

Camphill Village Copake & Camphill Ghent
Special edition

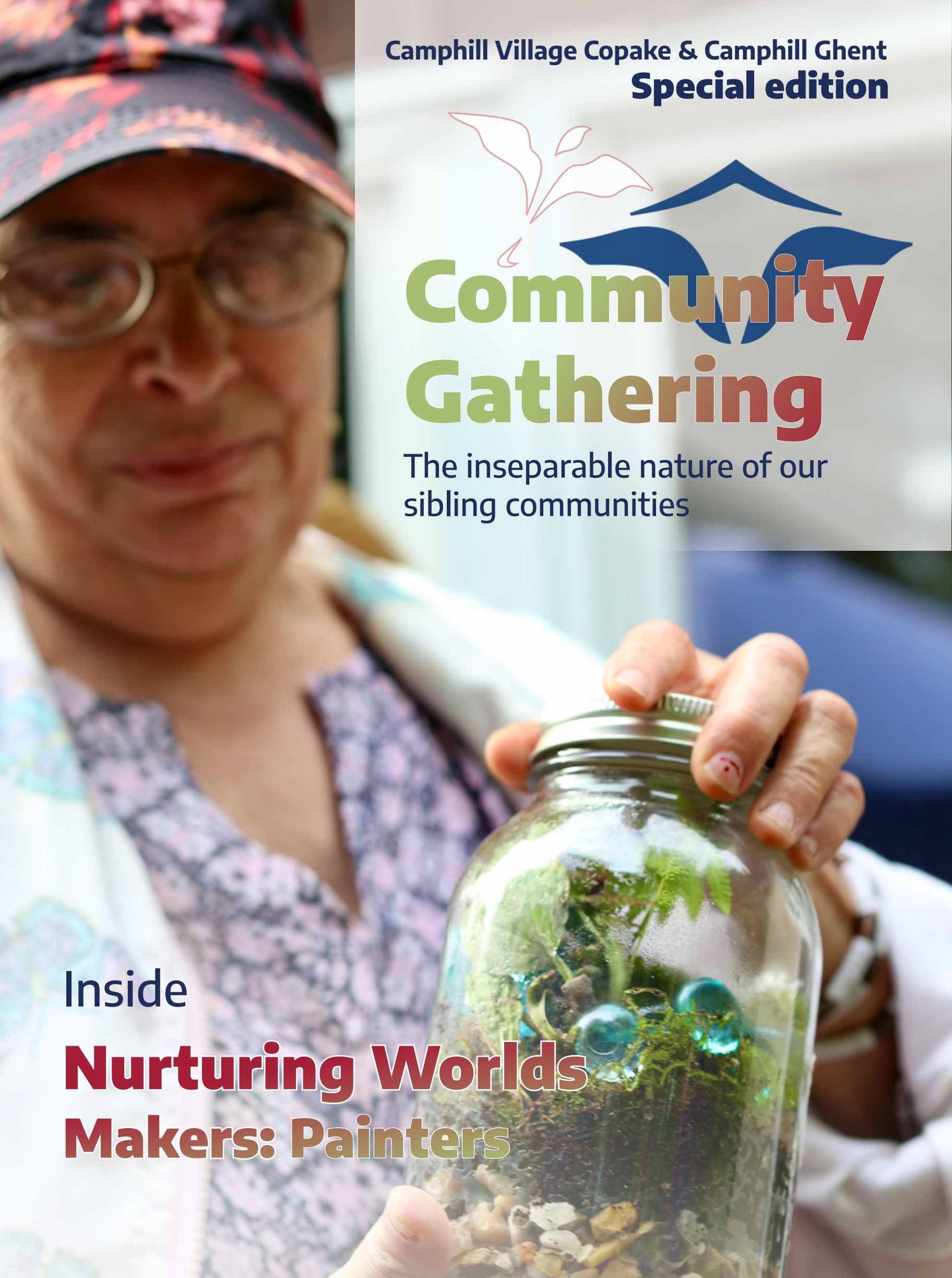


Community Gathering

The inseparable nature of our
sibling communities

Inside

Nurturing Worlds
Makers: Painters



Nurturing Worlds

Sheila Adelman begins a new chapter among friends

“Hello Sheila. It’s nice to see you again.”

