

Messenger

Summerfield | WALDORF SCHOOL AND FARM

September 20, 2012

Volume 25, Issue 1

Welcome Back from the Board of Directors

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Summerfield Waldorf School and Farm, welcome back to school and Summerfield's 38th year. I thought you might like to know about some recent developments as well as some of the issues the Board will be focusing on in the 2012-2013 school year.

In the past few years we have made some significant changes in campus infrastructure, and while doing so we have managed to weather a sluggish economy, stay within budget, and even operate with a slight surplus. With the farmhouse renovation completed, and the new driveway and upper drop-off area, front gate, and paving around the lower drop off area also completed, you won't soon see such highly visible but deeply

needed capital projects. Instead, this year we will be focused more on financial fine-tuning.

Tuition continues to be the principal component funding school operations. Enrollment remains stable at current school capacity, and tuition revenue therefore remains high. To ensure positive margins and our ability to again meet the school's goals in providing Tuition Assistance, we will also scrutinize our expenses. We are happy to report that while the Summerfield community has been affected by the sluggishness of the general economy, we have nonetheless managed to keep the economically diverse composition of our student body generally intact, and such

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Noah Lee (SWSF Class of 2012) Named All-Empire Athlete of the Year



Summerfield Waldorf's Noah Lee earned a No. 2 seed at the NCS Championships. (Photo by CRISTA JEREMIASON / The Press Democrat)

Congratulations to Noah for being named by the *Santa Rosa Press Democrat* as the 2012 All-Empire Athlete of the Year!

Noah, who graduated this year and now attends Whitman College in Washington, was highlighted in *The Press Democrat* in August.

The article may be accessed on *The Press Democrat's* PDPreps website,

<http://www.pdpreps.com/news/article/36681/all-empire-boys-tennis-lee-a-summerfield-first/>

Important Dates:

Michaelmas Pageant:
Fri., 9/28, 4pm, on the back lawn

Walk Through the Grades: Wed., 10/17, 9am, Sophia Hall

Sprites' Night: Sat., 10/27, 5:30-8pm

High School Open House: Sat., 11/3, 10am-1pm, Sophia Hall

Welcome to the 2012-2013 School Year!

Welcome back to all our students, parents, teachers and staff. And a very warm welcome to all our new families! It has really been fun to see the many smiling and eager faces during the first few weeks of school and at the Back-to-School Tea.

We also welcome some first-time employees. Our new staff and faculty include: Cody Smout as the Seventh Grade Teacher, America Worden as Sixth through Tenth Grade

Counselor, Cyndi Albers as High School Orchestra Director, and Molly Sierra as Lower School Spanish Teacher. Already here, but taking on new or additional roles, are Tim Allen as our First Grade Teacher, Danielle Delario in our Middle School Spanish program, and Lisa Doyle as the Lower School Orchestra Director. Also joining us this year is Tom Van Gorden who

will assist Chef Mat in the School Kitchen.

Here's to a new school year filled with self-development and joyful cooperation as we serve the children and build community among ourselves and the broader Sonoma County population!

~Leslie Young, on behalf of the SWSF Staff & Faculty

Mr. Smout Teaches Seventh

This year we greatly welcome Mr. Cody Smout, who replaces Nikki Lloyd as the seventh grade teacher.

Cody comes from a family of teachers and always knew that he would be a teacher. His BS in Zoology from Southern Illinois University led to jobs related to zoology with the US Forest Service in remote Alaska and the Smithsonian Institute in Central America. His wife Charlotte is an ecologist and completed the Foundation Year of the Waldorf Teacher Training in Eugene. They have two sons: Waylon, almost two, and Jnana, in this year's first grade.

Cody has jumped right in, and we welcome him and his family into the Summerfield community!

Hatching Sprites Night Plans



Sprites Night is set for October 27—but it's not too early to put your heads together with your teacher and fellow parents and begin dreaming up the theme of your class' magical scene or short skit. Please remember that it should be short—only two to three minutes! Grades Three and Four are in charge of organizing this event and we'll begin our planning meetings on Thursday, October 4, at 8:40am in the Music/Aftercare Room, and we'll continue for the next three Thursday mornings up to the event. (Continued on Page Four)

America Joins Summerfield!

We are happy to announce that Summerfield has hired America Worden for the position of Sixth through Tenth Grade Teacher/Counselor!

