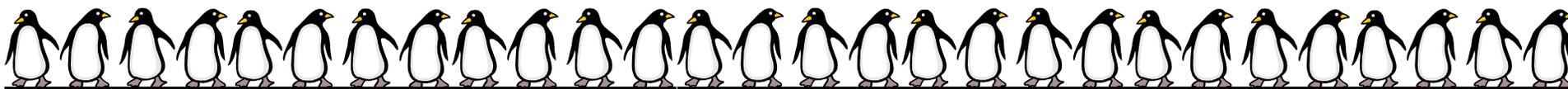


Burns Park Press - June 2008



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Calendar of Events

Fri, Jun 13: **Last Day of School**
1/2 day: dismissed at 11:48

Have a wonderful summer!

Tues, Sep 2: **Back to School**

Check out the **PTO websites:**

<http://www.burnsparkpto.org>

and Penguin Talk :

<http://www.burnsparkpto.org/confer/>

Burns Park Mission Statement:

All of our children will become confident, secure, caring individuals of a diverse community who are lifelong learners and achieve personal success.

Congratulations and Goodbye to our 5th Graders!

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Lucas Arrivo | LaShawna Jones | Mehanaz Oyshi |
| Tulin Babbitt | Zachary Jones | Chase Pender |
| Kevin Barnes | Pierson | Caroline Phillips |
| Maya Ben-Shahar | Casey Jong | Anders Rasmussen |
| Will Bogen | Laura Kanji | Jacob Ressler |
| Nicholas Borbely | Juliette Killough | Samuel Richardson |
| John Bradford | Hyun Ji Kim | Danielle Sacerdoti |
| Josiah Brewer | Charles Korman | Noah Sadlier |
| Evan Brown | John Kozicz | Isaac Scobey-Thal |
| Jason Chen | Alan Lee | Matthew Scotton |
| Aidan Connolly | Oren Levin | Avital Smotrich-Barr |
| Seetha Lakshmi | Rose Lewis | Naseeb Souweidane |
| Davis | Charles Markel | Holden Tamblyn |
| Santiago de la Cerda | Mildred Marquez | Caleb Tesar |
| Harlow | Escobar | Brady Thomas |
| Alexandra Forman | Isabelle Matossian | James Thompson |
| Lucy Fuller | Sarah Mc Currach | Obiageri Ugwuegbu |
| Anastasia Gibson | Sydney McGee | Emily Uhlmann |
| John Govern | Claire Meingast | Alec Vereen |
| Madeline Halpert | Karamoja | Patrick Wagoner |
| Edwin Hoffman | Monchamp | Katherine Wardner |
| Amelia Huang | Nathaniel Ojo | Benjamin Wier |
| KeOnte James | Eric Osterwisch | Ryan Wieties |

From our Principal

Dear Families,

As we move into the busy final days of the school year, I look back with a sense of pride. With all the academic, social and behavioral gains, our students have *all* grown! Watching and helping children grow in so many ways is such a pleasure. Thank you for sharing them with us.

Thank You

On behalf of the staff I want to thank you once again for the delicious Staff Appreciation Luncheon (the food is always so wonderful) and the other little appreciation gifts throughout the year that let us all know that you care. Your continuous moral support throughout the year and, more importantly, your willingness to help in a multitude of practical ways goes a long way to make Burns Park School "*all that a kid could want*." Thanks to Elizabeth DeRose and Leslie Sapp for coordinating all of the volunteers who have worked so hard this year to make us feel appreciated.

Ice Cream Social

Wow, what fun the Ice Cream Social was! I think the hit of the evening, at least for our 5th graders, was the dunk tank. We'd like to acknowledge the work of Jane Wood, Linda Joss and the many, many volunteers that made sure this evening was enjoyable for everyone. For many new families this Social was their first school event, while for several of our 5th grade students' families it was a fond farewell. Thanks, volunteers, for all that you do!

Burns Park Run

Congratulations to everyone who had anything, big or small, to do with the tremendous success of this year's Burns Park Run. It is always fun to see so many students participate, whether they run by themselves or alongside their parents. Once again Jackie and Joel Dalton and Jill and Van Hunsberger put together a fantastic run and luckily we had weather to match it.

