



# Medford Family Network

of the Medford Public Schools



Summer 2013

*Sponsored by the  
Friends of the Medford Family Network  
July/August 2013*

## **FAMILY CONCERTS & EVENTS at Wright's Pond, Elm Street**

A Summer Full of Family Fun!

7 Tuesday Evenings: 5:30—6:00 p.m. Family Activities  
6:00—7:00 pm Concert/Event

July 9	Ben Rudnick & Friends
July 16	Surprise Performer
July 23	Matt Heaton & the Heaters
July 30	Karen K & the Jitterbugs
August 6	Rainforest Reptile Show
August 13	Liz Buchanan & the Mighty Fine Band
August 20	Surprise Performer



**Sing-A-Longs!      Music!      Movement!      Dance!**  
**FREE Books and Community Information!**

FREE continuous shuttle bus to/from each concert - 3 Stops: Flynn Rink, Wright's Pond,  
Bus stop at corner of Elm Street and the Fellsway 5:00-8:00 pm. ***These Concerts &  
Events will take place rain or shine!!*** In case of inclement weather,  
the concert will be held at the Medford Senior Center, 101 Riverside  
Avenue, across from the Hyatt Hotel. Call (781) 393-2106 after  
4 pm to find out where we will be. **A Big Sippie Cup Salute to the  
Friends of the Medford Family Network  
for sponsoring these concerts!**

Marie Cassidy, Family Specialist  
mcassidy@medford.k12.ma.us  
Phone (781) 393-2106

website: [www.medfordfamilynetwork.org](http://www.medfordfamilynetwork.org)  
<http://www.medfordfamilies.org>  
Facebook - Medford Family Network

Summer Office Hours:  
Tuesday - Thursday  
9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Call for an appointment!

The MFN Family Center has a whole new look and it is beautiful! New landscaping out front, renovated meeting room and bathroom. *A thousand thanks and shout outs* to those who made our Deloitte Day renovations a reality: Souad Chafiki, Carrie Cross, Robyn Holdsworth, Priya Kalwani, Meenu Kodarkar, Joyce Nicholas, Jen Ostrosky, Tamanna Rabbani, Roger Windt and his department!

## SUMMER OUTDOOR FUN!



This FREE event, for all ages! Experience live performances, crafts for kids, participatory activities, shopping, and an all-round fun night out on the town!

## Bike Fest at Farmers Market

Thursday, July 18;  
3:00—7:00 pm



Bike Valet  
Bike Donation  
FREE Bike Tune-ups  
Bike Safety Workshop

Questions? Want to Volunteer?  
Contact [medfordfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:medfordfarmersmarket@gmail.com)

## Farmers Market

City Hall, George P. Hassett Drive, Medford, MA

Every Thursday until October 10;  
3:00—7:00 pm

Join Us on MFN DAY at the Market!  
Thursday, July 25, 2013

Face Painting! Fun Activities!  
Info Packet!

## MFN SUPPORT PROGRAMS

CALL (781) 393-2106

### New Mom's Group

Facilitated by *Aine O'Malley, Parent Leader, JF&CS*  
Every Monday; 10:30 am—12:00 pm

Are you a new mom? Would you like to join a group of others who know exactly what you mean by the word "tired?" Welcome to a great supportive network and a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends for yourself and new playmates for your child!

### Babies, Bibs & Books Program

(FREE Gift Bag)

Presented by the *Medford Family Network (MFN)*

This is a literacy program designed to introduce the importance and joy of reading to your baby. The MFN is distributing FREE gift bags to first-time moms and dads who live or work in Medford. These bags include a Board Book, bib, MFN's newsletter, Medford Community Directory, and general developmental information and activities to help your baby learn and grow.

### Help Me Grow—

### Ages & Stages Questionnaire!

Do you have concerns about your child's development physically, socially or emotionally? The Family Resource Network can help. Through the Department of Early Education and Care, we have received access to the Ages & Stages Developmental and Social Emotional Growth questionnaire. Parents can use this tool in the comfort of their own home. Once completed, you and a staff member can meet to go over the form and see if there are any developmental areas we can work on together to help your child reach their full potential. If you have any questions, please call our office at (781) 393-2106 and speak to a staff member.

