

# Mont Vernon

## Mont Vernon Third Graders visit P MEC



PHOTOS BY CANDY SHREY  
Paul Scopa and a student from MVVS inspect a bug found in the P MEC pond.

BY CARI LANE

It was much too nice of a day to be in school on Monday. Sunny skies and warm temperatures greeted Mont Vernon third graders and chaperones, who spent an adventure filled day at the Peabody Mill Environmental Center (P MEC) in Amherst. Groups of kids and adults alternated between three learning stations to uncover hidden Pond Life; identify Plants and Trees; and

visit with Reptiles and Amphibians. Naturalist Paul Scopa brought his Pond Life group out to the P MEC pond to explore the plants and critters that make this habitat their home. Frogs, newts, and turtles

were caught and inspected; and then the group gathered water, sand, and mud to investigate under the microscope in our science lab. The young learners eagerly mounted their finds on slides and tried to identify the unique and interesting insects and plant life found in the

P MEC pond.

The Plants and Trees group, led by naturalist Branden Vigneault, gathered on the grass to learn all about the structure of plants and trees; types of trees; photosynthesis; reproduction; and plant survival.

The group then hiked into the woods on one of our trails to see what they could find. Checking the leaves and bark for evidence, students identified many trees and plants on their hiking adventure.



Students and chaperones lined up to touch a 4.5

During Reptiles and Amphibians, Herpetologist and lizard lover Diane Hayden introduced excited students to a baby albino corn snake, a full grown corn snake, an African Uromastix lizard and an Australian Bearded Dragon. Students learned about the critters, what they eat, and what it takes to make them happy in captivity. Brave students and chaperones even had the chance to touch the critters, including the four and a half foot corn snake.

Exclamations of "that was cool" and "that was really awesome" could be heard while students filled the hallway, switching from one station to the next. By early afternoon, the activities were over and exhausted students and chaperones piled into their cars and headed down the dirt road toward home.

The Peabody Mill Environmental Center (P MEC) is an environmental and science education center which abuts almost 600 acres of Joe English conservation land. Located at the end of Brook Road in Amherst, New Hampshire, the P MEC is directed by the Amherst Recreation Department. The mission of P MEC is to foster an awareness, understanding and appreciation of the natural world, by offering environmental, conservation, and science programs to all ages. P MEC strives to foster diligent stewardship of our environment so that future generations may inherit and continue to be inspired by the wonders of a protected and natural world. More information on P MEC programs can be found on our website at [www.pmec.org](http://www.pmec.org) or by calling 603-673-1141 or 603-673-6248.



Branden teaches students about tree identification.

## 2009 Summer Safety Campaign

### "Caught in the Act"

The Mont Vernon Police Department is proud to announce its 2009 summer safety campaign, "Caught in the Act". Chief Kyle A. Aspinwall states his officers will be on the "look-out" for children acting in a safe manner all summer long. Whether it's a child wearing his/her bicycle helmet or wearing their seatbelt, his

officers will be issuing "Caught in the Act" citations to recognize their safe actions. Those children receiving a "Caught in the Act" citation will be eligible to redeem their certificate at the Mont Vernon General Store for a free ice cream.

Chief Aspinwall advised this program is a great way for the Police Department to interact with the children of our community and give positive reinforcement for safe behavior. Chief Aspinwall advised the program is scheduled to run until the end of August.

## Library Set To Create Summer Fun In Mont Vernon

MONT VERNON—At the Daland Memorial Library, residents take the summer reading program seriously with nearly 10 percent of the population participating in recent years. Now with a grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, the 2009 summer reading program will be bigger than ever.

"In the past three to four years, the participation in the summer reading program has more than doubled," according to the library's Children's Program Director Amy White. Last summer, 250 children in a town with a total population of just over 2,000 took part in the program, said White. "That's such a big turnout for such a small town," White said. "It's amazing how big it's gotten."

This year, the Daland Memorial Library has taken the theme "Summer Time...and the reading is easy," from the Children's Librarians of New Hampshire and has made it their own.

With a grant of \$2,300 from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, White and a bevy of volunteers will turn the library into a summer destination called "Camp Daland." Beginning June 13 and running throughout the summer, Camp Daland will feature arts and crafts, live entertainment, visits by local authors, close encounters with wild critters, and an ice cream social.