This position arose out of our review of the now seven-year-old Seven through Tenth grade program. When we created the job description, we imagined someone who would teach, work with parents and teachers, and provide guidance counseling for students in these grades. This person would focus their efforts on the 12- to 16-year-old child, and on the bridging Lower School and High School experiences. By dedicating resources to this position, we hope to further enliven and deepen the program.

America's credentials are strong... AND she has been a Waldorf student herself. She began in preschool at San Francisco Waldorf School and moved to Summerfield for high school. For her senior year, she completed an IB diploma at the United World College of the Atlantic in Wales. A BA from UC Berkeley in Native American Studies, and a MS in Holistic Science at the Schumacher College in England followed this. Finally, she completed a MA in Counseling Psychology at the California Institute of Integral Studies. America has most recently had a counseling practice for children and teens, and has led group activities for young people. Her interest in this Summerfield position stems from a desire to participate in community, as opposed to having an independent practice. A hearty welcome to America!

Fall 2012 Development Programs

New Parent and ECE Welcome Dinners ~ September 23 or 30, 4-6pm

Bring the whole family and enjoy a casual meal on the farm while learning more about Summerfield. These dinners are designed to give new parents a better understanding of SWSF, an opportunity to ask questions, and a place to meet other families outside of the typical school day. Children are welcome.

Annual Giving Campaign (AGC)

SWSF depends on those who can give more to keep our tuition rates low and provide a modest level of financial assistance to those who cannot. AGC means reaching out to *everyone in the community* to help maintain the programs and culture that make us uniquely Summerfield. Last year we had the most successful Annual Giving Campaign in our history, with 100% participation—surpassing our goal of \$200,000 by raising over \$240,000! **This year our AGC goal is \$225,000** and we hope for full participation by the Board, parents, faculty and staff. An orientation/training session for volunteers who wish to help coordinate AGC will be held in Sophia Hall on October 3 at 5:30pm.

SWSF Community Business Directory

Help support Summerfield families and let the community know about your business! The *Community Business Directory* is a print and online listing of all Summerfield family-owned businesses in order to help you find services you need or make purchases that support the school community. Parents Gina Martinelli and Adam MacKinnon have volunteered to organize this effort, along with the Development Office.

The Speakers Corner at Summerfield

Back by popular demand, we will offer another six-month series (October-March) of inspiring and informative talks at *The Speakers Corner*. These evenings are open to the public and will take place one Wednesday per month in Sophia Hall at 6:30pm. Most of the evenings are FREE, with donations welcome at the door. The topics are geared for adults, and we often provide a light reception as guests arrive. Look for a schedule of speakers on our website beginning in October. Our first evening is scheduled for October 10.

Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day ~ November 21

A special day on campus exclusively for grandparents and special friends to visit the School and Farm, hear from some of our faculty and Board members, enjoy a special assembly featuring our students, and taste farm fresh food that the children helped plant and grow.

Alumni Event ~ December 26

A fun celebration just for our alumni and faculty to maintain old connections and build new ones. This event takes place on campus over the Winter Break and includes food, beverages, music and a nostalgic display of old photos and memories. We want to recognize that, even though life has swept you onwards, you will always be a part of Summerfield!

Coming in 2013 ~ Off-site Dance fundraiser in February, and Farm to Feast on the Farm (maybe in June!)

Changes in Development



Welcome, Andrea Jolicoeur!

Welcome to a new school year! It seems we are all going through change of some kind, as we constantly move, overcome new challenges and celebrate new opportunities. We step foot on campus with children who have grown in so many ways over the summer. Change is inevitable—it's what keeps us growing and alive.

With that said, I am happy to announce a wonderful addition to the Development Office—and give a warm welcome to **Andrea Jolicoeur**, our new Development Associate. Andrea will be assisting part-time with administrative duties, as well as helping to coordinate all events this year. We will both work directly with Jeffrey Westman, Development Committee Chair and Board Member, as well as the Development Committee and the Board of Directors.

Andrea has served as a dedicated Summerfield volunteer for four-plus years and holds a strong event planning/nonprofit background. She is part of the reason we had such a successful year of campaigns, events and festivals last school year! Her talent combined with her warm, easy personality proves a valuable asset to the Development Office and entire

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Welcome Dinners on the Farm

For Early Childhood Families *and* New Summerfield Families.

