



Arlington Family Connection

supporting children six and under and those who care for them

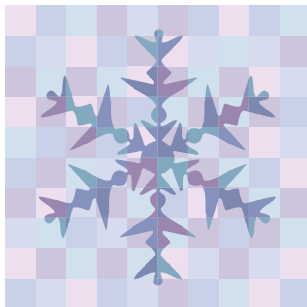
Volume VIII, Issue 9 • December 2009

www.arlingtonfamilyconnection.org

Wednesday, December 16, 10–11:30am Together in Motion, 1 Broadway, Arlington Holiday Sing-Along and Benefit

Join AFC and Heather Mansfield, director of Music Together of Arlington, for a sing-along celebrating snow, wintertime, and winter holidays. There will be time for free play after the singing.

In lieu of an entrance fee, please bring a donation for The Children's Room. The Children's Room is a non-profit organization in Arlington that provides free support services to children, teens and families who have experienced a death in the family. Their services include support groups, providing information about resources, and running workshops and trainings for those who work with grieving children.



The Children's Room depends on donations from individuals, corporations and foundations to be able to offer these important programs. If you would like to donate an item rather than money, their wish list includes blank journals, any kind of craft paper, sculpey clay, and glitter glue. Check out their website for further information: childrensroom.org.

Information: Liz Katzman at
community@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org.

Ideas for Charitable Giving

During the upcoming giving season, please consider giving within our own community. Whether you can give money, items (clothing, toys), or your time, help is always appreciated and helps to build a stronger community. Here are a few ideas for giving in Arlington.

- **Arlington Food Pantry** accepts food donations every Friday from 1 to 3pm. They also accept monetary donations. Visit the website for a list of suggested food items. There are also volunteer opportunities available. www.arlingtonma.gov/Public_Documents/ArlingtonMA_HServe/pantry/index
- **Robbins Library** accepts book donations brought to the Reference desk (one bag at a time). You can also make a monetary donation by check or online. Or, become a Friend of the Robbins Library and help with the ongoing book sale and plan for programs and events. www.robbslibrary.org/giving/friends
- **Little Fox Resale Shop** accepts children's clothing, toys, books, DVDs, equipment, and maternity clothes. All proceeds benefit the Fox library, where the shop is located. They are always looking for volunteers. www.littlefoxshop.com/donations
- **Germaine Lawrence** is a school providing residential treatment to troubled adolescent girls. It accepts monetary donations, gift certificates, and clothing, school supplies, and beauty products. It also has a mentoring program for volunteers. www.germainelawrence.org/help/index.html
- **The Children's Room** provides free bereavement support to children, teens, and families. They accept monetary donations online as well as gift cards from local restaurants and stores, blank journals, sculpey clay, board games, and books. They are also looking for volunteers. www.childrensroom.org/donate

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- **Arlington Enrichment Collaborative** provides afterschool activities for middle school children. They accept donations online.
www.arlingtonenrichment.org/b_a_mission.htm
- **Housing Corporation of Arlington** provides and advocates for affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families. They accept monetary donations and are looking for volunteers.
www.housingcorporationofarlington.org/html/donations.html

**Thursday, January 14, 7–8:30pm
(snow date: January 21)
Bishop School, 25 Columbia Rd., Arl.
Lecture Presentation: The
Transition from Preschool to
Kindergarten**

Reprinted from the Arlington Public Schools website

[This talk will be] a frank and informative discussion regarding the issues families face as their children enter kindergarten for the first time. Representatives from the Arlington Public Schools will present information and strategies to assist parents in supporting their child's transition from the home to the school setting. Information about the NYAEC accredited programs in the Arlington Public Schools will be presented along with details regarding the registration process.

Give the Gift of AFC!

An Arlington Family Connection membership makes a great gift for a new baby, new neighbor, or new friend! See the back page of this newsletter for a membership form, or visit www.arlingtonfamilyconnection.org to print out a form

AFC Directory

General Information – Glendalys Gandhi, 781-316-8676
info@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org

AFC Playtime – Glendalys Gandhi
playtime@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org

Book Group – Shannon LeMay-Finn and Michael Schneider
bookgroup@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org

Clerk – Eileen Coleman

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Working Moms – Su Joun and Sara Wilkinson
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 for bylined articles remains with the individual author. All other materials are ©2009 Arlington Family Connection. 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. Send editorial submissions to newsletter@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org; calendar listings to calendar@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org

Wednesday, December 2, 7:30pm Robbins Library, Lower Level Community Room Join Us For AFC's Monthly Meeting!

AFC's monthly planning meetings are always open to all members. Bring your ideas and feedback – or just come to get to know other parents of young children in Arlington.

Information: Glendalys at (781) 316-8676 or
info@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org

AFC in Action

November Highlights



Skating Party



Habitat Outing

December AFC Events

With the exception of the Dad's Book Group, AFC's other book groups are filled to capacity. If you are interested in starting another group, please contact Karen at outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org or 781-643-0773.

Big Joe the Story Teller

Tuesday, December 1

3:30 – 4:15 pm. Fox Library, Fox Community Room, 175 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington. Hailed as “one of the best in the business” by the Boston Globe, Big Joe has been delighting children and families for many years with his exciting storytelling show. With a huge collection of original and classic tales as well as a box filled with puppets, props, and surprises, we’re sure to be entertained. If you love stories, you will love the unique and wonderful experience of seeing Big Joe the Storyteller! Cost is \$3 per child, up to \$5 per family. Karen (781) 643-0773 or outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org

Dad's Book Group

Wednesday, December 2

7:30 pm. Starbucks, Arlington Center. The title of this month's book is *The Four Agreements* by Don Miguel Ruiz. Come even if you don't have a chance to read the book, and bring suggestions for the next month's book. Contact Mike with any questions at (781) 643-6391 or mikesch@alum.mit.edu

Monthly Planning Meeting

Wednesday, December 2

7:30 pm. Robbins Library, Lower Level Community Room, 700 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington. All members, feedback and ideas welcome! Information: (781) 316-8676 or info@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org

AFC Holiday Craft

Tuesday, December 3

3:30 – 5:00 pm. Fox Library, Fox Community Room, 175 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington. Drop in anytime from 3:30 - 5 to make a holiday craft. We'll have bead snowflakes for the 2 plus crowd as well as seasonal foam stickers (please be watchful because there will be small pieces). Cost is \$2 for each participating child. Contact Julie at (781) 316-8554 or outings@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org

AFC Holiday Sing Along

Wednesday, December 16

10:00 – 11:30 am. Together in Motion, 1 Broadway, Arlington. Join us for a sing-along led by Heather Mansfield, Director of Music Together of Arlington. In lieu of an entrance fee, please bring a donation for The Children's Room, a non-profit organization in Arlington that provides free support services to children, teens and families who have experienced a death in their family. See page 1 for details. Information: Liz Katzman at community@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org.

