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# THE CONNECTION

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Published by the Franklin School PTO

Feb 29, 2008

**Attendance Line 617-559-9509**

## PRINCIPAL'S PAD

The school system made adjustments this year to our reporting schedule. While there was no conference with your child's February 1 progress report, your child's homeroom teacher will contact you to schedule a conference for sometime between mid-March and early April. This is our third reporting period. Therefore, you will hear from us four times about your child's progress: a fall conference, the February reports; a March/April conference; and the final report in June! In addition, if you have specific questions in the interim, please contact your child's teacher.

Our School Improvement Plan (SIP) continues to emphasize our work with literacy and adds some work about math differentiation of instruction. This year we continue to develop our district's Balanced Literacy initiative. To address the phonics curriculum in our first and second grade classrooms, several years ago we implemented the Wilson Foundations program. This year we have added grade three and included work in kindergarten. Foundations is an adaptation of the Wilson Reading System for use in general education classrooms. It is based on the principals of Orton-Gillingham methodology that has been used by special education teachers in Newton for a number of years. The program was selected after research and discussion in focus groups with principals, teachers, special educators and some Tufts University consultants. This research-based program has a systematic plan of instruction that provides all students with a foundation for reading and spelling. It continually spirals back to relate the new concepts to previously mastered ones and includes meaningful opportunities for students to apply and practice their knowledge of phonics to reading and writing. In addition, this year we are working to put in place aspects of a Writer's Workshop program

following the research of Lucy Calkins, Teachers College, Columbia University. Certainly you can help with your child's weekly spelling list and by encouraging your child to write. That writing could include keeping a journal, writing thank you notes, and/or brainstorming ideas for writing topics for school. On a reading note, we are emphasizing to our students that nonfiction books are great books to read, as well as fiction.

On Friday, March 14, I will have my second Principal Coffee in our Library. It will begin at 8:30 and end at 9:00a.m. The topic will be: Saying No is a form of nurturing. Questions have been asked by parents that lead me to believe that this will be a helpful topic. I will ask additional staff to join me at that time.

We continue to look for 2008 Franklin Kindergarteners. If you know of any age-eligible (fully 5 years-old by August 31, 2008), kindergarteners in your neighborhood, please let them know that kindergarten registration at Franklin will be March 7 and March 10. Please urge them to call the office for more information at 559-9500. Thank you  
Sincerely,  
Ruth H. Chapman

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## NEWS FROM THE PTO

Welcome back from vacation! Back to those mixed blessings of routines, parent-taxi, and sending the kids to school. Hopefully, you too have made it into Franklin these past couple of mornings to meet some of the principal candidates. Two more candidates will be at Franklin on Monday and Tuesday mornings, with a **"Meet the Parents"** event in the library from 8:35 – 9:15 am. Principal candidates will be giving polygraph tests and doing their best Robert DeNiro impressions. Parents are encouraged to refrain from Ben Stiller-esque attempts at impressing the candidates.

Next Friday night is the annual **Franklin Auction Night!** We plan to make you laugh with Franklin's version of "Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me," a news oriented trivia game. Come out to see your neighbors and friends figure out what's real current events, and what's been made up! To study up, check out the real program at [www.npr.org/programs/waitwait/](http://www.npr.org/programs/waitwait/). You can get a break on admission with advance tickets sold in the mornings next week, or by replying to the many fliers coming home. If you purchased a Franklin Fun Pass earlier this year, your tickets for two are already paid for!

Feb 28-	Meet the Principal Candidates
Mar 4	8:35 am Library (each day, different candidate)
Mar 7	Spring Auction
Mar 14	Principal's Coffee 8:30
Mar 18	Multicultural Day
Mar 20	Early Release & No Homework Day
Mar 21	Good Friday NO SCHOOL
Mar 25 & 26	Tue 25 <sup>th</sup> school until 3:00, Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> , school out at 12:30

Don't let the Auction piece make you nervous, though. You don't bid by scratching your nose, so be assured that you only bid on what you really want to bid on. The silent auction is completely pressure-free, and chocker block full of things you won't want to miss – Red Sox tickets, a Bose SoundDock, a Roomba, a full session at Fessenden Summer camp, and many ideas for kids birthday parties and Mother's Day gifts! And, the live auction can get – well, LIVELY! (It always amazes me what some people will spend for a famous ball-player's used shirt.) Visit [www.franklinpto.org](http://www.franklinpto.org) to see a complete list of what's in store.

