



# Arlington Family Connection

supporting children six and under and those who care for them

Volume VI, Issue 5 • August 2007

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



Cutie pie from last year's pizza party

## August 10, 5:30-7:30pm Parallel Playground, Medford Street AFC's Annual Pizza Party!

Come meet other AFC members and chow down on some free pizza at our 6<sup>th</sup> annual "Pizza at the Playground" event, Friday August 10 from 5:30-7:30pm (rain date August 12). The party will be held at Parallel Playground, at the corner of Medford Street and Mystic Valley Parkway, near the Medford rotary.

AFC will bring pizza and lemonade, plus juice, freeze pops, and watermelon...you bring picnic blankets and the kids! AFC members may also bring family and friends, and anyone interested in exploring what AFC has to offer. This is a good opportunity to join AFC or to renew memberships.

This year's pizza party will also feature a special thank you treat to recognize all the members who have volunteered their time in the last year.

All are welcome – members and non-members. RSVPs are requested (but not required) for an approximate head count.

Please email Jessie Keating by August 7 at [events@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:events@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org) or 617-460-9200.

## Renew AFC Memberships Now!

August is AFC membership renewal time! All memberships begin in September so now is the time to renew your membership to make sure you receive next month's newsletter. We don't want you to miss out on all the great resources and activities AFC has to offer, so please renew now!

### Become an AFC Sponsor Member

We have a new level of membership called "sponsor." For \$25 you will enjoy the usual benefits of membership plus you will be making a \$5 donation to help support new AFC programs. Please consider becoming a sponsor member today!

### How to Renew

Please take a moment to complete the membership form included with this newsletter. You can also print out a membership form to mail from the AFC website: [www.arlingtonfamilyconnection.org/membership](http://www.arlingtonfamilyconnection.org/membership)

Mail the form, along with your check for \$20 (or \$25 for a sponsor membership) to:

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

Alternatively, you can renew memberships in person at the AFC Pizza Party on August 10, and at the AFC booth at Arlington Town Day on September 8.

If you have any questions, please email [membership@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:membership@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org), or call Leah at 781-316-2848.

Thank you for renewing your membership and continuing to support AFC. We wouldn't be able to provide resources for families in and around the Arlington community without your commitment as members. Enjoy the summer and we look forward to seeing many of you at the August 10 pizza party!

## Join the Baby Buggy Brigade

Join other AFC moms and babies for a weekly buggy brigade down the bike path. The walks take place Thursday mornings at 11am. (Rain or shine!) We will walk from Magnolia Field Playground (Magnolia St. and Herbert St., East Arlington) to Carberry's and back, on the bike path (about 3.5-4 miles round-trip). You're welcome to join or leave us at any point on the walk! Open to all AFC members, people thinking of joining the AFC, new parents who want to meet other new parents, or families who just want to get some exercise and adult conversation! Bring your friends! Jessie, 617-460-9200, [events@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:events@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)



## Kindergarten Connections: Upcoming Events

AFC's Kindergarten Connections playdates for soon-to-be kindergarteners will continue throughout August and into early September. Come out to meet other kindergarten families and make new friends! Additional events will be listed in upcoming newsletters and e-bulletins:

### Bishop

Contact: Anne Murray, [anne.dwight@verizon.net](mailto:anne.dwight@verizon.net) 781-643-6483

### Brackett

Sun. Aug. 12: 12-2pm, Menotomy Rocks Park Playground  
Mon. Aug. 27: 5-7pm, Brackett Playground  
Fri. Sept. 7: 5-7pm, Robbins Farm Playground (Family Potluck Picnic)

Contact: Paula Kirtley, [paula@spiffy.com](mailto:paula@spiffy.com), 781-643-4229

### Dallin

Tues. Aug. 14: 4:30-6pm, Dallin School Kind. Playground  
Mon. Aug. 20: 3-5pm, Dallin School Kind. Playground

Contact: Julia Carpenter-Conlin, 781-648-0639, [bradjulialucy@rcn.com](mailto:bradjulialucy@rcn.com)

### Hardy

Contact: Jennifer Lewis, [jennifer\\_lewisforbes@yahoo.com](mailto:jennifer_lewisforbes@yahoo.com) or Lisa Charles, [lisa.charles@comcast.net](mailto:lisa.charles@comcast.net)

### Peirce

Fri. Aug. 10: 5-7pm, Res. Beach. Bring dinner if you like.  
Sat. Aug. 18, 10am-noon, Peirce playground  
(Please note: event previously scheduled for Wed. Aug. 29, 10am-noon, has been cancelled.)

