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If your organization is interested in learning more about Kurn Hattin, we would like to present our informative and moving 15 minute video, featuring the voices and faces of staff, children and alumni. In their testimony, a full portrait of a beacon of childcare emerges.

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KURN HATTIN HOMES FOR CHILDREN

*Bulletin*  
2016 VOLUME 1





# Charitable Gift Annuity The Opportunity of a Lifetime

When you establish a charitable gift annuity (CGA) with Kurn Hattin Homes for Children, you open a future of opportunities — not just for yourself, but also for thousands of young children in need from around the Northeast.

## Contribute to a better future

If you are 65 or older, you are eligible for this secure personal investment option, offering lifetime benefits, including

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To learn more about the advantages of investing in a Kurn Hattin CGA, contact Kim Fine (802) 721-6914 or [kfine@kurnhattin.org](mailto:kfine@kurnhattin.org).

# KURN HATTIN HOMES FOR CHILDREN *Bulletin* 2016 Volume 1



### On the Cover:

Fifth grader Alex Lowe was interviewed and filmed on campus, by Minnesota photographer John Noltner for a project he founded called "A Peace of My Mind: Exploring the meaning of peace, one story at a time." The stories and photos of people from across the country will be made into a book, podcast and a traveling exhibit. Alex was one of the youngest people interviewed for this project.

### Photo Credit:

John Noltner c. 2015  
[www.apeaceofmymind.com](http://www.apeaceofmymind.com)

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## Spring Message FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I was speaking with some of our children recently, and they asked me about a little tumble I had taken from a ladder in November and what bones I had broken. After filling them in on a few minor details of my mishap, one boy volunteered, “My dad broke a lot of bones in an accident. He gets hurt a lot ‘cause he does drugs, but he wasn’t high when he got hurt this time.” Another boy, a cottage mate, then gave some details about his father and a rather strange accident his dad had suffered fairly recently. The first boy then asked, “Do you know your dad?” The reply was, “I don’t know him very well, but I hear stories about him.”

While this conversation was short, it was indicative of what some of our children face regularly: disrupted family lives due to accidents, drug use, lack of contact with biological parents, and much, much more. Additionally, cottage mates who live together in close contact daily often do not know the details of each other’s personal lives outside of Kurn Hattin. These are often areas of privacy full of hurt and fears and are not typically points of casual conversation. Usually it is only the adults – house parents, teachers, mentors, and especially counselors – who know any of the details of a child’s personal situation, and even then only on a need-to-know basis. This places a huge responsibility on the adults here to be present for children, willing to listen, to understand, to nurture, and to protect the privacy of our children and their families.

Maintaining this level of intense and focused attention to the needs of our children is one of the very special aspects of life for the adults at Kurn Hattin, but it also exacts a toll over time. Adult resources of time, social skills, emotional energy, professional training, and more all come into play when dealing with our children consistently over time. Kurn Hattin has been blessed with many staff members who have seen the value of the Kurn Hattin mission and who have remained here for an extended period of employment, particularly in our school faculty and support staff. The residential staff has seen more transition over the years due to the very intense nature of their work with our children in the cottages; it is challenging to maintain the necessary intensity and focus over long periods of time. Still, we are thankful every day for the superb quality of these staff members and the exceptional nurture and care they provide for our children. We do find, however, that each year there are usually positions that become vacant due to residential staff transition. If you know of individuals with high nurturance skills and the patience of Job who might be interested in serving in residential roles at Kurn Hattin, please have them contact us for consideration.



Statistics concerning children in need in New England – due to factors that impact home situations for families such as homelessness, substance abuse, poverty, incarceration, and more – are not encouraging. The number of children in our region who need a home like Kurn Hattin is on the rise. Our relevancy is greater now than ever before. I am thankful each day for the opportunities we have to transform the lives of our children and their families forever. We approach our care and nurture of children, as well as our Family Outreach Services, with the hope and intent of improving the viability and health of all involved and with the goal of reuniting children with their families in supportive and loving environments. I encourage you to find ways, personally and through your networks, to support our crucial work with children (and their families) in need.

~ Stephen B. Harrison  
Executive Director

## School Activities AND LEARNING

I hope each of you has enjoyed a healthy and happy holiday season with loved ones. It was a pleasure seeing so many of you at our Christmas Visitors Day and concert in December. The event was a true representation of what makes the Kurn Hattin Homes community special. It was great fun to observe the students and staff collaborating to create such a great performance (Buddy the Elf, aka Mr. Noyes, did a great job too!).

