



L'ARCHE® TAHOMA HOPE

SOUNDINGS

Volume 23, Issue 2

Summer 2011

Touching the Lives of Others...

"Coming in to this experience, I knew very little about the developmentally disabled, and I saw a large gap between them and me. After spending so much time in your community, I no longer see this barrier. I truly believe that if we all lived in a society with as much love and acceptance, our world would be a much happier place."

-Laura



For the second summer in a row, students and teachers from St. Ignatius High School, a Jesuit preparatory school in San Francisco, traveled north this past June to spend a week with our community. These students spent three nights and five days with us, immersing themselves in our community life. We shared dinners, stories, farm work, and laughter with this incredible group of students. It's through relationships such as these that L'Arche Tahoma Hope lives out its mission of working toward a more human society.

"The care and support [core members and assistants] give on a daily basis inspires me to strive to do the same. My lasting impression of L'Arche is one of a family of love."

-Sean



"Everyone I met at L'Arche was so genuinely happy with what they were doing in their lives. It has inspired and motivated me to find my passion and actively pursue it. I honestly cannot thank you enough for your kindness."

-Rena



"Dear friends at L'Arche – Thank you for hosting us and opening your arms with such gracious hospitality and love. The students at SI experienced something they will never forget. I have taught about the atrocities of what occurred in El Salvador during their civil war for 8 years now. I say to my students, 'Once you know, you cannot NOT know.' Thank you for serving as an example on the complete other end of the spectrum in this journey. They know the love of your community. This they cannot NOT know."

-Anne Stricherz, St. Ignatius Teacher



"Thank you so much for an incredible week that I will never forget. I learned so much not only about people with developmental disabilities, but about myself, love, and the community it takes to make something like L'Arche run. I am so amazed by everything this community does and offers everyone."

-Amy

"Thank you for an amazing week. I have never had so much fun before in my life."

-Pat

News From Our Homes

Creatively Compiled by Kristen Mellis, Community Coordinator

Two-thousand eleven, over the past few months
Has seen some L'Arche changes – some big and some much

At Ananda there's swimming with Robbie and Bob
Bagheera's returned, so we've now a cat and a dog.
There's mochas and packing and Sesame Street Live!
And Les celebrating his "L'Arche Twenty-Five"!



Christmas brought Farmhouse a red van with green bow
A garden in spring in which veggies do grow
Doug did attend the Scots Highland Games
And Nancy to "Voices of the City" was named.

Hopespring's exterior's been painted – it's true
With new carpets inside, it's almost brand new!
Sharilynn has turned 60 and Bingo's Pat's game
Sarah Ronald moved over and Ha Young to us came



When Sarah joined Hopespring, Tree moved to the 'Wim
Carie's nook was repainted with personalized trim
Leana to Hong Kong, to Dallas went Rick
Nathan loves to play music and his harp he does pluck

Tis transition time; Zach's going back to the farm
The Vs have now left and the new Vs are on
Hibernia students have joined us again
Keeping plants watered through the hot (?) month ahead

Allison is returning – to Anawim now
As we welcome assistants and visitors – WOW!
Shann and Mark went with friends on retreat for Core Members
And we're looking ahead to Seabeck in September!!

● SAVE THE DATE...

L'Arche Tahoma Hope's 18th

ANNUAL AUCTION

MARCH 3rd, 2012

Landmark Convention Center

Visit us at www.larchetahomahope.org or call Rachel at (253) 535-3178 for more information,
including volunteer opportunities and receiving an invitation.

YEE - HAW!

Tahoma Hope Celebrates 34 Years!

L'Arche Tahoma Hope celebrated its 34th birthday in style this summer, with our Anniversary Liturgy and Picnic on July 30th. We were joined by about 40 friends and family, including a handful of our neighbors from L'Arche Noah Sealth in Seattle! It was a fun service under the Ananda barn followed by just the right amount of food (including some homemade ice cream!) and fellowship.

As we gave thanks for the year we have just finished, we also looked ahead to 2012! Not only will the United States be hosting the international gathering of L'Arche for the first time (in Atlanta!), but we at L'Arche Tahoma Hope will also be celebrating our 35th Anniversary! It's sure to be a memorable year and we hope that all our friends, near and far, will celebrate with us, no matter where you are!