Before we get too far ahead of ourselves, though, we'd like to look back and congratulate the extraordinary efforts that went into two Franklin favorites. Many thanks to Cindy Mapes, Patrice Joyce and all the entertainers and all the crew who whooped up an amazing lollapooza of a **CoffeeHouse**. Many thanks also to Cindy Mapes, Lisa Chedekel, Karen Evelyth, Shirley Taylor and their editorial staff for an impressive **Frankly Speaking** magazine. The students who contributed work, and their friends who enjoyed it, have something to be proud of.

Our next Principal Coffee with Ruth Chapman will be Friday, March 14 at 8:30 in the library. The previous meeting was very informative and well attended. This is another excellent opportunity to tune in to what is happening at Franklin. This meeting's topic is "Saying No is a Form of Nurturing."

Also, March is Newton Unplugged month, where we celebrate the coming of spring and the joys of playing with family and friends without electronic aids. The City of Newton offers a calendar of events that provides you options and inspiration, which we'll have linked on our website. Join a square dance at the NCSC, plan a family game night, and enjoy a homework/meeting free night on Thursday, March 20. However you do it, do it UNplugged! Have fun!  
Susan and Kim

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## For Parents Who Have Children With Special Education Needs

The Newton Parent Advisory Council (PAC) offers information to the community on a range of disabilities, resources, remediation approaches, and educational issues. Monthly meetings are open to all parents, teachers, specialists, and others with an interest in education. A wonderful resource is the Newton PAC online discussion group, which is a forum for parents to exchange information. For more information, please check out the new PAC website at <http://www.newtonpac.org> or email: [info@newtonpac.org](mailto:info@newtonpac.org). Please also feel free to contact Franklin parent, Michele Weinfeld.

## Franklin Spring Auction

### THIS YEAR'S AUCTION JUST GOT BETTER . . .

Our fabulous MC for the evening, Eric Moore, has agreed to host our own Franklin version of the NPR quiz show Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me! Join us as we delve into just how funny the news can be!



Friday, March 7, 2008 7:00 - 11:00  
American Legion Post 440

Come and watch, or better yet participate in for your favorite segment, including *Who's Eric this time?*, *Not My Job*, *Bluff the Listener*, and more! Winners will receive \$10 in Auction dollars!

### BID ON FABULOUS ITEMS LARGE & SMALL!

Class Baskets with cool themes: New England Patriots, Wine, Spa, Cooking, Puzzle Mania, Webkinz/Lilkinz, Movie Night, Coffee and more!

Silent and Live Auctions: Silpada jewelry, artwork and crafts by Franklin families, professional services, Bose SoundDock, certificates to area restaurants, museums and retail stores, iRobot Roomba, Fessenden camp, photography sessions, Mission style tables with gorgeous hand painted tiles, and more!

Back By Popular Demand - the Franklin Art Gallery: Six 18 X 24 stretched canvas paintings created by Franklin kids!

\$1.00 Raffles for "Teacher Treats", Mystery Bags, 50/50 Raffle, Appetizers, Desserts and Cash Bar!

Advance tickets will be on sale at Franklin from 8:15 - 8:45 on Wednesday, March 5, Thursday, March 6 and Friday, March 7, or by returning the form that comes home with students. The ticket form is also available online at <http://www.franklinpto.org/springauction.html>.

For more information, contact Parris Farr or Mindy Berg.

