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BOARD MEMBER GROWS ROOTS

"A single generosity enlarges the world."—Mary Ann Radmacher

Heather Conlon-Keller has been generous to Homefields many times over. Since joining Homefields Board of Directors, she keeps generating ideas and sharing her energy. "While involved with Lancaster Young Professionals, I learned about Homefields because someone mentioned the CSA program. We've been shareholders 10+ years."

Raising a young family is hectic; taking time to connect with the land is vitally important to health and well-being. She comments, "We realized we needed the time and the quiet of the farm. We've expanded our diet and shifted to an appreciation of the food, the plants, the land, the workers."

Making the transition from shareholder to board member included the significance of teaching, "the value of service to our kids, They've met farmers and residents; they have begun to understand that people come in different shapes, sizes, and abilities, and that no one is greater or lesser, that everyone can contribute."

Heather is the Chairperson of the "Talks in the Fields" committee and is the driving force behind the series. We see "Talks in the Fields" as a way to give back to the community. Heather believes that "when

shareholders, farmers, staffers and residents become students or colleagues or artists or chefs or yogis during the Talks, they connect with themselves, with the land, with each other, and feel a deeper commitment to the larger piece that is Homefields."

Heather also serves on the Development Committee. Her roles at Homefields require commitment and creativity. What engages her about Homefields' mission? "EVERYONE—residents,



residential staff, the vocational program staff, farmer trainees, the shareholders—everyone benefits in some way that is meaningful and practical."

Heather believes that Homefields enriches the community, providing a unique CSA experience, offering employment options and secure homes for people with disabilities. "More

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As you already know, the weather this winter was harsh! The old willow tree behind the office building was one of its victims and had to be removed. Special thanks to Jesse Stoltzfus and Tom Strauss for their special care in its removal. Fortunately nobody was hurt, but when a tree falls in our woods, we all hear it!



FINDING HOMEFIELDS...

Everyone comes to Homefields from different paths. Law Reh's path was long. He and his family are Karenni, one of several ethnic minorities in Myanmar (formerly Burma). Under a rain of bullets, 10-year-old Law Reh and his family fled their home. Before evacuating to a UN refugee camp in Thailand, Law Reh spent 10 years in a Burmese prison camp. For the next 20 years he lived in that camp. Until—as Law Reh tells us—one man came and took about 100 Karenni people to buses bound for Bangkok. Then "we got onto a plane" and came to New York.

From there, Law Reh says we got into cars and came to Lancaster. Five years ago Rose, a caseworker from Church World Service, helped Law Reh find work at Goodwill at Homefields' Farm. Farm Manager Scott Breneman said that Law Reh had a natural skill, and can do most anything on the farm.

In Burma, Law Reh said his family planted mango, bananas, oranges and reddish pumpkins. Law Reh continues, here in Lancaster "it's cold and hot." Myanmar's climate is tropical and pleasant year round, without the extremes that we have here. Some foods were new to him: grapes, blueberries, persimmons, and apples. When asked about his favorite foods at the farm, without hesitation Law Reh says, "cucumbers, melons, eggplant, green beans."

Law Reh breaks into a wide grin when he talks about "tying the tomatoes." Scott said that tying tomatoes is tricky, requiring skill and speed. Making a serpentine pattern, Law Reh flies among the tomato plants tying them to stakes. He mentions that harvesting pumpkins is "heavy, hard work." Scott added, "He enjoys work, he prefers work to taking breaks!"

While three of Law Reh's sisters remain in Thailand, he and his family have made a life here. He has three daughters, a son, and four grandchildren. Law Reh shares his feeling about being "half and half." He is sad about leaving his sisters and his homeland behind, though life in America is fruitful. Life here has made it possible for him and his family to pros-

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Contact Us

717.872.2012
info@homefields.org

Board of Directors

Thomas E. Strauss, President
Allison G. Hawthorne, Vice Pres.
Jay Groff, Treasurer
Marty Hohenadel, Secretary
Kelly Baylis
Deb Deberdine
Heather Conlon-Keller
Dr. Rich Mehrenburg

Honorary Board

James Determan
Dorothy L. Lyet

Non-elect Members

Scott Breneman, Farm Manager,
Goodwill at Homefields
Liz Snyder, Assistant Program
Director, Community Services
Group

RESIDENTIAL MISSION:

To create financially secure, long-term homes for adults with special needs in safe, family-like settings where there is respect for the individual in a holistic sense, and fun and creativity are revered, as basic human needs.