This year Olympian, Sheila Taormina, was a big hit with our students, especially the Walk and Talk Team. Sheila lead the team in pre-race warm ups and taught them the US team's Olympic cheer.

Ask a Burns Park student what Olympic sport requires it competitors to shoot an air pistol, swim freestyle for 200 meter, run 3 kilometers, jump 12 hurdles on horseback on an unknown horse, and Fence a component epee style, and they will tell you the Modern Pentathlon. Not only were our students awed by the requirements of the Pentathlon event, they were thrilled to hear about a local Olympian, Shelia T and her progress towards competing in this event in Beijing! A special thanks to Cammie Dalton and her dad for the informative assembly complete with slideshow and video about Shelia's training schedule.

Once again, a big thanks to Marci Ammerman and the rest of the Walk and Talk volunteers that made Walk and Talk Club such a great opportunity for our students to enjoy walking and running throughout the year. The dedication of their time, even when the weather was a bit on the cool side, is a tribute to their commitment to our students.

Science Olympiad Team

Our team continues to grow and compete successfully. This year I enjoyed watching our students compete in some of the events during the countywide competition held at Huron High School.

A big thanks goes to Sue Cutler and the dedicated coaches that worked with the teams to prepare them. We have a lovely banner that we will proudly display in our remodeled Cafeteria next fall.

Students competed in events entitled Map Reading, Circuit Wizardry, Pentathlon, Water Rockets, Mystery Architecture, Write, Build It, Estimania, Barge Building, Sink and Float, Science Jeopardy, What Went By?, Straw Tower, Puff Mobile, Rock Hunter, and No Bones About It.

Our 2nd graders proudly brought home the Second Grade Champion trophy.

Year Long Multicultural Celebration of Africa

This year we all enjoyed learning about modern day Africa in our music, art, PE and media center classes. We'd like to thank Luciana Borbely, Violet Souweidane, Ruth Slavin and Ms. Page who chaired this PTO committee. We thank them for all the work they did to partner with U of M to bring so many experts to our school. I think that we will all look at Africa's influence on the rest of the world in new and different ways as a result of all of the things we have learned and experienced.

... more from our Principal

4th Grade Camp

Our fourth graders had an outstanding time at Camp Ohiyesa last month. I had the opportunity to spend the night and visit with them at camp, and I very much enjoyed being able to participate in some of their activities. For several students, this was their first camping experience, and I believe it was one they will always remember.

Under the careful guidance of Ms. Dworkin, Ms. Spiegel, Ms. Pryce, and the Ohiyesa staff, our students had a chance to learn more about nature and history as they experienced a Michigan fur trading canoe, learned outdoor survival skills and hiked to a bog. They participated in various team-building activities as they navigated the team's course, the huge climbing wall and the zip line. They also enjoyed traditional recreational activities like a game of *Capture the Flag* and singing camp songs around an evening campfire.

Thanks go to the many parents who, acted as chaperones and supported the kids all the way. We couldn't have done it without you!

School Improvement Team (SIT) Members Wanted

The School Improvement Team (SIT) is looking for a few good parents for the 2008-2009 school year. No experience necessary! The team is looking for parents and community members to replace retiring members. This is a great opportunity for you to help make a difference.

The School Improvement Team is made up of teachers, staff, parents and the principal working together to improve student achievement. It meets once every other month (meetings usually last an hour) to work on key issues that impact our students' ability to succeed. We encourage members to serve on the team for two years. Please call me at 994-1919, or drop a note in my mailbox or the SIT's mailbox to express your interest.

Staffing Update

As the staff and I look at projected enrollment for next year, our best guess at this date is the following:

Kdg.: Weinmann, Sue Cramer, Stein

First: Chappuis, Monts, Ambrosino, possibly vacant

Second: Walters, Kim, Vacant

Third: Crankshaw, Everett, Staples

Fourth: Spiegel, Dworkin, possibly vacant

Fifth: Cramer, Pryce, Kreger

Please keep in mind that this staffing projection is subject to change depending on changes in enrollment over the summer months. I spent most of last week interviewing new teachers as we have two vacant positions to fill. The good news is that there are many wonderful teachers who would be delighted to work for the Ann Arbor Schools.

