

Creating Landscapes for Families

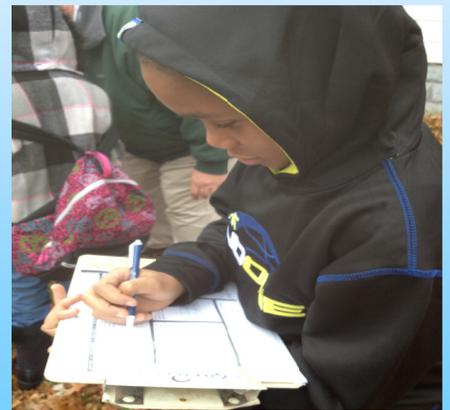
December 2013

- written by Melony McCoy -

EXCITING GARDEN NEWS!

We are so happy to fill you in on our hopes for next year's garden! So many of us talked about it and we think that by growing a garden in town—closer to our homes—we will be able to have many more families and friends join us. We will also be able to be in the garden so much more because most of us will be able to walk to it. So we found a spot right on South Main Street. Meadville Redevelopment Authority owns it and Jill Withey is working with us to make a plan so we can borrow it and grow good food on it. She has been so nice! There is a process to go through for us to use this land but we are working on it! A few weeks ago, our soil was tested to be sure it is good for vegetables. The neat part was that some of our kids were able to actually help with the testing! They learned about WHY we are testing the soil and then they learned HOW to do it. They used measuring tools that they had never seen before and also special tools to get the samples from the ground. It was a cold day but the kids didn't mind! We have the first report back and soil is "optimal" (which is good) for growing vegetables! YES!! Now we are waiting for the second report (about lead). We'll keep you posted!

Chaz was in charge of "plotting the points" that were tested. (See pic)





CONGRATULATIONS

We are so happy for two great people from our Creating Landscapes Family - BETHANY CHIEN & MIKE FIELDS are newly engaged to be married! WE LOVE YOU and WISH YOU GUYS ALL THE HAPPINESS IN THE WORLD! We will do anything we can to make your wedding special -just let us know! LOVE FOREVER!

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN DECEMBER?

DECEMBER 10

- Writing with Emily about our Cookies & Milk Project
- Yoga with Brynya from 6 until 7 pm.

DECEMBER 12

- Please bring in any gently used knick-knacks so we can set up a Santa shop for the kids—they love to give to their families.
- Holiday gift making from 6 until 7 pm.

DECEMBER 17

- Kids can “shop” for families. A few pennies is the cost. We will help them gift wrap. We will make a few gifts for others...we have many to be grateful for.
- Yoga with Brynya from 6 until 7 pm.

DECEMBER 19th

- CHRISTMAS CAROLING WITH MARY LYNNE PETERS from 6—7 pm! THANK YOU MS PETERS!!! We love singing with you! AND we may have friends and families from Creating Landscapes Learning Center join us!



Here's something new we are trying...

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN



It is so important for kids to be in the kitchen learning the art of cooking. So at Creating Landscapes for Families, we have started a program called KIDS IN THE KITCHEN. Every week, two children are picked to help the parents and college students plan the menu, cook the food, and serve the meal. The kids are taught the proper and safe way to handle utensils and cooking equipment. They are also taught the proper way to handle food. This will give our kids some responsibility and will teach them things they need to know for their whole life. So far, the kids who have done it have loved it. THEY ARE PROUD FOR EVERYONE TO EAT THIER CREA-TIONS! Check out the fruit dessert we had a few weeks ago! DELICIOUS and so creative! (photo above)



Friendly Reminders....

Taking Care of the Space: We all know how lucky we are to be in this beautiful building with wonderful Carmen and many other friendly people. So we all need to keep doing our part to take care of the place. If anyone wants to know any extras that need to be done, ask Carol. We're doing a good job so far. Let's keep it up!

Hairnets & Gloves...a note from Grandma Cheryl & Tammy: We have to make sure we are all wearing hairnets and gloves when in the kitchen. This is to ensure that all of the food is sanitary and free from hair. Please be considerate and keep those things on if in the kitchen at all. Thanks!



Sometimes the best gift we can give someone doesn't cost a single penny...

SMILE

During these busy December days when everyone is rushing around, it's the perfect time to give people you see a simple gift. A smile! You can warm a person's heart who may be having a bad day and you can turn their day around. AND smiling helps YOU too! Smiling relieves stress. It makes your face relax and it helps your immune system. So...SMILES from us to you...and HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM OUR "FAMILY" TO YOURS!
