



# HOME Warren Bulletin SCHOOL

*Parents & Teachers -- working together for children.*

March 4, 2009

## **Thank You Voters!**

Our profound thanks to those of you who came to the school portion of Town Meeting. Although it didn't get under way until 2:20 pm, we are very pleased to report that the school budget passed by a vote of 75 to 19 on a paper ballot. Phew!

In an interesting development, next year's School Meeting will start at 9:00 am. The town meeting will begin at the conclusion of the school meeting - so you'll be able to participate in the school meeting knowing exactly when it will begin. School meetings usually last 60-75 minutes, so, if you so choose, you can go skiing (or go to work) by 10:30 with a good conscience!

## **Parent Conferences**

Parent conferences will take place on the afternoon and evening of Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> and, the morning of Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. There is no school for children on that Friday. Please use the attached conference registration form to let Laurie know when you would like to have your conference (s), and return it this week is possible.

## **PTO Meeting!**

Come join us on Wednesday March 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at the Purple Moon Pub for our next PTO meeting. We'll be discussing plans for our Spaghetti Dinner/Bingo Night fund raiser along with other ideas, a road trip to Marlboro, MA for a PTO EXPO, and much more. All are welcome! Bring a friend! Bring your ideas! We want to hear them!!

## **Spaghetti Dinner and Bingo Night**

Mark your calendars!! The Warren PTO is sponsoring a Spaghetti Dinner and Bingo Night on Wednesday, March 25 starting at 6pm!! Check posters and Monday Notes for more information. We will also be sending out a volunteer sheet for anyone who would like to help with this event! Hope to see you there!!

## **Harwood Gymshow, Saturday, March 7**

Spectators have two chances to see local teens run, jump, flip, dance and fly through the air on Saturday, March 7, either 2:00 or 7:00 pm, at Harwood Union High School. The Annual Harwood Gymshow has more than 20 gymnasts performing in this post season extravaganza that has been going on for more than 25 years. This year's theme is "Around the World" so be ready to hear and see moves, music and costumes that are reminiscent of far corners of the earth. Three group

routines, one by Varsity, one by Middle School and one combined, a 50/50 raffle and an extensive bake sale are part of the event. Tickets can be purchased at the door or for advance tickets call 496-4420, [laura@madriver.com](mailto:laura@madriver.com), adults \$5, kids \$3, four and under are free.

## **Help Skiers this Friday**

Our beginner skiers have graduated to riding the chair lift, so help is needed this week assisting in getting them on and off and riding with them. If you have been wanting to volunteer and haven't been able to all season, this is the week to do it! Please let Patty Weston 373-6386 or Laurie know. Thanks.

## **TV Turnoff Report** *Ellen Drysdale writes,*

Though attendance was smaller than usual, due to weather and sickness, last Wednesday's *Game Night* was a great success. There were 11 fun activities to choose from, from the ever popular dodgeball to Play-doh, to Making Yummy Creepy Crispy Critters, to Puff Pong to Making Monsters and Sewing Beanbags, as well as assorted other board games. Many thanks to the staff and volunteer parents who so generously offered their time on a cold, wet winter's evening: Laurie, Katie, Gina, Whitney, Jen, Anne, Andreas, and Ellen. Also Brian Gilhuly, Deb O'Hara, Cheryl Platt, Peggy Delaney, Darcy Perreault-Acker, and Warren graduate Katie Robinson and her mom Marci.

TV turnoff week has been exciting. We've seen more and more kids participate as the week went on (and they checked out the prizes the participants were getting!). We've heard about lots of activities that kids did in place of video games and tv. We hope you take this opportunity now to take a fresh look with your kids about "screen habits", and review the family rules.

The last day of TV turnoff was Feb., 20, so kids should bring in their slips from that day sometime this week, and get a final prize. At the next assembly, we'll have a raffle using the slips as tickets, and about 10 kids will get some slightly larger prizes.