Sonni Chamberland and Christina Bould welcomed their longtime friend on a Wednesday afternoon in the sunny breezeway of Camphill Ghent’s adult home. They were headed to a poetry reading.

Sheila Adelman was smiling but brief—her eyes landing on the lobby door where Simon, the young man she helped raise for X years, would be returning home from school any minute. In one hand she held a blue and white baseball. In the other, a small cardboard box with a puzzle game inside. Sheila inched closer to the door with its big window that looks out onto the garden. This would be her first time welcoming Simon home from school since she last lived with him in Camphill Copake’s Brookledge House when he was a boy.

“Simon!”

Simon is a lovely young man, and a teenager now. He greets Sheila gently and she admires him, handing the gifts across the space between them.

“A Burger King Yankees ball.” Simon rotates the ball in his hand. “Cool.”

Sheila is glowing. She kisses Simon on the cheek. This is her first day as a resident of Camphill Ghent.



Sheila Adelman welcomes Simon Carlson home for the first time in six years.

“A move, after more than 60 years, could be potentially difficult but having so many former villagers and coworkers living in Ghent mitigates a lot of the unknown,” said Sheila’s sister, Leslie. “There are residents there that Sheila knows since she was a little girl growing up in Queens.”

“They have always had a remarkable and mutually loving relationship.”

Sheila was one of the first residents of Camphill Village Copake; part of a group of 20-somethings from New York City whose parents searched high and low for a place where their children could thrive. Camphill was one of just a few settings in the region that set its sights on helping residents meet their full potential when other models were still focused on meeting basic needs. Word of Camphill Village spread through these NYC social circles, and parents did everything they could—donating time and money—to ensure a bright future for their loved ones. Some in Copake still remember when Sheila’s mother would come up for the weekend and help with lunch and cleaning to alleviate the full schedules taken on by our house leaders in the 1960s.

After living for 60 years in Camphill Village Copake, Sheila had woken up that morning in Aspen House for the last time. The late-October air was misty, and Sheila stood in the driveway, watching as members of the Estate Crew were back and forth, carrying Sheila’s belongings into a moving van. Sheila was supervising the transfer of creations, gifts, and memories from her decades in Copake.

“Kerst made me this table.”

She ran a closed fist over the top of the rectangular table created by Kerst de Jong, its surface etched by Sheila’s afternoons of drawing, crafting, and coloring in her bedroom. Tony Bacon and a new young coworker, Billy, carried a sturdy wooden dresser out of the house.

“My sister bought me two dressers.”

Sheila’s sister, Leslie, has seen Sheila live so many experiences in Copake, and says it’s Sheila’s many successes that have inspired confidence and shown her sister that things generally work out well.



A final group photo with Aspen House.

Sheila’s contribution as a pioneering resident evolved over time, and she approaches her fellow community members from a maternal place—tucking in our shirt tags and pulling our loose cardigans back onto our shoulders. She encourages us to rest, stay warm, and eat well. These acts are not small, especially if one considers how many people Sheila looks out for during her day. These deeds are Sheila’s love language.

“We were so lucky to have you taking care of Simon,” Simon’s father, John Carlson, told Sheila. He recalled Sheila pushing his son around the Village in his carriage as a baby, and how Sheila would play for hours with Simon in the yard.

Leslie remembers how excited her sister was when the couple told the house they were expecting, and said Sheila has enjoyed every milestone.

“Simon’s birth was a major highlight in her life,” Leslie said. “They have always had a remarkable and mutually loving relationship.”

Eventually, John, his wife Kristina, and the couple’s children, Simon and his older sister Gwen, came to Ghent to help the elders here build community when the organization was in its infancy. Elders of all abilities have been building this unique community that

After decades of truly knowing one another in Copake—living, collaborating, and growing—we’re finding invigorating purpose at our sister community in Ghent.

