

lambs tales

2012 Volume 2
summer



New Visitors Center showcases Lambs Farm's story

On Mother's Day weekend, Lambs Farm opened its Visitors Center, a display that brings guests back to our founding, highlights significant periods in our history and takes you through a day in the life of the men and women of Lambs Farm.

As guests enter the black and white museum-like space, they are instantly met with floor-to-ceiling banners sharing the stories of our Co-Founders Bob Terese and Corinne Owen, as well as the beginnings of the Lambs Pet Shop and the move to the abandoned dairy farm we now call home.

50 years. Highlights include the move to the farm near Libertyville, a visit by the news magazine *20/20*, trips to Graceland, and winning the state championship in Special Olympics basketball.



One wall features a pictorial timeline of Lambs Farm's history, spanning the first

There are numerous display cases with letters and photos from well-known supporters such as Carol Burnett, Ann Landers, Paul Harvey, First Lady Betty Ford, President Jimmy Carter,

and then-Senator Ronald Reagan. Also on display are memorabilia from the Silk Screen Shop and original Pet Store, and

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Make your gift grow

our mission:

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

www.lambsfarm.org

Businesses get new names

The identity of each of the businesses at the front of the Farm is in the process of being updated to complement the new corporate identity - Lambs Farm: Where People Grow. As part of this process, each business was given a name/logo to coincide with the "tree" theme of our corporate logo. As such, the new names for each business are now:

- Magnolia Café & Bakery
- Dogwood Pet Shop & Boutique
- Cedar Chest Thrift Shop
- Sugar Maple Country Store
- Farmyard & Attractions (name did not change)

New signage and various other marketing materials are being completed as we transition to this new identity. The restaurant was changed to the descriptor of "Café & Bakery" because the lobby area will be renovated to accommodate the display and sale of baked goods made in our bakery. This location has better visibility and accessibility for our customers thus making it a more convenient place to promote the sale of these products. A new menu is also scheduled to be launched within the next few weeks, which will include our baked goods. All of these improvements were made possible through a restricted donation.



From the President and CEO's desk...

With the celebration of our 50th Anniversary coming to an end, it is natural to reflect on all that has occurred over the past two or more years.



Certainly, we believe we put our best foot forward and took full advantage of the opportunity to tell our story to a broader audience

of people that we hope will now support our mission. In reflecting on all that has occurred, I have come to two conclusions that, although not really new, have modified forever the way in which I will think about them.

First, our Co-Founders' idea of establishing the Lambs Pet Shop in order to provide jobs for people with developmental disabilities was, we all agree, an insightful one. The fact that it was the first non-sheltered business for people with developmental disabilities in the United States is proof of just how profound their idea actually was. Although they were absolutely certain that people with developmental disabilities could become productive members of society, it was a tremendous risk. If their plan had somehow failed; if their young employees were not able to learn the tasks put before them, or to interact with the public in a positive way, it would have literally changed the course of history for this population.

Secondly, we were reminded of how difficult it was to raise the funds necessary first to open the Pet Shop and then somehow keep it going. It is now even more apparent that throughout our more than 50-year history there has never really been a time when Lambs Farm was free from the struggle to survive.

It is imperative that we do all we can to further the growth of the men and women we serve; that in an ever-changing world, our Participants continue to learn and

present themselves as productive members of society. We can certainly modify existing programs as our Participants age or create new ones to meet the needs of those who are younger. That is not an issue for us, as proven by our wonderful new Fine Arts Program. However, with the struggle to survive now firmly implanted in our minds, finding a way to pay for them is another matter.

As it is, only 65% of our programming even qualifies for State funding, and even that is perpetually at risk of being reduced. With more causes seeking funding today and fewer dollars to go around, we must work harder than ever to find the dollars to pay for those remaining programs - the other 35% - that contribute so much to the quality of life our Participants enjoy. Our exemplary programming is one of the things that distinguishes Lambs Farm from all others; therefore, we forge ahead.

In 1961, our Co-Founders changed the world for people with developmental disabilities. Our responsibility to assure that our Participants have the opportunities they need to continue to grow has never been clearer than it is today. Throughout the years, we have always depended on those who believe in our mission and have been willing to support it. Although we may never be free of the struggle to survive, your ongoing investment in the men and women we serve has - and hopefully will continue to - dramatically improved the quality of their lives. History has demonstrated that our future depends upon all of you.

Sincerely,

Dianne M. Yaconetti
President and CEO

(continued from cover)

samples of our current products including cookies, jams and toffee.

The new space also created jobs for two Participants. The attendants staff the Visitors Center greeting guests, sharing their unique stories, and answering questions about Lambs Farm.