## Babes in the Woods

Tuesdays; Thursdays; Saturdays  
10:00—11:30 am

Visit [www.fells.org](http://www.fells.org) for hike calendar/locations

*\*Special Event\**

### Scavenger Hunt in the Fells!

Saturday, July 27  
10:00—12:00 pm

*Hikes in the Woods!*



Come "hunt" for natural items found in the woods; read stories about what one might find; and learn about simple experiments young scientists can try while exploring. Bring a lunch, hiking shoes, and prepare to leave no trace!



# Medford Public Schools

489 Winthrop Street, Medford, MA 02155

## PARENT LEADERSHIP

### OPPORTUNITIES

JOIN GOOD PEOPLE DOING  
GREAT THINGS!

#### Friends of the Medford Family Network Board (FMFN)

The Friends is a nonprofit corporation comprised of MFN parents who promote and support MFN by raising funds for its programs. Are you full of good ideas and enthusiasm? Do you have marketing, sales, accounting, writing, graphic design, web design or administrative skills? **In particular, we need a graphic designer and web-master.**

Help us plan our annual fabulous fundraisers (last year, we threw an awesome party and raised \$12,000, and \$2,100 at the Valentine Ice Cream Social). We meet once a month at the home of a Board member, usually after the children are in bed so that our meetings are more of a night out.

*For more information, please contact  
Debbie Steiner-Hayes, President of the FMFN at  
(781) 395-8624 or via  
Debbie@medfordfamilies.org*

#### Medford Family Network Advisory Board (MFN)

We are seeking new Board Members for the upcoming year, July 2013- June 2014. Current committees are...

##### Marketing/Public Relations Committee

To focus on communications, including brochures, press, newsletter, and social media to ensure that MFN information is available in a variety of formats to all families.

##### Program Committee

To advise on program development and implementation; to assist in the planning and promotion of the Early Education and Care Fair as well as specialized programming such as Parent Café, Dads groups, programs for working parents and parents of twins.

*For more information, please contact  
Marie Cassidy, Family Specialist, at  
(781) 393-2106 or  
mcassidy@medford.k12.ma.us.*

### MFN Parent Ambassador Program

We are seeking parents who have had positive experiences with the Network programs and are willing to "Spread the Good News" at local citywide events such as Circle the Square, Farmers Market, and Tufts Community Day. *The goal is to train individuals and create teams of parents who will outreach to Medford families. We want to ensure that everyone is aware of what the Network has to offer.* Training provided. Contact Marie Cassidy at (781) 393-2106 or mcassidy@medford.k12.ma.us

#### School Readiness and Early Childhood Curriculum Committee (SRECCC)

The Pre K to Grade 3 Committee is a district-wide school readiness/curriculum group of parents, teachers, administrators and providers that create protocols to ensure seamless transitions among home, preschools, kindergarten, and grade 1. This is a standing committee of the MFRC (see next box). We are seeking parents from all of those settings.

*For more information, please contact  
Shelley Gross, Early Childhood/Afterschool  
Director at (781) 393-2211 or  
sgross@medford.k12.ma.us.*

#### Medford Family Resource Coalition Council (MFRC)

The Council is an early childhood governing body whose purpose is to plan, develop, and oversee the implementation of comprehensive, high-quality services to children, youth and families in the city. This year's goal is to develop and implement Parent/Child Book Clubs for students ages 8-12.