We have been hard at work here in the school at Kurn Hattin. In addition to continuing our work on curriculum development, we have implemented a new matrix system to teach our students about school expectations and to deal with disruptions in a restorative, consistent, and dignified fashion. This has been a great success, and the climate here in the school has been wonderfully positive and focused on teaching and learning. Special thanks go to the staff whom have assisted with the implementation of this system.

Our students have been actively engaged in a variety of extra curricular activities including clubs, sports, art, and music. In addition to performing at venues across New England (to rousing audiences), the



students have produced some exceptional works of art and explored all sorts of interests in different clubs. Our program successfully continues to emphasize the development of the whole child.

Our winter activities began the first week of January. The students are participating in a variety of different activities and winter sports. We all look forward to getting out and experiencing all that makes Vermont such a magical place during the winter months. Keep your fingers crossed for snow!

~ Noah Noyes  
School Principal

### FROM FACEBOOK



**Kurn Hattin Homes  
for Children**



1,780

*“My son has since graduated from high school and just turned 18! He’s an accomplished jazz musician and artist. Thank you Kurn Hattin for all you do for children.”*

~ Chantal Paulino, the mother of a Kurn Hattin Alumnus

### Consider Making a Monthly Donation

*You can do so by contacting Megan Manley  
at (802) 721-6912 or [mmanley@kurnhattin.org](mailto:mmanley@kurnhattin.org)*

## Proudly Offering NUTRITIOUS AND DELICIOUS MEALS

In 2012, championed by First Lady Michelle Obama and signed by President Obama, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act was passed into law. This meant many changes to breakfast and lunch programs in all school systems. Most schools rely on this funding to support their food service programs. When Kurn Hattin started looking at the new guidelines, we were thrilled to find that we already do many of the things that are required.

Our Food Service Manager, Richard Johnson orders whole grain breads, low fat milk, and fresh foods. Most of our food is prepared on sight. When we have breaded chicken breasts on the menu for lunch, you will find Mr. Johnson in the kitchen actually breading the chicken. Nothing is deep fried. The kitchen staff makes most of our salad dressing and sauces. This way the fat and salt content can be monitored.

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act also stresses the use of fresh fruits and vegetables. Our students eat vegetables and love fresh green beans and broccoli. Their least favorite vegetable is zucchini, but they will eat it. They are willing to try new things and often grow to love vegetables which they would never have eaten before coming to Kurn Hattin. The students take pride in helping to plant, care for, and harvest vegetables which the kitchen serves. The kitchen staff prepare a salad bar daily at lunch and dinner. There are a variety of vegetables, alternative protein sources, such as chick peas or black beans, and portion controlled dressings. The portion controlled dressings took a little getting used to, but now it is just part of what we do. There is fresh fruit offered at breakfast, lunch, and a few times a week at dinner. The kitchen supplies after school snacks to the cottages and to the day students. Snacks include fresh fruit, vegetables, trail mix, or granola bars.

We passed our USDA inspection last spring with flying colors. They were impressed with the quality of our food, the dedication of our food service personal, the commitment to appropriate portions, the use of fresh food and our own produce when possible, and the acceptance of our students to try new things.

I asked Richard Johnson what he was most proud of in the Food Service Department. Most would expect he would be most proud of the amazing meals he and his staff prepare for large functions such as Christmas Visitors Day or Kurn Hattin Day. He is pleased people enjoy those meals and is most proud that his staff comes to work every day and prepares meals that are healthful, nutritious, and delicious for our students.

He is proud that his staff love what they do, and that they give 100% every day.

When visitors come, they always comment on the great food being served. We all agree.

The kitchen staff take good care of us. We all appreciate the efforts of Alana Shaw, Marilyn Kimball, Kristy Dansereau, Trevor Clark, Travis Clark, Richard Johnson, and Melanie Atkin.

~ Karen Lansberry  
Director of Residential Services



## Referring a Child TO KURN HATTIN

Who should you refer? This is a question very often heard by the Admissions department. The list that follows is a useful guide. Boys and girls ages 5-14 who:

- are in need of a stable environment
- have the potential for resilience and emotional stability
- are able to maintain control over aggressive behavior and capable of functioning in a group living setting
- are generally within three years of grade level on academic tests
- have no serious learning disabilities
- are physically able to participate in Kurn Hattin's program

The actual application process is comprehensive and helps us determine whether our programs can meet a child's needs. If you have a child in mind as a potential candidate for Kurn Hattin, we would be happy to talk about the possibility of an application with you.

We invite you to visit and tour our campus. Please contact Terry Andrews in the Admissions Office by phone (802) 721-6913 or email [tandrews@kurnhattin.org](mailto:tandrews@kurnhattin.org) to discuss a specific child and situation.

