

# Facilities Services Newsletter

## September 2009



### Construction Begins on the New Worth Mountain Lift



*Unloading the drive terminal structure.*

Doppelmayr CTEC of Salt Lake City, Utah, an international firm that engineers and manufactures ski lifts, has begun construction on the new Worth Mountain lift. Electrical equipment for the terminal buildings (bottom, top, and mid-station), drive framework, and anchoring equipment has all begun to arrive. Rock anchors for towers 11, 12, 13, and 14 are drilled and set into solid ledge. Doppelmayr's concrete crew began excavation and foundation work for the bottom terminal and towers last week. Towers, ropes, and cables will arrive in mid-October. Upon completion the State of Vermont will inspect the lift and issue an operating permit. The scheduled completion date is December 1, 2009.

*Factoids for the curious:* The lift system will be comprised of 15 towers and 104 chairs. Under normal operating and weather conditions, the trip to the top will take 7.72 minutes.

### Mountains Out of Mole Hills? We Think Not.

Serious accidents have been narrowly avoided near the Service Building since the completion of the biomass plant. Some drivers crossing campus on Old Chapel Road to Route 30 have been gaining far too much speed as they approach the Service Building. Vehicles and pedestrians exiting the parking lot between McCullough and the Service Building are unable to see approaching traffic on Old Chapel Road until it nears the Axinn Center, so are at the mercy of speeding vehicles. Pedestrians leaving the new entrance to the Biomass plant have also had close encounters with through traffic.



*The speed table near the Axinn Center.*

In the interest of preventing accidents, a speed table and speed bump have been installed at opposite ends of the main Service Building parking area. Drivers will need to reduce speed to 5 mph to negotiate these devices and avoid damage to their vehicles. Please use extreme caution when driving through this area – for your safety and ours.

## Other Work Accomplished Over the Summer:

**75 Adirondack** – A shelter was constructed to house a kiln for the Pottery Club.

**Atwater Dining Hall** – An acoustical ceiling treatment was installed to dampen noise levels. The dining hall is now exclusively furnished with round tables to provide functional banquet seating and increase the number of available “language tables.” Those who voted for the “Cachet” chair during the February showing of Proctor chair candidates will be happy to find the Cachet here at Atwater (it was a close 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Proctor elections). The preexisting Atwater furniture has been put to good use meeting the needs of the Ross Dining Hall expansion, and the Freeman Dining Room which will be a venue option for contract caterers.

**Bread Loaf** – Remediation of asbestos in various areas; and in compliance with Vermont “Essential Maintenance Practices” for lead safety, metal inserts were installed in residential window windows.

**Centeno** – Roof repair.

**Center for the Arts** – Lighting upgrades in the Seeler Studio.

**Chateau** – Refinished the Grand Salon floor.

**Fletcher House** – Carpet replaced in common areas.

**131 Franklin** – Installed new fire suppression sprinkler system and water main.

**Gamaliel Painter House** – Offices refurbished for the relocated Bread Loaf School of English.

**Hadley/Milliken/Kelly/Lang** – Hallway carpet replaced throughout much of the 1st, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4th floors. Replaced water damaged bathroom vanities.

**Johnson** – Improved lighting in room 203.

**KDR** – Installed new heating system.

**LaForce** – Repairs made to the stone façade, and a carbon monoxide (CO) detection system was installed.

**Main Quad Water Main Replacement and Drainage Project** – Water mains to McCullough, Voter, Munroe, Old Chapel, and Warner were replaced. Necessary excavations provided opportunity to improve drainage on the main quad so that Wellies may cease to be part of our traditional Commencement regalia. In conjunction with this project, sidewalks were added to the east side of Old Chapel Road for improved pedestrian safety.

**McCardell Bicentennial Hall** – Masonry repairs to the west exterior wall.



**McCullough Plaza** – With funds from the recent McCullough renovation and in conjunction with the water main replacement project, a small plaza has been constructed near the east tower. The plaza design includes rerouted sidewalks (more intuitive to typical traffic patterns), stone benches, and some outdoor seating where Grille patrons can enjoy their food. In the coming weeks, College landscapers will plant the two triangular “islands.”

