



# THE CONNECTION

Jan 29, 2010

Attendance Line 617-559-9509

## In This Issue

Principal's Pad

News from the PTO

MidWinter Coffeehouse

Family Movie Night

Creative Arts and Sciences Update

Box Tops Update

GCKS Spring Soccer

Newton Special Education

Night of Comedy to Benefit Trevor Martinez-Tobin

Community Announcements

SPORTS & DANCE

February Vacation

SUMMER & CAMPS

CLASSIFIED

## Principal's Pad

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Parent involvement is crucial to the health and well being of children. As a parent, you are the most important influence on your child's success in school and in life. In this role, you have a fresh opportunity every day to get involved with your child. Parent involvement in children's education

allows children to perform better in school, and navigate more easily some of the challenges of growing up. Research proves that parent involvement has a positive effect on student success. When parents are involved in children's education, they achieve more in school. Schools perform better. Teacher moral even improves. Ultimately, communities are stronger when parents get involved. The evidence is in: when schools and families work together to support learning, everyone benefits!

One of the biggest differences I see between Franklin School and the other schools where I have worked is the absence of parents and guardians volunteering in the school throughout the school day. Although a flood of parents drop students off in the morning, they quickly leave the building, only to return again at dismissal time. My vision is to have parent volunteers in the school during the school day - working in classrooms, helping out in the office and perhaps even improving the quality of lunchtime and recess.

The faculty at Franklin has been discussing the importance of involving parents in the day to day operations of the school, and we realize that it is a two way street. Teachers and staff need to invite parents to volunteer, and when they do, parents need to be ready to commit. Alternately, parents need to inform teachers of their availability, interests and willingness to volunteer and teachers will find the appropriate volunteering opportunities.

Franklin School needs volunteers of all kinds. Some examples include:

- Overseeing small groups of students as they play Everyday Math games
- Conferencing with students about their writing in Writers' Workshop
- Listening to students read as they work on the Read Naturally Fluency program
- Practicing math facts or site words with individual students or in small groups
- Assisting with preparation of materials or equipment for specialist teachers (art, music, PE, library)
- Supporting the Understanding our Differences program
- Making bulletin board materials
- Making photocopies or preparing materials for the teachers
- Speaking to classes on topics appropriate to instruction
- Assisting in getting clothing and school supplies for students in need
- One-time volunteering to help with field trips or special activities
- Joining the PTO

Please contact your child's teacher(s) or me to offer your volunteer services or share your volunteering ideas.

Feb 4	Early Release
Feb 4	PTO Meeting, 7 pm
Feb 6	Midwinter Coffeehouse
Feb 12	Family Movie Night
Feb 15-19	Feb vacation
Mar 2	Multicultural Day/Night

## In This Issue

Principal's Pad

News from the PTO

MidWinter Coffeehouse

Family Movie Night

Creative Arts and Sciences Update

Box Tops Update

GCKS Spring Soccer

Newton Special Education

Night of Comedy to Benefit Trevor Martinez-Tobin

Community Announcements

SPORTS & DANCE

February Vacation

SUMMER & CAMPS

CLASSIFIED

I am also looking for a few people to lead a technology committee for Franklin. Our students and faculty deserve to have access to the technology that other schools have. Please contact me directly if you are interested.

Thank you in advance for your support. Together, we will work to ensure that your children have a positive experience at Franklin School.

---

## News from the PTO

Now that the rain has washed away that stubborn snow, we want to encourage Franklin families to come on out for several upcoming events:

On Feb. 4 at 7 p.m., the PTO will hold its mid-winter general meeting -- a time for parents to grab a cup of coffee, learn about programs at Franklin, and participate in an open forum with Principal Amy Kelly.

Then, on Sat., Feb. 6, the PTO is proud to sponsor the 10th annual Franklin MidWinter Coffeehouse -- a special evening of music, in a new venue -- the New Art Center. The evening will feature Franklin's own Catie Curtis, a well-known singer-songwriter with nine critically-acclaimed recordings, a devoted national following, (and two daughters attending Franklin school!) Other performers include Rob Siegel, Cindy Mapes and "Constellations," and Ensemble Coolment. Tickets are available at <http://www.franklinpto.org/MWCH2010/>. The Coffeehouse (adults-only) is a great chance to get to know other parents and show support for your child's school. All proceeds from ticket and wine/beer sales will go to school programs. Thanks go to Noa Rensing, Cindy Mapes and other coffeehouse organizers for continuing a unique Franklin tradition!

One more event to pencil-in: Movie Night is set for Friday, Feb. 12 -- put your kids in pjs and let them enjoy "Night at the Museum"!

As always, the PTO welcomes volunteers for all events -- and is looking for new members to join our board and committees. Contact us to get involved!

Tracy, Eva, Deb, Lisa & Meiera

---

## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary MidWinter Coffeehouse

The Franklin MidWinter Coffeehouse returns for its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in a new venue: The New Arts Center at 60 Washington Park in Newtonville.

**Join us on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010** for folk music, coffee, wine, and light refreshments.

This year's performers include Franklin parent and professional singer/songwriter Catie Curtis, Franklin parents Shira Doron, Pam McA'Nulty, and Cindy Mapes, former Franklin parent Rob Siegel, and other Franklin community and friends.

**New this year, online advanced ticket sales! This venue is small, so purchase your tickets early!** (\$15 in advance, \$20 at the door if available). Join us for a reception in the art gallery at 6, where you will enjoy the New Arts Center exhibit "Sailing the Barbarous Coast"; the concert will start at 7 pm..

