

# Messenger

## Summerfield | WALDORF SCHOOL AND FARM

October 22, 2015

Volume 28, Issue 2

### The High School Open House REDISCOVERING THE MEANING OF A SUMMERFIELD EDUCATION

By Leslie Loy, Class Nine & Ten Liaison

On Saturday, November 7, Summerfield High School will host its annual Open House. We often think of these events as being for the public, for those outside of the Summerfield community. However, our open house events also serve as a real opportunity for Summerfield families to peek into the classrooms, meet the high school faculty, and get a taste of what Waldorf education looks like at the high school level, where themes of freedom, accountability, responsibility, and risk-taking are pivotal.

The transition between the Lower School and the High School for Summerfield students is an opportunity to step onto a new educational path. In the Lower School, the students move as a class and work closely with their class teacher through a curriculum that builds and weaves together in a very conscious way. By contrast, the High School student is asked to meet and be met by each faculty member. Furthermore, High School students are expected



to manage their own time and education to a much greater extent. It's this difference that helps them learn how to work independently, to stretch themselves, to expand the expectations they have of themselves and their own capacities, their faculty, and their ability to maximize their educational opportunities. And, through these skills, they are better equipped to work well with others.

Developmentally, students' needs become markedly different at the High School level. They move through periods of understanding extremes and opposites, while on a quest for balance; they emerge with insight and the ability to synthesize. The faculty strives to be innovative and responsive to these ever-changing needs and interests, continually meeting and engaging with the young people who make this campus their educational home.

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#### Important Dates:

##### Sprites Night

Saturday, October 24, 5-7pm

##### High School Open House

Saturday, November 7, 10am-1pm

• campus tour • exhibits • sample lessons •  
• meet students, faculty, alumni •

open to students in 7th & 8th grades  
& to parents of all grades

#### EIGHTH GRADE MARKET!

NOW EXTENDED TO DEC. 17  
BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Every Thursday from 12:30-1:15pm at the lower pick-up area, the Eighth Grade will be selling homemade goods. Offerings change from week to week. All proceeds go towards fundraising for the end-of-year class trip. Come and support the Eighth Graders!

~ Kibby MacKinnon, Eighth Grade Teacher



*(Continued from Page One)*

The Open House is an opportunity to get a glimpse of how the education presented in the Lower School is expanded and deepened in grades 9-12. These experiences serve as important launchpads for our graduates—no matter what post-high school path they choose, whether college, a gap year program, a vocational path, or work.

Students entering our high school quickly discover that they are actively asked to support the community and its educational goals, and in this they experience immense freedom and responsibility. They now encounter teachers who are specialists in their fields, and they are challenged by rich and relevant content. The faculty serve as a group of dedicated, knowledgeable, humble, and diverse role models

who love what they do and who are, themselves, constantly learning. In this path of loving to learn, the High School seeks students—both from our own student body and from without—who are committed to developing their creative potential, are open-hearted and open-minded, and who bring a diversity of interest, abilities, and backgrounds to the student population.

The High School students enjoy a convivial lunch each day together with the faculty, and the hubbub of activity that can be seen outside is, in fact, a reflection of the atmosphere within the classroom: there is an abundance of ideas, work, and an enthusiasm for life and for learning. This manifests in the content of the courses and in the ways in which students meet their peers and their teachers. Learning here is an engaged, meaningful, and relevant

experience steeped in community.

While main lesson blocks are taught within each grade, Spanish, Music, electives and Open Week are mixed age — students get to bond across the years, weaving a web of social cohesion throughout the high school.

Parents of all grades are encouraged to attend but, for students, the event is focused towards those in seventh and eighth grade. Attending the Open House and experiencing sample lessons gives prospective students and their families a taste of the passion and vibrancy of the High School.

We invite you to join us on Saturday, November 7, from 10am-1pm, and to rediscover your love and appreciation for a Summerfield Waldorf education, in which a devotion for learning, supported by a strong, dedicated faculty body, is central to ensuring that our education is an education for life.



High School Open House

Saturday, November 7  
10 am to 1 pm

**Summerfield**  
WALDORF SCHOOL AND FARM



# The 2016 Summerfield Arts Wall Calendar!

By Adam MacKinnon, Editor

Last year, we published the school's first fine-arts wall calendar. It was received so enthusiastically, both within our own Summerfield community and by over 50 schools nationwide and internationally, that we have decided to produce another one this year!

