

December 04, 2009

The PEIRCE LINK

A Near-Weekly Publication of the Peirce PTO

Absent/Tardy: (617) 559-9650

Peirce Office: (617) 559-9630

<http://www.k12.newton.ma.us/Peirce/>

Patience Equality Inclusion Responsibility Cooperation Effort

Calendar

December

10 Early release 12:30PM

22 PTO sponsored faculty luncheon 12:30PM in the gym.

24 December Recess – NO SCHOOL

January

4 School back in session

8 CAP parent informational meeting, Grades 2 & 5, 8:35 -10AM in the Peirce art room.

Co-Presidents' Letter

Dear Peirce Families,

NEW PRINCIPAL AT PEIRCE! Below is the URL for a survey that will help us identify the qualities the Peirce community is looking for in our next principal. It is really important that everyone takes the time to fill this out!

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/?p=WEB229XAFHD5LH>

The Peirce Auction is February 6, only two months away! Please mark your calendars, and book your babysitters, for this very important community event. The Peirce Auction is held every-other-year, and is a major contributor to covering PTO expenses over the two year period. The PTO is responsible for funding 100% of many major school needs, such as the Creative Arts & Sciences enrichment program, computers and technology for our classrooms, and playground maintenance. We want to thank the parents who have already generously made donations to the auction, and to mention that the Auction Committee is still looking for airline miles, and hotel points. Please contact Ken Hamel at Kenneth.hamel@ymail.com with any questions.

We need everyone's help following the driving and parking rules around Peirce. Temple Shalom, who graciously allows us to use their parking lot, has informed us that parents have been observed inappropriately entering Temple Shalom's parking lot through the "Do Not Enter" signs on Myrtle St. Driving rules are also not being followed in the Peirce parking lot. If you are in the drop off lane, you must stay in your car. Do not leave your car to pick up your child. In addition, if you are in the passing lane, do not drop your child off in the middle of traffic. It's really important for our children's safety that we all follow the rules.

We are still looking for a Peirce METCO parent to participate in the new principal selection process. Please contact Penny Macht if you are interested, pmacht@yahoo.com

As the holiday season is upon us, we need to let the community know there is a new Massachusetts Ethics Reform Law, with rules regarding gifts, and this impacts our teachers. Next week's Peirce Link letter will discuss this in detail.

Respectfully,
Jody Klein, Penny Macht, and Janet Clay

School News

WORD OF THE WEEK – The word of the week is majority. Majority (noun): More than half of a group of people or things.

REUSABLE SANDWICH and SNACK BAG SALE! Did you know that every day over 20 million plastic baggies go into our landfills? As part of the green initiatives of the Peirce Social Action Committee we are selling reusable snack bags and sandwich bags with the Peirce logo on them that your children can use for their lunches. All proceeds will benefit the PTO's green initiatives. It's a great way to support the school and do our part to save the environment as well! The reusable bags are made from certified food-safe cotton fabric with a moisture-proof lining, they are washable and dishwasher safe, lead free, bpa free and pthalate free. See the attached flyer for a picture and order form or visit the Social Action Committee bulletin board.

PEDP HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR! - Come do your holiday shopping at the PEDP Holiday Craft Fair, Tuesday, December 8 and Thursday, December 10 from 2:00 – 5:00PM. Shop in the PEDP Room, Hallway, Clubhouse and the gym to find jewelry, holiday decorations, lots of crafts and great gift ideas. There will also be baked goods for sale and a place to have your gifts wrapped. Proceeds will benefit the Greyhound Friends.

FROM THE HEALTH ROOM - Frequent hand washing helps prevent everything from the common cold or stomach bug to influenza, including H1N1 flu. School nurses have been teaching good hand hygiene at school. Parents can help by reinforcing these important messages at home.

- Wash your hands by rubbing them vigorously with soap and water for 20 seconds. Kids can practice this timing by singing "Happy Birthday" twice.
- When soap and water are not available, use waterless hand sanitizer. Squirt into your hands and rub them together until it is dry. Sanitizer should not be used when hands are visibly dirty. Hand washing should occur then.
- Wash your hands often, especially after using the restroom and before eating.
- Practice coughing or sneezing into your sleeve (elbow or upper arm) instead of your hands. This prevents spreading those germs when we touch things with our hands.
- Avoid touching your face to prevent introducing germs into your body through your nose and mouth.

