



Spaulding Youth Center

every child deserves a childhood Winter/Spring 2014

Communicating through Art

Spend a few minutes with Spaulding's Arts Coordinator Andrew Raeside and his appreciation of his students along with his infectious enthusiasm will soon affect you. He is passionate about exposing all students to four disciplines: visuals arts, music, theatre and dance.

Raeside believes that these aspects of art and music education are valuable tools in building self-esteem and shaping intellectual and emotional development as well as providing children who have communication challenges with additional methods for interpersonal interactions.

Raeside describes how art has helped William*, a delightful 16 year old student with autism, improve his expressive language.

four-wheeler. Then he drew an open hood with billows of smoke pouring out. He continued the story explaining that a tow-truck was needed. He then took another sheet of paper and drew a tow-truck and fastened it to the four-wheeler with tape. His drawings provide visual cues to the listener and William is very pleased to be understood.

Raeside is very proud of his students' accomplishments and celebrates their talent by setting up solo art exhibits in the dining hall. Elizabeth* has a passion for dragons so her art show displayed more than a dozen drawings of dragons; Chloe's* exhibit involved intricate designs with lots of tiny people and of course William's show was all about cars and other vehicles.

Creating ways to integrate art and music into the core curriculum is one of the goals of Raeside's program. He believes that kids learn more easily and retain what they learn far longer when they are receiving sensory input by more than one channel. While they may not understand the theory behind the use of multiple sensory inputs, it is clear that William, Elizabeth and Chloe love the opportunity to learn through art.

**Pseudonyms used to protect the privacy of the individuals.*

Kit Cornell (visiting artist), Amanda Cavanaugh and Seval Vincevic assist students in glazing their pottery. William (student front right) made a van out of clay as well as a pot.

Raeside has worked with this happy, mischievous student for several years and notes that one of his greatest assets is a good sense of humor and one of his greatest challenges is communication. William has always had a passion for cars and other vehicles and upon the installation of interactive whiteboards in every classroom, he began drawing a car every day on the board and became very adept. He is always excited about his illustrations and speaks constantly while he is drawing - describing all the parts of the vehicle and a story to go with them.

One story that William recently shared with Andrew while he drew began with a car body and four big wheels and then a radio. William explained that it was a

Arts Coordinator Andrew Raeside teaches a student how to turn a pot.

Spaulding Woods opens seven miles of new trails to the public. See Hats Off section for details.

Our Mission:

To leverage our professional expertise to help young people with autism or other developmental and/or behavioral challenges learn the academic and life skills needed to be successful in their homes, schools and communities.

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From the Hill

Dear Friends of Spaulding Youth Center,

While visiting a class during my first week as the new CEO here at Spaulding, I asked the students if they had any advice for me. Did they ever have some advice! "Wear fancy clothes so everyone will know you are important. Go to lunch every day and eat salads.

Check out a book a week from the library and read it. It would be good if you wore a tuxedo to work, especially one with colored shirts. Call everyone by their first name. Be just like Susan!" The advice went on and on, all of it heartfelt and really helpful. The core message from the kids was clear - Spaulding is a special place and it is the people who make it special.

For thirteen years, it was my pleasure to serve on the Board of Trustees,

the last five years as chair. On January 1, 2014, I became the CEO and President here at Spaulding and over the past three months I have learned a great deal. While a Board member I knew Spaulding was an exceptional place doing extraordinary work; as CEO I have come to believe that what is occurring here on the hill every day is even more amazing than I realized. Every day I see staff caring for kids in personal and sensitive ways.

Every day I see genuine learning occurring in the classroom, the dining hall, the cottages, and around the campus. Truly there is commitment to making sure that every student has a childhood, that each child is respected for who they are, and that having a chance to learn, grow, and heal is the work Spaulding does. I am fortunate to be joining the team and I look forward to meeting you and hearing your "advice."

Another student offered the following advice, "**Just be yourself - it is always the best thing to do.**" That's pretty good advice for all of us!



Jim Clements
CEO and President

This newsletter is published to present information about Spaulding Youth Center, its programs and services. For more stories and information, visit our Web site at spauldingyouthcenter.org or contact Gail C. Mayhew, Director of Development, 72 Spaulding Road, Northfield, NH 03276-4607; (603) 286-7500, ext. 532; gmayhew@spauldingyouthcenter.org.