~ Sue Kessler  
Director of Admissions

### 2016 Annual Fall Conference

For details please contact Terry Andrews  
at (802) 721-6913 or [tandrews@kurnhattin.org](mailto:tandrews@kurnhattin.org)

## Alumni Association PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### **Kurn Hattin Alumni Chapters**

I had a dream the other night. In this dream, alumni were discussing how we can further the well-being and mission of Kurn Hattin Homes. The agenda read...

Agenda item #1: Increasing alumni participation to further the goals and financial health of the Homes.

We discussed the need to increase the Alumni Association Treasury so that we can continue to make alumni memorial gifts and graduation awards.

We also discussed The Alumni Giving Forward Fund, which this year helped buy a new school bus for Kurn Hattin. We hope alumni will continue to support this special fund.

Agenda item #2: We discussed setting up Alumni Association Chapters in different parts of the country. These Chapters would hold an Annual Meeting and be attended by a Kurn Hattin staff member.

Then I awoke to realize it was a dream. But you know what they say, *If you can dream it, it is possible.*

What do you say fellow alumni? Shall we give Alumni Chapters a go? If you are interested in starting a Kurn Hattin Alumni Chapter in your area, please contact me at [jackmallory4@gmail.com](mailto:jackmallory4@gmail.com) or (727) 344-0481 and let's discuss all that is possible. Thank you.

~ Jackie LaDue Mallory, Class of 1954  
Alumni Association President



## 2015 CHARLES ALBERT DICKINSON AWARD

On December 10<sup>th</sup>, John and Carol Hubbard of Walpole, New Hampshire, were the recipients of Kurn Hattin Homes for Children's Charles Albert Dickinson Award. The Charles Albert Dickinson Award, established in 2013, is given annually in recognition of an individual or organization whose philanthropic commitment embodies the mission of Kurn Hattin Homes for Children. Named for founder Charles Albert Dickinson, the award recognizes those who make a significant contribution to the field of child welfare and help to transform the lives of children and families forever. The award, designed and created by Vermont artist, Robert DuGrenier, features a beautiful cast crystal relief image of Dickinson. Past recipients of the Charles Albert Dickinson Award were The Rite Foundation in 2014 and the National Society of New England Women in 2013.

Presented by Admissions Director Sue Kessler, the Award was given to John and Carol Hubbard for their unwavering dedication to Kurn Hattin. Following in the footsteps of John's parents, Austin and Winona Hubbard, who were longtime supporters of Kurn Hattin, John became actively involved with the organization at an early age. He went on to become an Incorporator in 1972, a Trustee in 1977, President from 2000 to 2005, Trustee Emeritus in 2012, and served as an enthusiastic Chair of the Golf Tournament Committee for over 15 years. John and his wife, Carol, enjoyed spending time with the Kurn Hattin children and were often in attendance at events on campus. In addition to their private support, John and Carol spearheaded donations to Kurn Hattin from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, a tradition of giving in memory of his parents that continues today. Recently, John and Carol supported a project to bring back a chicken flock to the farm at Kurn Hattin. John, as he accepted the honorary sculpture on behalf of the couple, declared, "Carol and I believe in Kurn Hattin's mission, and we are pleased to have been a part of it." It is with deepest gratitude and profound respect that Kurn Hattin Homes for Children awarded the 2015 Charles Albert Dickinson Award to John and Carol Hubbard.

The Hubbard family members were special guests at Kurn Hattin Homes' 2015 Christmas Visitors' Day celebration. Accompanying John and Carol were his daughter Susan, his son-in-law Peter, and his granddaughter Rachel. Congratulations John and Carol Hubbard!



## My Success IS KURN HATTIN'S SUCCESS



When Felicia Sevene joined her three older siblings at Kurn Hattin Homes in 1973, she remembers feeling happy to join them and credits her houseparent, Miss Roxy Whitney, for making her feel comfortable and safe. In school, Felicia learned to play several musical instruments and sang in the Glee Club. She recalls that music helped her believe that she could do anything that was difficult.

Felicia lived at Kurn Hattin for nine years and graduated in 1982. She described a difficult transition, but eventually she graduated from Franklin County Tech School. Felicia became a cook, but that was not really what she wanted to do. She was surviving but struggling. Kurn Hattin reached out and offered financial support for school, and she accepted this opportunity to move forward. After receiving her Associates Degree from Greenfield Community College, she continued to cook for stable work and later was the shop manager at Tom and Sally's Handmade Chocolates in Vermont.

