



Wellsprings Friends School

“THE LITTLE SCHOOL WITH THE BIG HEART”

Spring, 2013

Newsletter

3590 W. 18th Ave, Eugene, Oregon 97402

541-686-1223

www.wellspringsfriends.org

A SPRING TO REMEMBER



The spring semester has been a memorable one. Our list of activities, events, projects, and trips is lengthy and the variety has been such that we have touched on all aspects of life: giving, receiving, sharing, and learning. Here are some highlights.

At our annual Wellsprings Reunion and Benefit Show the Wellsprings community rocked Cozmic Pizza with a three hour program that showcased the musical and artistic talents of students, staff and alumni.

Our Peace and Justice Festival this year was honored with a keynote address from Claes Nobel, the great grandnephew of Alfred Nobel, and the Honorary Chairman of the Nobel Peace Laureate Park newly opened here in Eugene.

The Government class visited the Wayne Morse Federal Courthouse. Students met with a US Bankruptcy Court Judge and US Marshalls for a "behind the scenes" tour of the entire facility.

Job fairs are not the most exciting event but are a great way to explore career paths. Our trip to a job fair at Lane Community College informed the students of employment possibilities beyond flipping burgers and waving signs.

The trip to Royal Caribbean by the Transitions class was not only eye opening but inspirational. The students witnessed a career in a box, so to speak, and how hard work will literally take you anywhere in the world.

Thuli Makama, an environmental attorney from Swaziland, recently visited our Global Studies class. In addition to talking about her cultural background, Thuli educated the students about the ongoing conflict between government supported game reserves and the indigenous peoples of Swaziland. *(continued...)*



ALMOST THERE!

Because of the generosity of caring supporters, we have reached to being within a few thousand dollars of meeting the \$50,000 matching gift challenge. But we haven't reached the goal yet, and this is it--we need to get there urgently, before the end of our fiscal year on June 30th, the last day of matching dollars. You can help us get all the way there! A return envelope is enclosed with this newsletter. Please give as generously, and as soon, as you can. On behalf of our students and everyone here, Thank You!

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Students from the Ecology class and Who I Am class took a day trip up to Clear Lake, the head waters for the McKenzie River. They had lunch and then went out on the lake in rented boats where they could see the lava flows that created the lake thousands of years ago and the submerged trees that still stand in the lake.

A unique and wonderful event was that Wellsprings students and staff, along with a few parents and Trustees, got to attend the Dalai Lama's appearance in Eugene! Our seats were excellent and it was surely one of the most memorable events in our lives for every one of us.

The "Burrito Missionaries" passed out over 200 handmade burritos, along with goodie bags (wet wipes, toothbrush, dog snacks, etc.), to local community members in need. Other notable community service projects included river path clean-up, volunteering at Greenhill Humane Society, and the Free Sale.

Refinishing the planter bench was Wellsprings in a nutshell. Taking something that looks ready to give up and helping it to come to its full potential is what we're all about!

At the "Green Career and Education Fair" this April, our students attended individual workshops concerning green architecture, sustainable farming techniques, engineering, culinary arts, and forestry. It was a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about promising careers in green industries and the critical importance of sustainability.

The Senior Dinner this year took place for the first time at Papa's Soul Food Kitchen. It was a delightful day and we all sat on the patio enjoying the super-delicious food and the camaradie.

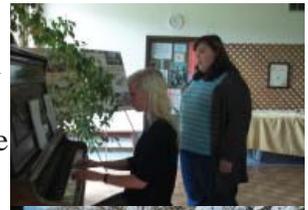
Other activities have included all-school trips to two University of Oregon Theater Department performances, the Planetarium, Mt. Pisgah Arboretum, the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, miniature golf, bowling, a gymnastics center, a Day of the Dead exhibit, and Honeyman State Park on the coast.

Other class projects have included visits to a fish hatchery, the Comic Book store, and the Guitar Center, construction of a trebuchet, skateboard building, refinishing a drum set, making pickles, and growing plant starts.

Wrapping up the spring semester will be two very special activities. On the last day of classes, June 13th, we all will gather at Richardson Park at Fern Ridge Reservoir for our traditional last day picnic. The day includes yearbook signing, a BBQ lunch, and the famous "Rock Awards", where staff present each student with a rock that is marked with their "award" for the year. The rocks have been painted and on them are a word or catch-phrase meaningful to that student--a memory, a joke, an outstanding personal quality or achievement.

Saturday morning June 15th, the school year concludes with every member of the class of 2013 being honored for their academic achievements and personal growth at this year's Graduation Celebration! As we do for every senior class, their photos are presented on a page of this newsletter.

Wellsprings is "The Little School with the Big Heart"...and very active "legs," "arms" and "brains"!



For everyone who has donated time, energy, and goods, we couldn't do what we do without all the amazing support. Thank You!