We'd like to welcome you to a new year at Summerfield Waldorf School and Farm by inviting you to attend a Welcome Dinner on the Farm. Please join us for a family-style meal prepared by Summerfield's chef with ingredients from our farm. Bring the whole family and enjoy a casual meal on the farm while learning more about Summerfield. We hope to give you a better understanding of our school, an opportunity to ask questions, and place to meet other families outside the typical school day. Children are welcome! Dinners will be held on Sunday, September 23 and September 30, 4-6pm—choose one date and please RSVP to suppers@summerfieldwaldorf.org.

We hope to see you there!

~Cyndi Yoxall and Andrea Jolicoeur from the Development Office and Jeffrey Westman, SWSF Board Member and Development Committee Chair

Mark your calendar for the following *Speakers Corner* dates:

- October 10, 6:30pm: *Dr. Michael Carlston, M.D.*
- November 14, 6:30pm: *Bruce Aidells and Duskie Estes*
- December 12, 6:30pm
- January 15, 6:30pm: *Kim John Payne*
- February 6, 6:30pm
- March 6, 6:30pm

(Sprites Night, Cont. from Page Two)

Sprites Night is our school's alternative to the commercialism and 'sugary focus' of Halloween. The Kindergarten and Lower School classes each present a scene appropriate to the curriculum, and we are often provided with extra entertainment, like musicians, and an obstacle course (Circus). Please join in the fun as we spin an intricate web of enchantment for our community! (With any questions, please don't hesitate to call me.)

~Leslie Young, *LS Secretary*,
575-7194, ext. 101

(Welcome Andrea, Continued from Page Three)

school. Andrea is also the parent of two Summerfield students, one in Kindergarten and one in Class Two, and is married to a SWSF alumnus. (She is also currently enrolled in the teacher training program offered here.) You can expect to see and hear from both of us frequently, as we try our best to communicate and serve the school as we move forward. We can all look forward to a fun year, filled with celebrations and events that bring us together as a community and continue to build on our strong foundation, while raising much-needed funds for the school. Enjoy!

~Cyndi Yoxall, *Development Coordinator*

The Speakers Corner— Back by Request!

Join us for another six-month series of informative and inspiring talks at *The Speakers Corner* in Sophia Hall. Most of these evening talks are FREE, with donations welcome at the door. The schedule is currently being set—look for upcoming announcements and a complete schedule on our website in October. These talks are geared for adults in a casual format, usually with two speakers in conversation. We start the evening with a light reception as guests arrive and end the evening with time for questions. We will begin our series on **Wednesday, October 10** and feature **Dr. Michael Carlston, M.D.**, well known for his ability to combine traditional and complementary/alternative/holistic medicine. He is also the father of three former students of Summerfield.

For more information, contact Cyndi Yoxall at cyndi@summerfieldwaldorf.org or 575-7194 ext. 105. We hope to see you!



Job Opportunity

Looking for a Winter Faire Coordinator! As you can imagine, a great deal of work goes into putting on this event. We are looking for someone to head this up, to work in tandem with me, Leslie Young, and a team of parent volunteers over the next three months. We will need to have a couple of meetings in September for advance planning and delegation of certain important areas of the faire, like vendor management and publicity, then begin our work in earnest at the beginning of November. Payment is being offered for this job—last year it paid \$500, but this may be negotiable. Please respond to me with any questions or interest, 575-7194, ext. 101.

Thank you for the Work Day, 2012

We certainly do have unique teaching methods here at Summerfield Waldorf School and Farm.

Fortunately, these methods are based on years of research, a fair amount of trial and error and a healthy dose of deep esoteric wisdom. You may have heard that in early childhood we reserve accolades of praise for special situations. You will not hear “good job!” spoken casually to a kindergartener after he or she climbs up the slide for the first time or takes out the trash or uses the potty.

The idea is to have children seek satisfaction from within and not look to others for gratification, but perhaps this is another article... Something we never tire of doling out is gratitude, gratitude, gratitude! And now we need to do both because this is one of those extra special moments when “good job” is truly merited.

