

Ridgetop Runner

Connecting the Farm School Community

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Edited by Patrick Farmer (farmerfive@yahoo.com)

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Flying the Coop

Life will be a little less giddy around Maggie's Farm next week, when school ends for the Chicken Coop students and the senior half of the group graduates. Whether offering thoughtful lunchtime reflections ("That looks like cat throw-up." – Kelsey), driving us into the dirt during recess games of wink-tackle, or sharing such useful knowledge as Lewis and Clark's favorite baby names, the kids have been a big part of our community this year. Believe it or not, we'll miss them this summer, but all are welcome to celebrate the end of the school year at the Chicken Coop graduation ceremony this Tuesday, June 3. Starting at 6 p.m. the kids' work from throughout the year will be on display in the big red barn at Maggie's Farm, and the ceremony will begin at 7 p.m. with an ice cream sundae bar to follow.



Mike

by Maggie Walton

Mike comes from Worthington, MA, and he never really had a garden before he came here. He found out about Maggie's Farm on the internet, and decided to come here to learn to be independent and to escape the destructive social order of today's world. The gardens connect him to natural rhythms; he says it's the most satisfying way to work. Mike says if he could be a fruit he would be a cherry, so afterwards he could be a tree. He associates the garden with who he wants to be, and his favorite part of the garden is the eating part.

Looking for Adventure?

If you've been thinking that your spring style this year might involve busting out the old fedora and strapping on your trusty bullwhip, you are not alone. It's that special time of year when a young farmer's fancy turns to thoughts of stopping power-hungry bad guys from getting their claws on ancient artifacts imbued with supernatural powers suitable for world domination. At least, that's been the talk around Maggie's Farm lately, but there's no need to wait another twenty years for some satisfaction. Get your fix of pseudo-archaeological exploits, Soviet-smashing heroics, and whip-crackin' one-liners this Friday, May 30, with *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*. The Chicken Coop students are pulling together a Farm School fieldtrip to see the new Indy film at the movie theater in Gardner, and all are welcome to come along for the fun. The show is at 7:15 p.m. on Friday, but folks are meeting at Maggie's Farm at 6 p.m. to carpool. If you would like to be included in the carpool as either a driver or a rider, please RSVP to Patrick Farmer at farmerfive@yahoo.com.

Summer Concerts Begin

World music comes to North Quabbin on Thursday, June 12, at the 1794 Meetinghouse in New Salem, just 15 minutes south of Athol off Route 202. Sponsored by our beloved Bruce's Browser, this first concert of the season pairs cellist Jami Sieber with Steve Gorn on the Indian bansuri flute. Tickets are only \$15, available online or at the meetinghouse on the day of the performance. Built as an actual Congregational Meetinghouse in the eighteenth century and restored as a performing arts center two hundred years later, this is by far the coolest venue in the area. Check it out at: <http://www.1794meetinghouse.org/>.