The 15-month calendar covers January 2016–March 2017, and every grade from kindergarten through twelfth is represented by a featured monthly image, with additional artwork from no less than 85 Summerfield students highlighted through insets in the monthly grids and capsule pictures that illustrate introductory pages outlining the Waldorf art curriculum.

The artwork is all by students and comes from the 2014-15 school year. Teachers shortlisted recommended paintings and drawings from their classes, which were photographed and returned in time to go home in student portfolios. The quality of art in the school is so high that many fine works were not able to be included. It was a hard task to narrow down the choices, but we feel the final selection truly honors the outstanding creativity of our students of all ages.

The calendar goes to print this week and we expect to have copies back for sale by early November.

The calendar, selling at \$18, is a fundraiser for the school—with \$2 off for pre-orders received by October 31, and for orders of 10 or more they're just \$15 each.

Here is an excerpt from the introduction to the Calendar:

Waldorf schools emphasize the importance of teaching in an artistic way, not so much to educate children to become fine artists or musicians, but to feed the imagination, to deepen empathy, and to develop freedom in thinking. The practice of art awakens our intelligence to the full experience of being human.

Rudolf Steiner, founder of the Waldorf schools, suggested that teachers begin the first day of school by introducing children to their hands, saying "You have two hands... These are for working. You can do all kinds of things with them." He explained that this could form an introduction into their very first drawing lesson, a chance to demonstrate how skillful their hands can be.



THE CALENDAR IS IN FULL COLOR, PRINTED ON 30% POST-CONSUMER WASTE RECYCLED PAPER.

THE SIZE IS 12"x9" (OPENS TO 12"x18")

FOR JANUARY 2016-MARCH 2017, WITH EACH MONTH HAVING A TRADITIONAL MONTH GRID.



**WWW.SUMMERFIELDWS.ORG/2016WALLCALENDAR**

ON SALE FROM NOVEMBER ON FOR **\$18 EACH**

WITH A BULK DISCOUNT AVAILABLE OF \$15 PER CALENDAR FOR ORDERS OF 10 OR MORE

**ORDER ONLINE BY OCTOBER 31 FOR A PRE-ORDER PRICE OF \$16**

THE CALENDAR GOES TO PRINT THIS WEEK... PLEASE PRE-ORDER ONLINE TO HELP US GAUGE DEMAND!

# Holding a Picture of the "Higher Self"

*By Kate Hammond, Parent*

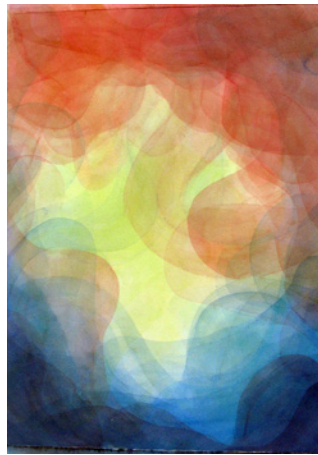
Having recently moved from another Waldorf school, my family and I joined Summerfield looking forward to being part of a new school and learning community, and the opportunities such a time offers. My particular question which I had carried over the sea with us was: As a school parent, how can I nurture and maintain positivity?

This morning I received a deep and insightful answer to my question! After a wonderful Parent Evening with our class teacher and a couple of other faculty, I realized that I, too, can work towards seeing the "higher self", the best possible potential self not only of my child, but also the teachers and faculty surrounding him.

At the Parent Evening we heard how the faculty had contemplated each child in the class (over days), asking themselves the following questions: Who is this individual? Who does he or she wish to be? What potential do I perceive? What words can I give to describe this individual's higher self? In this way, the faculty built a positive, vibrant and ideal picture of

each child and the whole class. We were invited as parents to also hold these pictures for the children.

As I crossed the threshold from night into day, I realized that as a parent I, too, can do this. Yes, for the children, but also, of course, for the teachers and faculty! Mary Caroline Richards describes the exercise that Steiner suggested: "As part of their class preparation, the teachers strive to meditate upon their children individually. At night they call up an inner picture of each child... concentrating on the child's higher being... they take this picture with them into sleep and again in the morning think afresh of the child." This meditative practice can help us build positive and supportive school communities. As Gandhi so aptly says "(we) must be the change that (we) wish to see in the world."



VEIL PAINTING BY ISAAC WALKER

## 8th Grade Wreath & Evergreens Sale

Starting Monday, October 26, and continuing through Friday, November 13, the Eighth Grade will be selling festive evergreen wreaths, swags and garlands for your holiday decorating needs. These make wonderful gifts for your family, friends, office and business associates, and they can be shipped to family and friends anywhere in the US!



