Dear New and Old Friends of Heartbeet,

We are once again in our spring transition. This long snowy winter gave us time to catch our breath, settle in and forge new friendships. It was punctuated with new forms of celebration—an amazing New Year’s party in Kaspar House with Björn’s fire-works and the best awards ever given; a Fasching party with dancing and craziness; and wonderful evenings spent getting to know our community in its new constellation.

Already in late fall a small “Community Center Group” was formed to develop a collective picture of what our community center would need to encompass. Small and large meetings, trips to other buildings and other communities, and lots of research took us into early winter. The architects, the Community Center Group, the Building Committee and the Board all helped to make sure that this building will serve the future needs of the community. We are now celebrating spring with the final details of the design, which we are excited to share with you in this newsletter.

All of us here already love our new hall and can envision it standing at the top of our drive to welcome our visitors. As with most things at Heartbeet, it has ended up better than we could have imagined.

This building will provide the space for the maturing of our potential as community; it will be a gathering space for social, educational, and cultural events for Heartbeet and beyond. With limited numbers of building sites at Heartbeet, it is a multi-faceted building. Its center will be the theater/ gathering space. It will also house a processing kitchen, a community library, therapy rooms, and administrative space. It will enable us to collaborate and share musical and
The Time is Now! cont.

dramatic performances with others. We look forward to preparing plays that we can take outside as well. This inclusive environment will celebrate differences through arts programs for a diverse adult population, providing a more gentle and non-competitive environment for creative expression.

We are excited to expand our food processing so we can eat more of our home grown food. We are dreaming of making cheese and increasing what we put in both cooler and freezer. Food processing is an art that many in this community feel deeply connected to—this kitchen will make us more sustainable for the future.

The Community Center is living in the realm of potential; it is a milestone in the history of the community, offering opportunities to expand programming and to collaborate on many levels with local business and cultural endeavors. This is a 2.2 million dollar building, and to date we have raised $700,000—it is a big leap to get to where we need to be, and it will take extraordinary gifts to get us there. We really need your help to take the next step so that we can confidently hire a general contractor and bring this building from imagination to reality!

This is a big moment that calls on all of us who feel strongly about Heartbeet to give! With gratitude for your generosity and a hopeful heart filled with pictures of this amazing new space.

Hannah Schwartz, Executive Director

~ Save the date! ~

Join us for

Family & Friends Day
Heartbeet Lifesharing - A Camphill Community -
Saturday, June 28
3 - 7 p.m.
Farm Tours - Music - Potluck Supper

Schwartz-Gilbert kids ham it up.

Annie J & Hannah bring in the New Year.

Celebrating Candelmas… and the Winter that just wouldn’t end!
~ An Inclusive Cultural Hub ~

A gathering space for the social, educational and cultural events of the Heartbeet community and beyond.

An inclusive, non-competitive environment for a broad spectrum of quality arts events including plays, concerts, dance performances, contra dances, readings, and lectures.

An interweaving, dynamic relationship between Heartbeet and area businesses, restaurants, lodging, and recreation.

A place where differences fade and diversity is celebrated!
At the time that my youngest brother Kei Shimizu first moved to Heartbeet in 2008, I had just started working at Saveur, a national food magazine based in New York City. Saveur, now in its 20th year, is a magazine that explores and celebrates not just recipes and cooking, but the stories behind those things—the cultures, families, individuals, histories, that give rise to the food we make and eat. When I first visited Heartbeet, I was blown away by the beauty and vitality of the farm, and the engagement and love that I sensed in the community. It was also clear from the beginning that the cultivation, cooking, and sharing of good food was of utmost importance—a central part of life there. I felt immediately that Heartbeet would be a good subject for Saveur. Over the years, I kept the idea in the back of my mind.