*Council Member information, please contact  
Shelley Gross, Early Childhood/Afterschool  
Director at (781) 393-2211 or  
sgross@medford.k12.ma.us.*

**SUMMER OUTDOOR FUN...  
WAYS TO PLAY TOGETHER!**

**PLAYGROUPS IN THE PARK**

**9:30 ~ 11:30 AM**

**Toot! Toot! Tuesdays  
at Tufts Park!**

July 9, 16, 23, 30; August 6, 13, 20, 27

**Thrill'n & Chill'n Thursdays  
at Capen Street Park!\***

July 11, 18, 25; August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

**Free Fun Fridays  
at Playstead Park!**

July 12, 19, 26; August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Bubbles!      Balls!      Sidewalk Chalk!  
Art Activities!      Parachute Play!  
Children's Play Structures!  
Free Books!      Songs!  
Summer Fun Activity and Information!  
Community Resources!  
*Sprinkler\* at Capen Street Park!*

If it is NOT pouring, we are playing!  
If it IS raining, please call the MFN to find out if we  
will be at the park! (781) 393-2106

**Drop-in Format.**

**Please register at the park each day you attend.**

Pack a snack and a beverage!

Bring sunscreen!

We will have a First Aid kit for emergencies!

Please call (781) 393-2106  
regarding transportation options  
and/or directions.

Call (617) 222-3200 for the  
MBTA bus information!

\*Please bring a bathing suit, towel,  
and extra clothing.



**PLAYDATES FOR  
INCOMING KINDERGARTENERS!**

**Brooks School**

Contact Eva Todtfeld and Liz White at  
welcometothebrooks@gmail.com

**Dugger Park**

Tuesday, July 23	10:00 - 11:00 am
Thursday, July 25	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Monday, August 12	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Wednesday, August 14	10:00 - 11:00 am

**Columbus School**

Contact Emily Graves at (781) 396-5970 or  
emilysg613@gmail.com

**Columbus School Playground**

Thursday, August 27      6:00 - 8:00 pm  
[Rain Date: Thursday, August 29]

**McGlynn School**

Please contact Diane Guarino, Principal, at  
(781) 393-2333 for upcoming schedule of  
playdates.

**Roberts School**

Contact Jen Lewis at (617) 834-5408  
or jen@jenalisonlewis.com

**Roberts School Playground**

Saturday, July 20	10:00 am - 12:30 pm
Friday, August 23	3:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Thursday, August 29	3:00 pm - 5:30 pm

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Every registered Kindergarten child should  
have received a Kindergarten bag containing  
great supplies and activities suggestions to  
support readiness skill development. Make  
sure that your entering kindergarten child has  
it! If your child needs a bag, or you need to  
register, please contact the Parent Information  
Center at (781) 393-2132.

Please call MFN at (781) 393-2106 for  
additional fun ways to prepare your child for  
Kindergarten.





# FREE FUN FRIDAYS ~ VISIT & ENJOY!

DATES AND LOCATIONS FOR 2013



## 60 Museums & Cultural Venues Open for FREE on Fridays all Summer

The Free Fun Fridays program invites Massachusetts residents and tourists to visit designated cultural attractions every Friday this summer with FREE admission. No registration or tickets required. For more information, please contact Highland Street Foundation at (617) 969-8900 or visit [www.highlandstreet.org](http://www.highlandstreet.org).

### Friday, July 12

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston  
Larz Anderson Auto Museum  
Cape Cod Children's Museum  
Pilgrim Hall Museum  
Museum of Russian Icons  
Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival

### Friday, July 19

JFK Library & Museum  
Reagle Music Theatre  
Buttonwood Park Zoo  
Danforth Art  
Hancock Shaker Village  
Garden in the Woods

### Friday, July 26

Commonwealth Shakespeare Company  
New England Historic Genealogical Society  
American Textile History Museum  
Children's Museum in Easton  
Amelia Park Children's Museum  
Higgins Armory Museum

### Friday, August 2

Boston Children's Museum  
Franklin Park Zoo  
Arnold Arboretum  
Fuller Craft Museum  
Wenham Museum  
The Manhaiwe Performing Arts Center

### Friday, August 9

Boston Harbor Island Alliance  
The Sports Museum  
Battleship Cove  
Ocean Explorium  
The Cape Cod Museum of Natural History  
The Eric Carle Museum

### Friday, August 16

The Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston  
USS Constitution Museum  
Concord Museum  
Edward Gorey House  
Springfield Museums  
Berkshire Museum

