



Cooperation Results in Lyme Saving Resources, Money, Environment

Whether or not one feels compelled by environmental concerns or by rising costs of fossil fuels, we can agree on the benefit of conserving tax dollars. Over the last year the Lyme School has been engaged in several on going conversations with local organizations, such as the Lyme Energy Committee, as well as knowledgeable individuals to investigate ways to reduce our energy consumption as well as the amount of fossil fuel we consume. The logic being: the less we spend on the operation of our physical plant the more we can devote to the school's students and to reducing the overall cost of education to the taxpayers. In addition as conscientious members of the community we want to play a leading role in the effort to reduce the amount of non renewable resources we consume.

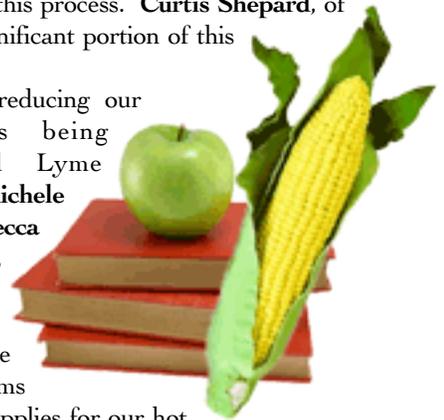
Early attempts to find ways to fund a solar power project at the Lyme School were unsuccessful, until **Shannon Munger** stepped in, "I thought it would be really great to have solar power at the Lyme School", as luck would have it Shannon's husband, **Tom Hunton**, is CEO of American Capital Energy, one of the leading solar power companies in the US (www.AmericanCapitalEnergy.com). We were ecstatic when Tom came to us to propose the generous gift of a 15 kw solar array which will provide at least 10% of the school's overall electrical consumption for the next 30 or so years.



While this project is dwarfed by the companies typical project, 15 kws is capacity of the school's available rooftop footprint. At present that represents approximately \$100,000 in savings over the life of the system -- even more if you consider that electrical costs will likely increase over that time!

We are also investigating ways that we can phase in high efficiency furnaces with the flexibility to utilize alternative fuels. This project posses the opportunity to reduce our energy costs by thousands of dollars a year, as well as substantially reduce the amount of CO, CO₂ an NO_x gasses which are created each day. The school is currently reviewing possibilities and alternatives with the assistance of **Scott Nichols** Scott's company, BioHeatUSA, is not involved, but he possesses a wealth of experience and industry contacts which can be very helpful in this process. **Curtis Shepard**, of Shepard Plumbing in Lyme, has also been extraordinarily helpful and initiated a significant portion of this discussion.

An additional prospect for reducing our energy consumption is being investigated by several Lyme community members. **Michele Estes, Carola Lea, Rebecca Lovejoy, Shirley Tullar, Nancy Dwight, and Audrey Brown** have been researching how the Lyme School could utilize local farms to provide some of its food supplies for our hot lunch program. In doing so not only will we be supporting local farmers, but we will also eliminate the necessity of some of the food we provide to be shipped long distances consuming even more energy than would otherwise necessary.



Our focus is to target the areas which have the most immediate return on investment. Over the next few years, through an informal energy audit process, we hope to find ways to ensure that the Lyme School is not only the best school in terms of the quality of education, but also in terms of the financial efficiency and environmental stewardship.

I was told as a child "Our job is to leave a place in better condition than when we came", with the help of people like Tom Hunton, Shannon Munger, Carola Lea, Scott Nichols, Curtis Shepard, Michele Estes, Rebecca Lovejoy, Shirley Tullar, Nancy Dwight and Audrey Brown, we are well on our way to fulfilling part of that promise.



SERVING THE LYME COMMUNITY FOR OVER 100 YEARS

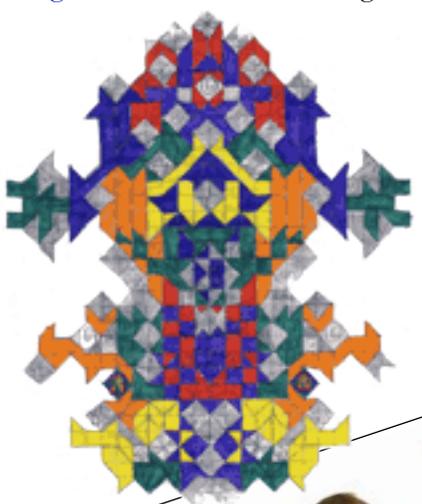
THE LYME SCHOOL

Newsletter



INK Spot

Imagination and Knowledge



Geometric Tessellation Design
by Cam, Jackson and Ben, grade 4



25



2009 LYME DRAMA CLUB PRODUCTION

This OLD House

April 9th, 10th, & 11th

7:00 doors open
7:30 curtain opens



Director's Reminders:

We are all familiar with the no cell phone rule in movies. We request that audience please refrain from cell phone use during the performances, as well.



In addition please be aware of the following:



The auditorium doors open no earlier than 7:00 pm, there are no reserve seats, and the play will begin promptly at 7:30 pm.



Please remain quietly in your seats during the performance.

Conferences Next Week:

Be sure to make an appointment for your parent teacher conference.

During Conference Week:

Kindergarten ends at 11 am M,T,W, F • 12:30 on Thursday

April 13th - 17th School is Dismissed

at 1:30 on Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri

April 16th School is Dismissed at 2:00 on Thursday



Be Safe Protect Your Child

Reminder that Seat Belts and Booster Seats are required for children under 4'9". No matter how far you travel remember to buckle up!



Message from the P.T.O.

Got Tops?

REMINDER:

No PTO meeting this Month



Lunch
Week of
4/13 to 4/17



Monday	Chicken Burgers or Veggie Burgers Tater Tots Garden Salad Fresh Fruit NEW
Tuesday	Tacos with Lettuce and Cheese Corn Chips & Salsa Garden Salad Fresh Fruit
Wednesday	BLT's Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato Sandwiches Garden Salad Fresh Fruit Cookies NEW
Thursday	Meatball Sub or Pasta with choice of Tomato Sauce, Butter and Meatballs Garden Salad Mixed Vegetables Brownie NEW
Friday	Grilled Cheese & Corn Chowder Crackers Garden Salad Fresh Fruit



Ala carte Fruit and Milk are available everyday



This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Contact me at: Jeff.Valence@valley.net
Phone: 795-2125
or just stop by.



You may print color copies of the Newsletters at:
www.LymeSchool.org

CONVERSE FREE LIBRARY

MAD SCIENCE's "Up, UP and AWAY"
a physical science show with Hot-air balloons, hovercraft and cinematic special effects. For children in Grades k-6 Immediately afterschool in the Lyme School Cafeteria Tuesday, April 14 at 1:45 (during school's early release week) Pick-up time 2:45.

Hosted by the Converse Free Library staff
Sponsored by the Friends of Lyme Library