The Student Recognition Breakfast for Quarter 1 was held at the Glass Onion on Thursday, December 8, 2011. Ten students were nominated for awards by members of the faculty for a variety of reasons, including academic achievement, positive attitudes, motivation and diligence. These students serve as role models for other students and are helpful to their peers. Principal William Lawson addressed the students, faculty members and parents, congratulating all the students and presenting the award certificates. Also in attendance, were Superintendent Dr. Gail Conley, Associate Superintendent, Jan Willey, UD#3 Board Chair, Leonard Barrett, and Curriculum Leaders Cindy Atkins, Casey O’Meara and Pam Pezzulo. The students in the Culinary Arts Program, under the direction of Woody Danforth, provided a wonderful array of breakfast items for the recipients, their families and the nominating teachers.

The students recognized were as follows:

- Aaron Gerow nominated by Dorothea Bartlett for his volunteer efforts as an office aide
- Shelby Haskins was nominated by Karen Greene for English.
- Chuck Hill was nominated by Lisa O’Connor for math.
- Hailey LaFave was nominated by Liz LeBeau for Choral Ensemble.
- Dylan Lanpher was nominated by Tony Vagianos for woodworking class.
- Nora McLaughlin was nominated by Cindy Atkins for science.
- Sarah Miller was nominated by Michele Forman and student teacher, Andy Singer, for history.
- Nicole Morris was nominated by Carl Engvall for science.
- Nate Orvis was nominated by Perry Lessing for math.
- Ashley Smith was nominated by Noah Hurlburt and Karen Greene for science and English.

(left to right) Nora McLaughlin, Aaron Gerow, Nate Orvis, Nicole Morris, Ashley Smith, Shelby Haskins, Chuck Hill, Sarah Miller, (missing): Hailey LaFave, Dylan Lanpher.
Technical Design and Build Teams Deliver Emergency Supplies at UVM

The 2011 UVM TASC Design Challenge was attempted by five teams from MUHS. They have been preparing for the competition in Mr. Harrington’s Technical Design and Build class. All five teams that attempted the challenge met all the criteria to compete, scored points, and represented our school very well. The results from the 5 teams from Middlebury that competed against 60 teams from the state:

1st Place: Shortest Time to Deliver Supplies:
Team: Lightning Technologies Inc.: Andrew Pyfrom, Matias Pyle, Matthew Schildkamp.

2nd Place: Smallest Energy Generation and Launch Footprint:
Team: Purple Haze: Garth Buck, Jordan Connor, Mack Mason, Wesley Sutton

3rd Place: Cost Effective Delivery:
Team: JACD - Cullen Hathaway, Derek Hathaway, Austin Robinson
MUHS Connection News

Every December, the Vermont Teen Leadership Safety Program takes part in a Red Ribbon ceremony in Montpelier to commemorate people who have died in highway accidents. For December, the MUHS wellness bulletin board will be dedicated to safe travels during the holidays and through the whole year. MUHS Connections thanks everyone who took time to decorate a red ribbon at lunch in honor of highway safety. As an aside, we also support AIDS awareness, and thank the AIDS awareness advocates for sharing the color red with us this week!

MUHS Connections and guests look forward to a day-long retreat on December 19th. We will review the results of last spring’s Youth Risk Behavior Survey to look at our school’s strengths and areas of concern, and brainstorm ways to promote wellness. This is serious work, but we plan to make it fun and lively!

Community Service Spotlight

Sonia Howlett, a sophomore at Middlebury Union High School, loves learning the French Language, and until recently, didn’t have many people to share that love with. That is, until she came up with the idea of starting a French Club at Mary Hogan Elementary School. She came up with the idea when realizing that there was a fairly large Franco-American community in Middlebury, many of whose children never learn to speak the language. She wanted to connect that lost heritage with her own love of language. The club, which meets once per week, currently has approximately fifteen students signed up – some Franco-American children, some not. Each week focuses on a different topic (days of the week, numbers, and body parts) and Sonia uses her own picture books and recorded songs to help make her lessons accessible and fun. Sonia feels that it is very important for children to be exposed to a foreign language at an early age, because it helps to develop that knowledge later on in life. Sonia also Loves “the feeling that you’ve done something good for the community,” and feels that volunteering “can be very fun.”

Spanish 3 Class

Ms. Koretz's Spanish 3 classes are learning how to give commands and directions. Some hands on activities to practice this include:

treasure hunts around the school, blindfolded obstacle courses in which students need to guide their classmates in Spanish, and giving and following directions using authentic maps from Spanish speaking countries.
Alternative Education Students Become the Teachers

Last month, students from the Alternative Education Program at MUHS participated in a service-learning project with students from Middlebury Union Middle School’s Tiger Program. The Alternative Education students had been learning about forest ecology and the tools used by foresters in their science course. As their culminating project, they participated in a service project teaching their newly learned skills to the middle school students.

The Alternative Education students divided up into four groups. Each group was responsible for developing a twenty-minute lesson plan which included a hands-on activity as well as a worksheet to complete. The lessons included how to use a dichotomous key to identify trees, different methods used to tell the age of a tree, how to use a clinometer to determine tree height, and how to use a biltmore stick to determine the amount of board feet in a tree.

