

lambs tales

2013 Volume 2

summer



Creative Solutions. Unique Partnership.

Engineering students of Northwestern University bring technology to help meet Participants' needs.

Since 2009, Northwestern University engineering students have been using their knowledge and creativity to improve the quality of life for many of the men and women at Lambs Farm.

The Segal Design Institute of Northwestern University requires all freshmen engineering students to take the Design, Thinking and Communication class. This program is one of the only in the country allowing freshmen students to work with real clients.

"We want the students to think about who the product is for and to engage in feedback

during the design process. This feedback is an integral part of the design process," said Segal Design Institute Co-Director Bruce Ankenman.

To accomplish this task, each year the University requests organizations like Lambs Farm to submit proposals on a problem that the students could help solve.

"Having projects from Lambs Farm is a great experience for our students to work with people with developmental disabilities," stated Ankenman.

"Technology can really help meet their needs and help them grow independence."

(Continued on page 3)

inside:

page 2:
Letter from the President and CEO

page 5:
New Adaptive Sports Program

page 6:
Tribute Garden Groundbreaking

our mission:

Helping people with developmental disabilities lead productive, happy lives and connecting with the human spirit in us all.

www.lambsfarm.org

An Event You Will Not Want to Miss!

Join us for the Lambs Farm 2013 Annual Benefit:

Harvesting the Spirit DownTOWN on the Farm

Saturday, November 2
Sidney Yates Gallery
Chicago Cultural Center

It will be a "gala affair with some country flair," promising a fantastic evening of gourmet dining, great music, dancing - all with a country twist.

We will be bringing some down-home sparkle to downtown Chicago, as we come together to celebrate a great organization! Come in your cocktail attire or put together an elegant mix of denim and diamonds or black tie and boots. There will also be high-spirited bidding in both silent and live auctions and much, much more. You won't want to miss it!

Many sponsorship opportunities as well as other ways to participate are available. For more information, please contact Nikki Bonamarte at neb@lambsfarm.org or 847.990.3733.



From the President and CEO's desk...

It is always an interesting experience when representatives of CARF International come to Lambs Farm to review our programming and determine the level at which we comply with their strict standards.



Our 2013 survey was conducted over three days by two Surveyors, managers themselves of agencies in the field of human services. They

reviewed numerous documents, interviewed staff, Board Members and other stakeholders, and inspected our facilities. We are proud to have earned our 12th consecutive three-year accreditation, the highest possible. When we received their final report, I was humbled to realize that they had captured the very essence of Lambs Farm. Their long list of strengths included in part:

Board Members demonstrate a thorough knowledge of current issues being addressed as well as future plans of the organization. They are actively involved in committees developed to support the mission and values of Lambs Farm, and are dedicated to recruiting new members who will bring diversity in skills and access to needed resources.

The management team is strong, mission driven and committed to internal collaboration and cohesion with a good balance of direction and leadership to the individual operations and a continuing effort to maintain and nurture passion for the mission. A visionary approach to providing program services exists as staff monitors the pulse of impending service needs and adjusts services to prepare for future needs. Plans for each person provide a complete picture of how needs can best be met.

Staff members develop positive working relationships with the

persons served and support them to achieve their goals. Everyone involved displays an ongoing commitment to the strong culture of person centered services, of the vision, and of the values of the organization.

The Strategic Plan is developed through a dynamic process that incorporates all aspects of the organization, resulting in a living, active document that has meaning and value and helps drive the future growth and development of the organization.

It is reassuring to learn that our culture is so apparent. To us, it is an unspoken commitment to continued excellence - the element that sets Lambs Farm apart from other organizations. It is a shared dedication that will assist us as we adjust to our new reality, the New Beginning that finds us serving two distinct populations of people, the younger and aging men and women of Lambs Farm. It is the common thread that will provide guidance to us as we modify existing programs and create new ones to address their dramatically varied needs, as our new Fine Arts Program has done. Despite the increased costs, our goal is to assure continued growth for all in a productive and satisfying environment. Please consider a gift to Lambs Farm today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dianne M. Yaconetti".

Dianne M. Yaconetti
President and CEO

(continued from cover)

In the Fall of 2012, Lambs Farm submitted a proposal for a sleep tracking device as some Participants were having trouble sleeping. We needed a system to accurately report sleep patterns for their doctors to evaluate. A push light called the Bedside Buddy Button was ultimately developed, and even won an award within their class. The prototypes of all their ideas were given to Lambs Farm to help with this problem.

