

“The Aldrich Children’s Museum”

The Board of Directors and the carnival committee would like to express a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make this year’s Carnival a success! The Carnival could not have taken place without so many parents, board members, teachers, and staff working together. We are grateful to those who donated items for the bake sale, the raffle, the silent auction, and the wish list. Not only did you donate items, but you also donated your time. We would also like to thank our corporate sponsors and local businesses who made many contributions to the carnival.

With the support of parents, staff and community, this wonderful event was made possible! What fun to see so many children, big and small, exploring, discovering, creating and building. All Carnival proceeds will benefit Aldrich school programs and the Financial Assistance Program. Thank you!

Rebecca A. Nuss
Carnival Chair 2011

“Volunteers” by Lisa Ellinwood

V is for the Very special people that you are
O is for the Overwhelming support and compassion you offer
L is for the Little things that you do that make such a difference
U is for the Unspoken words that sometimes mean just as much
N is for the Need you fill when others are not able
T is for the Time you give of yourselves on top of your own busy schedules
E is for the Emotional support you continually give
E is for the Endless energy you all seem to possess
R is for the Responsibility you have taken on
S is for the Smiles you bring to the children and their families by just being you





2011 Aldrich Carnival Supporters

We would like to recognize the generosity of parents and businesses who contributed to our carnival. Thank you for your support.

- ABC Toy Zone
- About Face
- Adamson Motors
- Advance Chiropractic & Allied Health Services
- Aldrich Memorial Nursery School
- Allegro School of Dance & Music
- Apollo Liquor
- Applebee's Marketplace
- Arby's
- Ashley Furniture and Home Store
- Ashley's Hallmark
- Bakers Square North
- Beauty Gallery Day Spa & Salon
- Beetles
- Bicycle Sports Inc.
- Bilotti's Italian Village
- Brad and Rebecca Nuss Family
- Bread Baker Co.
- Broadway Bar & Pizza
- Bruce Fisher - American Family Insurance
- Bruce E. Fujan Insurance Agency, Inc.
- Canadian Honker
- Carlos O'Kelly's
- Carousel Floral and Gift
- Car-X Auto Service
- Catering For All It's Worth
- Children's Museum of La Crosse
- Chiropractic First Wellness Center
- Chocolaterie Stam
- Chuck Johnson
- Circle Drive Dental
- City Auto Glass
- Classic Cuts: Haley Vold, Jenna Slater, Corrine Morstad, Tanya Sutherland, Karma Shamblin
- Cold Stone Creamery
- College Nannies & Tutors
- Colonial Lanes
- Corporate Web Services
- Country Green Lawn Care
- Creative Cuisine
- Culvers of Rochester
- Curves
- Custom Alarm
- Dance Connection - Tanya Williams
- Daube's Cakes & Bakery
- David Hagstrom Dental
- Diamond Auto Care
- Discount Tire
- Double Tree Hotel
- Eagle Drug
- Energy Products and Design
- Enhance Salon
- Emmajane Designs - Janelle Forsthoffer
- Erbert & Gerbert's
- Everything Hobby
- Express Employment Professionals
- Famous Dave's
- Fazoli's
- Fox Nails
- Gary Schueller - RE/MAX of Rochester
- Gillespie Sporting Goods
- Glynner's Pub
- Grandma's Kitchen
- Grandma's Restaurant Company - Duluth
- Great Clips Crossroads
- Great Clips Marketplace
- Great Clips NW Plaza
- Great Clips Silver Lake
- Great Harvest Bread Company
- Growing With Music
- GuidePoint Pharmacy
- Hair Studio 52 & Day Spa
- Herold Flags
- Hunan Garden
- Hunt's Silver Lake Drug
- Hy-Vee
- Inta-Juice
- James and Jennifer Lynch Family
- Janet Lang Dance Studio
- Julie Mitchell
- Kelly Dentistry - Drs. Laura and Adam Kelly
- Kwik Trip - Walmart Plaza
- Larson Siding & Windows
- Lia Sophia - Aldrich Family
- Lillian's of Rochester - Nikki Kranebell
- Linda Wilkins
- Little Dudes-n-Divas Salon
- Lori and Tom Oftedahl
- Lorene Fleming
- Loren Wendroth - State Farm Insurance
- Maid-Rite Diner
- Mary Kay - Pamela Burchill
- Mary Kay - Brenda Hahn
- Matt Kechely Insurance Agency
- MGear/U of M Bookstore
- Microtel Inn & Suites
- Minnesota Timberwolves
- Minnesota Twins
- Minnesota Vikings
- Minnesota Wild