Elizabeth Allcott
Freda Ances & Kathryn Daniels
Anonymous (10)
Cheryl Armstrong
Wendy Bailey
Susan Ban
RoseMarie & Michael Barber
James Bartko
Rudy Berg
Kristina Bradwell
Robert Brasted & Rene Minz
Tree Bressen
Kelly Brewster & William Little
Autumn Brown
Jeanne Burns
Glenna Butler
Rebecca & Pete Cacioppi
Bill Cadbury
Sidney & Faris Cassell
Angela Chisholm & Yeva Hoerner
Gerald Copeland
Teresa Damron & Nathaniel Sperry
Robert Decker
Gayle Del Grosso
Marlitt Dellabough
Janice DeMocker
Elizabeth Deutsch
George & Susan Dimitroff
Terrye Eames
Sakre Edson
Arthur Efron
David Eisler
Hanya Etter
John Etter
Lisette & Thomas Ewing
Margot Fetz
Pamela Fitzpatrick
Karen Fleener-Gould
James Fox
Jennifer Frenzer-Knowlton
Shirley Froyd
Amanda Gardner
Dorothy Gates Knaus
Gerry & Jill Gaydos
Joseph Giasante
Mary Lou Goertzen
Cynthia Green
Joyce Gudger
Akshay Gupta

Marcia Hadley
Kelly Hale
Vicki & Donald Hale
Ramona Hardisty
Sylvia Hart
David Hazen
John Hazen & Robin Cushman
Sun Hee & Kun Cho
J. Richard Heinzkill
Gail & Scott Hemsoth
Annie Heron
Steve & Mara Hertzberg
Karen Hewett
James Hill & Cary Hancock
Lorez Hinson
David & Donna Hoerner
Beth Hunt & John Allcott
Denise Huston
Randy & May-Britt Jeremiah
Ruthy Kanagy
Betsy Kenworthy
John Kilkenny
Patrick Kilkenny
Russell Kilkenny
Kelly Kilkenny-Hale
Charles & Jeanne Kimball
Carolyn Knox
Stacey Kozakar
Jerome Lidz & Melinda Grier
Sarita Lief
Karen Lundblad & Lucy McIver
Rebecca Mannheimer
Lisa Marcus
Lynne Marsh
William & Judith Matchett
P. Gavin McComas
Irene McHenry
Timothy McLeod
Shannon Miller
Catherine Ann Miner
Wilma Minton
Thomas & Candace Moffett
Andy Moore
Vicki Morgan
Peg Morton
John Mowat
Mark & Judith Nakhnikian-Weintraub
Greg & Isabell Norman
Kenneth O'Neil

Barbara & Matthew Otonicar
Helen Park
Edgar Pears
Todd Peterson
Sue Ann Prichard
William Ravdin
Daniel Reece
Ellen Rifkin
Jean Roberts
Darlene Robertson
Andy Rogers
Julie Rogers
Robert & Peggy Rubinstein
Robert & Judy Schafer
Brad Seavoy
Juanita Seavoy
Brian Seavoy
Sally Sheklow
Kay Simon
Cristina Simoni
Dev Sinha & Sujata Sanghvi
John & Catherine Smith
Srithip Sresthaphunlar &
Thornton Prime
Adrienne St.Clair
Mary Steinberg-Pichey
Debra Sunderland
Kathy Tiger & Joe McKeever
Tyler Tjernlund
Mark & Megan Turner
Penny Tyrell
Alley Valkyrie
Judith Voss
Cambra Ward
Paul & Catherine Westhead
Amy Williams
Fred Williams
Pearl Wolfe & Bill Goldsmith
Elsie & George Young
Eugene Mennonite Church
Eugene Sakya Center
Huerto De La Familia
In Accord Community Choir
Jerry's Home Improvement Center
Karen Bock Fabiano Trust
Motet Singers
Oregon Art Supply
Siuslaw Bank

...and Thank You to everyone who participated in our second annual "Online Auction for Education"!

HOW CAN I HELP?

Wellsprings is a community asset. There are many ways you can support our vital mission. Your gifts of financial and volunteer support *do* make a difference in the lives of teenagers and in our community!

Annual Fund: Financial contributions are welcome anytime, but twice a year we mail out appeal letters to current supporters and to others who have shown an interest in Wellsprings, emphasizing that general fund support from the broad community is essential for the continuation of our work. Your gift of any size is welcomed and appreciated.

Automatic Monthly Payments: You can easily arrange for a regular monthly payment of a specified sum to be made to Wellsprings on the day of your choice. Just contact your financial institution for details. Many people find that this is the most convenient way for them to contribute. If you prefer, you may also arrange for convenient automatic monthly payments through our online donation link.

eScrip (Merchant Sponsored Programs): This program is easy to use, and once you are registered, there is nothing more to do. After you register credit, debit, or store cards with eScrip, each time you use any of those cards at participating merchants, Wellsprings receives a percentage of your spending-at no extra cost to you! All transactions are confidential and card numbers are completely secure. You can register at <www.escrip.com>.

