NEWSLETTER

From your Town Supervisor

Greetings Wilmington Citizens, here is the news out of the Supervisor's office:

Beach Update

I want to thank our town employees for all their hard work in getting the beach finished for our opening. I think you will agree the beach looks great and next year we hope to replace the Fire Pits and to construct a new handicapped fishing deck. The improvements were paid for from a \$200,000 grant from the Department of State, and several large donations, with our Town employees contributing the inkind fifty-percent match.

Mark your calendars

The Festival of the Colors will be held on Saturday September 8, at the tee ball field on Springfield Road. Many new activities will be added for this year. The town is happy to partner with the Whiteface Region Visitors' Bureau to make this a great yearly event with FREE children activities.

Roads/Flooding

Lenny Preston, Road will be receiving a total overhaul with funds from FEMA as a result of the storms last year. This \$95,000 project is underway and will include new stormwater controls and the resurfacing of the damaged roadbed.

Youth Center

We welcome our new Youth Director, Kate Sears. She is doing a fantastic job with the kids and we welcome her and her new ideas. The Youth Center hours are T-W-T 4-7, F-4-9, and Saturday 12-8, closed Sunday and Monday. If you have bottle returns that you wish to donate to the Youth Center, you can leave them at the Transfer Station or the front steps of the Center. All funds go to youth activities.

Stone Bridge

The very slow process of the replacement of the Route 86 stone bridge in the heart of our community has begun with preliminary survey work. It is still slated for replacement in 2014. There will be public meetings as it gets closer. When the Town has more information we will pass it on to you.

Town Dam

The repairs have been made to the top of the dam and the new flash boards have been installed. The town plans to install a retaining wall to stop erosion on the gate side of the dam this fall. We are still searching for funds to repair the wall on the library side and to install another gate so we can consistently regulate the water level. This step would be the first towards the possible cleaning out of the river of the silt buildup. I have also investigated the possibility of hydro-electricity, and so far I am being told that wholesale prices are too low right now for the project to pay for itself.



Supervisor's Report (cont'd)

Trails Update

As we speak crews are cutting the new snowmobile trail from the Cooper Kiln Trail to the Forestdale Road. When completed this will tie the Wilmington trail system into the outside world, and will be an economic boom for the Town, making this a snowmobile destination. However, this trail is not going to be an easy endeavor as there are several bridges that have to be installed and the remoteness is a challenge. The forester in charge of the project, Rob Daley, is hopeful that it will be open this fall. Now, will we get any snow?

Paddling Program.

Well, the much-talked-about Paddling Program started and has been a success! This is a joint venture between the AuSable River Association and the town with canoe and kayak rentals at the beach. There is actually a tour laid out showing different plant life and paddlers can stop and visit the Adirondack Wildlife Refuge and Rehab Center, a truly magical place to see many species of wildlife. This program was funded by donations and a NYS Local Waterfront Grant. The employee is funded through a Essex County Youth Grant, and 50% of all proceeds go to the River Association. Now the town, along with North Pole Campsite, offers this great experience of discovering the AuSable River and Wilmington.

Wilmington/Whiteface 100 Mountain Bike Race

The town hosted our second W/W 100 Mountain Bike Race on Sunday, June 17th. This very prestigious race was a success with 368 people entering the race to qualify for the Leadville 100, the most prestigious mountain bike race in the world. Wilmington is one of only five locations nationwide, and the only location on the East Coast, to hold this qualifying event. The racers travel into Keene, Jay, Lewis and Elizabethtown and back. This course has been dubbed the Leadville of the East, as it is an extremely challenging route.

