

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.

Community Events & Outreach Benefit Waterford Country School

During the Spring, several local business and groups have stepped up to raise funds and awareness for WCS.

“It is always such a wonderful surprise when we are approached by people in the community who want to help raise funds for WCS and spread the word about the important work that we do”, said Kate Stephenson, Director of Development & Community Support. “We are truly grateful to everyone who works to help us make a difference for children and families.”

In April, Louis Spetrino, an employee of MGM Grand at Foxwoods and his wife Terry, an employee at United Builders Supply, chose Waterford Country School as the beneficiary of the 2nd Annual Networking Night sponsored by Venice Restaurant in Westerly, RI. Thanks to their efforts, the evening raised more than \$1,400 for WCS!

Birdies for Charity Update & Payment Reminder

A great big thank you to everyone who supported the 2010 Birdies for Charity fundraiser sponsored by the Traveler's Championship. If all pledges are paid WCS will have raised \$6,000 and will be in the running for the Bonus Bucks Program. Invoices will be sent out in July and August to everyone that has generously supported this fundraiser. All money raised through this fundraiser benefits the Otto Graham Gymnasium & Activity Center Capital Fund. Thank you to Jerry Levine, Board of Trustees, for chairing this year's efforts!

Please contact the Development Office at (860) 442-9454 if you have any questions or concerns.

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CIRCLE of FRIENDS

Summer 2010

THE WATERFORD COUNTRY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

residential and community programs
supporting children and families

Education Awards Day Celebration Honors Student Achievements at WCS!

Record setting day recognizes 5 graduates

On Friday, June 18th, sunshine, tiki torches, colorful leis and balloons welcomed the more than sixty students being honored during the Education Program's Awards Day at Waterford Country School

Student projects were displayed around the lawn and the Hawaiian Luau theme was highlighted across the stage as family, friends, staff and supporters gathered to honor student achievements.

The day kicked off with words of welcome from Sharon Butcher, Education Director, remarks from David Moorehead, Executive Director and a special greeting from Robert Anderson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

“Awards day is the highlight of the year at WCS, where we celebrate success!” said Moorehead, “We are immensely proud of all of you and particularly because this is a record setting day. Five students are graduating from high school today and are being honored for their incredible achievements.”

Anderson shared a message from the Board of Trustees and expressed its ongoing support for the programs and students at Waterford Country School. He offered his personal congratulations and added “Your success is our [the Board's] reason for existing”.

During the celebration, awards were given out in more than a dozen categories including Individual Class Awards, Principal



Awards, Exemplary Achievement Awards, and Special Achievement Awards. Five students were recognized for completing their high school education requirements and walked up to receive their official diplomas, issued by their home high school, to the tune of “Pomp & Circumstance”.

One of the highlights of the day was the Awards Day speaker, Keeley Haynes, a former resident and student at Waterford Country School. Haynes shared her personal journey and offered advice to all of those in attendance. “When you look back on your life and see how fast it's gone, just remember the past is a reminder of what we can do better. The present is a gift because the future is never promised. Open your gift and make those changes to be the best person you can be. And don't be afraid to make a new chapter in your life. It will work out....Congratulations on all your hard work and best of luck in your new chapter.” Keeley credited Waterford Country School with helping her turn her life around. She graduated from her home high school this Spring and is heading to college in the Fall.

Throughout the ceremony, Assistant Education Director Pam Gianelli honored many students for “doing something good” including being kind to others, doing work to better the campus, making people smile, helping out without being asked, and being a good role model. The morning also featured student performances including musical numbers and a poetry reading.

Following the ceremony, the many families and special guests in attendance joined the students and staff for a barbeque picnic luncheon on the front lawn.

Congratulations and best of luck to all of the students in the Education Department!



Keeley Haynes, featured Awards Day Speaker, addresses the crowd



Robert Anderson, President of the Board of Trustees, welcomes and shares congratulations with the graduates.

WCS Recognition Night Celebrates Milestones, Special Achievements & Community Service

On Monday, April 26th Waterford Country School honored nearly 70 individuals at the annual Board & Staff Recognition Night at Groton Inn and Suites. Among the honorees recognized for their contributions to Waterford Country School was Dr. Gene Schulze who was honored for 40 years of service. Other special honorees included Sharon Butcher, Director of Education and William Martin, Assistant Executive Director who both have attained 30 years of service to WCS.

The Annual Waterford Country School Community Service Award was awarded to Steven, Joann, and Christina Flynn, long-time Circle of Friends members who provide special support to the Safe Home Program annually.