The Eighth Grade wreath sale is a fundraiser for their end-of-year class trip. Look for their tables at both bus stops beginning Monday, November 2. Please call Lisa Hensley at 707-575-7194, ext. 103, if you have questions.

Order and shipping forms are available on our website: Please return these to an 8th grader, to the envelope outside each classroom or to the Main Office. Thank you so much for your support!

Evergreens Available this Year:

- 18" Mixed Green Wreath (with cones & red bow): \$25
- 24" Evergreen Swag (with cones and red bow): \$25
- Evergreen Garland (8 ft. minimum order): \$3.00 per ft.
- 18" Wreath sent via UPS as a gift: \$45-\$50 (incl. s/h)
- 24" Swag sent via UPS as a gift: \$45-\$50 (incl. s/h)

## Crafting Needed for Snowflake Shoppe!

Winter Faire's ever popular Snowflake Shoppe needs many natural, handmade goods for all the little shoppers! Join the crafting circle every Wednesday morning in the Music Room or bring in home-made items to school as they are finished. Questions: Lisa Hensley on 575-7194 x103 or [lisa@summerfieldwaldorf.org](mailto:lisa@summerfieldwaldorf.org)

## Grandparents' & Special Friends' Day

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 8:15AM-12:30PM**

Invitations will soon be mailed! Every year we invite grandparents and special friends of our community to our school to offer them our gratitude and a glimpse into the special world of Summerfield.

We look forward to giving this gift and sharing more about what makes our school so unique.

Invitations will be mailed at the end of this month. All grades will participate.

~Cyndi Yoxall, Development Director





# Thinking for Yourself

## EIGHTH GRADERS TAKE THEIR FIRST ESSAY TEST

By Kibby MacKinnon, Eighth Grade Teacher

On a recent Friday at Summerfield, the eighth graders were milling around anxiously before school, shouting things at each other like “Remember, each paragraph has to have a *topic sentence* and at least *two supporting sentences*!”

We had finished our first block on History and Revolutions the week before, and they were about to sit down and write their first-ever essay test, with no pre-test provided for them. The students have been



CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH  
BY ELLA MORGAN

working on essay writing with their Language Arts teacher Molly Sierra and with me for the past year, and I counseled them that if they crashed

and burned, then at least we’d know we needed more practice. Their big question was could they possibly read an essay topic for the first time, make an outline, and actually write an essay in one hour and twenty minutes?

The morning after the test, I sat down and began the lengthy process of reading and giving feedback on twenty-four five-paragraph essays. As I read through one, and then the next, I was filled with elation. Every one of the eighth graders had written an actual essay! Yes, some paragraphs still needed more supporting details, and others needed to dispense with interesting narrative or biographical information and cut to the chase. But several students who had little to say during class discussions were writing with a clarity and insight far beyond

what I had dreamed possible! I was reminded of the words of Jeffrey Westman, our Board President, in last year’s calendar introduction: “Perhaps you as a parent have had a moment, as I have, when your child brought home a piece that astounded you, that revealed something about him or her that you didn’t know.” Well, these essays revealed something that I was hoping for, but that I didn’t know until we tried it: our eighth graders are starting to think for themselves and most are able to produce a thoughtful five paragraph essay in eighty minutes!

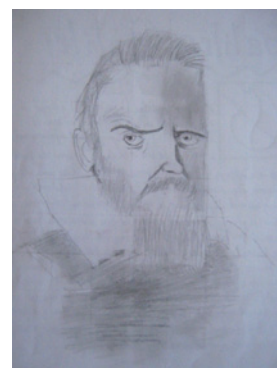
The essay question was: *How did people’s thinking change during the period of history 1470-1776? What ideas that were unacceptable became acceptable? What ideas that were acceptable became unacceptable?*

Here is eighth grader Gavin Sellors’ response:

In the period of time between 1470-1776, thinking changed dramatically. Many lost ideas about cosmology were reborn. People no longer unquestioningly followed the Catholic Church’s every whim. And many people found that their current governments would no longer do.

During this period, it became accepted that the Earth rotates around the Sun. Many of the Ancient Greeks had known this, but when the Catholic Church came to power, they adopted Ptolemy’s theory, which said that everything rotated around the Earth, so that is what was believed for hundreds of years. Near the beginning of this period, people

began to question this. Nicholas Copernicus was the first since ancient times to discover that the Earth did indeed



GALILEO GALILEI BY HUDSON YOXALL

rotate around the Sun. Although the Church gave many who supported Copernicus’ theory, such as Galileo, the choice between denouncing their support and torture, by the end of this period, the idea was widely accepted.

