

# WATERFORD COUNTRY SCHOOL

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## Our Mission!

Waterford Country School is dedicated to doing whatever it takes to enrich the lives of children and strengthen families through specialized programs, resources, and community services.

# Save the Date!

**7th Annual Kabaret for Kids**  
**Saturday, October 16, 2010**

Waterford Country School is proud to present the 7th Annual Kabaret for Kids on Saturday, October 16, 2010 at 6pm in the Mohegan Sun Ballroom. The evening will feature live entertainment from Eight to the Bar and, back by popular demand, a repeat performance by Kathy Kingston as auctioneer and emcee. Chairpersons for the event are Susan Gula and Leslie Suarez, both members of the WCS Board of Trustees.

This incredibly popular event will include delicious food and beverages, exciting silent and live auction items and fantastic entertainment. It promises to be an evening of friendship, fun and fundraising for an incredible cause.

If you are interested in getting involved as a sponsor, donor or volunteer, please contact the Development Office at (860) 442-9454 ext. 105. More details to follow!

7th Annual  
**Kabaret  
for Kids**

at Mohegan Sun



## 2nd Annual Venice Charity Night for WCS!

Join us on Thursday, April 29th from 5 - 8:30pm at Venice Restaurant in Westerly, RI for the 2nd Annual Venice Charity Night. The evening will feature food specials, raffles and much more to benefit Waterford Country School.

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Winter/Spring 2010

# CIRCLE of FRIENDS

THE WATERFORD COUNTRY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

residential and community programs  
supporting children and families

## Butterfly Fever Hits Waterford Country School

By Lee Palmer, Child Care Worker, Safe Homes Program

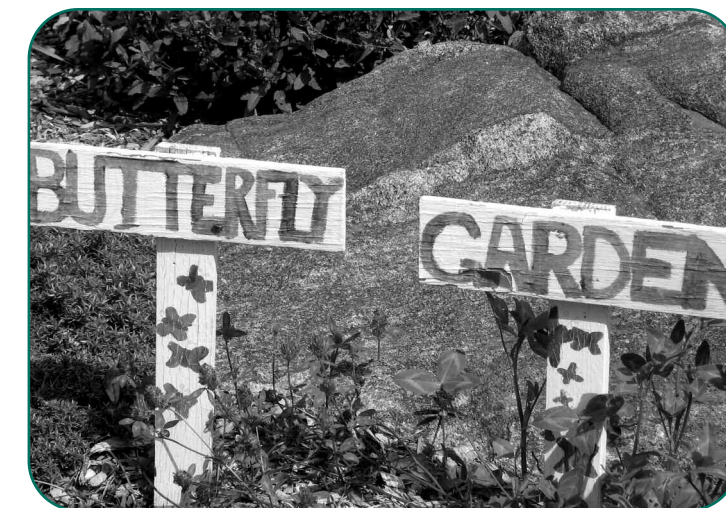
Thirty-four dollars gets 20 Monarch eggs shipped from Pennsylvania to Waterford Country School on a leafy piece of tropical milkweed. In June of 2009 the postman delivered them to campus. It was pretty cool when we opened the box and found that some of the eggs (the size of a pinhead) had already hatched. In fact, right from arrival, the butterfly eggs became a constant curiosity to the kids and staff. A bulletin board was soon created and it was covered with every aspect of the life cycle of the Monarch Butterfly, which was studied and discussed until the last butterfly was released.

After their arrival, a proper home was built that would keep these little critters in and little fingers out. Soon it became evident that these little caterpillars were actually eating machines and their rate of consumption a constant source of amazement to the kids. Who knew that the eating habits of monarch caterpillars could beat out Sponge Bob and the cartoon network! Soon we were taking daily walks down the hill to the farm's fields to collect fresh milkweed. That's when things started to exceed our expectations.



The kids soon found their first "wild caterpillars" and EGGS! You'd have thought they found a puppy, given their pure unbridled excitement. Suddenly all fear of tall grass and the ticks, snakes, bees, or spiders were forgotten and they were collectors and protectors of the Monarch. Armed with plastic food containers and pocket magnifiers they explored this newly discovered world.

And then came the day when the first caterpillar crawled to the top of the cage and started the process of changing from a caterpillar to a butterfly and became a chrysalis, right before our eyes. Kids and staff alike huddled to watch this process happen every time. It's simply fascinating; in the truest sense of the word when, eleven days later, a Monarch butterfly emerges. On some days maybe only one, on others sometimes five or six, and not one any less spectacular than the first. All the time this is happening more eggs and caterpillars are coming in and soon a second cage was built.



The butterflies were released within a day of emerging. The kids carried the cage outside; where it was opened so a child could coax the butterfly on to a finger and remove it for release. I have to tell you that many times during this summer-long project it was difficult to say who was enjoying this activity more, staff or kids. At the end of September and beginning of October we released twenty-five butterflies with tags from Monarch Watch, an ongoing research project at the University of Kansas.

This past summer we raised and released well over one hundred butterflies and it had an incredibly positive effect on our programs. This project took on a life of its own, spreading beyond Safe Homes to the Youth Center and Fire Street. Group Home. Our kids are already looking forward to starting the process again this summer!