According to the student's user manual, "The Bedside Buddy Button consists of an illuminating button that mounts to the wall or any flat surface convenient for the user. When pushed, this button records a time to a microSD memory card and the data is read as a collection of timestamps. The button always remains illuminated, but when pushed, the light within the button turns off for 15 minutes. After 15 minutes, the light turns back on signaling that users can push the button again if awake or that the user is asleep if no longer pressed."

Mary Lee Segal is one of the Participants who has been using

the sleep aid device. She has found the device very helpful in tracking her sleep. "It shows my doctor when I am awake. This helps me to get the right medicine, so I can sleep better," said Segal.

This Spring, indoor bocce balls were also designed by the students for use in recreation and for our Special Olympics teams.

According to Recreation Manager Kreig Alm, "The new bocce balls allow the indoor practice to be closer to what it is like outside. It is more accurate."

Other products the Institute has developed for Lambs Farm are easy access snack boxes, a safe cutting tool, rollators that encourage good posture, exercise equipment for someone in a wheelchair and a rain shield for both the person in a wheelchair and the person pushing the wheelchair. Lambs Farm is able to keep all of the end products..

We appreciate this unique partnership and the creative solutions that have helped improve the lives of the men and women of Lambs Farm.

Three-Year CARF Accreditation

Lambs Farm has been accredited by CARF International for a period of three years for the following programs: Community Housing, Community Integration, Community Employment Services - Job Development, Community Employment Services - Employment Supports, Organizational Employment Services and Supported Living. It is the twelfth consecutive three-year accreditation that Lambs Farm has received.

A few of the many strengths they highlighted this year were the exemplary staff and programs. According to CARF, "Lambs Farm employs warm, competent

individuals who display patience, creativity and genuine care for the persons served. Staff members clearly enjoy what they do and seek to provide the highest quality of services."

In addition, CARF commented that the new Fine Arts program is passionately received by Participants and is part of Lambs Farm's visionary approach to program services.

"This achievement is due to an exceptional staff of individuals who have a genuine commitment to and passion for the mission of Lambs Farm," said Dianne Yaconetti, Lambs Farm President and CEO.

Thank You Golf Day Sponsors

On July 16, more than 190 golfers teed off to benefit Lambs Farm! This year marked the 29th Annual Golf Day in memory of Jack Stein. Later that week, the 9th Annual Jack Stein Luncheon was held. Both events combined raised more than \$150,000 for Lambs Farm. Thank you to all who attended and to our generous sponsors.

Masters Sponsor
KPMG LLP

Shirt Sponsor
Windward Roofing & Construction

Lunch Sponsor
Walgreens

Golf Ball Sponsors
BMO Harris Bank
Underwriters Laboratories

Golf Cart Sponsor
Law Offices of Earl J. Roloff

Golf Bag Sponsor
Moyer Properties, LLC &
Annenberg Investments, LTD

Golfer Item Sponsor
Discover Financial Services

Hat Sponsor
Uline

Breakfast Sponsors
Laurie Hernandez &
Mark Stavropoulos
Levenfeld Pearlstein, LLC

Putting Contest Sponsors
Cheryl & Duf Sundheim

Hole-In-One Sponsor
The Resnick Automotive Group

Hole Sponsors
Conor Commercial Real Estate
DLA Piper
Extended Care
Golder Family Foundation
Hershman Cohen LLC
Kroeschell, Inc.
Karen Lieberman
Plante Moran
Varin Property Management
Wanxiang America Real Estate Group
Dick and Joan Willix

In Kind Sponsors
Chicago Tribune Media Group
Hinckley Springs

Support Lambs Industries

Since 1981, Lambs Industries has provided our Participants the opportunity to gain work skills and earn an income. Seventy-three Participants currently work at Lambs Industries. More projects are always needed to keep the work flow steady for those employed in this area.



Kevin Donohue

Our trained work force and impeccable service have made us a leader in the field of packaging and assembly.

Personal support, dedication and commitment to quality make us a great source for business production needs. Lambs Industries prides itself on precise workmanship and a dedication to exceptional quality.

Contracting with Lambs Industries can help businesses reduce and control operating costs and overhead, minimize inventory costs, free up internal resources, eliminate logistical problems, and move time-consuming functions out of house.

Health care companies, event organizers and bakeries are all examples of businesses we have done work for in the areas of hand assembly, collating, packing, labeling, and even laundry services.

Please keep us in mind for your current and future business needs. For more information, call Toni Rios at 847.295.2121.