Felicia's daughter Emma was born in 1995. A cumulative series of back injuries eventually disabled Felicia, making her life as a single parent financially difficult. No longer able to do strenuous work, she sought vocational direction from Massachusetts Rehabilitation and enrolled in the UMass "University Without Walls" program. Felicia could design her own undergraduate degree and receive credits for prior life and work experience. It was the next step in the right direction. In 2001, Felicia finished her studies and received her B.A. degree. For work experience, she volunteered at the Amherst Survival Center food shelf and clinic and at the local elementary school. This led to a local position as a job coach until 2011, and subsequently, as a care coordinator at the Free Health Clinic. A true survivor, Felicia had learned to assess and leverage the skills and experiences of her past to open up new opportunities for the future. She found it rewarding to share her knowledge of this process with others in order to help them advance and stabilize their own lives.

In 2015, Felicia returned to college for her Master's Degree at the prestigious Smith College School for Social Work. Drawing on her past experience once again, she based her thesis on Kurn Hattin, interviewing other alumni. In her research, Felicia sought to evaluate and compare the impact of children growing up in a residential home and school with those in foster care. She wrote her thesis while working 30 hours per week for her internship. She credits the support and encouragement of her husband, Alex, for playing a crucial role in her successful journey.

Now a licensed social worker who works as a counselor for a social service network, Felicia feels strongly about the importance of helping others. "I will forever be grateful to those individuals at Kurn Hattin who stepped into the role of surrogate parents for my siblings and me and provided us with the kindness, care, compassion, and connection we needed at that very difficult time. As a result of those important early connections, we felt safe, supported, and valued. That nurturing "holding environment" that Kurn Hattin created for all of us allowed us to imagine our lives and ourselves very differently, to take on new challenges, and in that, to discover our own unique gifts and talents. My own experience shows that the results for some children and families can be life changing. My success is Kurn Hattin's success. And it's in the spirit of giving back that which I, myself have received, that has brought me to the field of social work. I have Kurn Hattin to thank, in part, for that."





On November 4, 2015 at the 2015 Association of Fundraising Professionals–Northern New England Chapter’s National Philanthropy Day luncheon at the Stoweflake Resort in Stowe, Vermont, Connie Sanderson was awarded Outstanding Development Professional. On receiving the award, Connie stated, “We are so lucky. Our jobs present us not only with the opportunity to change lives through the delivery of our mission, but we meet the most wonderful people along the way, generous, kind, committed individuals.” Connie continues to work part-time as Major Gifts Director meeting and building relationships with donors. Kudos also go to Assistant Director of Development F. Lisa Bloch, who has been certified by CFRE International as a Certified Fund Raising

Executive (CFRE). Lisa joins over 5,300 professionals around the world who hold the CFRE designation, including Connie Sanderson and Kim Fine, Director of Development and Public Relations.

Ms. Carmen Sanderson’s math class participated in a fun collaborative project with Kurn Hattin’s new art teacher, Ms. Michelle Banning. Ms. Carmen is teaching her students about proportion, size, and scale. To help them understand how this works beyond calculations on paper, she had them build models. First, the students took a mini-sized cereal box and measured it in three dimensions. Then they drew a grid on the box. Once they measured each individual grid square on the box, they used their math skills to increase its scale five times (a 1:5 ratio). They figured out their measurements for a larger box, cut out those pieces from cardboard, taped and paper machéd them together, and painted them white. The students then used their grids on the small box to copy the design onto the larger box to scale. Then they painted the boxes. Ms. Carmen says that the hands-on process helps develop the students’ planning and problem-solving skills, as well as teaching them practical math.



Photo credit: Boston Red Sox/Brita Meng Outzen

An opportunity of a lifetime was presented to the Kurn Hattin Select Choir. They were chosen to perform The National Anthem live, on September 24, 2015, opening for the Boston Red Sox against the Tampa Bay Rays at Fenway Park in Boston, Massachusetts. They were invited by Red Sox Director of Entertainment, Dan Lyons, a Vermont Academy graduate, who fondly remembered past events socializing with Kurn Hattin children when he lived in Saxtons River as a student. The evening was a dream come true for the students. The Choir sang in front of 40,000 cheering fans, saw their image on the Fenway jumbotron, and later watched a video of their television performance. Music Director Lisa Bianconi was thrilled for the children, “It was a huge challenge for us to perform the Anthem a cappella without accompaniment so early in the school year without much time to practice. They did a great job.” After moving many in the audience to tears with their performance of *The Stars Spangled Banner*, the Choir settled in to relax, watch the game, and cheer with enthusiasm. “This is the best night ever!” shouted one of the boys.

