

organizations

“Dummerston’s Own” Art Exhibit Open through September 23

by Gail Sorenson

Sponsored by the Dummerston Historical Society, this first “Dummerston’s Own” art will exhibit a wide variety of local art, ranging from pottery, photographs, oils, collage, woodworking, water colors, charcoal, quilting, sculpture, rug hooking and braiding and other media. The show opened Sunday, July 8, with much excitement and enthusiasm. Many positive comments were heard as persons exclaimed, “I didn’t know he/she was an

artist”. Approximately twenty Dummerston artisans, ranging from elementary school through retirement age, are currently showing their works which will continue to be on exhibit through September 23rd. Upcoming dates include Saturday, August 18 from 4:30 - 7 p.m., Sunday, September 2 from 2 - 4 p.m., Saturday, September 8 from 4:30 - 7 p.m. and Sunday, September 23 from 3 - 5 p.m.

Opening shortly after the completion of “Dummerston’s Own” and prior to the Apple Pie Festival will be an exhibit featuring *West Dummerston Old and New - People, Buildings, Landscape*. Old and new pictures will be presented, in some instances showing how a place or building has changed over time. Contact Chuck Fish if you have pictures you think might be of interest or if you

would like to help with this exhibit.

An art exhibit, to be scheduled in 2008, will be “Of Dummerston” and will be open to anyone regardless of residence, but the subject matter must be “Of Dummerston”. Your photographs, paintings or whatever media you use, of the covered bridge, Stickney Brook, strawberry fields, Black Mountain, nurseries, Dummerston Center, sugaring, foliage, orchards, town meeting participants, local Boards, weddings in Dummerston, all would make wonderful subjects so start planning now. Hopefully this will become a bi-annual exhibit, alternating with “Dummerston’s Own” or another similar type exhibit. For more information on all the exhibits, see www.dummerston.com.

Evening Star Grange

Peach Supper, Mystery Theatre Coming Up

By Marion Gassett

It has been a busy and exciting summer at the Grange hall, with birthdays, Wayne’s retirement party, and various get-togethers.

Construction has started on the upstairs bathroom, which is a much-needed convenience.

We would still welcome new members. Call any officer for information and an application.

The Vermont Theatre Company continues productions at the hall and will be presenting a dinner mystery theater on September 14, 15, and 16. They will be back at the end of October and first part of November with *The Doll House*. They also have two productions scheduled this upcoming spring.

The annual peach shortcake supper will be on August 18 and the repeat chicken pie supper will be September 8. Save the dates!!

Reservations are due by June 30 for space at the apple pie craft fair. Call Marion Gassett at 254-8182.

Don’t forget the community center chicken barbecue fundraiser on July 28 at the Grange hall! That’s all until the fall *Views*.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Seeks Adult Role Models

By Jessi Krause

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windham County is both applauding the nearly two hundred adult and high school students who have mentored children during the past school year, while encouraging others to join their ranks as mentors this summer.

At present, thirty youngsters are eagerly waiting to be matched with an adult mentor in Windham County and nearby New Hampshire. According to Jessi Krause, the program’s director, there is a particular need for Big Brothers right now, with the program only serving one boy to every three girls. “Local boys often remain on the waiting list for two, sometimes three years to be matched due to the shortage of male volunteers,” Krause said. “Girls may still wait for Big Sisters, but they have a much higher probability of being served than the boys.”

National research shows that “mentoring” - pairing a caring adult volunteer with a young person for a mutually rewarding friendship - is an effective method of addressing all sorts of youth-related issues, from combatting drug and alcohol use and violence, to getting along better with their families and peers. Hard data indicates adult attention is a major factor in youth success, with Little Brothers and Little Sisters 46% less likely to begin using illegal drugs, 27% less likely to begin using alcohol, 52% less likely to skip school, and more confident about their academic performance in school.

According to Krause, Big Brothers and

Sisters spend time on a regular basis with their “Littles”, enjoying life’s simple pleasures such as playing catch, baking cookies, taking walks, or simply talking together. “Being a “Big” is not about becoming a surrogate parent and it’s not about “taking on a problem kid” or tying up lots of your time,” she explained. “You only make the time commitment that works for you. For some, becoming a Big may be just what YOU need to schedule time for a little fun in your own life.”

“Mentors show that a single soul can make a difference in a young person’s life,” Krause said. “We want to recognize the many individuals in our program who dedicate their time, talents, and energy to help children develop character and integrity through serving as a “Big” while encouraging others to join their ranks.”

Big Brothers Big Sisters encourages individuals considering mentoring to attend one of their monthly activities, and call to receive a description of the children on the waiting list for a “Big”. Call for more information: Nanci Leitch, (802) 257-0361 ysdev@sover.net

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a program of Youth Services which has a number of other programs including Youth and Family Counseling & Therapy, Substance Abuse Treatment, Student Assistance, Intensive Family-Based Services, Youth Outreach, Family Emergency Response/Runaway Program, Restorative Justice, and Juvenile & Adult Court Diversion.

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