

35th Anniversary A Year of Celebration! Calendar

Thu – Sat Apr 30 – May 2 8th Grade Play – Landmark Auditorium – Thursday at 1:00 p.m. for the school and Thursday-Saturday at 6:00 p.m. for the community

Fri May 1 May Day Celebration – **12:30 p.m.** – on the PRWS playground (**Note the new time!**)

Thu May 7 Pentathlon

May 5-13 8th Grade Trip & Rest Day

Fri May 8 Kindergarten Morning – 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – in the Violet Kindergarten

Sat May 9 First Grade Readiness – 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Thu May 14 8th Grade Parent Meeting – 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Mon May 18 Parent Engagement Meeting – 6:00 p.m. – in the music room

SAVE THE DATE – May 8th

Community Conversation at 8:15 a.m.

Topic: The Flower Basket – An Update

This conversation will take place in the Pleasant Ridge gym

- Marianne Fieber, Administrative Chair

Join Us for Our May Day Celebration on Friday, May 1st

Come and join us for a festive celebration of the return of light and warmth at our May Day celebration on Friday, May 1st. Family and friends are to meet on the playground **before 12:30 p.m.** (**Note the new time!**) The processional will begin at 12:30 p.m. There will be May Pole activities, including the crowing of the King and Queen, singing, and dancing. There will also be activities for the school children afterward, including games, tree planting, and chalk drawing. The PRWS community and neighbors are welcome to enjoy the May Pole events. May crown-making and the 7th grade fundraising activities (described below) are open to all throughout the afternoon. You are welcome to bring flowers to enhance your May crown.

If the weather is threatening, all events will be in the gym.

- May Day Celebration Committee

7th Grade Plant and Popcorn Sale May 1st

The 7th grade class will be hosting the annual plant sale after the May Day celebration on May 1st. Popcorn will also be available for purchase. Thank you so much for supporting the 7th grade in raising money for their 8th grade class trip!

- Beth Walker Stephenson, Sale Organizer

Hot Lunch Menu Week of May 4

Monday – Pizza

Tuesday – Burritos

Wednesday – Soup & Bread

Thursday – Mac & Cheese

Friday Assembly

May 1 – No Assembly –

May Day Festival at 12:30 p.m.

May 8 – No Assembly

May 15 – Odd Grades Assembly at 8:20 a.m.

May 22 – **Closing Assembly at 11:00 a.m.**

**Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School 8th Grade
Presents: The Secret Garden, A Musical**



Book and Lyrics by Marsha Norman
Music by Lucy Simon
Based on a novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett
at
The Landmark Auditorium
500 E Jefferson St, Viroqua, WI 54665

Thursday, April 30th, 6:00 p.m.

Friday, May 1st, 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 2nd, 6:00 p.m.

Technical Direction: Pita Daniels
Music: Monika Sutherland and Matt Shortridge
Costume Design: Joseph Dhara
Directed by Carrie Treviranus

Tickets: \$3 children/\$5 adults. Family max. \$15.
Children 5 and under are free.

Dinner and concessions for sale beginning at
5:00 p.m.

Run-time approx. 90 minutes, plus a twenty
minute intermission.

Appropriate for all ages.

Sauerkraut for Sale!

Made with love by Fizzleology Foods and
packed with care by 8th grade students and
parents as a fundraiser for their 8th grade class
trip. Cost: \$6 pint/\$10 quart. Available at
performances of *The Secret Garden* and at
PRWS every day until it's gone! Delivery
available in Viroqua - call Angie at 606-2086.

Looking for Kombucha Bottles

The 8th grade class needs kombucha bottles!
Please bring them to the 8th grade or to the
PRWS office where we will pick them up.
Thank you!

- 8th Grade Class

Welcome to a New Student!

We are delighted to welcome Hazel Magnan
Elliott into the Rosemary Kindergarten. Hazel
has two siblings in the school: Ruby in Grade 5
and River in Grade 2. Her parents are Emily
and Mike Magnan Elliott. Welcome, Hazel!

- Darla Barrows, Enrollment Coordinator

Hot Lunch Volunteers

Help! We still need you! Let's all pull together
and fill up the hot lunch volunteer cooking and
serving positions for the month of May. The
sign-up sheet is on the wall across from the
office. Thank you!

- Amber Knutson, Hot Lunch Volunteer
Coordinator

Time to Return Your School Library Books

All Pleasant Ridge library books are due back
by Friday, May 15th. Please take a look through
your home and round up all our books!
Thank you.

