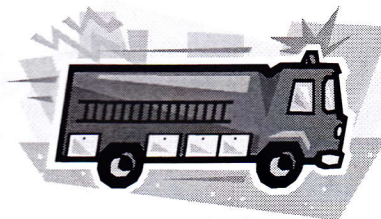
We also would like to invite everyone to the Chicken BBQ. The BBQ will start at 5.00 and the best pie auction in town will start around 6:30. The fire company members to ask anyone interested to donate a pie or baked goods for the auction. You can bring your favorite pie to the fire house the day of the auction (please label what kind it is). Thank you to everyone in advance for your help.

50/50 raffle tickets are on sale. If you would like to purchase some, you can see any fire company member or stop in at B & B Mobil in Andover.

The day starts at 9:00 with preview of auction items & tag sale. Donuts & coffee & egg sandwiches will be on sale.

- 10:00 Auction (concession stand will be open)
- 12:00 50/50 raffle (you could be the lucky winner)
- 5:00 Chicken BBQ (chicken, potato salad, baked beans, corn on the cob, rolls, hot dogs & burgers) will be served. \$10:00 for adults, \$ 5.00 children.
- 6:30 THE famous pie auction

Bring your family & friends and enjoy the day helping support your fire company. Hope to see everyone there.



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Windmill On The Hill *by Frank Seawright*

In the United States only a small percentage of the oil consumed is used to generate electricity directly. However a substantial amount is used for vehicles and equipment to maintain the electric grid. Think, for example, of the gasoline used by crews scrambling to fix the grid after one of our famous New England ice or wind storms has downed power lines.

No doubt the current oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico has caused many people to wonder about their own energy-use situation and perhaps begin to think of solar panels or wind turbines as a way of reducing their dependence on the grid. In this article, we answer a few questions about our a grid-tied wind turbine. A longer version of this article, including photographs, will be published on Windham's community website "TOW Lines" at <http://www.townofwindhamvermont.org>.

On an April day in 2005 we got our Bergy XL.1 wind turbine up and working. But before getting to that day we had done some research, educated ourselves about the availability of rebates and incentives, applied for a Certificate of Public Good, and prepared a location. Here, I will address a few of the most often asked questions about our turbine and refer you to the website for more details.

Is it noisy?

Yes, it has moving parts and it does make noise, sometimes noticeable but most of the time not. Overall, noise has not been a problem for us or our neighbors.

What does "grid-tied" mean?

Our grid-tied system places "excess" electricity on the grid after our batteries are fully charged, if the amount of electricity we're using at that moment can be fully supplied by the turbine. Sometimes our electric meter stands still or may even run backward, indicating that we are supplying all our electricity and placing the excess on the grid for others to use.

How much electricity does it generate?

Our experience is that it supplies about one-third of the electricity used by a family of four adults.

Does it need periodic maintenance?

Yes, the recommendation is that the tower be lowered every four years or so for an inspection. It can be lowered and raised by two people using rope and an electric winch. We lowered ours this spring and found that the blades are beginning to delaminate and will need replacing within a year or so.

Would you do it again?

Yes. However, chances are that solar panels will be more suitable for most people reading this article. For a wind turbine to be productive it needs a high, unobstructed, and windy site. There are other things to consider though, and I hope they come through in the longer version on TOW Lines.

Windham Congregational Church News

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE HELD IN WINDHAM CENTER CEMETERY

Claire Trask, in the absence of pastor Nancy Dyke, led a service of remembrance on Memorial Day in the Windham Center Cemetery. In her talk, she traced the progression from Decoration Day to Memorial Day and concluded with the thought that during this country's long history of warfare, everyone emerges with the hope for peace on earth.

Trumpeter Fred Belec began the service by playing Taps, and Dave Crittenden led the singing of various spirituals during the service. This was the fourth year that the church has held a Memorial Day service in the cemetery.

