

FRIENDS OF ALDRICH NEWSLETTER

Issue 8
September 2008

CARNIVAL 2008 – THE OLYMPICS



Hallways packed with excited children and squeals of delight typified the atmosphere of the 2008 Aldrich carnival, named “The Aldrich Olympics” in honor of this summer’s Olympics. The theme was carried throughout the event. Families were welcomed to the school with a giant Olympic torch, and Olympic emblems beckoned families around the school where each classroom was decorated to represent a different continent. Children were given a passport to be stamped as they learned about countries throughout the world. The decathlon was a popular event where each child competed in field events and was awarded a gold medal in true Olympic fashion. The carnival raised over \$7000 for the scholarship program and for general operating expenses.

ADDITIONAL ALDRICH CLASSES

During the school year additional classes were offered. Some of those were *Little Chefs*, a music class, a movement/dance class and *French and the Five Senses*. There was also some Spanish provided within the 5 Day Class.

Summer School topics ranged from “Seuss on the Loose” to “Ocean Commotion” to “Snow Much Fun in the Summer,” to “Summer Olympics.” Children could register for a week at a time. All weeks were full with waiting lists.



Building dams and rivers is a summer school tradition with many of the children



Water play and running through the sprinklers is a Summer School favorite

Support the Aldrich Endowment Fund with a Gift of Stock

Gifts of appreciated stock are an excellent vehicle for your charitable gift to Aldrich Memorial Nursery School. When compared to an outright cash gift, gifts of stock have several advantages.

The Advantages of Giving Stock

With a gift of appreciated stock, you will:

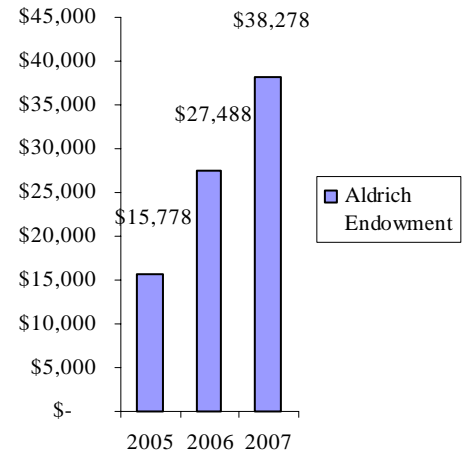
- Receive a charitable income tax deduction in an amount equal to the current market value of the stock.
- Avoid liability for the payment of capital gains tax.
- Make Aldrich a direct beneficiary of your investment success.

Determining the Value

The value is determined by finding the mean, or average, of the high and low at which the donated stock traded on the date of the gift.

Aldrich Memorial Nursery School will furnish you with a letter stating the gift date, the name and number of shares and the value of the gift.

Aldrich Endowment



Endowment figures from December 2005, December 2006 and December 2007

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

If you are a former Aldrich parent, student or staff member, you know how Aldrich prepares children for a successful transition to kindergarten and a life of learning. AMNS students are provided a learning environment based on developmentally appropriate experiences in all areas of growth – social, physical, emotional and intellectual. In fact, kindergarten teachers have remarked that they are able to pick out the Aldrich children in their classes. Those children are ready to learn, and they demonstrate better classroom behavior.

Unfortunately recent studies have shown that up to 65% of children in the Rochester area entering kindergarten were not ready. Many of these children did not enjoy a quality pre-school due to financial considerations. Aldrich is committed to helping low-income children get the important step up that its preschool program provides. During the 2007-08 school term, the Aldrich Financial Assistance program enabled 29 children in need to attend our school with awards totaling over \$21,000.



Children experience the joy of cooking with teacher Lorene Flemming

The Aldrich Financial Assistance program is funded through a Rochester Community Development Block Grant, school fundraisers and individual donations. Aldrich also has established an endowment through the Rochester Area Foundation that will eventually help to fund the program. It is only through the help of many members of the community that we are able to continue this very important program. Please consider a donation to the Aldrich Financial Assistance program to improve the lives of many children and our community at large.

Ageless Art Benefit

Last fall Aldrich was transformed into a dazzling art gala where there were demonstrations done by artists, a silent and live auction and tasty treats and beverages.

Another Ageless Art Benefit is planned this year for **Saturday, November 8**. Please watch for your invitation this fall.

Keep in mind that the proceeds from the benefit will go directly to the Aldrich Memorial Nursery School endowment fund.



E pobujpo!Gpsn!

Your support and continued interest in Aldrich Memorial Nursery School is truly appreciated. If you would like to make a monetary contribution to Aldrich, please complete the following form.

Enclosed is my/our contribution of: \$ _____

NAME: _____ HOME PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

_____ Designate this gift to the Endowment Fund

_____ Designate this gift to Financial Assistance

_____ Please use this gift where the need is greatest

_____ Other: _____

My/our gift is given in _____ memory of _____

_____ honor of _____

I/We would like the following individual/family notified of this gift:
(Notification is sent immediately. The gift amount is not indicated.)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

Please make checks payable to **ALDRICH MEMORIAL NURSERY SCHOOL**.