Special events for the whole family will include a bon fire in July and the Daland Memorial Library's annual Barn Dance at Lamson Farm in August. "We try to make the

program very welcoming and fun," said White. And though there will be lots of things for kids to do at Camp Daland, the focus will also be on reading.

Throughout the summer, kids will accumulate points for the books they've read, and at the end of August, they'll receive \$5 gift certificates from the Toadstool Book Shop in Milford. And it's not just children participating. Adults get in on the act each summer as well, earning chances to win raffle prizes by reading books.

Registration for the summer reading program and activities will be held at the library on June 13 from 10 am to 1 pm and will continue throughout the month of June. For more information, visit [www.dalandlibrary.wordpress.com](http://www.dalandlibrary.wordpress.com) or call 673-7888.

## Garden Party in Mont Vernon



On Saturday, May 30, members of the Mont Vernon Gardeners gathered around a picnic table to share breakfast treats and discuss summer plans for the public gardens in Mont Vernon. The group then visited three of the gardens where maintenance tasks were performed and all members became familiar with the specifics of each garden. These "garden sweep" events will be held the 4th Saturday of every month in an effort to keep all members up to date on the progress in each garden, and to offer those who can't attend gardening sessions during the week an opportunity to stay involved.

Membership to the Mont Vernon Gardeners is open to all. Yearly dues are not a requirement, but a \$5.00 donation offers cardholders a discount at many area businesses that sell plants and gardening supplies. We look forward to welcoming new members. If you have questions regarding our group and our events, please contact Linda Peck at 673-5041 or [Lpecknh@hotmail.com](mailto:Lpecknh@hotmail.com).

### Gardening Gatherings for June 2009 \*

#### Margaret Clark Bird Garden

Location: South side of Village School  
Leaders: Sarah Lawrence/Nicole Martin  
Wednesday, June 10, 9 a.m.  
Rain date the following Wednesday

#### Daland Memorial Library

Location: Corner of Rt. 13 and Grand Hill  
Leader: Heather Carver  
Thursday, June 11th, 9 a.m.  
Rain date the following Thursday

#### Joanne's Cutting Garden

Location: Lamson Farm, across from farmhouse  
Leader: Carolyn Dorr-Rich  
Tuesday, June 9th, 9 a.m.  
Rain date the following Tuesday

#### Village Herb Garden

Location: South side of Town Hall  
Leader: Susan King Ecklund  
Mon. - June 1st, 1 p.m. - CANCELLED--Weeding and planning was done during the garden sweep on 5/30 - Thank you everyone who attended.

#### "Garden Sweep"

Location: meet at Joanne's Garden at Lamson Farm; the final garden visited will be the Margaret Clark Bird Garden at the Village School. All volunteer gardeners are invited to bring a picnic lunch; dessert will be provided.  
Saturday June 27th, 11 a.m.

Please bring garden gloves, pruners, hand trowel, shovel and a garden bucket to each gardening session. Children are welcome.

## Notice - Town Clerk's Office

As of JUNE 1st the Town Clerk's office hours will change. They will be: Monday & Wednesday from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm and Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00am to Noon. This office not only does dog registrations, car registrations, vital requests, but also completes Hunting & Fishing Licenses and Boat Registrations during business hours. Please make a note of the new office hours come June and take advantage of the extra hour.

Coming soon is Dogs on Line. You will be able to renew your dog on-line at the same time as renewing your vehicles.

Jeanette Vinton, Town Clerk  
Town of Mont Vernon  
PO Box 417  
Mont Vernon, NH 03057  
673-9126 673-0914 (Fax)

## Birth Announcement



Charles and Meg York of Milford announce the birth of their daughter, Eva Marie York born on May 24, 2009 at 2:38pm. She weighed 9lbs 14 ozs. and was 23 inches. Her maternal grandparents are Michael and Nancy Molloy of Mont Vernon. Paternal grandparents are William and Barbara York of Donna, TX. She joins her big brother, Jack.

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## FRIDAY NIGHT NINE & DINE

at Amherst Country Club

\$25.00/player

price includes 9-holes and dinner of your choice

The Friday Night Nine & Dine at Amherst Country Club is the perfect way to start your weekend. Price includes 9 holes of golf and choice of dinner from our daily menu. With tee times starting at 4:00 p.m., the Nine & Dine is open to the public and is great for all levels of play.

For additional information or to sign up, please call (603) 673-9908.

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