- Check the Coffeehouse website, [www.franklinpto.org/MWCH2010](http://www.franklinpto.org/MWCH2010) for more info and online ticket sales.
- Book your sitter!
- Volunteer! We still have lots of volunteer opportunities -- volunteer to run the bar, organize food, man the door, or just to help with publicity, setup, or cleanup.
- Contact Noa Rensing (with any questions or offers to volunteer!)

## In This Issue

Principal's Pad

News from the PTO

MidWinter Coffeeshouse

Family Movie Night

Creative Arts and Sciences Update

Box Tops Update

GCKS Spring Soccer

Newton Special Education

Night of Comedy to Benefit Trevor Martinez-Tobin

Community Announcements

SPORTS & DANCE

February Vacation

SUMMER & CAMPS

CLASSIFIED

## Franklin Family Movie Night

JOIN THE FUN at FRANKLIN MOVIE NIGHT-Feb 12th Featuring Night At The Museum (the first one)



Kick off the February vacation week by coming to movie night on Friday, February 12th. Kids can wear their PJ's and bring a sleeping bag or blanket with pillows to spread out on the auditorium floor.

There will be 2 showings. 5:30 and 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$5 per child and includes popcorn and drink. Parents are free.

All children must be accompanied by an adult. Pizza is available beginning at 5pm for \$1.50 a slice.

Volunteers needed: (distribute flyers, sell tickets for 1/2 hour the week of Feb 8th at school, set up, clean up) To volunteer: Midge Connolly:

## Multicultural Day

March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5:30 pm – 8 pm

### COME AND ENJOY

🌐 Songs by Franklin students

🌐 SELECTED ARTWORK BY FRANKLIN STUDENTS

🌐 BRING YOUR FAVORITE ETHNIC DISH OR A DESSERT TO SHARE FOR OUR INTERNATIONAL POTLOCK DINNER 5:30 to 6:30 PM

(Please label any dishes that contain nuts or dairy products! Please bring food in disposable containers!)

🌐 ENJOY CRAFTS, BOOKS, AND ACTIVITIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD AS YOU VISIT THE MANY COUNTRY BOOTHS IN THE GYM 6:30 TO 8:00 PM

🌐 WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!!!

☒ Adults and children to supervise the country tables.

☒ Adults and children to teach interactive dances and games

☒ Adults and children who can perform dances or play an instrument

☒ Adults who can help with set up, serve the food, clean up

Please contact Joanne Caruso

Franklin School 559-9500 Mrs. Coffidis, Mr. Kanode, Mrs. Maguire, Mr. Mucci

## Creative Arts and Sciences Update

Happy New Year, everyone! In the pre-holiday frenzy that was December we forgot to fill you in on some of the exciting, end-of-year Creative Arts events going on around the school. Here's a quick re-cap:

- On December 2, second graders participated in a great art history workshop entitled The Art of China. Students examined slides depicting various objects from ancient China, hypothesized about how the objects were used, and made some general observations about the art of the time. They were particularly interested in looking at photos of the Terracotta Army—thousands of life-sized figures found in an ancient tomb in Xi'an. Presenter Perry Pomeroy from *ArtQuest* did a masterful job of engaging the students and bringing to life a subject directly related to their current social studies unit.
- A week later, first graders enjoyed a return visit from *Bugworks*, featuring entymologist (and former Franklin parent) Maire Anne Diamond. Students met bugs from around the world, including a praying mantis from Asia, beetles from Brazil, cockroaches from Madagascar, an

## In This Issue

Principal's Pad

News from the PTO

MidWinter Coffeehouse

Family Movie Night

Creative Arts and Sciences Update

Box Tops Update

GCKS Spring Soccer

Newton Special Education

Night of Comedy to Benefit Trevor Martinez-Tobin

Community Announcements

SPORTS & DANCE

February Vacation

SUMMER & CAMPS

CLASSIFIED

kinds of centipedes and millipedes. They learned how to tell the difference between a bug and an insect, how bugs grow, where they live, and what they do in nature. Maire Anne was wonderful with the kids and provided plenty of opportunity for hands-on exploration. To find out more about her wonderful program, visit [www.bugworks.net](http://www.bugworks.net).

- Just before break, fifth graders spent an engaging hour with licensed wildlife rehabilitator *Jim Parks/Wingmasters* and his magnificent birds of prey! Students were speechless as Mr. Parks displayed a peregrine falcon, red-tailed hawk, and three different types of owls—describing their unique environments, hunting adaptations, and precarious status in today's rapidly changing world. The birds were exquisite and the presentation, which interspersed loads of content with exciting show-and-tell, kept the students completely engaged!

That's all for now! Stay warm!

---

## Box Tops Update

Hi Everyone,

This year's Box Tops Contest is gearing up. We have collected almost 3,000 Box Tops since September. The class with the most Box Tops will earn a classroom prize. Please remember to mark your submissions with the name of your child's teacher, so that they can be included in your class total.

If you don't buy any products that have Box Tops coupons, there is another way to help our school without clipping. Shop online! Go to the Box Tops website <https://www.boxtops4education.com/common/Register.aspx> and create an account. Log in and go to the Box Tops Marketplace, browse through the many participating retailers, such as Staples, Best Buy, The Apple Store, Crate & Barrel, Oriental Trading, etc. Click on their link and they will donate a percentage of your total purchase. It's so easy!

The collection box has moved again (hopefully for the last time this year). It is now in the main office, near the window that looks into the entrance hall. Finally, please note that my e-mail address has changed.

Thanks, Jennifer Roy

---

## Register Now for GCKS Spring Soccer

Children in Pre-K (4-5 years old) and students currently in kindergarten are invited to participate. 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.

Registration is limited to 80 players per league. The spring session runs from April 10 to June 12, 2010. Practice/games are held Saturdays from 9:30-10:30am for the Kindergarten league and 10:45-11:45am 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 Franklin School and Lincoln-Eliot School's Parent Teacher Organizations. Proceeds benefit both schools PTO programs. Last year, Franklin School's PTO received \$7,600 from GCKS. The program is also a great way for your child (and you) to get to know his/her classmates and other Franklin families. Over 30 Franklin kindergarteners participated in GCKS this fall.

For more information or to get a registration form, **contact Franklin School parent Deb Rooney at [bmrooney95@aol.com](mailto:bmrooney95@aol.com) or (617) 630-8520. Register early. Space is limited.**

---

## Newton Special Education PAC

**Brain Gym Workshop, presented by Bonnie Hershey, M.Ed., Director of The Kinesiology Connection**

## In This Issue

### Principal's Pad

### News from the PTO

### MidWinter Coffeehouse

### Family Movie Night

### Creative Arts and Sciences Update

### Box Tops Update

### GCKS Spring Soccer

### Newton Special Education

### Night of Comedy to Benefit Trevor Martinez-Tobin

### Community Announcements

### SPORTS & DANCE

### February Vacation

### SUMMER & CAMPS

### CLASSIFIED

Come to a workshop **Tuesday, February 2 at 7:30 pm** demonstrating Brain Gym, simple and safe movements to boost fine-motor and academic skills and reduce stress. Using the principles of educational kinesiology, Brain Gym activities use movement to stimulate physical, emotional and intellectual development. You will have an opportunity to experience these movement exercises and take home tools ready for immediate use for yourself and your family. Our presenter, Bonnie Hershey, M.Ed., taught middle school and high school physical education in Newton for 25 years, retiring in 1997. Bonnie began integrating Brain Gym activities into her PE classes in 1990.

For more information or to join our online discussion group, please email [info@newtonpac.org](mailto:info@newtonpac.org) or visit our website at [www.newtonpac.org](http://www.newtonpac.org).

If you have questions about special education services or are interested in finding out more about resources offered by the Sped PAC please contact one of Franklin's liasons: Eileen Sanberg, [eesanberg@aol.com](mailto:eesanberg@aol.com), Julie Leahy, [jpl2002@verizon.net](mailto:jpl2002@verizon.net), Joan Schulz [dschulz@rcn.com](mailto:dschulz@rcn.com)

---

## Night of Comedy to Benefit Trevor Martinez-Tobin

Friday, February 5, 7PM  
Legends Hall of Fame Grill  
249 Lexington Street, Waltham

Many of you know Trevor who is on the Azure team in 6th grade at Day—and was at Franklin until he graduated 5<sup>th</sup> grade last year. But you may not know that Judy Tobin, Trevor's legal Guardian and Grandmother, is currently in the hospital with a long and arduous recovery ahead of her.

This fundraiser is to benefit Trevor, as he will require help to secure his hopes of staying at Day Middle school for the remainder of the year, along with other necessities in order to ease his time of transition.

Please join your neighbors and friends for a hilarious night of stand-up comedy with two nationally-recongnized comedians. Be prepared to laugh - they are funny, smart and ready to entertain you! Our two FABULOUS comedians are:  
Mary Ellen Rinaldi, is our headliner. You can find more about Mary Ellen on Facebook or from her web site.

Christine Hurley - an "America's Funniest Mom' winner!

The cost of the event is \$30 per person. You can pay online through PayPal or at the door. To attend, or to help out, contact Marcy Rizzo. And thank you in advance!

<http://www.evite.com/app/publicUrl/ZMECEBSMAMNWTQGBJBXE/TrevorParty>

---

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**All My Sons, by Arthur Miller, presented by Theatre Ink** and student directed by Jen Diamond and Jordan Ashcher. All My Sons tells the story of the Kellers, a family torn apart by war. Joe, the father, ran a factory during the war which manufactured faulty airplane parts; he was cleared of guilt, but his partner was jailed for the crime. The specter of Joe's past and the fact that the family's oldest son was reported missing in combat prove a potent mix. A mother in denial and a disillusioned son add to the action, and as the tension rises, these threads form a complex weave of electrifying intensity. As the tranquility of the Kellers' life disintegrates, All My Sons questions traditional notions of responsibility and obligation and powerfully examines the morality of post-war America. February 4th, 5th and 6th at 7:30pm, . Little Theatre at NNHS, 360 Lowell Avenue, Newtonville. Tickets \$7 at [www.theatreink.net](http://www.theatreink.net) or 617-559-6406.

**Open House at NCSC Early Education & Child Care:** January 30th 9:30-11:30am. Tour our facilities, meet the teachers and let your children explore the classrooms through activities. We offer full-day, year round child care and preschool for infants through 5 years, and afterschool care

## In This Issue

### Principal's Pad

### News from the PTO

### MidWinter Coffeehouse

### Family Movie Night

### Creative Arts and Sciences Update

### Box Tops Update

### GCKS Spring Soccer

### Newton Special Education

### Night of Comedy to Benefit Trevor Martinez-Tobin

### Community Announcements

### SPORTS & DANCE

### February Vacation

### SUMMER & CAMPS

### CLASSIFIED

for K-6th grade (transportation available from select schools). Space is available now for 3-5 year olds. Enrollment for fall is open now. Located at 492 Waltham Street, West Newton, behind the CVS. For more information, please visit [www.NCSCweb.org](http://www.NCSCweb.org) or call Judy at 617-969-5906 x121.

**The School of Rock Boston** (<http://www.schoolofrock.com/boston>) has ongoing, year-round enrollment for young singers, guitarists, bassists, keyboardists, and drummers who want to rock 'n roll on stage and in life! Fans of Led Zeppelin, Green Day, Tool, The Beatles, Ramones, AC/DC encouraged to apply. Call 617-923-3434 and ask about our FREE sample lesson offer. Summer camps available as well.

**2010 Environmental Art Contest for Newton Students in Grades K-5** The Green Decade/Newton 2010 Environmental Art Contest is open to all students who live or go to school in Newton, grades K-5. The theme is "How My School Is Helping Newton Go Green" and submission deadline is Monday, March 15, 2010. Grades K-5 can enter posters in teams of 4-6 students; grades 3-5 also have the option of submitting individual artwork. Mayor Setti Warren will present the awards to winners and certificates to all participants on Thursday, April 8. All art entries will be exhibited in the rotunda at City Hall in late April-early May. Registration info and further contest details: contact the Green Decade at 617-965-1995 or visit <http://www.greendecade.org/artcontest.html>.

**Get the family dancing at the 5th Annual Winter Concert & Festival featuring Wayne Potash!** Live music, activities, crafts, a bake sale, and fantastic raffle prizes. Saturday, February 6, 10am-12pm, Newton Cultural Center, 225 Nevada Street, Newton. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. For tickets, contact Sarah Sian at [tickets@burrcoop.org](mailto:tickets@burrcoop.org) or 617-388-3132. All proceeds to benefit Burr Cooperative Nursery School, a non-profit organization.

**Newton COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE Public Meeting** on January 20 The CPC will hold a public meeting on 20 January 2010 starting at 7 pm in the City Hall Cafeteria (basement). The agenda includes planning for the fiscal 2011 budget and working sessions on the following current proposals: Angino Farm Barn and City Archives-Combined. All proposals are online from [www.ci.newton.ma.us/cpa/projects.htm](http://www.ci.newton.ma.us/cpa/projects.htm). For details, contact Alice Ingerson at [aingerson@newtonma.gov](mailto:aingerson@newtonma.gov), 617.796.1144.

**Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS)- An Effective Approach to Understanding and Supporting Your Child** presented by **Dr. Ross Greene**. Thursday February 4th, 2010 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Williams School Auditorium, 141 Grove St, Aurbundale, MA 02466. Dr. Greene is Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and author of the acclaimed books *The Explosive Child* and *Lost at School*. Dr. Greene will provide an in-depth review of his model for supporting children who demonstrate challenging behaviors, specifically focusing on working with children and families, how parents can implement CPS at home, and how it has been implemented in the Newton Public Schools over the past three years. This free program for parents is co-sponsored by the Elementary Counseling Grant and The Newton Partnership. Call Nancy Holczer @ 617.559.9063 with questions. No registration required.

**Parenting Your Preschooler: Coping with Challenging Behaviors, Reducing Stress and Creating More Peace at Home** Wednesday, February 3rd, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Mason Rice Elementary School Auditorium, 149 Pleasant St, Newton, MA 02459. Led by Laura Perkins, LICSW, Early Childhood Mental Health Specialist and Mary Gartland, LICSW, Early Childhood Behavior Specialist for The Newton Partnership. Parents will learn simple techniques to encourage positive behaviors, set limits, avoid power struggles and reduce stress at home. For more information contact Beverly Mobilia, 617.559.6065 or email [Beverly\\_Mobilia@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:Beverly_Mobilia@newton.k12.ma.us) No registration required.

**Would You Like Safe Walking Routes to School in Winter?** Walking to school is good for the environment, good for the health of our kids, and good for reducing Blue Zone safety hazards. We need to make walking a year round activity! Please contact your Aldermen and Mayor Warren and let them know that you support a residential sidewalk snow removal ordinance and enforcement of the current ordinance which prohibits anyone from shoveling snow from their property onto the

## In This Issue

### Principal's Pad

### News from the PTO

### MidWinter Coffeeshouse

### Family Movie Night

### Creative Arts and Sciences Update

### Box Tops Update

### GCKS Spring Soccer

### Newton Special Education

### Night of Comedy to Benefit Trevor Martinez-Tobin

### Community Announcements

### SPORTS & DANCE

### February Vacation

### SUMMER & CAMPS

### CLASSIFIED

sidewalks. Let's allow pedestrians to use the sidewalks all year round. Mayor Warren: swarren@newtonma.gov or 617-796-1100; Aldermen dolson@newtonma.gov (City Clerk's e-mail, he will forward to all the Aldermen) OR find your Alderman at [www.newtonma.gov](http://www.newtonma.gov). Currently, 32 out of 36 Greater Boston Communities have sidewalk snow removal laws. For questions, please contact us at SafeSidewalks@gmail.com (a coalition of Newton organizations working together on pedestrian safety)

**"Cinderella" Performed by the Tanglewood Marionettes** Sunday, February 14, 2 pm Newton Cultural Center, 225 Nevada Street, Newton, MA. 02460 Celebrate Valentine's Day with this timeless love story. This family favorite is set in the 18th century, featuring beautifully painted sets and lavishly costumed marionettes. Order tickets by phone at 617-527-8283 or visit [www.newtonculturalcenter.org](http://www.newtonculturalcenter.org) and click on Mayor's Office for Cultural Affairs. Open seating. Tickets \$8 in advance/\$10 at the door

**3rd Annual Spelling Bee** Newton Cultural Center, 225 Nevada Street, Newton, MA 02460 - 6 pm A fun and educational citywide Spelling Bee for all Newton children grades K - 6. Children compete within their own grade level only, and everyone receives a goody bag and a certificate of participation to celebrate their hard work. The top three spellers in each grade get a special prize. Choose one day from the grade appropriate group: Grades K - 3 Monday, March 1 or Wednesday, March 3 Grades 4 - 6 Monday, March 8 or Wednesday, March 10 Sign up soon! Registration limited. \$7 entry fee Sign up on line at [www.newtoncivicpride.org](http://www.newtoncivicpride.org) or call 617-527-8283 for more information.

**Newton Cultural Center: Drawing classes for adult students at all levels.** Learn principles of line, form, volume, structure, proportion, tone, perspective and composition. Free use of Drop-in artist studio with enrollment. 11 classes per session, Fee: \$363 (pro-rated for late registration). **Drop-in Artists' Studio For all artists**, amateur or otherwise. If you love to draw, paint, knit or sew and would enjoy the camaraderie of working alongside other artists - to create, critique or just chat over coffee - you will love the new self-directed Drop-in Artists' Studio at the Newton Cultural Center. Come as often as you like. The fee is just \$10 for a half-day, and \$15 for the whole day! **Time for Partners Art and Music classes** every day, with experienced teachers, for children ages 18 months - 4 years with an adult. A 45-minute art class under the supervision of a qualified art teacher and a 45-minute music class with dancing and singing. Children and their adults have a wonderful time in the enriching, relaxed atmosphere. Choose any weekday from 9:30 - 11:15 am. Sessions are 15 weeks long and the fee is \$225 for Newton residents. The sessions begin on January 26, and missed classes can be made up within the semester. **Playspace Drop-in Play time in gym and art room** Newton Cultural Center, 0 Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays through April 15: 2:30 - 5 pm Saturdays: 1:30 - 4:30 pm For children 7 and under, with a caregiver. Art projects in a fully-stocked art room, and play time in a large gym with many ride-on toys, slides and balls. Season-long membership - unlimited visits per family. \$95 Newton family - Drop-in fee \$10. **Friday Drop-in Playdate** A time for gym play for toddlers to children age 4 with an adult Supervised by Andrea Zatarain. A great opportunity to meet and talk with other mothers, while the children can run and play in the large gym with the many ride-on toys, slides and balls, in a safe and clean environment. 10 - 11:30 am Jan 22, 29 Feb 5, 12, 19, 26 March 5, 12, 19, 26 April 9, 16, 23 \$100 family membership, \$115 non-residents or \$10 drop-in for Newton residents, \$12 non-residents Call 617-527-8283 or visit [www.newtonculturalcenter.org](http://www.newtonculturalcenter.org) and click on Mayor's Office for Cultural Affairs. 225 Nevada Street, Newton, MA 02465

**"Honk", based on Hans Christian Anderson's "The Ugly Duckling"** at the Wheelock Family Theatre January 29 through February 28. Added: Special School Vacation week matinees. Coming up "The Barber of Seville", "The Little Mermaid", "A Tale of Two Cities" and more. Info at [www.wheelock.edu/wft/](http://www.wheelock.edu/wft/). Professional, affordable theatre.

**Father-Daughter Sweetheart Dance Show** her how special she really is...Fathers, Uncles, Grandfathers, or anyone with a special girl is invited to spend a semi-formal evening full of music, dancing, refreshments, light dinner, desserts, photos & more! Babies to grade 5 Welcome A professional photographer will be on-site with affordable picture packages so you will always remember this special night. Sponsored by the Lions Club Friday, February 12, 2010 6:30-10:00

## In This Issue

Principal's Pad

News from the PTO

MidWinter Coffeehouse

Family Movie Night

Creative Arts and Sciences Update

Box Tops Update

GCKS Spring Soccer

Newton Special Education

Night of Comedy to Benefit Trevor Martinez-Tobin

Community Announcements

SPORTS & DANCE

February Vacation

SUMMER & CAMPS

CLASSIFIED

pm Marriot's Newton No tickets sold at the door Contact: tel (781) 209-5500 or [aalvarez@completeCPAsolution.com](mailto:aalvarez@completeCPAsolution.com)

**Dollar-for-Dollar Match for Donations to Haiti Relief:** In response to the tragedies unfolding in Haiti, 'The Haiti Fund' has been created at 'The Boston Foundation'. All contributions to this fund will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$1 million, by the Ansara Family Fund at the Boston Foundation. The Haiti Fund, which will be spent down over the course of five years, will devote 25% of its resources to immediate disaster relief and remaining funds will be dedicated to long-term efforts such as human rights training and organizing, reconstruction of infrastructure and livelihoods with an emphasis on grassroots approaches. Contributions may be made in the following ways: 1) Fund advisors may login to Advisor Xpress <[https://www.edonorcentral.com/login\\_0071.asp](https://www.edonorcentral.com/login_0071.asp)>; and recommend a grant to the Boston Foundation with the grant to be used for the Haiti Fund. 2) Make check payable to: 'The Boston Foundation' with 'Haiti Fund' in the memo line. Checks should be sent to Fund Administration, The Boston Foundation, 75 Arlington Street, Boston, MA 02116. 3) Donate by credit card. Click here <<https://www.tbf.org/donation/donate.aspx>>; to access the secure site. Select 'Haiti Fund' in the drop down menu. Please call Kate Guedj (617-338-2670) or Diane Elenbaas (617-338-2608) with any questions regarding the fund.

**Massachusetts Champions of Arts Education 2010 Advocacy Awards Call for Nominations**  
March 1, 2010 Postmark; or Delivered by March 4, 2010 NOMINATION PACKETS  
AVAILABLE AT: [www.artslearning.org](http://www.artslearning.org)

**Texting, Facebook and Cyberbullying:** Parenting in the Digital Age Wednesday, February 3, 2010 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Bigelow Middle School 42 Vernon St. Newton MA 02458 A panel of district staff and experts will address the following topics and answer parent questions: The Dynamics of Bullying Bullying in the Context of Adolescent Development Defining Cyber-Bullying and Netiquette What is the District Doing? What is the School Doing? What Can Parents Do? Legal Issues Co-sponsored by The Newton Partnership and Bigelow Middle School

## SPORTS & DANCE

**Garden City Spring Soccer for Pre-K & KG—time to register--see in main text for full info!**

**Newton West Little League (NWLL)** runs baseball programs for children (boys and girls) from Pre-K (age 4) through age 12. Divisions of play are based on age (grade) and ability. The season runs from early April through the end of June (summer baseball is run separately). Please visit our website at [www.newtonwestll.org](http://www.newtonwestll.org) for more information. Registration is now open and can be accessed from the main web page. Financial assistance is available if needed. Please register as soon as possible. Registration must be completed by February 1 to guarantee a place in the league. If you need more information please send an email to [info@newtonwestll.org](mailto:info@newtonwestll.org).

**Newton Girls Soccer - Spring 2010 registration open** Newton Girls Soccer provides a wonderful learning and playing opportunity to girls in grades K-12 (in the Kindergarten-8th grade Intramural program and in the U9-U18 Travel program) on over 100 teams. The Spring session runs from April 10th - June 12th. Registration deadline is Jan. 31st. Please go to [www.newtongirlssoccer.org/regis/](http://www.newtongirlssoccer.org/regis/) for more information, and to register.

**Rich Gedman Baseball Clinic at the JCC.** February 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28 • 5–7pm • Ages 6-12  
Baseball skill development including hitting, fielding, throwing, catching and base running. Early registration fees (prior to Feb 15): Per clinic: \$50/member or \$65/nonmember All five sessions: \$225/member or \$295/nonmember Late registration fees (after Feb 15): Per clinic: \$60/member or \$75/nonmember All five sessions: \$270/member or \$340/nonmember Please register early. This clinic will sell out. Sign up for one or all 5! Register online at [jccgb.org/gedman](http://jccgb.org/gedman) Contact [sports@jccgb.org](mailto:sports@jccgb.org) or 617-558-6456 for more information.

**ICE SKATING LESSONS:** 3rd SESSION: FEBRUARY 7 - April 25, 2010 Join the Sheryl Franks "Creative Skating Academy", Learn to Skate Lessons. Call (617) 699-4736 for details on classes

## In This Issue

Principal's Pad

News from the  
PTO

MidWinter  
Coffeeshouse

Family Movie  
Night

Creative Arts and  
Sciences Update

Box Tops Update

GCKS Spring  
Soccer

Newton Special  
Education

Night of Comedy  
to Benefit Trevor  
Martinez-Tobin

Community  
Announcements

SPORTS &  
DANCE

February  
Vacation

SUMMER &  
CAMPS

CLASSIFIED

held at the Fessenden School Rink 250 Waltham Street, Newton. Sunday afternoons 1:00 – 3:00 PM! Earn patches learning Basic Skills through the USFSA program. Have FUN playing on-ice games, special events, and watching exciting performances by guest guests! Sheryl was a 1980 Olympian! Manny and Daisy Hutter are in the program... Call us with questions (617) 686-1006

## February Vacation

**Newton Parks and Recreation is offering a variety of February School Vacation Programs**

February 16, 17, 18, & 19 2010. For more information go to our website at [www.ci.newton.ma.us/parks](http://www.ci.newton.ma.us/parks) and click on camps, then school vacation programs, or call us at 617-796-1500. **For Grades K – 3 at the BURR PARK COMMUNITY CENTER** Enjoy a fun trip or special event each day. Tuesday – Wooden Toys and Crafts and mini golf, Wednesday – CoCo Key Water Resort, Thursday – Movies, Friday – Chuck E Cheeses. Lunch will be provided each day. 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM \$45.00 per day (Wednesday is \$60.00 for the day) or \$175.00 for all 4 days. **For Grades K – 6 at the NEWTON CENTRE HUT** Participate in a variety of activities at the Newton Centre Hut every day including sports, arts and crafts, inside and outside games and more! Each day will include a fun special event. Don't forget to bring a lunch. Tuesday – Storyteller, Wednesday – Hands on Science, Thursday – Magician, Friday – Super Hero Training Day. Extended Day is Available! Hours are 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM or extended day 8:15 AM - 5:30 PM \$45.00 per day or \$160.00 per week for the standard day. Add \$12.50 per day for extended day. **For Grades 3 & Above at the LOWER FALLS COMMUNITY CENTER** Join us for a fun field trip each day. Tuesday – Burlington Mall, Wednesday – Lazer Zone, Thursday – Museum of Science, Friday – Lanes and Games. Lunch will be provided each day. 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM \$45.00 per day (Thursday is \$60.00 for the day) or \$175.00 for all 4 days. **Puddle Stompers Program for Ages 3 – 6** Winter is a magical time to explore nature! Come see how animals and plants are surviving the cold. Look for animal tracks and investigate other signs of winter activity. Discover who is taking a rest during the cold months and who is still out and about. Located at Nahanton Park Nature Center. 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. \$47.00 per day. 10% sibling discount. Early drop off and extended day is available. Call Puddlestompers at 781-235-6677 or go to [www.puddlestompers.com](http://www.puddlestompers.com) for more information. **Thundercat Sports Clinic for Ages 5 – 7 & 7 - 12** For the sports enthusiast. Play a variety of games including basketball, floor hockey, soccer, and more – all in a relaxed, fun atmosphere. Located at Pelligrini Park. Be sure to bring a lunch and snack each day. Single day option is available for \$45.00 per day. Registration is available online at [www.activityreg.com](http://www.activityreg.com) Half day program for children ages 5 – 7 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM \$120.00 residents \$130.00 non residents Full day program for children ages 7 - 12 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM \$160.00 residents \$170.00 non residents **Family Movie Day and Night at the West Newton Cinema** Enjoy a movie, popcorn and drink all for just \$6.00 per person. Tickets will be sold at the West Newton Cinema on the day of the event. Dates and ticket times to be announced in February.

**FEB VACATION Multiplication Madness:** Still Stuck on Multiplication? Don't let a simple thing like Multiplication drag Math down! Master the times tables the fun and easy way this Feb Vacation week at Mathnasium, Newton Highlands. Feb 15th - 19th. Choose morning or afternoon sessions. For program details, go to [www.MathVacation.com](http://www.MathVacation.com) or call (617) 340-3665. Limited enrollment, register online at [www.MathVacation.com](http://www.MathVacation.com) before too late.

## SUMMER & CAMPS

**Newton South High School Hosts the 6th Annual Teen Summer Program Expo**, Monday, February 8, 2010 5:30 PM to 8:00PM, 140 Brandeis Road, in the cafeteria. FREE ADMISSION. Find a rewarding summer experience for your teen and efficiently cut through the thousands of options on-line. Learn about the programs first-hand by meeting directors of more than 50 programs including travel, adventure, academic enrichment, community service, internships, sports, language immersion, arts & theatre and more. Come with friends and sign up for an awesome summer together or bounce ideas off other local families. Sponsored by CampSource and NSHS PTSO. For more information visit [www.CampSourceNetwork.com](http://www.CampSourceNetwork.com), call 617-244-3316 or email [Laura@CampSourceNetwork.com](mailto:Laura@CampSourceNetwork.com). Snow date will be Tuesday, February 9.

## In This Issue

Principal's Pad

News from the PTO

MidWinter Coffeehouse

Family Movie Night

Creative Arts and Sciences Update

Box Tops Update

GCKS Spring Soccer

Newton Special Education

Night of Comedy to Benefit Trevor Martinez-Tobin

Community Announcements

SPORTS & DANCE

February Vacation

SUMMER & CAMPS

CLASSIFIED

**HELP WITH CAMP RESOURCES FOR NEWTON PARENTS** Though it may be just January, for many parents, it's time to begin thinking about children's summer camp experience for summer 2010. The Newton Partnership and Project INTERFACE are pleased to announce the creation of a new, free, online resource available to families looking for summer day camp in Newton. A new resource, called the Newton POST (Planning Out-of-School-Time) database is a single, centralized place to get all the information parents need to search for camps in Newton. The database is maintained by Project INTERFACE, an area leader in mental health referral and resources. The Newton POST database contains over 160 programs in Newton serving kids from 3-17. Searchable by location, age of child, type of camp and specific camp activities, the database also lists hours of operation, cost and other important information such as availability of transportation, financial aid and serving children with special needs. The website also contains informational tips sheets and other resources for parents on specific camp and out-of-school-time topics. And best of all, it's free! For more information or to search for a camp, please visit: [www.projectinterface.org/post](http://www.projectinterface.org/post)

**Be a Summer Star! Join the Brookline SmartSummers Theater Arts Program** in Brookline, MA! Students take classes in the arts and work on an original musical production. The program runs in one and two week sessions starting July 2nd and runs Monday-Friday, 8:30-4PM at the Lincoln School in Brookline. For more information, contact [theaterartscamp@aol.com](mailto:theaterartscamp@aol.com) or visit <http://sites.google.com/site/smartsummerstheaterarts/welcome> To register, contact Brookline Adult & Community Education at 617-730-2700.

**NCSC Summer Day Camp at Hale Reservation** (Grades 1 - 8) Registration opens January 1st for the Newton Community Service Center Summer Day Camp at the beautiful Hale Reservation in Westwood. Join us for fun-filled days of boating, Red Cross swim lessons and free swim, arts and crafts, fishing, boating, archery, a ropes challenge course, nature activities, sports, cookouts, special events, overnights and more at our ACA-accredited camp. Our season is from June 28th through August 27th. Join us for two, four, six, eight weeks – or the entire summer! Transportation from our West Newton location to Hale Reservation is included. For more information or to register, please go to our web site at [www.NCSCweb.org](http://www.NCSCweb.org). If you have questions, please contact Megan Cap-Renzi, NCSC Out-of-School Time Programs Director at [mcap-renzi@ncscweb.org](mailto:mcap-renzi@ncscweb.org) or (617) 969-5906, ext. 224.

**JCC ALL-CAMP FAIR**, Sunday, February 7, 2010, 2-4pm at the Leventhal-Sidman JCC, 333 Nahanton Street, Newton, MA 02459 Meet the Jewish Community Centers' day, overnight and specialty camp directors and explore the summer 2010 options for boys and girls from preschool through high school! Programs include Circus Camp, iCamp, JCC Grossman Day Camp, JCC Kaleidoscope Creative Arts & Science Camp, Maccabi Kingswood Overnight Camp, Zohar Special Needs Program, Sports Camps and more. There will be face-painting, arts & crafts, and light refreshments for all to enjoy. For more information about JCC summer camps and programs, visit us on the web at [jccgb.org/summer](http://jccgb.org/summer).

**We would like you to come find adventure with us this summer at Camp Hawkeye!** Make friends from all over the world and discover neat things about the world around you. Be part of the Amazing Race, or help your tribe find buried Treasure. Shoot an arrow for the first time, learn more about sailing, build cool projects in woodworking and so much more. Camp Hawkeye is a co-ed residential program for children between the ages of 8 and 16. Located in Moultonborough, NH we are only 2 hours North of Boston. Visit us at [camphawkeye.com](http://camphawkeye.com), give Jess a call at 781-315-1297, or e-mail us at [info@camphawkeye.com](mailto:info@camphawkeye.com). We'd love to answer any questions.

**What are YOU doing this summer?** Park School offers 28 programs for kids ages 4–15. Creative Arts At Park A year of arts education in one unforgettable summer program. June 28–July 30 Creative Arts at Park is a multi-arts camp for students ages 7 to 15 with over 130 courses in video, visual arts, photography, theater, dance, music, creative writing, and a variety of sports including fencing, karate, gymnastics, swimming, soccer, tennis, and basketball. Summer at Park the possibilities are endless...June 14–August 13 Our general camps and specialty programs for campers ages 4-15 offer one- and two-week sessions in art, cooking, golf, fishing, field trips, lacrosse, leadership training, nature, science, soccer, swimming, tennis, extended day, and so much

## In This Issue

Principal's Pad

News from the PTO

MidWinter Coffeehouse

Family Movie Night

Creative Arts and Sciences Update

Box Tops Update

GCKS Spring Soccer

Newton Special Education

Night of Comedy to Benefit Trevor Martinez-Tobin

Community Announcements

SPORTS & DANCE

February Vacation

SUMMER & CAMPS

CLASSIFIED

more...The Park School • 171 Goddard Avenue • Brookline • [www.parkschool.org/mainsummer](http://www.parkschool.org/mainsummer) • 617-274-6024

**University Summer Residential Weight Loss Camp For Boys and Girls 8-16 Years Old** Visit our website: [www.usrwlc.com](http://www.usrwlc.com) to learn more about our exciting camp program. Questions? email [info@usrwlc.com](mailto:info@usrwlc.com) 732-762-9232

## CLASSIFIED

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

**PIANO INSTRUCTION** Berklee & New England Conservatory graduate with 30 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)

**NEWTON HEATING and COOLING INSTALLATIONS** Boilers, Radiant Heat, Snow Melt, Furnaces, and Air Conditioners **JOE SZAFRAN**, Franklin Parent Quality Installations, 34 years Experience (617) 455-2344

**SNOW REMOVAL FOR FRANKLIN SCHOOL RESIDENTS** \$50..... dollars for driveway and walkway 508 326 9362 dan jasset

**ActiveMinds Tutoring, LLC:** Your source for in-home tutoring. Effective, Personalized and Convenient. All grades/all subjects, including test preparation (MCAS, SAT, SSAT...). Sign your child up for academic success and receive a free lesson! Call: (617) 663-5700 during business hours, or (617) 227-2225 Eve/Wknds. Please visit our web site at [www.activemindstutoring.com](http://www.activemindstutoring.com).

**LOVING FAMILY CHILDCARE at NANADEA'S Itsy Bitsy Play Group** Licensed Quality Child Care Services, Full time, Part time: Before and After School, Vacations, Part week: (2-4 days)& (Snow days), Play Group (3 days a week), Nannies, and care givers welcome Evening, Overnight (Third Shift Workers), Drop-In (week-end). Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers, School Age. Come for Socialization, Educational Play, Fun Activities: Sign Language, Yoga, Dance and Much More!!! First Aid/CPR certified Reasonable Rates, Vouchers Accepted Call (857) 234-2383 or (617) 467-4491 email: [itsybitsyPlay@yahoo.com](mailto:itsybitsyPlay@yahoo.com) Excellent References furnished upon request.

**Lice Aunties** is an in-home, non toxic, all mom, lice removal business based in Newton. Thousands of heads checked with affection and a sense of humor. [www.liceaunties.com](http://www.liceaunties.com).

**NEXT LEVEL UP home tutoring** A highly personalized approach to in-home tutoring. Excellent service. Our professional tutors are knowledgeable, patient, and trustworthy. We can assist any elementary, middle, or high school student in any subject. Visit our website: [www.nextleveluptutoring.com](http://www.nextleveluptutoring.com). Call or email for a quick response. (781) 540-1123 or [info@nextleveluptutoring.com](mailto:info@nextleveluptutoring.com)

**KEYS FOR KIDS** Innovative Piano Instruction Winter registration. Free Demo Class Jan. 28  
\*Engaging parent-child group environment \*Age 4 years old and up \*Unique proven methodology  
\*Real music & piano skills at an early age \*Convenient Newton location Contact Marina Gorny: [mdgorny@comcast.net](mailto:mdgorny@comcast.net) 617-527-4942 [www.NewtonKidsLoveMusic.com](http://www.NewtonKidsLoveMusic.com)

**Franklin Families:** I would like to connect with you about my event photography services ~ specializing in parties large and small - including Sweet Sixteens, Anniversary and Bat Mitzvahs. As a professional photographer for many years, I feel fortunate to have the job of photographing such joyful events! Clients comments often about the website....please visit it: <http://www.donnastangerphotography.com> Let's meet so that I can answer any questions that you might have about photography or video for your upcoming event. I can show you my photo samples and a variety of photography packages for your very special keepsake: including photo

albums. I do a beautiful job creating customized photo albums! Because of I have many years of experience photographing events, you can relax knowing that every important photograph will be captured! Let me know if I can help you! Call for an appointment soon, Donna Stanger - 617 304 1819 Donna Stanger Photography Visit the website <http://www.donnastangerphotography>

---

## Franklin Office 617-559-9500

The next issue of the Connection will be published on Feb 26<sup>th</sup>. To submit something, submit it by NOON on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>. Ads are only printed as space allows, so meeting the deadline is not a guarantee of ad placement.