Reminders Regarding the Last Day

School isn't over till it's over! Remember that the last day of school is Friday, June 13. We will continue teaching up to the last minute; please remind your children to keep learning!

Remember, June 13 is a half-day of school for students, with dismissal at 11:48.

Finally, we have had trouble in the past with students and family members bringing shaving cream to school on the last day. PLEASE LEAVE SHAVING CREAM, WATER BALLOONS, SILLY STRING, ETC. AT HOME - INCLUDING AFTER THE DISMISSAL BELL. I look forward to a shaving cream free day!

Lunch Accounts

Thank you to all who check frequently to ensure your child's account balance is current. All balances unpaid at the end of the year are deducted from our school's general budget. Please help us avoid having to pay this balance out of our instructional budget by making sure your child's lunch account is paid in full.

Educationally yours,

Kathy Morhous, Principal

From our PTO President

It is hard to believe another school year is drawing to a close! There are so many exciting programs and events happening between now and the end of the year, I would encourage you to check the press calendar and read the PTO email notes closely so you don't miss anything.

At the May PTO meeting the teachers hosted a delicious volunteer appreciation tea. It was a lovely event and we all enjoyed the chance to mingle and talk in an adult only setting. We also elected a new slate of officers for 2008-2009, so this is my last president's letter.

The main focus of the meeting was reviewing and approving for funding teacher Platinum Apple grants. The grants in the table on Page 5 were funded for 2008-2009.

We discussed the Village Fund Initiative of the Ann Arbor Public Schools Education Foundation (AAPSEF). This year 20% of AAPS students receive free and reduced lunch. It is likely that these families cannot afford for their children to participate in the daily social and academic activities of school, for example: pictures, yearbooks, birthday celebrations, field trips, school projects, book orders etc. The Village Fund exists to ensure that no AAPS student is excluded from the daily activities of school because of financial

need. Elementary PTO's can apply for funds from the initiative to support this idea at their school. A \$750 contribution to the fund was approved.

The following slate of officers was elected for the 2008-2009 school year:

Elizabeth Depose, President

Lynda Norton, President-elect

David Lowenschuss, Treasurer

Raleigh Sadlier, Secretary

Janice Lieberman and Helen Sharman,
Volunteer Coordinators

And last, we are still in the process of filling committee chair positions. We have opportunities of all shapes and sizes and are always looking for new faces. If you are interested in a specific job or just have questions be sure to talk to Elizabeth, Lynda, Helen or Janice.

Thanks again for all that you have done for the school and our students this year. If you have any questions please feel free to call or email.

Helen Starman, PTO President
994-8553 or hstarman@comcast.net

Thanks a Million!

- ◆ This year's executive committee **Elizabeth DeRose, David Lowenschuss, Raleigh Sadlier and Janice Lieberman** who worked so hard all year in their respective roles and as a group to plan for the school.
- ◆ **Jill Hunsberger, Jackie and Joel Dalton** and their volunteers for a great Burns Park Run, beautiful weather and a record number of runners!
- ◆ **Sue Cutler** and all the Science Olympiad volunteer coaches and parent supporters!
- ◆ **Linda Joss and Jane Wood** and the many, many volunteers for another great ice cream social!
- ◆ **Elizabeth DeRose, Leslie Sapp** and the many parents who contributed food and drink to another delicious Teacher Appreciation Luncheon!
- ◆ **Anne Gilbert** for an organized, informative and easy to read Burns Park Press each month.
- ◆ **Lynda Norton** for chairing Burns Park Bucks for a second year and for finding her own replacement!
- ◆ **Steve Norton** for his countless hours of work on the Citizens Millage Campaign – thanks to this we have secured crucial funding for another four years.
- ◆ All the **teachers** at Burns Park for a delicious volunteer "mix" and lots of sweets to thank parent volunteers in addition to all they do for our children every day!
- ◆ And last, but not least, to every parent and staff member at the school who supported the PTO and our students by volunteering, participating in fundraisers, attending meetings and always striving to make Burns Park "everything a kid could want!" It has been my pleasure to work with and know you all!