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## SCHEDULE WARNINGS

**Tue Mar 25<sup>th</sup> will be a "long" day**—school until 3:00.  
**Wed Mar 26<sup>th</sup> will be a "short" day**, dismissal at 12:30.  
Group A KG will stay until 3:00 on the Tuesday. This is due to MCAS testing on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

## MULTICULTURAL DAY ON MARCH 18, 2008

\*\*\*\*VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED \*\*\*\*

Multicultural Day will be held on March 18, 2009. This is a wonderful Franklin community event! Each year families participate by either hosting a country table, volunteering at the pot luck, or being on the committee.

**Country Tables** - A country table is a great way to showcase your country of origin or heritage. It is fun (and educational) way that you can work with your children and put together information about your country of origin or heritage. The table could include things like a map of the country, interesting information about that country and an activity that the children could do at your table. If you are interested in hosting a country table and for further information please contact Joanne Caruso.

**Pot Luck** - If you are interested in volunteering on the night of the event- we still need volunteers to help on that night to organize the food that is brought in and also coordinate the drink and dessert tables. Volunteers are needed for set-up, volunteering during the event and also clean up. If you can help us with any of this it would be greatly appreciated. **We could really use help with the POT LUCK DINNER!**

**Committee** - If you would like to get more involved and be on the committee please contact Joanne Caruso or see Angela Coffidis, the ELL teacher at Franklin.

Thank you,  
Joanne Caruso and Angela Coffidis,  
Multicultural Night Chairs

## FRANKLY SPEAKING NEWS

Our first meeting of FRANKLY SPEAKING, SECOND EDITION will take place this Friday, February 29th. We will meet in the Library from 3 to 4:00 pm. All students in Grades 3, 4, and 5 are welcome to attend.

PTO Sponsors Lisa Chedekl, Karen Eveleth, Cindy Mapes, and Shirley Taylor

## The Change A Light Fundraiser is coming THIS MONTH

Starting March 20th with a kick-off event for the 3-5th graders at the school with a presentation by Eric Olsen and Heather Tausig to discuss Energy! Then, for the next two weeks we will be taking orders for compact fluorescent lightbulbs. We will be

sending home a packet, much like the Innsbrook fundraiser, with an order form. All proceeds from the sale of the lightbulbs come directly to the Franklin PTO, thanks to NSTAR. Another school in Newton raised \$4,000 with this fundraiser! So, lets Change a Light, Change the World! For questions, contact Julia Wolfe.



## Attention 5th Grade Parents - we need your Franklin photos!

The 5th Grade Yearbook Committee is looking for photos (hardcopy or digital) of your child and his/her classmates that you may have taken at school activities such as field trips, Color Day, Halloween, school performances, etc. We regret that we cannot use pictures taken at outside events such as birthday parties or sports events.

- If you have digital photos, please email to Jane Malieswski and Gail Stein.
- If you have hard copy photos, please send these to school with your child. To assist us in keeping track of these photos and to ensure that we can return them to you, please send them in a zip lock bag, labeled with your child's name.

If you haven't done so already, please take a few minutes to search through those shoeboxes of photos that you've collected over the years. We need your help to produce a yearbook that will be filled with your child's Franklin memories. The deadline for submitting photos has been extended to March 14th.

## BOX TOPS

Hopefully everyone continued to collect their Box Tops over vacation week, because the second Box Tops contest is currently under way. If you haven't started collecting yet, now is the time to pull a bag out of your drawer and start filling it up. Remember, if you want the Box Tops added to your classroom tally, you must return them in a bag or envelope marked with your teacher's name. While we love to receive them in any form, it is going to be more exciting for your child if his/her classroom is credited.



For those of you who are still unfamiliar with Box Tops and where to find them, check your homes for Chex Mix, Cheerios, Fruit Roll Ups, Pillsbury Cookie Dough, Trix Yogurt and Ziploc Bags. These are just a few of the hundreds of products out there with Box Tops on them, please take the time to turn your packages over before you throw them in the trash or recycling. If you see a Box Top, please cut it out (being careful not to damage the expiry date) and send it to school. You may think that a ten cent Box Top will not go very far, but when hundreds are returned, they add up quickly--your PTO earned \$445 in December!

