

NEWS

October 14, 2013

HIGHLIGHT OF THE WEEK

All School Grades Early Childhood Bios At Large Community

Honor Day of the Dead at TCWS and at Seattle Center!

After a joyous Michaelmas celebration, we now look ahead to our upcoming Spanish festival for Día de los Muertos! As in years past, we will set up a community altar with candles and crafts made by the children in order to remember our departed loved ones. If you would like to honor a deceased family member, friend, or pet, please submit your photos or drawings to the front office with your child's name and grade written lightly on the back so that we know who to return them to. We ask that you please bring these by October 22nd so that we can enjoy the altar for the week leading up to the festival.

We also encourage you to go with friends and family to the cultural festival hosted at the Seattle Center's Armory to enjoy *Dia de Muertos: A*



Mexican Celebration to Remember our Departed. The festival will happen on October 26-27. It honors the lives of loved ones who have died, and provides a multifaceted window into Mexican culture that includes song, dance, food and hands-on crafts, such as decorating sugar skulls and paper skeletons. Our kids would enjoy practicing Spanish at this enriching, bilingual event.

Señora Martinez plans to attend to the festival with her two children, Diego and Dante on Saturday, the 26th of October in the afternoon. Feel free to meet her at the Festival! More information...

ALL SCHOOL NEWS

Highlight Grades Early Childhood Bios At Large Community

Director Update

Each year our school continues to grow on the foundation of our past achievements, and together with the Board, the Faculty, and the staff, we envision the near term and far ranging future of the school. We are delighted to share with you our progress and the plans we are considering as this year unfolds.

Programs

Our plans follow our dreams, and our dreams come to life in a variety of ways. For example, the faculty is currently reviewing programs- in particular our approach to World Languages and our early childhood program – as well as focusing on the ongoing study of Waldorf pedagogy and child development which informs their daily work with the students.



Throughout this school year we will also consider how to best educate and serve children in our high-tech, high-media, and high exposure world. We take these topics with the seriousness they deserve: we not only wish to serve the students in our care to the best of our current abilities, but also to develop our school to be truly connected with today's needs. On some of these topics we have much to learn. On others we have much to teach.

This work is held in the context of our **Pedagogical Carrying Group** and its weekly meeting where our work is further discussed before recommendations are made to me, for implementation. Faculty and staff members are truly dedicated to their immediate work with the students and the school as well as to building the school's future. These additional responsibilities are not so easy in a small school, where people are always too few. Yet everyone is meeting these challenges with much enthusiasm!

Parents' Support

Thank you for supporting our daily life and our growth! The Marketing team met extensively last year, and gifted the school with a solid and actionable marketing strategy which we are slowly implementing. The team's expertise and enthusiasm has been outstanding, and we are so grateful for those parents who gifted their time and expertise to support us in fulfilling our mission.

We educate our students to fulfill their highest potential – think clearly, feel deeply, impart meaningful purpose to their lives, and actively

contribute to the positive development of society.

Spearheaded by your Class Coordinators, the **Parent Association** is coming to life in earnest, with projects underway to connect, learn, and share, through community building, adult education and study, and festival life. You can read a full description of the PA initiatives for this year on the Parent Association page of our website accessible via the website Parent Portal.

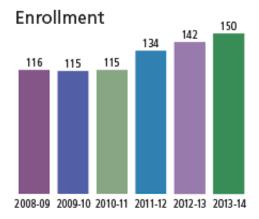
Keep an eye on the news from the Parent Association in our newsletter: the group offers many opportunities to join in and create the community you wish for. We choose Waldorf Education for our children. We can also create a community of friends and learners for ourselves and our families! Come share in the enthusiasm and creativity of the Parent Association.

Mark Your Calendar for Our Upcoming Parent Association Meetings!

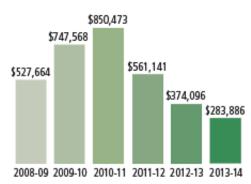
Thursdays, November 21 · January 23 · March 20 · May 15

Finances

We closed the 2012-13 school year with a (\$428,702) deficit, \$165,000 better off than we had planned for. Through a combination of prudent financial management and enrollment increase, the 2013-14 budget took this summer a further step towards our plan for sustainability, with a planned deficit for the current year of (\$283,886). We are proud of these significant improvements, and especially of the impact our focus on our financial situation has had on the purposeful and positive changes to our program. Yet, our efforts and creativity in putting the many pioneer years of deficit budget behind us are not quite sufficient to see us through this year without another very significant level of help from the school community. This support will come to us in several ways, some predictable – fundraising – and some quite surprising.







