



e-VT Grand Isle County 2010-2011 Re-Cap

The e-Vermont Community Broadband Project is a partnership between seven statewide organizations and leaders in two dozen Vermont towns to help close the digital divide. Initiatives in Grand Isle County were spearheaded by the Lake Champlain Islands Chamber of Commerce and a group of interested citizens representing town government, local businesses, non-profits, libraries and schools. In one short year, the team succeeded in bringing the following accomplishments to Grand Isle County:

- Thirty-eight netbook packages for Folsom Education and Community Center School including Dell netbooks, netbook cases, 3-in-1 printers, USB cables, extra ink cartridges, and Microsoft Office Pro 2010 to help ensure that every one of the students in grades 4 and 5 receives a 21st century education;
- Weekly training with community-based, NETS-S coordinated technology lessons for students and teachers in grades 4, 5 and 6;
- One Acer desktop, 1 HP laptop and 2 optical mice for the Alburgh Public Library; two HP laptops, 1 iPad, 1 Brother color laser printer, 1 Netgear wireless router, 1 keyboard/mouse bundle, 2 optical mice and technology set-up services for the Grand Isle Free Library; and 2 HP Pavillion desktops for the North Hero Public Library to improve each library's services and to help more community members and visitors access the Internet, find social services and jobs, and connect to research and educational opportunities;
- Three workshops on the topics of *Basic Computer Skills*, *Internet Safety* and *Web Based Communication Tools* conducted by Vermont State Colleges' instructors at Folsom Education and Community Center School and at the Lake Champlain Islands Chamber of Commerce building for Grand Isle County residents;
- Three workshops on the topics of *Getting Your Business Online*, *Social Media Marketing* and *Google Tools for Small Business* conducted by the Vermont Small Business Development Center at the Lake Champlain Islands Chamber of Commerce building and North Hero House for Grand Isle County businesses and entrepreneurs;
- VtSBDC community outreach with several local businesses and to establish websites and/or online marketing strategies;
- The Snelling Center for Government municipal website template, Clearbearing web hosting for 3 years and domain name registration for 3 years for the new South Hero Municipal Website; and a three-in-one HP laserjet copier, scanner, printer for the North Hero Town Offices.

While Grand Isle County's e-Vermont year is over, e-Vermont's impact in the Islands is not. In the coming months, Grand Isle County can expect to see:

- Full, hard launch of the revamped South Hero municipal website;

- A new platform for the Front Porch Forum e-newsletter that will include a web-based community calendar, synthesizing all community events into one central place and displaying them on multiple sites;
- Possible consolidation of 5 separate Front Porch Forums in the county to become one integrated Islands Neighbor to Neighbor Forum;
- For teachers, a complete program of lesson and unit plans, worksheets, Internet links, advice, instruction, and video tutorials, so that cutting edge classroom education can continue in 2011-2012 and beyond;
- Webinars for businesses and individuals throughout the coming year, most recently three sessions on *Your Library Presents; Information 24/7* ;
- A tool kit of case studies, lessons learned, and best practices to be shared at e4vt.org;
- Regional workshops, a statewide conference, and continuing programs of e-Vermont partner organizations.

e-Vermont congratulates the Grand Isle team for its collaboration and accomplishments over the past year and wishes them well in continuing to close the digital divide, use of Internet tools to advance local goals, and serve as a model for rural towns all over Vermont and across the United States.

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