- Minnesota Zoo
- Mister Hot Shine Car Wash & Lube Center
- Modern Looks Salon
- Nancy Plute
- Nature's Best Cleaners
- Noodles & Company
- Nordic Gypsy Beads & Jewelry
- Northern Lights & Furnishings
- Northwest Nails
- Norwex - Sarah Ortmeier
- Norwex - Shay Baumbach
- Nuss Truck and Equipment
- Old Country Buffet
- Old Log Theater
- Orcas Swim Club
- Orthodontic Health Center - John and Maureen Lawson
- Pampered Chef - Marla Kruse
- Panera Bread
- Papa Johns
- Papa Murphy's
- Paperback Book Palace
- Paradise Island
- Paradise Pete's
- Passionate Nails
- Pat Wangberg
- Perkins
- Play It Again Sports/Run-N-Gun Paintball
- Portrait Innovations
- Premier Bank
- Premier Designs Jewelry - Marisa Martin
- Pro Cuts
- RC Nails
- Rlah Hair Studio - Alison Saugen-Smith
- Rlah Hair Studio - Heidi Novak
- Rlah Hair Studio Northeast
- Recreation Lanes
- Red Lobster
- Red Wing Shoe Store
- Rochester Art Center
- Rochester Athletic Club
- Rochester Concrete Products
- Rochester Ford
- Rochester Park & Recreation Department
- Rochester Produce
- Rochester Toyota
- Ron Fritsch
- Salad Brothers
- Salt & Pepper Photography
- Sam's Club
- Sargent's Landscape Nursery, Inc.
- Scanlan Mow 'N Snow Services, Inc.
- Schmitt Stride Rite
- Science Museum of Minnesota
- Simonize Car Wash
- SJ Jewelers
- Soccer World
- Something Old....Something New - Melissa Griggs
- Starbucks
- Struve's Paint & Decorating
- Subway North
- Sue Steege
- Super Target South
- Super Target North
- Sun Place Tanning Salons
- Synergy Rejuvenation Center & Inner Strength Chiropractic
- Tastefully Simple - Amy Flickinger
- Teresa and Brian Powell Family
- The Bread Baker
- The Mouse
- Think Mutual Bank
- Thirty-one Bags - Carla Zollner
- Tilly's Bar and Grill Catering
- Tom Kadlec Honda
- Tony and Michelle Rossman Family
- Towne Place Suites by Marriott
- Trader Joe's
- UBake
- Valvoline Instant Oil Change
- Van Paper
- Vertical Endeavors - Duluth
- Victoria's
- Viking Buick GMC
- Wacky Bear Factory
- Walmart
- Walt Disney World
- Wells Fargo
- Whistle Binkies
- White Glove Cleaning Service
- Jim Whiting Nursery and Garden Center
- 37th St Tire & Auto



LUNCH BUNCH

Thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers we had this year for Lunch Bunch! We appreciate the time and energy you have given to support this program. Also, thank you to all of the parents who supported the Lunch Bunch program. We hope your children enjoyed their extra time at school having lunch, playing and listening to stories.

Jennifer Lynch and Emilie Dailey
Lunch Bunch Co-Chairs

Gwen Scilley Retires

Gwen Scilley is retiring from Aldrich after teaching here for **35 years**. She started in 1976 and worked at three locations during her time with Aldrich: the “old yellow house”, the Congregational church and our current building. We asked Gwen for some highlights of her career and she gave us the following excerpts:



The “old yellow house,” near Silver Lake had woods adjacent to the playground area. It was just right for exploring nature, wild flowers, birds, trees, bushes and an occasional small animal. It was a great place for class picnics with an old log serving as a table.

The big Rochester flood in June 1978 included our school at 13 ½ Street. We discovered the basement was filled and the water was five feet deep on the first floor. Books, chairs and tables were floating in murky, black water. Teachers, staff, board members, families and other volunteers worked tirelessly together to clean up the mess. That fall, the school was ready to go.

In 1991 the challenge was combining staff and equipment from two Aldrich locations and moving them to the new Aldrich building on Essex Parkway. The playground outside the sparkling new school consisted of mounds of dirt surrounded by a wooden snow fence. The children thoroughly enjoyed climbing up the “dirt mountains” and sliding down again. By the end of the day, both the children and the staff were covered with dirt.

We thank Gwen for her dedication to Aldrich and wish her the best as she starts her new journey in retirement.