A Quest class shares their Van Gogh painting with pride.

Quest Expo Highlights Talents

Each Spring, the Quest Expo highlights the many talents and interests of the men and women of Lambs Farm. With the various Quest classes taken throughout the year, Participants are able to share their knowledge and achievements through artwork, science projects, crafts, learning activities and much more. It is a wonderful opportunity for all to experience the joy of learning and creating here at Lambs Farm.

Quest classes were implemented at Lambs Farm in 2000 to enrich the lives of our Participants. The program provides opportunities for men and women to pursue their personal goals with classes available on a wide variety of topics, including daily living skills, travel, history, arts & crafts and sports.

According to Quest Manager, Brooke Mezo, "It is amazing to see people work on a talent and

to perfect it. They get to see what they are capable of."

Participant Ann Fuller took the Arts & Crafts class this year and she enjoyed "doing a lot of different things" such as painting a ceramic letter "A" for her room.



Joanna Willix sharing project

A talent show followed the Expo, featuring the Talent Show class and Choir class of the Fine Arts Program, demonstrating another way to share the special gifts and interests of our Participants. Many sang and played instruments, even

getting the crowd to sing along with familiar tunes.

"I love to see the Participants learn how to express themselves through the Fine Arts program," said Quest Instructor Susan Carlson.



MATP banner unveiled at Special Olympics Banquet.

New Adaptive Sports Program

This Spring our Recreation Department began a new adaptive sports option called Motor Activities Training Program (MATP) for the Participants who are unable to join in Special Olympics events due to low physical or cognitive skill levels.

MATP is for athletes who do not yet have the skills to participate in a competitive environment. It aims to develop their motor skills with tasks such as pushing a ball or stepping across a low bar. Many of these athletes have physical disabilities, as well as learning disabilities, so the program is set up to enable each Participant to engage in appropriate recreational activities geared to their ability level.

Through this program, Participants are able to grow in the skills necessary to one day join a Special Olympics team.

"We want everyone to have fun and have an opportunity to be part of Special Olympics. We also want to continually provide new recreational options for as many Participants as we can to help them grow," said Recreation Specialist Ginny Luptak.

Training and participation is typically done on site and introduces individuals to functionally appropriate motor and sports activities.

These activities include:

- Mobility - leading to gymnastics
- Dexterity - leading to athletics
- Striking - leading to softball
- Kicking - leading to soccer
- Wheelchair - leading to athletics
- Aquatics - leading to swimming

At the Special Olympics Banquet in June, the seven Participants of the MATP Program were awarded "Big Achievement Awards". A MATP banner was also unveiled at the banquet, which will be hung in the Lambs Farm gym alongside the other Special Olympics sport banners.

"This program means a lot to me because I have arthritis and still want to try new things," said MATP Participant Martha Cox. "Getting the trophy made me want to cry tears of joy."

Special Olympics Banquet

Every year Lambs Farm recognizes the tireless efforts of our athletes during the Karen Buron Sports Awards sponsored by the Johnson-Larson Fund. During the presentations, Recreation Manager Kreig Alm reminded everyone that there is never a break in the Special Olympics seasons for the Participants.

Each sport season leads into another exciting sports season, offering all of our Participants the chance to be a part of as many teams as they would like. Two athletes, Tom Durbin and Liz Wallace, were recognized for participating in eight sports!

The highlight of the evening is always the highly anticipated announcement of the special awards. The following athletes were honored:

Big Achievement Award:
All seven MATP athletes

Athlete of the Year:
Josh Johnson

Best Sportmanship:
Brian Grady

Outstanding Achievement at State:
Thorne Hill



Josh Johnson

Return of the Car & Bike Show

After an eleven year hiatus, the return of the Lambs Farm Charity Car & Bike Show boasted 107 vehicles for everyone to enjoy!

It was a fun-filled day with a raffle auction, DJ, live music by Samadhi Vibe and a bake sale. Special acknowledgement goes to Rob and Sandy Figurski and Dave DeHart for organizing the event! Over \$9,000 was raised for Lambs Farm's programs for people with developmental disabilities.

Thank you to the event's platinum sponsors:

Anthony Buick GMC/Gurnee
Fifth Third Bank partnership
Mundelein and Vernon Hills
Mundelein Cruisers Car Club
Nationwide Insurance
Hollinger Services

Participant Theatre Presents *Grease*

Grease is the word.

Join Danny, Sandy and all their friends from Rydell High School for this toe-tapping musical performance featuring the men and women of Lambs Farm!

