
THE CONNECTION

Published by the Franklin School PTO

Apr 11, 2008

Attendance Line 617-559-9509

PRINCIPAL'S PAD

In the spirit of good communication and safety, I want to share how we will have refined dismissal of students who are sick or injured:

- Ann Garvin, R.N. our school nurse, calls the parent/guardian to inform that the student needs to be dismissed. She informs the office & teacher about this dismissal;
- The child's backpack, clothing, and schoolwork are obtained from the homeroom;
- The student waits in the nurse's office for pick-up. The parent/guardian comes there. In the nurse's office there will now be a sign-out sheet for dismissal. At the end of the day, information is transferred by computer. This is a change from earlier sign-out practices.
- All other dismissals happen through the main office with Mrs. Mastroianni. Students will wait for parents/guardians inside the office, not on the bench in the hallway.

This procedure seems more secure. The two offices communicate via phone with one another. Given that there are actually three offices at Franklin, the Principal's office being separate, it is imperative that we have clear communication guidelines about dismissal.

Secondly, when you or anyone representing your family, comes into the building, they MAY NOT go directly to the classroom without first checking in with the office. While I expect Franklin to be a friendly, kind, and open school, that does not mean that any one adult who is not a staff member, or any student who does not attend Franklin, may just wander in. I want our families to feel confident that the staff and I are providing a safe school.

MCAS testing has been completed until May. From staff observations and experiences, I can say that our students took each aspect of the test seriously, using their time wisely. Our grade 4 students wrote and wrote. A good sign! Their only complaint was how much recess they were to have after completing such a challenge.

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Apr 12 | 2-4 pm Franklin Family Skating |
| Apr 14 | 8:30 am Behavior Management |
| Apr 16 | Wellness Day |
| Apr 21-25 | Spring Vacation |
| May 6 | Teacher Appreciation Luncheon |

Recently, our grade 5 students had the opportunity to visit the Minuteman National Park complete with a presentation by one of the Park Rangers in the character of a Minuteman. A visitation was also made to the Museum of our National Heritage. This is one museum that the staff is recommending for a family outing. Consider it. Our students got a great overview of the time period and the major issues.

A reminder to our Grade 5 parents: There is a fifth grade parents' night at F.A. Day, on **Thursday, May 15**. Beginning at 7:00p.m., you will hear an overview of the sixth grade program and the transition process, plus parents/guardians will have an opportunity at 7:30 to meet with some of the grade six teachers. In addition, Mrs. Healy, Day Principal, and one of the grade six teachers, will come to visit grade 5 classes on **Monday, April 14**. Accompanying them will be some grade six student speakers.

Wednesday evening was a Math Night for our K and I students and their parents/guardians. Not only did they have the opportunity to try many math activities, but they got to take home some math games and math challenges. This evening was funded by Title I monies and planned by our wonderful Title I staff, Domenica Clark, Ellen Kelner, Julia Castiglia, and our Math Coach, Robin Moriarty. This is one more math event we have had, in addition to morning math tutoring in grades 4 & 5, and additional math coaching in grades K-1. Franklin School is all about supporting learning.

I have learned more information about the history of the Franklin School. In 2001, a grade 4 class and grade 1 class were buddies, so they decided to apply for a Community Learning Project. Their project chose to research the history of Franklin School. Students learned that the first school was on River Street and numbered 52 students. The Franklin School was begun to be built in May of 1938, and was completed in March, 1939. Students said, "It was built of bricks instead of wood like the old school. There were two stories and 13 classrooms. There were 455 seats for students. The area of the school land was 121,699 square feet and the value of the land was \$9000. The total value of the school was \$313,500.00." (My how times have changed!) The building was built by John Tocci's construction company. He was the grandfather of Franklin's long time secretary, Marilyn Antonellis. The company still exists as Tocci Building Construction Corporation. The school colors were green and white; there was a chosen

school flag. Also, I am told there was a school song, so additional research is necessary.