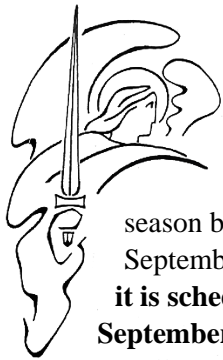
We were not aware of any contest across the School, but if there was one, the Early Childhood classes of 2012 win the prize for getting the big maintenance jobs done with a smile.



There were jobs on the list, which had been on our list for years, and this was the year to tackle them. Teachers met beforehand and walked the grounds wondering how it would all come together. Then the parents and grandparents showed up bright and early on Saturday morning and, Voila! The work began...

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Michaelmas at Summerfield Waldorf School & Farm



Michaelmas is a festival annually celebrated when the Michaelmas

season begins on September 29. **This year, it is scheduled for Friday, September 28.**

From 1:30-3pm, all Second through

Eighth grade students, assisted by some high schoolers and supervised by staff/faculty, participate in workday activities to beautify our campus. Parents are asked, ahead of time, for support in a number of areas: helping with costumes, lending tools, providing snacks, and cleaning up the pot-luck on the day of the pageant.

MICHAELMAS NOTES (Tasks, Schedule)

- Parents are often asked to bring tools from home for their class' workday activities (during school hours)—label with family name!
- Classes two through eight perform in the pageant. A few high schoolers also participate.
- Parents may be asked to assist in costuming the class prior to the event, aided by a specified faculty member.
- Parents are asked to provide a healthy, hearty snack for the entire class to eat, between 3 and 3:30pm.
- A few parents may be asked to help get the children dressed (especially the younger ones) for the pageant, between 3:30 and 4pm.
- The pageant begins at 4pm and lasts approximately 45 minutes.
- An all-school community potluck follows the pageant.
- Seventh and Eighth grade parents are in charge of clean-up after the meal.
- Children *must* be under the supervision of their parents as soon as the pageant ends, during the potluck, and until the family departs. Please monitor your child's visit to the food tables and do not allow your child to run around the buildings out of your sight-line.

The pageant is less than an hour long, and consists of a play and songs that the children will present about Archangel Michael's confrontation with the dragon, in aid of the besieged townspeople. It is a picture of the faith and the striving of human beings in preparation for the cold months, hard work, and difficult lessons of the year ahead.

Parking is allowed on the upper campus playing field—we ask that families arrive at least 15 minutes early in order to be settled on the grass in back of the lower school buildings by 4pm when the pageant begins. Blankets for seating and hats for sun protection are recommended, along with your potluck offering and your family's personal eating utensils, plates and cups, of course. The school will not be providing paper products for the meal, so please remember to bring what you need! There will, however, be compost bins and tubs of wash water for your use.



Why do We Have a Rose Ceremony?

What is behind the gesture of the Senior giving the rose to her new First Grade buddy at the beginning of the school year? The rose has been an important symbol in many cultures since ancient times. In most interpretations there is the sense of ideal beauty. One can see in the Rose an image of the synthesis of ideal and real, which mirrors the non-material and bodily nature of the human being. As with the image of the Rose, the synthesis of ideal and real through human contemplation of the world can lead us to the nature of the human being and the higher self. The journey to awaken and strengthen the higher self by looking at nature is an essential aspect and goal of Waldorf education. In the passing of a rose between the oldest and youngest students, we can see represented the entire curriculum—

the journey of the individual through carefully planned experiences that quicken and strengthen the higher self.

Each child, parent and teacher bears witness and has his or her own experiences of this journey, so all are included. The children in the Early Childhood program, who have not yet embarked on the journey of the formal curriculum and do not come formally to the ceremony because of their age, are also included, as we can still see the preschooler in the brand new first grader. We eagerly anticipate and help the younger ones ready themselves for their “stepping over” into first grade.

The Rose Ceremony preparation begins when the twelfth grade and the first grade buddies meet for the first time. The First Grader takes the hand of the Senior and knows that s/he will be led by a strong and noble individuality. The Senior receives unconditional love from one who naturally sees his/her higher self.