- Chris Leinberger, Volunteer Library
Coordinator

When the Going Gets Green, the Green Gets Mowing!

The mowing sign-up sheet is up across from the office. Please put your name on it. We'll contact you and set up a pair of one-week assignments that fit your schedule.

We will start the calls from the top of the list, so hurry and get your name on the list. If we get enough families signed up, we may be able to pair some families up or have families have just one week instead of two.

This is an essential part of maintaining our school and keeping our costs down.

We will provide a map of areas to be mowed and help with any of our equipment.

- Jon Dehlin, Facilities Committee

All-School Workday Thank You!

The Facilities Committee would like to thank the many parents, faculty, and friends of the school for coming to our Spring 2015 All-School Workday a week ago Saturday. Close to 40 people, not counting kids, put in a whopping 90+ hours of work to make it a success! What a fun, busy, and productive day it was! Thanks to all of you, the grounds look neat and ready for the May Day Festival, and we even squeezed in a couple of long-term infrastructure improvements. I am continuously impressed and humbled by what our parents can do, and would like to take a moment to thank everyone individually (in no particular order):

- Margret Lenarz for tackling the huge task of pruning fruit trees and beautifying flower beds by the main entrance with the help of her brothers Dan and Joe and her sisters-in-law Sonya and Janna. I'd also like to thank Margret for her help with feeding lunch to the many workers and for removing winter decorations.
- Joe Lenarz and Evan Blattner for moving the white shed from the second-grade playground to its new location, per faculty's request.
- Evan Blattner for repairing a broken swing.
- Jerrod Getz for helping with the key piece of hauling away tree trimmings and other debris in his dump truck.

- Gregory and Diane Splinter for doing a stellar job of cleaning out the watershed and tree trimming.

- Michael Severson, Neil Knutson, and Steve Kottke for building a fabulous new sandbox for the Violet Kindergarten, and David Levin, Amber Biver, Robin Kottke, and John Porter for helping to fill it. In the words of Miss Shannon herself, "I've long said that a bigger sandbox would lead to world peace."

- Dan Brown for getting the school's push mowers in tip top shape for the summer.

- TJ Semanchin, Chris Kirkpatrick, Robin Kottke, Eric Meyer, and Shawn LaVoie for helping fill the expanded sandbox over at the Rosemary Kindergarten with fresh sand.

- Jacob Hundt for cleaning out the Old Main Building gutters and for repairing the Violet Kindergarten fence.

- Mark Brudos and Jim Kangas for cleaning out the weeds from the cracks in the asphalt.

- Chelsea Porter for helping with lunch and contributing food.

- Vicki Ramsay for lunch clean-up.

- Shelly Brenneman for rounding up and consolidating stray lumber around the playground.

- Kathy O'Rourke, Kris and Eric Snowdeal, Alicia Leinberger, Jessica Leinberger, Janna Kottke, Diane Splinter, Davina Hemner, Samantha Severson, Mike Bieser, Paula Grenier, Mark Brudos, Jim Kangas, and the many students for raking, raking, and some more raking of last year's leaves. We had *forty plus* bags filled by the end of the day! Special thanks to Jon Dehlin for hauling these away.

If you didn't get the chance to contribute, we have several exciting special projects planned for the summer and would love for you to pitch in. Stay tuned!

- Sofya Hundt, Facilities Committee

A Shout Out in Appreciation to all Who Helped with Saturday's 35th Anniversary Celebration

The celebration was a huge success, and we couldn't have done it without a tremendous amount of help from volunteers. I am very grateful to the planning team, which included

Liz Franklin, Jennifer Wade, and Cynthia Olmstead. Print materials were developed by Darla Barrows and Cynthia. The Marketing Committee birthed the idea of a DVD of stories telling the history of the school, and it was produced by Cynthia, Marianne Fieber, and David Levin. We will find a way to make it available for viewing.

Set-up began on Friday and continued on Saturday. These people took on the challenge: Marianne, Becca Lewis-Clifton, Jon Dehlin, Elizabeth and Coriander Dehlin, Kathy O'Rourke, Marinella Pro, David Paull, and Heron Splinter. Ansel Brenneman and Rowan Heath pitched in to help clean classrooms and cubbies. Kay Fandel and Diane Splinter prewashed the dinner dishes.