We have been notified that the organizers wish to renew the contract for another two years, and also add a 50K Course as this event is expected to continue to grow. This event is possible with cooperation of the ORDA Events Department, Whiteface, Centerplate, ROOST, and the Whiteface Mountain Visitors Bureau making the Bikefest weekend a national event. I will point out that roadways will be used to access dirt roads and mountain bike trails, minimizing the impact on the people who live and work here. All roads will remain open to local traffic, as this is a

mountain bike race, not a road race. The Bikefest Committee is looking for volunteers to help organize and run the Saturday afternoon/evening events. If interested please contact the Visitor's Bureau. We thank everyone for their cooperation.



It's a little early, but don't forget to mark your calendar for the Wilmington Christmas Celebration, to be held Sunday November 25th!

That's all for now, Randy Preston

Library Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are desperately needed to fill in for our Library Director when she is on vacation or when unforeseen circumstances occur. With only one employee, sometimes our only choice is to close the library if our Director is absent. We don't like to do that!

If you have any interest in being a library volunteer, please contact Samantha Baer at 946-7701. The library is open Wednesday through Saturday each week. You will be fully trained and checking books in and out is a simple, automated process. This is an "as-needed" volunteer position. Ideally, we would like to have a list of volunteers we can rely on when necessary. Thank you for your consideration!

The Library Board of Trustees

History Trivia Questions

- I. What 1840's local abolitionist lived in Wilmington for a number of years and, while here, likely ran a station on the Underground Railroad?
- 2. Where did the famous Adirondack Hermit of Cold River —Noah John Rondeau—live in his later years?

Answers on page 7



Spotlight on Town Government Randy Preston, Supervisor

I often receive questions or comments in regard to various departments in town and who is in charge of what. I will try to explain how your town government is structured.

The Town Supervisor is an elected position and is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the town. The Water Department, Parks Department, Youth Center, Cemetery Custodian, and the Code Enforcement Officer all report directly to the Town Supervisor and the Town Board.

The Town Clerk is an elected position and reports to no one other than the people. He sets his own schedule of times to be open for business. The Town Supervisor does not oversee this position.

Town Assessors are elected officials and report to no one other than the people. The Town Supervisor does not oversee this position.

Town Justices are elected officials and report to no one other than the people. The Town Supervisor does not oversee this position.

The Town Planning and Zoning Boards are appointed by the Town Board, normally a 5-year term for each member.

The Town Highway Superintendent. is an elected position and reports to no one other than the people. He has total control of the Highway Department. He hires employees, and does not fall under the Town Supervisor or Board. The Town Board does, however, control the Highway budget.

The Highway Superintendent is responsible for all town roads, which are easily confused with State and County Roads. NYS Route 86, including the bridges, is a state road for the entire length through Wilmington, along with Whiteface Mountain Highway. The State of New York is in charge of all repairs and maintenance. The Town of Wilmington is paid under contract to plow and salt Whiteface Mountain Highway and Route 86 from the Whiteface Highway to its end in Jay. The town clears the sidewalks along 86.

Haselton Road, Springfield Road, Fox Farm and Bonnieview Roads are County Roads. The Town of Wilmington is paid to plow and sand these roads under contract. The Town only performs maintenance when directed by the Essex County Highway Superintendent.

Quaker, Hardy, Bill Huber, John Bliss, Mountain View, Lenny Preston, Perkins, Deep Woods, Manning, Fox Hollow, Outlook Lane, Park, AuSable Run, and Mulvey Road are all Town Roads and 100% maintained by the Town Highway Department.

DOG CONTROL NEWS -- Shirley Lawrence, Dog Control Officer

There has recently been a confirmed case of rabies in a raccoon in Wilmington. All pet owners are reminded that their pets should be up to date with their rabies vaccines. Anyone seeing a wild animal that is not acting natural should contact DEC with their concerns.

Also a reminder: all dogs over four months old need to be licensed. Licensing may be done at the Town Clerk's Office at the Community Center.