The song the Seniors sing attempts to portray these messages:

*Life is a journey of many a mile
It's not always easy, there'll be tears with the smiles
Just walk in our footsteps, we'll show you the way
And we'll give you a Rose on this special day*
Chorus:
*The Rose is Beauty, the Rose is the Good
The Rose is the Truth we once understood
Let Love be your guide, and again you will know
When Love touched Nature, it created the Rose
You might stray from the pathway, get lost in the wood
It can be hard to tell the bad from the good
But we've gone before you to show you the way
Just 12 years ago now, it was our first day.*
(Chorus)
*The Sun's loving light, makes bright each day
You'll use all your senses to see Nature at play
Then you look within and there you will find
Your heart busy weaving the World and your Mind.*
(Chorus)
*Today is a crossroads on the journey of life
A new beginning, step over, arise.
Though we can remember, this moment is new
So we'll mark it with Love's blessing, a Rose for you.*

Dear Summerfield Parents, Students, Faculty and Staff,

As Michaelmas time nears, now one year ago, I was diagnosed with cancer. After nine months of treatment and a summer of recovery, I reflect on the long personal journey my family and I were on—a dark, inward winter full of the unknown and an overwhelming medical world that I was not used to.

However, along this path I have been honored and blessed by so many of you, lighting my way through the darkness. I would like to express my deep and sincere gratitude for all that you have done for me. Every card, letter, phone call, dinner, poem, prayer, song, book, drawing, nightgown, candle, flower essence, story, hand-knit blanket, shawl, hat, flower, walk, patience, driving, tear, encouragement, laughter and a wonderful clean house—every act of kindness and compassion along the way has helped me feel your support and given me hope. It was as if being lifted up and held on a big huge web, spun of prayer and attention from all of you, filled with hope, trust and love.

With so many people, friends and family taking time from their lives and making themselves available to me, I have come to know a form of community that has nurtured and changed me. How can I not but trust in my full recovery, renewed health and strength?

With my greatest, heartfelt thanks, I wish all of you many blessings.

Love,

Jacqueline McAuliffe, Lower School Handwork Teacher

Each of us as participants and observers share the experience that we are all on a journey; some farther along, some just beginning. Our community holds dear these moments of celebration. We begin the school year with the Rose Ceremony to call forth our attention to our mission, show the community a symbol of our journey, and celebrate our gratitude for such a rich education and a place for it to unfold. ~Jason Gross, Class Twelve Advisor

Early Autumn Farm News



Where else in our contemporary culture do sixth graders begin one of their classes, a Farming and Gardening class, with a verse that goes like this?

*Invisibly within the seed,
The plant is waiting for its day of
birth.*

*Root, stem and leaf-
the flower and fruit-*

*Will sprout, and bloom, and ripen
As the sun and the rain call them
forth.*

*So life will call from me
what now is invisibly waiting. ~*

Once again all the beloved students are back on Summerfield Farm, harvesting, digging, weeding, chopping, sweeping, pressing, watering and helping with all the tasks that make our farm so special, and our particular Waldorf school so unique. All summer the plants were silently growing, apples forming and swelling, sunflowers towering, and gophers burrowing, while students and their families travelled the county, the state, the country and some, the world. My grandfather was a lover of what he called "the good,

old routine" and now, as we get used to getting up and off to school on time, and we settle back into studies, commutes to our jobs, and many of last year's Seniors are off to college, it feels good to look around as the students are hard at work on the farm and realize that this is good, yes, what we have and share as a school community is, indeed, very good.

The 17th century Japanese poet Basho once wrote a simple little verse that reminds me of the way the farm setting speaks to the Kindergarteners as we amble around the flourishing farm fields. It goes like this: "The temple bell stops. But the sound keeps coming out of the flowers." When all our hustle and bustle subsides, something truly amazing speaks to us from simple fields of growing vegetables, ripening fruit and turning compost. When Cricket, our four-month calf, rockets across the pasture to greet the students at the pasture fence to get her freshly fallen apple, the children pay attention. When the hundred-year-old cider press gears creak and groan and spill out yet another

stream of golden, freshly pressed cider, and the children try a sip of the unpasteurized nectar, suddenly their taste buds awaken and their bodies inwardly sing. When it's too hot and too dirty and we get too wet and too cold and the walk is too far and the compost too stinky, and we have to delay gratification or control our impulses or sustain our attention, perhaps we are simply growing and learning.

This first *Messenger* Farm greeting is an invitation and a welcome to all SWSF families to come visit the farm, pick up some fresh produce, volunteer to join your kids in their Farming and Gardening class as a parent volunteer, and to greet the Farmer and the Gardening Teachers and Farm Apprentices. Welcome to another year, and may our harvest be bountiful—as our dear students and parents help us grow and thrive.