Fri. Sept. 7, 5-7pm, Peirce playground (Family potluck picnic)

Contact: Helene Ragovin James, 781-648-4863, [kinderconnect@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:kinderconnect@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

### Stratton

Sun., Aug. 12: 3-5pm, Stratton School Playground  
Tues., Aug. 21: 5-7pm, Stratton School Playground  
Fri., Sept. 7, 5-7pm, Stratton School Playground (Family Potluck Picnic)

Contact: Susan Ryan-Vollmar, [susan@susanryanvollmar.com](mailto:susan@susanryanvollmar.com); 617-331-0369 (cell)

### Thompson

Thurs, Aug. 2: 3-5pm, Reservoir beach on Lowell St.  
Sat. Aug. 25: 10am-noon, Thompson Playground  
Fri., Sept. 7: 5-7pm, Thompson Playground (Family Potluck Picnic)

Contact: Sarah Huber, [parkesarah@verizon.net](mailto:parkesarah@verizon.net); 781-643-7804

### Homeschoolers

Tuesday Aug. 7: 3:30pm, Gibbon's Park

Contact: Kristina Russell, [ktina5@hotmail.com](mailto:ktina5@hotmail.com); 310-806-1358

**General Information:** Helene Ragovin James, [kinderconnect@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:kinderconnect@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

## AFC Directory

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

**AFC Playtime** - Sarah Albers  
[playgroup@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:playgroup@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Book Club** - Trish Richardson

**Clerk** - Margit Griffith

**Community Service** - Lauren Boyle  
[community@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:community@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

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

**Events** - Jessie Keating  
[events@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:events@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Kindergarten Connections** - Helene Ragovin  
[kinderconnect@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:kinderconnect@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

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

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

**Newsletter Calendar** - Aimee Linker and Louise Friel  
[calendar@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:calendar@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Options in Childcare & Preschool booklet** - 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** - Seth Maislin  
[webmaster@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:webmaster@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Working Moms** - Melanie Cooke and Su Joun  
[workingmoms@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:workingmoms@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

**Editorial policy:** The Arlington Family Connection (AFC) newsletter is published monthly and is free with membership. Published articles reflect the views of the respective authors and do not necessarily represent the views of AFC. Childcare, healthcare and legal information is provided for informational purposes only. It is not intended as a substitute for medical or professional advice. Always consult your own healthcare provider for any decisions relating to your child's well being. Copyright remains with the individual author for bylined articles. All other materials are copyright Arlington Family Connection, 2007. Permission is granted to reproduce articles for which copyright is held by AFC provided appropriate credit is given and no fee is charged. The AFC newsletter accepts submissions from AFC members on issues relevant to families with children six and under. The editorial board reserves the right to refuse submissions for any reason. Send editorial submissions to:  
[newsletter@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:newsletter@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org); calendar listings to [calendar@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:calendar@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

# Thank You to AFC's Volunteers

As an all-volunteer organization, AFC relies on the time, commitment, and energy of its volunteers. It takes many people to organize and run all of the events and activities AFC offers throughout the year.

Below is a list of people and organizations who volunteered with AFC over the past year. (Our apologies if anyone was overlooked.) Volunteers, look for a special thank you gift at the Pizza Party on August 10! See page 1 for party details. If you can't make it to the party, you'll still be able to collect your gift.

## AFC 2006-2007 Volunteers

Alkim Akyurtlu  
Sarah Albers  
Arlington Enrichment Collaborative  
Lauren Boyle  
Andrea Canty  
Julia Carpenter-Conlin  
Kristin Chalmers  
Glenda Ciampa  
Wendy Clarke  
Eileen Coleman  
Sonya Coleman  
Katie Collelo  
Caren Connell  
Patti Conty  
Melanie Cooke  
Maura Crowley  
Joanne Cullinane  
Sally DiAngelis  
Cathy DiFinzo  
Annette Donnelly  
Carrie Finison  
Aimee Fox  
Kristen Garrigus  
Nuria Gine-Nokes  
Robin Goldstein  
Elizabeth Goodsell  
Margit Griffith  
Linda Hansen  
Teri Heard Ralbovsky

Jeanne Hobbie  
Kim Holt  
Sarah Huber  
Maureen Igoe  
Isis Maternity  
Elizabeth Iwasaki  
Su Joun  
Kate Kapstad  
Jessie Keating  
Ruth Kirby  
Paula Kirtley  
Betsy Lawson  
Sarah Lawson  
Aimee Linker  
Colleen Love  
Julie Lucey  
Melissa Lucius  
Seth Maislin  
Stephanie Marlin-Curiel  
Louise Messiqua Friel  
Sarah Mongague  
Sandra Mostajo  
Carrie Murphy  
Cynthia Murray  
Anne Murray  
Leah Nelson  
Elizabeth Oakes  
Susan Olsen  
Shanthy Patnaik