E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library News

Wilmington E.M. Cooper Library Team Wins Competition

On Saturday, June 30th, eight local children from the AuSable Forks, Jay and Wilmington area represented the Wilmington Library and took part in the "Take a Bite out of Books" competition at the mall in Plattsburgh. The competition pits teams from participating libraries against each other by answering "Jeopardy" style trivia questions pertaining to the five pre-selected books. This year's books were Enchanted Glass by Diana Wynne Jones, The Gollywhopper Games by Jody Feldman, The Kingdom Keepers: Disney After Dark by Ridley Pearson, The Nine Lives of Travis Keating by Jill MacLean, and When Zachary Beaver Came to Town. by Kimberly Willis Holt.

This year there were fourteen teams from eight libraries in Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties. The Wilmington Library had two teams in the competition. The Wilmington Veterans consisted of Kendra Christensen, Sky Hanf, Brinn Peck and James Winch, and they won 3rd place! The Wilmington Royals had Ashleigh Baer, Justin Briggs, Benjamin Caito and Sean Ransom and they won 1st place! These ladies and gentlemen worked very hard and the opposition was tough. This is the second year the Wilmington teams placed first and third in the competition. Library Director Samantha Baer reads all of the books and prepares the teams for the competition.



iPad Raffle

Fundraising for local libraries has taken on new importance as library budgets continue to be trimmed. Raffle tickets are now being sold for a new Apple iPad Wi-Fi 3G 32GB valued at \$600. Pricing for the tickets are one for \$5, five for \$20 and ten for \$35. There is plenty of time to stock up on tickets. The drawing will take place on December 8, 2012 during the annual Holiday Cookie Sale at the Library. The library is open Wednesday through Saturday. Call 946-7701 for hours and stop in to purchase raffle tickets.

Whiteface Region Business & Tourism Center

WHITEFACE REGION...GET CLOSE

www.WhitefaceRegion.com

(888) Whiteface

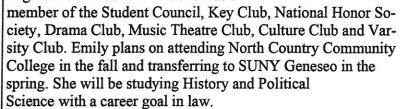
www. Whiteface Region.com

BUREAU BIT

John Zachav

Memorial Scholarship

Emily, the daughter of Patti and Bill McConvey, graduated from Lake Placid High School in June where she was a



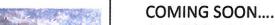
Trevor, the son of Tina and Tim Preston., graduated from LPHS in June, and was a member of the National Technical Honor Society. His many interests include cooking, playing guitar and fly tying. He will be attending Suny Cobleskill this fall majoring in Culinary Art with a career goal in Restaurant Management.



What a GREAT summer! Our season really started to "Spin" forward during our Bike Fest weekend in June. With the combined efforts of the Whiteface Uphill Bike Race, the Wilmington/Whiteface 100k, the Downhill Bike races, the Jump Jam and several other activities, we had huge numbers of

people in town. The exposure we are getting out of these events are really putting Wilmington on the map and people are

starting to realize what a gem we have here in our little corner of the Adirondacks. We would like to thank all of the Volunteers who help us put these events on. We truly could not do it without you!





OUR NEW
RECREATION MAPS
ARE HEADED TO
PRINT SOON.

"LIKE" US ON

FACEBOOK AND SEE WHEN THEY ARE DONE
SO YOU CAN STOP BY AND PICK UP A COPY!
Whiteface Business & Tourism Center



Ther

There were plenty of "fish stories" being told this year

at the 13th Annual Ausable River Two-Fly Challenge where there was a record number of fish caught! Anglers came from all over to enjoy the 2 day event. Although we knew it

was a very successful event, the true testimony of it was revealed in our post-event survey. The results showed that most of the participants come back year after year and stay for 4-5 room nights! In addition, they come back later in the season and encourage their friends to come to Wilmington to fish the legendary Ausable. A "small" event, with LARGE rewards!

Saturday, Sept. 22

Wilmington Residents and students

receive a reduced rate.

Contact the office for info.

Register: WhitefaceRegion.com







FREE KIDS ACTIVITIES



September 8th

10-5

FACE PAINTING

BALLOON SCULPTURES

INFLATABLE BOUNCE OBJECTS

PUMPKIN PAINTING

AND NEW THIS YEAR....

