



July 15, 2017

Windsor Grown [Photo by Ethan Kohn]

WINDSOR GROWN!

a celebration of community and place

Heard (more than once) at the bottom of the Woodland Trail: "Mom, can we go again?" It was that kind of day at the first-ever Windsor Grown celebration on July 15th at Notchview.

From the kids in the climbing tree to the mama and baby goat reveling in all the attention, it seemed like everyone was having their own kind of Windsor fun. More than 300 people came for the music, the displays and demonstrations, that magical trail and the first-ever showings of the Our Town video about Windsor.

In typical Windsor fashion, the weather kept everyone guessing until the morning of the event, but decided to behave. Thanks to Windsor Hill Sugar House, some of us discovered maple slushies and our lives were changed. Others learned why it's so important to have a jar of Ooma Tesoro's Marinara Sauce in the cupboard at all times.

Local musicians – One Part Luck,



Andy Schmidt sharing samples of maple slushies
[Photo by Barbara Connors]

Benny Kohn, Moonshine Holler and Misty Blues on stage, and Tamarack Hollow drumming at the back of the vendor's alley – gave the day its heartbeat, while the line-up of makers and growers from Windsor and nearby showed how much talent, creativity and energy is living in these hills. What is it about kids and fire trucks? Who knows? But thank you to the Windsor Volunteer Fire Department for bringing theirs, along with Sam, their wonderfully weird fire-hose rescue mannequin.

Dozens of children proudly carried their decorated walking sticks into the rhododendron wilderness of the Woodland Trail, and emerged with some fun facts

about Windsor's flora and fauna. Notchview's fascinating history as the center of Windsor's early 20th century "high society" was centered in one of several walking tours.

Local support for this great day included donations to the Friends of Windsor raffle, and Windsor residents bought the winning tickets: Barbara Connors won a Learn to Ski package from Notchview; Kim Tobin won the Bryant Homestead Beer Brewing class; Val Kohn went home with a beautiful porcelain bowl from Connie Talbot's High Hollow Pottery; and Sue Riley scored the Windsor Grown Goodies Basket.

Windsor Grown was volunteer-powered and supported by generous grants, community donations and sponsorships. The Woodland Trail was conceived and created by Friends of Windsor. Notchview and the Trustees of Reservations were amazing and generous. Thanks to everyone who came, everyone who lent their support, and to every single volunteer. What do you think, should we make it a tradition?

--Susan Phillips



Left: Benny "Fingers" Kohn; Right: side entertainment by Mama & Baby Goat [Photos by Ethan Kohn]

Thanks to the Central Berkshire Fund of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, the Wild & Scenic Westfield River Committee, and the Windsor Cultural Council for helping to make this event possible!





Above: sign map for FOW Woodland Trail; Right: rare glimpse of a trail dragon
[Photos by Barbara Connors]



HERE BE DRAGONS...

...And red efts, the scent of pines, and a rhododendron ramble of epic proportions. The Friends of Windsor Woodland Trail was quite simply magical. Kids whose parents thought they might not make it all the way around popped out at the end ready to go again. And it was, from the first spark of an idea to the engaging execution, a 100 percent FOW production. Hours of trail-setting, lean-to building, and dragon-creating proved worth every itchy mosquito bite! The main features of the trail will remain up for a little while longer, so be sure to stop by Notchview and check it out!

*To see more photos,
visit our Windsor
Grown Gallery on
friendsofwindsor.com!*



FEELING THANKFUL

A big event like this requires cheerful volunteers in large numbers, and you came through! Windsor Boy Scout Troop #93 (Zach, Connor, Josh, Elliot & their fearless leader, Sean) ably staved off parking problems. Wahconah National Honor Society students Annie Cramer, Holden Nelson, and Windsor's Michaela Moncecchi helped at the craft tables, the welcome tent, and the fire pit. Ray Kerns made the blazes, arrows and signs for the woodland trail and mowed and trimmed the stately path down the old Helenscourt steps. Glenn Roy collected and prepared more than 70 walking sticks.

Tim Crane created the chainsaw carvings and helped build the trail, and he and Kyle Dempsey build the substantial Spruce Hill Fort. Colin Harrington helped kids create their personal walking sticks; Barbara Connors and Ethan Kohn took hundreds of photos. Thanks, Windsor firefighters, for the bottled water!

Leslee Brennan, Scott Brockway, Amy Pulley and Storey Publishing loaned tents. Tables and chairs came from the West Cummington Church Parish House, Cummington Village Church and Windsor Council on Aging. Peter Reed, Scott Rogers, Madeline Scully, Charles Sturtevant, Glenn Roy, Scott Brockway, and Ethan Kohn helped move things and set things up and take them down again. Sweethaven Farm & Flowers loaned flowering shrubs; and Notchview superintendent Jim Caffrey, went above and beyond to see that the grounds were in top shape and traffic flowed smoothly.

Also, thank you to our Windsor Grown vendors for supporting the event, and to our local business sponsors and the many friends and neighbors whose donations keep us going.

If we can give ourselves a small pat on our own back, FOW is proud of having made this day happen! FOW is: Deb Balmuth, Patty Crane, Sue Edwards, Kathy Hill, Val Kohn, Susan Phillips, and Diane Sturtevant.



Peru Rd [Photo by Kyle Dempsey]

ALL EYES ON WINDSOR

The unveiling of Friends of Windsor's new, brief video highlighting what makes Windsor special was a key moment in the day, with an overflow audience requiring multiple showings. From the drone's eye views of our forests and farms, to a glimpse of Prem Sangar's samosas and the coffee crew at Friendly Fred's, by way of log-splitting, pot-throwing and hay-loading, it's Windsor life in concentrated form. If you weren't able to catch it, you can find it on our Home page at www.friendsofwindsor.com. Check it out, spread the word, share the link with your family and friends. Kudos to videographer Kyle Dempsey, and sincere thanks to our generous video sponsors — Berkshire Bridge & Iron, Berkshire Snow Seekers, Hill-Engineers, Architects & Planners, The Trustees, and the Wild & Scenic Westfield River Committee.

The following businesses generously supported Windsor Grown:
BERKSHIRE WOOD PRODUCTS, DALTON CRA, DREAM VACATIONS,
GREYLOCK REALTY, INNOVATIONS HAIR SALON, ITTY BITTY FARM TRUST,
JACK SOBON ARCHITECT & BUILDER, KELLY'S PACKAGE STORE, P.M.
REED CARRY GOODS, and WINDSOR JAMBS FARM. Thank you all!