Fundraising

Our 2013-14 budget is based on reaching our fundraising goal of **\$117,200**. Our goal is well within reach: it is based on what we raised last year, with a slight increase. The Fundraising Achievements and Goals table includes the details for each fundraising initiative.

Fundraising	Raised 2012-13	2013-14 Goals
Annual Fund Individual Donations	\$ 42,772	\$ 45,000
Microsoft Matching	23,317	24,000
Foundations	25,000	25,000
Total Annual Fund	91,089	94,000
Concert & Auction	8,421	9,000
Spring Faire & Garage Sale	8,400	8,500
Total Events	16,821	17,500
Pcc Scrip Program	3,780	5,000
Total Scrip	3,780	5,000
School Store	800	200
Spring Haircuts	500	500
Total Other	1,300	700
Total Fundraising	\$ 112,990	\$ 117,200

Annual Fund – Goal \$94,000 – THANK YOU for your continued and generous support! You will receive our Annual Fund request along with a pledge form in the mail in the coming days. You can also print a pledge form from our website Annual Fund page.

Scrip Program – Goal \$5,000 – Contribute to our school without spending more! View our website Scrip page.

Concert and Auction – Goal \$9,000 – Our Concert & Auction event will take place 'at home.' Mark your calendar for **Saturday, March 29, 2014** for this very special community evening of outstanding music, great gifts and adventures, and delicious food, all on our campus where we spend less and enjoy more!

Other Fundraising – Goal \$9,900 – Spring Faire, Garage Sale, Haircuts, and School Store. More details will come in the spring time about these opportunities to support our school!

Bequest

Earlier this spring, we were notified that the school was the beneficiary of a very generous

bequest, the level of which will enable us, among other things, to pay both mortgages in full. We welcomed this extraordinary gift with deep gratitude and enthusiasm, as well as with the appropriate degree of discretion, as the bequest attorney and executor let us know that we should not expect to receive the proceeds before June or July of 2014. They also assured us that there are no impediments of any kind to our receiving the bequest. We were not expecting this gift, and describing the depth of our gratitude is difficult. This bequest will allow us to own our property in full and create a prudent reserve. It will also allow for the initial investment towards the improvement of our facilities, which in the future will require significant further investments.

This news is so positive and uplifting! Yet we must be cautious and remain alert and practical, and remind each other that this bequest is an invitation to walk the path of fairy tales: cross our golden bridge fully awake, filled with dreams and courage for the tasks that await us, or relax so deeply that sleeps ensues with its cortege of indulgences and squandering. Our golden bridge lies immediately ahead of us: we must close this year's budgetary gap by meeting our fundraising goals before we reach the other side of our financial stream. We know we can count on each other to walk this year's path with gusto!

ED Action Plan

My Action Plan is updated each year, as we progress and look farther into our future. The 2013-14 ED Action Plan builds on the progress made in the past two years, and reflects the school's Strategic Plan. This year's plan continues to build the most essential areas of school life: finances, programs, advancement, and site development. The needs of a growing school are many and varied, and it is good to be reminded on occasion of the most essential progress we must make. The plan is now posted under the Governance tab of our website Parent Portal.

This year again, the school will be vibrant with the life that your children bring to us and by the enthusiasm of our faculty and staff in making this 2013-14 adventure possible and enjoyable. Now that you know a little bit more about our projects for this year, we invite you to contribute to the future of our school. I look forward to seeing you all on October 29!

Community Forum

Tuesday, October 29 · 6:30 pm · Trillium Hall

Getting together to discuss the school's future is a crucial element in the life of a Waldorf School community. In addition to the two topics presented in the beginning of year letter, the Board and I will also update you on the school's financial position.

Please mark your calendar and join us for a World Café style conversation about two important topics:

- The impact of our growth on our facilities and the future of our site.
- Community life What we like, what we would like to change.

For more information on the World Café format, please visit www.theworldcafe.com

I look forward to seeing you all on October 29, and to continue building together a vibrant Waldorf School in Bellevue!

Geraldine Kline



Michaelmas Appreciations

May we all carry warmth and courage into the darker and colder winter days ahead! Michaelmas was a glorious celebration on a rain-filled and beautiful Friday on September 27th. This country festival of Michaelmas comes as the days grow shorter and



the leaves turn red and gold with the harvest being gathered for the winter months ahead. It is a time of inner awakening; a time to strengthen our resolve to conquer the fear that comes from challenges we face. This harvest time binds human beings together through courage, truth, strength, and love.

