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Twenty-ninth Annual Conference with Stephen Pimpare, PhD

OCTOBER 22, 2021 8:45 AM - 3:30 PM WESTMINSTER, VT

For more information, please contact Terry Andrews at (802) 721-6913 or tandrews@kurnhattin.org



### KURN HATTIN HOMES for CHILDREN

Bulletin 2021 VOLUME 2

**\*\*\* SPECIAL EVENT \*\*\*** SUPPORTING KURN HATTIN HOMES for CHILDREN'S TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES/S.T.E.A.M. TECH LAB

### JOIN CAPTAIN **RICHARD PHILLIPS**

FOR AN EXCEPTIONAL EVENING OF COURAGE



For five days in April 2009, Captain Richard Phillips became the center of an extraordinary international drama when he was captured by Somali pirates who attacked and boarded his ship. To protect his crew, Captain Phillips made a conscious decision to put himself directly in harm's way, knowing full well that he might pay the ultimate price for his decision. Amid the standoff, he offered himself as a hostage to get them off his ship. This dramatic story was also made into a motion picture by Columbia Pictures starring Tom Hanks.

### ~ **OCTOBER 29** ~ 5:30-8:30PM AT KURN HATTIN HOMES for CHILDREN

Kurn Hattin Road, Westminster, VT • Mayo Memorial Center

### **\$75 TICKET INCLUDES:**

#### DELECTABLE HORS D'OEUVRES & LIBATIONS (BEER & WINE INCLUDED)

THE COOL, SMOOTH SOUNDS OF THE DON BALDINI TRIO Don Baldini's credits include "The Little Mermaid," "St. Elsewhere," "Charlie's Angels," and "Jaws 2." He frequently performed on "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson." He's also worked with Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Nancy Wilson, Peggy Lee, and Johnny Mathis

#### KURN HATTIN CHOIR PERFORMANCE

**RESERVED SEATING FOR CAPTAIN PHILLIPS' HARROWING** AND COURAGEOUS TALE FOLLOWED BY Q&A

#### THIS IS AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED! Purchase tickets at captainphillips.kurnhattin.org or call Heather at (802) 721-6916.



Captain Phillips

Other sponsorship opportunities available. Contact for more information.



On the Cover: 8th grader Deja plays with a mature dandelion puff ball.

Photo Credit: Kristie Lisai 2021

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### RETURN TO Normalcy

One hundred years ago, in the Presidential election of 1920, Warren G. Harding's campaign emphasized the broad-based desire in this nation to put the unpleasantness of the previous few years behind them and move back to life as it had been. He utilized the less-frequently-used term "normalcy" rather than the more common (at the time) term "normality." While his terminology sparked a bit of a debate regarding proper English usage, the sentiment behind the phrase, "return to normalcy," certainly resonated throughout the land. People were clamoring to put the death and destruction of WWI, the civil disruptions of anarchists and "communists," and the societal lock-downs and death toll of the 1918 flu epidemic behind them and expressed a desire for getting back to "normal" life conditions. Harding simply tapped into that civic spirit and was able to win the Presidency.

In 2021, we find ourselves in a very similar position with the populace being desirous of putting the tribulations of the last few years behind us to move back to something more familiar and comfortable. Our children and staff at Kurn Hattin Homes are no different. Governor Scott's lifting of Vermont's COVID-19 emergency orders recently signaled the beginning of our "return to normalcy" with prospects of a freer and more "normal" campus life with relaxed mask usage, trips off campus and visits home being allowed—situations prohibited over the past one and a half years. While some aspects of our pandemic policies will remain, such as lower enrollment numbers to continue our enhanced level of supervision on campus, much has, and will continue to, return to "normal." Just being able to hold a delightful and rewarding graduation TOGETHER ON CAMPUS (albeit outside and under a large tent) wonderfully signified the spirit of a return to normalcy. Even more like this is becoming reality.

In this spirit of a return to normalcy, I will reiterate my final paragraph from my Bulletin article for the Spring of 2020 (written before the pandemic hit last year):

In a world where you can be anything—be kind. Accomplish your duties to the best of your ability. Always express your thanks for those gestures of kindness that come your way. Make your gracious spirit the most beautiful thing about you. Believe there is good in the world. Watch for the spark of the divine in every person you meet. Be the reason someone smiles today. Give profusely. Be the change you hope for in the world. Live your life daily with an attitude of gratitude.



Blessings on you all,

~ Stephen B. Harrison, Executive Director

### Family PARTNERSHIP

Graduation Day on June 5th was special in many ways. It marked the first event to be held on campus in over a year and it was thrilling for all of us to experience a step toward something that felt "normal." We were very happy that the members of the 8th grade class were able to invite their families and friends to be with them to celebrate this big milestone in their lives!

Adding to the special feeling in the air that day, we were delighted to welcome two older siblings of one of our grads to the celebration. Both traveled to Westminster from different parts of the country to cheer on their younger brother. Since they are also KHH alums, being there with him and the rest of their family had special significance for everyone. This



wonderful photo by Kristie Lisai, taken just before Anthony put on his red KHH cap and gown, captures the joy and pride they felt and gave us all a huge reason to smile! Pictured are alumni siblings, Sebastian Jean-Francois'12, Anthony Davis'21, and Gamael Jean-Francois'14.