We’ve spent so many wonderful years familiarizing ourselves with our own abilities and needs, all the while developing a keen awareness of the needs of those around us. There is such joy to be found in these meaningful relationships, where together, we discover new strengths and inspiration in unexpected ways.



Sheila and her sister Leslie with young Simon. Photo courtesy of Kristina Labaty.

integrates seniors of all backgrounds in independent and assisted living spaces since it opened in 2012. And the traditions that longtime Camphillers like Sheila bring to Ghent inspire the community’s focus on nature and the arts.

For several years, Sheila has enjoyed performing in plays prepared by Camphill Copake’s club for elders, the Future Seeds. She knits baby blankets and scarves throughout the year, and has made some beautiful creations in our former Bookbindery (now the Paper Crafts Studio). Sheila’s creative, caring soul has been nourished and has reflected love back into her community. Camphill Ghent is fortunate to welcome her.

Sheila’s sister Leslie says the effort that both communities make to keep these connections alive has made her sister’s transition to Ghent almost seamless. She said she’ll also be able to go back and visit her old friends in Copake regularly, so she’ll have the added benefit of being able to carry on her existing relationships.

“She has verbalized only excitement and eagerness,” Leslie said regarding Sheila’s move. “Her love and trust of the Carlsons and her general feeling of safety regarding all things Camphill goes a long way.”

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GIVINGTUESDAY
Relationships



SCAN ME

5K Trail & Fun Run for All Abilities



We were *delighted* to welcome so many familiar faces and new friends to Camphill Village for our long-anticipated 5K Trail & Fun Run for All Abilities! We had more runner sign-ups this year than any other, and every visitor was so lovely with all our community members.

We had a beautiful, sunny morning and the foliage change here in our valley made for an especially pretty 5K through our forests and around our Ring Road.

Our day wouldn't have been possible without the help of our awesome volunteers and sponsors, whose generosity goes such a long way in supporting many of the things that make Camphill Village a special home for our community members of all abilities. Many thanks to all of our runners, walkers, rollers, and strollers who brought so much enthusiasm to this awesome event!



Ryan Huntington poses for a selfie with sister, Sarah, and brother-in-law, Brian.



Linda Gradman and Victoria Thomas had a great time!



Hamed-Ali Momenzada maintains a lead over Brian Kabel.

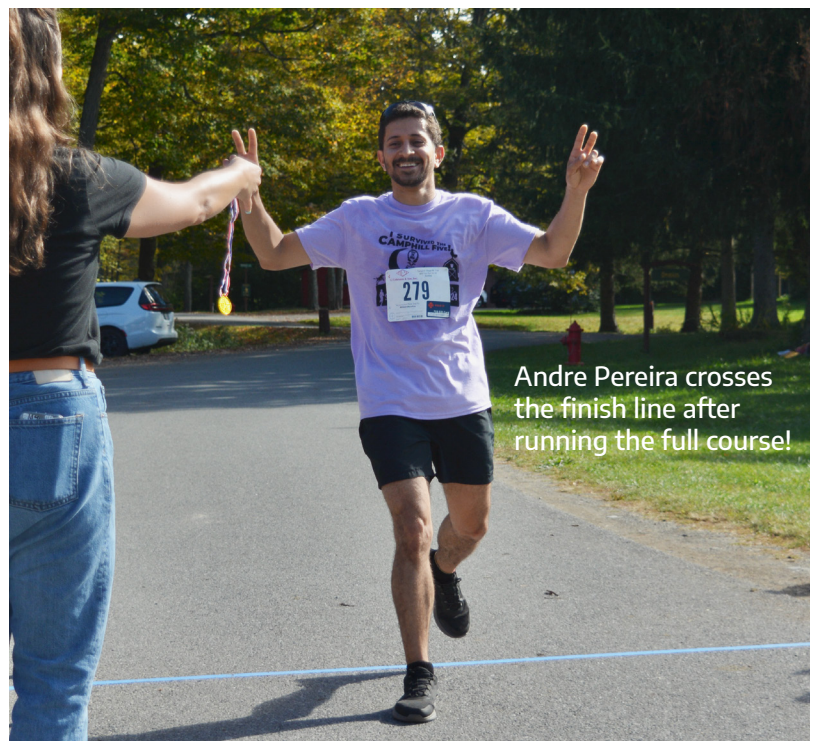
Thanks to our generous sponsors!