Enjoy this Spring weather. Know that now with the weather being warmer that everyone waits outside until the bell rings at 8:20, unless a student is in a tutoring program, or signed up for breakfast at 8:10.

Sincerely,
Ruth H. Chapman, Interim Principal

.....

NEWS FROM THE PTO

In the coming weeks, the PTO has some special opportunities for those among us with unique interests and talents.

Skaters may already have marked their calendars for tomorrow's 2nd annual **Franklin Skating Day** at Fessenden Rink. Last year was so well received by our families and friends that this year we reserved the rink for two full hours (hence this year's small fee). While Saturday is forecast to be a lovely spring day, we hope you take advantage of this last chance to celebrate the glories of winter.

For the motherly types, do you wish school could help back you up when you say, "Wash your hands!" "Wear your helmet!" "Turn that down!" Or even, "Go out and play!" Well, here's your answer. April 16th will introduce a new PE program at Franklin – **Wellness Day**. The students will participate in activity stations that will reinforce lessons about fitness (yoga, martial arts), healthful eating, sun safety, bike safety, preventing hearing loss and germ spreading, and other general well-being topics. If you have time Wednesday morning and are interested in sharing your parental wisdom, your help is very much welcome.

Speaking of parental wisdom, **Laura Perkins** will be sharing details on behavioral management using 1,2,3 Magic on April 14th at 8:30 am in the Library.

For the cooks and caterers and teacher cheerleaders out there, the **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon** is now taking reservations - for volunteers, that is! On Tuesday, May 6th, you can contribute your favorite luncheon dish, transform the auditorium into a garden party fit for high society, or help serve the luncheon in style. May 6th comes quickly after April vacation, so please promptly answer the committee's requests for help, which you'll start to see TODAY!

For all the readers, and to encourage every one of our students to think of themselves as readers, the **Books 4 Bikes** program offers an incentive to keep reading over the April vacation. Every reading log returned after vacation will qualify the student in a raffle for a new bicycle. Two bikes will be awarded to Franklin students, so the chances of winning are real! See information packets for full entry instructions.

For all the leaders out there, all the party planners, all the individuals who care about the Franklin community, we

need YOU! The PTO is beginning to plan for next year, and we need a new crew. We need new Board members. We need new volunteers to give life to the cherished community events and the oh-so-essential fundraisers. Franklin is a vibrant, committed community, and a pleasure to be a part of. If you'd like to investigate how your interests can help Franklin in small or large ways, please contact Susan or Kim.

Have a wonderful April Vacation!
Kim and Susan

.....

FRANKLIN FAMILY SKATING DAY

Saturday, April 12th from 2 – 4 pm.

Fessenden Skating Rink, 450 Crafts Street.
Grab the kids and come out for a few hours of skating fun! Bring your skates and helmets (required). Friends are welcome!! We will be selling snacks and drinks too! \$4 skating fee per person, includes one snack and drink. No skate rentals available.

.....

Wellness Day—Needs Help!

Calling all volunteers who would like to help out with Franklin's 1st ever Wellness Day!! The event will be held from 9:30-11:45 on Wednesday, April 16th. Please contact Sharon Foster (Sharon_Foster@newton.k12.ma.us) or Beth Nohmy (BethAnn_Nohmy@newton.k12.ma.us) for information and further details.

.....

FRANKLY SPEAKING IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD JOKES!

All Franklin students are encouraged to enter our Joke Contest! Please send in your favorite joke, written neatly on a piece of paper, with your name and grade included. The jokes must be appropriate for all students in the Franklin School community. You can submit your jokes in the shoe box labeled "JOKES" in the Office. The jokes will be judged by three of our Frankly Speaking staff members. **THE WINNER WILL WIN A JOKE BOOK!**

Please submit your entry as soon as possible; the deadline is Friday, April 18th.

