



# Fruit & Flower Happenings

May 2009

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### May 8 - RSVP's due for the Auction

- **May 14 – 3:00 pm. Volunteers Needed**  
Help assemble Auction attendee packets, name badges, bid sheets, etc.

**May 15 – Auction donation deadline:** You can help with the Auction by donating wine or bottled water. Just drop it off at the Center.

**May 15<sup>th</sup> – Tears of Joy Production of Bedtime for Francis** for Rooms 2, 3, 4, & 5. (8:45 am)

**May 16<sup>th</sup> Auction Event Day Volunteers.** Help us set-up and facilitate Auction activities. Sign up sheet is posted in the lobby. **Event Day Volunteers will receive complimentary tickets to the auction.**

**May 25<sup>th</sup> – Center closed for Memorial Day holiday.**

## The Center

### Fruit & Flower Auction

Get your “Groove” on for the Fruit & Flower Annual Auction. Here are ways you can be involved:

- RSVP's are due to the caterer on May 8, so make your reservations now if you would like to come.
- If you would like to volunteer in any way, please sign up in the lobby.
- Even if you are unable to come, you can still donate wine or bottled water for the event itself until May 15, the day before the event.
- Raffle tickets are for sale for \$75 each—and the prizes are trips to New York City and Las Vegas.
- Photographs of your child will be available after the event; look for details in the lobby. You can also buy a DVD of Fruit & Flower children after the event.

Please contact Kris at 503-228-7984 or [kris.moore@fruitandflower.org](mailto:kris.moore@fruitandflower.org) if you have any questions.

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## Families

### New Babies

- Baby Margaret Elisa McAllister was born on April 18. Big brother Henry is in Room Six. Congratulations to Marisol and Alan.
- Baby Orla Ward Proctor was born on April 24. Big brother Oakley is in Room One. Congratulations to Johanna and Mike.

## Program Happenings

- **Earth Week and Week of the Young Child**  
As part of Earth week children created Art from recycled materials, which was displayed in the “lobby gallery”. They also decorated reusable shopping bags and planted mint to take home to grow.  
Thanks to Whole Foods and the Sustainability Committee for donations to the activities.
- **Grandparents and Special Friends Day**  
Thirty-five Grandparents & Special Friends turned out on April 29 for a special event honoring them. Visits to the classrooms were enjoyed by the visitors, staff, and children alike.

## Reminders

- Please let your child's teacher know if your child has been medicated in the morning before arriving at school. That information can sometimes explain unusual behaviors that occur later in the morning. It will also eliminate the possibility that your child would receive an additional dose of medicine that we're authorized to administer by the 'Blanket Medication Permission Form'.

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## Fruit & Flower Staff

- **The Staff enjoyed a special evening together at Wild Bill's complements of our Board of Directors and parents. There was great Texas barbecue, plenty of door prizes, music, and fun in the “casino”.**  
**Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make this a special occasion!**
- We said good-bye in April to Haley Helsing Chandler, our Room Six Aide since November 2007. Haley is now the proud mom of baby boy Beck, born May 3, 2009.

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## WISH LIST

Below are a few items the Center needs. Please contact Mary Felice Crowe ([maryfelice.crowe@fruitandflower.org](mailto:maryfelice.crowe@fruitandflower.org)) with questions.

- Disposable diapers
- Thomas trains for the lobby train table
- Refrigerator for Room 6
- Someone who sews. We need new bibs, cot sheets, and terry-cloth wipes!

# Fruit & Flower Happenings cont...

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## Program

### Why Fruit and Flower Emphasizes Play:

"Contemporary research confirms the view that young children learn most effectively when they are engaged in interaction rather than in merely receptive or passive activities. Young children should be interacting with adults, materials, and their surroundings in ways which help them make sense of their own experience and environment."

Lilian Katz

### Nutrition Info

You might know that High Fructose Corn Syrup (HFCS) is used as a sweetener and preservative in many foods, especially jams, condiments, and sodas. Studies indicate that HFCS can be harmful, particularly for young growing children. As part of our effort to serve the most nutritious food that we can, we conducted an inventory of all the packaged foods, breads, mixes, dressings, etc in our pantry. We found only one item with HFCS as a major ingredient - catsup! So catsup is off the menu until we can find a variety with no HFCS.

### Just the Facts:

- Our youngest child is Joshana Irving in the Infant Center, who is three months old.
- Our oldest children are: Zachary Clayhold and Liam King, who have October, 2003 birthdays.
- Boys/Girls: 53 girls, 66 boys are currently enrolled.
- Female/Male Staff: 29 females, 5 males

## DID YOU KNOW?

- **Newsletter Ideas:** Forward your Happenings newsletter ideas to Judi Gilles [judi.gilles@fruitandflower.org](mailto:judi.gilles@fruitandflower.org).
- **Our family is growing!** There are still eight families at Fruit and Flower who are expecting babies!
- **Polystyrene (PS, Styrofoam)** contains butadiene and styrene – suspected carcinogens. Avoid Styrofoam food trays, egg cartons; disposable cups and bowls, carryout containers, foam insulation and any toys that include these chemicals. For more information go to [www.oeconline.org/eco-healthy](http://www.oeconline.org/eco-healthy).

## Program Reminders cont...

- Please remember to update us when your contact information changes. In an urgent situation, we need up-to-date information on how to reach you quickly. If you have recently changed jobs or phone numbers, please stop at the Front Desk and make certain that we have current information! It is also helpful if you let us know which number(s) to try first.

## Emergency Plans

Our practice drills help us to refine our systems for two possible scenarios:

### Getting everyone out of the building.

Fire Drills are done monthly to practice evacuating the building and gathering outdoors for further instructions.

### Getting everyone into the building:

Intruder Drills are done to practice our lockdown system. All doors which provide access to children (from the lobby) will automatically close and lock. Teachers will gather children in each classroom after locking doors and closing curtains, until they receive the all-clear signal.

## Families cont...

### New Children

- The Gouger Family - Lucas Gouger (8/27/08) is joining the Infant Center. His parents are Desirae and Jason.
- **Olivia** Panoff (12/24/06) has joined the Room Two group. Her little sister, Angela, has been in the Infant Center since February. Parents are Krista and Chris.
- Angel Salser, our Floating Assistant Teacher, is now bringing her daughter, Emma, with her to work! Emma (8/26/07) is in Room 6.

### Farewell...

- Ava Davenport (Room 4) is leaving us this month. She has been with us since August of 2004! Ava will start kindergarten in the fall.
- Liam McDonald (Room 2) and his family are moving to the east coast.

## Fruit & Flower Staff cont...

### Staff Anniversaries

- **Karen Stockert** (Cook): 25 years
- **Jackie Shankv** (Room 2): 1 year