



# WATERTOWN FAMILY NETWORK

Helping people be the best parents they can be



SPRING 2007

## Make Way for Ducklings Walk

Once again the Watertown Family Network and the Watertown Free Public Library offered a walk down to and around the Charles River reminiscent of the walk taken by Mr. and Mrs. Mallard in the popular child's book "Make Way for Ducklings." Many children were dressed in yellow like little ducklings and some strollers were decorated with balloons and duckling paraphernalia. Over 60 families - more than 150 people! - joined us on our way to scout out ducks, geese, turtles and other forms of wildlife. We had a police escort as well. Elaine Garnache of the Watertown Public Library led a great story and sing-a-long time. We also collected \$40.00 during the walk, which was enough to buy 2 flocks of geese from Heifer International. These geese will be donated to a family in a developing country. The geese will provide sustenance for the members of the family and their neighbors.

Everyone who attended this event remarked on how much fun it was. We hope that it remains an annual event in Watertown.

## Spring and Summer at Arsenal Park

Wednesday afternoons in spring and summer are a time for children to get outdoors, breathe fresh air and take advantage of the longer hours of sunshine. Once again, Candy Gleason has volunteered to monitor an outdoor playgroup that will meet on Wednesday afternoons beginning the first week of June at the Arsenal Park for outdoor fun and games. As you well know, going to the park is so much more pleasant when you are going with other adults. So meet your friends at Arsenal on

Wednesday afternoons at 4:00 pm for great outdoor fun and games. Each week Candy will have something different with her - balls, bubbles, and other surprises. Thanks Candy for volunteering to do this again.

## Watertown Family Network Receives Grants

The Watertown Family Network has applied for and received the following grants:

- \$500.00 from the Watertown Community Foundation "A River Runs Through It" Grant for running - along with the Early Childhood Services Council - a clothing exchange in early fall. Please remember this when you are thinking of purchasing winter coats, boots and other costly winter items. If this event happens in early October we will also add in a costume exchange for Halloween or for your child's dress up box.
- \$700.00 from the Marshall Home Fund for the purpose of continuing "Baby Buddies" and other intergenerational programming between Watertown Family Network and senior dwellings throughout Watertown.

## Memorial Day Parade Promises Fun and Surprises

This year due to the generosity of John Lawn of Charles River Real Estate we will have a real TROLLEY from Bush Hill Tours in the Memorial Day Parade. Now it is up to us to fill the trolley with families. Please join us at 11:30 am on Arlington Street to board the trolley. If you like you can walk alongside the trolley rather than ride on the trolley.

We do recommend that you bring a stroller or carrier for your child so he/she will not tire out. We feel that this trolley will add to the festive nature of the parade and also give the Family Network the exposure that it needs to attract new parents. Tell your friends and neighbors to join us.

## Summer Programs in Watertown

Are you looking for a summer program for your toddler and/or preschooler? There are a lot of programs out there, but here are a few local organizations that offer programming for this age group. To the best of our knowledge, this information is accurate, but we encourage you to contact these organizations for more details.

### **Watertown Public Schools Summer Program Early Steps Preschool at the Hosmer School 1 Concord Rd.**

This program is for preschoolers 3-5 yrs of age. For more information you can call the Preschool at 617-926-7765 or go to the Public School website [www.watertown.k12.ma.us](http://www.watertown.k12.ma.us). There is also a brochure that is mailed to all families in Watertown about the summer programs available to Watertown residents.

### **Growing Places Preschool 30 Common St. Watertown, MA**

This summer program is for ages 18 months – Pre-K and runs from July 9th – August 17th. The program is unique in that it is a pre-set yet flexible schedule, you don't have to sign up for the whole summer! You can pay per diem, whatever fits your schedule. The hours are 8:00am-1:00pm or 8:00am-4:00pm. Call 617-924-7336 or e-mail to [growingwatertown@aol.com](mailto:growingwatertown@aol.com)

### **Full Out Cheer Academy 100 Parker St. Watertown, MA**

This program runs weekly throughout the summer. Ages are 5 yrs. and up. This year they have a drop-in toddler open gym program every Tuesday and Thursday 10:00am-12:00pm. It is \$5.00 per hour. You can access all the information you need on their website [www.fulloutcheeracademy.com](http://www.fulloutcheeracademy.com) or call 617-393-9714.

### **Rosary Learning Academy Center 2 Rosary Drive Watertown, MA**

This is a 3 to 5 day program that runs for 7 weeks July into August. Ages 3.5 - 6.5 yrs. of age. There are 9:00am-3:00pm or a 7:30am-5:30pm time slots offered. Please call 617-923-1935 or e-mail [ralc1@verizon.net](mailto:ralc1@verizon.net) for more information.

### **Stepping Stones 167 Waverly Ave. Watertown, MA**

This program serves children ages 2 months to 5 yrs. You can register for the whole summer or July or August. For more information call 617-926-1434 or e-mail to [Elizabeth@stepcare.net](mailto:Elizabeth@stepcare.net) and go to the website [www.stepcare.net](http://www.stepcare.net).

### **Watertown Cooperative Nursery School 525 Main St. Watertown, MA**

This is a 6week program starting early June- early August for children 2.9-5yrs. old. You are able to pay per week for this programming. Camp is 9:00am-1:00pm with Early Birds 8:30-9:00am and Stay Day 1:00-3:00pm. Please call for details 617-924-0225 or visit their website [www.WatertownCooperativeNurserySchool.org](http://www.WatertownCooperativeNurserySchool.org).

### **Storyville Preschool 97 Union St. Watertown, MA**

They offer a full summer program from June 25th – August 30th. You can go full time or part time. Hours are 7:00am – 6:00pm. They accept children 2.9-7 yrs. old. You can call 617-923-0930 or e-mail [storyvilleps@aol.com](mailto:storyvilleps@aol.com). Visit their website at [www.storyvillepreschool.com](http://www.storyvillepreschool.com).

### **Four Seasons Preschool 15 Hall Ave. Watertown, MA For information call 617-923-4848.**

In addition, the Family Network will continue to offer great programs and activities throughout the summer:

- Music on Fridays - thanks to a grant from the Cultural Council
- Music on Wednesdays at the Brigham House
- A Visit from the Traveling Tide Pool of the New England Aquarium
- Planting with the seniors at 100 Warren St
- A Tour of the Belmont Car Wash
- Teddy Bear Picnic at the Greek Church
- Visit with the farm animals of Gore Place
- Family Picnic
- End of the summer picnic at Brigham House

Be sure to check the calendar for dates.