

CAMPHILL VILLAGE MINNESOTA

For the past 28 years, the day-to-day operation of CVM has been overseen by Bill Briggs.

Many, many thanks to Bill! We are now delighted to welcome our new Administrative Director, Lesley Moore!



The time is approaching when I will hand over my tasks as Camphill Village Minnesota Administrator to Lesley Moore, our new Administrative Director.

Lesley and I have been working together for the last five months, and by summer we will have completed the transition to her leadership. My

wife, Laura, and I will continue to reside in

Camphill and my focus will be on mentoring, training, and working on the land. Laura and I will also have more time to spend with our four grown children and three grandchildren.

Bill continued on page 6

CVM: How have your first months been going?

Lesley: My introduction to CVM has been wonderful. Exciting, challenging, and truly filled with wonder! I am getting to know community members and the rhythm of the village and look forward to experiencing my first year on the land.

CVM: Have you had experience living or working in an intentional community?

Lesley: Yes, I have worked and lived in intentional communities including an ecovillage; an urban farm; and the Occupy and related movements. These experiences are part of what has helped prepare me for this position.



Lesley continued on page 6

Aurora House



In Aurora House we are nine people sharing our lives! Once daylight comes, we are a noisy house full of energy! We don't need an alarm to wake up because the children of the house are in charge of that.

Whenever they are awake, that is enough to wake up the rest of the people in the house!

Dede just moved into Aurora a few months ago. She has such lively energy. She loves to dance, to act and to watch musicals. Dede always has a big smile on her face, especially when offering her help! She loves to be around the kitchen and help chop vegetables. She is the only one who can chop the onions without any tears on her face. Amazing, don't you think?

Monte is such a sweet little gentleman. He has a great sense of humor and he is always on a mission.

Monte is the one who is in charge of having the house in perfect order,

He likes to put things back in their place which is super helpful! And, he loves to do it!

Nae-Nae is the funniest person with such a good sense of humor. She always has interesting conversations to share. Nae-Nae is an amazing baker of goodies and actually healthy goodies.

She brings to the house a lot of lovely energy!

Sara has some favorite things and one of those is cleaning! She loves to be part of the cleaning crew in the Harvest Kitchen or the Bakery. You will see her always doing something like cleaning, laundry, and doing dishes because she loves it!

Nora is our new coworker, a special human being who is always looking to learn new things, growing her soul, and most importantly, she is open to learning! We feel so happy to have her and we hope that she enjoys the time that she is here. Welcome, Nora!

Chris and Diego are the houseparents with their children Lia and Piero. They are from Mexico and they have been here for about 2 years. They both work in the Bakery making delicious cookies and tasty bread. They like to go for walks in nature, swimming, and eating outside at a picnic table in warm weather!

Prairie Wind House



There are 10 people living in Prairie Wind: Christine, David, Lee, Mike, Tomi, Mihyang, Sammy, Jayden, Ana, and Caleb. We also have a cat and a dog. It's a full house!

Christine loves to do laundry and organize the kitchen. She is the master of homemaking. We have a cat, Neptune, and Christine takes care of him. That's her favorite part of the house.

David loves socializing. He loves to hang out with his friends and go out for special events around town.

Lee loves to work at the farm. He loves to feed the chickens and collect the eggs.

Mike loves to call his family and friends. He's good at checking-in and he loves it.

Christine and Mike work at STEP (a thrift store in town) three times a week.

They are happy with their new jobs.

Ana came to Prairie Wind last August. She brings so much love and care to the house. We love her soup. Her soup is the best ever! She is always willing to join our work in the house or village.

Caleb landed at our house at the beginning of May. He is from New Mexico and was in the Air Force. He has a warm heart. We are so happy to have him join us!