Helen Starman, PTO President

| Platinum Apple Grants | | | |
|---|-------------------|--------|---|
| Title | Grade(s) Impacted | Cost | Brief Summary |
| Artifact Box Exchange | 3rd | \$1950 | Classrooms are paired with mystery schools. Each class assembles a box with clues about their community. Boxes are exchanged and students then study clues in the box to determine the location of their partner school. Integrates curriculum and meets the 3 rd grade social studies, science and language arts expectations. |
| Bucketfillers for Life | All + staff | \$1750 | This program provides students, staff, teachers and parents with another model for talking about feelings and positive behavior. Includes an in-service for ALL staff (teachers, bus drivers, noon hour aides, kitchen staff etc), K-3 assembly, classroom workshops for grades 4 & 5 and an evening workshop for families. |
| Dancing Your Way Through Michigan History | 3,4 & 5 | \$2000 | Each grade level will have 70-minute class periods for three weeks with a well-known contra caller. Benefits: movement, physical exercise, increased ability to keep a beat, understanding of musical form and cooperative learning. Extended learning: in PE students will create their own dances and in music students will learn songs about MI and US history. |
| Kindergarten ABC's | K and some 1 | \$1000 | Will provide appropriate leveled texts that students can take home in addition to their weekly library book for reading at home. Funds requested cover the cost of leveled books, book bags and labels. |
| Summer Learning Program | K – 4 | \$1800 | A simple eight-week workbook program designed to ensure that students maintain grade level learned skills (reading comprehension, writing and math facts) over the summer. Students will be supported by a student assembly to explain the workbooks, weekly parent supervised playground meetings to complete workbooks and positive reinforcement for completed work at the end of the summer (recognition and prizes). |

Burns Park Science Olympiad Team

Final News

The Burns Park Science Olympiad (BPSO) Team competed in the 6th Annual Washtenaw Elementary Science Olympiad on May 3rd, 2008. Fifty-three Burns Park students competed, and we won medals in 13 events! Coaches and parents were all very proud of our team, and their superb sportsmanship.

I want to give a very special thanks to all of our coaches for their many hours of enthusiastic dedication from January to May, to enriching the lives of our future science, engineering, medicine, and mathematics superstars! Our coaches were: Pat Gibson (Mystery Architecture and Barge Building), Roopa Gurm (Estimania), Matt Thompson (Water Rockets), Sucheta Joshi (No Bones About It), Robert Bradford (Rock Hunter), Jeff Fessler (Circuit Wizardry), Ginny Rogers (Map Reading), Caren Goldberg (Science Jeopardy, Sink or Float, and What Went By?), Yeong Kwok (Sink or Float and What Went By?), Emma Huntley (Puff Mobile and Straw Tower), Hugh Huntley (Puff Mobile and Straw Tower), Liz Stern (Rock Hunter), Nancy Vettorello (Pentathlon), Kevin Ross (Write It Build It), Jason Berryhill (No Bones About It), Brandon Cutler (Circuit Wizardry), and Cindy Middleton (Pentathlon).

And thanks to all of the BPSO Team kids, whose love of learning made it all worthwhile!

Sue Cutler, 2008 BPSO Head Coach

ThinkStretch's Summer Learning Program

Burns Park - Summer 2008

Summer learning loss is a researched phenomenon. All students experience learning losses when they do not engage in educational activities during the summer. On average, elementary students lose 2.6 months of math computation skills and reading comprehension scores decline by one to two months. (Source of data – Johns Hopkins University study) To address summer learning loss the Burns Park PTO will pilot ThinkStretch's Summer Learning Program this year.