Editor: Gail C. Mayhew

Providing Fun Activities for Kids While Honoring Former CEO/President Susan Calegari

Upon the departure of Susan S. Calegari as CEO/President, the Board of Directors of Spaulding Youth Center Foundation and the Board of Trustees of Spaulding Youth Center announced the establishment of the Susan S. Calegari Endowment Fund. This permanently restricted endowment fund was created in recognition of Susan's extraordinary service and passionate commitment to Spaulding students. The Susan S. Calegari Endowment Fund provides support to enhance the quality of student life on campus and specifically is available to support "fun" activities for the children. The endowment fund will be managed in accordance with the normal policies and procedures of Spaulding Youth Center and the Spaulding Youth Center Foundation and in a fashion as other endowment funds are managed. Only a portion of the interest or earnings from the fund will be spent annually to assure that the fund will grow over time.

"IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS," was always her lead statement whether Susan was solving a problem, giving advice, planning an event or inspiring her team. Susan sunk her heart and soul into her work at Spaulding as the Director of Development (1995-1996), as Vice President for Development (2003-2007) and as CEO/President (2007-2013). Susan has always felt that Spaulding is a very special place. She enjoyed the sense of camaraderie and caring among staff and students and the fact that the organization did not in any way feel institutional. Susan fostered this culture by not only calling each student and each staff member by name

but also by taking the time to engage each and every one in a conversation to find out how one was doing.

Jim Clements, Chair of the Board of Trustees at the time of Susan's resignation, worked with Susan as a board member for 10 years. Jim commented, "Susan has been a tremendous asset to Spaulding. As Vice President for Development she built strong relationships with donors and expanded Spaulding's circle of friends. As CEO/President she took a bold approach and led the charge to build a new school. She felt strongly that the students and staff deserved a new school and she knew the time was right even though the economy was still in a slump - all the pieces were aligned for success. There was strong board and management team leadership and the Spaulding community of friends was ready to support and move the endeavor forward. As a result of the successful \$3.2 million capital campaign, the school opened in March 2012 and now attracts and serves more children and youth than ever

before." Susan feels good about her timing to step down. With a full school, outstanding staff and a sound financial picture, the decision to step away as CEO/President was made from a position of strength. When asked how she felt about having an endowment fund named for her, Susan replied, "It's an honor and a privilege to have a fund named in my honor - its purpose is dear to my heart and it will benefit the children and youth at Spaulding in perpetuity."

After a short break, Susan is now back part-time as Spaulding's first Chief Innovation Officer. The students, staff and board members are excited to have her back.

"IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS!"

Please consider offering your support to the Susan S. Calegari Endowment Fund and through it the students of Spaulding. Donations are welcome in any amount and will be directed to the fund.

MEET JOSEPH (JEF) E. FELLOWS, III

who has been a supporter of the children and youth at Spaulding since 1991. When good friends of Jef's, Judy and Vin Wenners, became heavily involved in organizing the Spaulding golf tournament, he chose to honor them by becoming a sponsor.



Jef Fellows, an ardent fan, joins the Spaulding Daniel Webster Society

CEO/President Jim Clements (left) thanks Jef Fellows for joining the Daniel Webster Society.

Judy Wenners, who was a board member at the time, fostered Jef's interest in Spaulding and as a result Jef went on a tour of the campus to learn more. Even though the tour was more than a year ago he was so moved that he still remembers every detail and still experiences the same emotions that he felt during his visit. He recalls the unexpected sophisticated social behavior of the students as he walked through the school. Students politely stepped aside to let the him pass, shook his hand, introduced themselves and welcomed him.

During lunch, eight year old Amy*, confided to Jef that she had completed all her homework that week and was hoping for a certificate during the weekly lunchtime awards ceremony. Jef recalls that when Amy's name was announced, she was so ecstatic that she literally popped right out of her seat. Jef understood that many of the children have had some tough challenges and he was very moved by the pride and excitement shown by each child who was recognized in front of peers and staff for completing homework, learning to write their name or for improving a math skill.

Not only was Jef awed by the students, but he commented that the staff was "top-shelf." From the friendly dining hall staff to the academic staff who knew exactly the pace to set for the children's rate of learning to the administrators, he was thoroughly impressed.