The Visitors Center represents the achievement of a long-term goal to integrate our mission into the front of our campus in a way that promotes a better appreciation for our rich history and the depth of our programming for all who visit. The Center, located among our businesses, is open to tour groups, field trips, family members, friends and the general public daily, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. through October, and Monday through Friday, November through March.

The Visitors Center is already receiving attention from the community and the media, with stories in the *Chicago Sun-Times* and an online news site, as well as extended coverage on the WGN Morning News *Around Town* segment. To see the news coverage, please visit our website at www.lambsfarm.org.

For more information on the Visitors Center, please contact Kathy Buresch at 847.990.3789 or keb@lambsfarm.org.



An everlasting gift

Lambs Farm will break ground this summer on its newest addition - the Tribute Garden. This gorgeous garden will serve as a natural bridge between the public and private areas of the campus, and provides a wonderful opportunity to honor or memorialize a loved one.

The Garden will showcase wild grasses, a butterfly garden, decorative brick wall, water features and so much more. This

space has been designed to provide a tranquil environment for our Participants and visitors to sit, read, enjoy Lambs Lake or simply relax.

There are numerous naming opportunities available starting at \$500. For more information or to receive a Tribute Garden brochure, please contact Nikki Bonamarte at 847.990.3733 or email neb@lambsfarm.org.



Participants display class projects at Quest Expo

The arrival of March signals many things, but at Lambs Farm March means the annual Quest Expo. The Expo provides our Participants the opportunity to display their class projects and demonstrate the new skills learned during the past year to their friends and staff.

Every year the gym is transformed into a showcase featuring posters, games, photos, class samples, and light refreshments. Classes highlighted this year included Puzzles, Current Events, Knitting Looms, Woodworking, Arts and Crafts, Photography and more.



Above: Laura Collins and Liz Puff work on a puzzle. Below: A sampling from the Arts and Crafts class.



Lambs Farm partners with ComEd to educate others

Lambs Farm is one of only a few agencies that have been invited to participate in a new energy conservation program hosted by ComEd for people with developmental disabilities. This program - the first of its kind - works with nonprofit organizations in the area to appoint Ambassadors who educate others on how to conserve electricity and, ultimately, save money.

Our Ambassador, Michael Kurschner, will meet with his fellow Participants, families and the general public during events to encourage proper energy usage. The three key energy-efficiency tips Michael will be discussing are: turning off lights when leaving a room; turning off TVs and computers when they are not in use; and using a power strip to power off unused electronics and charging devices.



Michael Kurschner speaks with guests at a recent Lambs Farm event.



Scott Wennerberg, Frank Kadjanowski and Tom Durbin celebrate at the Special Olympics State Games.

Special Olympics round up – preparing for State Games



Our athletes compete in up to nine sports every year, and those individuals and teams who garner gold medals have the opportunity to compete at the Special Olympics State Games twice a year - winter and summer.

Traveling to state competition is a big event, as it means several days spent at Illinois State University in Bloomington. Our men and women participate in the opening ceremonies where they walk the track with the Lambs Farm banner, their faces beaming with pride; compete in their designated sports; cheer on their teammates and competitors alike; and celebrate with each other at the dance party. When they return, the athletes have medals and ribbons, and precious memories of their accomplishments.

- In March, the Wrecking Crew basketball team competed at the State Games and earned a fourth place finish.
- The swim team also competed in March, with most individuals swimming in two different races. The team garnered a total of 17 medals and 14 ribbons.
- The bocce team finished the season with a regional competition held in Barrington. Our athletes competed as singles or doubles, and secured 48 medals and 17 ribbons.
- Our track and field athletes worked really hard preparing for their competition, but alas the event was rained out and a drawing was held to choose those Participants who would advance to the State Games.
- The results from the summer State Games are in, and our men and women captured 43 medals and 10 ribbons.



Sunlight streams through The Winter Garden at the Chicago Public Library - Harold Washington Library Center.

Harvesting the Spirit Lambs Farm 2012 Annual Benefit

Sip, savor and support Lambs Farm during Harvesting the Spirit, The Lambs Farm 2012 Annual Benefit, on Saturday, October 13 at the Winter Garden in the Chicago Public Library - Harold Washington Library Center.

This event will feature delectable cuisine paired with a range of fine wines and crafted beers. Celebrity Chef Jimmy Bannos will add spice to the evening by presenting favorites from two of his own restaurants, Heaven on Seven and The Purple Pig.

In addition to the amazing food and drinks highlighted during the evening, there will also be live and silent auctions. Music by Dan Hayes is certain to get you moving on the dance floor.