At our anniversary picnic, **Farm JV, Carolyn Chu**, shared the following poem:
(Sung to The Sound of Music's "My Favorite Things")

My Favorite L'Arche Farm Things

When Greg sifts our soil and Les takes out the trash
When we come from market with plenty of cash
When Zach clucks like a chicken with chicken wings
These are a few of our favorite farm things

Nathan and Charles talkin' 'bout food
Leana in one of her streaky moods
Tawna's rendition of "Wind 'Neath My Wings"
These are a few of our favorite farm things

Tiller breaks down, morning glory
Aphids! Oh my gad!
We simply remember our favorite things
And then we don't feel so bad

Misha's great laugh and when Robbie asks "knock knock"
When Debbie starts weeding before one o'clock
Debra's great jewelry of bright beaded strings
These are a few of our favorite farm things

Baskets are blooming and a red ripe tomato
Volunteers weed all the plants and they mow
Silver gray winters that turn into spring
These are a few of our favorite farm things.

When the hens flee
When the slugs come
The rainboots leak a tad
We simply remember our favorite things
And then we don't feel so bad.

Memorial Contributions

We are grateful for the donations we have received in memory of the following people. They, along with their families and friends, are in our prayers.

Catherine Bombardier
John Boyle
Don Thompson

We are also thankful for the donations we received in honor of:

Fr. Jimmy Boyle
Mark Drangstveit
Trent Hamm

Thank you to all the first time donors who gave over \$5,000 this year. Because of you and the matching grant from the Medina Foundation, we were able to raise over \$10,000 for L'Arche Farm & Gardens.

HELP US KEEP CURRENT!

If we have inaccurate contact information about you, or you no longer wish to receive mailings from us, please email Mary at info@larchetahomahope.org or call her at (253) 535-3178.

2011 Community Vacations

Summer at L'Arche Tahoma Hope wouldn't be complete without our Annual Community Vacations. This year we had six groups travel near and far. The Farm Crew also takes time to play a bit! All of the groups had great vacations, and enjoyed the chance to get away and play together. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make community vacations possible. For more pictures, view our community vacations photo album at www.larchetahomahope.org.

Olympia: The small and coffee, eating scrumptious. They also managed to go to the South Puget Sound

Hoodspport: The Hoodspport drinking mochas, hiking and picnics, taking naps in the sunshine and knitting. view of the water from together and couldn't h



Vancouver Island: We ventured to our friendly neighbors to the north and enjoyed the beauty of the Comox Valley on Vancouver Island. Ours was a 'wellness vacation' with daily walks, healthy food, and good rest. We enjoyed building relationships with each other and with members of L'Arche Comox Valley.



South Puget Sound (Farmhouse): This intrepid group of vacationers spent their week exploring all that the greater Tacoma area has to offer. They enjoyed the fabulous Circus Gatti, the culinary offerings of Mary's Burger Bistro, and cinematic masterpieces at the Lakewood cinema. The week also included a trip to the Rainiers, a bonfire/BBQ, cable TV watching, and many bike rides!



The mighty Olympia group spent their week drinking delicious food, and rearranging the cabin's video collection! They got in a trip to the state Capitol building and joined the group for a trip to see the Rainiers.

Port ladies had a low-key vacation keeping busy with visiting parks, watching movies, having bonfires, playing games, boating, reading, catching some fish. We had great weather and enjoyed the beautiful view from our back porch. We enjoyed lots of rest and laughter. We've asked for a better time!



Bellingham: This year's trip to Bellingham, Washington included a trip to the comedy club and hanging out with certified laughing instructors, spending time at picnics and libraries, playing with sparklers and kites, and going out for movies, food, and swimming.



Holden Village: After an overnight camping stop on Lake Chelan, we ferried and bussed all the way up to Village, and it was well worth the trip! We all mastered the trails on our great hike on Ten-Mile Creek Trail, had fun making new friends with other guests and Village staff members, ate lots of great food, and tried our luck at new activities like weaving, beading, and laughter yoga. And how could we not enjoy a few trips to the ice cream shop and hot tub? We all agreed with Doug when he said he's "gotta get back there!"