The Valley Bible Church invites you to check out their updated website at www.valleybibleVT.com for more information and a calendar of upcoming events.

Principal Doty's Report for the Windham School Board

Instruction:

1. Current enrollment remains at Pre-K , five students, K-6, fifteen students.
2. Mickey Parker-Jennings's class completed reading A Long Way from Chicago, grade six read Tuck Everlasting, and the remainder of the class read Weasel. They completed their unit on simple machines and got the good news that they were accepted into the Starbase Program for next fall. Students do a variety of writing assignments every week as well as a lot of testing this month.
3. Sally Newton's class continues their study of farms and agriculture. Most of the eggs hatched into healthy chicks and now reside at a farm. They visited Lemay's Farm, The Retreat Farm, and the Taylor Farm to see the many facets of agriculture in person. They were all different.
4. Field trips: Pre-K to Grafton Nature Museum every month. The trip to Keewaydin was a great hit for grades 5 & 6. Step-up at Leland and Gray on June 3rd. Sixth Grade trip to Six Flags was on June 4th. Field Day and Graduation is June 8th at 6:30. Picnic at Townshend Dam and last day is June 9th for students.

Building:

1. We will install our new grant funded interactive white boards, projector and screen after the students have left for the year. We will also install new whiteboards in Mickey's room and remove the blackboards. The only work we will have to use budgeted money for is one outlet in Sally's room and the cost of the regular whiteboards.
2. We have an inoperable circulator pump which will need attention before the next heating season.
3. I have some formidable tasks ahead rebuilding the Asbestos Management Plan and the Operations and Maintenance Manual (water) this summer to assure we are in compliance with State and Federal law.

Informational:

1. NECAP Science for Grade 4 was completed May 10-27th. This will give us some valuable feedback as we seek to improve our science curriculum.
2. All students completed another round of MAP testing as well as a DIBELS assessment. These are efforts to monitor student progress several times a year to insure they are making progress.

The Latest from FairPoint on Completion of DSL Offering for Windham *by Lydia Pope France*

As you may remember, Windham was included as part of FairPoint's commitment to "wire" underserved areas of the state, for what was originally set to be a "no-later-than-end-of-2010" date. This commitment was one of the contingencies required for approval of their purchase from Verizon. When FairPoint filed for Chapter 11, that date was then pushed out a year (meaning by end of 2011). However, we have something a *tad* more optimistic to report. Below is the note we received from Beth Fastiggi, VP – Government Relations for Vermont.

.... We have pushed our date out for completion of the Jamaica exchange (including Windham) and all other exchanges where we will be providing full broadband coverage out to June 30, 2011, so that is the best date I can give at this point..



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THE CAMP KEEWAYDIN EXPERIENCE - WCO receives thanks from Windham's students

On May 18, 2010 my friends, Andrew, Hunter, Erika and I went on a week trip to the campus of amazing Camp Keewaydin. Well we could have been given money out of the teacher's pocket to have us go. However that was not the case at all! We got help, money wise, from our WCO group. You were able to help us in our time of great need when we could not get money anywhere else. The WCO granted us a \$300. check for the 6th and 5th graders to go on the traditional trip to Camp Keewaydin. We had gotten help from some folks in our Pasta Suppers, but we could not have done any of the great things that we did without the Windham Community Organization.

One of the things I learned there I would like to share with you. I don't want you to get the idea that the camp was not at all fun because it was extremely fun. The thing that was really interesting to me that I found out there was that the Peregrine Falcon is the fastest animal in the world. Although they are not the fastest just flying in a straight line. They get their speed by diving off cliffs and getting to speeds of 210 mph. That is about 3 times as much speed as a cheetah. Actually, there are a few Peregrine Falcons left in the world. There are, amazingly, some that live on a place called Rattlesnake Point on Vermont's famous Mt. Moosalamoo. However, you may not go up to Rattlesnake Point to look at them for they are an endangered species. So that is one really cool fact that I found out while staying at the spectacular Camp Keewaydin.