Finally, if you sign up at the Box Tops website, [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com), and shop at your favorite online stores through that website, the Franklin PTO will receive a percentage of your purchase. Consider adding the Box Top Marketplace to your browser's toolbar so that you remember to shop through the Box Tops site. Merchants include Oriental Trading, Lands End, Gap, Staples, and many more. It is a wonderful way to support the PTO by making purchases you would be making anyway.

Keep Saving!  
Jennifer Roy

## Parent Workshops

Monday March 3 9:15-10:45 a.m.

Tuesday March 11 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Giving Your Adolescent Roots & Wings. At the West Suburban YMCA, 276 Church St., Newton MA. Discussion leader Aviva Bock, CCMHC, LMHC is a licensed psychotherapist with a private practice in Newton and Cambridge, MA. She has frequently taught parenting classes in schools, synagogues and community settings. Cost per class: YMCA Member \$35 Non-Member \$45 (financial assistance available). Contact: Jennifer Sandeman, Health Promotion Specialist, at 617-244-6050 Ext. 3017 or [jennifers@westsuburbanymca.org](mailto:jennifers@westsuburbanymca.org).

## Second Graders Go to Ghana!

*Did you know that children in Ghana wake one another with song? That students in the mountain villages carry their own chairs to schools? That gourds can be dried and used to carry just about anything?*

These were just a few of the interesting facts second graders learned during their imaginary journey overseas with *Joe and Vida Galeota*. This is the 8th year the Galeotas have brought their "A Day in Ghana" program to Franklin and it was, once again, a huge success! Students traveled to the mountaintop village where Vida was raised, learning about the food, wares, and rituals of daily life along the way. The information was presented in a fun, interactive way, and included some awesome singing, dancing, and West African drumming. It was a class trip the students will never forget!

And while the second graders toured West Africa, third graders learned about Indian life before the arrival Mayflower from Native expert *Rob Aptaker*. Students heard about the work, play, family life, and social customs of the Wampanoag and were able to see and touch artifacts and tools, such as a fire carved bowl, stone ax, and deerskin pouch. (They were mesmerized as Rob made rope from a plant.) During follow-up classroom workshops, students asked questions and learned several native songs and dances. This was Rob's fourth visit to Franklin and a great tie-in to the grade 3 Wampanoag unit.

We'll be starting to schedule next year's programs in March, so please contact us if you'd like to be part of the process!

Melanie and Jane

## EIGHTH ANNUAL MIDWINTER COFFEEHOUSE

A huge THANK YOU to all of the PTO volunteers, past Franklin parents, and folks from the Newton community for helping make the Eighth Annual Midwinter Coffeehouse the success that it was! We had a full house on Saturday, February 9th at the First Unitarian Society in Newton Parish Hall, and it proved to be a sparkling moment in the bleak midwinter. We raised money for Franklin and had a great time doing it. The performers were awesome—THANK YOU to Franklin parents Catie Curtis, our headliner; Galina Brusilovsky, Carroll Eastman, Pamela McA'Nulty with singer Don Levey, Cindy Mapes with her group "Constellations," and Mike Rizzo. Jennifer O'Brien and Rob Siegel, past Franklin parents also performed. The music is what draws people, and we couldn't do it without you!

PTO volunteers performed an amazing amount of tasks to create the evening; many thanks go to Pat Capobianco,

David Dorfman, Carroll Eastman, Jim Frances, Jerry and Patrice Joyce, Rebecca Kayser, Cindy Mapes, Eric Moore, Noa and Paul Rensing, Chuck Tanowitz, Julia Wolfe, and to Pamela and Megan McA’Nulty for pitching in. Past Franklin parents Scott Holman and Jennifer O’Brien, Maire Anne Diamond and Rob Siegel, and Newton community member Debbie McDonald also helped out in so many ways--just for the love of the Coffeehouse!

To the Franklin Community—we hope you had as good a time as we did! Thanks to Ms. Chapman, faculty members, and parents for your support. See you next year!