Thank you to the many helping hands who made the festival such a gift for all who participated. At the Crafts & Tea gatherings on Thursday mornings, parents joyfully prepared for not only Michaelmas but also the Lantern Walk which is our next fall festival. Thanks go to **Dashka Blyzniukova**, **Erin Dudley**, **Sandra Duncan**, **Nailya Galiakbarova**, **Kristi Hartman**, **Molly Kirrene**, **Asun Muir**, **Jeannette Nagel**, and **Karen Wegehenkel** for washing some of the apples and filtering the apple juice into the jugs which was one of the tasks.

Being courageous and using our will to create this festival is a Michaelic goal in all of the preparations. Joining together in our Plaza for the Michaelmas Pageant always brings a tangible sense of fellowship and is the living picture of triumph over adversity, and is brought with music, movement, and dramatic events. The grades students joyously brought the pageant at 8:30 a.m. to many parents in the plaza and gathered with many of these parents for the School-wide Michaelmas Work Group to dig, plant, and beautify our gardens. We are grateful to those who participated including the <u>Grade 1 parents</u> and other parents: Briana and John Bennitt, Julia and Buckley Guderian, Jeff and Mary Haller, Kristi Hartman, Rachel Rodriguez, Sanae and Scott Stanley, and Karen Wegehenkel to name a few.

We are grateful for <u>all of the parents in the Kindergartens</u> who brought apples and vegetables that the kindergarteners prepared for their Harvest Luncheon which happened at 11:30 a.m. With gratitude we acknowledge those who joyously work in the office to announce and guide others in preparing for Michaelmas, and offered, hot tea and refreshments in the foyer on Michaelmas Day, and those who made the landscape look beautiful at our Michaelmas work party in September.

We are grateful to the **faculty including Britt Urquiza**, **Annette Campana** *and* **Cris Smith** for their contributions coordinating activities such as the Pageant, School- wide Michaelmas Work Group in the morning and the Tug-of-War and The Dragon Game at Wilburton Park in the sunny afternoon. With enthusiasm, all **kindergarten** and **elementary students** pressed apples. Apple trees provided the apples they used in our cider press that truly tested the strength of each one as they turned the wheel to guide the apples through the grinder. Then two children took a pole to turn the cylinder to press the cut apples down and used great strength to squeeze the juice for placing in the jugs. We are grateful that **Jason Canard** guided some of the classes through this experience and helped set up the apple press and cleaned it with **Jennifer Winson** and visiting teacher, **Bernd Zabel**, after classes used it.

Thank you to everyone and may you carry strength, inner light, and courage into winter and call on the strength and light available to us all to face our dragon and the darker months ahead!

Geri Snyder

Potluck & Work Party!

Saturday, October 19 ⋅ 10 am – 2 pm

Please join us on Saturday for our last Work Party of the season, which will be celebrated with pumpkin carving! We will put the gardens to sleep for the winter, help prepare the grounds for Lantern Walk, share a potluck feast, and carve Jack O' Lanterns. Farmer Sean of Dancing Crow Farms



will be making a delivery of organic pumpkins which may be purchased on the day of the event, or you are free to bring your own pumpkins if you prefer. The school will provide tools and pizza; please dress for the weather and bring a potluck dish to share.

Happy October! Seraphina Orzel

Saturday Work Parties

Work Parties are a great way to connect with other families, giving the children a built in play date while parents work together, share food and conversation – all while supporting the school! Please join us for these upcoming Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m:

- October 19 Pumpkin Carving Party!
- March 22
- April 26
- May 17

If you are interested in being a garden steward, but are unable to attend on one of these Saturdays, please email Seraphina. Volunteers are warmly welcomed after morning drop-off, before afternoon pick-up, and on weekends.

Thank you in advance! Seraphina Orzel

Salad Day Appreciations

The faculty greatly appreciated the thoughtfulness of parents who brought food for the Salad Day on September 12. There were delicious salads with green beans, quinoa, tabouli, cole slaw,

pasta, pickled beets, cheese, chicken, and more! Some were tangy, a few were spicy, and some were sweet or savory. We ate some great bread and butter and for dessert, there were wonderful chocolate brownies and cookies with some of us choosing the Asian pear salad as a finishing touch to a delightful meal. We are grateful to Cameron and Jeff Altaras, Julie Elithorp, Barb Geri, Will and Petra Hines, Thamis Mendez, Nicole Nielsen, Beth Parker, Beverly Pressey, Rachel and Javier Rodriguez, Ria Simpson, Kris Solem, Sanae Stanley, Krista Tinker, Julie Tredway, Cait Walsh and Cris Wegmann. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you!

