



P R E S S R E L E A S E

September 11, 2006

HYSB FYI Workshops Build Collaboration between Children & Their Parents

Falls Village—The Housatonic Youth Service Bureau invites Northwest Corner residents to attend its fall series of free F.Y.I. (*For Your Information*) Workshops with Master Teaching Artist Joseph Jude Brien.

The first will be a Rustic Furniture Workshop, to be held on September 30, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the North Canaan Pavilion. Child-parent (or grandparent or close adult relative) pairs will build their own rustic three-legged stool of kiln-dried native white pine and aged hardwood sapling. Under Brien's direction the group will use old world methods to craft their own take-home furniture piece. No previous woodworking experience is required.

HYSB's highly regarded F.Y.I. series provides fun, interactive learning experiences for children and their parents to do together. Each workshop varies in terms of topics, times offered, location and length and has specific age requirements of the children, crossing different age groups. The instructors are all local and well trained for the workshop they are teaching. Brien's woodworking and orienteering workshops for girls and boys, ages 10 & up, teach historical life skills.

"These kids are learning what I'm starting to call 'lost arts,'" said Brien, a Falls Village craftsman and Rhode Island School of Design graduate, "because parents, in many cases, haven't learned them either. I try to make it really accessible and give them a chance to learn a skill or activity that they can do as a child and carry through to adulthood."

Other FYI programs this fall include a Spoon Carving Workshop on Oct. 21, from 1 to 4 p.m., at The Grove in Lakeville, and Orienteering on November 4 (November 11 rain date), starting at 12:30 p.m. from the power plant in Falls Village.

Admission and materials for all HYSB FYI series workshops are free, but space is limited and registration is required by calling 860-824-4720.

The community-based non-profit HYSB serves youth and their families in Canaan, Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, Salisbury and Sharon and is located in the Public Services Building next to the HVRHS in Falls Village.