The Summer Learning Program has the following goals:

- To reach ALL Burns Park current K – 4 students
- To be affordable (it's free!)
- To be attractive to students
- To be grade specific
- To focus on skill retention, not introduction of new skills
- To provide adult support throughout the summer
- To provide the ability for students to be self-directed and self-sufficient when working on the program

What is the Summer Learning Program?

- A Summer Learning Book for every student: each book contains eight weeks of grade specific lessons for the summer; each lesson has a reading, writing and math activity as well as a bonus activity. All activities are based on the AAPS curriculum and grade level report card outcomes.
- Additional bonus activities to do anytime
- Weekly playground sessions with a parent volunteer to work on Summer Learning Books with other students
- Prizes and recognition for lessons and activities completed
- Parent Guide to Summer: suggested books by reading level, questions to further reading comprehension, math games, websites for summer learning games and

enrichment and AA destinations and programs for summer fun and learning that are free or low cost.

How will the Summer Learning Program work at Burns Park?

- There will be a student assembly in the next week or two to introduce students to the idea of summer learning loss and to the Summer Learning Program
- Parents will be asked to volunteer at one of ten playground sessions during the summer to assist students in completing their Summer Learning Books
- Students will receive their own grade specific Summer Learning Book the last week of school
- Parents will receive the Parent Guide to Summer
- Students will turn in their completed (or partially completed Summer Learning Book) to their new teacher in September
- Students who complete half or more of their Summer Learning Book will be recognized and be given small prizes at an all school assembly in the fall

Questions? Please call or email Helen Starman (hstarman@comcast.net or 994-8553)

The 2008 Ice Cream Social Sends Out a "HUGE" Thanks

A Special Thank You to Two Very Special Women: Niki Wardner and Semra Koknar

Thank you for volunteering for the Ice Cream Social (and in many, many other capacities at our school). You are leaving Burns Park when your 5th graders graduate this year, but our school will miss the passion and enthusiasm you brought every year to our students!

Thanks to ALL the Amazing People who made this Ice Cream Social one of the Best Ever!

Lynda Norton & Nancy Vettorello - 2007's chairs that took our questions, calls and emails.

Kristen Freshley & Carolynn Hayman- 2006's Chairs that took the time to create our manual. Without it we would have been absolutely lost!

Agnes Jensen- Ice Cream - Thanks for helping out before the event to ensure the ice cream was ready!

Violet Souweidane-Popcorn - You have been such a pleasure to work with - prepared and enthusiastic!

Steve Swaney-Pizza From organizing money to pizza delivery, you did everything well!

JoLeen Felkey- Drink Table - The 3rd grade class will certainly benefit from your organization and care!

Nancy Upchurch - Sno-Cones Thank you for running this NEW event!

Lisa Markman - Cake Walk Thanks for another year.

Kathy Sample - Moon Bounce Thanks for organizing FOUR moon bounces!

Dawn Korman - Dunk Tank - What a GREAT job you did organizing our 5th graders to get dunked!

Karen Pender & Jenny Jalet - Fishing Game From the moment you took on this task, you owned it!

Katie Chosid & Rachel Seel - Duck Pond Thanks for organizing a great group of parents to run our pond for all of our little duckies!

Elizabeth & Jonah Jeffords - Lollipop Tree Thanks for purchasing the 'pops' and running the event by yourselves!

Barry Fuller - Golf Game Thanks for making this event fun for kids and adults!

Liz Phillips - Bumblebee Toss Your first year here and you chair an event for us!

Loren Jackson & Mary Hampton - Basketball Thanks for the fun game and those treasured basketball cards!

Courtney Mccreadie - Toddler Area Thanks for taking such good care of our toddlers! !

Julie Cohen - Face Painting Thanks for being here for our kiddos. They LOVE their face paint station!

Jeff Fessler & Rick Rickman - Entertainment- Thank you for running the amazing music!

Nancy Vettorello - Prizes- Thank you for taking on this very important position and doing it so competently!

Ginny Rogers - Tickets - You have been such a gem to help us get our tickets out early and to the families!

Thank you to the local businesses that have contributed to our community event. Please patronize them whenever possible!:

Pizza House - You are donating almost 200 pizzas AGAIN to us! Thank You! We appreciate your community-mindedness.