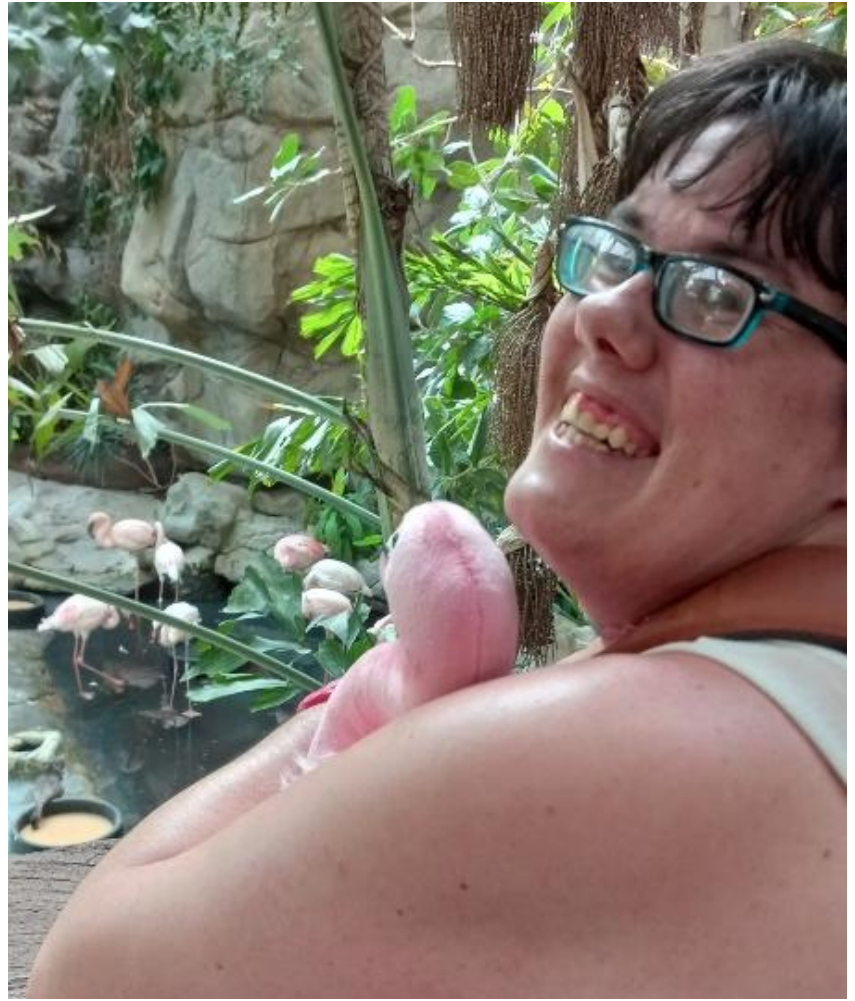
Mihyang and Tomi are the houseparents, Sammy and Jayden are their kids, and Kiki is their dog.

The kids bring so much delight to the house. Sammy and Lee play together with legos and puzzles. David is the perfect uncle and Christine loves to read books to them.

Mike loves to take care of Kiki! We feel we are well-matched and we always support each other.

Whatever we do together, we shout: "Go Prairie Wind!"

Nicholas Coleman House goes to the Zoo



Normally, we'd go to the Como Zoo and Conservatory, but this year Matthew was convinced to "make a change" and try out the Minnesota Zoo instead. Change can be difficult for some people in Nicholas Coleman, and our yearly outings to the same places every year can feel a little bit like clockwork, so we were excited to have an adventure.

Nico and Stephanie had a blast trying to find a tiger in an enclosure that had a very clearly posted sign that said the tiger was no longer in the exhibit. John enjoyed the big cats, especially the bobcats, and Brittany had an intensive conversation with a captivated wolf. Séamus enjoyed hunting down the only working water fountain in the zoo to avoid paying \$3.50 for bottled water.

Other highlights were newborn piglets (since CVM no longer raises pigs, it was a novelty for Brittany and Nico), immense brown bears being fed, flamingos, and Matthew being concerned about why the monorail wasn't working. We also got free wildflower seed packets!

Reviews:

"I LOVED THE FLAMINGOS!!" - Stephanie

"There was no polar bear exhibit." - Matthew

"I wouldn't want those bobcats in my bedroom." - John

Nicholas Coleman House Rating: 3 Stars

(Jeff missed the zoo outing because he was on a state park outing!)