Some board members and alumni helped serve: Joe Lenarz, Cori Skolaski, Alycann Taylor, Marianne, and Leo Cox, while Fran Knapp and Anton Bezin helped with dishes. Jon, Marianne, and Joel and Grace Turino moved tables on Sunday. We asked some alumni parents to be at the registration table or to host: Jan Rasikas, Jen Shepard, and Jenny Cain, as well as Erika Broser. Joseph Dhara provided piano music for dinner, and David Levin filmed the speakers. Chris Dunn graciously provided music at the dance at the Viking that night.

We also are grateful for the many in-kind donations from Luke Zahm, The Flower Basket, Capri Cheese, Eric and Shawn Meyer, Liz Franklin, the Viking Inn, Diane Splinter, John Zehrer, and Ryan Evans. Our business sponsors were the Driftless Café, Organic Valley, Vernon Memorial Healthcare, Citizen's First Bank, and Vernon Communications. Many people sponsored a teacher or two.

The event went smoothly and was a great success because so many folks helped to make it so, and also, many of you attended! Thank you all.

- Mary Christenson,
Development Director

Registration has Begun for Summer Parent/Child Classes!



Outside the window of the Parent/Child classroom, cheerful robins herald the return of the merry spring. Picking violets and gathering dandelions are just the beginning of the joyful pastimes that we look forward to each spring. Here at Pleasant Ridge, we are looking forward to the purposeful outdoor work and play that bring us together in Parent/Child for one month in the summer. Together with Ms. Martha, families will establish healthy and joyful rhythms of outdoor play that will last the summer long. Our summer term class meets Wednesdays June 3, 10, 17, and 24 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

To register or for more information, please contact us at 608-637-7828 or at enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org

We are looking forward to celebrating the joys of summer pastimes with your family!

- Darla Barrows, Enrollment Coordinator

Open Positions/Employment Opportunities **First Grade Class Teacher – Beginning School year 2015-2016**

Middle School Class Teacher – Beginning School year 2015-2016

Admissions and Enrollment Coordinator – Beginning School year 2015-2016

Job Descriptions, employment application, and hiring process may be found on our website under "Employment." If you have other questions, please contact Marianne Fieber, admin@pleasantridgewaldorf.org.

- Marianne Fieber, Administrative
Chair

New Ideas for our Holiday Faire

Our region is rich in culture and natural resources. Each year Pleasant Ridge highlights local arts, talents, and beauty in our

Silent Auction at the annual Holiday Faire. We want to take the reach wider with an online component that will **allow us to bring in our friends and families that aren't local.**

We're looking to expand the silent auction team to build, and then run, this important annual fundraiser. Currently, the school nets about \$8K from the auction. Our **primary goal** in making a change is to **increase the number of donations from outside of our local** economic base. **Second**, we aim to **create connections with folks beyond the hills** of the Driftless.

We plan to keep it small this coming year to test the waters.

We're looking for you and your skills to help build the proverbial boat.

- *General organization and project management*
- *Askers for getting donated auction items*
- *Website and computer prowess*
- *Database and data entry*
- *Very simple accounting*

Talk to Joseph Dhara, Alicia Leinberger, or Mary Christenson if you're interested, and we'll fill you in on the idea.

- Alicia Leinberger,
Holiday Faire Co-Captain

Online Fundraising for PRWS

Please go to

www.pleasantridgewaldorf.org/page/support/store for direct links to these fundraising opportunities:

- Goodsearch.com
- GoodShop.com
- amazon.com
- iGive.com
- iSearchiGive.com

- Cynthia Olmstead, Development

Kindergarten and First Grade

Readiness Mornings

Kindergarten Mornings at PRWS –

Friday, May 8th, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

These are opportunities for parents and young children to participate in kindergarten activities, meet the kindergarten teachers, and experience the PRWS kindergarten.

Advance Registration Required.

First Grade Readiness Morning

Saturday, May 9th, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Members of the faculty will give a presentation about Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School and its educational approach, followed by an informal circle of discussion and questions. An informal tour will be offered to interested parties. Adults only please.

Advance registration requested.

To register for any of these events, please call Darla Barrows at 637-7828 or email enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org.

- Darla Barrows, Enrollment Coordinator

COMMUNITY NEWS

Get your tickets today!

TRUTH BE TOLD: Stories from the Driftless & Beyond

May 2 - 6:30 p.m.

The Ark - Viroqua

The evening's theme is "It Takes Two" and, truth be told, there's a killer line-up of storytellers. We're expecting a sell-out event, so purchase early!