Thank you! From the Staff of Frankly Speaking
Questions? Contact Karen Eveleth or Cindy Mapes

News from the Physical Education Teachers

Hi, On June 28th and 29th, I am riding in the Cape Cod Getaway, a 150 mile **bike ride for Multiple Sclerosis**. One of the ways I can fulfill my pledge requirement is to turn in Shaw's grocery receipts. So, I'm gathering them to help in my fundraising. **If you shop at Shaws, could you save up your receipts for me?** You can place them in my mailbox in the office. I'll be collecting up until the 1st week of June. I'll collect them all and mail them to the MS society. In just 2 weeks, people have sent me over \$1500 worth of receipts. That's \$15 so far. Every penny helps. Thanks!

Sharon Foster
Physical Education, Health and Wellness
Franklin and Cabot Elem. School

.....

Behavior Management with "1,2,3 Magic"

Parents are invited to learn about the effective "1,2,3, Magic" approach to behavior management in a morning workshop **with Laura Perkins, Monday April 14 from 8:30-9:15, in the library**. Please try to arrive no later than 8:30 because the workshop will be starting on time, as there is a lot of material to cover. If you have questions, you may call Laura at 617-559-9488.

.....

News from the School Committee

FY09 Budget Update

The School Committee is in the process of reviewing and passing modified Allocation and Override budgets. The bottom line of both budgets has changed. The Allocation budget has increased by slightly more than \$1 million due to extra money allocated by the Legislature and a lowered health insurance premium. The Override budget bottom line was set by the Mayor as \$8.5 million of the \$12 million placed on the ballot by the Board of Aldermen. The School Committee has scheduled meetings on Monday, March 31 at 5:00 p.m. and Monday, April 7 at 7:00 p.m. to finish these deliberations. Public comment is welcome at the April 7th meeting. Click http://www.newton.k12.ma.us/schoolcommittee/documents/FY08/budget_summaries_03_31_08.pdf to review most recent budget documents.

Long Range Facilities Update

The Long Range Facilities Committee presented an update and recommendations at the March 24 School Committee meeting. Criteria for choosing among the three options for addressing the needs of the fifteen elementary and middle schools (plus Carr) identified in the June 2007 report were

proposed. Based on the criteria, Option 3 was recommended to the School Committee for a vote at the next meeting.

In addition, the Facilities Committee reported that options to relieve upcoming middle school space constraints would be developed over the summer and brought to the School Committee in the fall. Click http://www.newton.k12.ma.us/schoolcommittee/documents/FY08/facilities_report_03_24_08.pdf to see most recent report.

Security Subcommittee Convenes

The School Committee has established a subcommittee to examine security issues and craft a security policy for the Newton Public Schools. The subcommittee is chaired by School Committee Vice-Chair Marc Laredo and includes School Committee members Reenie Murphy and Geoff Epstein, principals, faculty, staff, parents, students, and representatives of the Newton Police Department. We are especially pleased that Middlesex County District Attorney Gerry Leone also is serving on the subcommittee and providing the resources of his office to help our effort.

The subcommittee held its first meeting on March 24 and expects to have a draft policy to present to the School Committee by the end of the school year. Over the next four months, we will first identify the security interests we are trying to protect, including personal safety, physical security, and prevention of theft and vandalism, at our elementary, middle, and high schools. We then will examine how to balance measures to protect those interests with respect for privacy and freedom from government intrusion. In undertaking this effort, we will examine policies and best practices in other school systems, make use of the expertise on the subcommittee and within our community, and reach out to faculty, parents, and students for their input. We welcome your questions and comments. Our next two meetings are on April 7 from 5-6:30 and April 28 from 4:30-6 p.m. at the Education Center and members of the community are welcome to attend.