Geri Snyder, on behalf of Full Faculty

Portrait Day – Wednesday, October 16

Portrait Day is coming up soon! Vakker Portraits will be on campus next week on Wednesday, October 16 in the morning to take individual portraits of students in Grade 1-8, as well as class portraits for Grades 1-8, Apple Blossom and Morning Glory. There will not be a group photo taken in Buttercup. Early Childhood families will have an opportunity to have individual portraits taken. Please see below for further information.

Order forms were sent home on Wednesday, October 9. Please carefully read the following as instructions are different for Grades and Early Childhood.

Grade School Parents of students in Grade 1-8, please fill out your order form and return it to the Front Office by Tuesday, October 15. There are labels that must be attached to your order for tracking purposes, and Portrait Day goes much more smoothly if the orders have been processed in advance.

Early Childhood For our Early Childhood families, Vakker is making a special accommodation this year. Rather than taking individual portraits on campus, Vakker is opening their studio on the 16th from 12:15 pm to 1:15 pm for families in preschool and kindergarten to have a simple school portrait of their child(ren) taken. The studio is located a couple of minutes down the road from TCWS at 1940 124th Ave NE Ste A108, Bellevue. Please fill out your order form and bring it directly to Vakker's studio with you.

Please contact the Front Office if you have any questions.

Holidays - Simplified!

Wednesday, November 6 ⋅ 7:00 – 9:00 pm ⋅ Trillium Hall ⋅ Suggested \$10 Donation

Use the principles of Simplicity Parenting to experience a holiday season that includes more JOY and less STRESS!

We invite you to participate in a holiday workshop that includes:

- Imagining how you would like the holiday season to feel
- Identifying expectations of yourself & others
- Re-evaluating your priorities
- Identifying obstacles that interfere with having a joyful holiday season
- Planning some small, doable changes that will help make the holidays a time for meaningful family connections

This workshop will be facilitated by Simplicity Parenting group leader Judy Erbe. Please contact the Front Office or email us to register. For questions about the workshop please feel free to contact Judy.

Work Party Appreciations

Please note that Nelya Galiakbarova and Vladimir Eremin attended the September 21st Michaelmas Work Party, although their names were mistakenly not listed in our appreciations. We apologize for this oversight!

GRADE SCHOOL NEWS

Highlight All School Early Childhood Bios At Large Community

We Found Our Ultimate Coach!

We are delighted to announce that our Ultimate program has found its permanent coach!

Coach **Gavin Sing** has been involved with Ultimate Frisbee since 2005, competing at Western Washington University on the mens club team DIRT. He has played competitively since then in both league and at the Club level, with his most recent



involvement playing with Seattle Voodoo in the mens division in 2012 and 2011 and serving as their General Manager, as well as in the co-ed division in 2009 with Emerald City Remix.

His coaching experience starts in 2008, where he helped to chaperone and assistant coach Bellevue Highschool (BAM) mixed team in the Spring. He assisted at Spring Reign, the largest youth ultimate tournament in the world and have been involved with the team ever since, being the Head coach in 2009, 2010 and 2012 and assistant coaching in 2011. Through BAM, Gavin has helped grow the sport on the Eastside as the team has doubled in size, and has now expanded to have a Boys team in the Fall and a coed team in the spring – with hopes of a Girl team this coming spring. Receiving the Spirit Award at Spring Reign in 2012 and at Westerns in 2010 with the boys team was one of the accomplishments Gavin is most proud of.

The team began working with Gavin as their coach this past Thursday, when the students were properly introduced to Gavin as their new coach. Please join us in welcoming Gavin to our school!

Grade 6 Field Trip

Accompanied by intrepid chaperones Emma Goldschmidt, John Kelly, and Steve Lindberg, the sixth grade traveled to Steamboat Rock state park for an introduction to stargazing. The Golden Eagles, wasps, rattle snakes and mosquitoes of the park were an impressive wildlife experience, but the highlight was swimming in Banks



Lake. Unlike Soap Lake, which we also visited, Banks Lake was deep, cool, and offered an island to swim to and beach sand to dig. Sun Lake, which was our destination after a desert hike at Umatilla Rock, was filled with jellied plant life and freshwater shells. Many Washingtonians don't know the geological marvels of Dry Falls, the Lake Leonore caves, and the Gingko Petrified Forest, but the sixth graders now do. Highly recommended, this gorgeous part of central Washington is worth another field trip, perhaps next year.