A SCARECROW BUILDING CONTEST!

Numerous Vendors

Local Fresh Produce and Baked Goods

Arts and Crafts

Horse and Pony Rides

Large Truck and Equipment Displays

NEW THIS YEAR ENTER OUR

COOKIE BAKE OFF





LIVE SHOWS

10:05am—Santa's Workshop Cast

10:30-12:30 Scarecrow Building Contest

12:30-1:00pm—Pipsqueak the Clown Performance

1:00-4:00—Live Music by Eat, Sleep, Funk

4:30pm—Santa's Workshop Cast



Whiteface Community United Methodist Church

Hello to fellow Wilmington residents. Did you know that thanks to you and various other area residents we are able to maintain one of our main missions, namely the Riverside Thrift Shop? We cannot begin to express our gratitude to all our loyal customers who support our "Wilmington Wal-Mart", and we know that the service our loyal volunteers provide is appreciated in return. At our outdoor worship service that was held on the Saturday night before the Ironman race, these same volunteers were recognized for the selfless hours that they put in. Our District Superintendent, Bill Mudge, has spread good news of our Thrift Shop to other area churches resulting in helpers from both Lake Placid and Dannemora.

During the last week in June, we hosted a great group of local children in our annual Vacation Bible School, "Go Overboard with God." Bible stories, games, songs, special treats and lessons from the bottom of God's blue oceans kept us excited each day to begin learning again just how great God is to all of us and how much He loves each and every one of us.

Adult study groups have been really active and are currently learning about the Gospel of Luke while being led by Pastor Brooke Newell. In our next adult study group we will explore the Book of Revelation under the guidance of the Rev. Caspar Green.

The gallery of engravings that graced our sanctuary has returned to its home, but taking their place will be some tapestries that were created by a Christian community in China. We will be getting the word out on when the public can visit and view these incredible pieces of inspired work when they are all set up.

Our office building plays host to area clergy who meet on the second Tuesday of each month to share

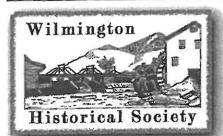
ideas and news. This group is open to suggestions that anyone might have for ecumenical projects.

Arrangements have been made with *Life Touch* a company who will be taking photos for our upcoming church directory. The dates will be September 25 and 26, and each church family will receive a directory with their picture. Families outside the church are also eligible to have photos taken, but they would not receive a directory. Additional photos will be available for ordering at that time.

Our music department has grown considerably now that the Mulvey Family provides our worship music on the first Sunday of each month. Our Whiteface Ringers chime choir rehearses each Thursday night from 4 to 5 p.m. followed by our Whiteface Choir whose rehearsals last from 5 to 6 p.m. Both groups are always looking for new members, NO experience needed!

Our regular Sunday School classes will be back on track soon, and we are looking forward to sharing God's love both with our returning children and their parents. Our Sunday School classes meet during the regular worship services each Sunday morning. We begin at 10:30 a.m. and always have a coffee get-together after the service so we can catch up on our latest news about our families and friends. Please join us at the red brick church building on the corner of Route 86 and Haselton Road here in Wilmington. Our office hours (946-7757) are Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The Riverside Thrift Shop (946-2922) is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The Ecumenical Food Pantry is open on Thursday evenings form 4 to 6 p.m. Anyone needing emergency assistance outside of these hours is encouraged to call Pantry Director, Don Morrison at 946-7192.





Festival of Colors

Come to our slide show "Wilmington History in Postcards," at the Wilmington Historical Society Booth at the Festival of Colors on Saturday, September 8.