VOCATIONAL MISSION:

To provide horticultural facilities for individuals who prosper with supported employment, to nurture integration through community interaction, and to cultivate a spirit of volunteerism within our community.

The official registration statement and financial information of Homefields may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1 (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



What's all the buzz?

Homefields will soon need to put up a "vacancy" sign on our property, not for new residents or farmers, but for our six-legged friends. In collaboration with Millersville University, we have constructed two insect hotels on the new land. These hotels are intended to attract and shelter agriculture-friendly bugs to Homefields. These bugs will help enhance pollination and ward off destructive pests.

The project was designed and supervised by Millersville Biology students, Rebecca A McCabe and Kayla L Warshefski. Dr. John Wallace, Millersville Biology professor, served as the project consultant. A special thanks goes out to the members of Dr. Wallace's entomology class, who assisted in the building of the hotels as part of a service-learning requirement for the course.

The hotels are made of many natural materials, which have different purposes.



Hay and straw is used for bedding and warmth. The bamboo and logs contain countless nooks and crannies that serve as ideal breeding spaces. The bricks, cinderblocks, and metal roof provide both stability and protection from the elements. As the weather turns nicer, we will add indigenous flowers for both aesthetic and practical purposes.

For more information about Insect Hotels, visit www.insecthotels.co.uk

Next time you visit Homefields, please "bug us" to show you our newest additions to the farm. Contact info@homefields.org if you are interested in a tour.

—Dr. Rich Mehrenberg

NAMING CONTEST INSECT HOTELS

We decided that the Insect Hotels are too interesting to be called HOTEL 1 and HOTEL 2. So we're asking you to come up with hot names for these two swank establishments.

HOW TO ENTER:

Send an email to Dr. Rich Mehrenberg at Rich@homefields.org by midnight on June 10, 2014. Please include at least two names, more if you're feeling creative. Include your full name, email address and a daytime phone number in your entry. In the subject line, please write "Insect Hotel Naming Contest."

PRIZES: Your best efforts will be rewarded with these tantalizing gifts:

First Prize Two tickets to *Dining in the Fields* or one ticket each to *Night Golf* and *Fall Golf*.

Second Prize One ticket to *Dining in the Fields* or one ticket to *Fall Golf*.

Third Prize Homefields gift basket: includes a HF sweatshirt, logo ditty bag & more.

RULES: Submissions will be judged by Hotel Creators and Friends of Homefields. Winners will be selected by popular vote. Dr. Mehrenberg will remove identifying information from each entry before the judges review the submissions. The contest is open to everyone. Legal guardians must submit entries on behalf of contestants under 18. Winners will be notified by email or phone.

Night Golf: 6/13

If the snow has stopped and all of the tree debris is cleared up by the official start of summer, your friends at Homefields are planning to kick off fun on the links with Night Golf on June 13, 2014. Glow-in-the-dark golf balls light up at the first strike of your favorite Iron! The format will be much as it has been for our last few offerings—a start just before dark on a course illuminated with many glow sticks and teams of golfers armed with glow-in-the-dark balls. Forecaddies will lend a hand to golfers wandering in the night. Our Night Golf outings are an unusual opportunity in the immediate area. Costs will be about the same; only the level of fun will increase.



Registration: 7:30 PM / Tee off: 8:15 PM
Registration deadline: 6/1/14.
Cost per player: \$45.00.
Register at www.homefields.org
Questions to golf@homefields.org

Save the Date! September 19 Homefields Annual Fall Classic

Come sun, rain, or snow, we are planning to hold our 18th Annual Homefields Fall Classic Golf Tournament on September 19th. Play will again be on the Crossgates Golf Club in Millersville, just a vigorous walk away from the Homefields' farm and homes. Father Mulcahy, of "Mash" fame would have called it typical of a commitment to jocularly. That is, we want all to have a great time while supporting the wonderful work done at Homefields. Expect the usual golf, food, fun and prizes, and a generous mix of camaraderie with friends old and new gathering to try some interesting variations on the game of kings. We believe that #18 will be our best variation yet, and we have some confidence that you will be amused and enthused with the results. By golfing, sponsoring or donating a prize you help preserve farmland and create opportunities for people with IDD and other disabilities. Registration available at www.homefields.org Or, email golf@homefields.org with questions or contact information.