There were also changes in religious thinking during this time. Martin Luther was the first to take action against the Catholic Church’s corruption and make a church of his own. Martin Luther triggered a landslide of splits in Christianity; whenever one group of people in a church didn’t like that church’s ideas, they would make their own church.

During this time, people also began to take action against what they thought were injustices in their government, and put new ideas about rulership into action. England overthrew their king in what is known as the “Glorious Revolution,” and put a new king on the throne, as well as giving themselves a bill of rights. The British colonies in America became unhappy with British rule and started a revolution of their own. In their Declaration of Independence, the Americans stated that all men are created equal, and all people are entitled to the pursuit of happiness.

Thinking changed on many fronts during this period, on even more fronts that we have covered. But what all these changes had in common is that people learned to not blindly follow their leaders and to think for themselves.



MARTIN LUTHER BY NATHAN BERGER

# Golden October on Summerfield Farm

*By Farmer Dan*

Several years ago, while visiting a small village in Vermont in October, a local farmer offered me an overnight room in his tiny farmhouse since camping by his creek when the temperature dropped down into the lower teens seemed a bit chilly. The only caveat was that he had his entire winter squash harvest in his living and bedroom space to protect it from freezing, so a warm sleeping space on the floor near the wood stove was his only option for guests. I liked his priorities as I nestled in between neatly stacked piles and rows of butternut, delicata, sweet dumpling and pie pumpkins, and this ironically comes to mind as the temperature hovers near one hundred degrees now, as the students just finished harvesting the last of over 600 butternut squash and 437 carving pumpkins here on Summerfield Farm. We are looking forward to cooler fall weather soon in our farming and gardening classes!

Each week all of the kindergardeners visit the farm and, as part of their visit, enjoy freshly pressed cider, gather several dozen fresh eggs, and most recently have been plucking crates of marigold blossoms to dry for dying in the

handwork classes throughout the lower school. You may have noticed the many orange-shaded capes the children wore at the recent Michaelmas festival. They had dyed these in their play yard after the dried blossoms that they had picked earlier on the farm soaked overnight. Also, very popular are visits to the French Angora bunny sisters, Minerva and Ginger, who enjoy the young children's tenderness and love as they comb out the mats in the soft fur—saving the long, prized fibers for the handwork teachers. Typically the farm-time visits end with some play-time to climb and swing on the steadfast walnut tree that has welcomed generations of students into her sturdy branches, as well as a turn at the wheel of the faithful old 1930's tractor that our insightful founding farmer Perry Hart had the wisdom to park on the edge of the student gardens for little tractor enthusiasts.

After weeks of harvesting potatoes, onions, apples, winter squash, corn, pumpkins and doing whatever other farm chores needed doing, our hearty band of third grade farmers took a break last week to visit the nearby Bale Grist Mill. A steadfast group of dedicated parent drivers

ferried the children up over the hill towards Saint Helena where the miller greeted and regaled us with tales of times gone by when water provided the power source

for turning the pair of one-ton-each mill wheels made of quartzite shipped by boat and hauled overland by horses and oxen to their present site, back in the 1850's. We brought some of our own farm grown, hard red winter wheat for the children to thresh with a hand-held flail, then winnowed it in flat baskets with the students blowing together to get the chaff to fly off, leaving just the red-gold kernels, some for grinding for flour to bake bread and some to plant for yet another crop. We learned that times are still a'changing as now the mill only grinds organic, as well as gluten-free grains. The students were keen observers and asked so many questions that it was amazing everything the class as a whole was able to take in in such a short amount of time. Then after a hearty lunch and a four-mile round trip hike to an old settlers' cemetery where the old stones told tales of children who died at such early ages, we managed to make it back to school in time for regular dismissal and filled with lots of pioneer wisdom.

Now we are collectively turning our thoughts and skills towards pumpkin-carving as we pair up the high school classes with the lower school grades. It is always fun for us all to see what will appear in the pumpkin faces that will soon line the benches and light up the colorful pathways at Sprites Night. Pumpkin seeds tossed in tamari sauce and roasted in the farm's ovens with an added dash of salt also adds a zesty flavor to the event, as the students industriously work at bringing their creations alive to bring warmth and smiles to the face of our community.



