Landmark College becomes a reality on Sept. 17

PUTNEY — Putney once more will have an active institution of higher education when Landmark College opens Sept. 17.

Dyslexic students from throughout the United States and from several foreign countries will converge on the campus of the new college on that date to begin their studies.

The process of renovating the Putney campus — the buildings have been empty since the close of Windham College in 1978 — has called on the skills and energy of many people from the local area. Buildings with serious roof leaks, non-functional utility systems, and decaying appearance have, through countless hours of labor, been transformed into attractive space conducive to comfortable living and serious study. This is a process and an outcome in which the region can take pride.

Perhaps the most striking change in the campus’ appearance is the result of Landmark College’s stripping of the white paint from the exterior of the four buildings to be used in September. The attractive brick beneath seems more harmonious with the surroundings. Its appearance makes a clear, visual statement that something new and different is beginning on the campus.

Many local people have played, and will continue to play, crucial roles in the new college’s development.

Many local people have played, and will continue to play, crucial roles in the new college’s development. Faith and Roger Evans of Dummerston have successfully coordinated the myriad details of the renovation process. Dean Robert Skeele of Marlboro has taken many roles including, most recently, organizing the purchase and installation of furnishings and 1½ acres of carpeting. Robert Rhodes of Walpole, Windham College’s librarian, has returned to the library to rebuild a collection and nurture once again the indoor garden beneath the huge central skylight. Geoffrey Gaddis of Putney has begun work as the College’s Business Manager, bringing with him a very strong background in management of non-profit institutions. A number of local people will be among the 30 faculty in September. Others have been hired for nursing, maintenance and clerical positions. Food will be provided by Fitz and Vogt of Brattleboro.

An open house for the community will be scheduled for September so that all may have an opportunity to see the changes in the campus and to meet with the staff. The precise date and time of this open house will be publicized in the near future.

Hilltop School appoints Wheeler as new administrator

Hilltop Montessori School Inc. has appointed Tonia Wheeler as its first administrator.