Kaya Cameron

Eddy Nix

Connie Vanderhyden

Kreigh Rasikas

Caleb Nicholes

Terese Agnew

Misa Grenier

Micah Robinson

Erika Broser

Missy Hughes

Tickets: \$10 at the Viroqua Food Co-op or yihs.net (look under the "Store" tab). All proceeds benefit Youth Initiative High School.

The Ridgetones spring concert is Friday, May 8, at 7:30 p.m. at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Viroqua. Come and enjoy the usual eclectic mix of music. The choir will be accompanied by an orchestra and band.

Mama and daughter standard donkeys need loving Waldorf family. New home needed due to owner's health. Halter broke and leads. One ridden. Could drive or guard. 627-1092 – evenings.

HOME FOR SALE: Quality, 3-bedroom brick home, move-in ready, located at 504 S. Rusk, a few-minute walk to school. Craftsman home features hardwood flooring throughout; handsome floor and crown moldings; renovated bathrooms, stainless steel kitchen appliances; central air; porch off master bedroom; clean basement with rec room, laundry, and four storage rooms; and fenced-in backyard with large deck. Contact Dan at 920-495-0379 or dburke@doorcountylandtrust.org for spec sheet, more information.

All Creatures Animal Care is available for all your spring and summer trips for the care of your sweet pets. In addition to thorough pet care, we offer plant watering, mail pick-up, and home security measures free of charge. We specialize in the young and elderly animal, and long-term, regular care while you are at work or away. **Call Beth at 637-6937** and make your plans today!

CREATIVE MOVEMENT CLASS FOR 3-5 YR OLDS! We will explore dance concepts (levels, shapes, sizes, pathways, space, body parts, etc.) rather than technique steps. Students will become aware of their bodies in new ways and have an opportunity for self-expression in movement. 6 week session: Wednesdays 5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. from May 6th - June 10th. At the ARK Center for the Arts. \$35 for the full 6-week session or \$7 per drop-in class. Contact Mandy Herrick: herricam@gmail.com, 612 201 2596.

Kelty junior backpack, like new, adjustable sizing. Fits 3rd - 7th grade child best. Good for weekend or longer trips with functional waist belt, red and gray, \$25. New was \$125. Jerry 608-433-2230

Symon's Sharks Swim Team – Richland Center – The Gullion family from PRWS has enjoyed participating in this relaxed, noncompetitive swim team option. They are looking for other families to join them. The coaches are very friendly. All ages are welcome. Beginning swimmers who can swim the length of the pool with a floaty to advanced swimmers may join. Call Kristina Gullion at 920-421-4280 for more information.

Babysitter available – My name is Amalia Gullion. I am 11.5 years old, and I have taken the Safe Sitter course. I have lots of babysitting experience. I am responsible and like to have fun with children. I am available evenings and weekends during the school year and all day throughout the summer. Please call Amalia at 608-629-5979.

LUNCHBOX EXPRESS COMMUNITY NEWS POLICY

The Lunchbox Express Community News section is provided as a service to the school community. Printing of an ad does not imply endorsement by Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School.

How to Place an Ad:

1. Limit your ad to 70 words. We do not edit. We will not print ads over 70 words. If you must have a long ad, make a note & give it to the office staff to place on the bulletin board.
2. Ads will be printed only once.
3. Put your ad in the folder in the LBE's mailbox in the Office marked "Lunchbox Community News" OR e-mail ad to Vicki Ramsay at vickmamama@hotmail.com with "Community News" in the subject line.
4. Deadline is Tuesdays at 8:30am. There may be occasions, due to unforeseen circumstances or space restrictions, that the Community section will not be printed. Thank you!

BOARD ELECTIONS

It is election time again for the Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School Board of Directors

There are three positions to fill on the Board this year. Two parents have stepped forward with interest in this important work, and their statements of interest are below. These positions are being vacated Joe Lenarz and David Levin, whom we thank for their years of conscientious service, stewardship, and dedication to the school. Alycann Taylor, Incumbent Treasurer, is interested in continuing in her position. **Please complete the ballot(s) and bring to the Office by May 20.** Thank you for participating.