~Warmly, Farmer Dan

Wild Alaskan King Salmon from Bristol Bay, Alaska.

This year the Farm has a selection of smaller portions of King Salmon, thanks to Allysum's family in Alaska. This salmon is packaged in small, easy to handle portions and is thick and fatty and perfect for the barbecue! The quality of these vacuum packed portions is exceptional and the price is very reasonable at \$14 per pound. If you want to buy some by the 20-pound box, it is available at a wholesale rate of \$12 per pound. Reserve while it lasts! Call Dana at 570-5484 or Alyssum at 480-0655.

Farm Stand Offerings...

Autumn is in the air... have you planted your winter garden? One of the best things about Sonoma County is that we can grow food all year long. This week at the farm stand, we have a good selection of brassicas, three kinds of kale, romanesco, collards and broccoli. Check back in the next few weeks for lettuce and chard.

For the next two months, our fruits and vegetables will be at their peak of flavor and quality. As the air gets cooler, the vegetables will be getting sweeter. We'll be harvesting carrots, beets, apples, onions, leeks, tomatoes, collards, kale, lettuce and cabbage. This week the children are harvesting corn, and soon we'll be milling it for our fresh corn meal.

Our Farm Guild is still meeting on Tuesdays and before too long will head indoors to start our winter Biodynamic study. Come out to the Farm on Tuesday mornings to join us!

New Roots and Shoots in the Aftercare/Music Room

*There's No Place Like Home,
There is no place like home, there is no place like home.
It is true, Dorothy, but there is someplace that is really close...
Have you ever gone to Aftercare?*



Where else are you served authentic Italian pizza and pasta, homemade cookies and popsicles, apple cake and more? Where else can you eat your snack then choose from an amazing array of craft projects guided by an experienced craft teacher or practice your circus skills, play a board game with your friends, curl up with a good book, or play a game of kickball under the radiant afternoon sun? Tough choices! All surrounded by the warm hearts of Viviana and her wonderful Aftercare teachers. I know it could be debated, but this is perhaps the most used classroom on campus. Certainly it is the most diverse. A meeting room in the mornings, music room for Lower school and High school and, most recently, the new home of two Roots and Shoots Toddler classes, and of course Aftercare. When the decision was made to expand the usage of the Aftercare/Music room last spring, we knew there would be a few details to work out, but little did we know a complete overhaul would be on the horizon. Viviana and Line and Ms. Friedman took the opportunity to completely re-organize their supplies and make the room work for the new classes. From teenagers with their basses to toddlers feeling cozy and safe, to afterschool fun and games, the teachers took up the challenge. Our school's own lazure painter, Cherie Lippard, was brought in to revive the tired walls. After layer upon subtle layer the walls began to glow with the warmth of colour and light. Enthusiasm began to build from all the players to move into their new home. Many days of hard work and long hours and volunteer help came to fruition last week. This was a fantastic example of all of us working together respectfully and staying open to the needs of the individual classes. Congratulations! The space is beautiful! Special thanks for donated items—from potty chairs to preschool furniture and more—and to those who came out on Labor Day weekend to join in the "Labor".

Please stop by to experience it first hand, pull up a chair, play a game and, if you are lucky, enjoy some of the finest cuisine outside of Milan.

Arrivaderci! Donna Stusser, Roots and Shoots Director

High School Open Week: Trinity Alps Backpacking Trip,

by Tom Van Gorden

Haiku- Horseshoe Lake

Stone Mirror Rippling
Green Hues Dancing in a Bowl
Silver Granite Shines

Backpackers' Song:

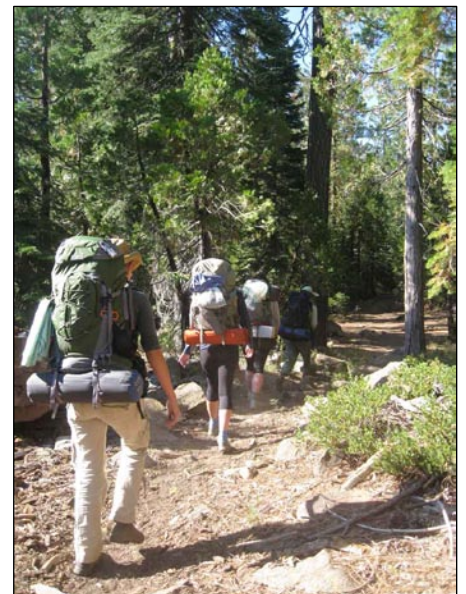
The sky's my roof and the leaves
are my floor
The sun is my light and the trees
are my door.
The wind plays a concert around
every rise
Around every bend a glorious
surprise.
No boundaries of time- A life by
the sun