Another thing I would like to tell you about that was fun at Keewaydin was the all day hike to the top of Moosalamoo. When me and other new friends I had made from Grafton, Floodbrook and Dover hiked the trail up to various lookout sections where you could see the view of the Adirondacks from a distance away. My all time favorite lookout on Moosalamoo was the Eagles Lookout. In the area, eagles, falcons and other various birds soar through the air only about 10 yards away from us. As I was up there watching these magnificent creatures, I was practicing an eagle call so I could get the eagle's attention. When I had the call down, I tried it out screeching to one of them as it was hovering a couple of feet away. It heard the call and swooped right over my head and disappeared onto the woods. So as you can tell the experience at the mountain was a hike and a fun time to have.

I think that this camp is a valuable trip to go on because it explains work like school work and other activities in the outside world. About 100 to 200 years ago, that was what a classroom was. The people were taught outside in nature, just like Keewaydin. So I do think it is a valuable experience for other children to have. They also get to have breaks which are filled with fun activities. I hope you think that Keewaydin is a valuable experience just by me explaining this place to you.

I hope that you can donate money to our school in future years so that new 5th and 6th graders can experience the wonders and learning environment at Keewaydin. I would recommend this trip to any school in the country because I swear they will have the time of their lives. Sincerely, Owen G. McDonald

Thank you for the \$300. I really appreciated it. Without your donation we couldn't have gone to KEEC. It was wonderful there and everyone learned a lot from the experience. The counselors were very kind.

We learned about the food, water and soil cycles. We played games and were taught at the same time. We learned about endangered species of creatures. Then we learned about forests. They have many parts. The canopy, the new growth and the ground level. Forests have different types, boreal, coniferous and deciduous.

Every year on every Thursday you get to choose what you want you want to do. You could choose pottery, all-day hike, extreme stream and canoeing. I chose the extreme stream. My teacher, Mr. PJ went. We scaled water falls and had lunch near an old cabin. On the walk back I tried fresh spearmint (it was disgusting) and Indian cucumber and wild leeks. (See next page)



Business Opportunity! A spacious ranch with a new kitchen, large living room with fireplace, 3 bdrms and 2 baths. A 2 stall horse barn is currently used for retail, a 2 car garage, an in-ground pool and a beautifully designed patio are fine features! Apple trees grace the grounds and a stream on the rear border.

Letter of Thanks to WCO (continued from previous page)

It was such a great experience. I made several new friends. You learn to take only what you need. We learned to get along with fellow "citizens" in the camp. You gain so much experience. You get to be away from home for a week. It really makes kids learn to work with one another. We all depended on each other -- the wood carriers kept the cabins warm. The dish washers kept the silverware and plates clean. Hoppers bring out the food and bring out the food and bring more if the people at the table want it.

Thank you so much for taking the time to hear us out. Especially for donating the cash. You helped us get the \$800., the cost to go. I hope you help other Windham students go to KEEC. It is worth it. Sincerely, Andrew Persa

Thank you for donating to our trip to Camp Keewaydin. You helped us in the biggest way ever. I am so glad you donated \$300.00 to the best trip ever. I had the most fun at Keewaydin thanks to you all.

We learned about so many things at Keewaydin. We learned with Matt what a community is and with Jeff we learned about endangered species. We also learned more things about Natives with Ruth. We got to go on a hike with Josh to Generals Lookout. Best of all we got to eat Indian cucumbers. The second thing is that we got to meet all these new people. Matt is an awesome person, like he sings a song called don't waste the milk. Matt also spells his name like this M@. Jeff is awesome because it is Jeff. Jeff also spells his name like this Ffej. its Jeff backwards. Ruth is awesome because she is nice. Josh is awesome because he is an outdoors person like me. People call him turkey bird for some odd reason.

