

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Donations help Prescott Farm grow

Editor, *Citizen*,
At Prescott Farm we are planting the seeds of environmental stewardship.

A short time ago, I observed a gaggle of Fledglings preschoolers joyously leaping from a rock into a mud puddle during a late summer downpour.

One little boy stood back cautiously and watched. He seemed uncertain about what he should do while the others played. New to preschool and puddle jumping, he did what many of us do during times of transition; standing back and observing until we decide whether or not we want to join.

Donations from people like you helped us grow this year.

This year at Prescott Farm, transition and growth have been central themes as the board of directors, staff, and volun-

teers worked together, setting the seeds for opportunities that will blossom and set fruit going forward.

With the financial support of donors like you, we opened Fledglings, our nature-based preschool, in late summer and we began construction on our natural playscape, creating new opportunities for young people in the Lakes Region to connect with nature.

At the same time we continued to offer the same great programming that we've always offered including naturalist guided snowshoe tours, moonlit walks, and maple sugaring programs for all ages; our annual Harvest Festival; school field trips; our Polliwogs series for small children; WildQuest summer and school vacation camps; and Naturalist in Resi-

dence programs in local schools.

We provide opportunities for you to connect with nature and get involved.

We are looking toward the future, sprouting new program ideas and long-term plans to ensure that people of all ages, social classes, and abilities have the opportunity to connect with nature in the Lakes Region.

I'd like to ask you to embrace the opportunity to get involved just as fully as you embrace the promise of a newly planted seed that will eventually bear fruit. Your tax-deductible donation will help support our operating costs so we can continue to grow our program offerings.

After all, like the little boy in the rain who finally scaled the rock and jumped into the puddle with both feet, experience

teaches us that trying new things can lead to wonderful discoveries and a great deal of fun.

Your financial gift will help us continue to grow.

Please join us in this next phase of growth by making a financial contribution toward our programs and toward our future growth. Resist the urge to stand back and observe.

As so many of our program participants will tell you, this world is much more fun when you jump in with both feet and get muddy.

Please help us plant the new seeds of opportunity and grow our program offerings toward long-term sustainability.

On behalf of our staff, board, and the families we serve, thank you.

Jude Hamel
*Executive Director,
Prescott Farm*