PHOTOS BY MIGUEL SALMERÓN 2013





Festivals are an essential part of our Summerfield Waldorf community, as they stimulate and enrich the lives of our school families. On Pope Francis's recent visit he spoke eloquently about how essential the family has been to the building of our country and emphasized in his words: "I can only reiterate the beauty and importance of family life." The festivals celebrated in Waldorf communities can only deepen and foster a healthier family life. And, in the same

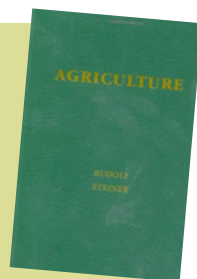
week, the winner of the Nobel Prize in Physics commented on teen education with the following words: "The most important thing teens can learn is how they can tell if what they are being told is true." Not unlike Steiner who highlighted the fundamentals of Waldorf education that emphasize the crucial, central ideas that our world is not only beautiful and good in so many of the most important ways, but also that what the teachers bring in high school has a deep and resounding truth behind it.

Finally, as the days grow shorter and the darkness of winter comes closer, an observation from Gabrielle Roth: "In many shamanic societies, if you came to a medicine person complaining of being disheartened, dispirited, or depressed, they would ask one of four questions: 'When did you stop dancing? When did you stop singing? When did you stop being enchanted by stories? When did you stop being comforted by the sweet territory of silence?'" Dancing, singing, storytelling, and silence.

Fall's bountiful blessings from Summerfield Farm,

*Farmer Dan*

## Biodynamic Study Group



Once the winter rains start, the farm guild will head inside to take up our yearly study. We will be reading *Agriculture*, by Rudolf Steiner (Malcolm Gardener translation, green book with gold lettering).

We will meet in the Handwork room from 9am to 10:15am on Thursdays. Our first meeting will be November 19. Please come having read the introduction and first lecture (*to page 26*).

*Sails*, the Summerfield store in the main office, will be ordering a few copies for availability by the beginning of November. The book can also be purchased through the bookstore at the Rudolph Steiner College or [steinerbooks.com](http://steinerbooks.com).

Please contact Farmer Dana with any questions at [dana@summerfieldwaldorf.org](mailto:dana@summerfieldwaldorf.org).

## WINTER FAIRE: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4 & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

Join us for Summerfield's annual Winter Faire!

As in Waldorf schools around the world, the celebration of seasonal festivals renews our awareness of the rhythms of the year and fosters the children's relationship to the world into which they grow. Just a week after many of the children have taken the solitary path to the light at the middle of the Advent Garden, Winter Faire is time for our community to gather and celebrate the holiday season.

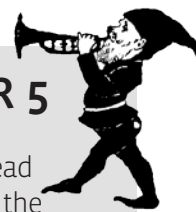
Adults are invited to join us on Friday for an evening of shopping with our fabulous array of vendors—mostly local, handmade goods, many from our own Summerfield community.

The whole family is invited on Saturday to enjoy the Summerfield campus in its full splendor of evergreens and twinkling lights while carolers sing beloved holiday music and hot drinks warm hands between crafting and shopping. Highlights include a visit by King and Queen Winter, puppet shows and storytelling, children's crafts

in the kindergarten village and grades, gingerbread and cookie-decorating, beeswax candle dipping, the Snowflake Gift Shoppe for the children, carolers and musicians. Circus Waldissima will perform with students showcasing their unique talents with motion, song and colorful costumes as they perform daring acrobatics, dance and trapeze arts.

The Winter Faire Committee is now forming with many generous parents and community members — many hands make light work! Anyone interested is invited to attend planning meetings every Wednesday until the event at 8:40am in the Music/Aftercare room.

Together we can make Winter Faire a special and memorable event for our children! If you want to help out but can't attend the meetings, look for the sign-up sheet on the door of the main office, closer to the event, for general volunteer jobs.



# My Experience at the Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue

*Apprenticeship week is a time for our Seniors to go into the workplace and follow alongside a person in the business world whose work is of interest to them—and what they take from the experience often acts as a springboard for their Senior Project. Here is Emmeline Jones' story of her time at the Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue.*

I have loved animals for as long as I can remember and have always done my best to help them. At the Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue, I got to apply everything I already knew as well as learn more about the different animals and how to care for them. Many of the species I knew quite a bit about, but there I got to see them in person and even handle many of them, which took my knowledge to a whole new level.

One of the species I didn't know much about was the Opossum. Often portrayed and despised as being nothing more than a huge, ill-tempered rat, I found their reputation to be deceiving. While I was working in the hospital section of the Rescue, we got a one-month-old orphaned possum in that had been found on the side of the road unharmed, but scared and hungry. I helped do the intake exam, checking all vital signs, and learned that the easiest way to tell male and female apart is that the females have a pouch for carrying young in, as they are marsupials.