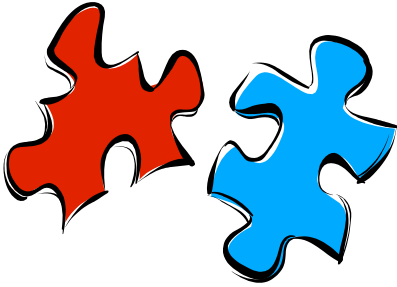
Working Moms' Group

Wednesday, December 16

7:30 pm. Isis Maternity, 387 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington Center. Meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Over 40 percent of AFC moms are juggling both careers and families. Get together with other working moms—new and experienced! Please RSVP to workingmoms@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org

Puzzle Swap Raises over \$100 for Fox Library

Thanks to all who attended AFC's Children's Puzzle Swap on November 18. The swap raised over \$100 for the Fox library. In addition, close to 50 leftover puzzles were donated to the Little Fox shop, so if you missed the swap but still want puzzles, check out what is available in the shop. Thank you to all the AFC and shop volunteers who helped organize and run the swap.



Use AFC's E-bulletin to Start or Join a Playgroup

It's playgroup time again!

We have a lot of new members now—many of whom have indicated their interest in joining a playgroup.

This is how it works:

If you are interested in forming a playgroup—or welcoming some new faces to your existing playgroup—we invite you to send a request to post in the e-bulletin. We will publish them in a special "Playgroups" edition e-bulletin, to be published in January.

Playgroups generally rotate their meetings around members' homes or public spaces such as playgrounds.

Please write up your playgroup listing/request describing:

- your children's ages
- best days/times to meet
- any other information you may deem important in forming your playgroup, for example....

- school district
- boy/girl
- special needs
- older parents

- gay / lesbian
- twins
- adopted children
- stay-at-home dads / moms
- nanny / Au pair
- grandparents
- bilingual
- any special notes on location

Don't forget to include your contact information.

Email your listing to

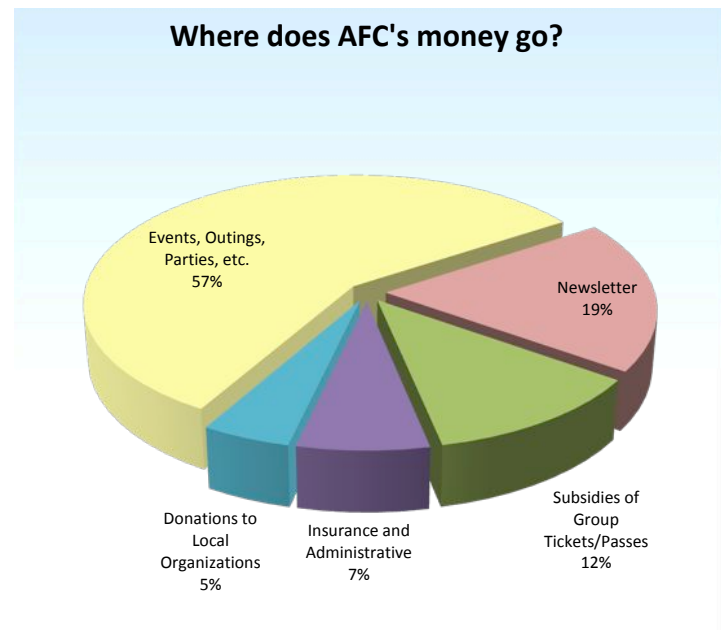
bulletinboard@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org no later than December 15.

What happens after I receive the e-bulletin?

When you receive the Playgroups e-Bulletin, it will be up to you to contact and follow-up with families who seem "compatible". AFC simply provides the vehicle to assist you in making connections.

AFC: Where Your Membership Money Goes

Have you ever wondered just what your AFC membership fee is used for? We've prepared the chart below to let our members know how we spend our money, which includes membership fees and any fees earned from AFC-sponsored parties, performances, etc. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at treasurer@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org.



Weekly Winter Activities at a Glance November 2009

Most activities occur weekly (unless otherwise noted). Refer to the monthly AFC calendar for details. Activities are free unless otherwise noted (\$).

Robbins and Fox Libraries—Daily activities, with dates subject to change. Please refer to monthly AFC newsletter, or visit the library website: <http://www.robbinslibrary.org/>