Newton South Commissioning Update

At the March 24 School Committee meeting, Josh Morse, HVAC Technician in the Public Buildings Department, provided an update on the work to date in this area. He reported that the commissioning work at Newton South is basically complete and will now only require monitoring, while he moves to working on other buildings in the system. Feedback from NSHS staff has been very positive. The number of work orders has declined significantly. The tie in of the rooftop units on the Science building has not begun, and the cutting and capping work is scheduled for April vacation. The Committee complimented Mr. Morse on his excellent work and proactive approach.

Summary of Recent Meeting

The School Committee publishes a summary of recent meetings by the Friday after each meeting. This document is meant to give a timely update on issues deliberated by the School Committee before the detailed minutes are approved and archived.

To review the latest School Committee meetings, click http://www.newton.k12.ma.us/schoolcommittee/documents/FY08/meeting_summary_03_24_08.pdf.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

April is Autism Awareness Month. Countryside Elementary School is hosting "An Autism Spectrum Panel Discussion" for Elementary, Middle and High School parents, whether or not their families are directly affected by autism. Teachers are especially encouraged to attend. This is open to the entire community at no charge. Monday April 28th 7-8:30 pm in the Countryside Auditorium at 191 Dedham Street, Newton Highlands. The evening features distinguished experts in the area of Autism Spectrum Disorders: educators, medical professionals, parents of children affected and an adult living with Autism. Reservations are not required. Questions? Contact Countryside Elementary School at 617-559-9450.

Now is your chance to get rid of those bicycles that are too small! This Sunday, as part of Newton Serves, the **Trade and Recycle Day** will be held on Rumford Avenue. Please bring bicycles, household items without fabric, clothing and reusable building materials such as doors and plumbing fixtures. You must be a Newton resident to drop off items, but anyone may take the free items! Email ReuseRecycle@aol.com with questions.

STUDENT SHOWCASE at NEWTON NORTH, April 17th, 5:00 - 8:30 pm Newton North's Main Street will come alive with musicians, Jubilee Singers, face painters, art exhibits, scenes from Grease and Hot Mikado and more on Thursday, April 17th. Check out a sport clinic and dine on something tasty at Tiger's Loft. Design a notepad, try an Improv class or observe the skill of argument at Model UN debate. Student Showcase is an evening of entertainment for the entire Newton Community designed to celebrate the remarkable and highly varied talents of our student body. Student Showcase offers something for everyone. It's the ideal opportunity for 8th graders to see the clubs and organizations of NNHS come to life. There will be crafts for elementary aged kids as well. It promises to be an evening of great entertainment for the entire family. A ticket to Student Showcase supports student talent and the Educational Excellence Campaign of Newton North High School. Admission \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for students, and \$25.00 for families. Tickets can be purchased on line at

the NNHS website www.nnhsexedex.net or at the door on April 17th.

Internet Safety Presentation for Elementary Parents, Grades 3-5: May 13, 7PM-8:30PM, at Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St. Free. Sarah Sogigian, Youth Services Consultant for the Metrowest Regional Library System, will speak to parents about recent Web trends and innovations as well as offer tips on Internet Safety for elementary children, grades 3-5. Question and answer session, with time to share your personal experiences and concerns: Are you worried about cyber-bullying? Do you wonder about social networks that your child might be joining online? Do you have questions about what is appropriate use of the Internet? Sponsored jointly by the Newton Free Library and the Newton Public Schools Elementary Library Teachers. Contact Shelley Chamberlain, Director of Information Technology (617-559-6190 or shelley_chamberlain@newton.k12.ma.us) with questions. The presentation will be taped by NewTV.

"Dames at Sea" A campy spoof of 1930s movie musicals is the lighthearted, tap-happy comedy that launched Benadette Peters' career. Featured are 'Miss Bay State 2007' as the ingenue, and a member of the Boston Celtics Dance team as the temperamental Broadway star. Also taking the stage are students from the New England Conservatory. The production runs May 2nd through June 1st at Newton's Turtle Lane Theatre, 283 Melrose Street, Newton. Info and Tickets at: www.turtlelane.org.