Colonial Lanes- Dave And Amelia- Thanks for coming to our event and bringing 2 lanes and the people to help run it!

Pilars - Sylvia - We love your food and are so glad you bring this great flavor to our event!

Bearclaw - Diane Wright - Thank you for making wonderful coffee and selling it with a smile!

Washtenaw Dairy - Dave - You have been more than helpful with us in ordering our ice cream. We also appreciate you for letting us know about how we could help the community!

And, last but not least, some more very important THANK YOU'S:

Mrs. Morhous, Kathy Kyle and Michelle, our three Amigas in the front office! Thanks for your support and patience as we asked questions, fumbled around the copy room and borrowed things! You are so amazing!

William and Angie, our maintenance workers. Thank you for helping us set up and clean up, and everything in between! You are so helpful!

Thanks to the **Pioneer Key Club** for providing hard- working volunteers!

Linda Joss and Jane Wood

Return Your Library Books & Win!

As the end of the school year approaches, please help your student(s) look for and return any media center materials (books, magazines, audiobooks) they may have. ALL materials are due back by June 6. As an added incentive to return all library books and other materials, I will be giving away prizes. During the week of June 2-6, students who have returned all their borrowed materials will be eligible to enter a drawing for one of ten envelopes filled with goodies (mostly books and school supplies). At the beginning of the school day on June 9, I will announce winners over the P.A. We always hope for a 100% return rate so that more of next year's budget can be spent on acquiring new items and less on replacing old ones. Then, everyone's a winner.

Thank you very much, Rachel Erdstein

Walk and Talkers Appreciate Awesome Volunteers

A very special thank you to the incredibly dedicated Walk and Talk volunteers for making this program possible by their weekly commitment this spring.

Kendra Theriot, Julia Huttar Bailey, Steve Brown, Barbara Peitsch, Gayle Rosen, Christie Brown, Susan Bass, Courtney McCreddie and Heidi Butz.

A very special thank you to Chris Fichera, Burns Park parent, and his company, i tops, for donating his time to the design and production of all of our Walk and Talk t-shirts this year.

We had an enthusiastic group of kids who joined us 3 times a week to run/ walk laps – many reached their goals of 10 miles, 26.2 miles, and even 50 miles – WOW!! We completed our season with many of the students participating in the Burns Park Run.

Congratulations to all these students – keep 'em moving this summer!

Marci Ammerman

Dear School Community,

It has been a wonderful year of concerts and learning in the music classroom. Thank you to all for your kind words and the flowers along the way. Thank you to the many people who help both the music program and our school operate optimally. Congratulations and thanks to the students for a job well done and fun times along the way. Happy Summer to you all, and I'm looking forward to seeing you next year!

Cynthia Page-Bogen

Burn\$ Park Buck\$ Earnings

The Burns Park Bucks program has earned close to \$7,000 so far this year! By the end of the summer, we should reach \$8,000. Thank you so much to all who have participated, especially those who have standing orders and those who reload their grocery cards each month. The reloadable grocery cards (Hiller's, Busch's, and Kroger's) bring in the most earnings for the program by far. So, please keep reloading over the summer! I do have extra Hiller's cards, too, if anyone would like one. They start with a zero balance. Plum Market will be added shortly to the list, as well. I'll let everyone know when their cards come available.

I also wanted to thank Devra Kellen for her great help in delivering the cards to homes each month. Her assistance has been invaluable!

Cindy Middleton will be taking over this program in the fall. We're hoping, with everyone's help, we can make the program even more successful next year!

Lynda Norton

Local graduate student (U-M) seeking affordable 1/2BR temporary housing Sept. - Dec. to complete graduate degree. Non-smoker, serious student with 5th grader in BP area preferred. Homeowner, but hates commute. Call/text (313)772.1017 or email (alinaj@umich.edu) .

Park Stewardship for Earth Day

In celebration of Earth Day and expanding their unit on Community, local CampFire groups have been exploring Park Stewardship.