Patrice Joyce and Cindy Mapes, Co-Chairs  
Midwinter Coffeehouse Committee

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## Strategic Planning Team

On January 24, 2008 the Strategic Planning Team (SPT) of the Newton Public Schools met to further discuss progress on identifying the strategic areas on which the system will focus over the next 5 years. As a precursor to this discussion, the SPT was joined by Frank Catanzaro, founder and senior partner of the Arcturus Research and Design Group in Hawaii and a charter member of the Millennium Project, an internationally recognized think tank for global foresight research.

During an hour long presentation and discussion, Catanzaro shared his experiential knowledge of futures research methods along with his thinking about global trends and how these might impact the future of education in the United States and around the world. Some of the trends he touched upon included climate change, diminishing birth rates, increased migration into cyberspace, significant life extension, epigenetics changing one generation to the next, and the integration of conscious technology in the workforce. While acknowledging that it is always difficult to predict what will be, Catanzaro said that one thing is for certain - the rate of change is accelerating and will continue to do so.

Many SPT members commented that Catanzaro’s presentation stretched them beyond their comfort zones. Several commented that it sparked their thinking about how adults can help students learn how to learn, adapt to change, think critically, and use technology in appropriate, humane, and empowering ways

Following this provocative discussion, the SPT came to a working agreement on the following strategic areas of focus, each with orienting questions:

§ Curriculum for the Global Age: What are the core competencies of global citizenship? How does NPS prepare all students to reach their full potential as lifelong learners, thinkers, and global citizens?

§ Workforce: How does NPS establish itself as an educational leader by creating innovative structures and practices to attract, retain, and develop an exemplary and diverse workforce? How can NPS ensure that staff is committed to and capable of helping all students achieve their full potential as lifelong learners, thinkers, and global citizens?

§ NPS as a Permeable Campus: How does NPS organize itself to enhance community involvement, partnerships, and real-life learning so that all students and staff achieve their full potential as lifelong learners, thinkers, and global citizens?

At its next meeting in February, the SPT will establish a nomination and application process for Working Groups to establish specific goals for each of these areas. The group will also review an updated draft of Core Values/Purpose and the Envisioned Future.

[http://www.newton.k12.ma.us/strategic\\_planning/related\\_docs/index.html](http://www.newton.k12.ma.us/strategic_planning/related_docs/index.html)

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## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Calling all 4th Graders: ‘Funtastic Fridays’** and ‘Unplugged and Connected’ bring you ‘Special Edition’, March 14th 6:30-8:30 pm at Newton Community Service Center 492 Waltham Street, West Newton. \$6 admission buys you DJ, Basketball, games and more. Snacks and drinks available for purchase. For more info: 617-796-1500. Sponsored by Parks and Rec and NCSC.

**The JMB Boys and Girls Club of Newton is holding its 4th Annual Building Raffle. Grand Prize \$10,000.** (2nd prize \$1,000, 3rd prize \$500, 4th prize \$300, 5th prize \$200 and 6th through 10th prize \$100 each.) Only 300 tickets will be sold at \$100 per ticket. Drawing Monday March 17th at Yarardi’s Restaurant on Watertown Street. You need not be present to win. For more information or to purchase a ticket(s), contact Cindy Kane, Daniela Proia or David Sellers at 617-630-2066.

**Facing History's Choosing to Participate exhibit at Boston Public Library.** How do you talk to your children about the hard choices they face? About what to do when they encounter differences, prejudice, or exclusion? These are some of the hardest conversations to begin. Facing History's Choosing to Participate exhibit offers unique opportunities for families with children in grades K-6 to engage in activities, storytelling and conversations about respect and tolerance. Bring the family and join us at 10:00 am on the following Saturdays: March 1, Little Things Are Big: A Conversation about Identity, Stereotypes, and Choices; April 5, Choices in Little Rock: A Story about Courage and Belonging; May 3, Not In Our Town: Lessons from a Community of Upstanders Location: Boston Public Library, Dartmouth Street Entrance Space is limited. Please RSVP to [kyle\\_meingast@facing.org](mailto:kyle_meingast@facing.org) or call 617-735-1646.