Heartbreak Hill Youth Race Sunday April 20th 12-3. Starts at City Hall. Register online at www.newtonpride.org. On Friday April 18 at 5:30, 'carbo-load' at the pizza/pasta party at the War Memorial Auditorium at Newton City Hall. Info: 617-527-8283.

"Here Comes the Sun: A Concert for Youth Suicide Prevention", May 15th at 7 pm at the Emerson Umbrella Theater in Concord. This event features the well-known Beatles cover band 'Beatlejuice', a silent auction and speakers on the subject of youth suicide prevention. Tickets available at: www.acteva.com/go/familyaware. Sponsored by Families for Depression Awareness: Helping families recognize and cope with depressive disorders to get people well and prevent suicides. For more info: www.familyaware.org/BeatleJuiceConcert.php Questions? Contact info@familyaware.org or call 781-890-0220.

Who knew that Jewish Education could be this much fun!?!? The Ansin Religious School of Ohabei Shalom is an exciting and innovative Jewish institution. We pride ourselves on being on the cutting edge and we are constantly striving to "break the mold" of a traditional Jewish

永恒的友谊

Education. Our goal is to ensure that students and families who walk through our doors feel at home. Register now for our dynamic programs (grades pre k- 10) (Sunday only for grades prek – 2, Sundays and Tuesdays for Grades 3 – 7) that are open to the community and non-members. For more information contact Shari Churwin 617-739-9200, schurwin@ohabei.org.

SteveSongs Concert....Chase away the winter blues with a Funtastic Beach Party with SteveSongs featuring Steve Roslonek and his band! To benefit the Children's Coop Nursery, Thurs, April 24, 10:30 AM and 1:00 PM, Hyde Community Center, 90 Lincoln Street Newton, MA *Steve will be joined by Paul Pampinella on electric guitar and vocals and the Sensational Sillies. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Wear your favorite beach attire and bring a beach blanket to enjoy the show! Ticket info: www.stevesongs.com/shows.html click a link Newton AM or Newton PM or call 1-800-937-3397 (10:00 to 6:00 EST Mon - Fri). An additional \$1 service fee will be added for phone and online orders. Online and phone orders will be turned off at 12:00 PM on April 23. Beginning April 5th, tickets will also be available to purchase at The Green Planet, 22 Lincoln Street, Newton, MA. If available, tickets will be available to purchase at the door. For information, call 617-332-1994.

These Chinese characters say "yong heng de you yi" which means "eternal friendship". The **Newton-Beijing Jingshan School Exchange Program** has been doing just that since 1979: creating long-lasting, eternal friendships. You can be part of this expanding, dynamic community by **hosting a Beijing Jingshan student or teacher in your home for Fall 08**. The students and teachers, who all speak English, are here to further improve their English listening and speaking skills, and to learn first-hand about American education and culture. If you are interested in learning about the Chinese culture, if you are thinking of traveling to China in the near future, or if you simply wish to extend your hospitality, this is your chance to have direct input about China and Chinese life. Please contact the chair of the exchange program if you are interested in hosting for the Fall of 08 and if you have any questions. E-mail: Donna_Fong@newton.k12.ma.us; Phone: 617.559.6731.

Stand For Children's Day on the Hill: On Tuesday morning, April 15, Newton parents and other education advocates will join hundreds of Massachusetts residents at the State House as part of Stand for Children's annual Day on the Hill. The group will meet with legislators to ask that they use tax dollars wisely by investing them in our future—strong public schools for our kids . This year, members of Stand for Children are advocating for: Financial Relief for schools, including increasing Chapter 70 aid for 2009 and raising the state reimbursement of local special education costs; Reform, including updating state estimates of what it

actually costs to educate a child, closing corporate tax loopholes and providing property tax relief for low-income residents and seniors; Innovation, including investing in teacher quality, and offering early education and extended learning time for communities that want it. The event begins at 9:30. A bus will leave from Cold Spring Park at 8:50 a.m. and depart from the State House at 11:25 so parents can be back in time for early-release pick-up. (Reservations required for those wishing to take the bus.) To learn more or sign up to attend, visit www.stand.org/ma.