For more information about hand washing, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/Features/HandWashing/>

COMING SOON: THE 2010 PEIRCE AUCTION AND CASINO NIGHT - February 6, 6:30-10:30PM at the Neighborhood Club. Thank-you to all who have contributed. We are still looking for various items including American Express points and frequent flying miles. This year, there will be an online auction starting January 25 and ending February 5. Most items listed on the online auction will be SOLD prior to our live event. On February 6, join the rest of the Peirce Community for Casino Night our Winning Event!! That night we will be auctioning off some very special items including:

- **Your Child's Classroom Art Project**
- **Opening Day Tickets to the Red Sox**
- **& other fabulous items such as sports tickets, dinners, & vacation homes**

Ever Been on a Real Live Cattle Drive? Yup, you can win that too!

Remember, you can help sponsor this event with your donation or by helping to underwrite a portion of the event costs. Please call us today, we cannot do this without you! You can reach Donna or Mia at donnagiovannini@gmail.com or MWenjen@aquent.com.

WINTER & SPRING GRADES 4 & 5 CONCERT DATES – Mark your calendars now. The date for the Winter Concert (Grades 4 & 5) is February 3 (10:00AM and 7:30PM) with a snow date of February 10. The date for the Spring Concert (Grades 4 & 5) is June 10 (10:00AM and 7:30PM).

PEIRCE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL - The Peirce Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Committee is in need of a co-chair and/or committee members to plan, implement and support the SRTS program at Peirce for this school year. Our committee will work to promote safety around the school and to encourage more children to walk and bicycle to school. We work with the PTO and faculty at Peirce as well as coordinating efforts with local and state program representatives. There is an exciting “walk to school day” being planned for this spring, as well as a walk to “feed families” next month. If you would like to join the committee or just want more information, please contact Paula Gannon at psgannon@comcast.net or by phone at 617-694-1973.

FOOTSTEPS TO FEED FAMILIES - Many thanks to all who contributed to the Peirce “Footsteps to Feed Families” food drive last week. We filled over 8 large boxes with food and toiletries for the Newton Food Pantry. Through your generosity, many families had a much more plentiful Thanksgiving than they otherwise would have enjoyed. Thank you for caring!

Community News

CATCHING JOY - A non-profit that organizes hands-on community service projects for young children in order to give children and families the opportunity to experience the joy of giving and service, is holding a fundraising event on Sunday, December 6, from 11AM - 2:00PM at Fenway Park. Highlights include brunch at Fenway, a close up look at the WORLD SERIES TROPHIES, pictures with Wally the Green Monster, a silent auction and a fun service project for the children -- making holiday gifts for the Home for Little Wanderers. Catching Joy will be donating baseballs to The Home For Little Wanderers. Kids will decorate gift bags and make cards at the event. For more information, see www.catchingjoy.org or email joy@catchingjoy.org

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR – CelebrateNewton, is Sunday December 6 at Newton South High School from 10AM-4PM. There are over 50 artisans at CelebrateNewton, including weavers, jewelers, quilters, potters, painters, photographers. Live music provides a lovely backdrop for the event. There will be food and children’s activities. Proceeds from Celebrate Newton benefit the Newton Schools Foundation. For more information visit our new website at www.celebratenewton.com.

THEATRE INK AT NNHS - 'Caligula' - by Albert Camus, presented by the highly acclaimed Theatre Ink at NNHS. **Best for mature audiences**, this is a stunningly lyrical translation of the original French text with all the force and power of the original. December 10, 11 and 12 at 7:30PM. Little Theatre NNHS, 360 Lowell Avenue, Newtonville. Tickets \$7 at www.theatreink.net or 617-559-6406.

USED MUSICAL INSTRUMENT DRIVE - Now's the time to pull those old, unused instruments out of attics, basements, closets and garages. This drive will provide scholarship instruments to worthy elementary students who otherwise may not be able to afford to take part in the elementary instrument program. All instruments will remain the property of the Newton Public Schools Fine Arts Department but will be loaned to 4th and 5th grade music students. Post-elementary school options will be presented as well. Donated instruments may be dropped off at the Newton Community Service Center, 492 Washington Street, 8AM to 1PM Monday 12/7 through Friday 12/11; or Saturday 12/12 9AM to 1PM. Tax donation receipt available upon request. Questions? Contact Richard P. King, Fine Arts

Coordinator, Newton Public Schools: 617-559-6149 or richard_king@newton.k12.ma.us. (A joint project of the NPS Fine Arts Department, the Rotary Club of Newton and the Mayor's office)

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE – On December 16, the CPC will hold a public hearing for three funding proposals starting at 7PM in the City Hall Cafeteria (basement). Proposals will be presented for: City Hall Historic Art (\$5,200), Museum Collections (\$30,000) and Museum Archives - Supplemental (design funds only, amount TBD). The agenda also includes updates from Historic Newton on their capital campaign and ongoing projects with CP funding; and a working session on the current proposal for community housing at 2148 Commonwealth Avenue in Auburndale. All proposals are online from www.ci.newton.ma.us/cpa/projects.htm. For details, contact Alice Ingerson at alingerson@newtonma.gov, 617.796.1144.