Dechert
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Emily Wallach and Brooke Hogan have taken hundreds of walks together. Possibly the most well prepared pair in the Village!



Andre Pereira crosses the finish line after running the full course!

A Spirited Halloween Rockin' the Cosmos in Ghent

The seniors of Camphill Ghent had an awesome, fun-filled Halloween! We started our festivities with group Jack-o-lantern carving, and suited up in some awesome costumes before heading to the culture hall for a great "Rockin' the Cosmos" themed talent show with our friends from Triform Camphill Community. We're so grateful to everyone who made the day special, from planning our party to plotting and practicing a fantastic chicken dance!



Jonathan Brignull, Jo-An Ellithorpe, Jen Lane, and Jodi Clough kicked off our talent show with an enthusiastic chicken dance!



Ilene Oloff had a great seat for the show.



Alice Thompson and Elizabeth Lombardi put some great team effort into this cute little pumpkin.



Ros looked out of this world in a new sparkly jacket.



Kristina Labaty, dressed as Mars, helps Barbara Patterson with her Jack-o-lantern.

Make a Difference

Make a Bequest to Copake or Ghent

Play a vital role in the future of Camphill Ghent and Camphill Village Copake when you join the J. Murray Logan Legacy Circle. By making a legacy gift to the Camphill Village Copake Foundation, which is chartered to support the work of both Camphill Village Copake and Camphill Ghent, you'll ensure that future generations of adults and seniors with developmental disabilities will have the opportunity to enjoy a full life at Camphill Village Copake and Camphill Ghent.

For many of our J. Murray Logan Legacy Circle donors, **planned giving generates a profound sense of personal and emotional fulfillment.**

If you would like to learn more, or have already included Camphill Village Copake Foundation in your estate plans, please let us know by calling Chief Development Officer Lawrence Klein at (518) 567-1924 or by email at lklein@camphillvillage.org so that we can welcome you as a member of the Legacy Circle.

Frances Manley and Judy Fletcher pose with their freshly carved pumpkins.



THE J. MURRAY LOGAN
Legacy Circle



Sound Healing with Julie is one of many wellness programs supported by charitable gifts. Photo courtesy of Kristina Labaty.



Jenna Wase gives Ed Johnson the full treatment during his bimonthly salon appointment in our Adult Home.



We gathered in our Culture Hall in October for a lovely poetry reading of Richard Steele's publication, "Beneath the Knowing Stars," with lyre accompaniment by Anna Rée.

MOMENTS FROM GHENT



Teresa Rivenburgh of the Dwyer Program presents Steve Gitto with a beautiful handmade quilt in honor of his military service.



Our Land Group has been introducing our community members to biodynamic agriculture! In the fall, we made a number of biodynamic preparations, including cow horns filled with manure, and casings filled with chamomile flowers.

Makers: Painting

How human connection in Ghent enables our self expression

When Victoria Schwartz prepares our activities space for Tuesday morning painting sessions, she customizes each place setting, and considers the *people* who will be returning that week. Where do they prefer to sit? Does an artist prefer to mix colors? Do they request a lot of white? What types of scenes have they been painting lately?

“That’s Gail Mortman,” Victoria said, referring to a happy, colorful painting of pumpkins, flowers, and a rainbow she had hung on the wall with other creations from that week. Silver glitter—appropriate for our Rockin’ the Cosmos Halloween party—outlined the crevices of the pumpkin. “It makes her happy to have somebody draw things and then she colors it in, and she always wants rainbows, so I try to incorporate rainbows with other things also... So that’s Gail. She always has rainbows. Always.”

Gail Mortman uses a special necklace to remember the order of the colors of the rainbow.