## **Oral Health** *Fran Blair writes,*

The oral health of children has improved over the past few decades but tooth decay remains one of the most common diseases of childhood - 5 times as common as asthma and 7 times as common as hay fever. More than half of children ages 5-9 have had at least one cavity or filling. Injuries to children, intentional or

non-intentional, often involve trauma to the head, neck and mouth. The leading causes of oral and head injuries are sports, violence, falls and motor vehicle crashes.

The daily reality for children with untreated oral disease is often persistent pain, inability to eat comfortably or chew well, embarrassment of discolored and damaged teeth and distraction from play and learning. More than 51 million school hours are lost each year because of dental-related illness.

Here are a few suggestions to help reduce the risk of tooth decay:

- Pregnant woman should get prenatal care and eat a health diet.
- Put water in a baby's bottle at bedtime or naptime. Milk, formula, juices and other drinks contain sugar and over prolonged exposure increase the risk of tooth decay.
- Take your child for an oral health assessment between ages 1-2, and every six months thereafter.
- Protect your child's teeth with fluoride. Use fluoridated toothpaste; take fluoride pills prescribed by your dentist and take advantage of the school fluoride program.
- Encourage your child to eat regular nutritious meals.
- Make sure your child wears a helmet when bicycling, skiing and use protective headgear and mouth guards in other sports activities.

We have been fortunate to have a "Tooth Tutor" program in the district. Last year the dental hygienist spent several days here at our school checking children's mouths and helping parents find dental services. She will be in our school on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you have a concern about your child(ren)'s teeth or need help finding a dentist, please let me know and I will arrange for the Tooth Tutor to contact you.

### **Physical Education Notes** *Leigh Clark writes..*

I want to thank everyone once again for the support for a successful JRFH and for helping fight heart disease! The total amount of donations is \$3,242.33. Noah Eckstein was awarded the medallion for the highest amount collected and Gina's class won the JRFH Party for collecting the most donations for a class.

Swim Program: first and second grade students will once again be going to Sugarbush Sport Center this spring for the Primary Unit Swim Program. Their parents will receive a letter this week with further information with today's Bulletin. Students will have four swim lessons on Fridays in May and a lesson on swim safety here at school in April. Lessons are taught by myself and other water safety instructors. Please return the completed form and return to me by March 16th.

Chaperones are also needed to help supervise the boys and girls locker room and seat in the pool area for extra eyes. Thanks goes to the Town of Warren and the Warren PTO for funding this wonderful event.

The updated school Mileage Club tally for running, jogging and walking so far is 2,115 miles in the Mileage Club! This is great with four more months to go! Here is a reminder that students in grades 5 & 6 need to return their Fitness Log for the month of February. Also during the month of March...weather permitting, I hope to go outside for some winter fun for PE classes in grades 1-6. Students should have appropriate clothing to go outside for PE such as a jacket, snow-pants, hat and mittens.

### **Vermont Philharmonic Youth Concert**

The Vermont Philharmonic Orchestra invites children to participate in a Youth Concert, Sunday, March 29 at 3:30 pm at the Barre Opera House.

Children are invited to bring homemade instruments and participate with the orchestra during Haydn's Toy Symphony. The concert will feature a special performance of Snow Flurries by Thyme Plummer-Krause, a 6th grade student from the Mad River Valley, who wrote the piece as part of the Vermont Midi Project. The concert will feature children's artwork projected on a big screen, and a performance by the Green Mountain Youth Symphony and their conductor, Bob Blais. Ellen Drysdale and Dr. L play in the VPO.

Tickets are free for participating children, and their parents pay only \$5. General admission is \$15, senior citizens are \$12, and students are \$5. A special family price is \$32 for the whole family.

Artwork should be scanned and emailed in jpg format ASAP to the Vermont Philharmonic. Ideas and instructions for making toy instruments can be found online. For more information, visit [www.vermontphilharmonic.org](http://www.vermontphilharmonic.org).

