

connections

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM WAITSFIELD AND CHAMPLAIN VALLEY TELECOM

Happy Anniversary to WCVT Employees

A group of WCVT employees celebrated employment anniversaries ranging from 5 to 55 years with the company in June. Twenty-one employees with a combined 455 years of service were recognized at a service awards luncheon.

Congratulations to everyone and thank you for all your hard work over the years!



Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom

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Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Contact Customer Service for assistance.

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Visit us online at www.wcvt.com

Office Closure:

Sunday, September 1 Labor Day

Monday, November 11 Veterans Day



WCVT Announces Scholarship Recipients



Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2014 Eunice B. Farr Incentive Award scholarships. The scholarships are donated in memory of the late Eunice B. Farr, former owner and operator of the Waitsfield-Fayston Telephone Company and the grandmother of Gregg Haskin, current President/CEO. The award is designed to benefit a hardworking graduate who demonstrates a sincere effort to improve grades and plans on continuing his/her education.

A total of six scholarships were granted, one to each of the public high schools attended by students from our service area. This year's recipients were:

Champlain Valley Union High School – Steve Robert, Williston

Harwood Union High School – Siena Damon, Waterbury

Mount Abraham Union High School – Louissa Rosendall, Starksboro

Mount Mansfield Union High School – Kohlton Butler, Underhill

Middlebury Union High School – **Seth Wright, Middlebury**

Vergennes High School – Mary Flood, Vergennes

Richmond Community Receives Grant from Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom

ur Community Cares Camp (OCCC) in Richmond has been awarded a \$1,200 matching grant from Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom and the Foundation for Rural Education and Development (FRED). OCCC is a free, four week summer camp and food service program that serves more than 100 children from Bolton, Huntington and Richmond.



According to Marie Thomas, President of OCCC, "The camp serves children who would not have the opportunity for an enriching summer program due to financial challenges or other family or social circumstances. Day campers enjoy a safe, caring environment, two healthy meals a day consisting of fresh foods from local farmers, as well as stimulating activities to keep children engaged and healthy over the summer."

FRED provides funds to educational and community development projects located in rural areas served by local telephone companies. Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom (WCVT) submitted the grant application on behalf of OCCC and will match funds donated by FRED monetarily and in-kind through volunteer hours by their employees. For more information on OCCC, visit www.ourcommunitycarescamp.org. For information on the FRED education and community development grants, please contact Lorraine Keener at 802-496-8379 or lkeener@wcvt.com.

Customer Spotlights



Peanut & Mouse - Waitsfield

Peanut & Mouse is located in the beautiful Mad River Valley and specializes in eco-friendly toys, clothing, and gifts for babies and children. Owners Jill Rickard, a former corporate attorney, and her husband Martin Veit, a wilderness therapy guide for True North, traded their busy city life for the crisp Vermont mountain air in 2013 and never looked back. They believe the best toys are those that encourage imagination, creativity, and a sense of adventure, and that childhood is better with fewer bells and whistles. Peanut & Mouse is located in the Mad River Green Shopping Center. Call them at 583-3669 or visit them online at www.peanutandmouse.com.



Yarn & Yoga - Bristol

Yarn & Yoga is just what it sounds – a yarn retail shop and yoga studio. Started by a group of seven women drawn together through their love of knitting, yoga, and community. Yarn & Yoga is a manifestation of their vision for a yarn shop, a yoga studio, and a unique gathering and educational space in which to unwind. Their larger mission is to create a healthy business that provides both its founders and customers with meaning, fulfillment, and happiness for years to come. Yarn & Yoga is located at 25A Main Street, in lovely downtown Bristol. Call them at 453-7799 or visit them online at www.yarnandyoga.com.



Employees Volunteer for Special Olympics

A crew of Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom employees volunteered with set up for the Special Olympics Vermont 2014 Summer Games that took place at the University of Vermont in June. This has become an annual event for these employees and we're proud of their dedication and enthusiasm. Great job, Team WCVT!



Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom provides each employee with sixteen hours of community service time yearly to be used on local community service projects. If your organization has a project in the making and is looking for help, contact Alan Jones at 496-8328 or ajones@wcvt.com to discuss the possibility of WCVT participation.

What is the Lifeline Program?

To help make telephone service more affordable, eligible low-income Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom customers can qualify for a discount on residential local service at their primary residence under the Lifeline Program. The Lifeline Program is a federal and state of Vermont government benefit program. The discount consists of monthly support of at least \$9.25. For Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom customers, the benefit is \$13.50.

Who is eligible for the Lifeline Telephone Credit?

Two groups of Vermont residents with telephone service are eligible for the credit. You are eligible if you reside in Vermont, have phone service, and:

- You will be 65 or older by June 15, 2014 and your household income is less than \$27,142.50
- OR you are under 65 and your household income is less than \$23,265.00
- Persons who receive Reach Up, Food Stamps, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
 Program, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, Federal Public Housing Assistance
 (Section 8), National School Lunch Program's free lunch program, Temporary
 Assistance for Needy Families, or Fuel Assistance benefits may be eligible to apply
 year-round for Lifeline through the DCF's Economic Services Division.

For more information about the Lifeline Telephone Service Credit Program:

- Seniors, call the Senior Help Line at 1-800-642-5119 to reach your local area agency on aging.
- Under 65, call the DCF's Economic Services Division at 1-800-479-6151.
- $\bullet \ Contact \ our \ Customer \ Service \ Department \ at \ 800-496-3391 \ orcsdept@wcvt.com.$

Welcome New Businesses

It's now more important than ever to support our local businesses. When you buy local, everyone benefits. Please support the community by doing business with these new neighbors.

Agricola Farm, Panton 475-3409 Peanut & Mouse, Waitsfield 583-3669
Hatch Farm, Inc, Panton 475-3412 Tad Coffin Performance Saddles
Charlotte 425-4111

Kathy Nolan & Associates

Hinesburg

425-4111

425-4111

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425-4111