Erica Payne  
Allison Perkins  
Charlotte Pierce  
Mary Beth Porreca  
Helene Ragovin James  
Emily Randall  
Erik Reardon  
Debra Reardon  
Cindy Revelle  
Trish Richardson  
Kristina Russell  
Susan Ryan-Vollmar  
Molly Sanford  
Ruth Schmidt  
Stephen Scott  
Sarah Short  
Amy Speare  
Jenny Stewart  
Kristen Strechay  
Maf Terry  
Martina Vanha  
Carolynn Vincent  
Kati Vives  
Lydia Volatis  
Mary Wagner  
Ashley Waring  
Amy Weitzman  
Johanna Wilson-White

## AFC Volunteers Pitching in...



From left to right: Caren Connell, Paula Kirtley, Ruth Schmidt, Leah Nelson, Debra Reardon, Sarah Short, Amy Speare

# Local Events & Activities – August

For even more resources refer to [www.arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](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.  
[www.town.arlington.ma.us/Public\\_Documents/ArlingtonMA\\_Recr\\_eation/index](http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/Public_Documents/ArlingtonMA_Recr_eation/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.  
[www.robbinslibrary.org/html/fox.htm](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

### Thoroughly Modern Millie

Arlington Children's Theater's summer musical at the Regent Theatre, Aug. 3-11  
**Fri.** Aug. 3, 7pm **Weds.** Aug. 8, 7pm  
**Sat.** Aug. 4, 7pm **Thurs.** Aug. 9, 10:30am  
**Sun.** Aug. 5, 2pm **Fri.** Aug. 10, 7pm  
**Tues.** Aug. 7, 10:30am **Sat.** Aug. 11, 2pm  
Tickets \$12. [www.regenttheatre.com](http://www.regenttheatre.com)

### Davis Farmland Weekend Fun

145 Redstone Hill, Sterling  
**Aug. 4&5**, Clowns- juggling, balloon twisting, and magic, performances by Flippo the Clown  
**Aug. 18&19**, Kindermusik- sing-a-longs and music making with Pam Espinosa  
**Aug. 25&26**, Rainforest Reptiles- lizards, turtles, 'gators, and snakes

### The MagaMaze also returns this month!

Farm: 978-422-6666, Maze: 978-422-8888 or [www.davisfarmland.com](http://www.davisfarmland.com)

### Animal Ambassadors

Mon. Aug. 6, 10am, Garden in the Woods, 180 Hemenway Rd. Framingham, Join Marcia Wilson and her six visiting owls to learn about New England Owls and take a hooting lesson. \$4/member, \$5/nonmember, Info: 508-877-7630 or [www.newenglandwild.org](http://www.newenglandwild.org)

### Zoo New England Animals: What Makes a Bird a Bird?

Weds. Aug. 8, 10am, Cary Mem. Library, 1874 Mass. Ave. Lex. This live animal presentation lets children use their knowledge to distinguish birds from other types of animals. Ages 3-5 yrs. Event occurs in the storytime room. Space is limited. Free tickets are available now in the children's room. Info: 781-862-6288 or [www.carylibrary.org](http://www.carylibrary.org).

### Summer Carnival

Thurs. Aug. 9, 1-3pm, Sports Center, 422 Summer St. Arl. Games, Prizes, Refreshments, Food, and Fun. Attractions will include:

moonwalk, race car driving, and entertainment. Tickets purchased at the door. Info: 781-316-3880

### Shakespeare in the Park

Sun. Aug. 12, 5-7pm, Robbins Farm Park, Eastern Ave. (across from the Brackett School)  
Bring a picnic to the New England Shakespeare Company's "The Comedie of Errors", Free, family-friendly performance, Info: 781-648-6220 or [www.acarts.org](http://www.acarts.org).

### Bring-A-Bear Picnic

Weds. Aug. 15, 10:30am, Lawn across Clarke St. from Cary Library, 1874 Mass. Ave. Lex. Storytime and picnic. Teddy bear crackers and juice provided, just bring your teddy! (rain location- meeting room of the library) Info: 781-862-6288 or [www.carylibrary.org](http://www.carylibrary.org).

### Corn and Tomato Festival

Sat. & Sun. Aug. 18-19, 12-4pm, Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Rd., Concord. Over 30 varieties of these vegetables, Tastings and samples of dishes prepared in the farmstand kitchen. Entertainment will include: Pinehill Ramblers playing bluegrass, Lil Folk Farm petting area, Giddy Up Ponies, & hayrides. \$6/person, Info: 978-369-4494 or [www.verrillfarm.com](http://www.verrillfarm.com).