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, Kurn Hattin Homes for Children hosted Jane Routt Power, the President General of the National Society of New England Women (NSNEW). The staff and children extended a warm welcome to Ms. Power who held a multi-colony meeting at the Mayo Memorial Center. Women representing the Green Mountains Colony (VT) including Kurn Hattin members Music Director Lisa Bianconi and retired Senior Development Officer Elaine Bowen; New Haven (CT), and Mt. Washington (NH) Colonies attended. The NSNEW has had a long, meaningful relationship with Kurn Hattin, providing contributions and other forms of support for over seventy years. President General Power traveled from Texas and was given a Texas-themed table centerpiece made by the children in honor of her visit. Later, she presented a gift to Kurn Hattin Homes to benefit the music program. The NSNEW women also enjoyed a concert by the Kurn Hattin Select Choir and concluded their day with a tour of the campus.







Every autumn, Kurn Hattin hosts an educational conference offering new opportunities for training and skills development for educators, human service professionals, and community partners from all over the eastern region. This year's topic was on "So Sexy So Soon? So Tough So Soon?" featuring speaker and author Dr. Diane E. Levin. Today's children are growing up in an environment saturated with images of violent and sexualized behavior in media and popular culture that they cannot fully understand. From a very young age, what they see influences how they think about being male and female; their bodies; what they want to be, do, and wear; and how they treat each other. For instance, girls may learn to judge themselves and other girls by how they look and what they can buy, not by what they can actually do. Boys learn to judge girls this way as

well. Boys may judge themselves and other boys by how strong, independent, and ready to fight they can be. These messages about sex and violence can have a de-humanizing effect, teaching children to treat themselves and others like objects. This can affect their ability to form caring and connected relationships as they grow older. According to Dr. Levin, this can also promote mean-spirited behavior, aggression, and precocious sexuality; and a host of problems at home, school, and in society. The presentation explored the strategies professionals can use for promoting children's healthy development and relationships in their work with children, families, and schools. Jean Edwards of Healthcare and Rehabilitative Services (HCRS) in Springfield, Vermont shared her approval at the timeliness of the subject and the quality of the annual conferences, "Kurn Hattin brings in national figures, and I always learn something new."

In a partnership with Vermont companies Whitney Blake Company in Rockingham and Integrated Solar in Brattleboro, Kurn Hattin Homes has developed an unused portion of property with an array of 648 energy-producing solar panels. Each panel produces 310 watts of energy. Andy Cay, President of Integrated Solar explained, "Kurn Hattin desired to save operating costs, limit the impact of future electricity price increases, and pursue renewable technologies." Whitney Blake's financial partnership helped make these desires a reality. The first phase of the project

will save Kurn Hattin \$144,000 over the course of 25 years—or \$5,760 per year. Katrina Wilson, Integrated Solar's Vice President of Operation and Sales, said the school will save \$25,000 a year in the second phase. On October 2, 2015, all parties met at the site for a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Accompanied by Whitney Blake Company's CEO Sheldon Scott and Kurn Hattin Homes' Executive Director Steve Harrison, Student Council Vice-President Jahnnay Mane and President Riley Daniels cut the ribbon launching the operational stage of the solar array project.



Retired teacher Mrs. Frank (Vivian) Prindl, has been a volunteer at Kurn Hattin Homes for over 20 years. Every autumn, she continues to travel from her home in Hudson Falls, New York to spend time and enjoy her birthday with the children. Educating children has always been Mrs. Prindl's longtime passion. She began teaching third grade at Sanford Street Elementary School in Glens Falls, New York in 1961 and retired 16 years later. For the next 25 years, she continued to volunteer there as a tutor four days a week during the warmer seasons. Mrs. Prindl's long-time relationship with Kurn Hattin began when she read an article in Vermont Life magazine written by the late, long-time friend to Kurn Hattin, Mary Fenn of Windsor, Vermont. Moved by the mission, and the stories of the children, she wrote a letter asking if she could help as a volunteer. The result was the beginning of an annual tradition whereby she would come to stay on campus for a month, concluding with a celebration on her Halloween birthday. In 2004, she received Yankee Magazine's Barn Raiser Award for her volunteerism. On her 100th birthday in 2011, she was recognized with a Kraft Family New England Patriots Community MVP Award. Because of her status as the most senior recipient that year, Quarterback Tom Brady personally presented her with the award. She laughs now about not knowing who he was at the time. As a seasoned traveler, she has many stories of her experiences as transportation evolved over the years. She also says that the children and staff at Kurn Hattin are the kindest people she met in her century's worth of travels. This year, at her 104<sup>th</sup> birthday party, the children sang her songs, gave her handmade cards, and wrapped her in hug after hug. When asked about her secret to a long life, she attributed her longevity to taking long walks and keeping hydrated. Reflecting with a smile, she shook her head, "I never thought that I would see the year 2000, because it had seemed so far away."