To learn more about the Choosing to Participate exhibit, the family programs and calendar of events, visit [www.choosingtoperparticipate.org](http://www.choosingtoperparticipate.org).

### **JEWISH SUNDAY SCHOOL (BJEP) OPEN HOUSE**

You are cordially invited to experience and learn about The Jewish Education Program on the Campus of Brandeis University (BJEP), Open House on Sunday, March 9, 2008 from 10:00-11:30 am. Come enjoy coffee & bagels with us, watch a video, and learn about our creative programs for grades 1-7. You will also meet the Director, several teachers and visit a classroom. Interfaith families and those without synagogue affiliation are especially welcome! To register for the open house, e-mail [krookwood@yahoo.com](mailto:krookwood@yahoo.com) or call for more information 781-648-1691. Directions to the Shiffman Building at the Brandeis campus, 415 South St., Waltham, are also available on our website: [www.bjep.com](http://www.bjep.com)

**For young families – come and enjoy Joe the Storyteller for some light-hearted fun!** Saturday, March 1st, 11:00 am at the Watertown Middle School, 68 Waverley Avenue, Watertown MA. Tickets are \$8, \$30 family maximum, children under 2 are free. Refreshments will be sold after the show. Proceeds will benefit the Presbyterian Church Nursery School, Newton Corner. Phone 617.332.9255 x 1 for tickets and questions.

**New Rep On Tour brings "Cyrano"** to the Newton Cultural Center The Mayor's Office for Cultural Affairs will sponsor the New Rep On Tour with a three-player adaptation of Edmund Rostand's Masterpiece, "Cyrano", Saturday, March 15, at 1PM at the Newton Cultural Center, 225 Nevada Street, Newtonville. \$5.00 suggested donation. Open seating. 617 527-8283 "Cyrano" a witty, brave and image-conscious poet with a rather conspicuous nose, is in love with the beautiful Roxane. Through an unexpected chain of events, he is destined to help his rival, a handsome yet dumb soldier, win her heart. With word-play, sword-lay, poignancy and humor, this three-character adaptation tells the timeless tale of love, deception, honor and a great nose.

**Get the whole family dancing at the BCNS Winter Festival and Concert!** Saturday March 1, 10:00am - 12:30pm Newton Cultural Center, 225 Nevada St. Newtonville Join BCNS for a fun-filled morning including live music from fabulous singer/songwriter Wayne Potash, activity stations, arts and crafts, bake sale, amazing raffles, and a magic show! Tickets \$8 per person in advance (call Martha Trail 617-916-9736) \$10 at the door

**NewKids Vacation Programs & More:** February vacation is now behind us but **April break** is fast approaching. NewKids offers lots of great vacation options for kids, including Drama, Fencing, Domino Physics, Babysitting, and Soccer. In addition, we have some new classes starting up this spring: Basic Electronics; Origami Workshop; Adult-

Child Chocolate Connection, Cupcake Connection, and Ballroom Dance; and Saturday sports options including one for soccer moms. **Our summer program** is also now open for registration and we have a variety of programs for kids of all ages. Please call our office at 617-559-6999, or visit our website at [newtoncommunityed.org](http://newtoncommunityed.org) for more information, to request a catalog, or to register for any of our courses.

## **SPORTS**

**City of Newton Tennis Program:** Kids' Spring and Summer schedules are now posted at [www.newtontennis.com](http://www.newtontennis.com). Adult schedules will be posted this weekend. Note: Spaces fill quickly.