### Cambridge Carnival

Sun. Aug. 26, Kendall Sq.  
A Caribbean-style carnival that includes wire-bending, costumes, masks, music, steelpan, street-parades, dancing, food, and craft exhibits. Info: [www.cambridgecarnival.com](http://www.cambridgecarnival.com)

### Meadow Madness Festival

Sun, Aug. 26, noon-4pm, Garden in the Woods, 180 Hemenway Rd. Framingham, Take a butterfly walk, see live honeybee hives, go on a scavenger hunt, and look for costumed characters. Free with admission, \$7/adult, \$3/children 6-18, \$5/seniors and students, members and children under 5 yrs. are free, 508-877-7630 or [www.newenglandwild.org](http://www.newenglandwild.org)

### Family Ice-Cream Social

Mon. Aug. 27, 3pm, Lawn across Clarke St. from Cary Library 1874 Mass. Ave. Lex. Come celebrate the end of summer with ice-cream and friends. Info: 781-862-6288 or [www.carylibrary.org](http://www.carylibrary.org)

### Full Moon Tours at Gore Place

Fri. Aug. 31, 7pm, 52 Gore St., Waltham Join a guide dressed in period costume as he/she explains life in the mansion with a labor theme. \$12/adult, \$8/children 5-12yrs., Info. 781-894-2798 ext.12 or [www.goreplace.org](http://www.goreplace.org).

### Summer in the City

The Cambridge Arts Council presents a lively mix of dance, song, storytelling, theatre, and puppetry for children in Cambridge public parks. Free. All shows are at 11am unless otherwise noted. Refer to Web site for locations (rain locations also provided).  
Thurs. Aug. 2, **Black Bear Moon**  
Thurs. Aug. 9, **Folk Tales East and West by Boston Citystage**, Fri. Aug. 10, **7pm, Joao Marcos & Friends: Music from Brazil**, Mon. Aug. 13, **35th Parallel**  
Tues. Aug. 14, **Karen Ravenelle- Bloom**  
Info: 617-349-4380 or [http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/CAC/community\\_summer.html](http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/CAC/community_summer.html)

### Outdoor Music Series

**Fridays, noon-1pm**, Harborwalk (in front of the Boston Children's Museum), This concert series showcases a range of American music, from Latin rhythms to the Blues. The concerts take place rain or shine. **Free** Ages 2yrs.+,  
**Aug. 3**, Greek Music- Damien Stefanides & Anthony Pentikis, **Aug. 10**, Mark Erelli  
**Aug. 17**, Synergy Brass Quintet  
**Aug. 24**, Latin rhythms with Los Sugar Kings  
**Aug. 31**, Folk harmonies with Niels  
Info: [www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org](http://www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org)

## Sing-alongs & Music

### **Mondays**

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

11am. Stellabella Toys, 1967 Mass. Ave., Camb., Porter Sq. Sing-along, play games Free For more information call 617-864-6290

### **Saturdays**

11am. Stellabella Toys, 1360 Cambridge St. Inman Sq.. Camb. Sing songs, play games Free 617-491-6290

### **Robbins Library**

The following concerts occur on the Robbins House Lawn; so bring a blanket and a picnic!  
**Aug. 7, Tues. 10:30am, Liz Buchanan**  
**Aug. 9, Thurs. 6pm, Ben Rudnick & Friends** (rain date; Aug. 16) Info: 781-316-3234 or [www.robbinslibrary.org](http://www.robbinslibrary.org).

### **Sing and Play Open Mike Nights**

**Aug. 2, Thurs. 6:30pm, Robbins Library**  
**Aug. 29, Weds. 7pm, Fox Library**  
Come sing or play your instrument! For all children alone or accompanied by adults. Bring your own keyboard. Info: 781-316-3234 or [www.robbinslibrary.org](http://www.robbinslibrary.org).

## Storytimes and Library Programs

### **“Catch the Beat” Summer Reading**

**Program** at Robbins and Fox libraries Now-Aug.31, Even the youngest readers can participate by being read to by parents and caregivers. Return your charts to the library by Sept. 7 to claim your prizes. Info: 781-316-3234 or [www.robbinslibrary.org](http://www.robbinslibrary.org).

### **Charlotte's Website**

**Aug. 2, Thurs. 2pm, Robbins Library**  
A performance by Kidstock for children ages 3yrs. and up with audience participation. Info: 781-316-3234 or [www.robbinslibrary.org](http://www.robbinslibrary.org).

### **Fox Musical Movie Nights**

Wednesdays. 6:30pm., Fox Library  
**Aug. 1, The Wizard of Oz**  
**Aug. 8, Annie**  
**Aug. 15, Singing in the Rain**  
Info: 781-316-3234 or [www.robbinslibrary.org](http://www.robbinslibrary.org).