Join Us & Meet New England Patriot, Jarvis Green, on May 3rd at Borders in Braintree Borders from 1:00pm to 3:00pm, and on May 4th at Borders in Chestnut Hill Atrium Mall to support the Jarvis Green Foundation, a non-profit organization to benefit single working mothers in disadvantaged, low-income areas. Proceeds from the sale of Upscale Living Magazine will be donated to the Jarvis Green Foundation. For more information about the Jarvis Green Foundation, please visit www.jarvisgreen.com. For information about this event, please visit www.upscalelivingmag.com.

IN PURSUIT OF FREEDOM Sunday, April 13 2 to 4 pm at the Newton History Museum 527 Washington Street in Newton . Join historian/artist Louise Minks for an interactive look at the Vigilance Committee Account Book of Francis Jackson. Participants assume the identity of freedom seekers and abolitionists, discover who they were, and learn about their roles in pre-Civil War Massachusetts. See illustrations created by Ms. Minks for the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. Appropriate for ages 10 and up. Prepaid registration is required. Cost: \$5 per person or \$12 per family. Fee includes Museum admission, light refreshments, and a take-home resource list. For more information or to register, call 617-796-1450.

THE HISTORY AND ART OF RURAL CEMETERIES: NEWTON AND FOREST HILLS

Thursday, April 17 7 pm. With the advent of the rural cemetery movement in the mid-nineteenth century the colonial burying ground was transformed from a primarily practical space to an essentially aesthetic one, providing picturesque landscapes meant to be viewed and enjoyed. Newton Cemetery, founded in 1855, represents an example of this fashionable style. Founded in 1848, Forest Hills Cemetery is one of the country's great rural cemeteries, and one of Boston's "hidden" gems, nestled in a forested landscape that remains largely intact since its inception. Forest Hills is also home to one of the country's greatest collections of sculpture by some of America's most prominent 19th century artists. Join speaker Elise Ciregna, Curator of Historic Collections at Forest Hills, for a talk that weaves together the history and art of rural cemeteries, with examples from Newton and Forest Hills Cemeteries. Free. All programs are held at the Newton History Museum, 527

Washington Street in Newton unless otherwise indicated. For more information or to register, call 617-796-1450.

Fun, Free *and Educational!* Event for Families 4/15
Newton Schools Foundation invites the public to an exposition of new curriculum developed this year by Newton teachers. This year's Big Ideas Expo is hosted on Tuesday, April 15, 2008, 3:30 - 6:00 pm at Newton South High School Cafeteria, Brandeis Road, Newton Centre. The exposition will feature the work of over 20 teachers in interactive exhibits, plus special guests from the Green Decade (Magic Energy Bike!), Newton Free Library, and Newton History Museum. Free music, dance performances and food available, too! Fun for all ages. For more information visit www.NewtonSchoolsFoundation.org Hope to see you April 15!