When Gail started painting her rainbows, she had trouble remembering the order of the colors, and she wanted to get it right. Victoria asked a friend of hers to make a necklace for Gail—a reference tool with beads in the right order that she could wear on Tuesday mornings. After about six months, Gail doesn’t need the necklace anymore; she remembers.

Victoria has been facilitating these painting mornings for four years, and sees how artists connect their memories with art. A number of Camphill Ghent’s community members experience dementia, and Victoria found so much inspiration in a piece that was published in the Sun this year.

“It’s meeting the person where they’re at—not questioning them at all,” because it’s their reality, she said. “In your own heart and in your own mind, don’t question it. It’s real. Say, ‘OK. That’s interesting. Really?’”

Victoria has worked with people of all abilities and ages, including at Heartbeat Lifesharing, a Camphill community in Vermont where she used to live and run a sewing workspace.

“I let everybody use the pedal on the sewing machine, and I would just help them guide it,” she said, amused. “I kind of felt like it was the only time they felt like they were driving a car.”

The experience level and approach of our painters in Ghent runs the gamut. Kathleen’s brush strokes and stunning palette convey the unusual way she experiences energy and color. The droplet sounds of Karen Jane’s brush swirling in a jar of water are soothing. Elizabeth, Francesca, Dorothy, Barbara, Kelly, Ann, Frances, Ros, and others are all expressing what’s in their own minds and experiencing the same space differently.

“It’s very peaceful and meditative for everybody,” Victoria said. “I think it has a lot of curative qualities.”



Ann Finucane paints a big green face.



Victoria Schwartz and Barbara Patterson create a Christmas scene.



Elizabeth Lombardi is an accomplished painter and illustrator known throughout the Berkshires and Waldorf circuit.



Victoria poses near our wonderful and different paintings. She displays them for the week until our next session.

Lia Babitch lets the breeze carry seed chaff back to the garden.



MOMENTS FROM COPENHAGEN

Nico Christiansen and Karsten Rau shape rolls for Saturday Bible Evening.



Juan Ruiz takes the Estate Crew to their next destination.



Ryan Huntington trains on our Coffee Shop's point of sale system.



The Village Bell Ensemble performs at the opening night of the Kaspar Hauser Festival, hosted this year by Camphill Village.

Jacob and his friends bore an uncanny resemblance to Siphosthu Mpofu and Tasheni Mutale!



Paula Levai was a radiant Miss Piggy!



Maria Logan loves Disney, including Buzz Lightyear!



Finot Selassie had a great time at our party!



Mishka Zuckerman and Sarit Ronen sewed her cactus needles on by hand!



(Michael Desmond and Elijah Kent also pictured)

Leticia Vasques Cruz and Sara Bella Wolff were just two of the awesome Camphill Academy students who decorated the Hall and organized our party.



Ricky Hauptman is one of many devoted Michael Jackson fans in our community!



Tyler Dornsife was a lovely dark knight!





Lindsay Mead with her parents Slade and Alison.

Family Day in Copake

We had a lovely time welcoming our families back to the Village in October. Our visitors were moved to learn of three 60-year milestone anniversaries, Ernesto and Amy’s wedding ceremony, and the history of the Goetheanum—home of the Anthroposophical Society—in Dornach. We also heard introductions of new community members, as well as greetings from some of our fundraising staff.



Tere and Wendy help Mimi back to her seat.



Marty Hunt presented plaques and gift cards to Mimi Raymond, Sheila Adelman, and Linda Jespersen in recognition of their milestone anniversaries. Mimi and Sheila were celebrating 60 years of living in Camphill Village, and Linda celebrated 50!



Two of our new community members and their families introduced themselves to our families. Welcome, Ruby Rose and mom, Barbara! Welcome, Valery Sherman, brother Justin and dad, Roland!



It was such a treat to see some of our families who traveled a long distance! Oliver Dawdy's dad David brought a friend, and Nora Nickle was so glad to introduce her parents Carol and Jeff to her friends.



Many thanks to our awesome MCs, Daniel Rodrigues and Mike Davis!



Andrea Baring, an experienced gardener, hands a daffodil bulb to Hannah Oellers.



Brandon Lemay and Joseph Nour worked as a team.