—Terry Blue, Golf Tournament Chair



We Had a Ball

Over ten years ago, Brian Wassell, from Trout, Ebersole & Groff, introduced Don Mowery to Homefields. We were fortunate to find in our midst a person who met our accounting needs, and offered service beyond our expectations. Don was committed to our work, and he was quick to get into the spirit of the Committee.

Everyone on the committee has come to know and respect him. A generous share of the ideas we came up with had their root either in suggestions from Don, or in his role in the dialogue as we considered various options.

Don grew up in Millersville and graduated from Millersville University. Don says he was motivated by Homefields mission of providing homes for that are fun, safe and respectful for people with IDD, Intellectual Developmental Disability. "With having five kids and my wife at home, Homefields mission is important for me.... I know how living in a large family can be meaningful."

Don has lasting memories of golfing with Homefields, "The old time wooden clubs are my favorite part of the tournament...it's amazing when you look at the difference in golf club technology." The introduction of Night Golf has been fun. "The sight of glowing golf balls flying through the night gave me some good memories."

Don says he'll miss time shared with his family putting the goodie bags together. "My kids were always wondering about this golf tournament that gives such great goodie bags. So I recruited the whole family to put the goodie bags together."

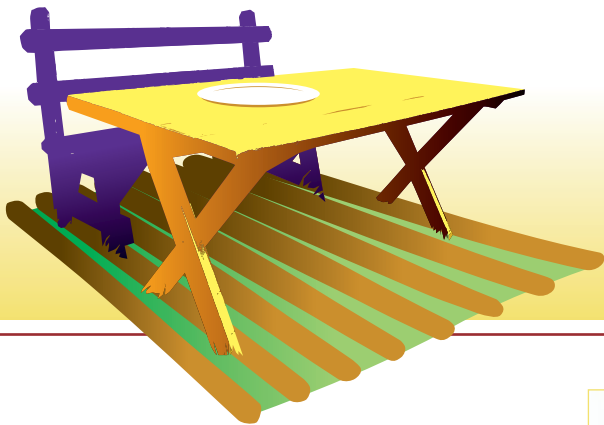
Volunteering with Homefields has taught me that people can make a difference in the community. "Getting together with a great group of people who are all passionate about a common cause shows me that we can be successful."

Don is a CPA / Partner with Trout, Ebersole & Groff. Don has accepted a position as a board member with PMEF, (Penn Manor Education Foundation). All of us will look forward to seeing Don at Homefields golf events. We wish him the very best in his new responsibilities and thank him deeply and gratefully for his contributions.

—Terry Blue



If you aren't receiving electronic notices, we don't have your email address. Send yours to info@homefields.org and stay up-to-date.



DINING IN THE FIELDS

— SAVE THE DATE — 9.7.14 —
RAINDATE — 9.14.14

Last September we launched a new fund-raising event, an outdoor dining experience called Dining in the Fields. Don't miss this year's event—we're bringing the locals together again—local farmers, local food and local friends.

This year's Dining in the Fields is on Sunday, September 7, 2014 from 11:00am–2:00pm. We look forward to welcoming returning Sponsor Donors and making new Sponsors feel at home. Expect crafts for kids 12 & Under, music by Indian Summer Jars, cold beer, local foods, local farmers and more.



Ticket prices are the same as last year, \$50.00 for each Adult, \$10.00 for Youth 13-17 and Children 12 & Under are Free.

This year we expect more guests, and double the fun. We encourage you to pre-register at events@homefields.org. Please tell us how many Adults, Youth and Children are in your party, and how to contact you so we can let you know the moment tickets go on sale.

Interested in volunteering to help staff Dining in the Fields? You'll receive a snazzy yellow t-shirt to wear for the day, and as a thank you for your time, your admission is on us.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact allison@homefields.org or call 717-332-7676.



April Showers...

A long cold snowy winter has us eagerly anticipating the growing season. The years certainly fly by and we are now beginning our 15th season of training and employing people with disabilities and growing tasty and nutritious vegetables and fruit at the same time. Trainees at the farm love seeing the season grow from seeds in the greenhouse to the fruition of harvest.

