

## Newmarket Community Education Partnership

*Enhancing social, recreational and educational experiences for children and youth in the town of Newmarket*

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### Newsletter Highlights

- 2011 Nicholas Popov Memorial Award recipients
- Growing the Garden Club
- ALEKS helps math students
- Mules Mission update
- Books for art instruction
- NCEP donors

## Nicholas Popov Recipients Announced

The Nicholas Popov Memorial Award is given annually to members of the Newmarket Community who demonstrate the spirit of personal generosity, kindness and service; traits radiated by Popov. The recipient of the award shows a commitment to supporting Newmarket's children and youth through actions and efforts to build a caring community.

This year, awards were presented to two deserving individuals from the Newmarket Elementary School (NES). Diane Beach, school nurse, and Nancy Miller a 1-2 class teacher.



**Diane Beach**, as the school nurse, provides a safe haven for all students and staff, a place where they know they will always be treated with kindness and compassion and any questions will be answered. Diane does not just limit herself to band-aids. She has implemented a bike helmet program, coats for kids, an annual sock drive and CPR & first aid classes. In addition, she heads the NES Wellness Committee and was instrumental in getting the NES Gardening Club under way.

**Nancy Miller**, in addition to her teaching position, has created and led several before-and after-school programs for students to extend their learning, participation, involvement and confidence. For example, Nancy has been involved in NES Healthy Breakfast Club, NES Gardening Club, NES Walking Club, NES Hot Shots Jump Rope Team and NES Wellness Committee. In addition, she helps create and staff activities to promote wellness in and outside the school community.

Both recipients each received \$500 to be used towards a purpose of their choosing that supports the Newmarket community. Congratulations!

## Teaching Español gets easier

The Jr./Sr. High School's Spanish classroom was granted over \$700 for the purchase of classroom items to improve the storage and functionality of class resources. The items made an immediate difference in the quality of instruction, organization of the classroom and the ability to provide greater learning opportunities for Spanish students.



## Growing the Garden Club

In the spring, the Newmarket Elementary School started the Garden Club to teach students about plants, growing systems and nutrition. NCEP gave \$550 for the purchase of tools, seeds and lumber. This fall, with the help of an additional \$390 grant, the



Garden Club will expand the scope of the club and size of their gardens by adding several more beds. Cold frames will also be added to cover the beds in order to start seedlings earlier in the spring and to extend the growing season into the fall.

## Books Books Books

Fostering a love of reading is a high priority at the Newmarket Elementary School. With a \$583 grant from NCEP, NES was able to replace and add to book sets used in classrooms and the reading room. The books have been purchased and are in use by staff and students. "The appreciation and respect shown by the students for these new texts has been heartwarming," said Lisa Coles, reading instructor.



## Artful instruction

NCEP gave \$750 toward the 5th grade art curriculum to provide students with *The Davis Explorations in Art* textbook. This book enhances learning by providing numerous visuals and lessons for the students to use beyond what they are already given in the classroom. The program "raises the bar" in art assessment by giving the students a highly organized and sequential curriculum.



## Mules Mission

### Update

With \$500 start-up funds from NCEP and the support of the Newmarket Jr./Sr. High teaching staff, the Mules Mission opened this year and has been well-received, according to Janice Murray, sixth-grade teacher and program co-director. With a slogan of *The Big Cabinets with an Even Bigger Heart*, this food and necessity pantry is available to students and contains non-perishable food items, toiletries and cleaning supplies. Students in the extracurricular group "Roots & Shoots" work at the pantry, and many staff members shop for Mules Mission regularly to keep it stocked. Mules Mission is also helping the community at large, as leftover food stock is donated to the Newmarket Food Pantry.



## ALEKS helps student math skills

The Jr./Sr. High school math department was granted \$500 for ALEKS scholarships. ALEKS is an online math program allowing students to work **ALEKS®** at their own pace, in their own homes, to improve math skills. This spring over 60 children participated in the ALEKS program, and this summer a dozen 7th graders worked on ALEKS with the goal of placing out of 8th grade math. There were many students interested in the program who could not afford the online charge. Math teachers and the guidance department will identify students interested in the program, and the NCEP grant will allow them the opportunity to participate. The program tracks progress scores so the math department can measure the program's effectiveness.



## Kids LOVE to go to camp

Thanks to a generous grant to NCEP from the Love Foundation, 19 children were able to attend summer camp at the Recreation Department through the camp scholarship program. Summer camp provides children much needed activities and outdoor time. Many thanks to the Love Foundation for helping kids have a great summer.





## Learning outdoors



On September 8th, 30+ volunteers from the community and The Timberland Company worked on the grounds of the Newmarket Elementary School to build an outdoor classroom. This space was created for teachers and students



to work, learn and enjoy the outdoors during and after school. Not only does this project support other NCEP funded programs such as Garden Club, it is a perfect location to promote environmental values in a creative setting. NCEP provided \$750 for this project.



## First book club

After attending a workshop, Second-Grade Teacher Kristin Willett was inspired to start a book club with plans to introduce new literature into students' lives. Through a \$750 grant from NCEP, 15 students in grades 1-3 will be attending the after-school "First Book Club." The weekly club will run for six weeks, meeting after school for an hour. Funds from NCEP will help purchase books for students to use and take home for the week, as well as craft supplies for projects and activities related to each week's book. "I am so excited to be able to bring all these new books into the classroom," says Willett. Forty applications have already been received for the program, and Willett hopes to repeat the club again in the spring.



with carpentry when they arrived, they returned home with both skills and an experience they will never forget. The group hung, mudded, taped and sanded sheetrock at three different locations. They also dug and built a foundation by hand using shovels, pick axes, sledge hammers, rebar, stakes and muscle. The group was overwhelmed by the amount of work that still needs to be done today, six years later. It is estimated that it will take another 60 years to bring the city back to where it was before Katrina hit. The people of New Orleans were so welcoming and so grateful for the group's service and did not hesitate to come up to the group and thank them for coming to help. The Interact Club was humbled by the experience, and thanked everyone who helped to make it possible.



## Interacting in New Orleans

Student members of the Newmarket High School Interact Club spent their April vacation in New Orleans where they worked with two organizations helping to rebuild the city that was devastated by Hurricane Katrina in 2005 - the St. Bernard Project and Habitat for Humanity. Although many students had little or no experience



**Interact** (International Action) is a service club for young people ages 14-18. Its goals are to develop leadership skills, demonstrate helpfulness and respect for others, understand the value of individual responsibility and hard work and advance international understanding and goodwill. Newmarket's Interact club is sponsored by The Rotary Club of Durham. NCEP granted the club \$750 to help defray trip expenses.

# Thank you!

Your generous donation to NCEP funds valuable programs and resources for our community's children and youth. We are grateful for your support.

We'd like to take this time to thank our recent donors. Every donation directly supports our programs.



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We hope you will continue to support NCEP!

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