The slide show will run for about twenty minutes, beginning every half hour throughout the day starting at 10:00 am. Come to see Wilmington postcards dating from about 1900 to the present. The historical postcards include photos of Whiteface Mountain, Whiteface Mountain Highway and its construction, and Whiteface skiing from the early trails on the Marble Mountain side to the current ski trails and 1980 Winter Olympics skiing. Wilmington Notch, the AuSable River and High Falls Gorge provide other views of change throughout the 20th century. Santa's Workshop postcards provide yet another arena for rich local history. Early tourism postcards of Wilmington area hotels and cottages offer still more insight into the changes which occurred as tourism and recreation became the cornerstone of our local economy. Discover the rich history of our area—in postcards!

A New Wilmington Photo Book—can you help?

The Wilmington Historical Society has been awarded a contract with Arcadia Publishing in their series, Images of America. We will be creating a photo book entitled Wilmington and the Whiteface Region to be published in 2013. The WHS already has many photos, but we can always use more and we are lean in a few areas. The proposed chapters of the book are: (1)Early Industry & Agriculture (sawmills, forges, other industry, farming), (2)Whiteface Mountain (general history, including science), (3)Whiteface Mountain Veteran's Memorial Highway (history & construction), (4) Whiteface Mountain Ski Center (up to and including the 1980 Winter Olympics), (5) Wilmington Notch, High Falls Gorge, and The Flume, (6)Hotels, Motels, and Tourist Cottages, (7)Santa's Workshop, (8)West Branch AuSable River (bridges, dam, Lake Everest, world class fly-fishing), (9) Wilmington Community (buildings—i.e., post office, churches, town hall), (10) Wilmington People (leaders, entrepreneurs, individuals who made their mark). If you have photos to assist in this project, please contact us at 518-420-8370 or at whs12997@hotmail.com.

Wilmington Historical Walking Tour

As part of Wilmington's Recreation Committee, the Wilmington Historical Society created a new historical walking tour. It can be found on two websites: www.whitefaceregion.com and www.wilmingtonhistoricalsociety.org. You can see it online with your hand-held device, or you can download it and print it out! The walk is about 2 miles in length and you will discover much about Wilmington's early history and learn how it evolved from an agricultural/industrial town to a popular tourist destination. There are photos with each stop and a "Google" map to accompany the tour. Take a walk and step back in time!

Now on FACEBOOK!

Keep up with Wilmington Historical Society events and news, see history photos & keep up with local lore. Check out our new Facebook page at www.facebook.com/WilmingtonHistoricalSociety and "Like" us!

(Cont'd on page 7)

OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Our "Open Discussions" take place at 7 p.m. before the business portion of each regular meeting, and last about 45 minutes to an hour. You are all invited to relate stories, bring news articles, photos or artifacts related to the topic of each meeting. Or... you can just come to watch (we often have pictures from our collection) and listen! We record the "Open Discussions" so that the information and stories gleaned can be put in digital audio form for researchers, topic by topic. We would appreciate your contributions to the preservation of Wilmington's history. (Students are also welcome to attend!) If you have something to contribute to the discussion, but are unable to attend, please call, write or email us with your information. We would also like your ideas on topics for next year. Phone: 518-420-8370 (Karen Peters) or 946-7627 (Merri Carol Peck). Address: Wilmington Historical Society, P.O. Box 174, Wilmington, NY 12997. Email: whs12997@hotmail.com Below is the list of the remainder of the Open. Discussion topics for 2012: September 5 (Wed): "The History of Whiteface Highway" October 3 (Wed.): "Bridges, Roads & Local Highways" November 7(Wed.): "Wilmington Military History: Post World War II"

Please Note: We do not meet in December.