Kim Holscher, Grade 6 Teacher

EARLY CHILDHOOD NEWS

Highlight All School Grades Bios At Large Community

The Value of Napping for Preschoolers

In a very recent study conducted at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, a group of preschoolers were studied in the classroom and also at a sleep lab to determine if naps help to serve memory retention and learning. There have been several studies on young adults and napping that has shown the power of the nap, but this is the first study specific to the preschool aged child (3 to 5 years of age). As early learning continues to penetrate to younger children and some preschools and daycares are considering removing nap time from their daily schedule in

favor of more academics, and as the topic of universal preschool is on our national stage, the authors of this study were interested in showing if naps had real quantifiable value. The study revealed that napping provides for more memory retention of what was learned in the time leading up to the nap. It also revealed that sleeping longer at night in place of the midday nap did not create the same benefit for memory retention and learning.

Read more about findings of the study... Read the full study...

At TCWS, we recognize the value of napping on many levels. We provide the young children in our school community with the time needed to nap at the end of their school day either at home or in our Aftercare program. We have a lovely rhythm in our Aftercare program to help support the children to relax and release into dreamland. Napping helps to benefit their emotional life, their brain development, their healthy growth, and so much more. This study is just further confirmation to continue to support this healthy rhythm for children in our care.

Miss Wendy, Buttercup Preschool Lead Teacher

BIOGRAPHIES

Highlight All School Grades Early Childhood At Large Community

Wendy Werner Buttercup Preschool Teacher

Wendy Werner was born and raised in Seattle in a large family constellation.

She graduated from Washington State University with two Bachelor of Arts degrees in Business (Hotel and Restaurant Administration and Human Resources), followed by managing restaurants and working for a major food service company. Miss Wendy credits her two daughters with leading her a bit further on the Waldorf path. She graduated from LifeWays of North America's program in August of 2008, and then immediately entered the Sound Circle Waldorf Teacher Training program in Seattle, graduating in June 2011. Prior to joining Three Cedars, Miss Wendy spent four years teaching Parent and Child classes for Tacoma Waldorf School. She lives in Northeast Seattle with her husband, two daughters, one dog, and two parakeets.

Jackie Ralston Lead After-School Care Teacher

Mrs. Ralston was born in Santa Ana, CA, moving with her family to Joyce, WA when she was five years old. She spent the next four years on a 100-acre farm with two ponds, two creeks, a herd of cows, and 17 horses, as well as



two sets of grandparents. When her family moved to Port Angeles, WA when she was nine, she experienced life in a small town, surrounded by loggers and fisher folk. She attended Western Washington University in Bellingham, where she met her husband and discovered the Ba'hai faith. The couple relocated to the Eastside, where they have lived for more than 20 years. Mrs. Ralston has worked as a bookkeeper, preschool teacher, Parent-Tot playgroup teacher, as the assistant director at a child care center, and as a nanny for a total of 20 years. She completed her foundation year with Bill Bryant in Tacoma. She has been associated with Three Cedars since 1999. Mrs. Ralston's two children have attended Three Cedars Waldorf School and Seattle Waldorf High School. Her interests include knitting, reading, basket making, philosophy and spirituality, human development, and group consultation.

AT LARGE

Highlight All School Grades Early Childhood Bios Community

Abuse, Lack of Parental Warmth in Childhood Linked to Multiple Health Risks in Adulthood

Published September 26, 2013 University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), Health Sciences

The effects of childhood abuse and lack of parental affection can last a lifetime, taking a toll both emotionally and physically.

There are many reports assessing the psychological damage resulting from childhood abuse, and the effects on physical health have also been well documented. For instance, this "toxic" stress has been linked to elevated cholesterol, cardiovascular disease, metabolic syndrome and other physical conditions posing a significant health risk. The research into the physical effects of abuse, however, has focused on separate, individual systems.

A new UCLA-led study for the first time examines the effects of abuse and lack of parental affection across the body's entire regulatory system, and finds a strong biological link for how negative early life experiences affect physical health. The study is published online by the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. Continue reading article. . .