Ours was a little boy, and it was amazing to hold him and have his tiny but strong little prehensile tail wrap around my hand and hang on, desperately seeking comfort. Since possums suckle from a specialized teat on their mothers, the little ones have to be tube-fed as opposed to regular bottle feeding when cared for by the

rescue, but thankfully as they mature very fast, they are weaned quickly as well.

The baby opossum was very soft and clean, and it was interesting to learn that possums are extremely hygienic animals, always washing their fur, feet, and only poop and pee in certain areas, never dirtying anything they don't need to. This was especially nice when cleaning their enclosures! While we bathed and warmed him up, I was saddened to learn that even though he is very healthy, he still may not survive, as he is all alone. Possums need each other when growing up and, for reasons unknown, often get sick and die if they do not have a friend, mother, or sibling. If another young opossum comes in, they will put them together, and if he makes it past weaning, there is a juvenile that could be his buddy. I sincerely hope he makes it, as I do all the animals I helped care for. The staff understand that feeling too, and if you bring a hurt animal to them, they will ask if you want them to call you with an update, and if you would like to be present for the patient's potential release back into the wild.

I personally enjoyed working in the hospital and the nursery the most, although I did everything from laundry to food-prep, each an interesting experience with lots to learn. In the hospital I got to see bandages changed, help get weights and give medications, as well as learn how each patient got here and what their prognosis was. It was so sad to see that they had two animals who had been hit by cars: a fox and a turkey vulture. The vulture had a broken wing, and Freya the fox a severely injured leg that required expensive surgery they had just



PHOTO BY FRED DUNN, FLICKR

recently got the donations for. Now both should make a full recovery and be released back into the wild. The Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue does everything in their power to give their patients the best chance possible of going home. Those that cannot be released are usually kept at the rescue as permanent residents or transferred to another sanctuary to educate people on their species.

I would highly recommend this apprenticeship opportunity to other seniors. The people at the rescue are so friendly, everything is highly organized, and there are not many other places you will get to have such a hands-on involvement in the management of a rescue and care of wild animals! They really trusted me to do tasks by myself, which I very much appreciated, and they always answered any questions I had, helping me with anything I didn't know how to do. All of the staff and volunteers have a very fun time when they're there, and that is very evident in the positive atmosphere this cozy little rescue has. But what is truly the most amazing is getting to experience the animals themselves and watch them grow and heal. I will remember and use everything I have learned from them and continue to volunteer and help animals in need. Even just the short time I was there during my apprenticeship I grew very fond of the patients and looked forward to seeing them everyday.



PHOTO BY CAMELIA TWU, FLICKR



One of these was a barn owl who had come in a month or two earlier with his wing completely wrapped in barbed wire. A Good Samaritan had cut loose the section he was in and brought him to the rescue, where they performed many operations to try and fix the butchered limb. Many a time they nearly gave up and euthanized him, doubting the poor owl would survive his horrendous wounds. But the owl clung stubbornly to life, and dedicated surgeons were finally able to repair his wing, though he still has a small part missing. Amazingly, his health started to improve, flesh healed, and feathers regrew, but it was still extremely unlikely he would ever be able to fly again. Plans were already in motion to find him a permanent home. One day, however, as if by a miracle, he spread his mismatched wings and began to fly. It was awkward and clumsy, but he was able to lift off and hover a little, giving everyone hope that he might be able to return to the wild. But first he would have to completely relearn how to fly.

I was present at one such flying exercise and, that day, he shocked us all as he was able to fly many laps to and from his perches in the large aviary, as well as maneuver in the air, a feat which until then he had been unable to do. The excitement of his handler was contagious, and I felt honored to have witnessed such a significant moment. When I asked if he would now be able to return to the wild, she said it was probably a yes! Watching that owl fly, a once hopeless case who will now return to freedom, I completely understood how the dedicated individuals at the rescue can do what they do. Even though the stench can be unimaginable, the workload often strenuous, and the heartache hard to bear, patients like that owl prove it is all worth it. Knowing that these living creatures would have died without them, and being a part of healing and setting them free, brings meaning to their work. It is the ultimate reward.

## Supporting the Art of Education

By Cyndi Yoxall,  
Development Director

By now you should have all received our Annual Giving Campaign (AGC) brochure in the mail. As most of you know, AGC is an important piece of our history and has become a beautiful part of Summerfield's culture. Over the past four years we have achieved 100% participation by all families, faculty and staff, and raised over \$200,000 each year (\$259k last year).

