Family Focus announces retirement of Bob Parlin, hiring of Louis Larson

Bob Parlin, executive director of Family Focus, recently announced his retirement. He leaves a remarkable legacy which includes the opening of the Brunswick Landing facility. As executive director of Family Focus at the Landing facility was a fitting way to celebrate Family Focus’s 30th year in providing high quality child care and school age programming in the greater Bath-Brunswick area. The Family Focus team will miss Bob and the dedicated staff to the caret of children.

On May 2, the Board of Directors announced the new executive director of Family Focus, Laura Larson, Director of Children Services. The board recognizes her into this important leadership position.

Staff Appreciation

Praising quality childcare programs not only urges high staff retention but also dedication to the care of children on the part of the employees. The adult to child relationship is at the heart of quality childcare. In appreciation for their part in this relationship, the Family Focus team organized the Staff Appreciation Dinner for the 4K staff employed at the three childcare sites and two SACC locations. This year that event took place May 21 at the Brunswick Landing where family, board members and staff members enjoyed burgers, salads and desserts galore.

This gathering gave the board the opportunity to highlight the staff’s contribution to the quality child care and school age programs provided by Family Focus. Recognition was given to several staff members who were the most deserving. Staff members were recognized for 5 years of employment and six for 10 years. Four staff members have been with Family Focus for a remarkable 15 years or more. There was a great feeling of pride in this community.

Community Collaboration: Family Focus and Gelato Fiasco

There is no better way to embrace summer than over a bowl of delicious gelato. With Gelato Fiasco, Family Focus was able to raise approximately $600 during its “Week of Gelato” event. Thanks to Gelato Fiasco, Family Focus was able to raise approximately $600 during its “Week of Gelato.”

M:mmore than just another event, the Gelato Fiasco event supplied the traffic for the annual Water Street Art Show, which took place from June 24-27. The children made wooden sculptures inspired by Louise Nevelson and created brightly colored prints inspired by Wassily Kandinsky. They chose a book written and illustrated by Yael Catafus and used it as inspiration for their own artwork. The art auction is an integral part of this week. Each class creates an item to be auctioned. The auction is point system with hands and feet to make a 3D “Hungry Caterpillar.” The Yeldle class painted bright in the wooden stacked sculptures. The Pre-K School class created lizard shaped to create a quilt and made a very tall, very fast flower. The Pre-K class fashioned a kitchen chair using the theme of a fish and water. In addition, for the 50/50 raffle, the Homes Infant of SACC (infants) and Preschool Garden (pre-K) raised money.

This art show is a wonderful evening but also a great community event. All of the money raised will be used to purchase art supplies for the art program at the center. A huge thank you to the parents, friends, and staff who helped to make this art show such an amazing success!

Creating Art

Annual show displays works, auction raises funds

Words That Cook — Parenting with Children’s Books

With the cap of from the Harvard Foundation, Family Focus and Gelato Fiasco will provide this awesome winning television series to local families. By way of the popular television series—Mr. Yell, Buttercup, Hand, and Shadow—are cooking up literacy in a drawn and fun filled way.

In addition to the television program, a free booklet titled 10 Tips to Get Kids Reading and Keep Kids Reading is available through Family Focus. To get your free copy of this booklet and to help us stay in contact, please email us at deb@familyfocusme.org. The goal is to keep you informed of the good programs being offered by Family Focus.

Woodside Family Focus SACC and Woodside School collaborate

Hooray for Curious George and the Maine State Music Theater!

Thank you goes to the Davenport Fund for its recognition of the value of young children experiencing live theater. Children enrolled in the SACC summer programs at Williams Cove and Rawcliffe Schools will also be attending the Maine State Music Theater this summer. These students will attend the children’s production of “Thief in August.” Their attendance will be at parental expense.

Lego and Robotics Club

Family Focus operates three Early Learning Centers in Bath and Brunswick. It also operates after-school programs in Harpswell, East 符 contingency and Spanish schools in School Administrative District 175 and at Hawthorne School in Brunswick.

Community Childhood. Education. Community.

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