OPEN HOUSE - Meadowbrook Day Camp. A great place to spend the summer! Sunday Dec. 6 & Jan 10 from 1PM to 4PM. Stop by and see what all the fun is about. www.meadowbrook-ma.org/daycamp

THIRD GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL NAAC LEAGUE - The Newton Athletic Association runs basketball leagues for boys (and a few girls) in grades 3 through high school. Over 500 players participate in Newton's largest basketball league. The C League is the NAA's "entry level" league. Teams play a 10 - 12 game regular season schedule beginning in early December and running through mid-March. Games are played at the Underwood School on Saturdays from 9AM – 2PM using lower height baskets. Practices are one night per week on either Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday for one hour from either 6-7PM or 7-8PM also at Underwood. Fee for the season is \$140 which includes all games, practices and uniform shirt. Registration is open for the C League at <http://www.naabasketball.org>

NEWTON GIRLS BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NGBA) - Registration is underway for the upcoming NGBA season. Join the more than 500 players from second grade through high school level who play NGBA basketball. This is a recreational league for Newton girls with fun for beginners and experienced players alike! Games on Saturdays for all grades, starting December 5 and continuing into mid-March. No weekday practices for High School girls. Registrations due Monday, November 30 for High School. Late fee applies. Need-based scholarships available; see website for details. To register, and for more details, visit the website at www.ngba.net. Questions: (617) 244-2139.

WINTER VACATION SOCCER CLINIC AT BOSTON COLLEGE – The Women's Soccer staff invite girls aged 6-14 to join them for a soccer clinic at BC. The program runs December 28-31 from 12PM-5PM. The focus is on fun and development. Come and join the BC players and coaches for a great soccer experience. For information on all our programs and registration please visit: www.bceagles.com/camps or call 617-552-0982 or email soccer.clinic@bc.edu

APRIL VACATION CAMP - The Paul Green School of Rock (<http://www.schoolofrock.com/boston>) has begun accepting registrations for our 2010 April Break Rock Star Boot Camp (4/19-4/23). This day camp runs 9:00AM to 3:00PM w/ the option for early drop-off/late pickup at no extra charge, and is open to student musicians ages 6-17 who play bass, guitar, piano, drums, or sing. Please call 617-923-3434 for details.

RECYCLE YOUR OLD TRASH BARRELS AND RECYCLING BINS – For \$10 per household, old trash barrels and recycling bins will be picked up and recycled (maximum 3 per household), with proceeds going to Christopher's Haven, an outpatient facility for children undergoing brain cancer treatment at MGH. Leave old trash barrels at the end of your driveway with an envelope taped to the outside, with a \$10 check payable to Christopher's Haven. To schedule a pick-up, contact barrelpickup@yahoo.com and include your address, village, and number of barrels or bins. **Saturday, December 5, Auburndale and West Newton.**

FREE PARENTING GROUP - Parent Management Training: Join other parents of elementary-aged children and a professional facilitator to explore possible solutions to problem behavior using Parent Management Training (PMT), an evidence-based program for parents developed by Alan Kazdin, Ph.D., of Yale University's Parenting Center and Child Conduct Clinic. PMT has been consistently proven to

decrease behavioral problems and increase positive behavior in children. It is highly effective in reducing tantrums, fighting, and disruptiveness. These free workshops will be led by Rachel Nenner-Payton, LICSW, a senior clinician at Riverside Community Care in Newton. Last session on 12/15 9:30 to 10:45AM at the John M. Barry Boys & Girls Club, 675 Watertown Street, 02460. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required: call 617-969-4925. Co-sponsored by Riverside Community Care and The Newton Partnership.

2009-2010 FAMILY FOLK DANCES - The New England Folk Festival Association and the Folk Arts Center of New England present 2009-2010 Family Dances Sundays 2-4PM, Concord Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord. Refreshments! Dec. 6, Jan. 3, Jan. 17, Feb. 7, Feb. 21, Mar. 7, Mar. 21. All dances will be taught. Dances are appropriate for ages 5 and up. Parents are responsible for their children. Admission: \$5/person, \$25/family maximum. Info: (781) 662-7476 FAC (781) 662-6710 NEFFA. Help protect the wooden floor by bringing a separate pair of clean, soft-soled shoes to dance in. For safety's sake, children must dance in shoes, not socks or bare feet.

NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES – See attachment for many Newton Parks and Recreation school vacation programs.

COLLECTING GENTLY USED SHOES FOR CHILDREN K-12 IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION - On behalf of Action for Post-Soviet Jewry, Inc. (<http://www.actionpsj.org>), collecting needed items for Jewish youth in the former Soviet Union. If you have shoes in good condition, please drop them off in the marked box at Temple Reyim, 1860 Washington Street, Newton, or at my front door at 20 Elizabeth Circle, Newton. Thank you in advance for helping me make a difference for at least some of the children. frankmeister@comcast.net or adaminc@comcast.net

Classifieds

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

TUTORING - Our many years of experience in teaching and educational consulting has developed the right way to motivate, the right way to teach, be understood, and be remembered. We tutor special ed. such as ADD, ADHD, Asperger's, Autism, Emotional/Behavioral, and gifted. We also tutor regular ed. and test preparation. All subjects and ages are taught. Parents can now receive 25% off the first lesson. Call 781-492-8700 or log on to www.Y3KTutorInYourHome.com

BEADAZZLED BIRTHDAYS - Host a jewelry party for your child! A beader/certified teacher will come to the place of your choice and teach jewelry making for birthdays, holiday parties, girl scouts, or any other special event! All supplies are included; ages 7+ is recommended. Please visit www.beadazzledbirthdays.com for more information!"

FOR SALE- Great gifts for the holidays! Spartan Rod Hockey Game, looks brand new, 32"W, 41"L; 35"H, \$100; Pockey 2 games in 1--air hockey one side; flip over and it's a pool table, also has mini ping pong, 30"W, 60"L, 32"H, \$100; Game Boy Advance SP with case and 18 games, \$80. Call 617-965-9671.

LICE AUNTIES - Lice Aunties is an in-home, non-toxic, all mom, lice removal business based in Newton. Thousands of heads checked with affection and a sense of humor. Visit www.liceaunties.com.

EIGHTH GRADER SEEKING BABYSITTING JOB – After school (3:00 PM) and on weekends. Peirce alumna and former EDP volunteer. Kathryn Adelson 857-636-2718 or k.adelson@verizon.net.

FREE DIABETES SUPPLIES - Are you diabetic or know someone who is diabetic? Elaine Raposa who works for Advanced Diabetic Solutions and they offer free blood test strips and lancets for your diabetic needs. Also, they offer free shoes with orthotics made for you. Call her at 508 265-2040 or email at eraposa@advanceddiabeticsolutions.net

Submissions may be made by email only to newtonpeirce@yahoo.com

Submission deadlines are Wednesdays, by 5:30pm.

For fairness and reliability, we strictly adhere to this deadline.

Coordinating Editor: Roberta Martone Pavia.

Editors: Alexa Dulchinos, Lisa Gianelly, Sarah Kish, Katya Salkever, and Holly Umina

Dear Newton Community-

As many of you know, Jeff Beatrice, a gifted coach and father of eleven, died unexpectedly last month. He leaves behind his wife, Elinor, and seven children within the Newton Public Schools ranging from a kindergartener to a senior in high school. With Jeff's passing, a huge void was left financially for the family. Not surprisingly, the Newton community has rallied to support this family in a myriad of ways. In an effort to streamline these efforts a group of concerned citizens has pledged to work together to find ways to support the Beatrice Family Fund. Our hope is that our collective efforts will allow the family to remain together in their home.

To that end, we have developed a number of ways that the greater Newton community can help in our efforts.