The support of our community is a crucial part of sustaining the future, health and stability of Summerfield—*all of our support is critical.*

Following the legacy of George Triest, former volunteer AGC chairperson for many years, Suzi Redlich stepped up for two years to guide our outstanding team of class reps. She did an amazing job, and we appreciate her important contribution as a volunteer and long-time AGC supporter. This year we are pleased to welcome our new AGC Chair, Jennifer McKenzie, who will be stepping into the role to work with Development to lead the campaign. Jennifer has been an AGC Class Rep for some time now. Speaking from the heart and personal experience, Jennifer is open and honest about what it means to give and how it feels to need assistance during a difficult time. With her energy and enthusiasm, she is passionate about the reasons and importance of giving. We feel blessed to have Jennifer on board!

Over the past few years, we have distributed over \$700,000 per year in financial and emergency assistance to our families from our general fund. This enables us to maintain a diverse population, as well as keep current families here when possible. AGC also contributes to all areas of operating the school, including salaries, grounds, buildings, maintenance, programs, and the farm. Tuition does not currently cover all of our costs to run the school.

This year our **goal is to raise \$250,000** in Annual Giving tax-deductible donations. We can all do our part by contributing to this goal by December 15th. For those classes who achieve 100% participation by the deadline, \$500 is awarded to their class fund. Don't forget, you can also make a pledge to be paid by May 30, 2016.

*Thank you to the following Annual Giving Class Representatives: Kindli Carothers, Chelle McDonell, Kristin McClung, Scotty Brown, Eric Iskin, Molly Jones, Vipassana Esbjorn-Hargens, Jennifer McKenzie, George Martinelli, Addie Mullinex and Glenn Berger, Dan Young, Elsa Clyde Garcia, Chantel Garayalde, Suzi Redlich, Liz Evans.*



## eScrip PROGRAM



We are asking your help in raising \$40,000 per year to support our upcoming building projects (ArtTech, Culinary Arts, Fieldhouse). eScrip is one easy way to participate!

Teachers, friends and families are encouraged to register their grocery club cards (e.g., Oliver's Market), and existing credit / debit cards as supporters. A percentage of all purchases made at eScrip merchants will be given back to our school!

### SEE WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED IN ONE YEAR

Novato High School	\$24,998
Roy O Anderson PTA	\$24,942
St. Francis High School	\$24,838
St. Thomas the Apostle	\$23,360

It's easy:

- Log onto [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) to sign up
- Enter Summerfield Waldorf School and Farm
- Register the debit and credit cards you normally shop with
- Shop online at over 800 eScrip merchants, and a percentage of all purchases will be donated to SWSF!

It's that easy. Your family shops, our school earns dollars!

~Caryn Shapiro Stone, Development Associate

## SUMMERFIELD BIKE TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Keep riding! Our BiketoSchool program is in full force for the 4th year. Help eliminate cars on the road and in the lots, reduce emissions, and empower students to use bikes for transportation.

It's simple, all you need to do is track your rides to school. One of our donors will give \$1 per rider per day through the whole year to our Annual Giving Fund—and, one way trips count!

What a fun way to make a difference and earn money for Summerfield. Wallet-size ride cards are available in the Main Office to keep track of rides. Exclusive BiketoSchool t-shirts can be earned by riding all year!

~Cyndi Yoxall and Caryn Shapiro Stone, the Development Office





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Vipassana Esbjörn-Hargens Ph.D. | Psychologist | PSY#20879



SONOMA COUNTY REAL ESTATE AGENT

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UNDERSTANDS THAT  
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Acupuncture, Herbal Medicine, Yoga

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76 DOCTORS PARK DRIVE, SANTA ROSA ~ 542-7800  
BY APPOINTMENT: MONDAY – THURSDAY, 8AM – 1PM, 2PM – 5PM

### ADVERTISE IN THE MESSENGER

Summerfield's Messenger newsletter is published once a month during the school year, and has a distribution list of 1,000 people! If you are interested in advertising in the Messenger, please visit our website at [www.summerfieldwaldorf.org](http://www.summerfieldwaldorf.org), or email [messenger@summerfieldwaldorf.org](mailto:messenger@summerfieldwaldorf.org) for more information.



# The Messenger Marketplace

Summerfield Waldorf School and Farm is not affiliated with, and does not endorse, any of the individual initiatives or services advertised in this classified section. Advertisements are screened for appropriateness and made available to community members to use at their own discretion.