Sponsorship opportunities are available, and you may now register for the event online. For more information or to register visit www.lambsfarm.org, or contact Nikki Bonamarte at 847.990.3733 or email neb@lambsfarm.org.

A special donation

Jack Milanak, who has been volunteering at our Dogwood Pet Shop & Boutique for the past few summers, is a student at The Cove School in Northbrook. Cove serves children with complex learning disabilities.



Dianne Yaconetti, Jack Milanak and Vicky Raier

Jack recently headed up a Cove Kids Care service project and named Lambs Farm as the recipient.

The students donated several boxes full of personal care items such as hair brushes, make up, sunscreen and more for our men and women.

We sincerely thank Jack and his fellow students at The Cove School for their support!!

Hidden treasures revealed

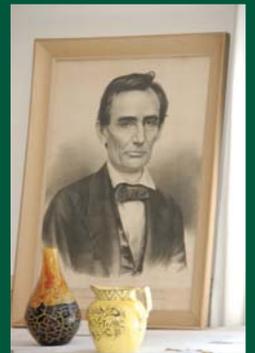
The 3rd Annual Antiques Appraisal Breakfast was held at Lambs Farm in mid-May. The event provided guests with a tasty buffet breakfast and a chance to learn the history and value of some hidden (or not so hidden) treasures in their homes.

Renowned appraiser Karl Gates joined us again to explain the world of antiquities, major milestones, and why things marked “collectible” or “special edition” are not considered valuable monetarily.

After the brief lesson, Gates began examining and sharing the stories and values of the items brought to the event.

This year we saw an amazing collection, including etching plates that were purchased at our very own Thrift Shop (valued at a minimum of \$1,500), a hot water bowl and sugar spoon made of English silver

(valued at \$450 each) and a print of Abraham Lincoln during his election campaign (valued at \$250).



Even if items were not given high monetary values, it is also important to consider their sentimental values.

Make your gift grow

Many corporations offer to match charitable donations made by employees, their spouses, and retirees. These matching gift programs give employers the opportunity to contribute to the community, as well as demonstrate support of their employees' commitment to charitable organizations. It's a fantastic way to multiply your donation - at no additional cost to you!

Obtaining a matching gift is easy. If your company has a matching gift program, simply request a matching gift form from your Human Resources office. Guidelines differ at each company, so be sure to ask if your employer will match your gift to Lambs Farm. If so, complete the form and sign it. Send the form along with your gift to Lambs Farm. We'll take it from there.

Matching gifts help Lambs Farm provide important services every year, so let your employer share your commitment to Lambs Farm. For more information about matching gifts, please contact Kathy McMeins at 847.990.3749 or email kmcmeins@lambsfarm.org.



Volunteers help ensure the success of the Annual Popcorn Days fundraiser.

Popcorn Days your help made a difference!

Despite some chilly April weather, Lambs Farm's 4th Annual Popcorn Days went off without a hitch thanks to the efforts of nearly 350 volunteers, staff and family members who collected donations at 77 locations in 39 communities. Bags of caramel corn generously donated by The Popcorn Factory were given to people in exchange for their donations. The two-day event raised more than \$41,000 for our programs.

Thank you to The Popcorn Factory for their continued support. Of course, we couldn't do this event without the help of our volunteers and our dedicated

volunteer captains - Frances and Dale Dellutri, Martha Fox, Betty Gallagher, Gail Galter, Marilyn Henry, Meg and Pete Kerber, Marilyn and Bruce Schleiden, and Dick Willix - whose tireless efforts helped make Popcorn Days successful.

Next year's Popcorn Days will be held on April 19 and 20. More friends, family members and volunteers are needed to grow this event. Please consider volunteering or serving as a volunteer captain. For more information please contact Kathy McMeins at 847.990.3749 or email kmcmeins@lambsfarm.org.

Donate your vehicle

Lambs Farm has partnered with Chicago Car Auction, Inc. since 1999 to facilitate our vehicle donation program. Through this program we accept all passenger vehicles, motorcycles, boats, recreational vehicles, riding lawn mowers and golf carts. Vehicles do not need to be in running order to be donated, but you must have a clear title and keys. Donors may drop off their vehicle at Lambs Farm or, if needed, arrange for free towing by calling 877.711.5262.

Lambs Farm receives 50% of the profits once a vehicle is sold by Chicago Car Auction. Some donated vehicles are added

to our fleet, which transports Participants to work, medical appointments, worship services and more.

Since the start of our program, we have raised more than \$1 million. Donors receive a tax deduction (please check with your tax advisor), and the funds raised help support our programs.