### **Creative Movement Workshops**

Mondays, 10am, Robbins Library, Music, props to explore, and fun exercises. Ages 18 months-3½ yrs. with a parent or caregiver, Registration required, Info: 781-316-3234 or [www.robbinslibrary.org](http://www.robbinslibrary.org).

### **3 Apples Storytelling Festival Preview**

Weds, Aug. 15, 2:30pm, Robbins Library Free tickets available the day of this event beginning at 9am, Ages PreK- Grade 4, Info: 781-316-3234 or [www.robbinslibrary.org](http://www.robbinslibrary.org)

### **Ballet Theatre Story Time**

Thurs. Aug. 16, 2:30pm, Robbins Library Enjoy the story of Bella Basset Ballerina followed by fun movement exercises with

creative dance teacher Alice Hunter. Ages 4-8 781-316-3234 or [www.robbinslibrary.org](http://www.robbinslibrary.org)

### **Concord Museum Story Hour**

Fri. Aug. 10, 1pm. Concord Museum, 200 Lexington Rd., Concord. For ages 3-5 years; adult/child program, \$5/pair, members, \$8/pair, nonmembers. Story this month, “Kasey at the Bat” by Ernest L. Thayer. Activity and snack registration required Info: 978-369-9763. [www.concordmuseum.org](http://www.concordmuseum.org).

### **Barefoot Books**

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

### **Barnes & Noble**

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

### **Harvard Coop**

Tues. & Sat. 11am. 1400 Mass. Ave. Camb. Preschool story hour with snack and craft, Free 617-499-2000 or <http://harvardbkstore.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**

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

### **Pottery Barn Kids**

Tues. 10am. Burlington Mall. Free. Info: 781-221-5833

### **Starbucks, Arlington Center**

Weds. 9:30-10:30am. 327 Broadway, Free. Call 781-641-2893

## Other Arlington Fun Stuff

### **Adoptive Family Gym Mixer**

Mon, 9:30-11am. Together in Motion, 1 Broadway, Arl. \$5/child. For families with children 0-6.years. Call 781-643-1377. [www.togetherinmotion.com](http://www.togetherinmotion.com)

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

July 16-Aug. 10, “Young at Art” week-long classes for ages 4-5. Themed art activity per week. Morning (9-12) or afternoon (1-4) classes. \$130/members or \$150/non-members All day option \$270/members or \$310/non-members. Registration required. Call 781-648-6220 or visit [www.acarts.org](http://www.acarts.org).

### **Arlington Recreation Dept.**

Offers great summer toddler programs (0-5 yrs). 781-316-3880 or [www.arlingtonma.gov](http://www.arlingtonma.gov).

### **Artbeat Weekend Workshops**

Saturdays, 3-6pm, 212A Mass. Ave, Arl. Free instruction, pay for materials, Ages 4yrs+  
**Aug. 4:** Suminagashi (Japanese Marbling)  
**Aug. 11:** Elephant Wall Hanging  
**Aug. 18:** Tribal Masks

**Aug. 25:** Window Stars

Info: 781-646-2200, [www.artbeatonline.com](http://www.artbeatonline.com).

### **Capitol Theater Movies for Caregivers with Babies**

Mondays. 204 Mass. Ave. Arl. Begin between 1-2pm. New movies chosen weekly. \$5/adult Nursing, bottle feeding, fussing, changing diapers are never frowned upon. Info: 781-648-6022, [www.somervilletheatreonline.com](http://www.somervilletheatreonline.com).

### **Isis Maternity**

Programs and products for expecting and new parents. **AFC member discount-1<sup>st</sup> month free.** [www.isismaternity.com](http://www.isismaternity.com).

### **Mom and Me Pilates**

Thurs. 9:15am. Atelier Pilates, Union Sq., Som. 5-class cards for \$75, 6<sup>th</sup> class free. Drop-in for \$19. Registration required, Call Megan Berry 617-718-0237 or visit [megan@mommanet.com](http://megan@mommanet.com).

### **MommaStroll**

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

### **Music Together**

Explore what music sounds like, looks like, and feels like. Call 781-648-4084 or visit [www.musictogetherofarlington.com](http://www.musictogetherofarlington.com)

### **Puddlestompers Playgroup**

Tues. 10 or 10:30am. Meets at various playgrounds and will go on a few fieldtrips throughout the summer. Call 781-641-3792 or contact Susan to be placed on the email list. [susandorson@gmail.com](mailto:susandorson@gmail.com)

### **Reservoir Beach**

10am-8pm. Lowell St., Arl. Call 781-316-3880 or visit [www.arlingtonma.gov](http://www.arlingtonma.gov).

