

Ridgetop Runner

Connecting the Farm School Community

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Batter Up!

Celebrate the start of the softball season with a barbeque dinner and drinks on Davenport Diamond, the hayfield along the driveway of the Holmes' house, this Friday, May 2. The PVS Sentinels will face Maggie's Hardy Kiwis at 5:30 p.m. Lend a hand to help everyone finish chores in time for the game, and bring extra gloves so there will be enough for both teams.



Meredith

by Lily Moore

Meredith is a recent high school graduate from Wellesley, Massachusetts. She is taking a year off between high school and college to do the Practical Farm Training Program at Maggie's Farm. She decided that she wanted to do this because she wanted to learn about what she's eating and where it comes from. She learned about the Farm School when she went there for a few days in 5th grade, but she didn't learn about Maggie's until last spring. She is most looking forward to hanging out with the animals, milking Suzie, and lambing. Meredith has a lot to say about veggies! If she was a vegetable, she would like to be a brussels sprout, because they are all nice and cozy, and they don't get harvested until the fall, which is her favorite season. Her favorite veggie to eat, she says, is summer squash. Her favorite things to harvest are carrots and Swiss chard. She likes to harvest Swiss chard because she loves to put all of the different colors together into a beautiful arrangement.

Grandparents Breakfast

Help honor the elders of the ridgetop community this Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., with a pancake breakfast at Maggie's Farm. If you're planning to be there, make sure to RSVP to Theresa at the Chicken Coop and please bring a breakfast dish to share.

Independent Projects

Starting next Tuesday afternoon, the student farmers will begin working on their independent projects. This will be a chance over the next few months for each apprentice to explore more deeply an agricultural area of interest with the help of a faculty mentor. Check out some of the projects in the works, and feel free to contact any of the student farmers with ideas or advice.

- Lisa will be working in environmental education with kids either at Seeds of Solidarity or Athol Elementary School.
- Fermin is delving into the intricate workings of tractors with Warren Rice.
- Bonnie will be studying dairy herd management either at Chase Hill or Sentinel Elm.
- Mike will be working with the new draft horses at Maggie's Farm.
- Karen will be creating an insectary, a series of companion plants to attract beneficial insects and keep down pests around the crops.
- Jen is studying with local cheesemakers and practicing recipes on her own.
- Stephen will be visiting wineries in the area and making his own wine.
- Bill is redesigning Maggie's mother's garden into a kitchen and flower garden.
- Pat is working with Bradley to help train the two new oxen at Sentinel Elm.
- Meredith is making cheese with kids at Sentinel Elm throughout the summer.