**Garden City Kindergarten and Pre-K Spring Soccer** registration begins Jan 11th. Girls and Boys currently in Kindergarten or Preschool (must be 4 years of age) are invited to join. GCKS provides an introduction to the game of soccer; teaching a variety of basic skills in a fun, non-competitive environment. Team sizes are limited to 10 players in each group. In order to optimize on-field practice and game time, the league limits the number of players to 80. The Spring season runs from April 12- June 7th. Practice/games are held Saturdays from 9:30-10:30 am for the Kindergarten league and 10:45-11:45 am for the Pre-K league. Games are played on the field at Burr School, Pine Street in Auburndale. Volunteer parent coaches are needed. No experience is necessary and training will be provided. Cost is \$60 per child. GCKS is a joint venture of Lincoln-Eliot & Franklin School's Parent Teacher Organization. Proceeds benefit both schools PTO programs. To register, email [gardencitysoccer@gmail.com](mailto:gardencitysoccer@gmail.com) or call L-E School parent Melanie Varady at 617-244-5773 or **Franklin School parent** Deb Rooney at (617) 630-8520. Registration deadline is March 28th.

## **SUMMER CAMPS & PROGRAMS**

**CAN YOU START A CAMPFIRE WITH ONE MATCH?** On Sunday, March 2, at 2pm in Newton, campers and directors from Camp Birch Rock in Waterford, Maine will be demonstrating their firestarting skills and talking about their favorite boys' overnight camp while enjoying s'mores. For boys 8 to 15 years of age, Camp Birch Rock is an old-fashioned boys' camp, where water sports, hiking, and woods survival skills are taught every day under the motto, "Help the Other Fellow." Since 1926, Camp Birch Rock has challenged boys to grow in skills, confidence, and learning to be a good friend in cabins along the shores of Lake McWain in Waterford, Maine. Check out the camp's website at [www.birchrock.org](http://www.birchrock.org). Come learn about this adventurous boys' camp from campers who enjoy it every summer on Sunday, March 2nd 2 pm, 85 Cabot Street, Newton. Please RSVP to the Koffman Dreyer Family at 617-527-6033 or at [koffmandreyer@aol.com](mailto:koffmandreyer@aol.com).

Also See NewKids listing above!

## **CLASSIFIED**

*Ads do not constitute PTO endorsement of products or services.*

**FREE BUNNY WITH CAGE** - Please call Jane at 617-332-6241 or 617-244-9540 and leave message.

**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](mailto:piano566@comcast.net)

**Tutoring** I am an experienced tutor with a Masters in Education from Harvard Graduate School of Education, and certification in Reading & Elementary Education. I specialize in: Reading Comprehension, Word Decoding (Phonics), Writing, Math, through Pre-Algebra, General Homework Assistance in any subjects. I have worked extensively with students of all ages, both US-born and non-native English learners, including Koreans, Chinese, Haitians, Hispanics, and others. Call or email: Margaret Kelner, Ed.M. 617-327-3222 [m.kelner@att.net](mailto:m.kelner@att.net)

**Part-Time Administrative Assistant Wanted:** Understanding Our Differences, a non-profit organization that provides the elementary school disability awareness program in the Newton Public Schools, is looking for a part time administrative assistant. Applicant must be extremely

organized, detail oriented and personable. Excellent computer skills required. 25 hours per week. Office is at the education center. Responsibilities include: Materials coordination, Maintaining database and spreadsheets, Communicating with volunteers, Preparing financial reports

**Babysitter:** Need a smart, responsible, fun-loving, musical, athletic babysitter? Franklin alum, now 13 year-old 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Day, YMCA/Red Cross certified, will sit for your children, ages 3+. Call Sophie Bertling at 617-630-1583.

**Bowen Cooperative Nursery School**, located in Newtonville, has a few openings left in its Transitional Kindergarten program for the 2008-2009 year. This program is for children who are 5 years old, or who are about to turn 5, but who will not yet be in Kindergarten as of September. We are a child-centered, play-based school at which children can continue their social, emotional, intellectual and physical development in a creative, safe and exciting environment. For more information about our Transitional Kindergarten program and to obtain an application, please visit our website, [www.bowencoop.org](http://www.bowencoop.org) or contact Barbara Cleary, Director, at (617) 332-3923.

## **Franklin Office 617-559-9500**

*The next Connection will be published on Mar 14th. To submit something, send by email or leave it in the Connection mailbox in the school office. The deadline is Monday, Mar 10th, 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.*