All in all, we collectively decided that while it was great having a new experience, we agreed that Como Zoo is better than the Minnesota Zoo.

St. Christopher House



Back: Erika, Isa, Wren, Pat Front: Ben, Nicole, Sarah

Some of us used to live in Brome House, Brazil, California, and North Carolina.
Now we live together in St. Christopher's!



Bill continued from page 1

I have been honored to be the CVM administrator for the last 28 years. My tenure has been blessed by being supported by so many talented and dedicated individuals. At the board level I would like to thank Darryl Meyer and Sheridan Robson, who were there since 1980. Gerry Goplen, Tom Orr, Jack Cotter, Jim Wiant, Andy Kowalenko, Russ Weeks, Don Steinkraus, and Shirley Capps all made contributions to CVM over many years. More recent board members Peg Churchwell, Jonathan Olmscheid, and Luan Thomas Brunkhorst are shining examples of superb Minnesota volunteer board members. I give thanks to the role that Bob and Betty Schenk played in our community. They were like godparents to the community from bringing bunny cakes at Easter, to making firewood for the village, hosting CVM at their church's Christmas pageant, and much more.

Within the office at CVM there have been a number of competent and dedicated employees. I wish to express my thanks to Leila Oliver, Sheryl March, Mary Lou Schaefer, Margie Rodahl, Kristin Wilson, Karen Davis Brown, and Tracie Lynnes.

I have partnered with Mary Gruber, our Development Director, and am so grateful for the work she has done on our behalf. Lastly, I wish to honor the role that Susan Rosenthal has played in my administrative life as a friend and advisor.

At the heart of the work as administrator are the relationships one has with the volunteer coworkers and the people with special needs. I want to give thanks to my wife, Laura, who supported me through the joys of CVM administrative life, as well as those difficult times, too. What I hold strongest in my memory over these years is having people come to CVM and observe them learn new skills, gain confidence in themselves, blossom in self-knowledge, and to care more about others.

These past 28 years have been an incredible journey and I look forward to opening the next chapter with all of you at CVM.

With warm regards, Bill Briggs

Lesley continued from page 1

CVM: What is your background?

Lesley: I moved to Minnesota as a child, studied theater and music as a teen, and worked in the Twin Cities as an arts administrator. I have experience with nonprofit administration, social and human services, fund development, intentional communities and cooperative group processes, resilient land management and permaculture, and community organizing and social justice. I have been a primary caregiver for both family and community members with disabilities.

CVM: What interested you about this position?

Lesley: The Administrator position represents an evolution for CVM as it has traditionally been filled by a volunteer coworker. In reconceptualizing the position, there is a vision of 'servant leadership' and is designed to work very much for and with the Full Circle and the board of directors.. In a larger sense, the use of consensus for most decision making is where CVM needs to be.

CVM: What are the differences and/or similarities between this job and other jobs you've had?

Lesley: I have not worked in a village per se, and certainly not one that is this established. It is very inspiring what has been accomplished: the houses and the dedicated work spaces built, the practices for stewarding the land and caring for each other. I think that this job calls forth elements of other work I have done, from administrator in a variety of nonprofit settings to stage managing in theatre!

CVM: What are some perks or challenges to this job that you've been surprised by?

Lesley: The work site is pretty special! I love being at the Village, looking out the window and taking walks on the land. The community meal is a joy! I have really appreciated coming to know our residents, many of whom have lived here many years. I would be remiss if I didn't mention how lucky I am to be mentored by the outgoing administrator Bill Briggs.

Keeping the roads clean for 15 years



Every year, since 2007, in May and October, nine brave people don neon yellow vests and make a two-mile trek along Highway 71, picking up litter and wind-blown trash from the side of the road. They have to be brave, not because of the cars zooming by, but because of the nature of the work. The Adopt-a-Highway program has rules for what you can and cannot pick up, and since it is a rural stretch of road, a trash-picker will discover a great many exciting things, some more hazardous than others.