The partnership with Anne Davis, mother of this wonderful trio, began more than fourteen years ago. Anthony was a tiny infant sleeping in his stroller when I first met his mom in Manchester, New Hampshire. She was considering the possibility of applying to our program for Sebastian because she was excited about the opportunities that it offered for him. Fast forward to 2021, and it's a bittersweet feeling to have the youngest member of this amazing family graduate and leave his "home away from home".

Sebastian has been in the Army for seven and a half years. He started in active duty and after returning from his second deployment, he joined the National Guard. Recently, he decided to return to the civilian world and is now focused on a motor racing career. He is working at Team Nissan as their main customer loyalty rep and is one of their sponsored riders. We are so proud of you, Sebastian!

Gamael is attending Utah Valley University and is studying psychology. She works at Serenity Mental Health Center, which is a psychiatric clinic located in Lehi, Utah. She will graduate in 2023 with her BA and is already thinking about furthering her education, hoping to get her PhD eventually. Coming to work at KHH as a member of the residential team is something she thinks about. It would be fantastic to have her join our staff one day!

Anthony has grown into a charming young man who loves art and building. He will be attending ninth grade at Founders Academy in Manchester, New Hampshire this fall.

Thank you, Sebastian, Gamael, and Anthony, and your entire family, for these incredible years of partnership. We look forward to staying in touch and welcoming you "home" any time!

mour Keppler

### A STUDY IN *Perseverance*

The Kurn Hattin community embodies the core values you see displayed around the building. This we have always known. This past school year we were provided a challenge unlike any other seen before. Running a safe and rigorous school program to meet the needs of our students and families based on ever changing guidance became the challenge that this community rose to meet with unwavering perseverance.

The KH team needed to close our school building and campus due to a spreading pandemic. In my last article I noted how the KH team quickly prioritized core educational needs and began to "build the airplane while flying it." Houseparents, counselors, faculty, family outreach, admissions all came together to wrap around the community from afar. We learned quickly and adapted support and programming to meet the needs of a population hit especially hard by the COVID-19 school closures.

As we persevered through challenges known and unknown we learned, and continue to learn. This study in perseverance taught us how to better pivot on a moment's notice, how to constantly prioritize student and staff needs, and to plan for new needs that have emerged during the pandemic. Now we look to take the lessons from this study forward into a school year with what we hope will be a different landscape. We will need to keep up our vigilance and remember our "take-aways" to yet again program for a school year with many unknowns. It is important to note, however, that COVID and perseverance are not all the school program has been up to! This coming academic year, we are excited to continue our deep dive into school wide Restorative Practices, PBiS, outdoor/adventure learning, and trauma informed/ transformed schooling.

We are grateful for all the support as we move the academic program forward!



### A Day in the Life of a houseparent



Our residential team has a very important role working with the children which includes the teaching of life skills. On a typical Monday, they wake the children up in the morning—6:00 a.m. on school days and 7:00 a.m. during the summerfor morning hygiene routines and chores before breakfast. The chores build skills such as how to take care of their room and the cottage. Living together in a shared space teaches the children effective interpersonal skills, and how to be responsible for themselves and their community. At breakfast, we come together for morning announcements and embrace a shared moment of gratitude. The afternoon is full with afterschool activities, sports, jobs in the kitchen, and homework time. The afternoon always starts with a snack and a check-in after the day spent apart. This is also a time for the children to relax and have fun at the playground, ride bikes, and just enjoy being children—all while the staff supervises the fun. After dinner in the dining hall, the children engage in routines that vary based on their age groups in the cottages. Homework and study time are part of those routines. Once the evening hygiene and

laundry are done, and the children settled in their beds, houseparents update their cottage notes and head off to bed around 10:00 p.m., ready to wake the children with a smile and enthusiasm for another great day ahead.

On weekends, the staff teams up with cottage buddies—the assistant director and our wider community—on programs and activities. Houseparents enjoy the full days with the children – there's time for baking, creating arts and crafts, walking the trails, discovering the hidden labyrinth, and swimming in the pool. Other activities include sledding, making popcorn on movie nights, creating "turtles" out of painted rocks and hiding them around campus for others to discover, or simply heading out to look at the stars and moon. Houseparents recognize all this as the important life skills instruction it is, and everyone follows a consistent Kurn Hattin approach when working with the children. Rules matter and we hold our children to meet those expectations and our standards which form the foundation of our program. We are dedicated to the Kurn Hattin mission. By providing the best environment, experiences, and memories, the entire residential staff strives to help the children grow and become their best selves. This is very rewarding work!

~ Sergio Simunovic, School Principal

### Courage in the face of precarity

According to research done by Dr. Mark Rank at Washington University, 40% of Americans between the ages of 25-60 will be classified as "poor" for at least one year of their lives. This means that nearly half of all working people will struggle with food insecurity or housing instability, they might put off seeing a doctor if they are sick, or avoid seeking support for mental health problems. Millions of Americans are just one emergency away from this reality.

As a charitable organization serving children and families most in need, it is Kurn Hattin's responsibility to understand the history and source of hardship in our communities. Who is our demographic? What do they need? How can we work together in this common fight?