“The Board & Staff Recognition event is an opportunity to honor the people who make a difference every day in the lives of the children and families we serve at Waterford Country School,” said David B. Moorehead, Executive Director. “It is particularly important to acknowledge the lifetime of commitment shown by people like Gene, Sharon and Bill and the community support provided by families like the Flynn’s. We are so pleased to recognize the incredible work that all of our honorees have done to support our agency.”

David Moorehead joined Bob Paolino, Director of the Safe Home Program, on stage to present the Community Service Award. In front of more than 200 attendees, David and Bob shared the story of how the Flynn’s became interested in helping Waterford Country School.

Bob shared how he received a phone call in the infancy of the Safe Home Program from a family “wanting to teach their



The Flynn family, pictured with Dave Moorehead, Executive Director and Bob Paolino, Safe Home Program Director, are awarded the annual WCS Community Service Award.

daughter the meaning of charity.” This family asked if they could visit with children on Christmas Eve so they could have personal contact, not just send a check or drop off gifts. Since that Christmas, nine years ago, they have visited every Christmas Eve. In addition, Christina has involved her classmates from The Williams School in support of the children. The Flynn’s were presented with a commemorative plaque for “outstanding dedication and service and an exemplary act of parenting...” and received a standing ovation from the audience.

Throughout the evening, awards were given for milestones, anniversaries, promotions, certifications and achievement. The annual event is attended by members of the Board of Trustees, staff members, family, friends and supporters of Waterford Country School.

Annual Fund Campaign Reaches Goal of \$30,000!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! As of June 1st, Waterford Country School reached its goal of raising \$30,000 from the Circle of Friends Annual Fund!



“I am so moved by the incredible support we have seen from individuals and businesses this year. We set an ambitious goal and we are truly grateful to everyone who helped us to achieve it” 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.”

Waterford Country School always gratefully accepts donations to benefit our organization. Please visit our wishlist at www.waterfordcountryschool.org to find out about our ongoing needs and special requests. If you are interested in donating to our programs or if you are interested in visiting and taking a tour of our campus, please contact the Development Office at (860) 442-9454 ext. 105.

“It’s Your Night...Their Future”

WCS Prepares for 7th Annual Kabaret for Kids

On Saturday, October 16th, Waterford Country School will host the 7th Annual Kabaret for Kids at the Mohegan Sun. The event will feature a wonderful evening of delicious food and beverages, exciting silent and live auction items, and extraordinary entertainment.

Kabaret for Kids will take place in the beautiful Uncas Ballroom. From 6:00 – 8:00pm, delicious food and drink will be available and the silent auction will be ongoing. Back by popular demand, the “Balloon Buy” and Basket Raffle will be bigger and better than ever!

At 8pm, there will be a welcoming by representatives from Waterford Country School followed by the exciting Live Auction, led by auctioneer and emcee Kathy Kingston.

Following the live auction our headline act, Eight to the Bar, will take the stage. Eight to the Bar has been named “Best Live Band 2010” by Hartford Magazine and “Best Band 2008” by Connecticut Magazine. As always, one of the highlights of the evening will be the distribution of the 2011 WCS calendar. Shooting Star Sponsors for the event, to date, are The Mohegan Tribe and USI Connecticut.

“We are very excited about our 7th Annual Kabaret for Kids” said Kate Stephenson, Director of Development and Community Support. “The money raised each year from this signature event helps to support all of our programs, as well



f Stay up-to-date with this year’s event!

as to provide an annual contribution to our endowment to help ensure the future of our organization.”

“We couldn’t do it without our ongoing sponsors, item donors, volunteers and attendees. Their generosity and dedication help us to make a difference – both today and in the future – for the children and families that we serve” said Stephenson.

If you are interested in being a sponsor or item donor, or if you would like to order tickets, please contact the Development Office at (860) 442-9454 ext. 105 or visit www.waterfordcountryschool.org. Make sure to follow us on facebook to get the latest information and event updates!

16th Annual Family Fun Day at the Farm

Saturday, August 21, 2010 from 10:00am – 3:00pm on the grounds of the Rick McPherson Outdoor Education Center.

Family Fun Day features a variety of free activities for children and families including hayrides, horseback rides, horse drawn wagon rides and sing-a-longs, face painting, animal exhibits, nature trails and much more! Refreshments are also available for purchase. Family Fun Day at the Farm closes out the week of festivities organized to celebrate Waterford Week.

“We are always excited to sponsor this event as an opportunity to showcase the programs and services provided through Waterford Country School,” said David Moorehead, Executive Director. “We see Family Fun Day as a great way to thank our friends and neighbors for the ongoing support and generosity they offer us every year.”

For more information about Family Fun Day at the Farm, please contact the Waterford Country School Development Office at (860) 442-9454 ext. 105 or visit www.waterfordcountryschool.org.

