



# The WLC Reporter



## Our Future Firefighters

By WLC Senior Mitchell McQuaid

The Conval Firefighter One program has been in effect for three years. It was previously held at Contoocook Regional High School in Peterborough, New Hampshire, and before that it was held at Mascenic Regional High School in New Ipswich, New Hampshire. The program is instructed by the following chiefs: Chief Thomas Beaumont of the Antrim Fire and Ambulance Department, Chief Ed Walker of Peterborough Fire & Rescue, Chief Meredith Lund of the New Ipswich Fire Department and Chief Nancy Carney of the Fitzwilliam Fire department.

The program offers boys and girls an opportunity to explore potential career paths and get hands-on experience in a class that is atypical for high school. Students cover approximately 25 chapters of hands on modules and powerpoint presentations. For example, students will cover: forcible entry, PPE, fire behavior, auto extrication, water supply, history of the fire service, fire suppression, hazardous materials, and wildland firefighting. If a student successfully completes this program, the student will take a written and practical test. After obtaining a passing grade of a 70 percent or above on the written test and passing four practical stations, the student will receive a "Junior Firefighter One" certification. Once the student reaches the age of eighteen, they will receive an official "Firefighter One" certification. This is a pro-board certification, meaning that every state that is a "pro-board" state will recognize this certification.

There is no right or wrong reason to take this program. Whether one has an interest in the fire or EMS service — or is maybe just contemplating a potential career path that challenges and pushes one's comfort zone, it can be a path of discovery. This is a mentally and physically demanding class. It should be taken seriously and earnestly.



## Congratulations to the Class of 2019 Top Ten!



Top Row: Ian van Ham, Rachel Christino, Emma Krug, Lexi Balam, Christian Roy, Shane Partridge  
Bottom Row: Janel Bachand, Fionna Kennedy, Jack Reid, Nicholas Kennedy



## Middle School Pennies for Patients Fundraiser



During the month of March, the Middle School participated in Pennies for Patients, a fundraiser that supports the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Students and staff worked hard to collect as much change as they could find from home to donate to the cause. Our goal this year was to raise \$400 and we surpassed that number for a grand total of \$562.82! Ms. Modica's Advisory raised the most money, with a whopping total of \$137.69, and they won a pizza party for their hard work!

## Earth Day and Science at WLC



Ms. Erickson's 9th grade Integrated Science and Environmental Science classes collected five garbage bags of trash in an Earth Day Cleanup!



Integrated Science students continued working on the factors that drive Earth's climate through a series of experiments that modeled greenhouse gases and their effect on Earth's temperature and rising sea levels. Students collected data on temperature and rising levels and used their data as evidence to support their individual claims about the relationships between climate variables.



## Kane's Corner

### New Tools for Tech Ed!

A grant application from the WLC Tech Ed program has been answered by the Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers with an ~\$4,000 in-kind grant of three new mid-size wood/plastic/composite turning lathes. The grant provides machine tools and hardware to restore the Tech Ed program's ability to teach lathe turning and its associated skills. The Guild is providing three Rikon 70-220VSR lathes; four 6-piece lathe tool sets; and a vertical belt sanding sharpening system with flat and curved tool adaptation. The Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers Grant Program plans to have the lathes up and running in the shop this month. Mr. Kane and student volunteers worked over the recent break designing and building sturdy weighted hemlock stands for the lathes.

The WLC Tech Ed program and the Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers are also working together on a plan to provide rehabilitation and repairs for WLC's four existing 36" lathes. In her capacity as the Vice-President of the Granite State Woodturners Dr. Pennucci is providing networking, training, and technical support for Mr Kane and our Tech Ed programs. Beyond the Guild grant, she has been instrumental in helping us to secure roughly \$300 worth of in-kind micro-grants from local retailers for items as diverse safety glasses, dust masks, hex wrench sets, and gallons of wood glue, mineral oil, and linseed oil. Dr. Pennucci and the Guild's contributions of time and material support to the Tech Ed program ensure a strong lathe-turning component in next year's instructional offerings. Coupled with the program's newly received CNC Router, the increase in skills and machine competencies will continue to ensure that WTC Tech Ed students enter the workforce