My role as the Kurn Hattin Admissions Coordinator has allowed me to work with every family who has entered our program over the last two years. I have met a family living without running water on a farm, a single mother without a high school diploma who speaks three languages, and a lobster fisherman whose child would be a second generation Kurn Hattin child. Poverty has looked like young parents balancing inflexible work schedules with childcare needs, grandparents raising grandchildren in state housing, and intergenerational family's patchworking together just enough resources to get by. With all the people that I have met across the Northeast, I have been consistently astounded by each one's courage in the face of financial precarity.

This October, Kurn Hattin will welcome Dr. Stephen Pimpare to campus for our Fall Conference titled, "Childhood Poverty in the Time of COVID." Pimpare has molded his nearly twenty-year career into an examination of poverty in the United States and the policies that have cultivated it. Through his talk, participants will learn to identify the effects of poverty on a child's development, utilize tools to help recognize and alleviate the strain of poverty on families, and develop strategies for advocacy and implementation. While the knowledge that nearly half of our nation's citizens will experience economic vulnerability in their lifetimes may seem daunting, I choose to see it as a shared opportunity. So please come, pull up a chair at our table, and let us learn, work, and grow together.

Kurn Hattin's twenty-ninth annual Fall Conference will be held on Friday, October 22, 2021. Please visit kurnhattin.org/event/annual-conference for more information.

~ Crystal Card, Admissions Coordinator

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### Congratulations CLASS OF 2021!

On campus under a tent on a breezy, warm day, thirteen 8th graders proudly graduated on Saturday, June 5, 2021. Valedictorian Deja Nasta remarked, "All of us are leaving here with amazing memories. Kurn Hattin has done so much for all of us. We all made great friends. We have so much to thank Kurn Hattin for and we did that by ending the year on a great note and leaving here happy."

Congratulations to the Kurn Hattin Class of 2021: Anthony Davis, Allie Hutchins, True Martel, Nicholas Mills-Smith, Ryan Nguyen, Logan White, Kaitlin Monroe, William Anderson, Stewart Hartwell, Brieona Figueroa, Grace Perkins, and Deja Nasta. We love you and are so proud of you!



### Richard Long, 40-year Social Studies teacher retires!

Thank you Richard for your dedication to educating the Kurn Hattin children & organizing a wonderful annual tribute to our veterans.

### KURN HATTIN**Album**

The practice of using dogs to pull sleds with loads dates back to early history. The Kurn Hattin children learned about this practice and sport first hand when Rob Farley of October Siberians, a Vermont sled dog team and Siberian Husky kennel, visited our campus. After a presentation on the history, the dogs, running a kennel, and a demonstration of the equipment, the children enjoyed meeting the beautiful and friendly dogs. The children's joy in this experience was clearly evident in the smiles on their faces. Thank you to Terry and Marya Holcombe of Walpole, New Hampshire for sponsoring this great opportunity for the children.

The Kurn Hattin children demonstrated the many creative options one has with Peeps, jelly beans, and toothpicks! When all was said and done, they enjoyed the fruits of their labor—not a jelly bean nor Peep was left.









Sports activities and games with other schools were curtailed this year due to COVID-19, but that didn't stop the playoffs between the 3rd and 4th graders against the 5th and 6th graders. The children ran practice drills and scrimmages among their own teams all year. Many of the 3rd and 4th graders had never even been part of a basketball game before. All their hard work paid off on the big day. The final score was 24 to 48, with the 5th and 6th graders winning; though they were quite surprised that 3rd and 4th graders even scored!

Communication, cooperation, trust, encouragement, and problemsolving are all skills that are never too early to learn and useful for a lifetime. The Whale Watch is one of the four team building obstacles that were recently built in the woods behind the school at Kurn Hattin to teach just that. The goal of this obstacle is for students to work together to keep the wooden platform evenly balanced. Initially, students get on the structure and test to see how it feels. The next step is to get the whole group to problem solve and figure out how to keep it balanced. After that, the challenge is to see how long they can keep it balanced, followed by multiple different activities, all requiring students to work together and achieve a common goal. All of the obstacles were designed and



constructed by High 5 Adventure Learning Center in Brattleboro, Vermont. High 5 has been working with Kurn Hattin students and teachers for a number of years.

During the school's "May Madness," the children had a weekly PBiS (Positive Behavioral interventions and Support) challenge to reach a certain goal by showcasing the expectations: *We are kind, We are proud, We keep trying.* When the weekly goal of 100 demonstrations of these expectations was more than exceeded, the students were rewarded with a pizza lunch with Mr. Gardner, Dean of Students, and Mr. Simunovic, School Principal, and providing the head educators a refreshing ice bucket challenge shower!







During their Cultural Literacy studies, the children spend time learning about and celebrating cultural differences and commonalities of countries around the world. Recently the children spent time learning about Ethiopia and India. Ethiopia Day started with a morning Zoom call with a household of children in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and included some friendly competition with a USA/Ethiopia Jeopardy game while practicing both English and Amharic speaking skills. The Kurn Hattin children then enjoyed some delicious samples of Ethiopian dishes and fruits, learned to identify Ethiopian animals, and watched a traditional coffee ceremony in one of the Ethiopian homes. For India, the children participated in a live Skype call with a family in Varanasi, India, practiced yoga, sampled North Indian food, and had Henna art drawn on their hands. These experiences are invaluable in preparing our children for the diverse world that awaits them outside of the rolling hills of Westminster, Vermont.



