



Turtle Tracks

May 21, 2010

A WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER FOR THE VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL COMMUNITY

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MAY 24-28

Spring Encounter Week

MAY 31

Memorial Day
NO SCHOOL

JUNE 2

Night of Glory
6:00 pm

JUNE 2-3

Exam Review Days

JUNE 4

Field Day
Oakledge Park
9:00- 3:00

JUNE 4

VCS Prom
Spirit of Ethan Allen
6:00- 9:30

JUNE 10

Multi-media
Extravaganza

JUNE 11

Yearbook Signing and
Graduation

Way to Go Week

Submitted by Jasmine Walker



Vermont Commons has a new "biker gang." Faculty, staff and students celebrated Local Motion's **Way to Go Week**, a week dedicated to alternative transportation awareness, by organizing bike commutes from Burlington, Charlotte and Shelburne. May is the perfect time to bike to school: 60-degree weather, blooming trees and freshly paved bike paths. More than a dozen members of our community took the challenge and biked to school at least one day this week. Hi-lights included:

- JoAnna Easton biking 26 miles round-trip from Shelburne.
- Jasmine biking to school all 5 days.
- A bike traffic jam on Monday morning.
- 4 faculty members biking to school together on Thursday morning.
- Travis and Mark biking in from the New North End of Burlington.
- Peter Gilmore's bike seat reaching some our student's shoulders.
- 8 bikes on the rack on Friday morning.
- Noticeably fewer cars in the parking lot by Friday.

Biking is a great way to increase fitness, use less gasoline and spend time in nature. Even if you only bike to work once this month, give it a try!

Grandparents Day at VCS

Submitted by Hannah Stanyon



If last Friday the school seemed like it had a few more students than usual...you weren't seeing things. There were more students, at least for the first half of the day. The extra students came from around Vermont, some even from other states. And all of them had at least on thing in common: they are grandparents. You read right: grandparents. Last Friday was Grandparents Day. Grandparents were invited to come to VCS for the day to see what we do here, and come they did. It was hard to tell if there were more grandparents

or grandkids. In the seventh grade class, there were more grandparents, but within the rest of the classes, it seemed even. Some people brought all four grandparents; some brought one or two, and some none at all, although their numbers were few.

While here, all the grandparents got to mingle and eat tasty breakfast foods during first period, then they were treated to morning meeting and a green/grey competition of Who Is The Actor And What Movie Is It? Everyone had fun with that. After, the grandparents followed their grandkids around for two periods, and

Head of School:

Peter Gilmore

FACULTY & STAFF

Greg Askew

Chance Cardamone-
Knewstub

Mark Cline Lucey

Jennifer Cohen

Adriana Comtois

Conor Driscoll

Peter Goff

Kathy Hockman

Zhenyan Li

Hans Manske

Ben Patrick

Jessica Redmond

Jordan Romm

Cara Simone

Jasmine Walker

Ben Wang

Assistant Head of
School: Hans Manske

Dean of Faculty:
Cara Simone

Director of Academic
Enrichment Center:
JoAnna Easton

Director of Admissions &
College Counseling:
Sarah Soule

Director of Development:
Jordan Romm

Business Office:
Emily Tupper

Registrar:
Allison Fayle

Marketing:
Wendy McArdle

Turtle Tracks Editors:
Hannah Stanyon and
Allison Fayle

everyone was dismissed at lunch. All the students had fun, so thanks for coming, grandparents!



AntCamp....

Submitted by Peter Goff



Schuyler Cowan ('11) and Leslie Gadway ('12) are going to be working with me at UVM this summer in a National Science Foundation-funded 'Streams' program. Specifically, we will be working on a first-year program for 2 High School teachers (each with two students) called Ant Camp. We will be studying ant populations in the field, and then learning cutting-edge genetic techniques including DNA amplification, sequencing, and fingerprinting. Leslie and Schuyler will be living at St. Michael's with the other Streams students. This is a great opportunity and I'm really looking forward to



working with them.

see these links:

<http://www.uvm.edu/~streams/PDFFiles/Ant%20Camp%20flyer.pdf>

<http://www.uvm.edu/~streams/?PHPSESSID=e03ccfbbb9d86587d13b4ef70ab73e9b>

Don't Let the Boat Leave Without You!

Submitted by Hans Manske

Reminder that the VCS Prom will be held on the Spirit of Ethan Allen III on Friday evening June 4. Boarding begins at 6, with the ship departing for its sunset cruise promptly at 6:30. We will return to port at 9 PM. Tickets for this floating gala are a mere \$25. All VCS students and their friends are invited. Tickets will be available starting Monday 5/24 at the front desk.





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2009-2010 Yearbook

Submitted by Mark Cline Lucey



The 2009-2010 VCS Yearbook has gone to the printer and this is going to be the best one YET! One hundred and twenty pages of memories from this great year that we've had, assembled through the hard work of Sophie Daigle, Elena Mudd and Vivien Enriquez. The yearbooks will be distributed on the morning of graduation when we have our annual Yearbook Signing Bonanza. This is an event the students all look forward to each year as they get to look through the yearbook and write good-bye's and thank-you's to each other.

Just like last year, the yearbooks are only \$40. We need to send the deposit to the printer, so please reserve your yearbook now and bring cash or a check made out to VCS to Mark as soon as you get a chance. Your promptness will help us out a great deal!

Multi-Media Extravaganza 2010

Submitted by Peter Goff

As many of you know, at the end of each year TurtleWorks Production Company puts together a retrospective of the year. Special attention is given to our seniors, but the primary goal is to horribly embarrass as many students as possible (who can forget Leslie's eyebrows, Vivien's extreme cuteness, Shana's traditional Jewish breakdance, or Jaffe's Zombie-face??) With that in mind, now is the time when I start garnering the footage....and I need your help. Please send me digital media....I need pictures, videos, movies...whatever you have. I will be editing in iMovie on a Mac, so everything needs to be compatible with that. If the files are too big to send via EMail (PGoff@VermontCommons.org, subject: MME), please get them to me on disc or USB device. Remember, your best friend(?) is planning to completely humiliate you...your only defense is a preemptive strike!!



Encounter Week Luncheon

Submitted by Laurie King

With Encounter Week fast approaching I am hoping that we can organize another marvelous luncheon for the returning students and staff. With the school providing the troops with pizza again we are looking for people to bring things such as fruits, veggies and sweets. We always have a wonderful assortment of food. If you will notify what you can bring via email at vtfarma1@comcast.net I will keep things straight so we don't end up with all brownies and no bananas, not that some kids would mind that! The date for the luncheon is Friday, May 28, at noon.

Also I am looking for those delightful people who come in to set up and clean up after the feeding frenzy and to keep things straight as the meal is going on. If you can do that please let me know. We certainly appreciate all the help everyone has given over the year. The school is taking the students on some amazing adventures this time... (as always) a few of which I wouldn't mind going on myself! So let's be sure to welcome them all home with some good food and sweet treats.