The students did a great job and were well received by the middle school students.
'Zero Hour' is a new morning fitness program at MUHS open to all students, faculty, and staff. Working out lifts our mood, sharpens our minds, improves self-esteem, and helps us get ready to learn. Participants will work with a professional to individualize and implement an exercise plan. The program began on December 5th, 2011 and will run for 10 weeks. Another session will begin March 19th, 2012. Both will run before school, from 7:15 - 8:15 am and be available every weekday. For more information, call the MUHS Guidance office at 382-1195 or students can drop by the gymnasium in the morning before school.
HOBY Selections

We are happy to report that Max Moulton and Olivia Cacciatore have been selected to represent MUHS at the annual Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) Conference. This conference brings together tenth grade leaders from high schools around Vermont to discuss social, business and political issues as well as help develop their leadership skills. The Vermont Conference will take place May 24th-27th 2012 at the Vermont Technical College Campus. Congratulations to this year’s representatives.

College Applications

The guidance office wants to remind seniors that January 1st is a common due date for applications. Since this deadline is during our holiday break, it is important for students to talk with teachers and counselors at least one week prior to the start of vacation to make sure all recommendations are sent. Our goal is to have all supporting documents submitted prior to December 22nd.

Financial Aid Information

Parents of seniors applying to colleges should check with each college to determine which financial aid forms are needed. For most colleges, the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid Form) is the only required form to complete. This form cannot be submitted until after January 1st however, most college financial aid officials recommend that you submit the application in early January. The online form can be found at http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/. (The correct form for 2012-2013 will not be available until January 1st.) There are a number of colleges that require an additional financial aid form, the Profile. If one of the colleges that your son or daughter is applying to requires the Profile, then it is important to begin the registration process for that application as soon as possible. The Profile can be found at the following link: https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf/index.jsp

With both forms, make sure you use the financial aid form for the 2012-2013 school year. If you have any further questions about financial aid don’t hesitate to call the guidance office, VSAC, or a college financial aid office.
The Middlebury Union High School Concert Choir, accompanied by Julian Mahronic, recently performed at the Middlebury Congregational Church. Students performed works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, David Dickau, Paul Simon, and many others. Following the performance, members of the Congregational Church invited students to cookies and tea.

On March 24th, members of the choir will be taking a trip to see The Blue Man Group in Boston. Students who are interested in attending need to turn in their medical forms to Mrs. LeBeau as soon as possible.

Upcoming events for the music department include All State auditions on January 21, 2012, and The Castleton State College Honors Festival on January 27th, 2012.
ACT values teen culture as an essential part of the broader community. It provides a fun, safe and welcoming place for teens to hang out, and promote teen contributions through programs, activities, and outreach.

**Drop-in Hours**
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 3 – 6pm  
Wednesday: 3 – 8pm

ACT is open to all youth in 7th to 12th grade from the ACSU school district. Through its Youth Advisory Council (YAC), ACT sponsors dances, fundraisers, community service projects and much more—by and for teens. It provides a fun, safe and welcoming place for teens to hang out, be with their friends, listen to music, play foosball, pool, board games, get creative and do art projects and eat snacks.

**Announcements:**
**ACT Will be Closed Over Winter Break**
December 23 – January 2nd  ACT will reopen on Tuesday January 3rd at 3pm. Have a fun and safe Winter Break!!! We look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

**New Teen Center Drop in Hours:**  ACT will be open from 3 – 6pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 3 – 8pm on Wednesdays. ACT will be open exclusively for sophomores, juniors and seniors after 6pm on Wednesdays. On Wednesdays when Youth Advisory Council (YAC) meetings are held, teens in 9th grade and below are welcome to stay at the center until 7pm, if they participate in YAC meeting.

**Up-coming events:**
**Youth Advisory Council Meeting:** Dec. 14th from 4:30 to 6pm *(pizza at 5:30pm)* 
“DREAM - ACT - DO” is the motto of our YAC meetings. Teens decide what they want to see happening at 94 Main and plan, organize and implement their programs and activities.

**Free Wheel Pottery Classes:**
COME AND GET YOUR HANDS “DIRTY”! The Middlebury Studio School generously lent ACT a pottery wheel for teens to use. Throw your own bowl, cup or a unique piece of art. The holiday season is just around the corner and you can make that special gift for someone you care about or get creative for yourself.

**Healthy Meals on a Budget:** Wednesdays Dec. 7th, January 11th and 25th. 
Middlebury College student Emma Burk will be hosting cooking classes at the teen center. The cooking classes will focus on shopping, preparing, cooking, and of course eating healthy meals, while being conscious of staying on a budget.

**DJ SKATE NIGHT:** Saturday, Dec. 17th 8:00 – 10:00pm 
Co-sponsored by Friends of Middlebury Hockey and Addison Central Teens. Enjoy classic roller rink style skating on the ice at the Memorial Sports Center, 296 Butterloph Drive, Middlebury. All ages and abilities welcome - $5 adult - $3 students. Skates are available for rent and the concession stand is open.

**Techno Fever Dance:** Friday, January 20 2012, 8 to 11pm 
Come and join ACT for a night of techno music, glow sticks and black lights at the Middlebury Municipal Gym. Posters with dance information will be coming to your school soon!!!

**More info?** Check our Web site at: [www.addisonteen.com](http://www.addisonteen.com), call ACT at: 388-3910  
Co-Directors: Jutta Miska: jutta@addisonteen.com 989-8934  
Colby Benjamin: colby@addisonteen.com 734-6755

We are located in the Middlebury Municipal Building; enter on College Street across from Samas Café.  
We wish you all a happy holiday season and a healthy and peaceful New Year!
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