From time to time, Saveur dedicates an entire issue to exploring a single topic. We decided to devote our May 2014 issue to showing great food moments from around the world, starting early in the morning and going until late at night. Each story, we hoped, would help to demonstrate the tremendous diversity—and deliciousness—of how the world eats, and would also show how the preparation and sharing of meals is a universal, unifying everyday human activity. Heartbeet’s rhythms and routines, from daily chores and workshops to the rituals of saying grace before meals and thanks after, have helped Kei to grow, mature, and thrive over the years. And so I proposed that one of the moments in our “Best Food Moments” issue be at the breakfast table at Heartbeet. My fellow editors, happily, agreed.

This February, I drove up to Heartbeet with my husband Chris and my daughter Aiko to help produce a photo shoot for the magazine. Hannah Schwartz generously invited us to join her household at Kaspar House for Sunday brunch. A talented photographer, Corey Hendrickson, joined Hannah and Onat Sanchez, Annie Jackson and Thomas Cusick, in the sunny Kaspar House kitchen as they all prepared a breakfast of “crazy day” crêpes and a bacon, cheese and spinach frittata. Kei came down from Amber Rose House to hang out with his niece, and I took notes as the meal came together. After a few hours of shooting and cooking—and a lot of patience on the part of Kaspar House, as our presence slowed down the normal pace of things—we sat down to a delicious meal.

Later, back in New York, the rest of the May issue came together, with images and stories from far-flung locales like Tokyo, Abu Dhabi, Kiev and Paris. But of all the moments and meals in the issue, the brunch in Hardwick, Vermont is the one I’m most proud of. It also has pride of place in the magazine itself—Hannah’s beautiful photos are on the front cover of the issue.

I think that most of Saveur’s readers probably have no idea that places like Heartbeet exist. And I very much hope that by sharing this one moment—breakfast at Kaspar House—with them, their sense of what’s out there, and possible in the world, is greatly expanded and enriched, just as my own horizons were broadened when Kei first moved to Heartbeet.
Since joining Heartbeet in August 2013, I have been involved with the festival life of the community. I directed the Shepherd’s Play last December and staged it at the local Catholic Church’s hall. With more than 100 people in the audience, we needed a bigger space to host our yearly Nativity play than Kaspar House’s living room.

For our Fasching celebration in early March 2014, we used the Stowehof Inn’s meeting room. Again, we needed a bigger space than any of our living rooms can offer for our original Shakespearean parody play and dances and indoor games.

When we had our Community Gathering in March – where everyone assembled to hear community news and updates – we held it in the weaving room which doubles as our community meeting room. Without enough space for everyone to sit down, it was standing room only.

This leads us all to a logical conclusion – Heartbeet needs a Community Center! This multipurpose hall will serve as a theater for the different plays and performances we produce each year; a conference room for our board meetings and various work group meetings; a dining hall for our community potlucks and parties; and a rehearsal space for our Chime Choir. A classroom will support our educational needs, like the weekly Teatime continuing education group, where Friends engage in acquiring skills and learning about topics of shared interest; study groups for our coworkers; and Social Therapy training classes for the Camphill Academy students.

Everyone at Heartbeet looks forward to the day when we are all gathered in our very own Community Center – and with your help, this vision can become reality.

Mission:
Heartbeet is a vibrant lifesharing community that includes adults with developmental disabilities and interweaves the social and agricultural realms for the healing and renewing of our society and the earth. Community members live and work together, in beautiful extended family households, forming a mutually supportive environment that enables each individual to discover and develop his or her unique abilities and potential.

Donations:
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E-Mail: Hannah@heartbeet.org • Phone: (802) 472-3285 • Website: www.heartbeet.org

Creative Donations:
Corporate Donations can be supported through business matching grants. If you are giving a donation to Heartbeet, check with your business or corporation to see if they would be willing to match it. If you are thinking of giving money but would like to give it over time, we can organize a pledge donation.

Heartbeet is registered as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and its primary purpose is serving individuals with developmental disabilities. We are a youthful organization with significant capital expenses, so your support is greatly appreciated and can be directed towards the following areas of need: General Operations or Community Center.

Wilde, Jasper & August.