The hundreds of bulbs we planted in fall will put on a spectacular show in spring.

Michaelmas in Copake

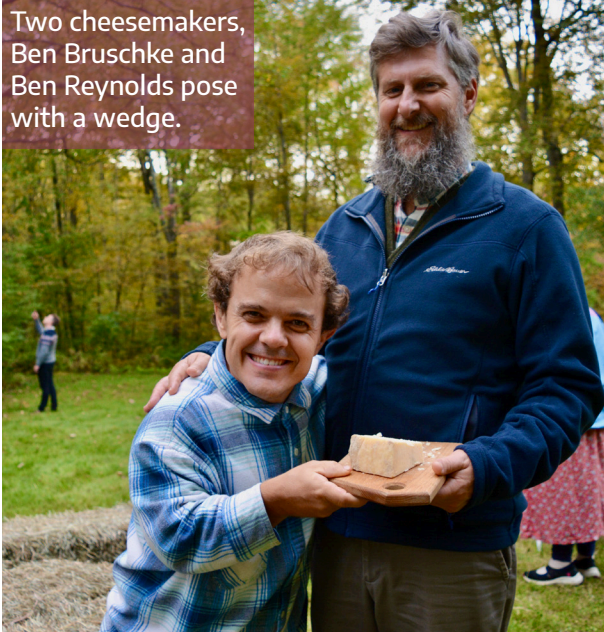
Our spiritual festival life in Camphill Village provides an exciting way for us to celebrate the rhythm of the seasons. This year's Michaelmas Day celebration brought beautiful weather for us to prepare a river of daffodils that we'll enjoy near our craft studios in spring; followed by a wonderful picnic with soups, rolls from our bakery served with farm cheese, fresh butter, and honey; and almost too many delicious apple pies and crumbles (if there ever was such a thing). Our gratitude for the colorful bounty of the season was expressed with gourds, squash, garlic, flowers, and tomatoes that were cared for all summer long by our dedicated gardeners, and which adorned our celebratory altar for St. Michael.



Peter Richards has been growing vegetables and flowers in flowers in Camphill Village for many years.



David Wallace, who works year-round in our Healing Plant Garden, reaches for another bulb.



Two cheesemakers, Ben Bruschke and Ben Reynolds pose with a wedge.



Close friends Alan Rosenzweig and Roy Tau catch up during the picnic.



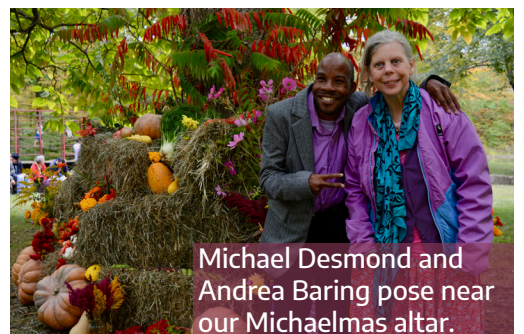
Pam Takaindisa reaches for fresh butter.



Tere Salinas brings a vase of gladiolas to the celebration.



Amanda Balducci and Abby Esty enjoy the picnic by the Hall Pond.



Michael Desmond and Andrea Baring pose near our Michaelmas altar.

Christopher Duffy, Valery Sherman, Chris Cardillo, Emily Wallach, and Gerry Ann Gavini enjoy the picnic together.



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Camphill Village Copake



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Without the generous support of families and friends, Camphill Village could not possibly fulfill its mission of service. Our Annual Fund is vitally important to maintaining Camphill Village's life for adults with developmental disabilities. Our fundraising goal this year is \$2.6 million.

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Camphill Ghent relies on private sources, including charitable donations, to fund more than 40 percent of our annual operating budget. Please consider making a gift today to fund the exceptional care, activities, and arts that enable our seniors of all abilities to thrive .

Front cover: Sheila Adelman examines a terrarium she made during Camphill Village Copake's 60th anniversary week in 2021. Photo by Ariel Turner.

Back cover: An apple tart served at a Camphill Village Copake community potluck on Michaelmas Day.



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