It was another festive holiday season filled with the spirit of giving. Tim Mollica, of Christmas Trees of Vermont, and his family donated eleven trees, hand-picked by the children. The children and staff put on their holiday sparkles and finery for the very special Annual Night of Giving dinner. On the evening of the dinner, representatives from each cottage presented their chosen community service project, explaining why it was selected and how it made a difference.

Among several projects chosen by the nine cottages were raising money for the Dana-Farber Institute in memory of the school's late Principal Tom Fahner; the gift of time: visiting, singing, and socializing with local nursing home residents; and food drives for Our Place, the local food shelf. Later that week, all of the Kurn Hattin staff and children spread good cheer by caroling throughout Bellows Falls, Vermont and Walpole, New Hampshire. A longtime tradition, our younger children also joined the Vermont Academy students at their Annual Christmas Dinner. The Chester Rotary Club coordinated the visit of Santa, Mrs. Claus, Mr. Grinch, and an entourage of elves who went from cottage to cottage with a giant sack of presents. Squeals of glee from the children accompanied the tearing of paper and hugging of Santa and Mrs. Claus. There was a full house at the annual Christmas Visitors Day. The children also had their own cottage Christmas parties with frosted cookies, eggnog, and singing. A holiday bazaar, with items generously donated by friends, staff, and parents, followed by a special holiday concert for the families, was held before the school break. Thank you to all who contributed to making spirits bright this holiday season.

# Emerging Voices

FEATURING THE CREATIVE GIFTS OF  
OUR STUDENTS PAST AND PRESENT

## Playtime in The Snow

When the snow lies all around  
It makes a white blanket over the ground,  
It sparkles and shines in the winter sun  
And out come the children one by one;  
They roll it, and throw it, and have lots of fun  
While Mother and Daddy have work to be done,  
When it gets dark they come in and eat  
Then they're tucked in bed to go to sleep

~ Carl Williams, Grade IV,  
Class of 1952

I am thankful for Kurn Hattin because of three reasons. The first reason is that it gives me a chance to express who I am. The second reason why I am thankful is because I can go on trips to many different places or states. The last reason why I am thankful for Kurn Hattin is that Kurn Hattin is helping me get on the right path in life. These are the three reasons why I am thankful for Kurn Hattin.

~James White, Class of 2016



Success. It doesn't come easy. Like the first time you shoot a basketball, you're not going to be an all-star. Just like life. You're not just going to walk, talk, and work. You're going to have to learn how to crawl, and then walk. I know success doesn't come that easily. I've messed up a little in life already, but I still have time to fix the mistakes.

~ Davion Nieves, Class of 2015



## WHY THE Savings Bank of Walpole SUPPORTS KURN HATTIN

The Savings Bank of Walpole (SBW) has supported Kurn Hattin Homes for many years. Like most business donors, we gladly wrote a check for the amount requested and supported whatever initiative or event Kurn Hattin pointed us to. The reason for our ongoing support is simple. Kurn Hattin is a vital community organization that does important work and lines up perfectly with our dual philanthropic priorities of youth and education. We believe that all of our children deserve the chance to excel in a healthy, safe and caring environment. Kurn Hattin does a great job in providing these essentials to a population that otherwise lacks these things through no fault of their own. We are proud to be their neighbors.

In 2015, SBW supported the new Adopt-a-Cottage program. On the surface this appeared to be another worthwhile initiative by Kurn Hattin, which it clearly is. We are thrilled that the Adopt-a-Cottage program has proven to be much more and has provided a critical and mutually gratifying link between SBW and Kurn Hattin that has legs—it will endure.

The connection started with a fall barbeque hosted by Kurn Hattin for its cottage sponsors. This provided an opportunity to meet Kurn Hattin staff, spend time on the beautiful campus, and most importantly, meet a few of "our guys." SBW is the proud sponsor of the Parent Cottage, which houses up to 10 first-fourth grade boys. I had the opportunity to spend time with three of our boys and Miss Gigi, a wonderful (and very brave in my opinion) houseparent. On a tour of the cottage, I was able to see the bright blue bedding and towels that were purchased with our supporting gift. It was also striking how clear it was that these boys viewed the Parent Cottage as home—a safe, structured and nurturing place. It was wonderful to see who we were supporting and what our gift meant to them.