Practical engineers: 6th graders Preston Scott, Kevin Lachance, Abram Peters, and Colby Collins show off early versions of their *Patang* kites - the classic spring festival kite of India & Pakistan. Their class build traditional European diamond shaped kites as well as the *Patangs*. Each student created their own kites to a shared basic design from brown paper, string, and glue. Students then conducted a series of logged experiments, flying their kite at the end of each class and recording results, and spending the beginning of the next in making the design modifications that they believed would yield better flying characteristics. The secret is almost entirely in the tail, as we discovered.

## The WLC Poetry Trail



WLC Tech Ed students, with a generous grant from the Poetry Society of New Hampshire, have utilized scrap wood and technological know-how to create a nature themed Poetry Trail through the WLC woods.

A few hundred yards long, the trail begins just before the school parking lot on School Road and runs through second growth forest and shrubland on largely level, accessible terrain. As visitors walk, they encounter dozens of poems and poem fragments, printed onto small locally felled pine boards and suspended from the trailside trees. The poems feature themes of forest and nature, creating a unique mixed sensory experience.



Students used an anthology of New Hampshire and northern New England poets to choose verses that had meaning for them, or that mirrored their own experiences in the woods. The anthology, created for this project by PSNH board member Lee Ann Dalton, featured poets both famous (Maxine Kumin, Robert Frost) and less well known but locally honored (Charles Pratt, Patricia Fargnoli).

Using a linked series of computer graphics applications, students laid out and mirror printed their verses, and then used a polymer-medium transfer technique to permanently print them onto squared, sanded, and primed pine scrap from the Tech Ed shop. The process involved experimentation and necessitated a thorough knowledge of the machine tools used, as well as comfort with multi-step computer graphics and printing technologies. Each poem hangs from a tree the student chose while the class walked in the woods, and you are invited to come and walk the WLC Poetry Trail yourself.



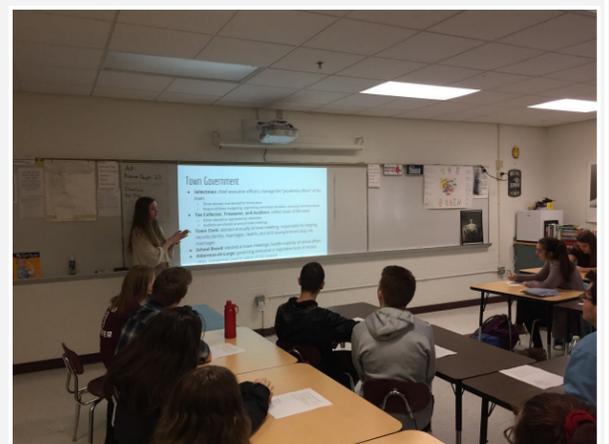
## David Finch Inducted Into the Westfield State Hall of Fame



Recently, Dave Finch was inducted into the Westfield State Movement of Science Hall of Fame. Finch, a 1979 graduate of Westfield, was recognized for his long, distinguished career teaching Physical Education.

With his help and supervision, over 7 miles of trails have been built around WLC to support our PE program.. Hundreds of students from Wilton and Lyndeborough have been challenged and nurtured in classes created by Finch. His passion for fitness, competition, and helping students be the best they can be have spurred him to create Fit for Life and Woods and Wheels. At the ceremony, he was specifically recognized for his drive to create programs that give students the love of fitness that lasts a lifetime.

## Social Studies News



Emma Krug presents her senior project applied piece to Mr. Belanger and Provost's social studies classes. Emma's project was on the importance of voting and local government

In other social studies news, students in Mr. Provost's US History classes have just begun working on their social movement projects. During this project students must pick a modern issue that has importance to them and create awareness and action campaigns to model how one can create change in society. Students must then reflect on the steps and choices they made in relation to the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s. Some student topics include: reducing plastic waste, Veteran Mental Health, gun violence and student loans.