Kurn Hattin's kindergarten and 1st graders had a special day at the end of March to celebrate reading. They enjoyed a pajama day, making monster bookmarks, and holding a read-a-thon in which they read books many different ways, such as reading with sunglasses, reading outside, and reading to the class pet guinea pig! (And it was riveted!) The class read a total of 65 books in March and each student earned a certificate for being a 'SuperReader' as well as a bag of "bookworm" gummy worms.

An alumna from the 1950s contacted us recently and shared her memory of the visiting Book Mobile and her love of reading and lifelong learning. She asked how the children were inspired to read now. Laurel Harrison, the Middle School Literacy Teacher responded, "While students haven't been able to browse books freely due to the pandemic, we created new options. In order to introduce students to new books that might excite them, I have developed something called, *Speed Dating with Books*. The process: Students sit at desks arranged in a circle. Each student receives a book new to the literacy library from titles carefully selected to resonate with them. Students get three minutes with a book before it rotates to the next desk. During those three minutes, they are to fully read the front and back covers, and the inside jacket and the first page. They are also to flip through the book to see the size of print, and special features



such as a glossary of terms, a map, or illustrations. At the end of the three minutes, they give the book a rating based on their personal interest level. *Speed Dating* has never failed to match each student with a book they can't wait to read! In lower school (the younger children) boxes of books are prepared geared to each classroom's skill levels. The classrooms also have their own set of permanent books to browse."

# THE Bridge Builders

### Building bridges to the future for children in need since 1894

### Our Connection to Kurn Hattin

Two very special people from Scotland, who married in 1925 then immigrated to America a few years later to begin a new life in the beautiful state of Vermont, were my cousins, "Uncle" Jim and "Aunt" Margaret Duncan. In 1927 they became live-in houseparents at the then newly built and dedicated Dickey Cottage. My Uncle Jim was also hired to teach carpentry and work on repairs and building projects at Kurn Hattin's two campuses. It seems to have been my aunt's and uncle's destiny to work together in service to Kurn Hattin by loving, nurturing, and molding the lives of all the young boys they took care of during their 20 plus years of service. They never had children of their own.

Early recollections of Kurn Hattin and Westminster center on our family's annual Columbus Day weekend road trips from our home in Rhode Island to Vermont. Our visits began in the early fifties after Uncle Jim and Aunt Margaret had retired from Kurn Hattin and bought a house along Route 5 in



Westminster. I always looked forward to those visits. I remember playing cards and games with Aunt Margaret—always trying to understand what she was saying behind her heavy Scottish brogue. (Uncle Jim was a man of few words.) Invariably, talk would turn to stories of my aunt's love for Kurn Hattin and her memories of all the wonderful little boys and girls (pronounced "gir-dles" in her thick Scottish brogue) she had cared for over the years. She and Uncle Jim talked proudly and respectfully of their time at Kurn Hattin. We took trips up to the Westminster campus. We'd get out and walk around, play on the "monkey bars" behind Dickey Cottage (Pictured are William "Bill" and his sister Cynthia), watch cows in the fields and along the fence lines, and listen to Uncle Jim as he proudly pointed out buildings and projects he'd worked on. It was obvious that Kurn Hattin had left an indelible mark on their lives. It had become part of what defined them. I always believed my Aunt

### SOCIETY NEWS:

For generations, Kurn Hattin has been blessed with friends whose gifts have secured and endowed its work. In January 1993, the Bridge Builder Society was founded to recognize donors whose visionary support of \$10,000 or more helps perpetuate Kurn Hattin's mission. These gifts may include endowment gifts, bequests, trusts, outright gifts, life insurance proceeds, investing in a charitable gift annuity, as well as other gifts for restricted and unrestricted use. The Bridge Builder Society also recognizes trusts established by donors to provide ongoing financial support to Kurn Hattin.

The following made transformational gifts of \$10,000 or more to Kurn Hattin between July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021.

Anonymous Mrs. Diana G. Bacon Pat & Heidi Crotty In Loving Memory of Went Hubbard & Bob Hubbard Estate of Patricia Dupree Fred & Else Ernst The Fuqua Family William & Paulette Gray Estate of Elizabeth Harris Terry & Marya Holcombe In Honor of Susan Kessler for her service & leadership Ms. Joanne H. Hook John A. Hubbard Barbara Matteson In Memory of Fred J. Matteson, Class of 1982 Estate of David J. Maysilles '43 Estate of Emily Moran Robert W. Owens, Jr. Memorial Fund The Pabis Foundation Rite Aid Foundation Estate of Gordon M. Stone Paul & Gerry Sweterlitsch Mr. John Alan & Mrs. Mary L. Watson In Memory of Priscilla Watson

Margaret and Uncle Jim were the best houseparents the children in their care could have hoped for.

It is because of them and their love for all that was and is Kurn Hattin that we continue to support with our giving the work and mission of Kurn Hattin. We gladly do this in honor and memory of Jim and Margaret Duncan, and my parents, Harold and Dorothy Gray, who introduced them into our lives.