PROGRAMS

WHS has already furnished 3 successful 2012 speaker programs... "The History of Carbon Dioxide in the Atmosphere & Its Effects on Climate Change" on June 15th, "Abolitionism in the Adirondacks: A Search for Truth" on July 6, and "The Wilderness Life of Noah John Rondeau, Adirondack Hermit" (with an extraordinary attendance!) on July 27. The programs for the remainder of 2012 are:

Friday, August 24-"Links, Chains and the Mallory Grant" -Joseph Provoncha, Essex County Clerk

7 pm, Wilmington Community Center

Friday, October 26 — "Adirondack Tales of Folk & Fancy"—for children & adults alike —Karen Glass, storyteller 7 pm, Wilmington Community Center

Please watch for the details of these events in our flyers, on our website www.wilmingtonhistoricalsociety.org, on Facebook, on the Jay Community News and in local newspapers. Refreshments are provided at each program by the Country Bear Bakery (located on route 86 in Wilmington).

What's in our collection?

Each year, people make donations of photos, files, notebooks, brochures, maps, genealogies, and artifacts. We have watched our collection grow each year. Our historical collection is stored and displayed using best archival practices and is insured against loss. Each donor signs a Deed of Gift giving the WHS permission to "possess" the objects, photos, files, etc. In return, the donor may claim the gift as tax deductible since we are a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization. If you have any objects, photos, files, etc. related to Wilmington's history that you would like to donate to our collection, please contact us at 518-420-8370 or whs12997@hotmail.com .

OUR RESEARCH MATERIALS CURRENTLY INCLUDE

◆FAMILY HISTORY FILES

◆SPECIAL COLLECTIONS (i.e., Collections of Earl & Helen Warren, Cassius Bruce, Myrtle M. Haselton Gowan)

- **♦OLD NEWSPAPERS**
- **⋄**DIGITAL CD'S OF

CEMETERY RECORDS, OLD TOWN RECORD BOOK, CONGREGATIONAL & METHODIST CHURCH RECORDS, RUPERT COLUMN 1877-1881,1855-1905 TAX RECORDS, WILMINGTON BIRTH, MARRIAGE & DEATH RECORDS 1895-1907, "WILMINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY OPEN DISCUSSIONS"

- **♦SCHOOL DIST.#6 RECORDS**
- ◆TOPICAL FILES
- ◆PHOTOS OF WILMINGTON PEOPLE & PLACES
- **⋄**MAPS & BLUEPRINTS
- **♦WILMINGTON CHATTEL MORTGAGES**
- **♦LOCAL REFERENCE BOOKS**
- *ALL PUBLISHED "TOWN OF WILMINGTON" TRANSCRIBED SERIAL RECORDS BOOKS BY PROF. HAROLD E.HINDS, JR. (see the list on our website www.wilmingtonhistoricalsociety.org)
- ♦♦♦NEW♦♦♦ "The Harold E. Hinds, Jr. Collection" of over 200 books and files on local genealogy & Adirondack history

Our collection is open to researchers or visitors on the third Tuesday of each month from 6pm -9 pm (NOT in December), or all year by appointment by calling the Wilmington Historical Society at 518-420-8370 or emailing at whs12997@hotmail.com .

TRIVIA ANSWERS

I. Wendell Lansing, then former editor of the Essex County Republican. He lived on the Jonathan Thayer place on what is now Springfield Road. In a recorded interview, Marjorie Lansing Porter remarked: "Well, I remember that uh my father's aunt --- Aunt Emma Lansing, her name was—and she was an old, old lady when I was a little girl, but she had lived here in Wilmington as a little girl and she remembered that at night there would be negroes around their place, here at Wilmington, and in the morning they'd be gone, and she couldn't understand. Then she found out later when she grew up that her da—her father—hid them in the charcoal cart...." (Kilburn, Abram, Interview, 19 Sep. 1952, Marjorie Lansing Porter Folklore Collection, MLP 101-1A, Special Collections, SUNY Plattsburgh).

2. At "Singing Pines" located on Springfield Road on the outskirts of Wilmington, in a sort of chicken coop arrangement given to him by a lifelong friend in 1963. There he still lived much as he did in the wilderness, but nearer to civilization, tending his gardens

Town of Wilmington 7 Community Circle Wilmington, NY 12997

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Newsletter Editor

Ginny Crispell crispcook43@yahoo.com



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