

The Parker Press

The Official Newspaper of **BEAM** Camp at Parker Mountain, Strafford, NH

Project Progress

by Jacob Freedman



PHOTO BY BEN CUNNINGHAM

This week in Jungletopia, the 2008 Beam project, we're getting close to finishing. Jan, the project coordinator, has been put on the record as saying that we will finish the project half way through this coming week.

Wave 1 has been putting in pipes for sound tubes that we will be able to speak to each other through, and making a slide from the leftover pipes—personally, I am excited to ride such a slide. They had to cut off the metal so no one gets scraped.

Wave 2 has installed swings under Jungletopia. The way they have done it enables the swings to switch places. This may branch into a beautiful hammock spot.

Wave 3 put floor boards in the tree house last week and painted them this week. They also helped Wave 2 put in a tire wall.

Wave 4 has secured the ladders they made last week in place on Jungletopia with a high-power nail gun. They also put car mirrors and hammocks all throughout the structure. Wave 4 also helped finish the pipe sound system and built the eye that will go at the top. *Continued on page 2*

Visiting with Our Visiting Artist

by Max Garay

Guest artist Jessica Findley, who specializes in all kinds of art, joined us last week to teach camp karaoke and animation. Jessica is originally from Omaha, Nebraska and lives in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. *Continued on page 2*

Sports at Beam

by Matt Wheelock

For campers interested in athletics, there are many kinds of sports offered at Beam Camp this year.

One sport is swimming and we're blessed with three wonderful lifeguards. We had a chance to speak with two of them, Holly and Heather.

The reason Holly is a lifeguard at Beam is that she loves the waterfront. She chose to do long-distance swimming because she likes the freedom of swimming without borders. When asked about the different swimming levels at Beam, Holly said that the reason she gave the swimming levels the names she did is because bass are faster than trout, and sunfish swim in shallow water, making the levels easy to remember. Holly also loves working at the waterfront so she can meet all of the "interesting and intelligent people at Beam."

Heather is a lifeguard because she loves swimming and is about saving lives. Heather learned synchronized swimming when she was 11 because she thought it was the greatest sport ever, and there's really nothing she'd rather do than swim.

Pat and Cassie came up with the Sports Life domain by thinking about the sports they liked and thought the campers would like, too. They keep records by age group and make the domain fun because they both have a good sense of humor and are serious, but not too serious.

Another popular sport this year at camp is tetherball. And would you believe that James Sheldon beat his older (and much taller) brother Michael at the game?

BEAM CALENDAR

by Jeff McCready

SUN AUG 10 Beach Day	THU AUG 14 Dance Party	SAT AUG 16 Domain
TUE AUG 12 Gerbo Arrives		Presentation Slide Show
		Final Camp Fire

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS:
8/13 Alex Steckman, 8/16 Misha Macnie, Alex Doerfler-Ludwig

The Parker Press

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BEAM SPECIAL TALENTS by Diana McCready and Jade Thompson

Olivia Reis can do 100 cartwheels in a row, in a circle. Tess Noblestrom can knit a bracelet in one day. Shane Murphy claims he can blow on a piece of wood and it will catch on fire (see "Counselor Profile" below), but we highly doubt it. Jeff McCready can do a hand stand and walk on his hands.



CAMPER PROFILE

Nash Bates

by Angelo Knox

AGE: 13

BUNK: SALSA VERDE RESEARCH STATION

HOMETOWN: MANHATTAN

What do you like most about BEAM:

Being outside

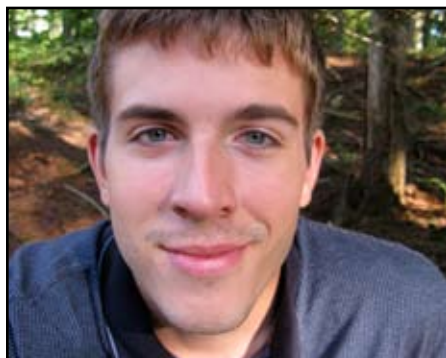
Special talents: Basketball

Favorite food: Cheeseburgers

Favorite food at Beam so far: The waffle-ice cream breakfast

Have you seen anything strange: No

What sports do you play: Basketball



COUNSELOR PROFILE

Sugar Shane Murphy

by Angelo Knox

AGE: 20

BUNK: MOUNTAIN HOLDERS

HOMETOWN: MANCHESTER, NH

What do you like most about BEAM:

Fun and hard work

Special talents: Ability to blow on wood and light it on fire

Favorite food: Spaghetti

Favorite food at Beam so far:

Baby-back ribs

Who do you know that recently got hurt:

Travis got hit in the head with a rock

What sports do you play: Volleyball

Do you have any siblings: Yes, a little brother named Casey

BEAM SECRETS

The Sun Eaters' Sign

by Quinn Accardi

Many people have noticed the Sun Eaters' spectacular sign so we set out to learn its secrets by speaking with the sign's creator, Jesse Kreuzer, a Sun Eater counselor.

After we heard that the sign opened, and investigated for ourselves, we spoke to Jesse.

We learned that the meaning of the sign was to put cool stuff in the hole that is created when the mouth is opened. Jesse said it took three or four days to finish the sign, working about two hours a day. When we asked him why he would put a hole behind the head he said because the sun and the head are important. And why are there always sticks in the hole?

"Because people think sticks are cool."

But one note from Jesse: "Stop leaving it open!"

VISITING ARTIST

Jessica Findley continued from page 1

She found out about Beam Camp the way many of the counselors did, through an email listserv called NonsenseNY. She even surfs as a hobby. We were all pleased to learn that Jessica will stay at Beam through the end of camp.



JUNGLETOPIA

Project Progress continued from page 1

Wave 5 made speech bubbles for the trees with funny sayings like "Merry X-mas my trunk" and affixed circles with words that can be arranged and rearranged to make different phrases.

Wave 6 made the railings for the East bridge, while Wave 7 made a tree house for the time-lapse camera, that will take a picture every half hour.

Wave 8 gathered sticks and drilled holes in the old water pipe we collected from around camp during Pioneer Week. They will put sticks in the holes that they have drilled to make Jungletopia look more natural.

We all have done tremendous work on the project and we will hopefully meet Jan's expectations and finish the project by Wednesday and be able to decorate Jungletopia in time for the parents' arrival on Sunday.

GOSSIP

by Alex Doerfler-Ludwig

Allen's domain is really a search for his twin brother, who is rumored to be living in the woods of Parker Mountain. ♡ Some claim that Emily Farris is really a blonde! Only time (and her roots) will tell. ♡ A bird pooped on Cassie's shoulder. While some say it's good luck, we consider it camp's grossest moment to date. ♡ Asia supposedly returns to camp tonight with three surprises. Some speculate they are her grandmother, a space ship, and a taco truck that will park by Jungletopia from 8-10 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays. ♡ Apparently, yetis are protected by the Humane Society. ♡ The Sun Eaters are planning to eat the sun... literally. If they're going to be like that, we call dibs on their dessert. ♡ Imani dominated at badminton. You go, birthday girl! ♡ Nyree was seen boxing a Sasquatch. The Sasquatch was later seen by the dry hydrant with tears pouring out of its two black eyes. ♡ Did Kevin Murphy really encounter a yeti?