COMMUNITY

Highlight All School Grades Early Childhood Bios At Large

Halloween Crafting Tea Party

Sunday, October 20, 2013 • 10 am to 12 noon

Please join us for a delicious morning teatime snack and a simple — but super fun — craft project! Create a unique set of Cheesecloth Ghosts, alongside your little one or while s/he plays. These are amusing decorations for your home and they also make great gifts for friends and family. Craft mornings are a wonderful outing for grandparents too!

- A non-scary holiday event for young children
- For ages birth to 6 years old, to attend with parent or caregiver
- · Casual attire, please no costumes
- Flat \$10 supplies fee per child

Simplicity Learning is located two blocks north of Three Cedars www.SimplicityLearningCenter.org
Contact Simplicity Learning 425.614.0145

The Wise Heads of Kings, the Simple Shepherds' Hearts: Consciousness Soul in Storytelling

Sunday, October 20 · 4:00 to 5:30 pm · Seattle Waldorf School

Join us in welcoming Mary Anne Kirkwood who is making a West Coast tour from her base in San Francisco. She will be giving a lively talk entitled: The Wise Heads of Kings, the Simple Shepherds' Hearts: Consciousness Soul in storytelling. If you love to read, tell stories, or if you are human and *live* stories, come experience what Mary Anne has to give and be prepared to take away something for yourself. Read more about this event.

To read her interview which was published in Being Human, please click here.

What: The Wise Heads of Kings, the Simple Shepherds' Hearts: Consciousness Soul in storytelling by M.A. Kirkwood

Where: Seattle Waldorf School, Huckleberry Hall (go to upper level of building), 2728 NE 100th

Cost: \$10-15 suggested donation (no one turned away for lack of funds)

Contact: Pam Engler 206.526.5984 or email

Thistle Theatre

For the last two seasons Thistle Theatre has gained national recognition as a guest company at the Center for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta, GA, the largest puppet center in the United States.

Thistle Theatre offers the most affordable, professional theatre experience to families in the Puget Sound area. If you haven't visited one of our three locations yet, join the thousands of families that have enjoyed our performances. Make this the year you introduce your family and friends to this traditional style of Japanese puppetry.



Thistle Theatre is the only puppet theatre in the NW specializing in the Bunraku-style of puppetry. We are at the forefront of evolving and exploring this increasingly popular Japanese style of puppetry. Our own hand-crafted puppets are brought to life by puppeteers dressed in black, operating the puppets from behind for realistic movement.

Please click here for more information about Thistle Theatre and their upcoming shows, including Aesop's Fables.

Wider Community

Setting Sleep Disorders to Rest

Presented by Jaimen McMillan • February 7-9, 2014 • Vancouver, BC

"To sleep: perchance to dream: ay, there's the rub." Sleep disorders plague over one-third of the North American population. Some can't fall asleep. Some have trouble waking up. Some sleep fitfully and wake up more tired than when they went to bed. Insomnia, snoring, sleep apnea, restless leg syndrome, sleepwalking, bedwetting, and nightmares are just some of the topics we will cover in this course.

Tuition for the course is \$525 (\$500 plus GST of \$25). **Pre-registration** required by December 15, 2013 Email to register **Information** www.spacialdynamics.ca

Classifieds

Seeking Nanny in Bellevue

I'm a full time working mother with a just-turned-two year old boy. We are looking for one full time or two part time nannies to watch him. Hours are 9am to 5pm, with some flexibility; he naps from 2:30-4:30, so we could do 9-2 or 9-2:30 instead. Pay is \$15/hour at your place or mine (near Crossroads), and driving to local parks. We have a mix of Waldorf and Montessori style toys, as well as a train set and dolls.

My son has had nannies since I returned to work full time in February. One of his nannies had a son about his age, and they got along fabulously! Unfortunately, they moved out of state and my little man is bored with grownups. He longs for social interaction and developing relationships with other kids. He's introverted, so he is often pushed aside and bullied in large groups. For this reason, I don't think that a day care would suit him. I'm looking for a parent with a girl or boy around his age, so that they can play together.

He loves music, singing, lots of outdoor time, sticks, rocks, balls, anything with wheels, and animals. We have a dog at home, and he is good at being gentle with animals. We use gentle discipline (talking, not punishing), and I regularly get compliments on how polite he is from his caregivers. He loves to try new things and participate in cooking and cleaning activities.

Submission deadline for our next newsletter is Monday, October 21, 2013.

