

H.O.M.E. Update

by Sr. Marie Ahern

Much changes- much stays the same. I'll try to sort it out for you. We can find ourselves plodding along, considering the daily stresses and difficulties, when something serendipitous occurs to remind us of how fortunate we really are.

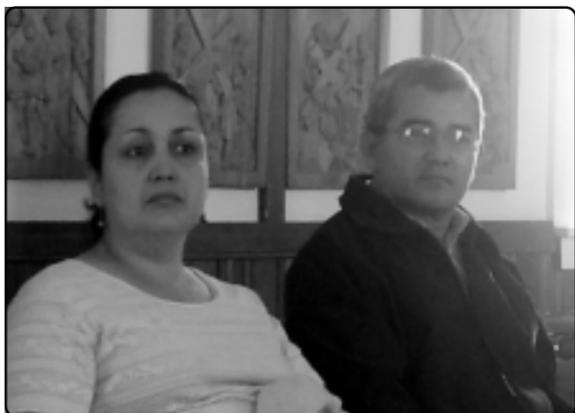
Case in point: Recently we had a visit from Carlos Ortega and his wife, ministers and natives of Honduras. He shared with our staff the frightening situation in his country and the infractions of human and civil rights. He was here visiting the UCC Conference of Churches, hosted by our friends Brad and Suzie Craig. At this telling, I am not certain if they were able to safely return to Honduras.

Summer was very productive with week after week of phenomenal volunteers. Major projects were either completed or moved along for closer completion. The Duplex behind the Chapel is closed in, plumbed and rough wired. The rehab of a home in Millvale was finished and a family of five has moved in. At the Dedham transitional housing, decks were rebuilt and storage sheds completed. Gene De Joannis (St Bridget's Manchester, CT) completely wired the new farm house in Dedham; that same stalwart bunch from St Bridget's came back at the end of September to wrap that house up for the winter.

We are preparing for winter now, first dusting of snow yesterday, (Oct 18th) just to remind us of what is to come. Wreath season is well underway...approximately six very intense weeks.

Bill Creighton has completed the painting and restoration of our Wayside Chapel. It looks beautiful. Joseph Staples came to live with us at the Farm. He was with us twenty years ago and we are thrilled to have him here. He's a Jack-of-all trades, master of many, with a keen, dry sense of humor.

Lots of comings and goings personnel wise: Construction: Bill Gallant has resigned form construction. Glenn Tarbox is now supervisor, with two co-workers. In the garage we have Phil Russell and Matt Carter, with Joseph Staples on Saturdays. Our great cook in the Market Stand is John Negrón. In the Main Office, Cora Bigelow has been transferred to Bookkeeping and Twila Greene is now in the Office. Good to have you back Twila! Millie has had a phenomenal worker in the gardens and Farmers' Markets: Tyler McAllion. Jerry Botta is overseeing the Housing and Land Trust departments, as well as tutoring in the Learning Center.



The Ortigas visited with us from Honduras

Don't waste life in doubts and fears; spend yourself on the work before you, well assured that the right performance of this hour's duties will be the best preparation for the hours and ages that will follow it.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Josh Amenkowitz is on Maintenance and has recently done a great job getting all the wood furnace up and running. If I've overlooked anyone I am sorry.

Oct 4th was the 800th anniversary of St Francis of Assisi, our patron saint. We had a festive service in our Chapel, with Ralph Grimes presiding. We surprised Ralph by bringing in some of our goats and dogs to be blessed. They were actually very well-behaved and the hit of the service.

All's well. Come neighbor with us!



Matt Carter doing body work in H.O.M.E.'s Garage.



Catherine Ziac spends her birthday with Sister Maries Burros Tessie and Josie.

"Green Thumbs"

by Millie Grimes



Lucy's pumpkin won first prize at the Common Ground Fair in Unity.



Tyler working in the Greenhouse.

Winter Greenhouse hours:

Monday through Friday 9am -4pm.
Canned Jellies and Pickles available.

The Greenhouse is located at H.O.M.E. Market Stand, cnr rte 1 and Schoolhouse rd in Orland, Maine.

Guatemala Trips

Join us for a Mission Trip To Guatemala

"Helping Others Help Themselves"

If you are interested in helping the mission of Emmaus San Juan, or if you would like to attend the Cultural Exchange and Language Immersion Program, please check the appropriate box below and return to h.o.m.e., inc.

- Please send me an application for the Cultural Exchange and Language Immersion Program
- Please send me more brochures to pass along to my community
- Enclosed is my donation to the Guatemala Relief Fund (Amount: \$_____)
- Enclosed is my donation to the Guatemala Travel Fund (Amount: \$_____)
- I would like to volunteer to educate others about Emmaus San Juan

All donations are tax-deductible

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State & Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

e-mail Address: _____

I would prefer being contacted via:

mail:____ phone:____ e-mail:____

By Claudia Gilbert

Dear Readers,

I came to H.O.M.E. Coop in Orland 29 years ago on a job program that had a field operation based in Ellsworth. It was in March 1982, I was put in the Dorr House under Doris Clair who was my supervisor. She was sharp and determined in what she wanted from me and the rest of the people that worked there. I cleaned the Dorr House and was taught to work a vacuum cleaner by Virgie Betts or Rita Ledwith. They also gave me coffee and Doughnuts. During that time throughout the Spring and Summer, I met Sister Lucy, Sister Marie Ahern, Karen Saum. Anne Bossie - a farmers' farmer, The Hoveys. So many working for H.O.M.E. and others giving their time.