## Services

### *Mom Tells the Truth about What It's Really Like Driving Daughters Back And Forth To School*

Hi I'm Gina Martinelli, Gianna and Grace's mom and because we live only 12 minutes from school making daily trips back-and-forth is really quite enjoyable. Because I am a 27 year veteran of real estate I thought you might like to see a current list of wonderful homes for sale within 12 minutes of school. I compiled this great list of homes for you with addresses and complete property descriptions so you can drive by and look at the outside of homes and then imagine what it would be like to live within 12 minutes of school. Text 707-888-9999 or email me, GinaM@myco.com, and I will get you the list right away. Gina Martinelli, Broker, MYCO Realty Services Inc. www.myco.com. BRE License #01007201.

### *Nourishing Meals for Busy Families*

Custom family meals hand delivered to your home. All meals and kitchen staples are created using organic local ingredients and immune supporting herbs to keep the whole family vibrant! For more info on monthly packages, email sarahkate@thegreatkosmickitchen.com.

### *Singing and Piano Instruction*

I am an experienced teacher, a Summerfield Waldorf founding parent and original creator of the school's instrument music program. My studio is located in Santa Rosa. Please visit my website marybeardmusicstudio.com. Contact me at marymezzo@sonic.net or 707-546-8782.

### *Now Accepting New Clients in Sebastopol!*

Allie A. McCann, MFT, ATR-BC, Phone: (707) 219-8484, email: mccannmft@gmail.com. Allie is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and Art Therapist. She is a Waldorf-inspired mother of two and is sympathetic and supportive of Waldorf-inspired values and lifestyle choices. She supports children, adolescents, parents and adults, specializing in anxiety, mood, behavioral and relational issues, life transitions, and grief and loss. Allie has a holistic view of health, tending to mind, body, and spirit. She incorporates both art and a connection with the natural world into her healing practices.

## For Sale/Rent/Needed

### *House Sale*

Adorable 2 bedroom, 1 bath house in Sebastopol for sale. It has a walk-in basement unit that was recently remodeled that rents for \$1,000 a month. Great income potential! If interested please call Leslie at 322-2385. Price is \$679,000.



Parenting requires enormous effort  
Rejuvenate your mind and body  
Osmosis Day Spa Sanctuary

## Rick Concoff Violins

Quality string instruments for rent or sale at below-market best prices. Rent to own as well. Accessories available too! Call Rick at 823-3916.

## Classes/Camps



**Circle of Hands Classes:** 6780 McKinley St. #120, Sebastopol, in the Barlow • 707-634-6140 •  
• circleofhands@sonic.net •  
• www.circleofhandswaldorfshop.com •

PLEASE VOTE FOR CIRCLE OF HANDS AS BEST TOY STORE AND/OR BEST BABY GIFT STORE OF THE NORTH BAY (SONOMA & NAPA) 2015 IN THE BOHEMIAN!

Circle of Hands proudly offers handmade dolls and wooden toys, creative games, Waldorf art/craft supplies and workshops, natural gift accessories and clothing, and classic children's and parenting books.

### *Sewing Classes for Kids Ages 7 and Up*

Offered by Bowl & Spoon STITCHCRAFTS. Private instruction, weekly group classes and workshops. Call about our Back-to-School Specials! Located in Sebastopol, CA. www.bowlspooncrafts.com, bowlspooncrafts@gmail.com. 707.889.6888.



**Sophia's Sunday Circle**  
*A Spiritual gathering for families and individuals*  
Monthly from 10 a.m. to 11:30a.m.

*"The greatest thing in the world is to come to know God as Love."*

Embracing a compassionate, creative, and inclusive Spirituality

**Sophia's Sanctuary**  
2836 Bloomfield Road, Sebastopol  
sophiassanctuary.org  
707-827-3536/ Donations Only  
Led by Linda Delman and Sophia community members



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THE SACRED HEBREW CALENDAR, AND THE CYCLES OF OUR LIVES

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*A unique Jewish experience through exploration,  
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**DATES AND TIMES**  
Choose one:  
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All classes taught by  
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For details visit [ZMANIM-Seasons.org](http://ZMANIM-Seasons.org)

**Summerfield** | WALDORF SCHOOL AND FARM

*Messenger*

655 Willowside Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Visit us online at  
[www.summerfieldwaldorf.org](http://www.summerfieldwaldorf.org)



## Grandparents' and Special Friends' DAY

Wednesday, November 25, 2015

from 8:15 am - 12:30 pm

**Summerfield**  
WALDORF SCHOOL AND FARM