Gorton Community Center
400 E. Illinois
Lake Forest, IL 60045

September 21 at 7 pm
September 22 at 2 pm

Tickets will go on sale in August.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please contact Martha Neigel at 847.990.3703 or mneigel@lambsfarm.org, or visit www.lambsfarm.org.



Artistic rendering of the new Lambs Farm Tribute Garden by Wright Landscaping, Inc.

Tribute Garden Groundbreaking

July 11 marked a special occasion as Lambs Farm hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for our new Tribute Garden. The idea to develop this area originated during



First tree planted during ceremony

our 50th Anniversary celebration year as a way to enhance the Lambs Farm campus and to serve as an ongoing fundraising endeavor for Lambs Farm.

Our new Tribute Garden will be a tranquil space where the men and women of Lambs Farm and visitors alike can reflect and find peace. Located along the scenic Lambs Lake, the Tribute Garden will bridge the front and back of the property, linking the public face of Lambs Farm with the private residential area.

The beautiful design and inviting features of the Garden will encourage relaxation and enjoyment for all who enter. It will both enhance the Lambs Farm campus and provide prominent recognition of those who generously support this oasis of serenity at Lambs Farm.

Donors will be recognized within the Garden through various giving opportunities are available at many levels including: complete sections of the Garden, Tribute Wall plaques, engraved bricks, individual plantings, and more.

For information, please contact Nikki Bonamarte at 847.990.3733 or email neb@lambsfarm.org.



Wright Landscaping, Inc., project managers

Donor salute:

Lambs Farm is grateful for the support we receive from our many friends. Listed below are the names of those especially generous individuals, foundations and corporations whose gifts of \$1,000 or more were received from January 1, 2013 through April 30, 2013.

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Mr. & Mrs. James P. Zils

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Mr. Alan O. Amos and Ms. Marcia E. Lazar
Mr. & Mrs. David W. Denton
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Heldmaier
Mrs. Karen Lieberman
Dr. & Mrs. Patrick J. Murphy
Fred B. Snite Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Warren Wiegand, Jr.

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Mr. Jeffery K. Benham
Mr. Thomas D. Creigh
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ferguson
Mrs. Miriam Lazar
Mr. Edward LeBaron
Ms. Dianne M. Yaconetti

\$2,500 to \$4,999

Barrington Area United Way, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Fick
Ms. Martha Fox
Mrs. Fern Frank
Mr. & Mrs. Edmund A. Horsch
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Kimble
Mrs. Eileen Kreiser
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Krupp
Dr. & Mrs. John R. Lindquist
Mr. & Mrs. David Price
Mr. Robert N. Savoie
Mrs. Susan Sprowl

Thorn River Foundation
Vernon Township
Mr. & Mrs. Willard T. Walker
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Wernick
Mr. & Mrs. Peter S. West
The Samuel L. Westerman Foundation

\$1,000 to \$2,499

James R. & Lesley B. Anixter Family Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. John Arnold
Anthony Buick GMC
Mr. Edward F. Buron
Mrs. Electra Carlson
Dr. Richard Davison and Dr. Lisette Davison
Ms. Barbara Euman
Fifth Third Bank Partnership Mundelein/Vernon Hills
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas A. Fisher
Mrs. Joan Fuller
Ms. Sharon P. Garcia
Mr. William Graves
Mrs. Diana J. Healy
Mr. Remsen B. Henry
Ms. Laurie Hernandez
IBM Employee Services Center
Iglewski Family Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. William R. Jacobs
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Karpek
Dr. & Mrs. Melvin P. Katz
Dr. Yeun S. Kim
Mr. & Mrs. Gideon Kishony
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Koehler
Mrs. Patricia M. Kurschner
Mr. & Mrs. H. M. Kurzman

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Levy
Mr. & Mrs. Vern McCain
Ms. Delia E. McVoy
Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Mork
Nationwide Insurance Hollinger Services
Mr. James W. Norris
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Northrip
Mr. Chaitanya Patel
Ms. Rosalie Piazza
Mr. & Mrs. John Piccione
Mr. & Mrs. Frederik Pohl
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Pomerance
Richard and Marianne Reinisch Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Cy Rosengarten
Mr. & Mrs. William Siebers
Mrs. Susan Stein
Ms. Dorothy Sully
Ms. Eiko Terao
Varin Property Management
Mr. & Mrs. Kent Verner
Mrs. Mary Wagener
Col. & Mrs. Charles R. Wallis
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Willix
Ms. Ruth Wittenberg
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Wyllie
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Zaun
Mrs. Lita Zemel
Mr. Sheldon O. Zisook

BEQUEST

Mary A. Domzalski Trust

Tributes and memorials:

The decision to honor and remember friends and loved ones with a gift to Lambs Farm is always considered a very special honor to us. Below, we list the names of those individuals who have been honored or remembered with a gift received from January 1, 2013 through April 30, 2013.