It would be easy for the story to end there while we waited for our next gift request, but we at SBW couldn't let that happen. We know there is more we can do for our guys and that the holidays would be a great time to do so. I worked with the Kurn Hattin staff to understand how we could help our boys. Our Walpole branch staff stepped up and contributed nearly \$500 which was then matched by SBW. It was revealing that when we gathered around the Christmas tree to take a picture for our boys, everyone in the branch had a connection to Kurn Hattin on some level. Some sang there, some played sports there, many watched their children play sports there and a few staff had friends that had attended Kurn Hattin. Everyone in our Walpole, New Hampshire branch felt a connection to our neighbors at Kurn Hattin, and I would bet that most businesses in the community would find the same to be true for them.

We were thrilled to give the boys a new Wii system, a box full of games and accessories, board games and many other toys. A number of staff personally delivered the gifts and spent time with the boys as they opened their gifts and showed us the most sincere appreciation possible (including a song). All of us left the cottage buzzing. It was clearly one of those situations where it is the donor who has more thanks to give than the recipient. What a special launch to the holiday season.

This is the end to this testimonial, but the beginning of a more significant, more connected relationship between the Savings Bank of Walpole and Kurn Hattin Homes. We have the utmost respect for everyone at Kurn Hattin and a deep appreciation for all that they do for our children.

The Savings Bank of Walpole is proud to be an active supporter of the Adopt-a-Cottage program and encourages other area businesses to get involved and see all of the mutual benefits a deeper relationship with Kurn Hattin Homes can offer.

~ Mark Bodin, Senior Vice President and CFO  
Savings Bank of Walpole, Walpole, New Hampshire



# Your Generosity SPEAKS VOLUMES

It is mid-December as I write this, and the Kurn Hattin campus is aglow with holiday cheer and decorations. The children are excited as they wrap up their school semester, and we are all very thankful. This year, we participated in an international social media fundraising challenge known as Giving Tuesday on December 1, 2015. With the help of a matching grant, this raised new donations for our music program. And thanks to you, we are quickly approaching our holiday appeal goal.

Over the course of our long history, Kurn Hattin Homes has received tremendous support from you, our donors, who give to daily operations, programs and special projects, and the endowment – all of which are crucial. Your generosity speaks volumes as to your belief in our mission and helps provide everything from fuel and clothing for keeping warm to text books and field trips for learning.

I extend my utmost gratitude for your loyalty, and for your validation of the work we do to ensure the success of children and their families.

~ Kim Fine

Director of Development & Public Relations



## SPECIAL Recognition

Special recognition to the clubs and civic organizations who made donations between September 1, 2015 and January 20, 2016:

Alpha Chapter #53 O.E.S.,  
Bellows Falls, VT

American Legion Auxiliary #7,  
Hardwick, VT

American Legion Auxiliary Unit #15,  
Wilmington, VT

American Legion Auxiliary Unit #37,  
Bellows Falls, VT

Bellows Falls Woman's Club,  
Bellows Falls, VT

Carl M. Dessaint VFW Post #1034,  
North Brattleboro, VT

Deacon John Tenney Colony  
NSNEW #160, TX

First United Methodist Church  
Circle 1, Pownal, VT

First Congregational Church Women's  
Fellowship, Westminster, VT

Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #2445,  
Brattleboro, VT

Halestown Grange No. 287,  
Weare, NH

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church,  
Williston, VT

Keene Senior Center, Keene, NH

Kiwanis Club of Claremont,  
Claremont, NH

Ladies Society of the United Church of  
Winchester, Winchester, NH

The Loose-Knit Group, West Dover  
Congregational Church,  
West Dover, VT

Loyal Order of Moose, Springfield  
Lodge No. 679, Springfield, VT

Marine Corps League, Merritt Edson  
Detachment #379, Rutland, VT

Modern Woodmen of America  
#10244, Wells, VT

National Society of  
New England Women

Nature Club of Saxtons River,  
Putney, VT

Newbury Women's Fellowship,  
Newbury, VT

North Orange Grange #86,  
Orange, MA

Poultney United Methodist Church of  
Women, Poultney, VT

Prosper Homemakers Club,  
Woodstock, VT

Rotary Club of Bellows Falls,  
Bellows Falls, VT

St. Charles Parish, Bellows Falls, VT

St. Mark Church, Burlington, VT

Saxtons River Lodge #33 I.O.O.F.,  
North Walpole, NH

Sunshine Club at CED,  
Charlestown, NH

Two Rivers Colony NSNEW #33, IA

Vermont State Society DAR Cameo  
Club, Manchester Center, VT

Vernon Seniors, Brattleboro, VT

The Virginia Company Colony  
NSNEW #143, VA

Volunteer Colony NSNEW, TN

West Newbury Women's Fellowship,  
West Newbury, VT

Women's Fellowship of Christ's  
Church, West Lebanon Congregation-  
al Church, West Lebanon, NH

