

Coventry Board of Education

Donna Bernard, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Phone: 742-7317

PRESS RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

Date: June 16, 2008

Killingly Historical Society is one of several locations around northeast Connecticut to receive painted wood panels depicting the history of the "Last Green Valley." "Portals to Our Past" is the traveling display that has been created by students and teachers from Windham Middle School and Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School in Coventry. Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School teachers Scott Rhoades and Dr. Al Scopino work with students on this project. The schools have been working on the project since September 2006. Approximately seventy-five students between the two schools have collaborated on the project that focuses on various points of the region including recreational activities and famous people. When the project is complete, a total of nine panels will have been created on doors donated by Willard's in Willimantic. The teachers have also been working with history students to create brochures that will accompany the panels. The purpose of the brochures is to give more in depth information regarding each panel and what it represents.

The brochures have been funded by the Last Green Valley organization, and the panels were on display at its annual meeting in May. The project has been a collaborative effort between the art departments and history departments for both schools. The project has given the students involved the opportunity not only to learn more about the region they live in, but also to meet students from the other school. The schools came together for two field trips, one which students interacted with each other and learned more about the "Last Green Valley."

The panel from last year will be at the Nathan Hale Homestead in Coventry for viewing within the next couple of weeks.