

Green Teamers



Kendra Leigh Miller • Daily Times

Western Coventry Elementary School students Sophia Quindazzi and Emma Horan explain forms of energy at last night's Coventry School Committee meeting.

Western Coventry fifth-graders make a difference

KENDRA LEIGH MILLER
kmiller@ricentral.com

COVENTRY — The fifth grade class at Western Coventry Elementary School, AKA the Westie's Green Team, shared their mission for making their community a greener one during their presentation at Tuesday's school committee meeting.

The students started a leadership team to form goals to create projects that would move

them toward more "green" practices learning about new ways to use energy.

"We worked to learn the science of energy, researched energy sources and ways to conserve energy," said class advisor Kerri Luchka.

The goal of the team leaders was to create a presence and identity within the school community.

They took the initiative to develop a team name and logo, a wise owl, that reflect the goals of the leadership team.

Students also started a Green Team newsletter, utilizing the National Energy Education Development (NEED) elementary energy info-book, NEED energy sources and as well as online resources, which detailed all the findings in an effort to educate others.

"We attended and held community events to inspire and educate our community about the need for conservation," she said. "Our main

See GREEN, Page A-3

Green-minded students present

Continued from Page A-1

goal is to grow our community garden and to help others to understand that locally-grown foods help to reduce transportation reduce our ecological footprint. We believe kids can do little things that will make a big difference.”

Luchka explained how students can use science ideas to protect the earth's most precious resources.

“I knew this would be the perfect platform for them to take action,” she said.

“They came in early and took part during the week and it was their job to put it all together,” she said.

The Green Team includes Sofia Quindozzi, Shealyn Gallagher, Molly Wentworth, Zachary Fuller, Megan Henault, Arianna Sheppard, Alissa Caltagrone, Hannah O'Brien Fordham, Emma Horan, Nicole Dacey, Alexander Marcotte, Kyle Fraser, Mia Allen, Hannah Sherman and Gianna Cabral.

The team researched natural gas and the power of wind, created a garden that provided the local food pantry with 44 pounds of fresh food, and held



Kendra Leigh Miller • Daily Times

Advisor Kerri Luchka explains the Green Team's goals and work.

a poster contest as well as an energy expo.

Through the NEED project they have been chosen as school of the year and will be honored at the State House for their energy savings initiatives and will also go on to the Nationals that will be held in Washington, D.C.

“The work continues as our fifth grades go to our fourth grade and help them start a garden too,” added Luchka.

“That was amazing, wonderful and exciting to see young-

sters your age using physics and all the other subjects and I hope this continues to inspire you,”

said Coventry School Committee Chairwoman Kathy Pate-naude.

“I'm not only impressed with the work but how it was presented,” said Coventry School Committee member James Pierson. “I can't tell you how impressed I am.”

“You're not only inspiring each other but others and I also liked how you were all helping each other on the stage and I can tell you've learned a lot of skills,” said Coventry School Committee member Ann Dickson.

“You were all just amazing and the information you learned and presented was wonderful,” said Coventry School Committee Vice Chairperson Dave Florio.

TOWN OF COVENTRY NOTICE

The Coventry Town Council is currently accepting applications to fill vacancies on Zoning Board of Review.

Any interested individuals may secure an application at the Coventry Town Hall or on the town website at www.town.coventryri.org

Cheryl A. George, CMC
Town Clerk