



# Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc. Community Education Center

## NEWSLETTER

neklsvt.org

Quarterly/Spring 2011

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### 2010-2011 Graduation

On January 20, 2011 we were honored with presenting students with high school and GED certificates. The evening was opened with Master of Ceremonies, Markus Vogt, Center Manager welcoming the graduating students , family and friends. Guest speaker was Michelle Tarryk, Executive Director, Interim, presenters were Amanda Pruden and Christopher Hardy. After the presentation of the certificates all enjoyed punch and cake. Those graduating in the High School Graduation Program were: Ashley Bechum, Shannon Chavez, Sean Dronia, Anthony Higginson Dustin Royer and receiving the GED certificates were: Morgan Collins, Patrick Corkins, Bradley Correia, Jerry Guillette, Michelle Jackson, Angela Jacobs, Kari Roy, Angelee Peck, Heather Sanchez , Brandon Staples and Amy Tullis.



#### *Learning Center Locations*

Canaan 802-266-3933

Hardwick 802-472-3183

Island Pond 802-723-4261

Newport 802-334-2839

St.Johnsbury 802-748-5624



“Over the next 10 years, nearly half of all new jobs will require education that goes beyond a high school education. And yet, as many as a quarter of our students aren’t even finishing high school.” ~President Barack Obama, 2011 State of the Union

## *Newport Learning Center*

We are a full service educational center offering comprehensive testing, instruction, high school diploma, adult diploma and GED certificate programs. Our testing options are: Academic Standing Locator, College/Job Readiness, ACT, Special Needs Assessment, Accuplacer, Vocational Interest Inventory and Work Keys.

We are open Monday 8:30-7:30, and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:30-4:30.

Our number is 802-334-2839



## ~~UPCOMING~~ "SAY IT STRAIGHT"

A training in Straightforward Communications, Refusal Skills and Positive Relationships. This training consist of seven to ten class periods with the students acquiring the following skills:

1. Saying "NO" in a situation where to do so is in their best interest
2. Talking to a friend about whose behavior (such as alcohol/drug use, drinking and driving, cutting classes, cheating, violence, depression, etc.) they are concerned rather than turning away
3. Connecting to their deepest yearning for positive relationships and giving the yearnings expression in appropriate ways
4. Becoming leaders for positive change



## Adult Diploma Program (ADP)

The Adult Diploma Program is designed specifically for adults with experience in meeting family and work responsibilities. ADP works best with adults age 21 or older who have been out of school for several years, and 18-20 years of age with a waiver. Students can work at their own pace and at a location convenient to them, tailor assignments to fit their own experiences and needs and receive individualized feedback and support from the ADP assessor.

There are no fees charged to an adult who enrolls in the Adult Diploma Program.

For more information call Suzanne Pelletier at the Newport Community Education Center at 802-334-6532, or Francis Carlet at the St. Johnsbury Community Education Center at 802-748-5624.

## *GED testing Centers*

Canaan - First + third Wednesday of the month 9:45am  
Hardwick - Second Thursday of the month at 9:00am  
Island Pond - First + third Thursdays of the month 1:00pm  
Lyndonville - First three Tuesdays of the month at 9:30am  
Newport - First three Tuesdays of the month at 2:00pm  
St. Johnsbury - First three Thursdays of the month at 1:00pm

Testing requires 5 tests: social studies, science, writing, reading and math. The fee for each test is \$15.00. Call 802-334-2839 to schedule.

**"Education is not filling a pail but the lighting of a fire." ~Allan Bloom**

# Canaan Community Education Center

The Canaan Memorial High School (CMHS), in collaboration with the Canaan Community Education Center, offered a two month late winter series of workforce development trainings that deal with careers in transportation, road construction, road maintenance and flagger training. The series was offered to CMHS juniors and seniors along with adult students at the Canaan Center. Some students taking part in the trainings will be able to acquire their commercial drivers license (CDL) in addition to potential full time employment with VTrans.

VTrans engineer Gil Newbury described his March seminar saying, “We think it safe to say that none of the students will look at winter road maintenance class: students got a good look at the breadth of career opportunities within just this one area of work: from research, engineering, environmental science, construction, hydraulic design, mechanical design, and professional operator/driver.