The Burns Park K/I group met under the trees at the park and explored all the ways the Park gives to our community. The kids noted 'oxygen from the trees', 'a place to meet our friends', 'a place to sled', 'pretty things to look at', 'a place to get a drink of water', 'a place to take our dogs', 'a place to meet new people', 'a place to think', 'a place to learn to ride a bike'. Talking about things people do to hurt the park prompted 'littering', graffiti, 'eroding the soil', 'starting fires' and even 'bullying and excluding.' After brainstorming on ways kids can help our park community flourish, they donned gloves and picked up trash all along the south end of the park. From the Senior Center to the school, they (corrected from the) filled seven bags with trash, including pounds of cigarette butts, broken glass, water bottles, empty snack bags, deflated soccer balls, juice boxes wrappers, discarded construction supplies, and more. After that, they spruced up the hill by loosening the soil, then sowed grass and clover seed. One child was overheard telling another "you know, we really are heroes for the environment!"

Thanks for the hard work, boys and girls!

In the spirit of including others and building community, the group would like to explore making this a regular activity, and wonders if there is interest in extending it to the school community. When Walk 'n Talk is not in session, we could hold scheduled "trash walks" at lunch recess, where kids from different classes work together to clean up the park. Adults interested in volunteering to help build such a program can contact Susan Hutton (susan@susanhutton.com) or Pat Wells (patwells@comcast.net).

As one of the nation's oldest youth development organizations, CampFire is inclusive, open to every person in the communities served, welcoming children, youth and adults regardless of race, religion, socioeconomic status, disability, sexual orientation or other aspect of diversity.

<http://www.campfire.org/start.asp>.



Host Families Needed

Each year dozens of exceptional Ann Arbor families open their homes to 44 of the finest American amateur players in the country.

These selfless families provide a vital service to the success of the National Team Development Program.

USA Hockey is looking for great families to take in a player and provide homes and a family environment for the student/athletes who attend AA Pioneer High School from late August 2008 to mid June 2009. (You must live in the Ann Arbor school district)

The National Team Development Program (NTDP) was started ten years ago by USA Hockey in an effort to increase the overall development of American hockey players. The Program brings together America's premier student/athlete hockey players under the age of 18. The NTDP is a non-profit organization that operates year-round by placing emphasis on athletic, academic, and social development in order to allow American hockey players success at the highest levels.

USA Hockey teams play a schedule that includes competition from the North American Hockey League as well as regular competitions with NCAA Division I and III college hockey squads. The teams also participate in major international tournaments and series against leading National and Select teams from Europe.

You can learn more about the program at <http://www.usahockey.com>

The relationship shared between the players, host families, the player's families and USA Hockey coaches and staff can last a lifetime.

All families receive a monthly stipend and season tickets to the all of the USA Hockey home hockey games – played at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

If you want more information on how you can help us by becoming a host family, please call our housing hotline at (734) 327-9251 ext. 24 or email housing@usahockeyntdp.com

2008 Washtenaw County Summer Sports Camp

The Juvenile Division of the Washtenaw County Trial Court is again offering free summer camps for students age 8-15 years old. There is no camp fee. Camps offered are Football, Track, Golf, Wrestling, Basketball, Cheerleading and Tennis. They are offered at a variety of places including Huron, Pioneer, Ypsilanti High, U of M Golf Course and EMU. Lunch is provided

For more information visit www.ewashtenaw.org or call 222-6900. Flyers are available in school offices.

Yoga & Nature Summer Camp

For Girls at Matthaei Botanical Gardens

Our girls summer camp is a holistic program that combines yoga, hiking, nature-based crafts, and development of self-esteem and emotional intelligence skills. This interactive educational program expands children's knowledge and appreciation of nature, encourages a life long habit of exercise (strength and flexibility through yoga, tai chi, etc.), and empowers girls to live consciously while balancing mind, body and spirit harmoniously. We will have lunch picnics in the gardens. Some of the activities the girls will be engaged in include pressing and drying flowers, drawing nature outdoors, and journaling. All this within the beautiful environs of Matthaei Botanical Gardens!