I went to High School with Virgie Bets' daughter Bernice who did weaving. I cleaned in the learning Center, Sister Barbara and Sister Lucille worked here and started the Education that continues today.

I met Sister Lucy and ate my lunch in her office and her white dog, got my sandwich, I liked him right away, he was nice to be around.

So the years go by and I moved upstairs in the Learning Center to where the offices were moved in 1986. I cleaned and went from janitor to housekeeper because Jimmy Poulin suggested I should be that very thing.

So Jackie Burpee came on board to help out and bring H.O.M.E. back from the brink. From the past to the present, I call Marion Bridges who was President in the early years.

The others Jackie and Tracey who gets our grant money. How can I forget Cathy Tracy?. Help those who can not help themselves is charity at it's core.

I almost forgot the last three years. I am the Housekeeper Director and come into the office every Thursday to clock in. I still feel very good when I come in the office to greet Cora, Virgies Granddaughter and in Bookkeeping Ruth and Mary, Lisa and Twila in the Main office. Good Morning Ladies!



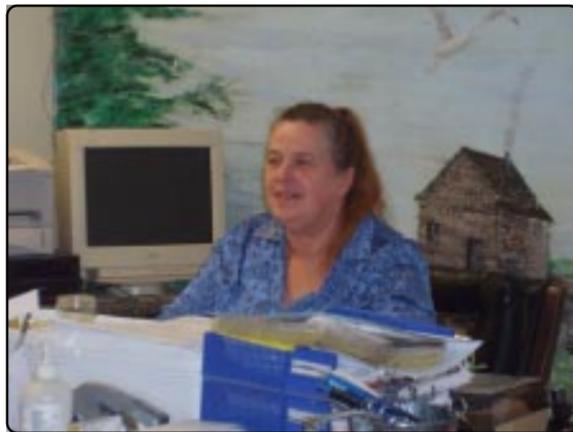
Claudia Gilbert



"How can I forget Cathy Tracy?" Pictured: Lucy and Cathy Tracy.

Day Camp 2009
By Twila Greene

Day Camp ran for ten weeks this summer. We had an average of 10 youngsters ranging in age from 5-12. The summer rain didn't manage to dampen the spirits of the children. We had many field trips, read books, watched movies, played games, went swimming, did crafts and arts and enjoyed each others company. We culminated our summer by enjoying a sleepover and pizza party. Actually everyone had a good nights sleep and a lot of fun. We sailed through the summer without any catastrophe tragedy or injuries. What more can we ask? It was an enjoyable season. One of which memories are made. Looking forward to another season of fun friends next year. Thank you Genevive.



Twila Greene

Churches help local children prepare for School.

By Jackie Burpee

This year as school draws near many parents are frantically trying to buy school clothes, shoes, sneakers, back packs and school supplies. We had many angels come to the rescue for the back packs and school supplies. St. Joseph's Church in Ellsworth, St Vincent De Paul in Bucksport and Ms Shirley Brown from New Hampshire. Thirty children from Hancock County were given new back packs full of school supplies. The faces on the children when they received their back packs were priceless.

God Bless you all!



Tavian falls asleep with his new back pack and crayons in his hands...

H.O.M.E. participated in a local initiative to recycle e-waste products. Computer monitors, printers and electronic goods are harmful to the environment. H.O.M.E. staff have taken steps to educate themselves and the wider community on responsible ways to recycle. An all day event sponsored by e-waste Maine and hosted by the Ellsworth Lions Club made it possible for us to recycle over 15 computers.



Volunteering at H.O.M.E.



Young volunteers work long weeks at H.O.M.E.

Many thanks to the 2009 volunteers! Brandeis University, ASB Michigan, St Anselm University, Boston University, St Andrews Church Ellsworth, Barrington UCC, First Church UCC CT, St John's Prep, Gilead Congregation, St Andrews from Madison CT, Falmouth Congregational Church, Lincoln School RI, Congregational Church of Ridgefield CT, Immanuel UCC, UCC at Valley Forge, First Parish Church United in Westford Ma, Monroe Congregational Church of CT, UCC Milford CT, Evangelical Reformed UCC, Mason The First Congregational Church of NH, Silverlake Group of CT, St Bridgets of Manchester CT, St Joan of Arc of Ma, St Lukes of Barrington RI, The First Congregational of Coventry CT and the Ford Family.

Without your help our programs would not be possible.

Please join us again next year!



A volunteer paints the finishing touches on a house in Millvale.

Volunteer Opportunities at H.O.M.E. !!!

Come and join the fun! For Information on Volunteering at H.O.M.E. call Jackie Burpee@ 207-469-7961 Monday - Friday 8am-4pm.

www.homecoop.net/volunteers

Thank You!