No routine or rhyme—
Attachments are none.
It's the love of your life- A feeling
inside.....
The spirits' in you- The Earth is
alive.

Our last night-Late Summer, Smoky Sun

We are leaving the forest
tomorrow. We snuggle into our bags,
under a full-bodied moon.

The force of the creek goes on
forever. We go home, but we take a
piece of all of this with us in our
memories, and it gives us strength.



(Board Welcome, Continued from Front Page)

diversity is a principal goal of the school. With the general economy seemingly warming, we are optimistic that we will be able to provide adequate support through the Tuition Assistance program.

As you may know, we made great strides in Development last year, restructuring the position within the institution by managing development at the Board level. Vice-President of Development, Jeffrey Westman, and Cyndi Yoxall, our Development Coordinator, made an exemplary showing of how development can be conducted through a close collaboration between volunteer help and SWSF staff. New programs with an outreach potential were introduced, notably *The Speaker's Corner*, which was a great success and which you will again see this year. We plan to build on last year's success and implement some highly focused development efforts. You will see some of the more traditional programs continued (such as the Annual Giving Campaign), but you will see new programs as well. Stay tuned for more details...



We on the Board are delighted and honored to serve SWSF in our capacity as Board members. Summerfield is still young—only 38 years old. Yet, in carrying out our duties to Summerfield, we recognize (and sincerely hope) that we are contributing to the well-being of an institution that will endure for decades, or better, centuries. And it is genuinely humbling to consider that we are part of what may well be only the infancy of this School.

Board members are here to serve the School so that it, in turn, can serve the children. Our work is time consuming, yet deeply rewarding. We invite you to join us at our Board meetings on the third Monday of every month (check the calendar on the Summerfield website!) In that forum you can participate in the discussion about many of the issues we address. Who knows, you may even be inspired to join the Board and bring your own knowledge and experience to bear on school matters. ~Craig Stainbrook, Board President

(Continued from Page Five)

Part of the cement courtyard was removed, and garden boxes were dug out and moved to new homes. The yard outside Yellow Rose was magically transformed from an overgrown brambly, weedy mess to an open usable space. **(Thank you to Frankie's grandpa and the Wolfe and Kaiser families for this.)**

Mighty Mr. Mrazik helped with too many jobs to list. Farmer Dan felled, chopped and transported tree stumps for our sandboxes. New wagons were assembled; a picnic table was scraped and painted. Lance Hensley and company built a new river bed for our water pump.

Every bit of unnecessary debris was hauled to the pile over the fence and

promptly taken away. Flower fairies purchased and dug in beautiful plants and shiny rocks. **And last but not least, the Held family (Dave, Rachel, Petal and Song) stayed many long summer hours to construct our beautiful new play set**, which has become Grand Central Station for the Kindergarten. This is a fine place to oversee the entire yard in all of its new splendor.

Inside, the classrooms were buzzing with activity as well—crayons were polished, wooden toys scrubbed, windows washed, paper corners were cut (somebody has to do it) and everything was made ready to greet the children on the first day.

We have a song we sing: "Many hands make light work". How true this is! The work was lighter and

definitely more fun when done together, and the results are astounding! Good job, and thank you everyone! **Special thanks to Chris Anderson, Craig Silva, Anne Platz and Ignacio Garat for getting everything ready so we could work efficiently!**

Please accept our apology if we did not mention your name here. We did notice, and all your efforts large and small were appreciated.

With love from The Early Childhood Faculty

Summerfield | WALDORF SCHOOL AND FARM
Messenger

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The monthly Messenger is published on the third Thursday of the month.

The Messenger Marketplace

Community Enrichment

The Christian Community

Fri., Oct. 12: 7:30pm lecture by Rev. Sanford Miller in the Eurythmy Barn on "Gold and the Threatened Self".