	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Sing-a-longs	11am Stellabella Toys, Inman Sq. <i>Cambridge</i>		11am Stellabella Toys, <i>Porter Sq. Cambridge</i>	10am Robbins Library 11am Henry Bear's Park, <i>Porter Sq., Cambridge</i>	3pm Finagle a Bagel, <i>Burlington</i>	10am Fox Library 11am Stellabella Toys, <i>Porter Sq. Cambridge</i> Cary Library <i>Lexington</i> 10:30am (16-24mths) 11:15am (25-30mths)	
Storytelling	10:30am Barefoot Books, <i>Cambridge</i>		Robbins Library 10:00am Wiggle Worms (1½-2½yrs) 11am Kangaroo Kids (2½+yrs)	10am Fox Library (2+yrs.) 10:30am Barnes & Noble, <i>Burlington</i> 11am Pottery Barn Kids, <i>Burlington Mall</i> 11am Harvard Coop, <i>Cambridge</i> 2 pm Cary Library, <i>Lexington</i>	10 am Robbins Library (3-5 yrs.) 10:30am Cary Library, (2½yrs) <i>Lexington</i> 11am Porter Sq. Books, <i>Cambridge</i>	11am Henry Bear's Park, <i>Arlington</i>	10:30am Barefoot Books, <i>Cambridge</i> 6:30 pm Barnes & Noble, <i>Burlington</i>
Playtime	9am-12pm Belmont KidSpace (\$), <i>Belmont</i> 9:30am-5:30pm , Perpetual Motion (\$), <i>Lowell</i> 10am-8pm Inside Playground (\$), <i>Watertown</i>	9am-1:45pm Klubhouse (\$), <i>Woburn</i> 9:30am-5:30pm , Perpetual Motion (\$), <i>Lowell</i> 10am-8pm Inside Playground (\$), <i>Watertown</i> 11:30am-1pm Gymnastics Academy of Boston (\$), <i>Cambridge</i> 12:30-2pm TumbleKids (\$), <i>Winchester</i> 2-5pm Belmont KidSpace, (2 nd & 4 th Sun. of month) \$, <i>Belmont</i>	8am-8pm Inside Playground (\$), <i>Watertown</i> 9am-3:45pm Klubhouse (\$), <i>Woburn</i> 9:30am-11:30am Bedford Family Connection (BFC) Playroom (\$), <i>Bedford</i> 9:30am-5:30pm , Perpetual Motion (\$), <i>Lowell</i> 11:30am -1pm Gymnastics Academy of Boston (\$), <i>Cambridge</i> 12-1:30pm , TumbleKids (\$), <i>Winchester</i> 2-6:30pm Belmont KidSpace. (\$), <i>Belmont</i> 3-5pm Together in Motion (\$), <i>Arlington</i> 3:30-4:30pm , ISIS Maternity, (\$ non members), <i>Arlington</i> (mobile babies to 3)	8am-8pm Inside Playground (\$), <i>Watertown</i> 9am-3:45pm Klubhouse (\$), <i>Woburn</i> 9:30-11:30am BFC Playroom (\$), <i>Bedford</i> 9:30am-5:30pm , Perpetual Motion (\$), <i>Lowell</i> 11:15am-12:45pm Together in Motion (0-24mths) (\$) 11:30am -1pm Gymnastics Academy of Boston (\$), <i>Cambridge</i> 12-1:30pm , TumbleKids (\$), <i>Winchester</i> 2-6:30pm Belmont KidSpace. (\$), <i>Belmont</i> 3-5pm Together in Motion (\$), <i>Arlington</i>	9:30-11am Tots & Twos, Gibbs Gym (\$), <i>Arlington</i> 10-11am Puddlestompers, (0-3yrs) 8am-8pm Inside Playground (\$), <i>Watertown</i> 9am-3:45pm Klubhouse (\$), <i>Woburn</i> 9:30-11:30am BFC Playroom (\$), <i>Bedford</i> 9:30am-5:30pm , Perpetual Motion (\$), <i>Lowell</i> 11:30am-1pm Gymnastics Academy of Boston (\$), <i>Cambridge</i> 2-6:30pm Belmont KidSpace. (\$), <i>Belmont</i> 3-5pm Together in Motion (\$), <i>Arlington</i>	8am-8pm Inside Playground (\$), <i>Watertown</i> 9:30-11:30am BFC Playroom (\$), <i>Bedford</i> 9am-3:45pm Klubhouse (\$), <i>Woburn</i> 9:30am Baby Lap Time, Cary Library, <i>Lexington</i> 9:30-11am Drop-in Playtime, <i>Winchester</i> (\$) 9:30am-7:30pm , Perpetual Motion (\$), <i>Lowell</i> 10:30am-12 TumbleKids (\$) <i>Winchester</i> 11:30am-1pm Gymnastics Academy of Boston (\$), <i>Cambridge</i> 1-5:30pm Belmont KidSpace (\$), <i>Belmont</i> 1:45-2:45pm ISIS Maternity (\$ non members), <i>Arlington</i> (non mobile babies) 3-5pm Together in Motion (\$)	9:30-11am Tots & Twos, Gibbs Gym (\$) 9:30-11am Parent & Tots, Arl. Boys & Girls Club, (donation \$) 9:30 or 10:30am Fidelity House, Drop-in (\$) 8am-8pm Inside Playground (\$), <i>Watertown</i> 9am-3:45pm Klubhouse (\$), <i>Woburn</i> 9:30-11:30am BFC Playroom (\$), <i>Bedford</i> 9:30-11:30am LexFUN! Drop-in Center, Lex. (\$) 9:30am-7:30pm , Perpetual Motion (\$), <i>Lowell</i> 11:30am-1pm Gymnastics Academy of Boston (\$), <i>Cambridge</i> 12-1:30pm Waldorf Park @ Waldorf School, <i>Lexington</i> (\$) 12:30-2pm TumbleKids (\$) <i>Winchester</i> & <i>Watertown</i> 5-8pm Belmont KidSpace (\$), <i>Belmont</i>
Misc.	10:30am Regent Theater Family Fun Series (\$) 4-5:50pm Public Skating, Arl. Memorial Rink (\$)	9:30-11:30am; 2- 4 pm - Public Skating – Arl. Memorial Rink (\$)	Starts 1-2pm Capitol Theater Movie w/ Babies (\$) 12-1:50pm Public Skating, Arl. Memorial Rink (\$)	10:30am – Pre-school Movies (2-6yrs), Cary Library, <i>Lexington</i> 10:30-11:15am - Parent & Child Drop-in Swim, Arl. Boys & Girls Club \$		9-11am –Public Skating, Arl. Memorial Rink (\$)	5:30pm or 6:15pm – Family Drop-in Swim, Arl. Boys & Girls Club (\$) 11am-1pm; 2:30- 4:30pm; 7-9 pm - Public Skating – Arl. Memorial Rink (\$)

(Please report any inaccuracies to calendar@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org)

Addresses of Weekly Activities

Sing a longs & Story Times	Barefoot Books	2067 Massachusetts Ave # 24, Cambridge – (617) 576-0660
	Barnes and Noble	98 Middlesex Pkwy, Burlington – (781) 273-3871
	Cary Library	1874 Massachusetts Ave, Lexington – (781) 862-6288
	Fox Library	175 Massachusetts Ave, Arlington – (781) 316-3198
	Harvard Coop	1400 Mass. Avenue, Cambridge – (617) 499-2000
	Henry Bear’s Park	Arlington: 685 Mass Ave, (781) 646-9400. Porter Sq: Porter Sq. Shopping Center, Cambridge – (617) 547-
	Porter Square Books	Porter Square shopping center, 25 White Street, Cambridge – (617) 491-2220
	Pottery Barn Kids	Burlington Mall – (781) 221-5833
	Robbins Library	700 Mass Ave, Arlington – (781) 316-3200
	Stellabella Toys	Inman Sq.: 1360 Cambridge St, (617) 491-6290. Porter Sq: 1697 Mass Ave, (617) 864-6290
Playtime	Arlington Boys & Girls Club	60 Pond Ln, Arlington – (781) 648-6586
	Bedford Family Connection	First Parish Church, 75 Great Rd, Bedford
	Belmont Kidspace	Payson Park Church, 365 Belmont St, Belmont
	Fidelity House	25 Medford St., Arlington – (781) 648-2005
	Gibbs Gym	50 Tuft St, Arlington
	Gym. Academy of Boston	128 Smith Place, Cambridge – (617) 441-9700
	ISIS Maternity	397 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington – (781) 429-1500
	LexFUN!	Kennedy Hall, St. Brigid Church, 2001 Mass Ave, Lexington – (781) 862-6965 (contact is Julie)
	Puddlestompers – Fox Library	Email puddlestompers@jenjordi.org to register
	Together in Motion	1 Broadway, Arlington - (781) 643-1377
	Tumblekids	38 River St, Winchester – (781) 721-1144
	Waldorf Park	Waldorf School, 739 Mass Ave, Lexington – (781) 863-1062
Miscellaneous	Arlington Boys & Girls Club	60 Pond Ln, Arlington – (781) 648-6586
	Capitol Theater and Regent Theater	Capital Theater: 204 Mass Ave, Arl (781) 648-4340/ Regent Theater: 7 Medford St., Arl (781) 646-4849
	Cary Library	1874 Massachusetts Ave, Lexington – (781) 862-6288
	Skating Rink	422 Summer St., Arlington – (781) 316-3880