### **Together in Motion**

1 Broadway, E. Arl. Drop-in play space with 3 areas for: crawlers, open play; organized game. Ages 0-6. Mon-Fri 1:30-5pm; Mon, 11am-12:30pm; Wed, 9:30am-noon; Sat&Sun, 9-11am. \$7/ages 1-6; \$5, 6-12 mos; under 6 mos, free with playing sibling. Also, Friday Pizza & Play, 5-7pm. Martial Arts Sampler for ages 4-6, Tumble & Twist, Mon. & Thurs. 5:15pm. for ages 4-6yrs and Thurs. 11:30am. for ages 3-4yrs. Call 781-643-1377. or visit [www.togetherinmotion.com](http://www.togetherinmotion.com)

### **Thompson Spray Pool**

9am-7pm. Lussiano Park next to Thompson School, 60 N. Union St. Free, weather permitting. No bathroom. Call 781-316-3880 or [recoffice@town.arlingtonma.us](mailto:recoffice@town.arlingtonma.us)

## Indoor Playspaces

### **Gymnastics Academy of Boston**

Open gym Mon.-Fri. 11:30am-1pm. Drop-in and explore. \$5/members, \$8/non-members Info: 617-441-9700 or [www.gymnasticacademy.com](http://www.gymnasticacademy.com).

### **TumbleKids Open Gym**

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

### **Kids Playground**

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

### **Perpetual Motion**

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

## **Beyond Arlington**

### **Puppet Showplace Theatre**

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

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

1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of the month, 10am-noon, 10 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., Waltham. Drop-in build-it-yourself project, Ages 2+ with an adult. Call 781-672-0900

### **Play Academy**

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

### **Pre-school Movies**

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

## **Local Attractions**

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

300 Congress St., Boston. Open daily. Hands-on history, science, etc.; toddler PlaySpace. New, expanded exhibits, including 3-story climbing structure. [www.bostonkids.org](http://www.bostonkids.org).

### **Butterfly Place**

120 Tyngsboro Rd., Westford. Open daily, (through Columbus Day), 10am-5pm. Large, warm atrium with some 500 butterflies representing species from all over the world. \$9/adult; \$6/child 3-12; under 3 free. 978-392-0955. [www.butterflyplace-ma.com](http://www.butterflyplace-ma.com)

### **Codman Community Farm**

58 Codman Rd, Lincoln. Open Tues-Sun, 9am-6pm. \$1/non-members. Non-profit, historic working farm that produces hay, meat, eggs and other products. See the animals and learn about agriculture. Pick-and-pay flower garden. 781-259-0456. [www.codmanfarm.org](http://www.codmanfarm.org)

### **Chip-In Farm**

201 Hartwell Rd, Bedford. Open daily, 10am-6pm. Small family-owned farm with free petting zoo. Store with fresh eggs and penny-candy counter. 781-275-2545. [www.chip-infarm.com](http://www.chip-infarm.com)

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

177 Main St., Acton. Victorian house 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)

### **Concord Museum**

200 Lexington Rd, Concord. Open daily. \$8/adults, children under 6 free. Historical, literary, artistic treasures of the area. Monthly storytimes and children's programs. (978) 369-9763. [www.concordmuseum.org](http://www.concordmuseum.org)

### **Davis Farmland**

145 Redstone Hill, Sterling. Open daily 9:30am-5pm, weather permitting. Meet barnyard animals and learn how a farm works. \$12.95/ages 2 and up; free under 2. 978-422-6666. [www.davisfarmland.com](http://www.davisfarmland.com)

### **Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary**

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

### **Ecotarium**

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

### **Garden in the Woods**

Daily 9am-7pm, 180 Hemenway Rd, Framingham, Garden-wide exhibit, "Art goes Wild: Innovation with Native Plants" Free parking, Tours included with admission (weekdays at 10am and weekends at 2pm) \$7/person, seniors & students \$5, children 6-18yrs \$3, members & children under 5 yrs. free 508-877-7630 or [www.newenglandwild.org](http://www.newenglandwild.org)

### **Habitat Wildlife Sanctuary**

10 Juniper Rd, Belmont. Trails wind through forests, across meadows, around 2 ponds, wetlands. Programs for kids. Members free. Non-members \$4/adult, \$3/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. Free every Sun. 9am-noon. 617-495-3045, [www.hmn.harvard.edu](http://www.hmn.harvard.edu)

### **Institute of Contemporary Art**

100 Northern Ave., Boston. Free Family Fun Playdates, last Saturday of every month, 10am-4pm. Program and admission free to adults accompanied by child 12 and under. 617-478-3234. [www.icaboston.org](http://www.icaboston.org)

### **Memorial Drive Sundays**

Memorial Drive, Cambridge closed every Sunday for the season 11am-7pm. Take a stroll, or go biking or rollerblading. Info: [www.mass.gov/dcr/driveUpdates.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dcr/driveUpdates.htm).