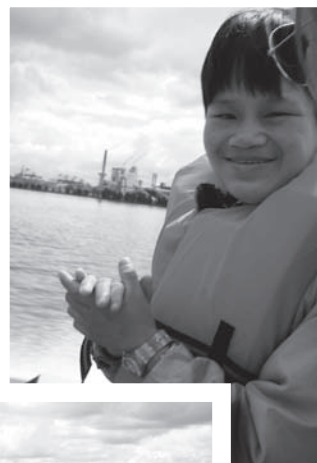


And...

...Farm & Gardens had their vacation fun too!



Farmer's Market



Boat ride with Citizens for a Healthy Bay



L'ARCHE®
FARM & GARDENS
Growing People, Growing Plants

Holiday Sales at the Farm...



Evergreen Wreaths
\$25.00 each

Preorder
yours today and get
\$5.00 off.
(Must order by Oct. 1st)

All of our arrangements are made from scratch using fresh local cedar and noble fir.

We will be making Christmas and Advent wreaths as well as door swags.

To place your order, email us at:
farm@larchetahomahope.org.

Holiday Cards and Ornaments
(crafted from our handmade paper)



Bulk orders can be made with advance notice. To place your order, email us at: farm@larchetahomahope.org.

Visit us on Facebook or at www.larchetahomahope.org to view samples of our wreaths and paper crafts.



The Friends of the Farm Feast

The Farmers felt it was time to celebrate our abundance that has continued since our beginnings in 1985 and honor the relationships that have been such a pivotal part of our growth. We decided to call the event "The Friends of the Farm Feast". Without our supporters, be they customers, volunteers, core members, assistants or daily life members, we would not have seen the success we have had over the years.

Relationships have been the one thing that we can count on at the Farm, and what better way to recognize that than to call everyone together and share stories and a meal. Our

desire is to host this event each year to gather friends, new and old, to celebrate the gifts of the season and those who have been dedicated to its growth over the years. We entertained nearly 45 people from around the community. Each person brought a tasty dish to enjoy, stories to share of the past and an opportunity to vision into the future. It was a great evening of fun, food and catching up.



Margaret, cleaning pots with Tawna & Debbie

This night also featured what will be an annual tradition of honoring a member of the Farm & Gardens Family. We decided to dedicate and name the award after Dick Sutherland, former farm worker extraordinaire. His tenacity, persistence, prayerfulness and passion for the Farm, the land and its people made it an easy choice. This year we were honored to celebrate Margaret Tolman as our first recipient.

Margaret began her tenure with us in 1998 and has seen many changes over the years - over 6,000 volunteers, 55 different assistants, 25 core members, 7 different species of animals, four greenhouses, and two county computer systems to be exact. She has journeyed with us every Tuesday for 13 years. Margaret was surprised and honored and, in typical Margaret fashion, gave credit to all those around her. Margaret received various Farm & Gardens' keepsakes and her name will be first on the plaque that will be placed on the Farm next to a tribute to our dear friend Dick Sutherland.

Congratulations to
MARGARET TOLMAN
recipient of the
L'Arche Farm & Gardens'
DICK SUTHERLAND AWARD



Thank you Margaret, for your commitment, compassion, and dedication. It has been an honor to be in such a faithful relationship with you through all these years of growth.

L'Arche Tahoma Hope
12303 36th Avenue East
Tacoma, Washington 98446

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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L'Arche Tahoma Hope is a non-profit organization.

Your donations are tax-deductible.

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www.larchetahomahope.org

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L'ARCHE®
FARM & GARDENS
Growing People, Growing Plants

Join us for Our Annual

Harvestfest

October 1st, 2011 10am - 4pm

- Farm & Gardens' Fall Clearance Celebration
- Come for the deals, stay for the fun!
- Face painting & paper making to entertain the family while you shop.
- While you're out, you can place your order for our fresh evergreen wreaths and swags (see pg. 6 for details).



*Markets We're at
Each Week...*

- **6th Ave Market:** 3:30 - 7:30, Tuesdays through Sept. 27th
- **Broadway:** 10:30 - 4, Thursdays through Oct. 27th (come early if you'd like)
- **Proctor:** 9am - 2pm, Saturdays through Nov. 19th (check for winter hours)