



# YOU OTTER KNOW

February 2011



**NOTES from the CAMP DIRECTOR**...Happy Valentine's Day, Camp Otter! As the snow continues to fall this winter, my thoughts constantly shift ahead four months to the start of camp. I dream of the days of 70 degree heat and sunshine and where snow banks are a distant memory. I have heard from many of the staff members from last year who are as anxious as I am to return to Camp Otter. Hopefully in my next newsletter I will have a detailed announcement of who the Senior Staff, program staff, and cabin counselors will be this year.

I am happy to report that registration for Camp Otter and Road Rangers is booming. To guarantee a spot, call our registration office at 978-975-1330 today. Some Road Ranger weeks are already half full and all of Camp Otter weeks have registrations. Remember we have added an eleventh week of Camp Otter and three new Road Ranger weeks. For weekly themes, please visit our website at [www.mvymcacamps.org](http://www.mvymcacamps.org). Also if you are interested in attending overnight camp as well, there are limited spaces available at both Camp Lawrence for boys and Camp Nokomis for girls.

I have some "camp news" to report. Camp Otter looks to be in great condition. The main paths have been plowed out by our contractors. **Andy Brien**, our Association Maintenance Director, frequently checks in on camp. Andy does a lot of behind the scenes work at Camp Otter, which I personally appreciate.

As for "people news" I have heard from some campers but mostly staff over the holiday season. **Allen, Alex, and Rachel Becotte** got a much deserved break from the snow and went to Disney World for February vacation. Rachel got her first basketball basket during her practice at the Lawrence YMCA. **Amy Brennan** is enjoying her senior year at UMASS Amherst. She got her first internship this semester. **Xiara Deleon** is now a big sister! Congratulations! **Emily and Megan Dunbar** are swimming for the Andover/North Andover YMCA. I ran into them at the Feaster Five expo, where their mother was running a booth. **Bryan Golden** is enjoying his freshman year at UMASS Lowell. He recently had a reunion with **Christine Kuchar, Carissa Ackroyd, Gina Guimond, Sara Cahalane, Michelle Bibeau, Amy Brennan, and Josh Berrigan**. **Brendan and Joshua Gruenberg** are playing in the Merrimack Valley YMCA's Youth Basketball Leagues. **Gina Guimond** is busy applying to nursing jobs for her co-op at Northeastern. **Christine Kuchar** is currently teaching physical education at a school in Amherst, MA. **Emma LaBelle** has been very busy with school, basketball, and dance. She is excited to return to Camp Otter next summer. She frequently sees **Emma Yahiaoui**. **Meaghan O'Donnell** is enjoying the snow at Ithaca College. **Rachel Plumb** became an aunt again in December. This March she is planning to go to Pennsylvania with Habitat for Humanity building houses and working on job sites. **Rachael Utegg** has been busy applying to private high schools, including Austin Prep and Phillips Academy Andover. That is all I have for "people news" as of right now. If you have any exciting news to share, please email me at [cs00hoo@mvymca.org](mailto:cs00hoo@mvymca.org). The next newsletter goes out in April.

Although Callie, my one and a half year old daughter, has enjoyed playing in the snow this winter, I hope that we stay clear of blizzards and storms from here on out. While building snowmen and sledding are fun, opening day of Camp Otter, June 20, 2011, is fast approaching. Hopefully all of the snow days have only pushed schools back to June 17<sup>th</sup>. Good luck with school, extra curricular activities, and sports. Enjoy your vacations and remember camp is only four months away.

With Otter Cheer,

*Claudia Jim Beato*



## Camp Otter and Road Rangers Registrations are now open.

Sign up for Camp Otter before the weeks fill, so you're not sitting at home, wishing you could be on the Ropes Course or swimming in Captain's Pond!

In December we sent you a registration card, if you need a replacement call our camp office at 978-975-1330



**REGISTRATION  
HAS BEGUN!**  
Call to enroll for this  
summer before the  
week you want to  
attend is FULL!

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**Merrimack Valley YMCA  
Camping Services Branch  
101 Amesbury Street  
4th Floor  
Lawrence, MA 01840**

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## Camp Otter Open House

Sunday, March 27, 2011 • 2 pm to 4 pm

Slide Show Viewing • 2:30 pm

**Andover/North Andover YMCA • 165 Haverhill Street, Andover, MA**

Questions? Contact us at 978-975-1330 • [campinfo@mvyymca.org](mailto:campinfo@mvyymca.org)

Tell all your friends who are thinking about Camp Otter that this is a great time to meet Camp Director Claudia and other staff and get your questions answered.

