

# NEWSLETTER

Monday, Nov. 21, 2011

Cape Ann Waldorf School, 701 Cabot Street, Beverly, MA 01915 978-927-8811 www.capeannwaldorf.org

## ‘Your School is Very Special’

It was another fun-filled and successful fair! Thank you so much to everyone for making it a great day! Heather Collis Puro and I wanted to share the following letter from one of our vendors, Brittan Davis of Little Owl Arts. She was the fiber artist with the crocheted stones, felted scarves, and other items. Her kind letter addresses the entire community.

Sincerely,

*Laura Freysinger*, Holiday Fair Co-Chair

Dear Laura, I hope you are resting today after the last day and a half of events! I wish that I could say that I am, but there is so much to do! First off, I wanted to say how happy I am that the Waldorf School/community has moved to such a wonderful and peaceful location. I wish you all so much happiness there. Secondly, I wanted to say thank you to everyone who helped to create such a wonderful event, as well as the whole community for their support. I had a WONDERFUL fair! *(Photo: Another vendor and friend, Ineke van der Leeuw, shares her wool paintings with fair goers. Photo by Scott Harlan)*



Not only with the support of all the shoppers, but the wonderful smiling faces and all of the kind, positive words about my work and the work of the other talented crafters! I was (as always) blown away by the generosity and thoughtfulness of all who attended and were involved in this fair. It gives me endless happiness to hear that my work is so loved and

appreciated, and when people understand and respect the time, effort, love and care that goes into what I do. I am sure the other artists and crafters feel the same way. Your school is very

special, and everyone connected to it is very special and I am very thankful to be a part of it in the way that I am. I love connecting with all of you. Thank you so much for everything and I can't wait to see how you grow and to see you next year!!! Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and a joyous Holiday!

With thanks,

From the bottom of my heart,

*Brittan*, Little Owl Arts

***A Sneak Peek Inside the Wee Folke Shoppe***

*Photo by Scott Harlan*



## Parent Conference Sign Ups TOMORROW ...

Join us at the Grand Opening of our Great Hall tomorrow morning (*see below*) and sign up for a parent conference with your child's teachers while enjoying a complimentary cup of coffee. Parent conferences are coming up Thursday, Dec. 1 (following early dismissal) and Friday, Dec. 2. There will be sign up sheets out tomorrow from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Great Hall.

## ... along with the GRAND OPENING of our Great Hall!

We are so happy at this time  
to open to our community of parents and friends  
our long awaited place to gather – the Great Hall!

Please come to the Great Hall  
Tuesday morning, Nov. 22, following drop off  
for complimentary coffee, tea, juice, and snacks,  
and the wonderful company of each other!

The members of the Site Committee will be there to host  
and welcome you as we all celebrate.

With much appreciation for your patience,  
-The Site Committee



***The Great Hall, decked out for Holiday Fair 2011*** photo by Scott Harlan

PS: For a brief history of the Great Hall, please see further down in today's *Newsletter*

### *Middle School Electives*

## **What Could You Share With CAWS Students?**

Do you have a skill you could share as an elective with the students in grades six through eight? Each year the middle school students participate in electives during the winter semester. These classes are offered on Friday afternoons from 12:55-2:30 p.m. and are taught by volunteers from our community. This year, electives run from Jan. 6 to Feb. 10. A performance and/or display for the February assembly would also be an option (February 17th, 1:30 PM). Past offerings have included: jewelry making, snowshoeing, baking, band, drama, drawing & sculpture, photography, monologues and so on.

Do you have something that you could share? Class size is generally limited to seven enthusiastic students. To inquire further about this opportunity, please contact Laura Quayle, Sabrina Babcock, or Anna Scalera.

## **Welcome Coleen Ryan, Assistant to the Administrator**

We are pleased to announce that we have a new Assistant to the Administrator. Her name is Coleen Ryan and she began working with Susan last week. Coleen's schedule will be Tuesday thru Thursday and you will see her working at the computer desk in the quiet work area. Coleen grew up in Western Massachusetts and has spent the last 10 years living in California, most recently working at the Los Angeles Zoo in the Education Department. She is very happy to call New England her home again and is excited about the opportunity to work with us.