Jef encourages others to donate to Spaulding and join the Spaulding Daniel Webster Society (DWS). He explains why he became a DWS member, "I know that my gifts are going to a great and well-managed organization with an important mission. I can see that I make a difference. It's not a faceless charity; I believe that the excellent staff makes dreams come true for many children in need - the more we give, the greater the number of children who can have the gift of Spaulding."

Jef has an M.B.A. from Dartmouth College and volunteers his time as the Chair of the Investment Committee for The NH Charitable Foundation. He is retired from Phillips Exeter as the Chief Financial Officer where he worked for 28 years. Jef is a downhill skier and has recently taken up the game of golf.

Planned estate gifts, such as direct bequests to Spaulding Youth Center Foundation through your will, are enduring, significant ways to help sustain Spaulding's future. They also provide you with beneficial tax and other benefits.

To join the Spaulding
Daniel Webster Society,
please contact Gail Mayhew at
603-286-7500 or
gmayhew
@spauldingyouthcenter.org.

HATS OFF!



AN EXTRA ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR...

...**THE STUDENT VOLUNTEERS, STAFF & THEIR FAMILIES**, NEMBA (New England Mountain Bike Association) members and the EChO (Experiential Challenges Outdoors) team - outdoor education coordinator Jason Sterner and outdoor education teacher Steve Golden, who built trails through Spaulding Woods. There are now seven miles of well-marked trails open to the public for hiking, mountain biking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Volunteers helped blaze, rake, hang signs and clear.

For a trail map, visit:

spauldingyouthcenter.org/news-events/spaulding-woods.

...**JACK AND MARCI WILLIAMS** who were presented with the ninth annual You've Got a Friend Award in recognition of their long time partnership, dedication and generous support that has helped fund Spaulding programs, a new school and educational opportunities for children through the Jack and Marci Williams Endowment for Wednesday's Child.

...**JAMES B. MANNING, D.D.S.** of Brookfield, NH, who was presented with the sixth annual Arthur H. Nighswander Community Partner Award. The award recognizes Manning's volunteerism, expertise and kindness in helping students with their dental care and for supporting the Health Services Department at Spaulding.

Specialized Care for Foster Children

How would you react if you were separated from your family and moved to several foster homes in one year? Due to parental neglect, six year old Adam* and his older brother were removed from their family home and into foster care. Adam had a particularly difficult time adjusting - concerning behaviors involved kicking, screaming, biting, swearing, throwing chairs and breaking windows. His behaviors escalated until the Division for Children, Youth and Families approached Spaulding to provide specialized care for him. Carol Sanborn, Spaulding's Recruiting and Licensing Specialist, who recruits and trains foster parents, immediately came to the rescue with a particular family in mind.

A plan was put in place where Spaulding staff provided extra support by staying with him at day care several mornings a week. As Adam got into a regular routine with consistent care and well-defined expectations, his tantrums subsided and Spaulding staff was able to gradually withdraw the extra supervision. In just four months Spaulding staff, his foster care family and daycare staff, with love and consistency, have helped Adam become a sweet six year old with a smile to melt your heart. His foster mom says that the family is now able to enjoy outings with him - his favorites so far being the Monster Jam at the Verizon Wireless Arena and the Jump N Joy in Belmont.

Spaulding Youth Center Supports an Eco-friendly Environment

This newsletter is printed on paper using 100% Post Consumer Waste (PCW) and is FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) Certified.



There are many children in need of loving families and permanent connections.

Spaulding's ISO Foster Care Program provides foster homes for children and youth ranging in age from birth to 20. Make a difference in the life of a deserving child in your community by becoming a foster or adoptive family.

For more information, contact Carol Sanborn, Recruiting and Licensing Specialist at carolsanborn@spauldingyouthcenter.org or 603-286-8901 x203.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

SCIENCE FAIR

Friday, April 18 1:30 – 3:00 pm

The School at Spaulding

8TH ANNUAL NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH CELEBRATION

Saturday, May 17 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Spaulding Youth Center

This is a free event for foster/adoptive/relative care families put on by The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) and several community organizations. Spaulding Youth Center is honored to be the host site.

ARTS FESTIVAL:

FOLK TALES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Thursday, May 29 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Spaulding Community Center



**SPAULDING
YOUTH CENTER
& FOUNDATION**

72 Spaulding Road
Northfield, NH
03276-4608