~ William & Paulette Gray

#### THE BRIDGE BUILDER

by Will Allen Dromgoole

An old man, going a lone highway Came at the evening, cold and gray, To a chasm, vast and deep and wide, Through which was flowing a sullen tide.

The old man crossed in the twilight dim— That sullen stream had no fears for him, But he turned, When he reached the other side, And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near, "You are wasting your strength in building here.

Your journey will end With the ending day; You never again must pass this way

You have crossed the chasm, deep and wide, Why build you a bridge at eventide?"

The builder lifted his old grey head, "Good friend, in the path I have come," he said, "There followeth after me today A youth whose feet must pass this way.

This chasm that has been naught to me To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.

He, too, must cross in the twilight dim; Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."

### Do What You Love and it will feed you

I attended Kurn Hattin from 2007-2009 for 7th and 8th grades. I lived in Ball Cottage. Miss Gigi was my houseparent.

During my time at Kurn Hattin, I remember being part of the H'Olympics—a national group homes sports event. We competed against different Home organizations. I participated in both years. In my 7th grade year, we went to Maine. During 8th grade, we flew to Texas. I broke some of the swimming records.

I really enjoyed science and all the hands-on exercises like tapping maple trees and building life-sized houses with sticks. Since we had to play an instrument at Kurn Hattin, I played the drums. It was good to learn to play an instrument.

Kurn Hattin was a big step up for me. If I hadn't gone to Kurn Hattin, I would have gotten into a lot more trouble, and don't know if I would have made it to high school. In particular, Mr. Fahner, the Principal then, did a lot in teaching us about the rewards of perseverance and not quitting. An important memory for me is going up Mount Monadnock with Mr. Fahner. We did that a few times, in addition to climbing other mountains in the area. We'd always try to race and beat our time from the last climb. He'd say that this was our last time to get to the top, and we needed to do better this time. I'm very much like that now with goal setting. Finish one thing, then start the next. Finish that, then start working on the next thing. Try to do better. I got that from Mr. Fahner, for sure.

After Kurn Hattin, when I was in high school, I started cooking. I was actually going to be an architect, but then I went to the culinary program we have in Claremont, New Hampshire—Sugar River Technical Center. I started that in 11th grade and I was really good at it. I ended up competing in a couple of NH high school trades competitions over on the seacoast. I didn't Place, but it was a good experience. One thing I knew was that I would always have a job if I knew how to cook. That was something that I learned at a really early age, and I just kept that with me. No matter what I wanted to do or wherever I wanted to go, if I could cook, there would always be something available.

During my senior year, I signed up to join the Navy after graduation. While in the Navy, I reflected on my time at Kurn Hattin and the people who helped me change and get to where I am now. I'm very grateful to Kurn Hattin.





I still keep in touch with my old roommate from Kurn Hattin, who now lives in Keene, New Hampshire. He's been to my restaurant. Yes, I opened a restaurant— Rocky's Tacqueria! My other friends, I keep in contact with on Facebook. Some of the teachers have come by on their days off to grab lunch here. So that's nice too.

Kurn Hattin is something that a lot of people don't have. It's a

good experience and a network that you just can't get anywhere else. It is supportive and the staff really just want what is best for you. At the heart of Kurn Hattin the staff believes, "These are our kids. We're going to take care of them, not just while they're here, we're going to continue mentoring them." It really feels like family.

As for the restaurant, (Rocky's Taqueria, a gourmet taco restaurant which opened in December), the next push, once the vaccinations are rolled out a bit more, is to have indoor seating. The business is growing quickly. I still plan to operate my food cart for seasonal events and will soon be kicking off catering. So drop by and say "hi" and grab some lunch next time you are in Claremont, New Hampshire.

 $\sim$  Rocky Beliveau, Class of 2009

### Congratulations to Heather Kampfer Hunter, Class of 2001, our new Alumni Association President!

"I believe that it's imperative that we continue to build strong relationships with Kurn Hattin and the alumni as our Association grows each year." - Heather Kampfer Hunter, Class of 2001, Kurn Hattin Homes' Alumni Association President.



### Maple Sugaring Season at KURN HATTIN

The 6th and 7th graders, along with Conor Fitzgerald, Assistant Farm Manager spent a few weeks in early March tapping several species of maple trees at Kurn Hattin. Buckets were mounted, sap levels checked, and when nearly full, they were taken to the science classroom for the boiling process. There the students learned about evaporation and using a refractometer to measure and compare the sugar levels in both the initial sap and the final product of syrup. In



addition to the classroom boiling process, Kurn Hattin Homes also utilized its Sugar House for producing larger quantities of syrup for campus use—a whopping 91.5 gallons! The maple sugaring season at Kurn Hattin continued through March and April, but pancakes with homemade maple syrup? Those are enjoyed year round!





The fall of the rain Soaks up the thoughts in my mind Dripping on the page ~ True, Grade 8

Sounds of birds and other animals Pools in the springtime Riding my bike Ice cream time Nature blooms Games with my friends ~ Wayde, Grade 6

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### REMEMBERING YOUR OLD SCHOOL DAYS Campaign

Remember your school days playing basketball and other activities in the gym? Well, Kurn Hattin's gymnasium, now 81 years old, is in need of renovations, starting with the floor. The children all use the gym daily for P.E., sports, performances, trainings and recreation—these are just some of the uses that this gym floor has supported.

