

Radius

April 2010

Issue 56

A newsletter for Camphill Special School families

"Receive the children with reverence, educate them with love, send them forth in freedom" - Rudolf Steiner

Monthly Musings: Help Our Dream Become Reality

By Guy Alma, Director of Development



Akil, a Transition Program student

As a member of the Camphill Special School community for twenty years, I am both proud and grateful to announce that for the past two years we have been engaged in the most ambitious and critical capital campaign in our forty-seven year history. *Sharing Life and Learning: A Campaign for Camphill Special School's Transition Program* will fund a new student residence and an education and resource center at Beaver Farm, our satellite campus.

I am proud because our Transition Program at Beaver Farm fills an enormous need for the additional services that many eighteen to twenty-one year olds require to achieve meaningful adult placement. I am proud because our Transition Program, piloted just eight years ago, has a successful placement rate of 95%....this in a state where there is a list of over twenty thousand individuals with developmental disabilities awaiting adult residential services. I am proud because we have undertaken an immense

Continued on page 2

APRIL 2010

Fri. Apr. 2		Good Friday - Office and Maintenance closed
Fri. Apr. 2		Last day of school before Spring break
Sun. Apr. 4		Easter Sunday
Sun. Apr. 4		Residential students leave for Spring Break
Mon. Apr. 5- Fri. Apr. 16		Spring Break
Sat. Apr. 17- Sun. Apr. 18	10:00 am- 12:00 pm	Parent Workshop - <i>Harmonizing of the Senses</i> (See page 4 for more info)
Sun. Apr. 18		Residential students return
Mon. Apr. 19		Day students return - School resumes

As always, if you would like to participate in any event, please contact your child's houseparent or teacher.

Preview Note

Fri. May 7	6:30 pm	Tennis Ball
Sat. May 8	1:00 pm	ProAm Tennis Tournament
<i>See page 4 for more information</i>		
Sat. May 15	10:30 am- 12:30 pm	Open House May Fair



Monthly Musings: Help Our Dream Become Reality (continued from page 1)

project to expand our program (two 11,000 square foot buildings!) so that we might serve *all* our students who need it.

I am grateful because over the past two years of our campaign, many friends have responded to our call for help and overwhelmingly supported this historic undertaking. I am grateful because these friends already have committed \$2.5 million in support of our needs.

To complete our campaign successfully and raise two new buildings, however, we must raise a minimum of \$3 million.

I hope that you, as a parent or grandparent of a Camphill Special School student, also are proud of our aspiration to serve every student who needs us. Please examine carefully the campaign materials we have sent to your home and support this historic campaign to the best of your ability. I believe with all my heart that *together* we can make a difference in the lives of Camphill Special School students and their families for years to come.



Danny happily works at Beaver Farm

**For more information or to make a gift visit our Capital Campaign website:
www.camphillspecialschool.org/capital-campaign**



Welcome new student!

Two and a half year old Toni is new to Annika's kindergarten class. Toni lives in Elverson, PA with her parents Don and Renata and her older brother Eddie (also in our kindergarten).

Needed: Engineer/Water Pump Expert!

In Camphill Special School's beautiful flower and herb gardens there is something called a *flowform*... a water element that, when operational, attracts birds and lends an additional quality of tranquility to an already peaceful area of our campus.



Here is our problem: we can't keep the pump going to keep the flowform going!

Can you help? If you have some experience in operating a pump in a landscape pond or something similar, we would really appreciate your assistance. Please give Carol Goetz a call at 610.469.9236 x131. Thanks!

Classroom and Transition Program Happenings

K: Kindergarteners are celebrating spring. With joy they see all the spring flowers they planted in the fall coming up. Each child dyed eggs and planted an Easter garden.

First grade: First graders are having fun acting out the story of the Bremen Town Musicians. This language arts block has activities and games involving sound discrimination of letters. The students have finished making felted balls in handwork and moved on to a finger-knitting project.

While the children thoroughly enjoyed the snow, they look forward to more outdoor activities in the warm spring days!



Ben is in third grade

Third grade: In March, third graders were very busy! They tapped the maple trees by the swimming pool and collected the sap each day, making it into maple syrup. The children continued to tend their goats and brought them outside after the snow melted. Since they were learning about farming, they were given the chance to feed the pigs, collect and wash eggs, and milk the cow at Beaver Farm. They were very lucky to go to Seven Stars Farm in Kimberton to see the cows being milked and to make butter!

Fifth grade: Fifth graders had a math block and learned how to read and write really big numbers. They practiced throwing and catching while counting in ones, tens, hundreds, etc. and used these skills to count coins. Now their main lesson block is Greek Myths and they are hearing stories about Prometheus, Pandora, and Persephone as they appreciate the arrival of spring. In handwork the students are finishing their cross-stitch pin cushions.