In Honor Of:

Jeannine Alles
Sai Baba
Bernie Becker
Jennifer Badovinac
Pat Behling
Benham Family
Kim Czyzowicz
Kevin Donohue
Mary Alice Dour
Maribel Espinoza
Cecilia Feicht
Anne Fox
Martha Fox
Alan Giuliani
Katherine Higley
Mike Impastato
Christina M. Jaggi
Muriel Kasanov
Eric Khorzad
Janine Kiple
Burt Lichterman
Deborah Lichterman
Michael Lindquist
Gloria Moyer
Robert Moyer
Bernadette Myers
Robert E. Neiman
Dawn Perry
Pete Perry
Brett Peters
Alexander Potermin
Leah Rosset
Kathy Russert
Eileen Schmidt

Mr. & Mrs. Ted Shafftner
Elizabeth Sprowl
Terry Stubing
David Sundheim
Frances A. Travaglio
Barb Trudell
Jautanne Vaughn
Andy Wernick
Joanna Willix
Linda A. Woods

In Memory Of:

Adele Adess
Robert Batenhorst
Martin J. Blanford
Karen Buron
Amparo Cerbo
Lillian Cierny
Dawn Marie Dace
Mildred Louise Delk
Darlene Ferrell
Katie Geelhart
Sylvia Golsen
Claudia Greene
Laurie Gregg
Robert P. Healy
Remsen B. Henry
Seymour Hirschfield
Janis Hofflander
Richard Hofflander
Alice Hurlbutt
Eileen Jacobson
Florence R. Jesenovc
Peter Joyce

Ruth Kahnweiler
Irene Kapustka
James F. Klier
Robert Klier
Helen Kovacich
Dell Kowalski
Elaine Layva
Paul Lazar
Lynn Levin
Dolores Lewandowski
Norbert Lewandowski
Max Liptrot
Cathy Jo Lodge
Geraldine Maether
Christa Anne Mark
Michael C. Martino
Bert W. McCleneghan
Dorothy McCleneghan
Robert T. McNaney
Anna Mortellaro
Joseph Mortellaro
James Neary
Barbara Neff
James E. O'Halloran
Sara Onley
Robert Ottoson
Dennis Page
Aloysius Pontecore
Eugene Pontillo
Leonardo Ricaborda
Soledad Ricaborda
Douglas Rostron
Carol Lee Rushing
Paul Sandburg
Ashley Seay

Aniceta Soledad
Cirilo Soledad
Phyllis Steinhandler
Mary Nell Steinmiller
George M. Sundheim
Sally Sundheim
Alice Tamraz
Thomas Tamraz
Mary Tettener
Mildred Thatcher
Lucy Ulrich
Phyllis Werner
Jessie Whittier
Luke A. Wienckowski
Marion Zaun

Change service requested

Upcoming Events

Participant Theatre Presents Grease

Saturday, September 21, 7 pm

Sunday, September 22, 2 pm

Gorton Community Center, Lake Forest

Join Danny, Sandy and all their friends from Rydell High School for this toe-tapping musical performance featuring the men and women of Lambs Farm! Tickets on sale in August. Contact Martha Neigel at 847.990.3703 or mneigel@lambsfarm.org for more information or to purchase tickets. Tickets will also be available online at www.lambsfarm.org.

8th Annual Barn Burner BBQ

Saturday, October 19, 11am-4pm

Lambs Farm

Things get hot and spicy as Lambs Farm hosts the 8th Annual Barn Burner BBQ Competition sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbeque Society. For information on entering your team, becoming a vendor or judge, please contact Kathy McMeins at kmcmeins@lambsfarm.org or call 847.990.3749.

Lambs Farm 2013 Annual Benefit Harvesting the Spirit...

DownTOWN on the Farm

Saturday, November 2

Sidney Yates Gallery, Chicago Cultural Center

Join us for a gala affair with some country flair. The special evening will include down-home fun with cocktails, dinner, dancing and more. Great music, live auctions and delicious cuisine with a country twist will make it a night to remember. Contact Nikki Bonamarte at 847.990.3733 or neb@lambsfarm.org.