Though built to withstand 40 years of normal school wear and tear, the floor is now showing signs of both surface and structural deterioration. It needs to be replaced. Many schools might opt for an entirely new gymnasium. We've chosen to replace the floor and make a few other renovations, as the building itself is sound and historically distinctive.

#### Gymnasium funding needed: \$93,000

- Floor replacement: \$70,000
- Re-pointing the exterior and chimney: \$15,000
- Gutters: \$5,000
- Lighting upgrades: \$3,000

#### Will you help slam dunk this gym back into shape?

And who can forget being on stage in front of an audience?

The heart of the Homes, Kurn Hattin's Higbie Auditorium is used daily by students and staff. It's where revelation begins and where much of the magic happens. It's also the most publicly accessed facility on campus, averaging nearly 5,000 guests a year. Here, children gain selfconfidence and guests are provided a window to the wonders that Kurn Hattin achieves.

The auditorium was state-of-the-art when it was built in 1989. Yet 32 years later, it needs some major upgrades, particularly in terms of the stage curtains, lighting, sound and video systems.

### Auditorium funding needed: \$110,000

- Stage curtain replacement: \$45,000
- Lighting upgrade (including 4 portable LED spotlights): \$36,000
- Sound system upgrade: \$15,000
- Video system replacement: \$14,000

The show must go on! Will you help keep the Kurn Hattin children in the limelight?

These upgrades are vital to maintaining safe, functional, and modern facilities which can support the transformation of our children and the greater Kurn Hattin community. *Thank you!* 

## JOIN THE Kurn Hattin Monthly Giving Program

Now more than ever, we're so grateful for all of our friends who have funded, volunteered, celebrated, and advocated for Kurn Hattin Homes for Children through the years. At a time when everything feels uncertain, we find comfort and encouragement knowing that you care about our cause.

Regardless of what is happening around us, our mission of transforming children and their families will not be placed on pause. That's why we're asking you to help us continue our work by becoming a monthly donor or increasing your monthly giving.

Joining the Kurn Hattin Monthly Giving Program, our treasured community of monthly donors, is the safest, simplest, and most effective way to support the children and the programs we provide. While the world is still facing a lot of uncertainty at this time, we hope that you can find some peace knowing that the children in our care are safe, healthy, and happy because of your generosity.

### PLEASE BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR or INCREASE YOUR MONTHLY GIVING Go to: kurnhattin.org/donate or call Heather at (802) 721-6916

On behalf of all of us at Kurn Hattin Homes for Children, thank you for being a part of our community. We wish you and your family health, safety, and happiness.

Blessings

Stephen B. Harrison, Executive Director



p.s. Growing our community is crucial to our organization. Not ready to become a monthly donor right now? You can still help by making a one-time or annual donation and sharing this information with your family and friends. We'd really appreciate it. Thank you!

### Your Support makes what we do possible

We are proud once again to have been awarded Charity Navigator's top rating-4-Stars!

Kurn Hattin Homes for Children relies on your support. It truly takes a village to raise a child. Ninety-five percent of Kurn Hattin's revenue comes from your charitable donations. Our annual fund goal in this fiscal year (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022), which provides support for the educational, residential, and recreational programs, food, clothing, and housing, is \$870,000. Your generosity is what makes the programs and services we provide the children and their families possible. Every gift makes a difference, and there are many ways to give. Due to inflation and rising costs, please consider increasing your gift. Also consider donating appreciated stock. The donation you make and the deduction you'll get are greater than they would be if you were to sell and donate the cash proceeds instead. That's because when you donate shares, you avoid paying capital gains tax.

And Thank You to everyone who made an extra special gift, hosted fundraisers, and sent your encouragement and unconditional support.



Would you like to see first-hand how Kurn Hattin transforms the lives of children? We will be scheduling a Get Acquainted Day soon. At Get

Acquainted Day, guests are given an overview of the Homes, learn the life story of one of our alumni, are led by the children on tours of the school and a residential cottage, and treated to a musical performance. Lunch is also provided. To be invited to our next G.A.D., contact Heather at (802) 721-6916 or hlonge@kurnhattin.org.

Looking forward to seeing you all again!

~ Kim Fine, Director of Annual Fund & Special Projects

### SPECIAL Appreciation

#### Appreciation of Gifts in-kind: Goods and services donated between January 23, 2021 and July 16, 2021:

Anonymous Christelle Bakala Belinda Brewer Brattleboro Staples #1272, VT Jim & Gloria Carr Dick Clauson Alicia Connors Cota & Cota, Bellows Falls, VT Delta Dental Plan of New Hampshire, Concord, NH Vickie Davis & Rob Sangster Dirt Cowboy Café, Hanover, NH French Pond School, Woodsville, NH

Dr. Niels Giddins & Lorna Swerhone Louis '50 & Dorothy Gilbert Global Village Foods, Windsor, VT Green Mountain Blanketeers, VT Hanover High School, NH/May Bike Intensive Stephen & Laurel Harrison Terry & Marya Holcombe Irene Holoway Alisa Hooey Rosemary & Eliza Jaromin