Newton Community Education is sponsoring three lectures at Newton South HS this spring. \$7 each or \$15 for all three (free for high-school students). All are at 7PM in the Lecture Room (Rm 7121) at Newton South, 140 Brandeis Rd. **4/17: ALEX BEAM:** "My Life as a Journalist -- And Other Mistakes I've Made" Alex Beam, the Boston Globe columnist, author (Gracefully Insane: Life and Death Inside America's Premier Mental Hospital), and novelist (The Americans Are Coming!, Fellow Travellers) ... is a keen, often humorous observer of everything from the media and politicians to business personalities and his own personal life as a father and husband (living in Newton). Don't miss this opportunity to spend an evening with one of Boston's most independent and wide-ranging cultural critics. **5/8: DANIEL DENNETT:** "Religion as a Natural Phenomonon" Daniel C. Dennett is a prominent American philosopher, whose areas of inquiry include philosophy of mind and philosophy of science. Currently the co-director of the Center for Cognitive Studies at Tufts University, he has authored and edited numerous books, including Brainstorms, The Mind's I (with Douglas Hofstadter) and, most recently, Breaking the Spell: Religion as a Natural Phenomenon. Dennett's latest work--and the reactions to it--will be the topic of his talk. He argues that viewing religion as a natural phenomenon, like music or language, can lead to some startling conclusions. With the growing presence of religion on the global stage, his approach is interpreted by some as heretical--and by others as long overdue. **5/22: DAN WASSERMAN:** "Drawn & Quartered: Editorial Cartooning in an Election Year" Boston Globe cartoonist Dan Wasserman is one of America's most well-known practitioners of the art, whose visual skits cut to the heart of the latest political and social concerns. While he approaches most issues from a progressive standpoint, Wasserman doesn't hesitate to skewer those on either side of the political spectrum. His syndicated cartoons appear in newspapers across the nation, including the Philadelphia Inquirer, the Washington Post, and the San Francisco Examiner. An election year presents more than the usual

fodder for any editorial cartoonist, and 2008 is no exception. Come hear what Dan has to say about his craft--and bring your questions.

Newton Free Library, Wednesday, May 7, 7:00 pm--Join **Improv Jones** for an evening of uproarious comedy sponsored by the library's Young Adult department. The audience is a big part of what they do, so come and play! Appropriate for ages 12 + and adults. For information visit: improvjonesboston.com.

Friends of the Newton Free Library Host 24th Book and Author Luncheon The Friends of the Newton Free Library are proud to present **Anne Easter Smith**, author of Daughter of York, and **Stephen Puleo**, author of The Boston Italians: A Story of Pride, Perseverance and Paesani, from the Years of the Great Immigration to the Present Day, at the 24th annual Book and Author Luncheon. The luncheon will take place on Friday, May 2, 2008, at 12:00 noon at the Newton Marriott. A book signing will follow the presentations. To join these authors on May 2, please send your check for \$35.00 per person (payable to the Friends of the Newton Free Library) to Book and Author Luncheon, PO Box 600533, Newtonville, MA 02460. Please specify the names of those who will attend the event and include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Indicate your preference for chicken, fish, or vegetarian entree for lunch. Tickets and table assignments will be mailed two weeks before the event. Reservations received after April 19 will be held at the door. Early reservations are recommended. Seating is limited. No tables or seats will be held without payment. For more information, please call 617-997-7942 or email bookandauthor@gmail.com.

SPORTS

FREE KIDS' KARATE EXHIBITION SUMMER and FALL BEGINNERS CLASSES Children and parents are welcome to attend the 23rd Annual KIDS' KARATE Exhibition and see our program in action. Free admission, at Boston College, Saturday, May 10, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Summer and Fall Beginners classes available. Please leave message for Rich Jacobs, Director, for more information. (617) 527-8052.

Time for tennis! Newton Parks & Rec. offers Spring and Summer 2008 Tennis for kids and adults of all levels. Most kids' classes begin the last week of April and adult classes start the first week of May. Summer clinics begin during the last week of June and continue through part of August. Kids may enroll for one or several weeks and may attend a.m. and/or p.m. classes. Please visit www.newtontennis.com for more info and to download a registration form. Questions - send to newtontennis@earthlink.net (or call 617 661-PLAY). Classes are filling up fast. Register today!!!

APRIL & SUMMER CAMPS

NCSC APRIL VACATION SPRING SKILLS

PROGRAM April 22-24, 2008 Looking for something fun and exciting for your child to do during their school vacation? This April the Newton Community Service Center will be heading to Hale Reservation for a Spring Skills Team Challenge. During April Vacation, children in 3rd through 6th grade will team up and learn essential spring skills in the areas of raft Building, compass, trail signs, archery, and more! Additional activities include wagon races, Frisbee throw, obstacle courses and more. For information or to register, please call Jennifer Capello McAuliffe, NCSC Camp and Recreational Director (617) 969-5906, ext. 224 or visit www.ncscweb.org and click on Recreational Programs.