Saying Goodbye

We are also saying goodbye to two other Aldrich teachers as this school year ends. Jennifer Tweed and Tina Pittner are moving on to new adventures. We asked them to provide a few words as they prepare to leave Aldrich. We wish them the best and will miss their presence at Aldrich.

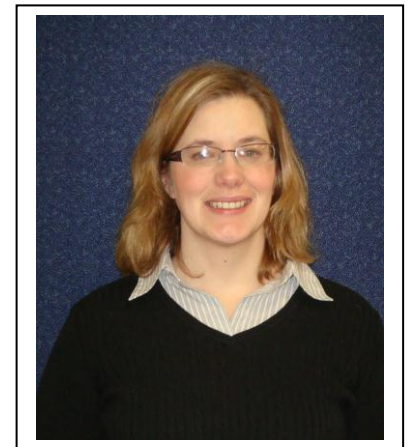
It has been an honor, privilege and joy teaching at Aldrich. I want to thank all of the parents, children, and staff at Aldrich for letting me be a part of your lives and for all the wonderful memories. It has been such an exciting adventure teaching the children and watching them grow. I wish everyone the best in their future endeavors.

Tina Pittner



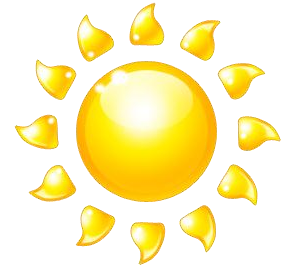
For the last 7 years I have had the privilege of helping your children grow and develop. It is with mixed emotions that I've decided to take time off from teaching. I'm not exactly sure what my future will hold, but I do know it will be filled with lots of wonderful memories of the children and families I have touched in the last seven years. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to help your children blossom and develop a love for learning.

Jennifer Tweed



New Administrative Position

A committee consisting of Board members, staff and administrators have evaluated the current organizational needs for Aldrich. Responsibilities within the administrative section have been realigned, and a new business position is taking shape. This position will manage Aldrich's finances, marketing, insurance, facility, IT and grants. Efforts are underway to finalize the job description so that we may recruit the best possible candidate who will help us accomplish the objectives established within each of these areas for Aldrich. Thank you for your patience during this time of transition.



From the Director

Summer is just around the corner. For many of us, this season brings back memories of playing in the back yard with the neighborhood kids, climbing trees, playing basketball or hopscotch in a friend's driveway... in other words, being outside and just PLAYING. It's so easy to get caught up in planning a lot of structured activities for our children. Of course, children need some structure to their days, and some planned activities and camps are very fun, but they also need time without rules and directions, time to just be kids.

I would like to share a story that I read in "Grandma Says," a feature of *Growing Child*.

GIVE 'EM A BREAK

I enjoyed a *Doonesbury* cartoon (by Gary Trudeau) a couple of years ago. It showed two mothers waving goodbye to their children on a school bus, on the first day of school. One turned to the other and said something like "Whew! It's a relief to have school start again. What with the French and drama camps, the music workshops, the tennis lessons, and the play dates, I'm exhausted."

When the other mother is silent, the first asks, "So what did Joanie do this summer?"

The other mother shrugs, "Nothing much. She messed around in the creek, built a tree fort, and played with the dog."

The first mother stares at her open-mouthed, and then comments, "Well, I guess technically that's not child abuse."

And Joanie's mother comments wryly, "That was my thinking."

Perhaps this is a reflection of parents' own frenetic and competitive lives, with so little room for down time. Perhaps it is the over participation and over-involvement in children's lives, so accepted today, that leads to micromanagement of kids' time, both summer and school-year. Whatever the motivation, this over-scheduling is not to anyone's benefit—notice the first mother's complaint of her own exhaustion.

Summer used to be a time when the direct involvement and supervision of adults was more distant and relaxed. This is time when children can be the authors of their own lives, rather than living a life someone else wrote for them. In your memories, there were probably times of boredom as well, times when the games

seemed too stale, the freedom even too much. Perhaps parents over-schedule kids because they fear hearing the complaints of "having nothing to do."

On the other hand, how will children learn to create, entertain themselves and solve their own problems if we don't allow them to have down time and empty spaces in their lives, to consider how they really want to fill their time?

Being bored is terrific motivation to initiate, to dream, to plan, to shape one's own destiny. Parents who have over-planned and over-structured their children's lives may expect that their children will have particular difficulty when left to their own planning. But this is a time to bite the bullet and let them try. The gift of time is something all of us need to learn about, and some unstructured summer time is an important gift to give your children.

Highlights from the Carnival:

