



# Arlington Family Connection

supporting children six and under and those who care for them

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[www.arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](http://www.arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

## AFC & AEC Team Up to Benefit Parents & Kids

By Annette Donnelly

Most New England parents of young children can tell you that along with the cold weather, winter brings the very big question: “what can I do to entertain my stir-crazy children?” Arlington Family Connection is happy to announce a new partnership that will help answer that question. This December marks the beginning of some new childcare and indoor-play options brought to you by AFC and the Arlington Enrichment Collaborative (AEC), an after school program for middle-schoolers.

### Parents’ Afternoon Out

For parents longing for a break from their little ones, AEC and AFC are offering “Parents’ Afternoon Out” on Saturday, December 9. Parents can leave their children for an afternoon of fun with a group of adult staff and certified babysitters. All babysitters have completed a certification program — either from the Boys & Girls Club or the Red Cross. Parents can drop children off anytime between 1:00 -5:00 p.m. at the Arlington Enrichment Collaborative which is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of 1100 Mass. Ave. (across from Jimmy’s restaurant). Babysitting is available for children ages 6 months and up, \$5 an hour per child, \$4 an hour for each additional child in the same family. RSVP required by Dec. 4. Contact: Amy 781-646-5417 or [outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

### Weekly AFC Playtime

Starting Monday, January 8, AFC will offer an all-new, weekly Playtime that will meet at the AEC space every Monday (including holidays) from 10-11:30 a.m. People can drop-in anytime and it will be open to the public. The goal of the program is to provide a safe, clean, and relaxed environment where caregivers can sit, have a cup of coffee, talk with other caregivers, and play with their children. Each session will end with a circle time story and songs. It’s open to 0-4 year olds at a cost of \$3 per family. Sarah Albers, who runs AFC’s successful monthly drop-in playgroup at the Fox library, will also run

this new weekly program and she is looking for volunteers interested in helping. She is also collecting donations of toys to outfit the group. For information please contact Sarah at [playgroup@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:playgroup@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org) or 781-316-8181.

AEC director, Kim Holt, described the relationship with AFC as a natural fit. With her staff and a group of certified babysitters from the middle school, she already offers a very successful “Parents Night Out” for K-8 children on the third Saturday night of each month. The babysitting program provides a sort of internship for babysitters, allowing newly certified students an opportunity to practice

their skills with adult supervision and guidance. “It’s an important step towards being able to babysit independently,” said Kim, an experienced babysitter herself. If the December 8 afternoon program is a success, Kim said she would like to offer it monthly. In addition, Kim is planning to create a Babysitters Directory for AFC members that should be available by this January.

“Overall, I am really excited about this relationship,” said AFC president Amy Speare. “AFC and AEC are very like-minded, non-profit organizations — both focused on providing services for families and children, and benefiting the overall community. There are also lots of fun ways to connect teenagers with younger kids. I guess you could think of AEC as the future for AFC kids as they grow up.”

Kim and Amy are discussing additional ways that AFC and AEC can work together and will keep AFC members posted.

*AFC and AEC are like-minded, non-profit organizations — both focused on providing services for families & children*

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## AFC Welcomes New Volunteers

As an all-volunteer organization, Arlington Family Connection relies on the energy, creativity, and enthusiasm of its members to fill each role. Here are just a few of the members who have recently taken on roles within AFC.

**Cynthia Murray** and **Ruth Kirby** are stepping in to take over treasurer duties from Andrea Canty and Johanna Wilson-White. Cynthia has two children, ages 3½ and 9 months. Since moving back to the Boston area with her family a short time ago, she has found AFC to be a helpful support in acclimating her family to their new home. Ruth also has two children, ages 4 and 16 months. When she heard about AFC's need for a new treasurer, she decided to dust off her bookkeeping skills and volunteer.

**Colleen Love** and **Kristen Strechay** joined us this year as our 2006 Childcare & Preschool Options project volunteers. Colleen used her computer prowess to update and edit the booklet. Kristen successfully ran the Options event night. Both are Arlington moms. Colleen works part time and is mother to three girls, the youngest age 3. Kristen is at home with her two little ones, ages 1 and 2.

**Leah Nelson** joined Molly Sanford (now in her second year) on the membership committee helping to sign up and renew members, and respond to member emails. Originally from Chicago, Leah has lived in Arlington for about a year with her husband and 2½-year-old son. **Sally DiAngelis** is the latest addition to the membership committee. Sally will focus on outreach and will work to establish new and continue existing relationships in the Arlington community. Sally is an Arlington native who is the mother of a 2-year-old son and a 13-month-old daughter.

**Jessie Keating** will lend her event-planning skills to organize a sizzling winter "beach party" (details to come soon!). Jessie is a newcomer to AFC and to Arlington, having moved here in April from Seattle. She has a two-month-old son.

Thanks to all the AFC members, new and old, who have given so much of their time. Read about even more new volunteers next month.

**Friday, December 1 &  
Wednesday, December 6  
9:30-11:00 am**

**Gibbs Gym**

### **Toddlers & Twos Membership Outreach**

Tell your friends about AFC and stop by to meet volunteers at Toddlers & Twos — a drop-in, indoor gym time for ages 15 months to 3 years. Toddlers & Twos is organized by Arlington Recreation and held at the Gibbs Gym, 41 Foster Street. Cost is \$5 per child. We'll be selling AFC's 2006 'Childcare & Preschool Options' book and 'The Compleat Day Tripper'. For information contact Sally at 781-643-1097, [membership@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:membership@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

## AFC Directory

**General Information** - Amy Speare  
[info@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:info@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)  
781-646-5417

**Clerk** - Margit Griffith

**Community Service** - Debra Reardon and  
Jeanne Wells Hobbie  
[community@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:community@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**e-Bulletin** - Ruth Schmidt  
[bulletinboard@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:bulletinboard@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Membership** - Leah Nelson, Molly Sanford,  
and Sally DiAngelis  
[membership@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:membership@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Newsletter Editors** - Annette Donnelly and  
Carrie Finison  
[newsletter@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:newsletter@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Newsletter Calendar** - Helene Ragovin James  
[calendar@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:calendar@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Options in Childcare & Preschool** - Kristen Strechay  
[options@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:options@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Outings** - Amy Speare  
[outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Seminars** - Maureen Igoe  
[seminars@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:seminars@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Treasurers** - Ruth Kirby and Cynthia Murray  
[treasurer@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:treasurer@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Web Site** - Alkim Akyurtlu  
[webmaster@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:webmaster@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Working Moms** - Wendy Clarke  
[workingmoms@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:workingmoms@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

# Beat the Winter Blahs...with a Class

By Amy Weitzman

As winter settles in, you may want to consider enrolling your child in a class. There are many local options. The following list includes classes located in Arlington, organized by type of class. For a comprehensive list that includes classes in nearby towns, visit the AFC website at [www.arlingtonfamilyconnection.org/new.html](http://www.arlingtonfamilyconnection.org/new.html)

## Arts

**Arlington Center for the Arts**  
<http://www.acarts.org/>  
(781) 648-6220 5 years+  
Also has dance classes.

**Art Beat**  
<http://www.artbeatonline.com/>  
(781) 646-2200  
4 years+ (weekend workshops)

**Clay Dreams**  
<http://www.claydreams.com/>  
(781) 641-3000 4 years+  
Classes offered only in summer.

## Dance

**Alton Street Dance**  
(781) 643-2006 3 years+

**The Ballet Academy**  
(781) 641-4477 3 1/2 years+

**Dance Inn**  
<http://www.thedanceinn.com/>  
(781) 863-5360 3 years+

**Dance Place**  
<http://www.arlingtondanceplace.com/>  
(781) 643-8456 2 years+

**Dawn's Dance**  
<http://dawnsdance.com/>  
(781) 641-DAWN (3296)  
2 1/2 years+

**Lynn & Jen's Dance Studio**  
(781) 643-7220 3 years+

## Language

**Jugando a Cantar Spanish Program**  
Elia Sandoval: elitastf@yahoo.com or  
781.859.9082 2 years+

## Martial Arts

**T&P Martial Arts**  
(781) 641-0262

**Rocky DiRico's School of Kenpo Karate**  
<http://members.tripod.com/RDSKK/index.htm>  
(781) 643-7767

## Movement & Yoga

**The Arlington Center**  
<http://www.arlingtoncenter.org/>  
(781) 316-0282 3 years+

## Music

**Music Together of Arlington**  
<http://www.musictogetherofarlington.com/>  
(781) 648-4084 Birth+

## Outdoors

**Puddlestompers**  
<http://www.puddlestompers.com/>  
(617) 559-9911 2 years+

## Many Types of Classes

**Arlington Boys & Girls Club**  
[www.abgclub.org](http://www.abgclub.org)  
(781) 648-1617 4 months+  
Gymnastics, crafts, swim, and music classes and more.

**Arlington Rec Department**  
[http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/Public\\_Documents/ArlingtonMA\\_Recreation/brochures/](http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/Public_Documents/ArlingtonMA_Recreation/brochures/)  
(781) 316-3881 1/2 years+  
Gymnastics, sports, crafts, & music.

**Fidelity House**  
<http://www.fidelityhouse.org/>  
(781) 648-2005 Toddlers (walking) and up  
Gymnastics, arts, sports, & music.

**Isis Maternity**  
<http://www.isismaternity.com/>  
(781) 429-1500  
Birth+ Developmental, yoga, and music classes.

*Amy Weitzman lives in Arlington with her husband and 2 1/2 year old daughter. She's not sure what classes they will sign up for this winter, but are happy to have so many wonderful options to choose from.*

## Saturday, December 3 10am-4pm Isis Maternity & Wild Women Wild Child Holiday Toy, Clothing & Equipment Drive Kickoff

Join AFC, Isis Maternity, and Wild Women Wild Child in this first annual winter toy drive. During the month of December, we will be collecting gently used or new toys, clothing, and equipment for A Room to Grow, a non-profit organization dedicated to enriching the lives of babies born into poverty throughout the first three years. (<http://www.roomtogrow.org/>)

Join us December 3 from 10am-4pm as we kick off the drive with light refreshments and children's entertainment (look for details and times in the e-bulletin). In addition, both Isis Maternity and Wild Women Wild Child will offer store discounts if you make a donation.

Donated items should be appropriate for ages 3 & under and can be dropped off at Isis Maternity or Wild Women Wild Child. Items accepted include gently used or new: toys, books, music on tape, videos, clothing, bedding, blankets, baby carriers, bassinets, strollers, high chairs, swings, exersaucers, baby proofing items, monitors, diaper bags, photo albums, baby room accessories, new bottles/nipples/teethers (no used stuffed animals)

Info: Debra 781-643-2081, [community@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:community@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

## December AFC Events (Save the Dates)

Please note, the AFC Book Club is on hiatus.

### Friday, Dec. 1 & Wednesday, Dec. 6

#### Toddlers and Twos Membership Outreach

9:30-11am. Gibbs Gym, 41 Foster St. Tell your friends about AFC and stop by to meet volunteers. We'll also be selling AFC's 2006 'Childcare & Preschool Options' book and 'The Compleat Day Tripper'. Sally 781-643-1097,

[membership@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:membership@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)



### Saturday, Dec. 2

#### Working Moms Group

Meets first Saturday of the month at 10:30am to noon for casual discussion. Senior Cener, 27 Maple St., Arl. Wendy, 781-648-2341, [workingmoms@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:workingmoms@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

### Saturday, Dec. 2

#### AFC Outing: T&P Martial Arts

1:30pm. T&P Martial Arts, 1100 Mass. Ave., Arl., 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Private party for AFC with hilarious and boisterous physical games followed by a magic show. Free. Ages 2 & up. **RSVP required by Nov. 29.** Charlotte, 781-648-8108, [daytripper@piercepress.com](mailto:daytripper@piercepress.com)

### Tuesday, Dec. 5

#### AFC Monthly Drop-in Playgroup

10-11:30am. Fox Library Comm. Rm., Arl. First Tues. of every month. Drop-in anytime. Toys & coffee provided. Ages 0-4. Free. Sarah 781-316-8181,

[playgroup@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:playgroup@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)



### Tuesday, Dec. 5

#### AFC Steering Committee

7:30 p.m. Open to all members. Arlington Enrichment Collaborative, 1100 Mass Ave., Arl, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor (across from Jimmy's). **Please note, this is a new meeting location!** Amy, 781-646-5417,

[info@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:info@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

### Saturday, Dec. 9

#### Holiday Sing-along at Park Ave

#### Nursing Ctr.

10:30am. 146 Park Ave. Arl. Meet in the lobby. Sing-along with preschool music instructor Jeanne Wells Hobbie. Small instruments will be available for the kids. Recommended for ages 2 ½ & up. Light refreshments will be served. Free. Debra 781-643-2081,

[community@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:community@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)



### Saturday, Dec. 9

#### Parents Afternoon Out

1-5pm. Arl. Enrichment Collaborative, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl., 1100 Mass. Ave., Arl. Drop-off your kid(s) anytime for an afternoon of fun with AEC staff and certified babysitters. Ages 6 mo. & up. \$5/hour/child, \$4/hour each add'l child.

**RSVP required by Dec. 4.** Amy 781-646-5417, [outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

### Tuesday, Dec. 12

#### AFC Outing: Together in Motion

10-11:30am. 1 Broadway, E. Arl. Join us for an AFC exclusive peek at this new indoor playspace! Ages 0-6. \$5/child. Amy, 781-646-5417, [outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

### Wednesday, Dec. 13

#### AFC Playground Fun: McLennen Playground

10-11:30am

(rain/snow date Dec. 14). McLennen Park, Summer St. (near Lex.). Come meet other AFC families in this ongoing series of monthly playground fun. Amy 781-646-5417,

[outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)



### Tuesday, Dec. 19

#### AFC Craft Time

4-5pm. Fox Library Comm. Rm. Drop-in anytime to do a fun craft! \$2/child to cover supplies. 18 mo. & up. Maf 781-777-1994, [outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

## November Highlights

### October 31 Halloween Parade



### November 3 AFC Playground Fun



### November 10 Playtime with Games



## Small Steps, Big Fun: A Parents-With-Kids Guide to East Arlington

By Carrie Finison

There are many aspects of my East Arlington neighborhood that I did not truly appreciate for the first five years that I lived here. But when my son was born and I found myself out-and-about during the day, usually trying to get him to sleep in his stroller, I began to realize how much this neighborhood has to offer children and their parents.



The marquee of the **Capitol Theater** visually dominates the block west of Lake Street. This old-style movie house consistently runs one or two children's movies alongside films for older audiences. The Capitol also hosts a 'baby friendly' Monday afternoon matinee. And with real butter on the popcorn and 8 flavors of ice cream to choose from, why go anywhere else? ([www.somervilletheateronline.com](http://www.somervilletheateronline.com))

Just across Mass. Ave. and down a block, the **Fox Branch Library** has been the site of many of our snowy-afternoon play sessions. The library hosts a free AFC drop-in playgroup on the first Tuesday of each month, regular singalongs and storytimes, and (important) has a public bathroom. But be warned: the bathroom is not always accessible since the library is open only part time (Tues. & Thurs. 9-5; Weds. 1-9).

The library's basement contains another East Arlington treasure, the **PTO Thrift Shop**. Need a couple of new toys, some clothes, or a good book? You'll find



what you are looking for among the shop's carefully selected merchandise.

Proceeds benefit the Arlington Public Schools. (Thrift shop hours: Weds. 4-8;

Thurs. 9:30-1; second Saturday of each month, 12:30-5.)

East Arlington has a variety of funky shops where I have purchased virtually every card and gift that I've given in the year since my son was born (usually at the last minute). Three of these, **Monroe Salt Works**, **Maxima Art Center**, and **Artbeat**, all feature a selection of cards and unusual toys and gifts for children and adults. If you're interested in making your own gifts,

**Clay Dreams** is the place for you. Bring your kids to paint plates, mugs, platters, holiday ornaments, and more.

To blow off some steam, head down Oxford Street (across Mass. Ave. from Geillio's) toward Broadway. Next to the Dearborn Academy is a shady playground with swings and a climbing structure as well as a basketball court, tennis courts, and a small soccer field.

For a treat, head to **Quebrada Bakery** next to the movie theater for a sugar cookie and a cup of milk (or coffee if you're old enough for something with more stimulation). Quebrada offers "mini" versions of some baked goods for small tummies. For something more substantial, try **Geillio's** for sandwiches and soups. You can also pick up some of their delicious fresh pasta and some sauce and *presto*, dinner's ready. You can round out the meal with staples (milk, bread, lettuce, Ben & Jerry's ice cream) from **Christo's Fruit & Deli**—the only East Arlington convenience store that sells produce alongside groceries, plus a wide selection of Greek specialty items (corner of Lake Street and Mass. Ave.)



Dinner in hand, and (maybe) with a baby asleep in the stroller, you can head home from your afternoon out in East Arlington.



### WHERE TO

**Park:** street parking (free)

**Play:** Fox Library children's room; Oxford Street playground

**Get a snack:** Quebrada (baked goods); Geillio's (sandwiches); Christo's (groceries and deli)

**Use the bathroom:** Fox Library (during open hours)

*Small Steps, Big Fun is a regular feature describing the neighborhoods in and around Arlington—from a parents-with-kids perspective. Next up: Arlington Center.*

# Local Events & Activities – December

For even more resources refer to <http://www.arlingtonfamilyconnection.org>

## Arlington Venues

**Arlington Boys and Girls Club**, 60 Pond Lane, (Pleasant St. to Wellington St.). 781-648-1617. [www.abgclub.org](http://www.abgclub.org)

**Arlington Rec. Center & Veterans Memorial Rink**, 422 Summer St. (Rt. 2A). 781-316-3880.  
[http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/Public\\_Documents/ArlingtonMA\\_Recreation/index](http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/Public_Documents/ArlingtonMA_Recreation/index)

**Fidelity House**, 25 Medford St. 781-648-2005.  
[www.fidelityhouse.org](http://www.fidelityhouse.org)

**Fox branch library**, 175 Mass. Ave. (East Arlington, at Cleveland St.). 781-316-3198.  
<http://www.robbinslibrary.org/html/fox.htm>

**Gibbs Gym**, 41 Foster St. (also accessible from Tufts St., between Mass. Ave. and Broadway). 781-316-3880.

**Isis Maternity**, 397 Mass. Ave., at Broadway. 781-429-1598. [www.isismaternity.com](http://www.isismaternity.com)

**Regent Theatre**, 7 Medford St. 781-646-4849.  
[www.regenttheatre.com](http://www.regenttheatre.com)

**Robbins Library**, 700 Mass. Ave. (near Pleasant St./Rt. 60). 781-316-3234. [www.robbinslibrary.org](http://www.robbinslibrary.org)

## Special Events for Families

### Santa at Burlington Mall

Thru Dec. 24. Burlington Mall, Topiary Garden near Lord & Taylor. Photo packages start at \$22. For hours, 781-272-8667 or [www.simon.com/mall/event\\_details.aspx?ID=146&EID=52837](http://www.simon.com/mall/event_details.aspx?ID=146&EID=52837)

### Zoolights at Stone Zoo

Thru Dec. 30 (except Dec. 25), 5-9 pm, Stone Zoo, 149 Stone St., Stoneham. Members, \$3/person; non-memb. \$4/person; under 2 free. Thousands of twinkling lights, fairy-tale characters, and dancing plush animals. Santa will be available for photos (additional fee) through Dec. 23. 781-438-5100.  
[www.zoonewengland.com](http://www.zoonewengland.com)

### Christmas Festival of Lights at Edaville

Thru Jan. 1 (except Dec. 25). Mon-Fri, 4-9 pm; Sat-Sun, 2-9 pm, Edaville Railroad, 7 Eda Ave., Carver. \$16; under 2, free. Train ride through forests, over lakes and cranberry bogs with animated, displays. More than 7 million lights! Fireworks on Fridays. 877-EDAVILLE. [www.edaville.com](http://www.edaville.com)

### Winter Wonderland at Lookout Farm

Thru Jan. 7 (except Dec. 24, 25) Gates open 5 pm; last train, 8:30 pm. Belkin Lookout Farm, 89 S. Pleasant St., (off Rt. 16), South Natick. \$16/adult; \$12/child; under 2, free. Orchards decorated in 2 million lights; world's longest LED tunnel; hundreds of light displays; Victorian Village; Toy Land & Fairy Land. [www.lookoutfarm.com](http://www.lookoutfarm.com)

### Family Trees at Concord Museum

Dec. 1-Jan. 1 (except Dec. 25). Mon-Sat, 9am-5 pm; Thursdays until 8 pm.; Sun, noon-5 pm. Concord Museum, 200 Lexington Rd, Conc. \$8/adults (WGHB/AAA discounts); \$5/ages 6-17. Members, free. Trees whimsically decorated with original ornaments inspired by cherished children's storybooks, contemporary picture book favorites, and beloved holiday tales. Admission includes *Family Trees* and special exhibition, *Needles and*

*Haystack*. Sun, Dec. 3 & Sun. Dec. 10, 1-4 pm, appearances by children's book authors/illustrators. 978-369-9763. [www.concordmuseum.org](http://www.concordmuseum.org)

### Holiday Lighting Ceremony in Lexington

Fri., Dec. 1, 4-9 pm. Santa arrives in Depot Square (Mass Ave.) at 6:30 pm to conduct the official illumination of holiday lights. He then strolls through downtown, greeting children. Carolers and musical groups entertain. [www.lexingtonchamber.org](http://www.lexingtonchamber.org)

### A Pocketful of Rhymes/Concord Youth Theatre

Fri, Dec. 1, 7:30pm; Sat. Dec. 2, 2:30 pm; Sun. Dec. 3, 2:30 pm, LOCATION TBA. \$9-\$12. Presented by The "Not So Mainstage" Performance Company. Mother Goose introduces the next generation to her "greatest hits"; classic nursery rhymes are set to a catchy contemporary score. **Appropriate for ages 4 and above.** 978-371-1482.  
[www.concordyouththeatre.org/HTML/performance\\_s.htm](http://www.concordyouththeatre.org/HTML/performance_s.htm)

### The Elves & the Shoemaker in Belmont

Dec. 1-3 and 8-10, Boston Children's Opera, 471 Trapelo Rd, Bel. \$7/adult; \$4 child age 4 and up. **Under age 4 not admitted.** 2-hour performance by children, for children. For showtimes, 617-628-0063. [www.bostonchildrensopera.com](http://www.bostonchildrensopera.com)

### The Nutcracker in Winchester

Sat, Dec 2, 6:30 pm; Sun, Dec. 3, 1 pm. Ballet Arts Center Performing Theatre Company, McCall Middle School, 458 Main St., Win. \$18/adult; \$14/child. 781-729-8556. [www.bacw.com](http://www.bacw.com)

### Polar Express in Newburyport

Sat. Dec. 2, 11:25am, 1:15, 3:15, 5:30, 7:30pm. Newburyport Commuter Rail Station. \$21, ages 1 and up. 70-minute rail journey to the North Pole to see Santa and his elves; Chris Van Allburg's story will be read on the way. [www.icspolarexpress.com](http://www.icspolarexpress.com)

### Gingerbread House Decorating/ Verrill Farm

Sat., Dec. 2 and Sun. Dec. 10, 9:30 and 11:30am; 1:30pm. Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Rd & Rt. 117, Concord. Three sessions of decorating workshops. 978-369-4494. [www.verrillfarm.com](http://www.verrillfarm.com)

### Holiday Open House at Postal Museum

Sat., Dec. 2, noon to 4 pm. Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History, 235 Wellesley St., at Regis College, Weston. Free. Special stamp hunts with prizes, letters to Santa, create an ornament, keepsake, or Hanukkah card, \$2 each activity. Refreshments. 781-768-8367. [www.spellman.org](http://www.spellman.org)

### Waldorf School Holiday Fair

Sat., Dec. 2, 10am-4pm, 739 Mass Ave, Lex. For info, call 781-863-1062, or [www.thewaldorfschool.org](http://www.thewaldorfschool.org)

### Mo-Co Arts Youth Arts & Entertainment Concert at the Regent

Sun, Dec. 3, 3pm. Regent Theatre, Arl. Tickets \$8, available at the door. Featuring performers in grades 1 through high school in acts featuring hits from the 60's, 80's, Motown & original music. 781-646-4849. [www.mocoarts.com](http://www.mocoarts.com) or [www.regenttheatre.com](http://www.regenttheatre.com)

### Winthrop Park Festival of Lights at Harvard Square.

Sun., Dec 3, 4-6 pm, Corner Winthrop & JFK Sts, Camb. Old-fashioned holiday sing-along around the ancient Marketplace Oak Tree. Visit from Santa. 617-641-3434.  
[www.harvardsquare.com/sparklefest/](http://www.harvardsquare.com/sparklefest/)

### Israeli Hanukkah Fair

Sun, Dec. 3, 3-7pm, Temple Sinai, 50 Sewall Ave., Brookline. Hand-crafted Israeli art, gifts for sale; activities for kids, including menorah-making. 617-431-5063.

### **Holiday Open House in Concord**

Thu, Dec. 7, 6-8pm., Concord Center. Parade at 6pm, corner of Thoreau St. & Sudbury Rd. With Frosty, Rudolph, Grinch, Santa on a fire engine. Tree lighting, 6:30, Monument Square. Bring unwrapped gift for Concord-Carlisle Community Chest.

[www.concordchamberofcommerce.org/calendar.htm](http://www.concordchamberofcommerce.org/calendar.htm)

### **Cinderella, A Woodland Fairy Princess at Robbins Library**

Sat, Dec. 9, 3-3:45pm. Ages 4 and up. A puppet theater variation on the classic Cinderella story, presented by Deborah Costine. Space is limited; tickets will be available first-come, first-served, on day of performance. A Russell Fund Program.

### **Santa at Verrill Farm**

Sat., Dec. 9, 3-5p.m. 11 Wheeler Rd & Rt. 117, Concord. Take your own pictures, treats and live music. 978-369-4494, [www.verrillfarm.com](http://www.verrillfarm.com)

### **Model Trains at Nat. Heritage Museum**

Sat., Dec. 9, 10am-5pm; Sun, Dec. 10, noon-5pm, National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Rd., Rt. 2A, Lex. \$5/family (memb); \$7/family (non-memb). HUB Division of Model Railroad Trains returns for its annual display. 781-861-6559, [www.monh.org](http://www.monh.org)

### **A Polar Bear's Journey at EcoTarium**

Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 9-17, Trips leave at 12:30, 1:30, 2:30pm. \$5 plus museum admission., EcoTarium, 222 Harrington Way, Worcester. The Polar Express comes to life on the Explorer Express train journey for families with young children to the EcoTarium's North Pole, home of Kenda the polar bear. Special storytime, meet Santa. Refreshments. 508-929-2703, [www.ecotarium.org](http://www.ecotarium.org).

### **Sparklefest at Harvard Square/ Free skating at Charles Hotel**

Sun, Dec, 10, Harvard Square, Camb. Noon-6pm. Music, treats, entertainment. Santa & Curious George arrive at 3 pm. Also, noon-8pm, free ice skating at the Charles Hotel, visit from Santa, performances by the Harvard Figure Skating Club. Indoor cookie decorating contest for kids. 617-491-3434.

[www.harvardsquare.com/sparklefest/](http://www.harvardsquare.com/sparklefest/)

### **Holiday Pops Kids' Matinee**

Dec. 15, 16, 17, 22,23,24, 26, 17. Symphony Hall, Boston. Holiday Pops concert designed for kids, including a sing-along. \$25-83; check schedule for times. [www.bso.org](http://www.bso.org)

### **Tot Party at Boys & Girls**

Fri, Dec. 15, 10:30am., Arl Boys & Girls Club. Drop-in tot party, with visit by Santa.

### **Chanukah Concert in Belmont**

Sun, Dec. 17, 2:30pm., Belmont Studio Cinema, 376 Trapelo Rd., Bel. Rachel Cole and her band. Sing along and dance in the aisles. Advance sales: \$12/adult, \$8/child, \$25/family. At the door: \$15/adult, \$8 child, \$30/family. Available at Kolbo Fine Judaica, 437 Harvard St., Brookline; by mail to B'nai Or of Boston, P.O Box 400715, Cambridge, MA 02146, or contact

[dbarsel@gmail.com](mailto:dbarsel@gmail.com) 978-486-9657

[www.rachelcolemusic.com](http://www.rachelcolemusic.com)

### **Crafts at Robbins Library**

Dec. 27, 28, 29, 2-4pm. Drop-in crafts program for all ages.

### **Boston First Night**

Sun, Dec. 31. Afternoon and evening activities; For details, check [www.firstnight.org](http://www.firstnight.org)

## **Sing-alongs & Music**

### **Mondays**

5 pm. Finagle a Bagel, 91 Middlesex Tpke., Burlington. Ed Morgan performs fun original and classic children's songs. Free. 781-273-6500, [www.finagleabagel.com](http://www.finagleabagel.com)

### **Tues, Dec. 5**

10 am. Robbins Library. **For infants and toddlers.** As space is limited by size of room, numbers are given out on the day of the program beginning at 9 a.m.

### **Thu, Dec. 7**

10 a.m. Fox Library. For infants and toddlers.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fri. of the month**

10am Calvary United Methodist Church, 300 Mass Ave, Arl. Sing-along with Diane Taraz. \$1. 781-648-3719, [www.dianetaraz.com](http://www.dianetaraz.com)

### **Saturdays**

11 am Stellabella Toys, 1360 Cambridge St., Inman Sq., Camb. Join local musicians, sing songs, play games. **All ages.** Free. 617-491-6290.

## **Storytimes**

### **Robbins Library/Toddlers**

Mon., Dec. 4. 10:30am **18 months-2 ½ years** with an adult. Stories, rhymes, fingerplays followed by play & simple craft. Drop-in. 781-316-3234.

### **Fox Library/Lap-sit**

Tues., Dec. 12, 19, 10:30am **For infants to age 2.** Brief stories, songs, games and play. 781-316-3198

### **Fox Library/Pajama Storytimes**

Wed., Dec. 6, 13, 20. 7-7:30pm Drop-in

### **Robbins Library/3-5 year olds**

Wed., Dec. 6, 10:30am. Longer stories, rhymes, fingerplays and craft.

### **Barefoot Books**

Fri. & Sat. 10:30am. **Ages 1 & up.** 1771 Mass. Ave., Camb. A fun hour of age-appropriate stories. Coloring and refreshments. Free. 617-349-1610, [www.barefootbooks.com](http://www.barefootbooks.com)

### **Barnes & Noble**

98 Middlesex Tpke., Burlington.  
**Pre-schoolers** – Tues. at 10:30 am Pajamarama – Fri. at 7pm Free. 781-273-3871.

### **UPDATED! Harvard Coop**

Tues.& Sat., 11am 1400 Mass. Ave., Camb. **Preschool** story hour with snack and craft. Free. Sat., Dec. 9, 11-2pm, Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Sun, Dec. 10, 1pm, free holiday concert with Rick Goldin. 617-499-2000, <http://harvard.bkstore.com>

### **Henry Bear's Park**

Thurs. 11am. **Ages 3-6.** Free. 685 Mass. Ave., Arl. 781-646-9400 and 361 Huron Ave., Camb. 617-547-8424, [www.henrybear.com](http://www.henrybear.com)

### **Porter Square Books**

Wed., 11am Porter Sq. Shopping Ctr., Camb. Free. 617-491-2220, [www.portersquarebooks.com](http://www.portersquarebooks.com)

### **Pottery Barn Kids**

Tues., 10am Check store for details. Free. Burlington Mall. 781-221-5833.

## **Other Arlington Fun Stuff**

### **UPDATED! Arl. Boys & Girls Club**

Through Feb. 27 (closed Dec. 26): Tues., 10:30-11:15am. Parent & Tot Drop-in Swim, \$4/child (membership required). Fri, 5:30-6:15pm., drop-in Family Swim free for members. Also offers variety of programs for ages 6 mo. & up. \$20/annual child membership, plus fee for programs. [www.abgclub.org](http://www.abgclub.org)

### **Arlington Center for the Arts**

41 Foster St., Arl. Preschool, homeschool, and after-school classes for ages 5 & up. Jewelry-making, drama & improv, drawing, painting, songwriting, pottery, cartooning, more. 781-648-6220, [www.acarts.org](http://www.acarts.org)

### **Fidelity House**

Offers many programs for young children, including a tot playgroup (drop-in or class) through Dec. 15 at 9:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m., \$5 drop-in, \$20/session. Also, pre-school sports, and gymnastics. No membership required for children up through kindergarten. Fees may apply for each class. [www.fidelityhouse.org](http://www.fidelityhouse.org)

### **Music Together**

Explore what music sounds like, looks like and feels like. 10-week classes for child and caregivers. 781-648-4084, [www.musictogetherofarlington.com/](http://www.musictogetherofarlington.com/)

### **Parent and Tot Connection**

Fri, Dec. 1, 8 (no sessions Dec. 15, 22, 29); 9:30-11 a.m. Arl. Boys & Girls Club. Drop-in playgroup for toddlers and preschoolers with caregiver. Play, crafts, stories, music. Free. [www.abgclub.org](http://www.abgclub.org)

### **UPDATED! Public Skating**

Until March 16, Veterans Memorial Rink, Fri.: 11am-1pm, 2:45-4:45pm, 7-9pm; Sat.: 4-6pm; Sun.: 9:30-11:30am, 2-4pm. **Special public skating: Arlington Celebrates, Sun., Dec. 31, 4:30-6:30 p.m.** \$3/child under 16, \$6/adult. Skating with crates allowed Fri. mornings. 781-316-3880, [www.town.arlington.ma.us/Public\\_Documents/ArlingtonMA\\_Recreation/rink](http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/Public_Documents/ArlingtonMA_Recreation/rink).

### **Puddlestompers Playgroup**

Tues. 10:30am-12:30pm. Drop-in pre-school playgroup. Occasional field trips, meets outside at playgrounds. Meets in the Fox Library in inclement weather (\$1/family donation requested). Susan, 781-641-3792 or [sedorson@yahoo.com](mailto:sedorson@yahoo.com).

### **Regent Theatre Family Fun Shows**

Regent Theater, [www.regenttheatre.com](http://www.regenttheatre.com)  
Sat., Dec. 2., 10:30 am **Legacy Dancers: 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Dance Spectacular.** \$12/adult; \$8/child. Young dancers, aged 13-18, performing hip-hop, jazz, and tap. [www.thedanceinn.com](http://www.thedanceinn.com)  
Sat., Dec. 9, 10:30 am. **Ben Rudnick and Friends 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Extravaganza.** \$7/adult; \$5/child. [www.benrudnickandfriends.com](http://www.benrudnickandfriends.com)  
Sat. Dec. 16, 10:30 a.m., **Judy Pancoast,** \$7/adult; \$5/child. Christmas concert with a family musician. [www.judypancoast.com](http://www.judypancoast.com)

### **Toddlers and Twos**

Until Dec. 15. Wed. & Fri. 9:30-11am. Gibbs Gym, Tufts St. Arl. Indoor gym time for ages 15 mos-3 yrs. with parent. Drop-in for \$5/visit or purchase a punch ticket at Arl. Rec Office (422 Summer St.) for \$45/10 visits.

### **Arlington Rec. Dept.**

Offers a number of programs for children: skating, indoor gym playtime, cooking classes, arts & crafts, gymnastics, sports. [www.town.arlington.ma.us/Public\\_Documents/ArlingtonMA\\_Recreation/index](http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/Public_Documents/ArlingtonMA_Recreation/index)

### **Artbeat Weekend Workshops**

Saturday drop-in program from 3-6pm. Different themed craft each week, focusing on world cultures. \$10-20/ project. Ages 4 & up. 212-A Mass Ave., Arl. 781-646-2200, [www.artbeatonline.com](http://www.artbeatonline.com)

### **Capitol Theater Movies for caregivers with babies**

Mon., new movie chosen weekly starting between 1-2pm, \$4.50/ adult. Nursing, bottle feeding, fussing, changing diapers are never frowned upon. 204 Mass Ave., Arl. 781-648-6022. [www.somervilletheatreonline.com](http://www.somervilletheatreonline.com)

### **Isis Maternity**

Programs and products for expecting parents, babies and toddlers. Infant CPR training. **AFC membership discount: 1<sup>st</sup> month free.** [www.isismaternity.com](http://www.isismaternity.com)

### **Kindermusik**

Music and movement classes for parents and children ages 0-7. Refer to Website for class locations. 800-628-5687, [www.kindermusik.com](http://www.kindermusik.com)

### **MommaStroll**

Thursdays 8:30-9:30am. Meet other moms for brisk walking, simple stretching. Sign-in at Isis Maternity at 8:15am. \$4.50/ members; \$5/non-members. [www.isismaternity.com](http://www.isismaternity.com)

## **Indoor Play Spaces**

### **Bedford Family Connection Playroom**

Mon. – Fri. 9:30-11:30am. First Parish Church, 75 Great Rd., Bedford. Members: \$.50/ child; non-memb.: \$2/child. 781-275-5231, <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/rlcww/BFC.htm>

### **Belmont KidSpace**

Mon & Thu., 1-5pm, Fri. 5-8pm, Sat. 9am-noon; 2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday of the month, 2-5pm. Payson Park Church, 365 Belmont St., Bel. Parent-run cooperative for ages 5 and under. Membership, \$45/family/season. Single first-time visit, \$10. Donna Ruvolo, 617-489-5446; [www.belmontkidspace.org](http://www.belmontkidspace.org).

### **Gymnastics Academy of Boston**

Open Gym Mon.-Fri. 11:30am -1 pm; drop-in and explore. \$5/member; \$8/non-memb. 617-441-9700, [www.gymnasticacademy.com](http://www.gymnasticacademy.com)

### **UPDATED! LPPTA WinterFun**

Lexington Preschool PTA's drop-in arts and crafts program for ages 5 and under. Alternate Weds. during the school year, 9:30-11 am, Bowman School cafeteria, 9 Philip Rd., Lex. \$2/child. Wendy Bertsekas, 781-862-1298, [wkbert@mac.com](mailto:wkbert@mac.com). [www.lppta.org](http://www.lppta.org). Dec. 6: Making winter holiday decorations.

### **Winterpark**

Fri, 9:30-11 am; Waldorf School, 739 Mass Ave., Lex.; ages 0-3. Drop-in parent/child playgroup. \$5-\$10 donation. 781-863-1062. [www.thewaldorfschool.org/home/home.asp](http://www.thewaldorfschool.org/home/home.asp)

### **Winchester Rec. Playtime**

Thu, 9:30-11 am, (except Nov. 23). Mystic School, 263 Main St., Win. 9 mos-4 years. \$5/family. Drop-in playtime, games & toys provided. 781-721-7125.

### **TumbleKids Open Gym**

Fri. 12:30-2pm, Winchester & Waltham locations. \$10/child. Classes also offered for add'l fee. 201 Arl. St., Watertown, 617-926-2640 and 38 River St., Winchester, 781-721-1144. [www.tumblekidsusa.com/](http://www.tumblekidsusa.com/)

### **Kids Playground**

15 Normac Rd, Woburn. Indoor playground with play space, tubes & tunnels, mini golf. 781-935-2300, [www.kidsplayground.com](http://www.kidsplayground.com)

### **Perpetual Motion**

345 Chelmsford St., Lowell. (Off Rt. 3). Indoor playground for kids 6 & under. 978-452-0777, [www.perpetualmotioninc.com](http://www.perpetualmotioninc.com)

## **Beyond Arlington**

### **Puppet Showplace Theatre**

Sat. & Sun., 1 & 3pm shows; Wed. & Thurs. 10:30am show. 32 Station St., Brookline. Recommended for age 3 & up. Age appropriateness varies per show. \$7.50/ members, \$9.50/non-members. 617-731-6400, [www.puppetshowplace.org](http://www.puppetshowplace.org)

### **Babes in the Woods**

Tues. 10am. Middlesex Fells. Strolls & hikes through the park. Free. 781-396-8994, [www.fells.org](http://www.fells.org)

### **Home Depot Kid's Workshop**

First Sat. of the month. 10am-12pm. Home Depot, 10 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., Waltham. Drop-in build-it-yourself project. Ages 2 & up, with an adult. 781-672-0900.

### **Play Academy**

25 Riverside Ave., Medford. Offers classes for infants to age 5; drop-off program. 781-738-PLAY, [www.play-academy.com/](http://www.play-academy.com/)

### **Pre-school movies**

Tuesdays, 10:30am. Cary Mem. Library, 1874 Mass. Ave., Lex. Drop-in movies for ages 2-6. Free. 781-862-6288, [www.caryllibrary.org](http://www.caryllibrary.org)

## **Local Attractions**

### **Boston Children's Museum**

300 Congress St., Boston. Open daily. Hands-on approach to history, science, etc.; toddler PlaySpace. [www.bostonkids.org](http://www.bostonkids.org).

### **Children's Discovery Museum**

177 Main St., Acton. Victorian house with transformed into 10 hands-on exhibit areas. Ages 6 & under. Check Website for special programs. \$8, Free/under 1. 978-264-4200, [www.discoverymuseums.org](http://www.discoverymuseums.org)

### **Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary**

208 S. Great Rd, Lincoln. Explore the fields, forest and farmyard. Weekly programs for kids. Closed non-holiday Mon. Members free, \$6/Non-memb. adult, \$4/Non-memb. ages 3-12. 781-259-2200, [www.massaudubon.org](http://www.massaudubon.org)

### **Ecotarium**

222 Harrington Way, Worcester. Monthly family preschool programs. Members free, \$8/Non-member adult, \$6/Non-member ages 3-18. Explorer Express Train ride, \$2.50/person. 508-929-2700, [www.ecotarium.org](http://www.ecotarium.org)

### **Habitat Wildlife Sanctuary**

10 Juniper Rd, Belmont. Trails wind through forests, across meadows, around 2 ponds, wetlands. Programs for kids. Members free, \$4/non-memb. adult, \$3/non-memb. child. 617-489-5050, [www.massaudubon.org](http://www.massaudubon.org)

### **Harvard Museum of Natural History**

26 Oxford St, Cambridge. Wide array of stuffed animals in the mammal exhibit. 40ft dinosaur replica. \$7.50/adult, \$5/ages 3-18. *Note: Free 3-5pm Weds. from Sept. –May and every Sun. 9am-noon.* 617-495-3045, [www.hmn.harvard.edu](http://www.hmn.harvard.edu)

### **Museum of Fine Arts**

465 Huntington Ave., Boston. Family Place, for families with children 4 and up, interactive art activities. Wed-Fri, 3-4:45 pm; Sat-Sun, 11 am-4 pm. 617-267-9300. [www.mfa.org](http://www.mfa.org)

### **Museum of Science**

Science Park, Boston. Open daily. Hands-on Discovery Zone, with Children's Gallery for those 5 and under. 617-723-2500. [www.mos.org](http://www.mos.org)

### **National Heritage Museum**

33 Marrett Rd., Rt. 2A, Lex. Great monthly programs including storytimes with crafts. 781-861-6559, [www.monh.org](http://www.monh.org)

### **New England Aquarium**

Central Wharf, Boston. Open daily Aqua Kids Family Days for young children on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays; various Preschool Explorer programs. 617-973-5200. [www.neaq.org](http://www.neaq.org)

### **Stone Zoo**

149 Pond St., Stoneham. Small zoo, with a petting barnyard, playground, lots of animal exhibits. \$7.50/Adult, \$4.50/Ages 2-12. 781-438-5100, [www.zoonewengland.com](http://www.zoonewengland.com)

### **UPDATED! Take a Walk at Gore Place**

52 Gore St., Waltham. Mon. - Fri. 11am- 3pm. (Closed Mon. Dec. 25). **Winter Schedule begins Tues, Dec. 26, Mon – Fri, 10am to 3pm (closed Mon., Jan. 1)** Visit llama, sheep, goats, chickens ,rabbits. Rent an "activity pack" with activities appropriate for children ages 4-9. Children's snowshoes available for rental when weather permits. Backpack rental, \$5. 781-894-2798 [www.goreplace.org](http://www.goreplace.org)

## **Seminars & Open Houses**

### **Arlington Heights Nursery School**

Sat., Dec. 2, 10-11:30 am; 127 Lowell St., Arl. Visit classrooms, meet staff, learn about the school's upcoming move & new space. Children welcome. Call to register. 781-646-8499.

### **Getting Ready for Kindergarten**

Wed, Dec. 8 (Snow date, Thu, Dec. 7), 7 – 8:45 p.m., Stratton School, 180 Mountain Ave., Arl. Arlington public schools, Join in a discussion on the issues families face as children enter kindergarten. Reps from Arlington Public Schools and the Early Childhood Community will present information to

assist parents in supporting their child's transition, along with details regarding registration.

### **Effective Parenting**

Groups forming now. Workshop designed for parents of children 0-3. Explore different parenting topics each week. \$140/person, \$180/couple. Melissa Lucius, 781-641-4284, [parenting@rcn.com](mailto:parenting@rcn.com) or [www.effective-parenting.org](http://www.effective-parenting.org)

## **Benefits**

### **Kans for Kids**

Sat. Dec. 2, 10 am –1 pm Recreation Office, 422 Summer St., Arl. Donate clean returnable bottles and cans to benefit Arl. rec. youth activities. 781-316-3880.

### **PTO Thrift Shop for Arl. Public Schools**

Wed. 4-8 p.m., Thurs. 9:30 a.m. -1 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of the month 12:30-5 p.m. (Closed Dec. 15 until late January) Basement of the Fox Library. Gently-used clothing for all ages, toys, books, housewares, more. 781-483-3433, [www.ptothriftshop.com](http://www.ptothriftshop.com)

## **Groups**

### **40-something Moms Group**

For moms of babies and/or young kids (moms-to-be welcome). Led by a licensed therapist with a specialty in women's issues, and an older mom herself. Meets monthly in North Cambridge. \$25/meeting. Suzan Wolpow, 617 441-0758 or [yourclearvoice@msn.com](mailto:yourclearvoice@msn.com)

### **UPDATED! Arl. Area Adoption Moms**

Thu, Dec, 21, 7:30 pm, Robbins Library conference room. Open to all adoptive mothers in Arlington and nearby communities. Rachel Silverman, 781-641-2947, [rachelannathome@yahoo.com](mailto:rachelannathome@yahoo.com).

### **New Mothers' Group**

Tues. 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Sunrise Senior Living, 24 Mall Road, Burl. Sponsored by the Parent Connection of BIDMC. Free. 8 week sessions. 617-667-2229.

### **Belmont Food Allergy & Asthma Support Group**

Parents group meets monthly to discuss and advocate for children living with food allergies and asthma. Theresa Normile, 617-489-6668, [Tnormile@foodallergyfacts.com](mailto:Tnormile@foodallergyfacts.com)

### **Breastfeeding Drop-in Group**

Thurs. 1pm. Isis Maternity, Free. For nursing moms and babies. Staffed by certified lactation consultant. [www.isismaternity.com](http://www.isismaternity.com)

### **Drop-in Playgroups**

Non-mobile babies – Thurs., 3:30pm  
Mobile babies – Weds, 3:30pm  
Isis Maternity, Free for Isis members, \$5/non-members. [www.isismaternity.com](http://www.isismaternity.com) (Please note, new days; same times.)

### **Grandparents' Support Group**

Second Tues. of the month, 12-1:30pm. For grandparents who are primary caretakers of their grandchildren. Free, sponsored by the Town of Arl. 781-316-3410.

### **La Leche League**

An int'l, nonprofit, org. dedicated to providing education, info. and support to breastfeeding women. Arl. meetings at Fox Library at 7:30 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. of ea. month. One morning meeting is held in Camb. on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. of the month at 10 a.m., 175 Harvey St., Cambridge. Free. Heather 781-648-2988, <http://home.comcast.net/~jrsladkey/III/index.html>  
For listing of Mass. Leagues, [www.llusa.org/MARIVT/Massachusetts.html](http://www.llusa.org/MARIVT/Massachusetts.html)

### **Learn & Play Adoption Group**

1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of month, 10-11:30am. Sept.–June. Community Agencies Bldg., Emerson Hosp., 111 Old Rd. to 9 Acre Corner, Concord. For parents and adopted children 0 - 5 yrs. Facilitated by First Connections. Registration requested. \$30. 978-287-0221, [www.jri.org/cfys/](http://www.jri.org/cfys/)

### **New Mom's Drop-in Group**

Every other Tues, 11 a.m. (Contact store for specific dates) Henry Bear's Park, 685 Mass Ave., Arl. Free drop-in group for new mothers with infants. 617-547-8424. [customercare@henrybear.com](mailto:customercare@henrybear.com)

### **New Moms Group**

Wednesdays, 11am. Beaver Brook Pediatrics, 411 Waverly Oaks Rd., Waltham. Free sessions run for 5 weeks. 781-891-3706.

### **New Mothers' Drop-in Group**

Fri. 10-11:30am, Calvary United Methodist Church, 300 Mass Ave., Arl. Free, nonsectarian, facilitated group. Sponsored by Jewish Family & Children's Svcs. 617-558-1278.

### **Older First-Time Moms**

Third Wed. of ea. month, 7 p.m. Fox Library. Social and support group for first-time moms in their late 30's and 40's. Free. \$1 donation suggested. 781-674-2029.

**Arlington Family Connection**  
**P.O. Box 150**  
**Arlington, MA 02476**

**December, 2006**

## AFC Membership/Renewal Form

**New member**  **Renewal** Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

**Newsletter Delivery Preference:**

US Mail  Email  Both

**Would you like to get occasional AFC email?**

Yes  No, please send the newsletter only

**Please list your child(ren):** (if applicable)

Name Gender Date of Birth (mo/year)

**School District:**

(circle one for geographic location)

Bishop Brackett Dallin Hardy

Peirce Stratton Thompson Out-of-Town

**Volunteer and Activity Interests**

(check all that apply)

Events/Parties  New Parent Outreach  
 Newsletter  Outings with Kids  Playgroups  
 Outings without Kids  Seminars  Web Site  
 Email Bulletin  Childcare & Preschool Options  
 Publicity  Membership  Working Moms  
 Community Service  Kindergarten Connections  
 Treasurer/Clerk  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Would you like to be contacted about volunteering?**

Yes  No

**Membership Fees:** All memberships renew in September, 2007.

Please circle the month you are joining:

\$20 (August/September/October)  
\$15 (November/December/January)  
\$10 (February/March/April)  
\$5 (May/June/July)

Please mail membership form and check to:

Arlington Family Connection  
P.O. Box 150  
Arlington, MA 02476