### **Museum of Fine Arts**

465 Huntington Ave., Boston. Family Place, for families with children 4 and up, interactive

art activities. Wed-Fri, 3-4:45pm; Sat-Sun, 11am-4pm. 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 5 and under. 617-723-2500. [www.mos.org](http://www.mos.org)

### **National Heritage Museum**

33 Marrett Rd., Rt. 2A, Lex. Monthly programs including storytimes & crafts. Open daily. Free. 781-861-6559, [www.monh.org](http://www.monh.org)

### **New England Aquarium Central Wharf,**

Boston. Open daily. \$17.95/adult, \$9.95/children ages 3-11, free for children under 3. 617-973-5200. [www.neaq.org](http://www.neaq.org)

### **Southwicks Zoo**

2 Southwick St, (off Rt. 16), Mendon. \$16.75/adults; \$12.75/ages 3-12; under age 2, free. WGBH & AAA discounts. Open daily, 10am-5pm. Animals & birds, shows, kiddie rides, animal rides (ponies, camels, elephants). 800-258-9182 or [www.southwickszoo.com](http://www.southwickszoo.com) .

### **Stone Zoo**

149 Pond St., Stoneham. Small zoo, with a petting barnyard, playground and many animal exhibits. \$8/Adult, \$5/ages 2-12, under age 2, free. 781-438-5100, [www.zoonewengland.com](http://www.zoonewengland.com).

### **Swan Boats in the Boston Public Garden**

Daily 10am-4pm (weather permitting). \$2.75/adult, \$1.25/child (2-15) Info at 617-522-1966 or [www.swanboats.com](http://www.swanboats.com).

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

52 Gore St., Waltham. Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm; Sat & Sun, noon-3pm. Visit llama, sheep, goats, chickens, rabbits. Rent an "activity pack" for children ages 3-9yrs. Backpack rental, \$5. Info: 781-894-2798 [www.goreplace.org](http://www.goreplace.org)

### **Wilson Farms**

10 Pleasant St., Lex. Open daily, except Tues. Free small petting zoo. Extensive produce market/specialty grocery and gardening supplies. Seasonal events. 781-862-3900. [www.wilsonfarm.com](http://www.wilsonfarm.com) .

## **Seminars and Open Houses**

### **Effective Parenting**

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

## **Benefits**

### **PTO Thrift Shop**

Benefits Arlington Public Schools  
175 Mass. Ave. Basement of the Fox Library  
Hours: **Closed sometime after Aug. 11 & will reopen on Sept. 8** Call for details, Weds. 4-8pm., Thurs. 9:30am-1pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of the month 12:30-5pm. Gently-used clothing for all ages, toys, books, housewares, and more. Info: 781-483-3433 or [www.ptothriftshop.com](http://www.ptothriftshop.com).

*Continued on page 8*

# AFC in Action

## Summer Highlights

### Decordova Sculpture Park Outing



### Lowell Spinners Game



### Baby Buggy Brigade



### Drop in Playgroup



## August AFC Events

### AFC Steering Comm. Meeting Thursday, Aug. 2

**7:30pm.** Open to all members. Arl. Enrichment Collaborative, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl. 1100 Mass. Ave. Amy, 781-646-5417, [info@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:info@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

### AFC Baby Buggy Brigade Thursday, Aug. 2, 9, 17, 24, 31

**11am** (rain or shine). Meets at Magnolia Field Playground (Magnolia St. and Herbert St., E. Arl.) We'll walk to Carberry's and back on the bike path (about 3.5-4 miles round-trip). Join or leave us at any point! Jessie, 617-460-9200, [events@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:events@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)



### AFC Drop-in Playgroup Tuesday, Aug. 7

**3:30-5pm.** Fox Library Comm. Rm., Arl. First Tues. of month. Drop-in anytime. Perfect for non-mobile babies! A great place for caregivers to get to know each other without having to chase their kids around! Ages 0-4. Free. Sandra 781-859-5050, [playgroup@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:playgroup@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

### AFC Outing: Arlington Reservoir Thursday, Aug. 9

**10am** (rain date Aug. 10). Lowell Rd., Arl. Come cool off at Arlington's own beach! We'll meet under the tree near the shallow area. \$5/person (under 1 free). Eileen, 617-620-1772, [outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)



### AFC's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Pizza Party Friday, Aug. 10

**5:30-7:30pm** (rain date Aug. 12). Parallel Playground (corner of Medford St. and Mystic Valley Pkwy.). AFC will provide **FREE** pizza and more for members, families and friends and anyone interested in exploring what AFC has to offer.