We are planting another acre of the new farmland this year and looking forward to

Recruitment / Volunteer Announcement

Many hands have helped fulfill our mission. Together, we've done a lot of work over the years. We've paid off the original mortgage, completed an historic renovation, and bought farmland contiguous to the original property.

We are in need of like-minded folks to join us as we continue to work on saving the new land, expand work opportunities for people with disabilities and complete property improvements.

We are recruiting for two roles on the Board of Directors; **Treasurer** and a **board member-at-large** position. **Community volunteers** are needed for special projects. There is a specific need for people to work on the Property Committee. We also could use a hand with projects like property clean-up and event staffing.

The Board of Directors meets monthly Jan.–Nov., on the last Tuesday, at 7:00 PM. Committee members and volunteers are not required to attend board meetings. Those who are interested should contact Tom@homefields.org, or call 717-872-2012.

the beginning of rhubarb harvest from last year's planting. Everyone sings the praises of our blueberries and we are glad to have started another hundred plants last spring. Some of the vegetable crops to highlight for this summer's harvest are more gourmet and fingerling potatoes, additional big old classic tomatoes, wonderfully sweet Italian bull's horn type sweet peppers, and more seedless watermelon. For those who enjoy trying veggies that are more unusual, celeriac and kohlrabi will reappear this season.

Thanks to our nearly completed weeding tool, we are almost looking forward to our annual weeds vs. farmers' battle. Weeds are the greatest challenge of organic growing to stay ahead of them we always need to be thinking. Wish us luck.

Shares are still available for this season, but as summer approaches—sell out is likely. The Full share supplies food for about four people and the Half share supplies food for about two people. To sign up for a share go to www.yourgoodwill.org/farm and click on Membership. You may purchase a fruit share from North Star Orchard, a cheese share from Hillacres Farm, and a la carte fresh bread from Abendessen Bread—farm members can purchase fruit or cheese or bread share from these other farms and then pick them up here at Homefields. The harvest season runs from the first full week of June through mid-November. We hope you can join us for another great season of tasty, crisp and nutritious harvests.

—Scott Breneman, Farm Manager



Talks in the Fields & Sundry Other Events at Homefields: 2014

LOTS OF IDEAS ARE SPROUTING! Check out the list below. We'll post updates on our website and on Facebook. We'll send you a monthly e-announcement with all the details. See you in the Fields!

MAY

Naming Contest for the Insect Hotels—See prizes and contest rules at www.homefields.org or email events@homefields.org and receive info about rules and prizes

- 5/9–10 Visit us at the Landis Valley Museum Herb and Garden Faire
- 5/31 Spring Clean-up Day—Volunteer Opportunity—sign up at events@homefields.org

JUNE

- 6/10 Deadline for Insect Hotel naming contest, send entries to Rich@homefields.org
- 6/20 Night Golf at Crossgates (Register by June 15th. email golf@homefields.org)
- 6/20–21 Open Fields! Tours, Talks & more; Home Gardening & Kids' Gardening

JULY

- Art on the Farm / Summer Potluck
- Backyard Pollinators / Insect Hotels

AUGUST

- Pressure canning & tomatoes
- Salsa Mia!
- 8/23 Property Grooming Day

SEPTEMBER

- Yoga Sampler Day
- 9/7 Dining in the Fields brunch
- 9/19 Homefields Annual Fall Classic golf tournament

OCTOBER

- Coffee, Tea & Chocolate Schools
- Art in the Fields
- Fall Clean-up Day

NOVEMBER

- Home brewing
- Raw vs. cooked food diets

Visit our website at www.homefields.org and friend us on Facebook

Talks in the Fields queries—heather@homefields.org

Golf outing questions—golf@homefields.org

Other events—events@homefields.org

— OPEN FIELDS JUNE 20 & 21 —

Homefields invites you and your guests to join us for a drop-in tour. Friday, June 20, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM or Saturday, June 21, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Walking tours and van tours, Information station, Light refreshments. See the CSA program in action. Check out the Insect Hotels!

Reserve your space by sending an email to events@homefields.org by June 16. Include the number of adults and children in your party.



more information of 2 bad bees



Honeybee photo courtesy of Keith McDuffee

announcers on Facebook and on our website at www.homefields.org. Special prizes await our top three picks.