For more information about our vehicle donation program, please call Kathy McMeins at 847.990.3749 or email kmcmeins@lambsfarm.org

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 January 1, 2012 through April 30, 2012.

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Helen Brach Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. James P. Zils

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. David W. Denton
Dr. & Mrs. Patrick J. Murphy
Mr. & Mrs. Warren Wiegand, Jr.

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew J. Agers, Jr.
Mrs. Catherine Alvary
Mr. Alan O. Amos &
Ms. Marcia E. Lazar
Mr. Jeffery K. Benham
Chicago Tribune Newspaper
Dr. & Mrs. Stuart M. Schwartz

\$2,500 to \$4,999

Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. John Arnold
Barrington Area United Way, Inc.
Dr. Richard Davison &
Dr. Lisette Davison
Ms. Martha Fox
Mrs. Fern Frank
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Kimble
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Krupp
Mrs. Miriam Lazar
Dr. & Mrs. John R. Lindquist
Mr. & Mrs. Brendan T. Mahoney

Mr. & Mrs. Vern McCain
The McCleneghan Family
Mr. Robert N. Savoie
Mrs. Susan Sprowl
The Swartzberg/Zoller Family
Foundation
Vernon Township
Mr. & Mrs. Willard T. Walker
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory J. Weimer
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Wernick
Mr. & Mrs. Peter S. West
The Samuel L. Westerman
Foundation
Mrs. Lita Zemel
Mr. Sheldon Zisook

\$1,000 to \$2,499

James R. & Lesley B. Anixter
Family Foundation
Mr. John A. Blanchard
Mr. Charles Burgoon
Mr. Phillip Burns
Mrs. Electra Carlson
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Cassin
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin J. Cassin
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Earhart
Ms. Barbara Patrish Euman
Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Fick
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas A. Fisher
Francesca's Midwest Holdings
Mrs. Joan Fuller
Gordon Food Service

Grainger Matching Charitable
Gifts Program
Ms. Lenore Greenstein &
Mr. Kenneth G. Levy
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey J. Greiner
Mrs. Diana Healy
Mr. Remsen B. Henry
Mr. & Mrs. Edmund A. Horsch
IBM Employee Services Center
Mr. & Mrs. William R. Jacobs
Mr. & Mrs. William S. Jansen
Mrs. Joan Johnson
Mr. Robert Kapoun
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Karpek
Dr. & Mrs. Melvin P. Katz
Dr. Yeun S. Kim
Mr. & Mrs. Gideon Kishony
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Koehler
Kraft Foods Matching Gifts Program
Mrs. Eileen Kreiser
Mrs. Patricia M. Kurschner
Mr. & Mrs. Edward LeBaron
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald A. Leblanc
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Levy
Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Lyall, Jr.
Ms. Anna McMillen
Mr. Timothy T. Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Mork
Mr. Frank Moyer
Mr. Robert Neiman
Mr. James W. Norris

Mr. & Mrs. James E. O'Halloran, Jr.
Mr. Chaitanya Patel
Ms. Parul Patel
Ms. Rosalie Piazza
Mr. & Mrs. John Piccione
Mr. & Mrs. Frederik Pohl
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Pomerance
Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Reilly
Mr. & Mrs. Cy Rosengarten
Mr. & Mrs. William Siebers
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry L. Slater
Mrs. Susan Stein
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip L. Stern
Dr. & Mrs. Richard L. Sturm
Ms. Dorothy Sully
Ms. Eiko Terao
Mr. & Mrs. Kent Verner
Mr. John Wagener
Mr. N. Dexter Williams, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Willix
Ms. Ruth Wittenberg
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Wyllie
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Zaun

BEQUEST

Estate of Harold F. Ost

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 January 1, 2012 through April 30, 2012.

In Honor Of:

Scott Arnold
Andrea Agers
Alan O. Amos
James H. Berke
Mr. & Mrs. Bud Bransky
Kathy Buresch
Chad J. Burrus
Edith DeMar
Martha Fox
Michale Fox
Fern S. Frank
Edward D. Gooselaw
Elinor Grant
Katherine Higley
Alex Hilkevitch
Christina M. Jaggi
Roberta Kapoun
Karen Krupp
Franklin Kulp
Lambs Farm Participants
Tracy Laurinec
Jon Lazar
Adrienne Lederer
Michael Lindquist
Mark McCleneghan
Meagher Family
James Miller
John D. Mooney
Marc Nachtman
Michael Nathenson
Rebekah Nemirow
Kim Nowakowski
Eric P. Olson
Joseph Piazza