### **Warren Public Library Classes**

Warren Librarian Deborah Kahn will teach a class on *how to download audio books* at 3:30-4:30 pm on Wednesday, March 11 at the Warren Library. The class will cover using the downloading system on PCs, not MACs, and only for burning CDs or transferring files to an MP3 player, not an I-Pod. Call the Warren Library at 496-3913 for additional information and/or to register for this free class.

A *Table Puppet-Making* Workshop, taught by Joan Kahn, is scheduled at the Warren Public Library on Saturday, March 28th at 1:30-4PM. The workshop, limited to six individuals, will allow students to make two puppets, one for the library and one to take home. Contact Colleen Mays at school or call the Warren Public Library at 496-3913 about supplies and additional class details.

## Census Jobs

Interested in a part time job working for the Census Bureau? There will be a short, informational meeting at the school on Tuesday March 10th at 7pm in the cafeteria. This is your chance to find out more and ask questions. FMI call Darcy @496-6937.

## Moretown Contra Dance and Silent Auction

The Moretown Elementary School PTN is hosting a community-wide contra dance and silent auction at the Moretown Town Hall on Saturday, March 14 from 7 to 10 pm. The event is a fundraiser for the school playgrounds. Everyone is invited to attend.

Local musician Nancy Turner will be calling the contra dance, with music provided by guitarist Owen Marshall and his sister, fiddler Elly Marshall; both are budding musicians from Central Vermont. "Everyone in the contra world is super impressed by their music... they are young and incredible musicians" according to Turner. The silent auction will feature loads of items for adults and kids, with contributions from dozens of stores and individuals throughout the Mad River Valley and Waterbury.

The event is a dessert potluck and BYOB, with coffee provided by Green Mountain Coffee Roasters. Admission is \$10 for adults, and kids are free. Call Dara Torre at 496-9786 with your questions.

## Important Dates for your calendars:

3/19-20	Parent Conferences
3/20 Fri	School closed for conferences
3/25 Weds	Spaghetti & Bingo Night (6 pm)
4/18-26	April vacation
6/19	Expected last day of school

## Parenting Classes

Vicki Hoefle's *Parenting on Track* classes are scheduled for Tuesday March 10, 17, 24, and 31 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. There will also be two tele-classes which Vicki will set at a later time. The classes will be held at the Waitsfield Elementary school. Free babysitting is available for all parents attending the class thanks to the generosity of the donors from around the valley. Interested parents should visit the website [parentingontrack.com](http://parentingontrack.com) or phone 888-660-7668 ext 3 to sign up for the class and to find contact info to sign up for the babysitting.

## Lacrosse Registration

Online registration for Mad River Youth Lacrosse is now open for boys and girls in grades 3-8. Mad River Lacrosse will loan out a full set of equipment for the season to the first twenty registered 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders for no charge (security deposit required). For more information or to register, please visit the Mad River Lacrosse website at [www.eteamz.com/mrvyl](http://www.eteamz.com/mrvyl), or call Neil Nussbaum at 496-5677.

**Free Home Energy Assessment** *Roni writes,*  
Trained volunteers will assess your home's energy use.

During the home visit they will install energy saving light bulbs, low flow shower heads, pipe insulation, and electric boiler insulation. All products are free. You will also learn about other ways to save energy and money. Please note however that this energy 'walk through' is not to be confused with a comprehensive energy audit. Sign up to have a trained volunteer visit your home by calling Dennis Derryberry at 496-7662. The visitation dates are 2/21 - 3/14. The program is sponsored by Efficiency Vermont and organized locally by the Carbon Shredders, Valley Futures Network and the Mad River Planning District.

## VYO Music Camp

The Vermont Youth Orchestra Association is accepting applications for Music Day Camp, held Monday-Friday, June 22 through 26, 2009, offering band, orchestra and small ensemble experience for string players entering grade 4-9, and wind, brass and percussion players entering grades 6 - 10. Registration and financial aid forms available at [www.vyo.org](http://www.vyo.org)