The camp is for girls ages 7-11. Fee for each session is \$200 including cost of materials. Two one-week sessions are offered. For registration call 268-6008 or visit www.radiantnow.org.

Session I: July 14-July 18 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Session II: July 21-July 25 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Penguin Care Club Cleans Up Playground

In the spirit of Earth Day, Penguin Care Club members picked up litter around the school, pulled garlic mustard, raked the picnic table area, planted flowers by the front sign and made pinecone bird feeders. Taking responsibility for keeping the earth clean was the message of the meeting and the hands on experience was enjoyed by all. Get your children involved in keeping our wonderful parks picked up at the Huron River Clean Up this summer!

Stay in shape over the summer!

Be ready for the **Big House, Big Heart** 5K run and fun run September 28, 2008 at 1pm.

<http://www.bighousebigheart.com/>

This is another great opportunity to raise funds for the charity of your choice, including the Burns Park PTO (link to be added soon)! It's easy- after one person has registered, just email friends and family with a link to the fundraising page of your choice. We hope to see lots of Burns Park families "finishing on the 50" in the Big House. Backpack reminders and organized training runs after school will happen in September.

Questions? Contact Joel Dalton at a2burnsparkrun@gmail.com.

To the Burns Park Community Thank You

For your thoughtfulness, generosity and support

Over the past two months

The Family of Karen W. Thomas

Andy and Jonathan

The logo for Anne Gilbert features the name "Anne" in a purple serif font above "Gilbert" in a larger purple serif font. To the left of "Gilbert" are three horizontal wavy lines in green and purple.

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Burns Park real estate expert and parent. Neighborhood sales information at:

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Thank You from the PTO

A very special thank you to Helen Starman for her outstanding job as PTO President this year. Her commitment to and passion for quality education shine through in all she does. Her countless hours of "behind-the-scenes" work, and her excellent leadership and organizational skills truly helped to make our school a better place. Thank you Helen!

Thank You from the PTO Hospitality/ Teacher Appreciation Committee

Thank you so much to all of the families whose generous contributions of time and culinary skill helped make the Spring Teacher and Staff Appreciation Luncheon a huge success. As many of the teachers and staff in attendance said as they circulated through the Teachers' Lounge that was overflowing with scrumptious dishes, "We look forward to this day all year long!" The food was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and most importantly, it was a wonderful way to show our gratitude for everything that they've done for our kids all year long.

Thanks also goes to our committee members for all of their support and hard work in making this year's events run so smoothly: **Kristy Demas, Sonya Freiband, Susan Hutton, Agnes Jensen, Linda Joss, Janice Lieberman, Kim Mass, Karen Millman, Beth Randall, Nancy Upchurch, Kristen Wickstrom and Jane Wood.** We couldn't have done it without all of you!

Elizabeth DeRose and Leslie Sapp

Burns Park Press Submissions

This newsletter is published monthly by the Burns Park PTO. Contributions from teachers, staff, parents, and students are welcomed. Articles can be sent via email (preferred) or placed in the BP Press box in the office. Articles for the September 2009 issue are due no later than **Friday, August 22**. Late submissions may not be included. Any questions, comments or suggestions about the Press are welcome!

Anne Gilbert, 657-7121 or AGilbert@Surovell.com

Burns Park Press Advertising

Display Ads: We welcome ads for companies and services of interest to our Burns Park community. 1/8 page ads are \$35/ issue or 3 months for \$100. 1/4 pages ads are \$70/issue or 3 months for \$200.

Classifieds: Classifieds are to be used by the families of the Burns Park area to sell/buy personal items and/or services. Classifieds rates are \$.20/word.

Electronic Submission, please! Submit your ad to Anne Gilbert, BP Press Editor, agilbert@surovell.com.

Payment: Please place your check (made out to Burns Park PTO) in an envelope labeled "BP Press Ads, attn: Treasurer" in the PTO box in the school office. (They may also be mailed to the school at 1414 Wells, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.) Both the electronic ad copy and payment must be received by the published deadline for the issue in which the ad is placed.

Questions? Contact Anne at 657-7121 or AGilbert@Surovell.com.

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