Mary Kelly Bob & Rosalie Leach Kate McNally Connie Moser & Lee Alexander Sheila Myotte Price Chopper, West Lebanon, NH Stephen & Joan Richer Leonard Rix St. Ann Church, Milton, VT Gary & Julia Simpson/ Gary's Caramel Corn, Pleasant Grove, UT Skida Headwear, Burlington, VT Mrs. Sharon Smith Janice & Heinrich Sussebach Maggi Suttles Lorna Swerhone Twin States Modern Quilt Guild, VT United Congregational Church of Sullivan, UCC, NH Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Planning Commission, Lebanon, NH Carl '52 & June Williams Janet C, Wilson

### SPECIAL Recognition

Special recognition to the clubs and civic organizations who made donations between January 23, 2021 and July 16, 2021:

The Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima WAF VT Division Brattleboro Elks Lodge #1499, VT Brattleboro Rotary Club, VT Brownsville Cemetery Association, VT DMC Spacecoast Colony NSNEW #177, FL General Federation of Women's Clubs of Vermont Katherine Elithorpe Miles Colony NSNEW #183, MI Knights of Columbus #642, Middlebury, VT Knights of Columbus St. Stephen's Council #2284, Colchester, VT

n's North Bennington Baptist Church, VT National Society of New England Women Our Lady of Fatima Church, Wilmington, VT Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church, Richmond, VT Poultney Woman's Club, VT

Springfield Elks Lodge #1560, VT Vergennes Knights of Columbus Council 3664, VT Women's Fellowship of Christ's Church, Saxtons River, VT

### THANK YOU Corporate Supporters

*Kurn Hattin would like to thank our corporate supporters for their good citizenship and offer them our sincere thanks. Donating between January 23, 2021 and July 16, 2021:* 

AMAZON SMILE	<b>J &amp; W AUTO REPAI</b>
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### **Memorial**GIFTS

We are thankful for memorial contributions which help us help the children. The names of those being remembered appear in **BOLD CAPITAL** letters and are followed by the names of those who made the gifts. Bold names followed by a year indicate graduates of Kurn Hattin. The gifts listed were received between January 23, 2021 and July 16, 2021.

IN MEMORY OF MR. WILLIAM E. ANDREWS Leslie V. Richards

IN MEMORY OF MY GRANDMOTHER, WINNIE BROOKS BACON Ms. Brenda Ellis

IN MEMORY OF MY MOTHER, CATHERINE BARDWELL Mr. '73 & Mrs. Jerry L. Bardwell

IN MEMORY OF MIRIAM "MIM" BIERMAN Dr. Jeffrey & Lisa Bianconi Janet C. Wilson

IN MEMORY OF WESLEY W. BIRCH, CLASS OF 1916 Donna Birch Daniel Budd

IN MEMORY OF BENJAMIN E. BRISTOL Ms. Alison Zoske

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT EDWARD BURKE, CLASS OF 1939 Sandra B. Ellis

IN MEMORY OF MARY BUTLER Dorene & Ron Lengyel

IN MEMORY OF CHRISTOPHER CALKINS Richard & Jane Desbiens

IN MEMORY OF MARION S. CHESTER Mrs. Marny Chester Peterson

IN MEMORY OF MY MOTHER, NITA CHOUKAS Melanie Choukas-Bradley

IN MEMORY OF NITA CHOUKAS Lucretia & Peter Martin Bridget & Randall Mudge Curtis & Katharine Welling

IN MEMORY OF GAIL & SETH CHRISTMAS William Christmas

IN MEMORY OF MY FATHER, WILLIAM COOK, CLASS OF 1929 Helen Elizabeth Cook IN MEMORY OF KATHY DEEGAN Virginia Company Colony, NSNEW #143, VA

IN MEMORY OF MARY DOOLITTLE Ms. Constance D. Moser IN MEMORY OF

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IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM "BILL" FRAZIER Thomas P. Gavin, Jr. Mary Liporace Hamilton Amy Maikkula Robin & Pat Orourke Rite Reinecker Allie Web

IN MEMORY OF DONALD FRISBIE, CLASS OF 1950 Gregory '49 & Charlotte Smith

IN MEMORY OF EILEEN GEORGE Father Lance W. Harlow

IN MEMORY OF CARLETON "SCOTT" GILMAN, CLASS OF 1945 Kurn Hattin Alumni Association

IN MEMORY OF HAROLD & DOROTHY GRAY William & Paulette Gray

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES GREENLOW, CLASS OF 1908 Ms. Sue Hunt

IN MEMORY OF PAUL GREENWOOD, CLASS OF 1941 Ms. Kim Adams

IN MEMORY OF KIRK HEMELBERG Kim Fine\*\* IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS, DAYTON "DOC" HENSON, CLASS OF 1928 & JOSEPHINE WOODHULL HENSON, CLASS OF 1929 Ms. Beverly A. Manner Mrs. Diane H. Yeaney Joyce M. Henson, Ph.D.

