

## **Windham Endowment Bestows Yet Another Gift to the High School**

by Barbara O'Brien

The Windham Endowment for Community Advancement continues its campaign to enhance the Fine Arts Program at Windham High School, which has just recently opened for its second year of operation.

This year, there are three grades in attendance at Windham High; juniors, sophomores, and freshmen. Seniors continue to attend classes at Salem High School under a tuition agreement with that school district. 2011-2012 will be the first school year that all four grades are in attendance in Windham.

During the Windham School Board's September 7 meeting, Diane Carpenter, spokesperson for Windham Endowment, announced that \$7,515.85 was being donated to the high school for the explicit purpose of purchasing a tuba, a euphonium, two full-size keyboards with stands, microphones, and a Fender amplifier.

Carpenter, who traditionally has been the Windham Endowment member to present these gifts, said, "I am just the voice of the gift." There are many people behind the scenes who are contributing a great deal of time, effort, and money to this campaign, she added.

The School Board voted unanimously (5 to 0) to accept the donation from Windham Endowment. "This gift will complement existing opportunities for Windham High School students," Carpenter told school district officials. Each of the items purchased was requested by staff members at the high school, Carpenter explained.

Also recently received by Windham Endowment was what Carpenter termed "a huge gift" of \$20,000 from one donor. This donation is eligible for a matching grant through "WIRE" (Windham Initiative for Renewable Energy). In addition to the \$20,000 donation, Windham Endowment has also received a total of \$22,870 in various other gifts to benefit its ongoing campaign.

On Sunday, September 26, Windham Endowment's promotion of Fine Arts will hold a Jazz Brunch at Windham High School from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Those who attend will be treated to a delicious brunch, plus exquisitely performed musical arrangements. The cost of attending the Jazz Brunch is \$20 for adults, \$10 for students, and \$6 for children under the age of six.

The Windham Endowment for Community Advancement is a non-profit organization.

In other business, Windham High School Principal Tom Murphy presented a \$500 prize won through a recent video competition in which students participated. School Board members accepted the prize money unanimously.

Murphy also presented a \$1,000 donation to Windham High School made through the generosity of Bob's Discount Furniture. As part of Bob's Discount Furniture's six-month campaign and in honor of the furniture store's "New Hampshire Days" celebration, each of the four Bob's Furniture Stores in New Hampshire selected two area high schools to receive a \$1,000 donation. Windham High School was selected by the Bob's store in Salem, along with Pinkerton Academy in Derry. Murphy said that the \$1,000 gift from Bob's Discount Furniture was "not earmarked for any particular purpose." The donation from Bob's Discount Furniture Store was accepted by School Board members 5 to 0.