

“There are three constants in life... change, choice and principles.”

- Stephen Covey

**W**elcome to the first edition of *West Side Stories: Amusing News from NeighborWorks of Western Vermont!*

We are excited about our new newsletter; and hope you like reading it as much as we like writing it! Enjoy our Quote of the Week, silly stories, serious accomplishments, and upcoming events. If you have any questions, comments, or requests feel free to email me at [mpowers@nwwvt.org](mailto:mpowers@nwwvt.org) Everything will be considered! Look for *West Side Stories* in your inbox.

### **NeighborWorks Week**

NWWVT celebrated national NeighborWorks Week June 7 –14.

The most exciting event of the week was our grand finale on June 14. We break ground at our newest affordable housing development, called October Hill, located in Tinmouth.

Along with the groundbreaking, we had a Pick-Up-Sticks party at the construction site to clear the land (and collect firewood).

After, we went to the Tinmouth Community Center for a BBQ, Ben & Jerry's, and awards ceremony. Awards were presented to Chip Wright for his generosity, Bob and Sue Lloyd of the Tinmouth Land Trust were named Volunteer of the Year, and Randy Jenkins was present with the Silver Hammer.



*Young Mr. Esslinger helping at the October Hill site. His family is buying one of the homes.*

### **Home Buyer Education**

#### **July 10**

Middlebury  
@ CCV  
9am-4pm

#### **July 15 & 16**

West Rutland  
@ NWWVT  
10am-6pm

#### **July 18**

Bennington  
@ CCV  
9am-5pm

Call 438-2303 x 227 to Register

### **NeighborWorks Success Story:**

Randy and Mary Jenkins needed some financial assistance to purchase a fixer-upper in Rutland. The previous owner had gone into foreclosure, the house was left abandoned and in much need of repair.

“We came in and BOOM! We talked with Mary (Radja) and she got the ball rolling right away,” Mrs. Jenkins said excitedly.

The Jenkins took out a NWWVT loan to help with purchase costs and to help finance the drastic repairs needed.

“Ken Welch was wonderful to work with- he was our project manager,” said Mrs. Jenkins.

Mr. Jenkins is a builder by trade and able to do about 90% of the work himself.

“It was a really good experience, very smooth. We wouldn't have had the money otherwise. With the loan we are able to do what we wanted to do,” said Mr. Jenkins.

When asked what the best part is they replied proudly, “We are now homeowners!”

Randy and Mary received the Silver Hammer Award at the NWWVT annual meeting for their outstanding work.

Ready to experience homeownership? Know someone who is? NeighborWorks is here for you! (802) 438-2303