Camphill coworkers are careful to keep tabs on what is put into the bright yellow trash bags, and everyone is quick to make up stories surrounding the craziest objects. Highway cleanup is a lesson in patience and persistence. Finding trash in the tall and often wet grasses and prickly ash can be a challenge, and after the stretch is picked clean and the groups reunite, there is a tallying of the haul and comparing stories of who found the weirdest thing. Cars honk their thanks and Amish passersby wave as they trot to town, but the best reward for a couple of hours of picking up garbage is — let's be honest — the cookies. Purely to keep pickers' energy up, of course.

Trash pickers for Spring 2022:
Stephanie, Nora, Wren, Lee, Mike, Caleb, Patrick, Nico, and Séamus.

Creativity in words and pictures

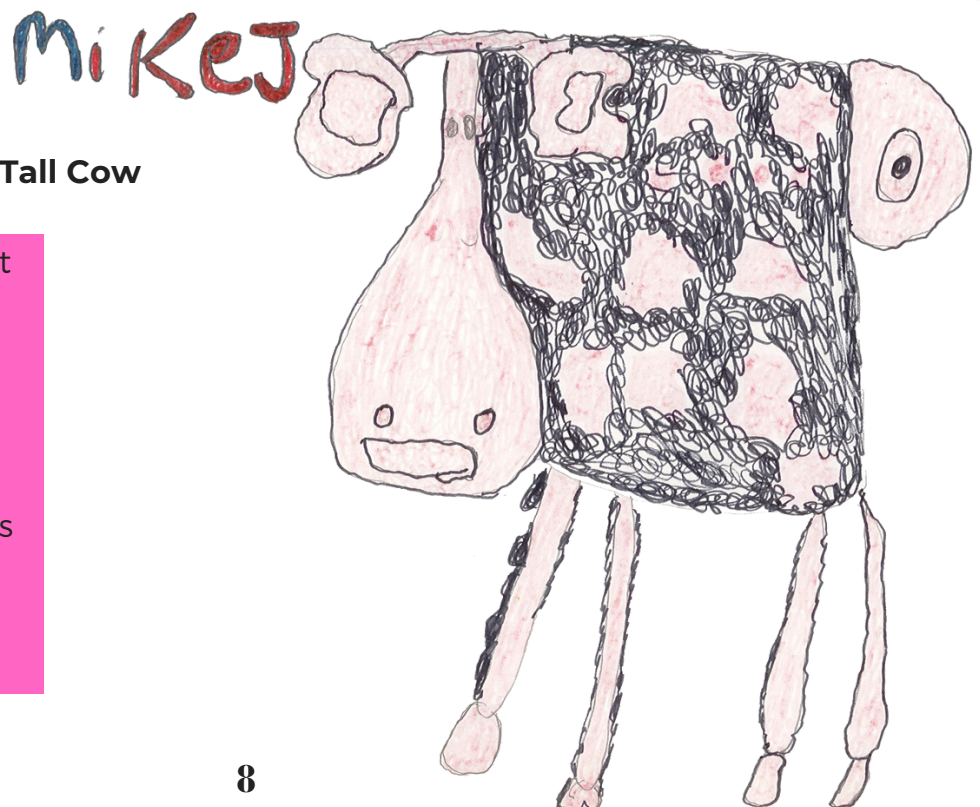


The writing and art workshops teamed up over the winter and produced wonderful stories and pictures!

David Saves the Day

One time a few years ago at dinner at Aurora Alice was still living with me. A bat came in through the door downstairs because the construction workers left the door open. It came up the stairs into the kitchen and it scared Alice, Sara, and I. Monte, John, and David weren't scared and they kept eating while we girls screamed. David was our hero. He chased the bat with a tennis racket and a towel and eventually caught it between the towel and tennis racket and brought it outside while us girls were screaming get it get it. Til this day, David saved the day.