The Mani Shimada Memorial Fund: This special fund was set up to honor a well-loved student who died suddenly in 2003 from bacterial meningitis. A designated portion of the fund is available each year to support on-going Wellsprings projects. To contribute this way, your check should be made out to the school with "Shimada Memorial Fund" in the memo line.

The Hanna K. Still Memorial Fund: Hanna Still was a founding member of the Board of Trustees, and lavished her time, attention, and resources on Wellsprings for eighteen years. In July 2012 she passed away at the age of 87. To maintain Hanna's spirit of unconditional love at Wellsprings, we have established an endowment that hopefully over time will grow to a size that will have a significant financial benefit. Contributions to the Hanna K. Still Memorial Fund will help us keep Wellsprings available far into the future for the young people who need and want the joys of learning and growing in "The Little School with the Big Heart."

Stock Transfers: Several contributors to Wellsprings find stock transfers an attractive way to give to the school. We have a DTC account whereby we can receive any amount of stock, small or large. If you risk a large capital gains tax by selling stock, it may be an advantage to donate your stock to Wellsprings, a non-profit organization, for the tax deduction. Please contact our Treasurer through the school office for details.

Estate Planning: Including Wellsprings Friends School in your estate plans will enhance many lifetimes through education. We urge you to consult with your legal and financial advisors about including the School in your Will or about establishing a Trust. There are many ways such arrangements can be made. Please contact our Treasurer if you would like to discuss such possibilities.

Donated Items: From pens and pencils to couches to sports equipment and art supplies, we always appreciate donated items. We also need items for our Free Sale held one or two times each school year. If you have something to give that you think we might be able to use, give call the school office.

Volunteer: Our volunteers provide much needed assistance around the school. Contact Yancey at 541-683-1223 to learn about ways you can help.

Thank you for your support!



STUDENTS TELL US WHY...

Earlier this spring, Bob handed out a half-sheet of paper to students that asked: "Please write 3 sentences about why you like Wellsprings. Be specific. Give examples or stories if you can. Thank you!" Here are some of their responses.

One reason I like Wellsprings is that it is a caring community where everyone is accepting. It's a place you can go and be yourself without being judged, where you can learn and still have fun all at the same time. *(Daniel)*

WFS is a school that supports you through any school or home problems. WFS teaches you the subjects that are mandatory and also teaches you how to interact with people. WFS supports your goals, hobbies, and your career choices and is always there for you. *(Hector)*

Wellsprings has made it possible for me to graduate high school. The things that I have learned here have proved way more useful than what public school offers. I have learned things like what it means to be responsible for my actions, how to be a positive member of a community, and what is really important to me. *(Jesse)*

I love how supportive this place is. I love being able to be weird and vulgar. I can be myself here. I would have dropped out if it weren't for this place. *(Emily)*

I like Wellsprings because of how much the teachers care and how much effort they put in to helping out each person who goes here. I like Wellsprings because I don't feel like I am ever in any way mistreated or bullied. I like Wellsprings because the fact that it's a smaller school enables us to grow together and make some great relationships. *(Dylan)*

I like Wellsprings because they support you when you are going through rough times. Last year my mom died, Wellsprings was very understanding and let me have the time I needed. During that time teachers and students would come to my house bringing smiles, along with open arms and gifts like cookies or Friday lunch. After I returned to Wellsprings, about a month or so after my mom died, one Friday for community service day a handful of students as well as a teacher came over and cleaned my house. I could go on for an entire book about how Wellsprings has helped me through this time of my life. *(Nalu)*

Wellsprings has helped me so much. I would not be going to school if I didn't go here. I do the things I love, I love the classes and really nice smart teachers. Wellsprings makes school fun and you feel like you want to be here, not forced to be here. *(Quanah)*



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2013



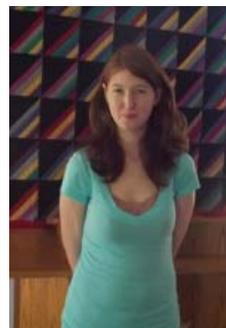
AUSTIN CALDWELL
CHARLES STONE
DANIEL HUFFMAN



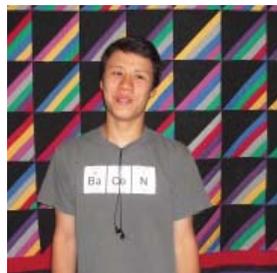
DASHA SNOW
DYLAN GILDER
EMILY BRAND
ETHAN STRONG



HECTOR LUCIA
IAN DEXTER
JACKSON AMOROSE
JESSE JOHNSON



LIAM NIELSEN
MELODY BOURGAULT
SADIE HARRISON
SAHALIE HUGHES



TAYLOR IRVING
THORNTON PRIME
WILLIAM MORAN