Local Events & Activities – December

For even more resources refer to www.arlingtonfamilyconnection.org

Arlington Venues

Arlington Boys & Girls Club, 60 Pond Lane (Pleasant St. to Wellington St.). 781-648-1617. 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_Recration/index

Fidelity House, 25 Medford St. 781-648-2005.
www.fidelityhouse.org

Fox Branch Library, 175 Mass. Ave. (East Arlington, at Cleveland St.). 781-316-3198.
<http://www.robbsinlibrary.org/about/fox-branch>

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

Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St. 781-646-4849.
www.regenttheatre.com

Robbins Library, 700 Mass. Ave. (near Pleasant St./Rt. 60). 781-316-3234. www.robbsinlibrary.org

Together in Motion, 1 Broadway, at Route 16. 781-643-1377.
www.togetherinmotion.com

Special Events

Holiday Fairs & Shopping Events

Arlington First Lights

Sat. Dec. 5, 12-4pm, Enjoy activities and special promotions occurring along Mass. Ave. Info: www.ShopArlingtonFirst.com or call 781-643-4600.

Bowman Annual Craft Fair

Dec. 2, 5:30-8:30pm, Bowman School, 9 Philips Road, Lex. Shop for the holidays from the amazing creations of the multi-talented teachers, staff, parents and friends of Bowman. Jewelry, fused glass objects, ceramics, puppets, belts & bags, knitwear, painted glassware, doll clothes & more! Bring the kids, eat dinner and enjoy music. Small fee for kids' craft & gingerbread cookie decorating. Info: 781-572-1803.

Boston Tree Lighting Ceremony

Dec. 3, 6-8pm, Boston Common, Attend Boston's official tree lighting ceremony during a holiday sing-along. Trees throughout the common and public garden will be lit. Info: 617-635-4505.

Christkindlmarkt

Sat. Dec. 5, 12-5pm, German International School Boston, 57 Holton St. Allston, Enjoy German fare, baked goods, hot mulled wine, holiday gifts & crafts, children's activities, raffle, choir & theater performances, pictures with Santa, Info: 617-783-2600 or www.gisbos.org

Christmas Tree Sale

Begins Dec. 5, 9-8pm daily, Clubhouse at 60 Pond Lane, A large selection of beautiful trees will be on display as well as an assortment of plain & decorated wreaths are available. Info: 781-648-1617 or www.abgclub.org

Craft Fair at Robbins Library

Sat., Dec. 5. 2-4pm. Children, come and show off and sell your best creations just in time for the holidays. Jewelry, pottery, paintings, what-have-you? \$5 pricing limit.

Holiday Fair at the Waldorf School

Sat. Dec.5, 10-4pm, 739 Mass. Ave. Lex. Mummers play, marionette show, singers & musicians, blacksmithing & pot throwing, children's crafts & games, face painting, candle dipping, lunch and dessert café, Forty artisans will display their wares, Angel Room shopping for little ones, \$5/adult, \$3/child, \$15/family, Info: 781-863-1062 or www.thewaldorfschool.org

Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting in Concord

Sun. Dec. 6, 4:45-6:00pm, Concord Center, Enjoy the holiday parade with Santa arriving by fire engine, special choral music, gift collection for the Concord-Carlisle Community Chest, and the tree lighting in Monument Square. Info: www.concordchamberofcommerce.org

Santa at the Burlington Mall

Until Dec. 24, 75 Middlesex Turnpike (off 128/I-95 exit 32B) For Santa's hours and other info: 781-272-8667 or www.shopatburlington.com

Santa at the Concord Museum

Sat. Dec. 5, 10am-12pm. Meet Santa and enjoy some seasonal activities. \$25/child, free for members and their children. Reservations suggested. Info: Info: 978-369-9763 or www.concordmuseum.org

Santa at Verrill Farm

Sat. Dec. 5, 3-5pm, 11 Wheeler Rd. Concord, Visit with Santa and hear live music by Two For The Show. Info: 978-369-4494 or www.verrillfarm.com

Holiday Exhibits and Events

Family Trees at the Concord Museum

Dec. 4-Jan. 3, 200 Lexington Rd. Concord, Come see the galleries filled with fanciful trees decorated with original ornaments inspired by acclaimed children's books and contemporary picture book favorites. **Mon.-Sat.** 11-4pm, **Sun.** 1-4pm. Nonmembers: \$15/adult, \$10/seniors & students, \$6/children 4yrs-8yrs Members free. suggested donation, (All proceeds fund educational programs) Info: 978-369-9763 or www.concordmuseum.org

Polar Express/Journey to the North Pole

Dec. 5. Departs from the Newburyport Commuter Rail Station, Includes a wonderful train ride, a sea of elves, and Santa. Trains depart at **11:25am, 1:15pm, 3:15pm, 5:30pm, & 7:30pm.** \$25 each, under 1yr/free. Info: www.icspolarexpress.com

Children's Tea with Santa

Dec. 5 & 19 at 10:30am, Gore Place, 52 Gore Street, Waltham. Enjoy a 3 tiered tea in the mansion while Santa reads a story, leads a sing a long and hands out presents. \$30/person. Reservations required. Info: 781-894-2798 or www.goreplace.org.

Holiday Tot Party

Fri. Dec. 11, 10:00am, Arl. Boys & Girls Club, 60 Pond Lane, includes a sing-a-long & age appropriate crafts. Santa will be available for pictures, but you must bring your own camera. Info: 781-648-1617 or www.abgclub.org

A Polar Bear's Journey

Dec. 12, 13, 19, 20, Ecotarium, 222 Harrington Way, Worcester. Listen as Santa reads The Polar Express. He then sends you to ride the Explorer Express Train to the Ecotarium's North Pole to meet Kenda the polar bear. Have cocoa and cookies while you ride! **Trains at 12:30pm, 1:30pm, & 2:30pm.** \$6 + museum admission or \$5/member, Info: 508-929-2700 or www.ecotarium.org

Zoolights

Thanksgiving- Dec. 30, 5-9pm, Stone Zoo, 149 Pond St. Stoneham, Visit Santa (through Dec.23) and a magical holiday world filled with fairy tale characters and dancing plush animals. Walk tree lined paths lit by thousands of twinkling lights. \$5/person, under 2yrs/free, Santa photos and carousel rides cost extra. Info: 781-438-5100 or www.zoonewengland.com.