**IN MEMORY OF FRANK HOLAN** Jennifer Holan

IN LOVING MEMORY OF WENT HUBBARD & BOB HUBBARD Pat & Heidi Crotty

IN MEMORY OF MY BROTHER, DAVID HUGHES Mr. '73 & Mrs. Jerry L. Bardwell

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#### MEMORIAL GIFTS CONTINUED

IN MEMORY OF ANTHONY "TONY" MAIOLA Mr. & Mrs. Alexander F. Morze Susan & Robert Tidlund

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IN MEMORY OF MICHELLE LEE (BESSETTE) MARTIN, CLASS OF 1990 Kurn Hattin Alumni Association

IN MEMORY OF FRED J. MATTESON, CLASS OF 1982 Ms. Barbara E. Knapp

IN MEMORY OF MISS MATTHEW WHO TAUGHT ME HOW TO MAKE MUFFINS AND MISS BURGESS WHO TAUGHT ME PIANO Sally Bradford LaRhette '45

IN MEMORY OF BARBARA MAYSILLES\*\* Mildred Barry

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IN MEMORY OF PHYLLIS MCMULLOUGH Cathy & Stephen Day

IN MEMORY OF NAOMI SALMON VANDER MEULEN Leslie V. Richards IN MEMORY OF NORMAN "NORM" MORONG, CLASS OF 1938 Kurn Hattin Alumni Association

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**IN MEMORY OF JACK SHERAK** Ms. Claire K. Prettitore

IN MEMORY OF CARLTON "SMEAGLE" SMITH, CLASS OF 1970 Kurn Hattin Alumni Association

IN MEMORY OF MERTON R. & BERTHA SNOW Merton J. & Ida Snow

IN MEMORY OF ROBERTA "BOBBI" VIOLETTE Mr. & Mrs. Alexander F. Morze

IN MEMORY OF MY DAD, KEITH WALLACE Rosina M. Wallace

IN MEMORY OF MY MOTHER, PRISCILLA WATSON\*\* Ms. Virginia Watson

IN MEMORY OF PRISCILLA MAYO WATSON\*\* Ms. Melinda Arnold Mildred Barry Dr. Jeffrey & Lisa Bianconi Ruth T. Grant Stephen & Laurel Harrison Mrs. Jean A. Morland Mr. Richard Nash '42 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ryan Marlene S. Stein John Alan & Mary L. Watson

IN MEMORY OF JOANNA WOODHULL WEEKS, CLASS OF 1927 & HER SIBLINGS: REM, CLASS OF 1925, JOHN, CLASS OF 1927, JAMES, CLASS OF 1928, & JOSEPHINE, CLASS OF 1929 Mr. & Mrs. Alexander F. Morze

Contact Kim Fine at (802) 721-6914 or kfine@kurnhattin.org if you would like to discuss including Kurn Hattin in your will as a beneficiary. Sample language to use to include Kurn Hattin in your will is posted on our website. www.kurnhattin.org. **Thank you.** 

### Honor GIFTS

A gift to the Homes may also honor a memorable occasion in someone's life. A wedding anniversary, arrival of a new baby, a birthday, a promotion or retirement–all offer an opportunity to commemorate those who have touched the lives of others. Kurn Hattin will be pleased to notify the person (s) about your kind gesture at your request. The gifts listed were received between January 23, 2021 and July 16, 2021.

IN HONOR OF JOSHUA BARDWELL & LINDA BARDWELL, ON THEIR BIRTHDAYS Mr. Jerry L. Bardwell '73

IN HONOR OF SUSANNA BEETHAM Mr. & Mrs. Richard Goldhammer

IN HONOR OF OUR NIECE & NEPHEW, PENELOPE & RUDY BLAKE Alexander & Patricia Rowe

IN HONOR OF CATT COLE, ON HER BIRTHDAY Peg Anderson Stacy Self

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THE OCCASION OF OUR 59TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY Reverend Pete Hults

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IN HONOR OF KURN HATTIN KITCHEN STAFF: RICHARD, MELANIE, TODD, LAUREN, ELAINE, KENDRA, & JARED Westminster Cares Incorporated, VT

IN HONOR OF LEO E. LAWRENCE, CLASS OF 1943, ON HIS BIRTHDAY Marcia Rose

IN HONOR OF LEO E. LAWRENCE, CLASS OF 1943, ON FATHER'S DAY Marcia Rose Mr. & Mrs. William G. Ryan

**IN HONOR OF JANET PIRO LIDE** Mrs. Mary Mangum Lide

IN HONOR OF SUSAN (JONES) MACK Miss Lindsay Mack

IN HONOR OF BRIAN MORGAN, ON HIS BIRTHDAY Beth Cockerham Ed Ernst Rick Exeter Lorne Johnson Ben Keidan Bobbi Klima Landin Michael O'Neal Ellen Rowe Demetria Royals Ahmed Shafi Anmol Shrestha Sam Winebaum Charles Young

Ian Drury

IN HONOR OF LESLIE RICHARDS, HONORABLE PRESIDENT GENERAL Mrs. Edward A. Molteni

IN HONOR OF BRITTANIE SANBORN, ON HER BIRTHDAY Kathryn Burger Danielle Hammond Charlotte Loso

IN HONOR OF BILL SCARLETT Rick Holloway

#### IN HONOR OF LIAM SNOWDEN, CLASS OF 2016, ON HIS BIRTHDAY

Kelsey Hamilton Erin Kelley Diane Purrington Douglas Snowden Kellie Williams

IN HONOR OF CLIFF WOOD Arlene Clinkscale

# Kurn Hattin Homes

Founded and incorporated in 1894

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MISSION STATEMENT

*Kurn Hattin Homes transforms the lives of children and their families forever.*