Toddy Richman
Mike Rubnitz
Sue Rubnitz
John Sluga
David Sundheim
Frances A. Travaglio
Andy Wernick
Joanna Willix
Mrs. E. Winters
James P. Zils
Jon Zils
Kathy Zils

In Memory Of:

Earl Anderson
Norma Anderson
Reid Anderson
Joe Arrigo
Daniel Barry
Richard Berger
Alan Blumenthal
George J. Bradley
Karen Buron
Janet Burrus
Charles L. Calderwood
Lois Edwards
Margie Eisenberg
Irene Ericson
Fritzi Feldman
Joseph J. Fialkowski
Katie Geelhart
Robert Gerber
Elaine Grady
Kenneth Grady
Harold Haney

Robert P. Healy
Janis Hofflander
Chris Hohe
Norine Hohe
William Hunter
Margie Kapnick
Rosalie Klein
Raymond Kolk
Gilbert W. Kurschner
Gene Lamb
Belle T. Lascoe
Bertrand N. Lascoe
Ann Lawlor
Paul Lazar
Lynn Levin
William Mallory
Richard Malloy
Michael C. Martino
Margo McGrath
Mrs. Mortellaro
Joseph Mortellaro
Dorothy Murphy
John Murphy
Elliot Nachtman
John Nachtman
Gloria Omahana
Dennis Page
Willard Parejko
William Parejko
Anthony Pontillo
Dora Pontillo
Frank Redwanc
Stella Redwanc
Robert Reich
Frank Reuther

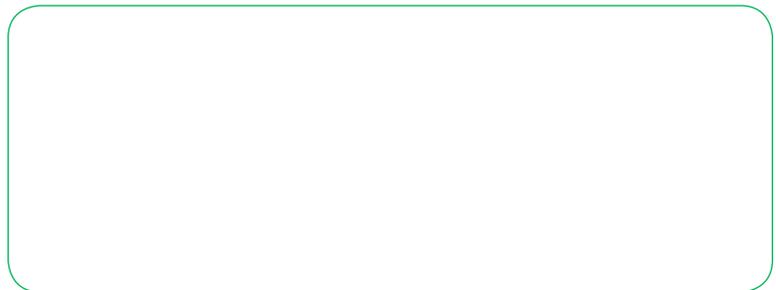
Leonardo Ricaborda
Soledad Ricaborda
Ronald Rice
Bery Robbins
Joseph Rosengarten
Dennis Roth
Gail Rubenstein
Gertrude Rubin
Harvey Ruby
Maryda Wild Sackett
Betty Schmidt
June B. Schuh
Lorraine Schwandt
Margaret M. Sobczak
Aniceta Soledad
Cirilo Soledad
Lillian Starzyk
Robert Stephanak
George M. Sundheim
Sally Sundheim
Mrs. Tamraz
Thomas Tamraz
Bob Terese
Helen J. Tharp
Eugene J. Tomaszek
Ed Turner
Luke A. Wienckowski
Bonnie Young



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Upcoming Events

Got Shredding? Day

*Saturday, September 8
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.*

Lambs Farm

ShredStation Express will be on campus providing secure document destruction for a nominal fee to Lambs Farm.

Country Bumpkin Festival

*Saturday, September 8
10 a.m. - 7 p.m.*

Lambs Farm

A day of good old-fashioned down-home fun with live music, games, dancing and food. For more information, visit www.lambsfarm.org.

DDC Buddy Walk

*Sunday, September 23
Noon - 5 p.m.*

Lambs Farm

This annual event is full of fun activities for all ages. For more information on this event and the DDC, visit www.theddc.org.

Harvesting the Spirit, The Lambs Farm 2012 Annual Benefit

*Saturday, October 13
7 - 11 p.m.*

The Winter Garden at Chicago Public Library - Harold Washington Library Center, Chicago

Sip, savor and support Lambs Farm at this event which pairs delicious cuisine with fine wine and crafted beer. To register or for more information, visit www.lambsfarm.org.

7th Annual Barn Burner BBQ

*Friday, October 19, 5 - 10 p.m.
Saturday, October 20, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

Lambs Farm

Who's the king or queen of cooking low and slow? Find out in this state qualifying competition. Compete in one or more of the following categories: chicken, pork, ribs and brisket. To register or for more information, visit www.lambsfarm.org.

Village of Green Oaks Farmers Market

*Fridays through October 5
1 - 6 p.m.*

Lambs Farm

Join Lambs Farm and other vendors at the Village of Green Oaks' Farmers Market to select from a range of baked goods, flowers, jewelry and more.

This Newsletter is produced by the
Lambs Farm Marketing and
Communications Department

Jacqueline Rachev, *Editor*

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