This is also a good opportunity to renew memberships - all memberships renew in Sept. for \$20 a year. RSVP (requested, but not required) with number who plan to attend to Jessie at 617-460-9200, [events@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:events@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

### AFC Playground Fun: Haskell St. Playground, Cambridge Tuesday, Aug. 14

**10am** (rain date Aug. 16). Haskell St, Cambridge (off of Rindge Ave.). Come meet other AFC families in this ongoing series of monthly playground fun and discover this large, shaded, and fully fenced playground. Bring a bathing suit to play in the sprinkler area! Martina 781-316-8433, [outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

### AFC Games Day Tuesday, Aug. 21

**3:30-5pm.** Isis Maternity, 397 Mass. Ave., Arl. Come spend the afternoon in cool air conditioning playing games like Elefun, Candyland, Twister, puzzles, and more. Ages 2 & up. Amy 781-646-5417, [outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)



## Renew AFC Memberships Now!

All memberships expire at the end of August. Don't miss a month of AFC activities and the newsletter – renew today! Use the enclosed form to renew. Questions? Email [membership@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org](mailto:membership@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org), or call Leah at 781-316-2848.

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

**August, 2007**

*(Local Activities, continued from page 6)*

**'Helping the Earth' Bake Sale**

Sat. Aug. 4, 2-4:30pm, 303 Gray St. (corner of Gray & School St.) Face painting, lemonade, yard sale items, Proceeds to benefit Mass. Audubon and the Natural Resources Defense Council, sale created by 3 children who are AFC alums, 781-648-1445 or 781-648-2820

**Groups**

**40-something Mom's Group**

Ongoing monthly discussion and support group for moms of babies and/or young kids. 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 visit [www.yourclearvoice.com](http://www.yourclearvoice.com).

**Arlington Area Adoption Moms**

Aug. 8 & 30, 7:30pm, Arlington Town Hall Annex, Academy Street (directly behind Town Hall, 730 Mass Ave.) Contact Rachel Silverman, 781-641-2947 or [rachelannathorne@yahoo.com](mailto:rachelannathorne@yahoo.com).

**New Mother's Group**

Tues. 11:30am-1pm. Temple Isaiah, 55 Lincoln St, Lexington. Sponsored by the Parent Connection of BIDMC. Free 8 week sessions. Registration required. Call 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. Contact Theresa Normile at 617-489-6668 or visit [Tnormile@foodallergyfacts.com](mailto:Tnormile@foodallergyfacts.com).

**Breastfeeding Drop-in Group**

Thurs. 3pm. Isis Maternity. Free For nursing mom's and babies. Staffed by certified lactation consultant. [www.isismaternity.com](http://www.isismaternity.com).

**Drop-in Playgroup**

Isis Maternity  
Non-mobile babies: Thurs. 1:45pm.  
Mobile babies: Fri. 3:30pm.  
Free for Isis members, \$5 for non-members [www.isismaternity.com](http://www.isismaternity.com).

**Grandparents' Support Group**

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

**La Leche League**

Dedicated to providing education, information, and support to breastfeeding women. Meetings in basement of Fox Library on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. of each month at 7:30pm, or 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. of the month at 10am in Cambridge (175 Harvey St.). Free. Call Heather, 781-648-2988 or visit

[home.comcast.net/~jrsladkey/III/index.html](http://home.comcast.net/~jrsladkey/III/index.html).

**We Are Family**

3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. of the month, 7pm-9pm. Community Agencies bldg., Emerson Hospital, 111 Old Rd. to 9-Acre Corner, Concord. Support group for parents of older (3+ yrs) internationally adopted children or children previously in DSS custody. Info: 978-287-0221 or [www.jri.org/cfys/](http://www.jri.org/cfys/)

**New Mothers' Drop-in Group**

For mothers with children under 1. Fri. 10-11:30am. Calvary Methodist Church, 300 Mass. Ave., Arl. Free, non-sectarian, facilitated group. Sponsored by Jewish Family & Children's Svcs. 617-558-1278

**Older First -Time Moms**

3<sup>rd</sup> Weds. of each month, 7pm. Fox Library, Social and support group for first-time moms in their late 30's and 40's. Free. Suggested \$1 donation. 781-674-2029.

**Spanish Playgroup**

An Arlington-based group of parents has formed a Spanish language playgroup. The age range is 1-8 yrs old, and Spanish skill ranges from beginner to bilingual. Most families have one parent who speaks some Spanish. To get on the mailing list, contact Deb Savage at [debsavagejuno.com](mailto:debsavagejuno.com)