Winter Wonderland

Dec. 13 at 2pm, Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St. Cambridge. The Velveteen Rabbit and other Tales Celebrate the holiday season with this special program that weaves together classic stories and music. In this interactive program, children become conductors, singers, active listeners and even “drumming” partners with George. \$10/adult, \$5/students and seniors. Tickets: www.MKTix.com Info: 617-876-0956 or www.longy.edu

Nutcracker performances (classic)

José Mateo's Ballet Theatre performs Dec. 4-6, 11-13, 18-20 at Brandeis Theater. Info and tickets: www.brandeis.edu/btc

Boston Ballet performs through Dec. 27 at Boston Opera House. Info and tickets: www.bostonballet.org

Dance Place performs Dec. 13 at 6pm and Dec. 12 at Chevalier Theater, Medford. Info and tickets: www.chevaliertheatre.com

The Walnut Hill School, Dec. 8-13 in Natick. Info and tickets: www.walnuthillarts.org.

Nutcracker performance (contemporary)

The Urban Nutcracker performs Dec 4 -20 in Jamaica Plain. Info and tickets: www.balletrox.org.

First Night, Boston

Dec. 31, 12pm-midnight, See music, dance, theater, visual arts, film & more at over 40 indoor & outdoor venues throughout downtown Boston. Attractions include: a family festival featuring interactive activities for all ages, giant ice sculptures, fireworks, and a Mardi-Gras style parade through the streets. Buttons are \$15/person, under 4yrs/free Info: 617-542-1399 or www.firstnight.org

Musical, Theater and other Performances

Meet classic book characters at the Concord Museum

Dec. 5 & 6 – Olivia

Dec. 12 & 13 – Nate the Great

Dec. 19 & 20 – Frog and Toad

Dec. 26 & 27 – Max

Jan 2 & 3 – Madeline

At 1:30pm and 2:30pm each day. Info: 978-369-9763 or www.concordmuseum.org

David Polansky in Concert

Sun., Dec. 6, 3-5pm, Karem Shalom, 659 Elm St, Concord. \$8/person, \$25 max/family.

Info: www.keremshalom.org.

Family Fun Saturdays

Dec. 4 & 5 – Legacy Dancers Annual Holiday Spectacular!

Dec. 12 – Ben Rudnick & Friends Holiday Extravaganza

For information on the individual shows, show times, ticket prices and purchase visit: www.regenttheatre.com or call 781-646-4849

Puppet Showplace and Theater

Wed. and Thurs. at 10:30am and Sat. and Sun. at 1 and 3pm. 32 Station St, Brookline (across from Brookline Village T.) New shows each week and weekend, last 45mn to 1hr, and are for ages 3+. \$10/person. Tickets and info: 617-791-6400 or www.puppetshowplace.org.

Once Upon a Time with Kidstock

140 Clarendon St. Boston, Dec. 5, 6 at 11am, **The Holiday Princess** All ages, \$10/person, children under 3yrs free. Info: 617-585-5678 or www.lyricstage.com.

BosTix Junior

Bring your child to the theater to see family friendly plays and musical productions. Info: www.BosTix.org

Other Programs

Programs at Drumlin Farm

Dec. 1 – **Billy Goats Gruff**, act out this delightful Norwegian folk tale. Enjoy a snack the goats would love and make a craft of your own to take home. Tues., 1-2:30pm. All ages.

Dec. 3 – **Winter Rambles**, join us as we head out and explore the wilder areas of Drumlin Farm in winter. Then, we'll head inside for some hot chocolate and to meet a surprise visitor. Thurs., 3:30-5pm. Ages 3+.

Dec. 1 & Dec. 10 – **Fireside Fables**, Relax by a crackling fire as we share stories of farm and woodland creatures. Meet some of the main characters of our stories. 3:30-5pm, all ages.

Tues., 7-8:30pm. Ages 5 and up.

Dec. 9 – **The Gingerbread Man**, design and decorate your very own gingerbread man.

While he's baking, hear about his exciting adventures and pay a visit to his “friend,” the fox. Wed., 3:30-5pm. All ages.

Dec. 18 – **Winter Solstice**, celebrate the turning of the wheel of the year. Listen around blazing fire to ancient tales of the darkest day of the year. We'll make candles to mark the return of the sun and pay an evening visit to the farm animals in their barns. Fri., 4-5:30pm or 7-8:30pm. Ages 4+.

Prices vary , pre-registration is required. Info: 781-259-2206 or

www.massaudubon.org/drumlin

Story times and Library Programs

ROBBINS LIBRARY

Drop in Games at Robbins

Wed., Dec. 2, 3-5pm. Drop in to play some of

your favorite board games. Monopoly, Clue, Scrabble and more! All ages.

Movin' and Groovin'

Fri., Dec. 4 & 18 at 10am.

Move, wiggle, dance and explore with your little one. Ages 1-2. Space is limited, please pick up ticket ½ hr prior to program.

Stories from Earthlings w/True Story Theater

Sat., Dec. 12. 2-2:30pm ages 4-7, 2:45-3:30pm ages 8-15. The stories you share will be brought magically to life by this Arlington based theater troupe.

Pick up ticket ½ hour prior to program.

Drop-In Crafts – Winter Crafts

Wed., Dec. 15, 3:30-5pm. Drop-In to create some fabulous winter crafts. All ages.

Top Secret Science

Tues., Dec. 29 at 2pm. Faster than a speeding bullet...explore light and sound with Mike Bergen, Top Secret Scientist. Ages 5-10, space is limited, sign up now at 781-316-3234.

Singalong

Tues., Dec. 1, 8 & 15 at 10am.

For infants and toddlers with Sulinha. Space is limited, tickets are given out that day.

Storytime

Mon., Jan. 4 (drop in)

Wiggle Worms

10 am for ages 1½ to 2½.

Stories, rhymes and fingerplays for the first 15 minutes followed by a simple craft

Kangaroo

11am for ages 2½ and up

Longer stories followed by a craft.

Book with Beat

Wed., Dec. 2, for 3-5 year olds. Longer stories followed by a craft. Drop in.

FOX LIBRARY:

Solstice Sing

Wed., Dec. 9 at 4pm. Celebrate the season with Liz Buchanan as she tells winter stories and sings winter songs. Pick up tickets beginning at 3:30 pm

Sing along

Thurs., Dec. 3, 10 & 17 at 10am. For infants and preschoolers. Drop in.

Storytime

Tues., Dec. 1 & 8 at 10am. For ages 2 and up.

Sing-alongs & Music

Monday

11am, **Stellabella Toys**, 1967 Mass. Ave., Camb., Porter Sq. Free. Info: 617-864-6290.

