

by CJ ANSORGE

AMAZING GRACES

TEATIME AT OASIS FARM

Tea Cakes
by John Cleary



There are many fine reasons to go to Oasis Farm and support its mission as a Therapeutic Life Center (tlc) for autistic individuals, but its Social Graces Tea is reason enough to head there for a food experience all its own—and a heart-warming afternoon in the bargain.

The setting is the elegant, light-filled Lafayette Ballroom in the 18th century farmhouse that is home to Oasis—its programs, volunteers, staff, students, residents and visitors. The afternoon tea menu is seasonal, farm fresh, homemade and, whenever possible, homegrown. Goat cheese, eggs, jams, jellies, breads, scones and more are all products of Oasis Farm and made with ingredients organic to the place. A greenhouse and gardens for fruits and vegetables...goats for milk and cheese...chickens for eggs... The seven acre farmstead gives ample opportunity for learning and vocational training in agriculture, the arts, and the environment, as well as plenty of good food for the table.



SOCIAL GRACES TEA

WEDNESDAYS | 3:00-4:30pm

(last seating at 4:30pm)

MARCH 11 & 25 |

APRIL 8 & 22 | MAY 6 & 20

oasifarml@gmail.com for reservations

With Social Graces, Oasis students are learning how to make and prepare foods, be hosts, wait tables, set up and clean up and, as with a culinary school restaurant, guests are part of the training. But there's a special understanding that's needed here that adds a sense of purpose and participation in an important process.

The bone china tea sets and tiered serving trays piled high with sandwiches, savories, sweets and pastries make for a lovely repast and beautiful presentation, but it is the life of this community that makes the afternoon shine and you are welcome to become part of the glow.

Social Graces is the thoughtful expression of the Oasis Farm philosophy—to provide encounters between people that will foster positive human growth through nature and the acceptance of human differences. One bite into a freshly baked scone from the Oasis Farm kitchen at afternoon tea is just that kind of encounter—warm, joyful, and not to be missed. Reservations are requested and tables fill quickly. A suggested donation of \$10 for smaller plates or \$15 for larger plates is appreciated.

OASIS FARM | 1 MORGAN ROAD, MIDDLETOWN