Seventh grade: Seventh graders are examining Chinese inventions: kites, fireworks, spaghetti, and wheelbarrows, and also learning about silkworms. They heard about Marco Polo's journey and took a class trip to Chinatown in Philadelphia.



Seventh grader Emily

Eighth grade: Eighth graders' main lesson on the Civil War focuses on the stories of the Underground Railroad. The class made a trip to a local site that was a station on the Underground Railroad. Students are working on a mural about Harriet Tubman.

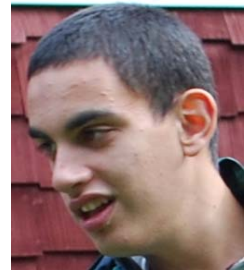
Ninth grade: Else is teaching the ninth graders about Art History. In order to relate to this subject they started with "the art of self-adornment." They made necklaces with objects from nature and now they are on a grand journey through the artifacts from ancient times. In handwork the class is learning to spin and felt. The class beautifully performed a piece of eurythmy in a recent assembly



Sophomore
Brendan

Tenth grade: After an exciting trip to Philadelphia to see the heart exhibit at the Franklin Institute, tenth graders are studying The Odyssey. Students heard about Odysseus' exciting journey home to Ithaca after winning the Trojan war and acted out some of his adventures. They presented a short play for the high school about some of Odysseus' adventures at the end of March.

Eleventh grade: The eleventh graders are studying the United States Government and its three branches. They wrote a classroom constitution and their congress was in session in early March to discuss a bill to be voted on. Everyone was excited to take a trip in mid-March to Washington, DC and visit the Capitol Building and White House.



Eleventh grader Max

Twelfth grade: Twelfth graders are studying color and light with Manfred and learning the difference between Newtonian and Goethean Color Circles.



Ezra is a Transition Program student

TTP: Transition Program staff and students have spent the last few weeks tearing down the old garage sheds between the barn and the Stone House to make way for the building of the new education center! It was quite an exciting project with everyone able to take part, either taking down or carting away the old boards to the fire. A different kind of spring cleaning!

Are you ready to JUMP and SWING at the ProAm?

Our Camphill ProAm is just a month away! Still wondering how *you* can make the event a success? Well, here are a few ideas...



- ◆ **Sponsor** the event or ask your employer to do so.
- ◆ **Advertise** in the program - a wonderful way for you to support the event and send a special message to your child or grandchild.
- ◆ Donate an **auction item** (We especially need stays at vacation homes - your beach or mountain house would be perfect! Here's another great idea - come up with a "theme" basket and ask your friends and family to donate one item; put them together and bingo! - you have yourself an awesome auction item.)
- ◆ Buy **raffle tickets** for your chance to go on a fabulous seven night **ALASKAN CRUISE** (airfare included). Tickets are \$50 each or three for \$100.
- ◆ Make a **dessert or provide sandwich buns** for the ProAm Tennis Tournament. We are having a pig roast, so be sure to bring the whole family to enjoy food, friends, fun, and most importantly, high-energy tennis action and talented tennis players (including our own **Andreas Schuschke**).
- ◆ **Volunteer** at the Tennis Ball or ProAm Tennis Tournament - we need volunteers to assist with set-up both days and with the silent auction at the Tennis Ball; call Courtney for details on how you can help.

Most important - Attend the events and bring your friends and family! You

Camphill Special School
1784 Fairview Road
Glenmoore, PA 19343

Mission Statement

Camphill Special School's mission is to create wholeness for children and youth with developmental disabilities through education and therapy in extended family living.

Do you have material you would like to have appear in the Radius?

Deadline for submission of items to appear in the May issue of the *Radius* is April 17. All material should be submitted in electronic form, either by e-mail or on disk, to Courtney in the Office or at ccoffman@camphillspecialschool.org.

Thank you!

Please note that all material submitted is subject to editing and is included on a space available basis.

will have a great time dining, dancing, bidding, meeting other parents and friends of Camphill, and showing your support for the school. Plus, since it is the **KICK-OFF PARTY** for our **SHARING LIFE AND LEARNING CAMPAIGN**, it will be an extra special, unforgettable evening with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the expansion of our **TRANSITION PROGRAM AT BEAVER FARM**.

Don't forget - you can visit our website, www.camphillspecialschool.org to become a sponsor, purchase admissions to the Tennis Ball, or buy raffle tickets.

Questions? Contact Courtney at ccoffman@camphillspecialschool.org or 610.469.9236 x132.

Spring Parents Workshop

When: Saturday, April 17 beginning at 10:00 am
Ending on Sunday, April 18 at 12:00 pm
Where: Camphill Special School's Beaver Run Campus
Theme: *Harmonizing of the Senses*
RSVP to: Cass Beacham at 610.469.9236 or cbeacham@camphillspecialschool.org



A potluck lunch will be served on Saturday, April 17. If you plan on attending and are able to provide a dish, please contact Amy McHugh at 484.888.1023 or amymchugh@mac.com.