Homefields is looking for your creativity and wit. We are looking to come up with names for our two insect hotels. Please submit your ideas that are especially funny, clever, and/or appropriate. Send your entries to Rich@homefields.org by June 10, 2014 and be sure to include your contact information in the email.

STATCH ICSNI IWO EWN and a win a great prize!



==BENEFACTORS: November 2013–April 2013==

\$25–\$99	Kelly Baylis Robin Beazley Tracy Broderick [^] Edward Cheatham ^{**} Heather Conlon-Keller James Determan ^{**} Jose Diaz & Dorothy Vertti ^{**} Joy Dietrich+ Mark & Alicia Greenberg ^{**} Allison Hawthorne ^{**} Ron & Gail Hawthorne Gina Hecker ^{**} Robert & Gail Huff Michelle Hayes S.M. Jarvis ^{**} John Jascoll ^{**} Timothy & Kirsten Johnson Martin Kyevele Karpouzis Thomas Kruse Kristina Kujiraka William & Natalie Lescek-Speakman Tom & Laurie Martin Richard & Stephanie Mehrenberg Rein Mutoso Elspeth Naramore Nancy Porter ^{**}	Regina Pollok Edwin & Jeanne Pruitt Linda Remonenko Shirley Richardson Sharon Roberts Jesse Robinson Virginia Robinson Timothy Roschel Margaret Ryan Mark Sandblade Brant Schuller Rachel Simon Thomas Simpson Natalie Smith Bruce & Barbara Spiegelberg Dave Strauss Scott & Laura Stephan Allen & Jo Swoope Kathy Wallace Wee Brad & Julie Weaver Laura Weaver Tiffany Willow Sandra Yeager Susan Baker~ Larien Bieber Mel & Marie Breneman James & Marie Eshleman James & Sue Goddard ^{**} John & LaVon Harnish	Beth Herr Melvin & Laura Hess Peter Joyce William & Pamela Kiehl Lancaster Orthopedic Group ^{**} David & Shirley Landis ^{**} Edward Matricardi John & Barbara May Tim & Joan Martin Paul & Jane Mueller, Jr. ^{**} Steve & Judy Nicols# Carlos Noguera & Erika Iskowitz Timothy & Margaret Ryan Loe & Mary Shelley William & Joyce Smedley John & Joan Stipe, Jr. Timothy & Eileen Tymon ^{**} Kay Welty Mike Weidinger Darrell Yoder Gary & Judy Zartman ^{**}	The Ginko Foundation James & Kristina Lambert ^{**} Margaret Neff ^{**} Pauline Pittenger Tom & Linda Strauss Bill and Pam Kiehl Pauline Pittenger [♦]	\$10,000 Goodwill Keystone Area Foundation	\$5,000	\$201–\$500 Terry & Susan Blue Michael & Deb DeBerdine Matthew Dilley Flanagan Welding	\$100–\$200	\$201–\$500	\$10,000	^{**} In Memory of Dorothy Lyet [#] In honor of Rebecca Nichols ⁺ In honor of Lisa Strauss [~] In honor of Kay Welty [^] In honor of Laura & Dwayne Zimmerman [♦] In Memory of Grant Heilman
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We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of this list. If we made an error, please email: Office Manager at info@homefields.org or send a note to P.O. #41, Millersville, PA 17551.

Board Member Grows Roots

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important, Homefields raises the profile of individuals with disabilities.”
“Homefields is the intersection of good food, good causes, and people who need to connect.”

Heather volunteers with Opera Lancaster and lends a hand with Creative Reuse. She lives in Lancaster with husband Mark (a software engineer), son Declan, twin daughters, Piper and Rowan, and Porter...the cat.

Interested in being part of the “Talks”? Want to share your expertise? Contact Heather: heather@homefields.org

FINDING HOMEFIELDS

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per, and to give back to those who helped him put a foundation under his family.
March finds the farmers phasing into work on the farm, working a few days a week. April through December, Law works five days a week at the farm. His wife works full time at Greenleaf, a local supplier of bedding plants to retailers. I am ready for another cup of coffee, but Law Reh breaks into a broad grin and, while closing his jacket, asks “Can I go back to work now?”

—Scott Breneman, Farm Manager

Homefields
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