1. Financial donations can be sent to:
The Beatrice Family Fund
c/o The Village Bank
307 Auburn Street
Auburndale, MA 02466
2. To help Elinor and the family with meals and other tasks please visit
<http://www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/619171/login/>
3. There are a number of upcoming fundraisers including:
 - **Newton Elks Fund-raiser:** The Newton Elks is hosting a fund-raiser for the Beatrice Family Fund on Saturday, November 14 from 7pm-12 midnight. There will be food, a disc jockey and a cash bar, as well as a raffle for Patriots-Jets game and other silent auction/raffle items. Tickets are \$25 (adults only). It will be held at Newton Lodge of Elks, 429 Centre Street, Newton MA. To purchase tickets to this event, contact John Davis at: 617-435-1791 or Johnnyrotten1@comcast.net
 - **Patriots Raffle Tickets:** In addition to the event, John Davis has offered his tickets for the Patriots-Jets game on November 22nd. We're selling 500 raffle tickets at \$25.00 each. We need both buyers and sellers. The drawing is Saturday, November 14th at the Newton Elks Lodge, 429 Center Street. You don't have to be present to win. We need help selling the Pats-Jets raffle tickets. Please contact Matt Kenslea at: mkenslea@harvardbusiness.org
 - **Veterans Day Event:** There will be Sports-a-Thon event at Ablemarle field on Veterans' Day, Nov. 11th from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm where softball, baseball, Pop Warner and some basketball teams will play and contribute funds to the Beatrice Family Fund. IF YOU CAN (and kids are welcome) VOLUNTEER TO HELP, please contact--Amy McMahon at amymcm@rcn.com or call: 617-527-1404. Volunteers are needed in concessions, trash pick up, and clean up at the end of the event. We also need more food donations for concessions: baked goods, fruit, granola and cereal bars, juice. Can you help? If so, contact: Nina Levin at nina.levin@rcn.com.
 - **Anyone interested in helping with fund-raising,** please contact: Amy McMahon (amymcm@rcn.com), Katie Slocum (kathry@slocum.com), Meryl Appelbaum (mitchelappelbaum@comcast.net) or Tracy Clark (samalama@rcn.com) with your ideas and contact info.
4. Share The Beatrice Family story with friends and family (every amount will make a difference).

For more information about this family please visit our website at www.beatricefamilyfund.com.

Thank you for your support. It is times like these that we all feel so fortunate to live in such an amazing community.

Best,
The Beatrice Family Steering Committee

Newton Parks and Recreation Dept. 2009 December School Vacation Programs

Family Trip to Edaville Railroad - December 27

Join us on an exciting trip to Edaville USA in Carver, MA. The Festival of Lights features millions of lights and displays in a spectacular holiday celebration. Visitors can ride the heated train past an explosion of holiday lights and decorations, listen to carols, and enjoy all of the outdoor rides and attractions that make Edaville USA a New England tradition! Bus leaves from the Albemarle Field House. 2:30 – 8:30 PM \$30.00

Family Movie Night at West Newton Cinema - December 29 & 30

Enjoy a movie, popcorn and drink all for only \$6.00. Tickets will be sold starting at the West Newton Cinema on the day of the event. This is a popular event and tickets may sell out.

Puddlestompers – December 28, 29 and 30

A drop off program for 3 – 6 year olds. 9:00 am – 12:00 noon. Explore the beauty and quiet of winter in this indoor based program. Learn about how animals survive the winter and why evergreens keep their leaves. Look for animal tracks and other signs of winter activity. Each day will explore a different aspect of nature in winter. Located at Nahanton Park.

Fun-tastic Vacation Program - December 28, 29, 30 and 31

For Grades K – 2 at the Newton Centre Hut and
For Grades K – 6 at the Lower Falls Community Center

It's like summer camp in the winter. Several different activities to choose from each day including sports, arts and crafts, gym activities, inside games, cooking, outside games, special events and more. Be sure to bring a lunch and snack each day. 8:15AM – 3:30PM with extended day available to 5:30PM \$45.00 per day or \$160.00 for all 4 days. Add \$12.50 per day for extended day.

Thundercat All Sports Clinic – December 28, 29, 30 and 31

Half Day Program for Ages 5 – 7
Full Day Program for Ages 7 – 12

For the sports enthusiast. Play a variety of games including basketball, floor hockey, soccer, and more – all in a relaxed, fun atmosphere. Located at Pelligrini Park. Be sure to bring a lunch and snack each day.

Half Day Program - 9:00 AM – 12:00 noon \$120.00 res \$130.00 non res
Full Day Program - 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM \$160.00 res \$170.00 non res

Peirce School Reusable Sandwich Bag and Snack Bag Order Form

Doing our Part for the Environment One Lunch at a Time!

- Food-safe cotton fabric
- Easily washable and dishwasher safe
- Grease-proof and Moisture-Proof lining
- Durable double stitched seams with snug-fitting Velcro flap
- Lightweight and quick-drying

Your Name: _____

Your Child's Name and Classroom: _____

	Quantity	Price	Total
Sandwich Bag (6.5" x 6")		\$8.95 each	
Snack Bag (6.5" x 3.5")		\$7.85 each	
		Total	

Please make checks payable to Peirce PTO and return with this form to the SAC envelope on the bulletin board by Friday, December 11th.