This unique program was arranged through the collaboration of the University of Vermont Transportation System Academy, the University of New Hampshire, White Mountains Community College, the Vermont Agency of Transportation, the Association of General contractors of Vermont., Essex North Supervisory Union and NEKLS. Instructors were pulled from all collaborators.

Upon completion of the 96 hours of intense instruction, participants will then either be involved in a 40 hour internship at either a local maintenance facility or possibly obtain immediate employment” said center manager Kenn Stransky. Graduates will also be awarded “Transportation Career Readiness” certificates from the Vermont Transportation System Academy.

VTrans engineer Newbury summed up the seminar he taught by describing his day long seminar in Canaan, “a resounding success!”

**Please feel free to visit our newly designed web site at:  
[neklsvt.org](http://neklsvt.org)**

## DID YOU KNOW?

More than 35.7 million adults ages 18-64 do not have a high school diploma.

Data shows that students who drop out of high school tend to earn less, perform less well in society, and have a lower quality of life. Many of them must work multiple jobs just to support their family.

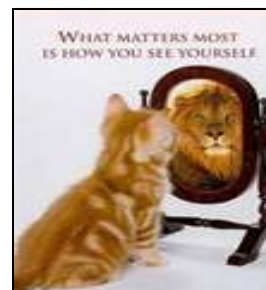
Many families with no high school diploma often living below the poverty line, are compared to those with high school diplomas.

Without a high school credential, they get the lowest paid and the least stable jobs. What they really need are simple directions on how to get started.

## THE NEKLS TUTORIAL PROGRAM

**Our program is offered to schools throughout Essex, Caledonia, and Orleans counties and beyond.**

**This program is offered to students of all ages who need intensive assistance with catch-up work, who can't be on school grounds for health or other reasons, or who simply flourish best in an alternative environment or with one-on-one instruction.**



## College News



*"It's never too early to start planning your future"*

### Bachelor's Degree with a Concentration in Early Childhood Education

Those who are interested in earning a Bachelor's of Science degree in Human Services with a concentration in Early Childhood Education should consider enrolling in the new cohort that begins this May at Springfield College School of Human Services in St. Johnsbury, VT.

A cohort will be meeting just 1 weekend per month and also enrolling in 1 on line course. Students who have completed an Associate's degree from a regionally accredited college may be able to complete the program in as little as 16 months. Students who are interested in enrolling in the program, but are completing other school programs at this time are encouraged to call and begin planning for the future.

Financial aid is available for qualifying students. To receive a free admissions packet, or to arrange a visit of the campus call the college today. Ann Traverso Moore M.S. is waiting to hear from you at Springfield College School of Human Services in St. Johnsbury, VT at 802-535-8695.

*Find out what your weekend can do for you!*

## Join the Fun!



### Play Group Friday Mornings 9:30-11:00

Geared towards infants to age 3; older siblings and friends are welcome.

Held at the Danville Congregational Church  
87 Hill St. Danville, VT

Structured Activities and  
Healthy Snacks are provided.

**Free!**

Hosted by Children's Integrated Services-Early Intervention.  
Please call 802-748-6609 for more information



## Orleans County Mentoring Project, Everybody Wins!

Young people face challenges because of the lack of opportunity, easy access to illicit drugs and high poverty rates. Many of these students are on the edge of being labeled "at-risk". We want to help them before this happens.

Mentors meet with their child for one hour a week during the after-school program in the school. Activities will depend on the interest of both the student and adult. Mentors assist students with setting and reaching their goals. Research shows students with mentors are: more likely to stay in school, go on to college, and become more trusting and communicative.

### Ten Reasons to Become a Mentor

1. To make a difference in the life of a child
2. To pass on your experience to someone else
3. To develop better communication and leadership skills
4. To get the satisfied feeling from knowing you did the right thing
5. To play a role in reducing juvenile drug alcohol and crime rates
6. To help break down the "them vs. us" mentality
7. To give back and make the community a better place
8. To meet new and interesting people
9. To show that one person can make a difference
10. To support your local schools