Tuesday

11am Toddler Time, Henry Bear's Park, Porter

Square Shopping Center, Mass. Ave,
Cambridge. Free. Info: 617.547.8424.
www.henrybear.com

Thursday

11am, **Stellabella Toys** (except holidays) 1967
Mass. Ave., Camb., Porter Sq. Free Sing
along. Info: 617-864-6290.

Saturday

10:30am, **Stellabella Toys**, 1360 Cambridge St.
Inman Sq. Camb. Sing songs, play games
Free. Info: 617-491- 6290.

Storytimes

Tuesday

Pottery Barn Kids

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

Barnes & Noble for preschoolers

10:30am, 98 Middlesex Tpke., Burlington.
Free. Info: 781-273-3871.

Harvard Coop for ages 2-4

11am, 1400Mass. Ave. Camb. Free, Info: 617-
499-2000.

Henry Bear's Park for toddlers

Porter Square Shopping Center, Camb. Free,
Info: 617-547-8424.

Wednesday

Porter Square Books

11am, Porter Sq. Shopping Ctr. Camb. Free
Info: 617-491-2220,

www.portersquarebooks.com

Thursday

Henry Bear's Park for toddlers

11am, 685 Mass. Ave. Arl. Free. Info: 781-
646-9400 or www.henrybear.com

11am (call to confirm) 361 Huron Ave, Camb.
Free. Info: 617-547-8424 or

www.henrybear.com.

Friday

Barefoot Books for ages 1yr +

10:30am, 1771 Mass. Ave. Camb. A fun hour
of age- appropriate stories, coloring and
refreshments, Free. Info: 617-349-1610 or
www.barefootbooks.com.

Barnes & Noble for preschoolers

6:30pm, 98 Middlesex Tpke. Burlington,

Saturday

Barefoot Books for ages 1yr +

10:30am. 1771 Mass. Ave. Camb. A fun hour
of age- appropriate stories, coloring and
refreshments, Free. Info: 617-349-1610,
www.barefootbooks.com

Barnes & Noble for preschoolers

11am , 98 Middlesex Tpke., Burlington. Free.
Info: 781-273-3871.

Harvard Coop for ages 2-4

11am, 1400 Mass. Ave. Camb. Preschool story
hour with snack and craft, Free, 617-499-2000
or <http://store.thecoop.com>

Arlington – Other Activities

Arlington Boys and Girls Club

Offers many fun, summer classes including
swimming. Info: www.abgclub.org

Arlington Center for the Arts

Offers many fun classes for children
Info: 781-648-6220 or www.acarts.org.

Arlington Children's Theater

Register for fall workshops including Musical
Theater, Creative Movement and Story
Theater, all for ages 3-5. Other classes for
ages 6 and up offered as well. Info and
registration at 781-316-8090 or
act.arlington.ma.us.

Arlington Recreation Dept.

Offers many fun classes for children. Info:
781-316-3880 or www.arlingtonma.gov.

Artbeat Tot Art

Tues. & Wed., 10:30-11:30am, offering a
special art project for ages 18mos to 4yrs,
adult supervision required, \$6/child.

Artbeat Weekend Workshops

Sat., 3-6pm, 212A Mass. Ave, Arl. A different
project each week, free instruction, pay for
materials, Ages 4yrs+. Info: 781-646-2200,
www.artbeatonline.com.

Capitol Theater Movies for Caregivers with Babies

Mon. 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.

Music Together

Explore what music sounds like, looks like,
and feels like. Now enrolling for 2009
sessions. Call 781-648-4084 or visit
www.musictogetherofarlington.com

Arlington Indoor Playspaces

Fidelity House

25 Medford St. Arl. Offers classes for
preschoolers that also have a drop-in option
Tot Time, Fridays, 9:30am or 10:30am, Open
gym with different activities to develop
fine/gross motor and social skills, parent
remains w/child, \$5 drop-in fee (space
permitting). 781-648-2005 or
www.FidelityHouse.org.

Isis Maternity

Programs & products for expecting & new
parents. *AFC member discount-1st month free*,

Drop-in Playgroups:

Non-mobile babies Thurs. 1:45-2:45pm,
Mobile babies Mon. 3:30-4:30 pm, (to 3 yrs)
Free for members, \$5 for non-members. Info:
www.isismaternity.com.

Puddlestompers

Wed., 10-11am, Fox Library basement.
Playtime for ages 0-3. A \$1 donation/family
to the library is requested. Please email

puddlestompers@jenjordi.org to get news of
possible cancellation.

Toddlers and Twos

Every Weds. And Fri. 9:30-11am, Gibbs Gym,
Foster St. Indoor play program for tots (15-36
months) and parents, emphasizing
development of gross and fine motor skills.
Kitchen area, bouncy house, riding and
climbing toys. \$45/10 visit pass or \$5/drop-
in/child. **Through Dec. 22.** (Closed during
holidays and inclement weather). Info: 781-
316-3880 or www.arlingtonma.gov

Together in Motion

Drop-in play space entirely padded with soft
play blocks, modules, balls etc. Mon-Fri 3-
5pm for ages 0-6, \$7/ages 1+;, \$5/under 1,
under 6 mos, free with paying sibling. Tues
9:30am-1pm and Fri. 11:45am-1:15pm, for
ages 0-24 months only, \$5. Group rates
offered for 8 or more children. Various classes
offered as well, see website for more info.
Info: 781-643-1377 or
www.togetherinmotion.com

Veteran's Memorial Skating Rink

422 Summer St. \$3/children under 16, \$6/adult
Public Skating: **Mon.** 12-1:50pm, **Thurs.** 9-
11am, **Fri.** 11-1pm, 2:30-4:30pm, & 7-9pm,
Sat. 4-5:50pm, **Sun.** 9:30-11:30am, & 2-4pm,
Info: 781-316-3880 or www.arlingtonma.gov

Beyond Arlington Indoor Playspaces

Bedford Family Connection Playroom

Mon.-Fri. 9:30-11:30am, First Parish Church,
75 The Great Rd. Bedford (use Elm St.
entrance). Members 50 cents/child, non-
members \$2/child. Info: contact Niki Curry at
currymn@comcast.net or www.bftod.av.com.

Belmont Kidspace

Payson Park Church (lower level) 365
Belmont St. Belmont, This indoor play space
is a parent run co-op where families with
infants, toddlers, and preschoolers can have
lots of fun. **Mon-Wed.** 2-6:30pm, **Fri.** 5-8pm,
Sat. 9am-12, **2nd & 4th Sun.** 2-5. See website
for admission info. www.belmontkidspace.org

TumbleKids Open Gym

Tues. 12-1:30pm, Thurs. 10:30am-12pm, Fri.
12:30-2pm in Winchester, only Fridays in
Watertown. \$10/child. Classes offered for an
additional fee. 38 River St., Winchester 781-
721-1144 and 201 Arl. St., Watertown, 617-
926-2640 or visit www.tumblekidsusa.com.

