

contact in the year (and years) ahead. It is expected that more computer donations and enhanced communication will be features of some years to come.

Bloomfield found some problems, as well, that he addressed directly with Concord's Sister Cities counterparts:

- A lack of sufficient organization and follow through in San Marcos to enable the continuation of a scholarship program that had provided nearly 50 elementary school students at the Escuela San Marcos with the means to pay for some of their school-supply and transportation costs over the last four years.
- Weak oversight of a long-operating micro-bank in San Marcos, FECONDESAM, that the Concord Committee has funded in cooperation with a small San Marcos-based board of directors since 1996, that now has a financial base of over \$25,000. Bloomfield asked that Concord's San Marcos counterparts call back all of the loans over an 18-month period in order to reassess and then renew, beginning in 2013, the still promising yet now lamentably ill-administered loan program.
- A long-promised yet still unrealized institutionalization of a true foundation board, fashioned in name as FUNDISMAR, that would have the legal status in Nicaragua to receive funds, raise funds, and take on projects of even greater scale in the future than in the past with Concord partners, and with perhaps other partners as well, for the benefit of the citizens of San Marcos.

The Concord Committee was cheered, by year's end, that promises made with regard to both the restructuring of FECONDESAM and the constitution of FUNDISMAR were being kept, and that in the new year the committee might foresee growth and newly invigorated enterprises of mutual invention and exciting possibility.

Sources of Funding

Donations from Concord citizens, as well as contributions of goods and services from Concord institutions such as the Concord Public Schools and Emerson Hospital continue to sustain the work of the Committee. In 2011, owing to concerns the Committee had with regard to the viability of its partnership, formal fundraising did not occur. The Committee expects to reinstate its hopes for mutual progress and, therefore, the reinvigoration of fundraising opportunities, in the coming year.

Future Directions

Apart from a renewal of projects that respond to the 2011 Annual Report

economic-development needs of San Marcos as expressed and defined by Concord's San Marcos partners, in 2012 the Committee plans to re-launch youth trips emphasizing cultural immersion and community service.

In years past, summer youth trips have become fixtures of the Sister Cities Committee's profile in the Town. The committee expects to cooperate ever more closely with Concord Carlisle High School teachers, especially Spanish teacher Erin Lynch, to expand the influence of experiential learning for Concord youths in San Marcos in ways that will be mutually created and mutually beneficial. The Committee continues to see great benefit in the ongoing experience of community-to-community conversation and communion spurred by the Sister Cities relationship.

The Committee website resides as: [http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_BComm/San Marcos](http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_BComm/San_Marcos).

CONCORD NANAE NETWORK

Tom Curtin, Chair
Judy Terry, Vice-Chair

You did not have to wait for the Town's Annual Report to learn what was happening in Nanae this past year. All you had to do was go to concordnanae.com, the website Coordinator of International Relations (CIR), Ben Mirin, created in 2010 just prior to his departure for Nanae. Ben has been a prolific producer of videos and articles about Nanae, all of which are available on the site for those who are not regular visitors. Learn about Hokkaido birds, sustainability practices, local holidays, or Halloween in Nanae. His footage of post-tsunami Hakodate went viral on the Internet. In addition, the site has links to the [concordnanae](http://concordnanae.com) Flickr, Youtube, Twitter, and Facebook sites.

Members of the Concord-Nanae Network, CCHS students and families, and other Concord and Carlisle citizens raised \$14,857 for the Japan Relief Fund Boston to assist the survivors of the March earthquake and tsunami in Japan. The money was raised through the CCHS Bands and Orchestra Concert, the CCHS Sci Fi Club bake sales, the Thoreau School Cake Walk, and the Interact Club Talent Show. While Nanae was not directly impacted by the disaster, many Nanae families lost friends and family. The Board of Selectmen and CCHS expressed their concern for Japan to Nanae's

Mayor Nakamiya and Nanae High School Principal Kogoshi. Over 100 concerned Concert Band and Sci Fi students who had had home stays in Nanae during the 2010 band trip wrote letters of support to their host families that meant a lot during this time of crisis.

Another first happened in late summer. Nanae hired Ben Haydock, a graduate of CCHS and recently of Colby College as an Assistant Language Teacher (ALT). In August he began his duties teaching English in the Nanae elementary and junior high schools. This is the first time that Nanae has chosen someone from Concord as an ALT. From this time forward, Nanae will pick someone from Concord or Carlisle for the position. Ben will teach about Concord and American culture. Having a Concordian in the Nanae schools has made it easier to run joint projects between the Concord and Nanae schools. Global education has made a great leap forward in both communities.



Al Dentino and Katsuyuki, CCHS and Nanae Band Directors, at the end of the very successful joint concert.

The highlight of the year, however, was Nanae's September delegation to Concord, the largest one yet because it included the Nanae High School Band for the first time. A marvelous joint concert was held at CCHS, followed by a BBQ and dancing in the cafeteria with the seventy-three Nanae guests. On Monday, the Nanae High School Band played three additional concerts at CCHS, two for the CC student body and one for all of Concord and Carlisle's fifth graders. All seventy-three guests had successful home stays. CNN hosted a dinner for the Nanae adults and their host families that strengthened the sister cities' friendship.

Plans are now underway for next October's Nanae visit, the fifteenth anniversary of the sister-city relationship that will be celebrated in Concord.

CCTV Inc.

500 Walden Street
Concord, MA 01742
978-369-5038

www.concordtv.org www.carlisletv.org

~ Communication, Collaboration, Community ~

Rob Mast, President

Lindsay Alaimo, Executive Director

Kester Krueger, Education and Outreach Manager

Sam Krueger and Ben Phillippo, Production Assistants

Directors

Stanly Black

Court Booth

Paul Dewey

Mara Dolan

Peter Fischelis

Julio Gomez

Sid Levin

Susan Merlino

Chuck Palmer

Andrew Sapp

Burt Williams

Community Access Television begins 7th Year of Service

It has been an exciting year for CCTV, Inc., which continued to produce an ever-expanding range of programming for the communities of Concord and Carlisle. Production training and outreach remained a high priority for our staff who continues to arm our members with the high level shooting and editing skills needed to produce effective, compelling programming that reflects the interests and passions of the communities we represent.

CCTV is an independent corporation that operates under contracts with the towns of Concord and Carlisle and utilizes franchise fee revenues from Comcast to fund most of its operations. Major services include programming on Channels 8, 9 and 10, devoted to Public, Government and Education programming respectively.

Community access television relies on local citizens to produce our programming. Anyone living in Concord or Carlisle or affiliated with a Town organization or company may apply to join as a member of CCTV.