By Kadie



A Very Bright Big and Tall Cow

it is a very bright
cow
it's colors are
pink and black
it gives us
milk
because it tastes
really good
it is big and tall
it says moo

By Nicole

In Memory of

Marianne Schneider

November 17, 1929-February 2, 2022



Marianne Schneider lived at Camphill Village Minnesota for the past 27 years. Life in the Village will feel different for many without her in her apartment at Prairie Wind. She died on February 2 in Meadow Place, an assisted living facility in Long Prairie. A fall right before Thanksgiving took her to the hospital and a subsequent diagnosis of congestive heart failure took her to Meadow Place.

Marianne loved her life at CVM and didn't want to leave! She cherished the friends who came to visit with her, clean for her, bring her meals, feed the birds, take her on errands or to appointments.

She especially enjoyed a friendship with her neighbor, Susan Rosenthal. She maintained friendships in the Twin Cities through phone calls and many visits over the years. With a small circle of friends there, she celebrated her 93rd birthday. Over the years she was a friend and mentor to many, young and old. She was friendly, approachable and had the ability to make space for anyone, wherever they were on their journey, and connected with them with love and care. Marianne's roots go back to a childhood on a farm near Appleton, WI. Modern dance was a theme in her life through her high school and college. Before she completed her college degree, she was lured by the opportunities for dance in New York City, and hopped on the bus to start her life there.

She took classes with Martha Graham, danced in off-Broadway shows and did office work to pay the bills.

When Marianne was exposed to the art of movement called Eurythmy she was intrigued and began reading about Anthroposophy, the philosophy behind this art form. In 1959, after completing her college degree, she went off to Europe, first to England and then to Germany to study Waldorf education, Bothmer gymnastics, and Eurythmy.

In 1964 she moved back to NYC and taught Eurythmy at the Rudolf Steiner High School. The next year, she moved to Spring Valley, NY, where there were more teaching and performance opportunities. She helped to found the Spring Valley Eurythmy School. One day she got a call from Bill Manning, a friend who had moved to Minnesota, saying there was a group of students and their parents who wished for a Waldorf school and would she like to be the founding teacher? Marianne heeded the call, moved to Minneapolis in 1981, and taught Kindergarten for a few years while the Minnesota Waldorf School grew. In later years, she taught Eurythmy and German.

Marianne was active in the community. She taught Eurythmy to adults, and held a weekly anthroposophical study group in her home. Marianne helped bring Eurythmy to other schools traveling to Wisconsin and Alaska. 1994 was the year Marianne retired from teaching and moved to Camphill Village Minnesota. She lived in Aurora for the first few years, then in Marlspring, and eventually in Prairie Wind. Her gifts to the Village included therapeutic painting and movement sessions with individuals.

Marianne's life was full and rich. May her spirit continue to inspire us!

~Marianne and Dennis Dietzel

Comes and Goes

We have been having a wonderful spring and summer after a long winter. We said farewell and thank you to four co-workers during the winter:

Christina Craig and **Brandon Walker** are now living in Kansas. **Dean Cooper** went back to school in August. **Hannah Galloway** got a new job in Washington, D.C.

Christina, Efrain, Johannes, and Clara Martinez left in June. They lived in our community with their gentle love for 10 years and are moving to North Carolina. We wish them all the best! Thank you!

And hello to our new arrivals! We are excited to welcome coworkers: **Brittany Ballew, Erika Caitano da Silva, Nora Hadaf, Wren Dimond,** and **Caleb Nemrow.**

Welcome also to our summer interns: **Keegan Meade,** and **Isabella DeGuzman**



My Camphill Experience

Camphill is an inviting place filled with a diverse group of people. I remember my first day there when I was welcomed by the whole village. They made me feel welcome and that this was my new home. On my first day, I made waffles for the house and was greeted by a lovely housemate talking about their interests.

I loved to work on the farm. I liked to clean the eggs and I loved to work with Tomi. He made it so super fun that I miss it so much. I had to leave earlier than I expected because my back needed surgery. I am still in contact with many people from Camphill. I am happy that I got to be a part of the Camphill experience.