Women's Fellowship of Christ's  
Church, Saxtons River, VT

Women's Fellowship of the United  
Church, Bellows Falls, 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 September 1, 2015 and January 20, 2016:

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Westminster, VT

ALL SEASONS CONSTRUCTION  
CORPORATION,  
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WOODWARD PHOTOGRAPHY,  
Guilford, VT

## 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 September 1, 2015 and January 20, 2016.

**IN MEMORY OF JEANNINE ABARE**  
William & Marlene O'Connor

**IN MEMORY OF RAYMOND ALVAREZ**  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Piro

**IN MEMORY OF BRIAN ATHERTON,  
CLASS OF 1946**  
Ms. Frances Ellen Sample

**IN MEMORY OF COL. (RET)  
& MRS. WILLIAM B. AVERY**  
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Ms. Leslie Woodruff

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Ms. Lucy K. Baldwin

**IN MEMORY OF JOHN E. BARSCHDORF &  
IRENE BARSCHDORF JOLY**

Mr. & Mrs. James Barschdorf

**IN MEMORY OF DAVID BATES,  
CLASS OF 1941**

Seaside Country Store Incorporated,  
Amy M. Cordeaux Vickers

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WILLIAM E. BERRY**

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G. BODINE & THE BODINE FAMILY**

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Ms. Ila Mitchell

Mr. Bruce Potter

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**IN MEMORY OF MY PARENTS,  
RICHARD & MILDRED CANNON**  
Ms. Janice L. Cannon

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GEORGE LANDALE EDSON**  
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**IN MEMORY OF NELSON FARR**  
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**IN MEMORY OF MY DAD, FRAN FENN**  
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WENTWORTH HUBBARD**  
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William & Elaine Bisbee

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*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.*

**IN HONOR OF  
JERRY '73 & LINDA BARDWELL**

Mr. Ned W. Very

**IN HONOR OF OUR PARENTS, LUKE & DI-  
ANE BAZIN AT CHRISTMAS TIME**

Tammy Tefft & Trish Rowell

**IN HONOR OF MS. MARY JANE BUSH**

Mr. Donald Inglis

**IN HONOR OF PRISCILLA CARPENTER**

Melissa Gill

**IN HONOR OF PRISCILLA CARPENTER  
AT CHRISTMAS TIME**

Mr. & Mrs. H. Alan Carpenter

**IN HONOR OF PRISCILLA CARPENTER'S  
93RD BIRTHDAY**

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Carpenter

**IN HONOR OF NITA CHOUKAS**

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**IN HONOR ALMON FLAGG**

Mr. Kenneth Flagg

**IN HONOR OF THE GOOD FAMILY**

Mr. Donald Inglis

**IN HONOR OF CHRISTOPHER HACKETT  
FOR VOLUNTEERING HOURS AT  
KURN HATTIN**

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Mr. Edward M. Gartner

**IN HONOR OF NOAH NOYES DURING HIS  
FIRST YEAR AS SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AT  
KURN HATTIN HOMES FOR CHILDREN**

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**IN HONOR OF MRS. VIVIAN PRINDL**

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Connie Moser

**IN HONOR OF ALL THE STAFF & TEACHERS  
FOR A JOB WELL DONE**

Ms. Donna Fecto

**IN HONOR OF THE TAZELAAR FAMILY**

Mr. Donald Inglis

**IN HONOR OF THELMA VANDERZANDEN**

Ms. Althea Harlow

**IN HONOR OF THE RELATIONSHIP  
BETWEEN VERMONT ACADEMY  
& KURN HATTIN STUDENTS**

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**IN HONOR OF ROLAND & SANDRA WARD  
IN LIEU OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

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**IN HONOR OF TOM & DEBBIE YAGER**

Jim & Cloie Bridgeo

**IN HONOR OF SANDI YANDOW**

Gina Milkey

# Kurn Hattin Homes

## FOR CHILDREN

*Founded and incorporated in 1894*

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*\*Alumnus/alumna*



Kurn Hattin Homes for Children has been awarded the top-level 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, the largest independent charity evaluator in the U.S. The rating is the highest rank an organization can receive in recognition of sound fiscal management practices and a commitment to accountability and transparency. Only a quarter of the highest-performing charities listed by Charity Navigator hold the four-out-of-four star distinction.

## MISSION STATEMENT

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