Inside Playground

100 Parker St, Watertown, 8am-8pm, M-F and
10am-8pm, Sat. & Sun. It has a bounce house,
race track with ride on toys, an infant/young
toddler obstacle course, some computer toys
including the Fisher price bicycle arcade
games for the slightly older set, a dress up
area, art space, some climb on toys, Birthday
party room, and more. Tues., is character

night. \$10/child per day, under 6 months free, \$2/additional adult. Info: 1-877-2929-FUN or www.insideplayground.com.

Gymnastics Academy of Boston

Open gym Mon-Fri & Sun 11:30am-1pm. Drop-in and explore. \$5/members, \$10/non-members 128 Smith Place, Camb. Info: 617-441-9700 or www.gymnasticacademyofboston.com.

LexFUN!

Every other Wed, 9:30-11am during the school year. 146 Maple St, Lex. Drop-in arts and crafts program for toddlers and preschoolers. \$2/child. Info: 781-674-225 or www.lexfun.org.

The Klubhouse

Play on a two story pirate ship or in a castle, ride on a toy race track or giant bouncies, or play in the craft room. Separate toddler room as well. Mon-Fri: 9am-3:45pm, Sat-Sun: 9am-1:45pm. \$7-9/child, adults free. 90 Cummings Park, Woburn. Info: 781-937-KLUB or www.theklubhouse.com.

Perpetual Motion

345 Chelmsford St., Lowell (off Rt. 3) Indoor playground for kids 0-6yrs. **New separate play area for 5yrs+.** Info: 978-452-0777 www.perpetualmotioninc.com.

Waldorf Park

Fri. 12-1:30pm at Waldorf School, 739 Mass. Ave. Lex. Unstructured playtime. Ages 0-3yrs. Drop-in, donation \$5-10/family. Info: 781-863-1062 or www.thewaldorfschool.org.

Beyond Arlington –

Other Activities

Family Fun night at Uno Chicago Grill, Porter Square

Let the kids make their own pizza and enjoy a balloon artist and an arts and craft station. Meals for kids are about \$5, entertainment is free. Wednesdays, 5:30-8:30pm, 820 Somerville Ave, Camb. Info: 617-864-1916.

Home Depot Kid's Workshop

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

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 or www.carylibrary.org

Baby Loves Disco

One Sunday each month, 2-5pm, Revolution Rock Bar, 200 High St. Boston, \$15 (non-walkers, free) Childproof disco/dance party with “real” music by the legendary DJ kon, healthy snacks by Wild Oats, bar available for mom and dad. Info: www.babylovesdisco.com

Outdoor Local Attractions

Babes in the Woods

Tues., 10-11:30am, Fells Reservation, Medford. Come for a walk in the woods with Friends of the Middlesex Fells hike leader Terry Murray and discover the beauties of nature. Check website for hike of the week and meeting location. Free, Rain cancels walk. www.fells.org/visit/events.cfm

Chip-In Farm

201 Hartwell Rd, Bedford. Open daily 10am-6pm. Small family-owned farm with free petting zoo. Store with fresh eggs and produce. Info: 781-275-2545 or www.chip-infarm.com.

Codman Community Farm

58 Codman Rd, Lincoln. Open Tues-Sun 9am-6pm. \$1.50/person. Non-profit, historic working farm that produces hay, meat, eggs and other products. Get close to the animals and learn about agriculture. Also offers children gardening class. Info: 781-259-0456 or www.codmanfarm.org.

Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary

208 S. Great Rd., Lincoln. Explore the fields, forest and farmyard. Weekly programs for kids. 9am-5pm, closed non-holiday Mondays. \$6/non-member adults, \$4/non-member ages 3-18. Info: 781-259-2200 or www.massaudubon.org.

Ecotarium

222 Harrington Way, Worcester. Open Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 12-5pm. Monthly family preschool programs. Members free, \$.10/Non-member adult, \$.8/Non-member ages 3-18. Explorer Express Train ride, \$2.50/person. Info: 508-929-2700 or www.ecotarium.org.

Frog Pond, Boston Common

The Frog pond offers concessions, skate rentals, rest rooms, and a warming area. Info: 617-635-2120 or www.bostoncommonfrogpond.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. Info: 617-489-5050 or www.massaudubon.org.

Southwicks Zoo

2 Southwick St, (off Rt. 16), Mendon. Open daily, 10am-5 pm. Animals & birds, shows, kiddie rides, animal rides (ponies, camels, elephants). \$18.75/adults; \$12.75/ages 3-12; 2 and under free. WGBH & AAA discounts. Info: 800-258-9182 or www.southwickszoo.com.

Stone Zoo

149 Pond St. Stoneham. Open daily 10am-4pm, Small zoo, with a petting barnyard, playground and many animal exhibits.

\$9/Adult, \$6/Ages 2-12, under 2yrs. free, Info: 781-438-5100 or www.zoonewengland.com.

Take a Walk at Gore Place

52 Gore St., Waltham, Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm; Sat 11-3pm. Visit llama, sheep, goats, chickens, rabbits. Rent an “activity pack” with activities appropriate for children ages 3-9yrs. Backpack rental, \$5. Info: 781-894-2798 or www.goreplace.org.

Indoor Local Attractions

Boston Children's Museum

300 Congress St., Boston. Open daily, 10am-5pm, Fri until 9pm. Hands-on approach to history, science, etc.; toddler PlaySpace. New, expanded space and exhibits, including 3-story climbing structure. Info: www.bostonkids.org.

Children's Discovery Museum

177 Main St., Acton. Open daily, 9am-4:30pm. Victorian house with transformed into 10 hands-on exhibit areas. Ages 6 & under. Check website for special programs. \$9, free under 1. Info: 978-264-4200 or www.discoverymuseums.org.

Concord Museum

200 Lexington Rd, Concord. Open daily, Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 12-5pm. Historical, literary, artistic treasures of the area. \$10/adults, children under 6 free. Info: 978-369-9763 or www.concordmuseum.org.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St, Cambridge. Open daily 9am-5pm. Wide array of stuffed animals in the mammal exhibit. 40ft dinosaur replica. \$9/adult, \$6/ages 3-18. Free for MA residents every Sun. 9am-noon, Wed. 3-5pm. Info: 617-495-3045 or www.hmn.harvard.edu.