## Circle of Friends Annual Fund Update

Goal is to raise \$30,000 by June 30, 2010

\$5K

\$10K

\$15K

\$20K

\$25K

\$30K

March 2010 marks the halfway point of Waterford Country School's Circle of Friends Annual Fund Campaign. To date, we have raised approximately \$15,000 putting us halfway to our goal of raising \$30,000 by June 30th.

It is not too late to become a member of our Circle of Friends. Donations of any amount help to make a difference in the lives of the children and families we serve.

These vital contributions help provide special activities for the youth in our residential program, counseling support for families in our Foster Care Program, and supplies for our Wildlife Rehabilitation and Animal Care

Program. Contributions from our many friends in the community also help to defer training costs for our staff and purchase school supplies for our students. More importantly, the money raised helps to ensure that the children in our care have something special to help celebrate their birthdays and holidays. The generous contributions we receive during our Annual Fund help to make every facet of what we do possible.

"I would like to offer my personal thanks to everyone that has already donated to this year's campaign and also share my hope that more individuals and businesses will add their support. The money we raise helps in every aspect of

daily life, all year long, for the children and families we serve" said Beth Camassar, Board of Trustee member and Chairman of the Development Committee. "These gifts help to support our children and families in their efforts to grow, learn and create a brighter future."

Please consider supporting Waterford Country School's Circle of Friends Annual Fund. If you are interested in visiting and taking a tour of our campus, please contact the Development Office at (860) 442-9454 ext. 105.

## WCS Participates in Birdies For Charity Fundraiser

For the third year in a row Waterford Country School will be participating in the state-wide Birdies for Charity Fundraiser as part of the Travelers Championship. Sponsors of the fundraiser include J.H. Cohn LLP and the Connecticut Association of Nonprofits. Last year, WCS raised more than \$3000 as a participant in the fundraiser.

Participants are invited to make a donation for every birdie that occurs during the Travelers Championship Tournament which runs from June 21 - 27, 2010 at TPC River Highlands in Cromwell.

Pledges of any amount, starting at as low as one penny for each birdie, are encouraged. There are typically 1,500 to 2,000 birdies expected at a PGA



tournament, thus a pledge of one cent per birdie would be a contribution in the range of \$15-\$20. Pledges must be made by June 8th. Special bonus cash awards are made to the organizations with the highest number of pledges. We were close to qualifying in the top ten last year, so are eager to increase the number of pledges to WCS so that we may earn the bonus this year. Invoices will be sent directly from J.H. Cohen at the end of the summer.

"We are thrilled to participate in Birdies for Charity again this year", said Kate Stephenson, Director of Development & Community Support. "It is a wonderful way to raise funds for WCS while also partnering with well-respected organizations dedicated to improving lives throughout Connecticut." Jerry Levine, a member of the WCS Board of Trustees, is Chairman of this year's "Birdies" efforts.

Please consider supporting this unique fundraiser by completing the form included in this newsletter or you can visit our website at [www.waterfordcountryschool.org](http://www.waterfordcountryschool.org) and click on the Birdies for Charity link. Thank you!

## Create Your Legacy Through Support of WCS!

### Information provided by Leave a Legacy

Waterford Country School is a proud partner of Leave a Legacy CT and is committed to providing our supporters the information and resources they need to make a lasting difference in the lives of others. The information that follows is provided by Leave a Legacy. We hope that you will consider creating your own legacy and supporting the work of WCS.

### We rely on charitable organizations and they rely on us.

We rely on them to cure diseases, feed the hungry, teach our children, present the arts, preserve our history, train our doctors and shelter the homeless. They rely on us for survival. While many charities receive some support from government agencies, the majority of their funding comes from the public - people like you who give generously throughout their lives.

But did you know that by including a charitable gift in your will or estate plan, you can help to continue your favorite organization's work well into the future? You can continue to make a difference in the lives that follow.

### What you should know.

You can make a legacy gift to charity. Whether you think of yourself as rich or poor, or somewhere in between, your gift can make a difference. Even a small amount can have a big impact over time.

You can leave money to your family and to your favorite charity. Some people think they must choose between leaving a gift to their family or their favorite charity. You can do both, and some charitable gifts may actually save your family money by decreasing inheritance taxes.



Include charities in your estate planning and make a difference in the lives that follow.

It's easy. A simple directive in your will can bring welcome support to an organization that will make a difference in many lives.

### You can start today.

- Make sure you have an up-to-date will (or living trust) that reflects your charitable objectives. Without these documents, you surrender control of your property and assets to the courts.
- Contact your financial advisor (a financial planner, lawyer or accountant) and ask for help in establishing a charitable gift.
- Think beyond cash - you can leave stocks, real estate, insurance policies and personal property to your favorite charitable organizations.
- Make your favorite charity a beneficiary of your life insurance, pension plan or IRA.

For more information about Leave a Legacy, please visit [www.leavealegacy.org](http://www.leavealegacy.org). If you are interested in additional information about creating your legacy at Waterford Country School please contact the Development Office at (860) 442-9454 ext. 105.

## Thank You!

The children, staff and Board of Waterford Country School would like to thank you for your generosity and support this past Holiday Season.

Our Holiday Gift program benefits the children of WCS and allows them to experience the joy of the season, year after year. Thank you for contributing to this important cause.

## Save the Date! Family Fun Day at the FARM!

Saturday August 21, 2010

Located on the Grounds of  
The Rick McPherson Outdoor Education Center  
on The Waterford Country School campus