### Friday, August 23

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum  
Museum of African American History  
New Bedford Whaling Museum  
Fitchburg Art Museum  
Fruitlands Museum  
Sterling & Francine Clark Art Institute

### Friday, August 30

Plimoth Plantation  
The Discovery Museums  
New Repertory Theatre  
Ecotarium  
Norman Rockwell Museum  
The Mount Edith Wharton's Home

### Learning Websites for Kids:

[www.readaloudeguide.com](http://www.readaloudeguide.com)—practical guide for reading aloud to children during their first 5 years  
[www.kidsnationalgeographic.com](http://www.kidsnationalgeographic.com)—learn all about geography and fascinating animals.  
[www.reading.ecb.org](http://www.reading.ecb.org)—go “into the book” to play games that practice reading strategies.  
[www.seussville.com](http://www.seussville.com)—read, play games, and hang out with Dr. Seuss and his friends.  
[www.abcya.com](http://www.abcya.com)—practice math and reading skills all while playing games.  
[www.pbskids.org](http://www.pbskids.org)—hang out with your favorite characters all while learning.  
[www.highlightkids.com](http://www.highlightkids.com)—read, play games, and conduct cool science experiments.  
[www.medfordlibrary.org](http://www.medfordlibrary.org)—museum passes, summer reading, sing-a-longs, story times and hours.

### More Helpful websites:

[www.bostoncentral.com](http://www.bostoncentral.com) ~ family fun in Medford and surrounding areas!  
[www.onetoughjob.org](http://www.onetoughjob.org) - an online resource for real-live parents sponsored by the Children's Trust Fund; ages birth to teenage.  
[www.thinkfinity.org](http://www.thinkfinity.org) - a FREE educational website that offers curricular games, printable activities, and videos for both educators and children.



## WHAT IS THE MEDFORD FAMILY NETWORK?

The Medford Family Network of the Medford Public Schools is a FREE universal (everyone welcome) parenting education and family support program focusing on the positive impact on the developmental process of children, birth to age 13, and supporting the families that care for them.

All adults, who live or work in Medford, caring for young children, are welcome! Programs and services include parenting education workshops; discussion groups; age-specific play and learn groups; new moms groups; home visitations; family events; a lending library; a family resource/drop-in play at our family center; ages and stages questionnaire; information and referral services; family literacy initiatives; and individual consultations.

There are programs for dads, grandparents, single parents, parents who speak languages other than English; working parents; and at-home parents. Programs are held at a variety of sites around the city – weekdays, evenings and weekends. Many activities are co-sponsored with other family-serving agencies.

Parent advisory, governing and parent ambassador leadership roles are available and encouraged.

## Wish List

64 oz. Containers of Bubbles      Paper Towels  
Tissues      Hand Sanitizer

*Our BIGGEST wish is that you know how much we appreciate your support! No matter what it is, we are most grateful for your kindness and thoughtfulness.*

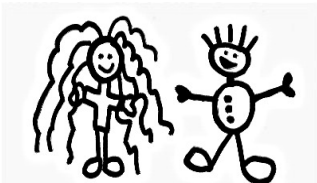
### Bids for Medford Family Network Consultant Work

We are currently seeking bids for Child Care Workers, Playgroup Leaders, Parent Educators, and Office Aide (9 hours/week) for Fiscal Year 2013-14. Please mail or email written quotes by Friday, July 26 to:

Shelley Gross, Early Childhood/Afterschool Director  
489 Winthrop Street, Medford, MA 02155  
Telephone: 781-393-2211  
Email: [sgross@medford.k12.ma.us](mailto:sgross@medford.k12.ma.us)

Written quotes should be on letterhead with name, address and telephone # and contain the following information: position (e.g., child care worker, playgroup leader, parent educator) and hourly rate for service to be rendered.

# A FRIEND TO KNOW...A PLACE TO GROW!



MEDFORD FAMILY NETWORK  
MEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL  
489 WINTHROP STREET  
MEDFORD, MA 02155

PHONE: (781) 393-2106  
FAX: (781) 393-2123



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