NCSC SUMMER DAY CAMP HAS LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE. Come join us at Hale Reservation in Westwood where campers enjoy fun-filled days of boating, Red Cross swim lessons and free swim, arts and crafts, fishing, archery, ropes challenge course, nature activities, sports, cookouts, special events, overnights and more. Camp begins on June 23rd and runs through August 22nd. Camp begins at 8 a.m. and the bus leaves at 8:30 a.m. for Hale Reservation and returns to the Newton Community Service Center at 4:30 p.m. Extended Camp is available until 6 p.m. The cost for a two-week session is \$540. For information or to register, please call Jennifer Capello McAuliffe, NCSC Camp and Recreational Director (617) 969-5906, ext. 224 or visit www.ncscweb.org and go to Summer Camp.

CLASSIFIED

Ads do not constitute PTO endorsement of products or services.

Does your child feel overloaded with nightly homework?

Do they sometimes get overwhelmed? Would you like the convenience of a qualified in-home tutor? I am a teacher/tutor with ten years of diverse experience. I have taught multiple subjects to students of a wide range of ability levels and age levels. My teaching experiences have taken me around the globe. I'm a firm believer in the benefits of one to one teaching, and know that learning also involves implementing life skills as well as study skills. My name is Todd Blechner and I am also a Newton resident. For more information you may call me at (617) 467-5211, or email me at toddblechner@yahoo.com.

Experienced Newton ELL teacher available for tutoring grades K-3 Have tutored several children in Newton. Provide curriculum support in the areas of Reading, Writing, and English as a Second Language. Support students in reading by reinforcing the Balanced Literacy model. Can

provide enrichment opportunities for a variety of learners. Familiar with Newton grade level curriculum and standards. Provide MCAS Prep. Motivated, enthusiastic, and organized. Live in the West Newton area. Flexible school year and summer hours available. Please contact Danielle Lambrechts at danielle_lambrechts@newton.k12.ma.us if interested

House for sale: With mixed feelings, we will be moving out of the Franklin school district. Before we list the house with a broker, we wanted to offer it to families in the Franklin community. If you are looking for a new home, or know someone who would like to move to our neighborhood, please contact us. Here is some more information about the house. Classic 5 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath Colonial on desirable Randlett Park. Move in condition with many updates: 2008 exterior paint (scheduled), 2007 deck, 2006 windows, 2006 hot water heater, 2005 gas boiler with 3 zone baseboard heat, master bed/bath suite, central air (1st floor). 2400 square foot home on 7400 square foot fenced lot. 10 minute walk to Newtonville/West Newton square, as well as Franklin Elementary/Day Middle/Newton North High schools. #82 Randlett Park. \$799,000 Jon & Donna Frankel 617 965 9431

Drawing/Illustration- Enrich your child's academic achievements while he/she is having fun. Improve your child's ability to concentrate and visualize. Experienced children's book illustrator for Disney, Cartoon Network, Nickelodeon will tutor your child in your home. Your child will create drawings, learn about animation, develop characters and much more while also learning a variety of approaches. References available. Please call Mark (617) 244-2648.

PIANO INSTRUCTION Berklee & New England Conservatory graduate with 25+ years teaching experience has several openings in studio. Beginners Welcome. Learn Jazz/Blues/Classical, theory, sightreading from a patient, caring teacher. Gloria Jasinski, phone: 617.566.9704, email: piano566@comcast.net

Franklin Office 617-559-9500

The next Connection will be published on May 2nd. To submit something, send by email or leave it in the Connection mailbox in the school office. The deadline is Monday, Apr 28th, NOON, but feel free to send it to me early. Ads are only printed as space allows, so meeting the deadline is not a guarantee of ad placement.