

November 24, 2010

PCCD Sensory Garden hotbed of activity

Children attending Andover's Professional Center for Child Development have been enjoying the sights and smells of a special garden created by the Spade and Trowel Garden Club of Andover.

At the end of warmer days, visitors to the center may see a collection of tiny watering cans scattered around, because making sure the plants have enough to drink is one of the favorite activities of the children in the preschool, according to staff.

"I love the way the children are able to smell the lemon thyme. The garden engages all of the senses," PCCD staff and Andover resident Rachel Daniels, pediatric occupational therapist, said in a release.

The Spade and Trowel Garden Club dedicated the garden with the hope that the center's children "may experience the garden with all their senses and delight in the colors, shapes, textures and scents of the plantings.

The raised beds are accessible to all, and the plantings change with the seasons, providing visual and textural interest throughout the year, according to the PCCD.

Members of the Spade and Trowel Club come to the center often to work on the garden or change it out for each season.

The club provided the center with a booklet describing the plantings, general care and games for the children.

Mary Jurek, M.Ed. of Andover, a teacher in the Developmental Day School, said her "students enjoy the feel of the plants and the visual stimulation the Sensory Garden provides."



Spade and Trowel Garden Club of Andover keeps the PCCD's Sensory Garden looking beautiful year-round.