Institute of Contemporary Art

100 Northern Ave., Boston. Open Tues-Sun 10am-5pm, Thurs & Fri until 9pm. Free Family Fun Playdates, last Saturday of every month, 10 am-4 pm. to adults accompanied by child 12 and under. \$12 general admission. Info: 617-478-3234 or www.icaboston.org.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston. Family Place, for families with children 4 and up, interactive art activities, Sat-Sun, 11am-4pm. Info: 617-267-9300 or www.mfa.org.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston. Open daily 9am-7pm, Fri until 9pm. Hands-on Discovery Zone, with children's gallery for those 5 and under. Info: 617-723-2500 or www.mos.org.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Rd., Rt. 2A, Lexington. Open daily 10am-5pm, Sun 12-5pm. Great monthly programs including storytimes with crafts.

Free admission. Info: 781-861-6559 or www.monh.org.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston. Open daily 9am-5pm, Sat & Sun until 6pm. \$19.95/adult, \$11.95/children ages 3-11, free for children under 3. Info: 617-973-5200 or www.neaq.org.

Seminars and Open Houses

Artisan Child Care Center Open House

Weekdays, 9-4pm, 237 Winn Street Woburn. Come and discover this new child care center whose motto is: "Child care with a unique emphasis on the arts!". Info: 781-933-0808.

Harvard University Lab for Developmental Studies

Child scientists wanted! Looking for infants and children between the ages of 2 months and 12 years to study their natural curiosity to learn how they perceive the world. Most studies take less than 20 minutes and each child goes home with a little gift. www.wjh.harvard.edu/~lds or 617-384-7930.

Child Seat inspections in Arlington

The Arlington Police Department offers child safety seat installations and inspections at Police Headquarters. Officers are trained and certified to install and inspect car seats and are available by appointment, every other Tuesday from 4-8pm., at police headquarters, 112 Mystic St. To schedule an appointment please call 781-316-3905 or e-mail rbongiorno@town.arlington.ma.us.

Benefit

Little Fox Resale Shop

Open Tues. & Thurs. 9am-12pm, Wed. 2:30-8pm, on the upper level of the Fox Library. Benefiting the Fox Library, the shop includes toys, books, children's gear, the shop as well as maternity clothes, kids shoes, games, and sports equipment. Info: www.littlefoxshop.com.

Support Groups

40-something Mom's Group

Suzan Wolpov, a licensed therapist with a specialty in women's issues and an older mom herself, has started a new group. This monthly discussion & support group for moms of babies &/or young children meets on 1st Thurs. of the month 9:30-11am in northwest Cambridge. Registration required, \$25/meeting. Info: 617-441-0758 or yourclearvoice@msn.com

AD/HD Support Group for Women

New session begins every few months. Meets Tues. 6-7:30pm twice a month in Lexington, cost is approx. \$50. Contact Heidi Lack, Ph.D., A.T.R.-BC, at 781-863-8696 for more info.

Adoptive Families Chat & Play

First Sat. of each month, 3:30-4:30pm, ISIS Maternity, Arl. A collaboration between Isis and ACONE, join us for an hour of playtime, support and networking. Children 0-3 welcome. PLEASE RSVP by contacting Becky Moyer at (617) 721-6783 or beckym678@yahoo.com.

Boston Babywearers

3rd Wed. of each month, 10:30am-12:30pm, College Avenue United Methodist Church, 14 Chapel Street, Somerville. Find the right baby carrier for you and/or learn how to use the carrier you own. Enjoy their free carrier lending library too. Info: www.bostonbabywearers.com.

Breastfeeding Drop-in Group

Thurs. 3pm, Isis Maternity, For nursing moms and babies, Free, Staffed by certified lactation consultants, Info: www.isismaternity.com.

Fragile Beginnings - Parents of Premies

Monthly at Jewish Family & Children's Service, 1430 Main Street, Waltham. Meeting for parents with infants and children born prematurely. For information about the program and to confirm date and time, please call Debbie Whitehill, Director of the Visiting Moms Program at 781-647-5327. More info: <http://jfcsboston.org>

Grandparents' Support Group

2nd 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 the basement of Fox Library on the 3rd Tues. of each month at 7:30pm, or 2nd Thurs. of the month at 10am in Cambridge (175 Harvey St.). Free For info contact Heather 781-648-2988 or <http://www.lleus.org/web/ArlingtonCambridgeMa.html>

Learn & Play Adoption Group

For parents and adopted children ages 0-5yrs. Facilitated by First Connections. Community Agencies bldg., Emerson Hospital, 111 Old Rd. to 9-Acre Corner, Concord. Registration required \$30. Info: 978-287-0221 or www.jri.org/cfvs/.

New Babies/New Mom's Group

First time mothers bring infants up to 6 months old to meet with other mothers and a leader for support and discussion. Info: www.warmlines.org.

New Mothers' Drop-in Group

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

New Mother's Group

Tues. 10:30am-12pm, Temple Isiah, 55 Lincoln St, Lexington, Sponsored by the Parent Connection of BIDMC. Free 8 week sessions, Registration required. Info: 617-667-2229.

New Parents Group

Thursdays at 11am. Henry Bear's Park, Porter Square Shopping Center, Camb. Info: 617-547-8424 or www.henrybear.com.

Older First-Time Moms

3rd Wed. 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. Info: 781-674-2029.

Postpartum Adjustment Support Group

Fri. 1-2:30 in West Newton. Drop-in. Contact Haven Fyfe-Kiernan, MSW, LICSW to register (617-739-1022) or to discuss private therapy specializing in postpartum adjustment and parenting issues. Sponsored by Jewish Family & Children's Svcs.

Postpartum Support Hotline

The Postpartum Support International of MA telephone WARMLINE provides toll-free and confidential information, support and listings of local resources such as PPD groups and clinicians. A therapist volunteer covers the email of phone line and returns messages to individuals, family or friends, and professionals looking for mental health resources: 1-866-472-1897 or <http://postpartum.net/local-support/?state=MA>

We Are Family

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

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

December 2009

AFC Membership/Renewal Form

New member **Renewal** Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email Address(es): _____

AFC newsletters are sent out via email. *If you need a printed newsletter, please email or call us with your request.*

Check here if you don't wish to receive event announcements, event reminders, and bulletins from AFC

Please send the newsletter only

Membership Fees *(fee assistance is available, please email membership@arlingtonfamilyconnection.org):*

All memberships renew in August and begin September 1st for a flat \$20 per year.

Circle the month you are joining:

\$20 (August/September/October)

\$15 (November/December/January)

\$10 (February/March/April)

\$5 (May/June/July)

Send a gift membership to the person below, and say it's from me!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email Address(es): _____

Please make check payable to *Arlington Family Connection* and mail it with this form to:

Arlington Family Connection

P.O. Box 150

Arlington, MA 02476

To help us serve Arlington and our members better, we'd like to hear from you! How did you hear about us? How can we best serve your needs? Is there anything else you'd like to tell us?