*Students enjoying outdoor seating on the new plaza.*

**Pearsons** – Replaced three shower bases.

**Red Kelly Trail** – Trail maintenance.

**Ross Dining Hall** – The dining hall was modified and expanded to accommodate additional seating for the new dining plan effective this semester.

**108 South Main** – Installed new fire suppression sprinkler system and water main.

**121 South Main** – This temporary office building was converted back to residential use.

**Stewart Hall** – Installed an upgraded fire suppression sprinkler system, replaced new shower valves throughout, and replaced an exterior steam line.

**1097 Weybridge Street** – New roofing and replacement of rotted eaves.

**Wright Theatre** – Water main replaced.

### Miscellaneous:

**Annual Boiler Service** – Inspected and serviced boilers in all main campus small dorms and faculty rentals.

**Exterior Painting:** Atwater A, B & Dining Hall, DKE, Battell, Center for the Arts, Gifford, Hepburn, Mead Chapel, Meeker, Pearsons, #550 Route 125, and #709 Route 125.

**Faculty Rentals** – Various levels of interior and exterior maintenance as needed.

**Masonry Repairs:** Stone steps at Twilight Hall, 95 South Main Street chimney, Adirondack/Coltrane chimney.

**Windows (new)** – Replaced windows in some rental properties and small dorms for increased energy efficiency, better egress from bedrooms (a fire code regulation), and/or to eliminate older frames containing lead paint.

**Window Inserts** – To comply with the Vermont Lead Law, metal inserts were installed in the window sills of older rental properties and small dorms. These inserts allow for ease of inspection and cleaning where paint dust is most commonly created – the window sill.

### Works in Progress:

**Hallway & Exit Door Glass** – We have begun a program to replace wire mesh glass in all hallway and exit doors in athletic facilities and dormitories. Once considered the standard for safety glass, wired glass is now known to pose its own safety risk so will be replaced with fire rated glass. Glass replacement will begin in the athletic facilities and continue throughout dormitories over time. *In the meantime, observing this simple precaution will ensure your safety: Never push on or lean against wired glass! Always use the “crash bar” or handle to push doors open.*



**Bread Loaf** – Heating system boilers will be serviced in October.

**Bread Loaf, Burdick** – Installing perimeter drainage, removing a shed, repairing the access road, and replacing the sewer line.

**CFA** – Assisting the Museum in preparing for a new exhibit.

**Charles P. Scott Center** – Chimney repair.

**Dump Truck** – Our dump truck is getting “a bit of a face lift,” with some touch-up paint, and a new sander for snow removal season.

**Exterior Painting:** Brackett, Chateau, Chellis House, 51 Franklin, and 53 South St.

**Material Recovery Facility** – A shed roof will be added as a safety feature over the doorway where trash leaves the facility, to protect staff from snow and ice sliding off the steep metal roof.

**Proctor** – Constructing ice guards to protect exterior HVAC units.

**Public Safety** – A pre-fabricated partition will be installed between the dispatch area and back offices to minimize heat loss when people enter/exit the building.

**Roof Repairs:** Adirondack House, Battell, Field House, 115 Franklin, 149 Shannon, and 119 South Main.

**Starr & Painter Halls** – Installation of CO detection systems is well underway. Connections have been run to student rooms. Remaining work in common areas will continue through September.

### Green Bits

As part of the 2009 Orientation program, first year counselors were treated to tours of our biomass and recycling facilities, as well as The Hillcrest Environmental Center and the organic garden. An idea generated by SGA's Kate Lupo '10, and approved by both the president and community council, these tours are an introduction to Middlebury's environmental commitment. The hope is that counselors will encourage first year students to visit as well, and that early exposure to our operations will inspire an even greater level of commitment to recycling and carbon reduction.

Come on Class of 2013 – prove us right and kick it up a notch!



*First year counselors tour the organic garden.*

**Welcome back to academic year 2009-2010!**

Questions about content may be directed to [hoyenski@middlebury.edu](mailto:hoyenski@middlebury.edu).

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