Thank you for your support

www.aldrichnurseryschool.com

Two Twosomes



Gwen & Larry Scilley

The Scilleys have been an important part of Aldrich. Gwen has been a classroom teacher for 33 years, and Larry has been the handyman for 10 years. Gwen states that she has received the most enjoyment from getting to know the children each year and from observing their growth in all aspects, physical, cognitive, social and emotional. She says that it has been wonderful knowing parents who want the best for their children and wonderful being at Aldrich where the philosophy and activities are developmentally appropriate and “For the

Good of Children.” Gwen is an organizer who, in addition to teaching, has been in charge of the storeroom for several years.

Larry has been the handyman but has also subbed when the custodian is on vacation. He lists as one of the chores he enjoys most placing the parking lot speed bumps in the spring and taking them out in the fall with his friend 5 year old Josh Domnick helping him. Some of the most interesting items he has been asked to do are getting the American flag down when the pulley had rusted at the top – he called the firefighters - and getting a skunk out of the trike shed - the animal control was called. Staff appreciate having Larry’s “magic” clipboard where “to dos” are written and magically get done.



Deb & Chuck Milne

When tours are conducted for prospective students, a question frequently arises regarding the age of the building. Parents are surprised to find out that it is 17 years old. Much of the credit for its terrific shape goes to the Milne team, Chuck and Deb, who combined are working on 31 years at Aldrich as the custodians. Prior to their taking over that responsibility, Deb’s father, Stan Becker, was the custodian for 9 years. Two of the trees on the playground are in memorial to him.

Chuck says that he likes keeping the building clean because then it is easier to continue doing so. Deb says that she really likes the interaction with the staff. When asked what they like least about their job, Chuck immediately stated, “Sand on the floors,” while Deb voiced her opinion that glitter was hard to clean up. Chuck remembers that one time a parent called the Aldrich office to report a “Strange” man in the parking lot – it was Chuck waiting for the children to leave before beginning the day’s cleaning. Many years ago they sometimes brought a granddaughter with them when cleaning off hours. Deb says that she had fun pushing Tamara around on the garbage cart.



FOR THE GOOD of CHILDREN: SAFETY at ALDRICH

This past spring Aldrich implemented a lockdown procedure for its teachers and students. Rochester Public Schools have lockdown procedures in place, and we at Aldrich felt it was important to implement one for our school's safety as well. As we prepared our lockdown procedure, we walked through the school to guarantee that no matter where a child or teacher was in the building, that they would be as safe as possible. In May, Aldrich teachers practiced the finalized lockdown procedure without children and the practice went well.

Other ways we are staying safe at Aldrich:

- The main entrance doors are locked except for arrival and departure times.
- Door handles with locks have been installed on the classroom doors.
- Doors to the playground are locked unless classes are outside.
- Playground gates are kept locked.
- Audio alerts are on the doors going out of rooms so that a teacher knows if a child opens a door.
- A carefully monitored sign-in/sign-out procedure is implemented.
- There are monthly fire and tornado drills (Apr – Sept).
- Teachers are certified in CPR and First Aid.
- Playground equipment meets Consumer Product Safety Guidelines.
- Children wear bike helmets when riding trikes.



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2008 Aldrich Carnival Supporters

Aldrich would like to thank all the following for supporting our 2008 Carnival.
Please frequent these establishments and tell them how much their support is appreciated.

Business Donations

ABC Toy Zone

Advance Chiropractic

Bath & Body Works

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Canadian Honker

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SJ Jewelers

Snappy Stop

Soccer World

Southwest Chiropractic & Rehabilitation Services PA

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Tastefully Simple

Think Credit Union

Timberlodge Steakhouse

Valentino's

Wells Fargo

Whistle Binkies

YMCA



Personal Donations

Thank you to the many people who gave personal donations to support the carnival.



U i bol !Zpv!up!P vs!Dpousjcvupst!:: 03117!. !903118!

Aldrich Memorial Nursery School expresses sincere gratitude to our friends who have so generously supported our program. Your gifts – whether given in memory or in honor of a loved one, or as a gift to the school – help maintain Aldrich’s goal of being the best school for young children.

We apologize if we have inadvertently misspelled or omitted anyone’s name. Please email us at aldrich@aldrichnurseryschool.com if we’ve made an error so we can rectify the situation in a future publication.

In Memory of:

Daniel M. Coppin
Norma S. Coppin

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MEMORIES of ALDRICH

by Aldrich dad, Andrew Boughey

Life's the best Journey we'll ever be on
and we all need a starting point second to none,
somewhere to learn, and discover and grow,
somewhere we're nurtured, somewhere we're shown.

A place full of fun, full of life, full of friends
we share, as we walk where the learning curve bends,
reading, and stories, dress up and toys
so much to discover, so much to enjoy.

For this is our pre-school, the sweetest of years
that vanish too quickly and soon disappear.
To be a "grown up" - so often we yearn
and seldom look back on so much we have learned.

Classrooms, playrooms, playground, the snow
and all of the teachers, I came to know,
your love and your guidance, I'll never forget.
It's easy to tell you, you're simply the best.

So I will remember these days like fine jewels
at Aldrich Memorial Nursery School.
As kindergarten beckons, and I take my steps
this is to thank you, good-bye and God Bless.



Please visit us at: www.aldrichnurseryschool.com or Email us at: aldrich@aldrichnurseryschool.com