Shelly Brenneman – New

Hi, my name is Shelly Brenneman, and I hope to serve on the Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School Board. My son Ansel is in 6th Grade and my son Finn is in 1st grade, and both really love PRWS. Ever since we arrived in 2011, the PRWS and community has felt like home and is a bright light in the life of our family. Before moving to Viroqua, the boys attended early childhood and early grades programs at Shepherd Valley Waldorf School in Colorado and Singing Cedars Waldorf School in Iowa (my home state). We are a very dedicated Waldorf family and feel grateful that the boys have been in Waldorf programs since very early childhood. Waldorf education has inspired me since 1988, when my college roommate returned from volunteering at a Waldorf school in Scotland. She taught me about many lovely connections between Waldorf education and our environmental education majors. Over the past 25 years of teaching education programs in parks, nature centers, and for non-profit conservation organizations, Waldorf philosophies have continued to inform and inspire my work. I felt very blessed to work as the Rosemary Kindergarten Assistant, especially during the many days we spent helping the children explore and connect with the neighborhood forests and school garden. I feel that experience, along with my graduate degree in sustainable agriculture, will greatly inform my support of our expanded education programs with the addition of The Flower Basket. I have enjoyed working with so many dedicated and talented teachers, staff members, and parents as the Pentathlon co-coordinator, as a member of the Raffle Committee, and in helping organize children's activities for the Holiday Faire. Since 1989, I have served on the boards of several non-profit education organizations. I am currently a board member of the Driftless Folk School and work as the Executive Director of Valley Stewardship Network. I would like to offer my education and non-profit experience to support the continued blossoming of Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School.

Sofya Hundt - New

My name is Sofya Hundt, and together with my husband Jacob, a PRWS alumnus, we have four children ages 9 years through 6 months. My oldest daughter is in third grade, and my son attends the Violet Kindergarten. My husband works as the Program Director of Youth Initiative High School, while I stay home and volunteer actively at the school. Originally from Baku, Azerbaijan, I have attended the American University in Bulgaria, where Jacob and I met prior to my moving to the United States in 2003. It was through this family connection that I developed strong faith in the mission of Waldorf education and a sound understanding of its basis in Anthroposophy. I believe that PRWS does an outstanding job of teaching our children to become compassionate and creative problem-solvers, and I am therefore deeply invested in ensuring our school's social and economic health for years to come. In order to better serve this goal, I would like to ask for your support as I seek to join the Pleasant Ridge Board of Directors as your next Facilities Committee Chair.

For the past four years, I have served the school in various capacities. I've enjoyed preparing food for various events and providing classroom and teacher support. For the past two years I have taken on the coordination of the Holiday Faire Bake Sale, where I helped increase revenue and parent participation. Since September of 2014, I have also served on the PRWS Facilities Committee, where I helped the administration establish and oversee a process for handling building- and grounds-related requests from faculty and staff, streamlined our oversight of snow removal, and, most recently, took on the lead role in the planning and coordination of all-school workdays. As your board member, I would be bringing with me my ability to engage parents in volunteer work in ways that are satisfying and fun, my strong fundraising skills, and my expertise in the areas of logistics and problem-solving. Thank you for considering me for this position.

I would like to thank the parent body for their consideration of me to continue to participate at the PRWS board table.

Alycann Whalen Taylor - Incumbent

A little bit about me...

When my husband and I moved to Viroqua in 2005, we knew nothing of Waldorf education. We came here with a newborn and a goal to start our own business, Bluedog Cycles. It became evident over time that Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School supports our personal and parental beliefs. Wilma (3rd grade) and Lucy (1st grade) both now attend Pleasant Ridge.

I know how important it is to have parents participating and volunteering for their children's school. My elementary school education required a strong parental volunteer effort. I watched, firsthand, my parents volunteer in just about every capacity. I believe that parental involvement is imperative to the small private school's success. I also think it's important for children to see their parents involved in their school and their education. As parents of this school, it is essential that we are participating and volunteering. I feel that one of the best ways for me to be involved at PRWS is to utilize my professional skill set. For most of my professional career, I have been involved in working for organizations that are led by a board of directors. I have sat on both national boards and community-led boards. I am very familiar with board processes. I feel this experience is an asset at the board table.

Currently, I am serving as the treasurer of PRWS. In this capacity I also serve on the finance committee. What is most rewarding about serving on the PRWS board of directors is the opportunity to work closely with other parents, faculty, and staff. These are smart, dedicated people who work together to represent our school. The tethering of ideas and experiences is powerful. I am excited by the opportunity to continue my service on this board. I feel I have the experience and the excitement to represent Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Vote for THREE candidates below and place your ballot in the box in the School Office by the end of the day on Wednesday, May 20, 2015.

In single parent households, parent votes here

Shelly Brenneman _____

Sofya Hundt _____

Alycann Taylor _____

Write-in candidate _____

In 2-parent households, second parent votes here

Shelly Brenneman _____

Sofya Hundt _____

Alycann Taylor _____

Write-in candidate _____