Classes/Training

Nurturing Arts

Nurturing Arts is based upon the artistic indications of Steiner and seeks to bring balance and strength to one's inner life through the creative visual arts, music, writing and story-telling. Free Introductory class: Oct 21, 9:30. Fall 2012 Training - Art History course, Human Consciousness starts Nov 6 (5weeks/year) Contact: Mary Bowen(707-542-1523 or nuturingarts@sonic.net), Rika Suda (527-9417, rika.suda@gmail.com) More info at www.nurturingarts.org.

Autumn Class Offerings at Sophia's Sanctuary

October 2012: Seeking the Heart of the Matter: *Core Practices for Living and Remembering*, Beginning October 3, 2012 ~ 7 Wednesday, 9:30am-12pm. Cost: \$100 for the series (suggested donation). All classes offered by Linda Delman at Sophia's Sanctuary 2836 Bloomfield Road Sebastopol, Ca 95472. You may find out more about Sophia's Sanctuary at www.SophiasSanctuary.org. Contact the office at 707.827.3536 or email delmanoffice@gmail.com with questions or to register

Services Offered

Take Piano Lessons!

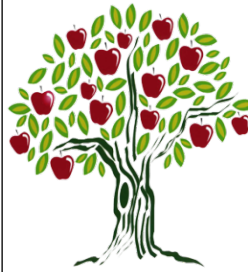
Fun, enthusiastic, and engaged teacher offers nurturing learning environment to children and adults alike. Learn to read music, develop musicality, and understand music theory. Classically trained pianist holds BA in piano performance. Contact Abbie Gabrielson: (971) 222-4709, abbiegabrielson@gmail.com. Located in Santa Rosa.

Babysitter Available

Experienced babysitter/nanny looking for work. I am responsible, fun, gentle, and creative. I love working with kids! Flexible schedule. Contact Abbie Gabrielson: (971) 222-4709, abbiegabrielson@gmail.com.

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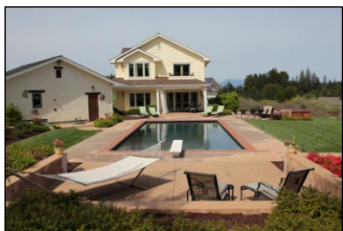
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For Sale, Rent, Needed

House for Sale



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www.1189 Grandview.com, \$2,295,000, Rosie Lombardi Cell (707) 484-3687 or Dee Dee Lombardi Brandt (707) 484-3425, Realtors, Century 21 Classic.

Looking for Special Space

Permaculture Naturalist/Artist/Writer/alumni parent seeks special space (Forestville-NWSR- Calistoga) in which to live and create art. Can offer partial or full trade for caretaking, tutoring, pet loving or landscape gardening. Catrina, 707.217.3611.

Looking for Home to Rent

New Summerfield family (plus adorable labrador and two cats) seeking a simple home to rent in the NW Santa Rosa or Sebastopol areas. A 2bdm with a nice size yard for gardening and playing would be best. We are open to both rural and in town if there is room to move! We can offer \$1300 to \$1600. Would like to make a commitment for a year if not longer. Our pets are indoor/outdoor. Do you have the space for us or do you know of someone who does? Please contact Elizabeth and Ula at 360 774 1100 or email at ejufamily@gmail.com.

Looking for Room or Unit to Rent

Mother and daughter (8th grade) looking for private room or guest unit to rent one or two days a week during school year. Kris 707-328-1140.

Child's Desk for Sale

Child's desk and chair set, purchased at Ikea, good condition - would love to find a new child to use it. Surface is 31"x21", height is 28". Keyboard drawer underneath - ours was used for pencils and beeswax storage! \$60. Call Céline Haugen at 707-585-2403.

Research Group Forming

Research Group Forming this September: To test new Flora Corona treatments using flower essences, gem elixirs and Colored Light Elixirs together as a group- (to learn more see: www.floracorona.com) Contact Deborah at 707-623-9931 or email deborah@floracorona.com.

Looking for Work

A newly single, Waldorf mother looking for part-time work. I have ample experience in gardening, cooking, and can also offer my services in childcare and house cleaning. Please contact me for further information at 707.829.1679 or zabeldy@gmail.com. Thank you.

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