



PHOTO BY WENDY CAUGHEY

State Fish & Wildlife officials freed a bear cub stuck inside a hollow tree in the Lake Reality section of Kinnelon last weekend. They let the cub go thinking that it would return to its mother. The cub turned up again on Sunday hungry and apparently alone. Animal control officials took the cub to a wildlife rehabilitation center.

TRENDS: 6-21-2009

RINGWOOD

Education Foundation provides \$20K in grants

Another \$20,000 given for technology

BY TERESA EDMOND
Staff Writer

The Ringwood Education Foundation (REF) has given \$20,534 to the district schools, a sign the community takes that the REF is continuing its commitment to the borough's education.

REF President Jean Speer provided an overview of the REF's 2008-09 achievements and events at the June 15 Board of Education meeting. REF is an organization

dedicated to fundraising on behalf of the Ringwood School District.

Every April, the REF gets grant applications from the district schools. Last April, the REF received 34 grant requests. Of those requests, the REF was able to award 25 grants a worth \$20,534. These grants would go toward a booksellers convention for Robert Erskine and Peter Cooper schools, Martin J. Ryerson School's citizenship and current events program, a new novel for the sixth grade reading program, an art gallery at Cooper School, and an all-district music and arts festival for Hewitt and Ryerson schools.

"We went through painstaking efforts to make sure that all the schools receive the most that we

could possibly give them based on what they submitted," Speer said.

Besides bestowing a \$20,534 all-district grant, the REF is giving E.G. Hewitt School alone a \$20,000 technology grant, which Speer announced at the same Board of Education meeting. Hewitt School Principal Tim Johnson expressed how "thrilled" his school is to receive the \$20,000 grant.

The Board of Education showed gratitude for the REF's contributions.

"Working as a team shows the efforts in making this a top school district," said Cynthia Tassitano, Board of Education vice president.

E-mail: Edmond@northjersey.com