~ **Dean Cooper**

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farm@camphillmn.org

320-732-3875

Angela Michieli



Rotary Service Project

It's always wonderful to have a service club come and work with us on a special project at Camphill Village Minnesota. Over the years, we have had local service clubs in the community build mobility ramps and other crucial renovations.

Many of our volunteers and donors participate in Rotary International and we were grateful a few years ago when our Sauk Centre Rotary Club (along with the Granite Rotary Club of St. Cloud and the Saint Cloud Rotary Club) came together to raise money for a unique farm renovation. This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, outside the scope of the great support that Rotary International gives to their international efforts with student exchanges and other cultural activities. The impact was increased when the district office in St. Cloud multiplied the funds raised by the three Rotary Clubs. The combined total of \$10,000 helped renovate our farm shed with the improvement of a wall separating the resting area for livestock from the vegetable cooler and food processing area. In addition, a cement floor was laid. Both projects improved sanitation and efficiency.



There are windows in the wall so that the residents can see and interact with the animals.

We are grateful to have a relationship with Rotary International, an organization with an overlapping mission around engaging individuals from countries across the world. Due to Covid restrictions, we were unable to involve the Rotarians in the hands-on construction. We'll also have to wait for a later date to celebrate the support of the Rotary Club's gift. We don't need to wait to express our appreciation for the generosity of this donation—thank you!



Fundraising Goals

Your Support in 2021 Made the Difference

Thanks to our community of donors for your ongoing support and helping secure 15 percent of our operating budget and key capital renovation support last year and every year before.

CVM has made it through the second year of the pandemic! With warmer weather, the community will shift into more outdoor work and social activities after a long winter of restrictions.

Funding Needs 2022

This year we are setting up a climate change fund totaling \$25,000 to ensure any unexpected costs related to extreme weather and other breakdowns, which could impact the safety and security of our village. With this fund in place, the support will be there when the need arises. Our 2022 capital plan also includes needed renovations including window and equipment replacement.

The maintenance plan will continue to be weighed in relation to our priority support of the operating budget and any additional supports required for the village's security in these most unusual of times.



Summer Fund Drive 2022

We are coming to our community of donors this spring hoping once again, that those who can, will make a pledge of support to CVM by August 1. It made all the difference in the last 5 years, helping forecast our funding for the year ahead in time to resolve gaps in support by years end. Those who could donate in the spring and summer also helped with early needs in our operating budget.

We want to ensure as many pledges as possible by August 1 to secure as much stability for our operations before the second half of the calendar year. If you can participate, please email your pledge to cvmn@rea-alp.com or call or text Mary at 651-334-4684. If you are able to donate early, our address is 15136 Celtic Drive, Sauk Centre, MN 56378.

We are grateful in these unique times, that with your support, the village is set up to shelter in place with the coworkers offering consistency of emotional support and meaningful work for people with special needs. These communal structures, at the core of the mission of Camphill, continue to remind us of the power of the collective in these times of instability.

Thank you to our generous donors

Donations Received from November 1, 2021 to May 1, 2022

Donor gifts are an integral part of the operation of our organization. We are grateful for your generous support and continued contributions to our programming. Thank you, from all of us.

Individual Donors:

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Wilson, Don and Kristin

Donations continued on page 15



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- Thrivent Federal Credit Union
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If there is a change or omission in your name or business, please contact our Program Coordinator at cvmn@rea-alp.com to get it changed.

Newsletter editors: Mihyang Lee and Nancy Potter. We thank the many contributors for their stories and pictures! For an electronic copy of the newsletter, and for all other information, please visit www.camphillmn.org or call 320-732-6365.



You're invited! Save the date!

12:30 to 4:00

Fall Festival Sunday, September 11, 2022

Crafts and baked goods for sale



Tour the houses and workshops

Music, face painting, hayrides, lunch and more!

Camphill Village Minnesota 15136 Celtic Drive Sauk Center MN 56378 320-732-6365

Camphill Village MN
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The mission of Camphill Village Minnesota is to create and sustain a community where people with and without disabilities live, work, and care for each other to foster social, spiritual, cultural, and agricultural renewal.