## **Fresh Pies for you Thanksgiving Table**

*Available immediately after Wednesday's assembly*

Put away your apron and let the third grade bake a Thanksgiving pie for you! Beautifully wrapped to take as a gift, or simply to enjoy after the assembly. This is a fundraiser for our children's spring farm trip. Please bring check or cash to the assembly!

Thank you, *from the third grade families*

## **An Important Note on Morning Traffic on Rte. 97**

*Stay mindful of our neighbors!*

In the rush to school, please keep in mind that getting to school on time is less important than driving carefully and respectfully. To that end, please note that there are three middle school children who wait for the bus each morning right at the end of the Moraine Farm entrance on Rte. 97. Please be patient and conscientious as you make your way by! Thank you very much.

## Waldorf School Gets Additional News Coverage

Following up on the recent *New York Times* article on Waldorf and computers, CBS San Francisco reported on the Waldorf School of the Peninsula. Read the full report – and other Waldorf news – at [Why Waldorf Works](#). Here is an excerpt:

"At the Waldorf School of the Peninsula, first grade students shuck corn and build a garden, while fourth graders explore the philosophy behind Celtic knot drawing. In a high school humanities class students read their own poetry, while math students work with a compass and protractor. 'The school isn't really anti-technology. It's more that the teachers really think about when the technology will actually benefit the class,' said Jack Pelose, a freshman at Waldorf." More at [Why Waldorf Works](#).

## Graduate in PBS Concert

An Andrea Bocelli concert to be aired on PBS on Friday, Dec 2 at 9:00 p.m. (and again on Sunday, Dec 4 at 6:30p.m.), will include Gillian Hurst singing in the chorus behind Bocelli. She'll be standing in the second row, a slight bit to the left of the star. Look hard for the girl with wavy hair!

## Camp Glenbrook Winter Waldorf Camp, February



During the week of Feb. 20-25, 2012, Camp Glen Brook offers its annual winter program for 3rd through 8th graders. The week is patterned after our summer program with two morning and afternoon activity blocks. We skate on the pond, sled down the open fields and hills, paint and draw in the art studio, enjoy cross-country skiing and snow-shoeing, and care for the farm animals. In the evenings we gather before the wood stove in the living room for quiet activities, including singing, skits, and games. The annual Winter Olympics and Music Festival are highlights of the week!

Contact: [office@glenbrook.org](mailto:office@glenbrook.org) or [603-876-3342](tel:603-876-3342)

## **A Brief History of the Great Hall**

A year ago, when we were still in the design phase of the new addition to our soon-to-be home at Moraine Farm, we evaluated the need for storage and for a space similar to the Main Hall at Hale Street. As construction costs mounted we had to do some creative design work to meet our construction schedule and budget. We did not want to close the door on a large community space even though it was clear our budget would not allow for the large multi-function room we all dreamed of.

The solution was to make the investment to dig a deeper cellar hole that would allow the high ceilings we enjoyed at Hale Street, while accepting the fact that we would not be able to use the room for anything more than storage until funding allowed a wheelchair lift to be installed. Due to our agreement with our bank, it was believed that it would be a year or two before use of the Great Hall would be allowed.

As summer approached, we received a wonderful offer to pay for the remaining work that was needed. Accepting this gift and moving forward was contingent on our bank's permission to use our funds in this way. They graciously agreed. Bids were solicited for the wheelchair lift and the associated construction to enclose it. In an effort to reduce construction costs, it was decided by the Site Committee that Peter Rudd would manage the project. Several members of the Site Committee studied the building code for a week to determine the most cost effective design. Poore and Co. donated design consultation and construction drawings. Summer scheduling delayed our permit to begin construction till early September. Once underway, a dance began as construction was paused by the need for multiple inspections from the lift manufacturer. In mid-October, the City of Beverly building department signed off on the lift construction.

During construction, it became clear that every noise created in the Great Hall was transported at full volume into the Kindergarten classrooms through their floor. Money saved on construction cost allowed for the purchase of recycled denim sound attenuating insulation that was then installed by some hearty volunteers.

Now that the Hall was physically complete, it was necessary to submit for a "change of use" with the City, a process that would change its legal status from "storage" to "assembly" space. Working with architect Chris Brown at Flansburgh Architects, a code review was completed to ensure that all applicable safety standards were met and on November 14 the Beverly Building Inspector approved our new place to assemble! Just in time for the Holiday Fair!

*The Site Committee*