I loved most of all Thursday choice day. I went rock climbing in the morning and in the afternoon I went to the boys summer camp and went froggin. The thing I liked most about rock climbing is that the instructors were awesome. They were Erik and Cassey. The best thing about froggin was that we got to get dirty with mud and swampy water. The instructor of that was Ruth and she was awesome too.

I think that this should be an experience that every kid should have. Why? Well, because it is a good camp to learn more about nature and it is not like being stuck in a classroom. The outdoors is the classroom for the week that you go.

This was the best camp ever for me. I'm saying thank you again because you are part of the reason why we got to go to this awesome camp. I wished that I could stay longer than a week but I couldn't. Sincerely, Erika VanAlstyne the only 5th grader

I am Hunter Peters, a 6th grader at Windham Elementary School. I want to thank you for the donation. It was great. Going to KEEC was an amazing experience.

One thing that I learned at KEEC was about all the different cycles like the water cycle, the soil cycle and the food chain. The water cycle is when the water runs off the mountains down into the rivers and streams. Then evaporation happens and the water raises into the sky, then condensation happens when that water forms a cloud. After that precipitation happens and the water comes out of the sky like a giant shower.

The soil cycle starts when a tree, a plant or an animal dies. Then the FBI comes. Also known as fungus, bacteria and insects, they come and decompose the dead being. That old life turns into soil that makes new trees and plants. Last but not least, the food chain. First there are the producers that produce food for the consumer. Then the secondary consumer eats the consumer. Then the composers eat the secondary consumer. These are all the wonderful cycles of life I learned about at KEEC.

The thing I enjoyed the most was climbing the rock wall. I feel like a gecko scaling a building. It is a lot harder than I thought though. It gives you a great workout. You have to stretch your body like Mr. Fantastic to get up the wall. Two instructors bailed us. That means they held the rope that was attached to my harnesses. But don't worry, the bailers have the rope attached to their harness as well. After all the backbreaking hard but fun work you kiss the top and come down to the ground. You come down like a secret agent and you walk back down the wall.

Its a worthwhile experience for anybody because you go and see people you have no idea who they are and try to make friends. Everybody comes back with new friends that they made. For a school like Windham it is very good to interact with people because there are not very many kids in this school. Another reason it is a good experience is because you see people you may be going to school with the next year. I suggest to anyone to go to KEEC.

So as I said before, thank you for the donation and that KEEC is a wonderful experience for any child or adult. Thank you WCO and we hope you will donate in the future because you will have kids make more friends and learn more about the environment.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Every Sunday - **Windham Congregational Church (UCC)** has worship services at 9:30 AM: everyone invited.

Every Sunday and Thursday - **Valley Bible Church** has services: Sunday - 9:45 AM Sunday School; 11:00 AM Worship, followed by pot luck lunch at 12:15 and 1:00 PM Afternoon Bible Study; Thursday - 7:00 PM Prayer Meeting and Bible Study.

Every Wednesday - **Windham Town Library** open at Meeting House from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. Also at that time: reading group on first Wednesday of the month.

Wednesdays, 9:00 to 12:00 - **Town Listers'** office hours at the Town Office

Mondays, July 5 and 19 and Aug. 2 and 16 - **Select Board** meets at 6:30 PM at the Town Office. Public Invited.

Thursdays, July 8 and August 12 - **Planning Board** meets at 7:00 PM at the Town Office. Public Invited

Wednesday, July 28 and Aug. 25 - **Windham Community Organization Meeting** at 7:00 PM at the Meeting House

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - **Town Office Hours** - 10:00 to 3:00 PM

SUMMER DATES TO SAVE

Sunday, August 8 - Play *Mildred Taken Crazy* - 3:00 pm

Saturday, August 14 - Firehouse Auction 9:00 am

Saturday, July 17 - WCO Chicken BBQ - 5:00 pm

Tuesday, August 24 - Vermont Primaries

Sunday, July 4 - Hot Dog Picnic 4-6 pm