

THE PIERCE SCHOOL BROADSHEET

Issue 17 - 4/30/09

PTO NEWS is also available online at <http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org>

The Pierce School Broadsheet

Dear (Contact First Name),

Welcome to the current issue of the Pierce School Broadsheet, published every other Thursday by the Pierce PTO. There is a Firm Deadline for submissions of Monday at 2:00 p.m. on the week of publication. The remaining publication dates for this school year are: 5/14/09, 5/28/09 & 6/11/09 . Please drop notices in the Broadsheet box in the PTO/Outreach Office; mail to PTO Newsletter, Pierce School, 50 School St., Brookline 02446; or email (preferred!) to: Piercebroadsheet@gmail.com.

*PAPERLESS*

We hope that you will continue to enjoy our Paperless issues. If you know families who would like to be on our e-mail list, please mention that they can sign up on the Pierce web site at <http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org>.

Paper versions of the Broadsheet will be available outside the main office.

www.pierceschoolbrookline.org - Main # 617-730-2580 Please Recycle! ou may want to include a personal greeting, a note or editorial written by the owner of your company. By including a photo, you can make your greeting even more personal.

Sincerely,

Felina Mucha-Cyr, Editor, Pierce Broadsheet
Pierce School PTO

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Save the Date

Saturday, May 2, 2009 **Pierce Auction/Parents Party**
Thursday, May 7, 2009 **Pierce Reads, Grades 4-8** (7:00pm)
Monday, May 11, 2009 **MCAS testing**
Tuesday, May 12, 2009 **MCAS testing**
Wednesday, May 13, 2009 **MCAS testing**
Wednesday, May 13, 2009 **PTO/Principal's Forum** (7:00pm)
Thursday, May 14, 2009 **MCAS testing**
Friday, May 15, 2009 **MCAS testing**
Monday, May 18, 2009 **MCAS testing**
Tuesday, May 19, 2009 **MCAS testing**
Wednesday, May 20, 2009 **MCAS testing**
Thursday, May 21, 2009 **Community Breakfast** (8:00am)
Thursday, May 21, 2009 **MCAS testing**
Friday, May 22, 2009 **Memorial Day assembly, K-8**
Sunday, May 31, 2009 **Brookline Bikes Beacon Bicycle Parade** (12:30 Start at Amory Park)
Friday, June 5, 2009 **2nd Grade Sing** (8:30 - 9:00 a.m. in the Auditorium) All parents and community friends are invited



TOWN OF BROOKLINE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

11 Pierce Street, Brookline, Massachusetts, 02445
Telephone: (617) 730-2300 Facsimile: (617) 730-2296
E-mail: www.brooklinema.gov

Alan Balsam, Ph.D., MPH
Director of Public Health
and Human Services

What is swine influenza?

Swine influenza (swine flu) is a respiratory disease of pigs caused by a type of influenza virus. Outbreaks of swine flu happen regularly in pigs. People do not normally get swine flu, but human infections can and do happen. Most commonly, human cases of swine flu happen in people who are around pigs but it's possible for swine flu viruses to spread from one person to another. In the United States there were 12 cases of swine flu in people from 2006 through 2008. In March and April 2009 there have been many more cases of swine flu than usual in both Mexico and the U.S. and the infections have spread from one person to another.

What are the symptoms of swine flu in people?

Swine flu causes symptoms very similar to seasonal (or human) flu. The most common symptoms of swine flu, like seasonal flu, are fever, cough, and sore throat and can include body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people also have diarrhea and vomiting. There have been some people with swine flu who have been sicker and have even died.

Is swine flu treatable in people?

People sick with any type of flu should make sure to drink enough fluids, get plenty of rest, eat healthy foods, wash hands frequently and stay home to avoid spreading the flu to other people. The kinds of drugs used to treat seasonal flu, called antivirals, can also be used to treat swine flu. There have been a few influenza viruses, including the most recent swine flu, that are resistant to some, but not all, of these drugs. Healthcare providers may recommend that people who are sick or appear to be sick with swine flu receive an antiviral medication.

How would I know if I have swine flu?

If you have symptoms of influenza as described above, and especially if you have recently traveled to an area where there have been human cases of swine flu, contact your healthcare provider who will decide what type of testing and treatment is right for you. To diagnose any kind of flu virus, a swab of the inside of your nose needs to be collected by a doctor. Identification of a swine flu virus requires special laboratory testing.

If you think you might have swine flu and you need to see your health care provider, you should call ahead and let them know you might have the flu. That way, precautions can be taken to avoid the spread of flu to others.

What if I recently traveled to a region where swine flu in humans has been found?

If you have recently traveled to an area affected by swine flu, be watchful for any flu-like symptoms. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, stay home to avoid exposing others and contact your healthcare provider; your healthcare provider will decide what type of testing and treatment is right for you. To diagnose any kind of flu virus, a swab of the inside of your nose needs to be collected by a doctor. Identification of a swine flu virus requires special laboratory testing.

How can I protect myself and others from swine flu?

You can protect yourself and others from swine flu the same way that you can protect yourself from seasonal flu. Avoid holding, hugging, kissing, or shaking hands with anyone who has a cold or the flu. Wash your hands often with soap and warm water, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Avoid touching your nose, mouth or eyes. Clean things that are touched often like door handles, telephones, etc. If you get sick with a flu-like illness stay home from work and school and avoid contact with others so the virus does not spread.

All people with swine flu who are not hospitalized, and their household and other close contacts, will need to stay at home to prevent spread of illness to other people.

If I have swine flu, can I stay at home?

People with mild or moderate illness can and should be cared for at home to prevent spread. Things people who have swine flu who are cared for at home should do include:

check with their health care provider about any special care they might need if they are pregnant or have a health condition such as diabetes, heart disease, asthma, or emphysema
check with their health care provider about whether they should take antiviral medications
stay home for at least 7 days after onset of illness; or until free of symptoms (including fever) for 24 hours, whichever is longer
get plenty of rest
drink clear fluids (such as water, broth, sports drinks, electrolyte beverages for infants) to keep from being dehydrated
cover coughs and sneezes. Clean hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub often and especially after using tissues and after coughing or sneezing into hands.
Never cough in the direction of someone else.
avoid close contact with others – do not go to work or school while ill
be watchful for emergency warning signs (see below) that might indicate you need to seek medical attention

Get medical care right away if the sick person at home:
has difficulty breathing or chest pain
has purple or blue discoloration of the lips
is vomiting and unable to keep liquids down
has signs of dehydration such as dizziness when standing, absence of urination, or in infants, a lack of tears when they cry
has seizures (for example, uncontrolled convulsions) is less responsive than normal or becomes confused

Is there a vaccine for swine flu?

No. Right now there is no vaccine for swine flu. According to CDC, it is unlikely that the vaccine for seasonal flu will prevent swine flu.

Is it safe to cook and eat pork and pork products?

Yes. It is safe to eat properly handled and cooked pork and pork products. Swine flu viruses are not spread by food. You cannot get swine flu from eating pork or pork products.

Why is swine flu important?

Approximately every 20-40 years, a new strain of the flu virus appears which is very different from the ordinary seasonal flu virus. When this happens most people do not have immunity to this new strain of flu virus and it can spread to many people, across the world, over a short period of time. This is called an influenza pandemic. Some people think that swine flu viruses might play a role in the start of the next pandemic.

For more information about seasonal flu, pandemic flu, avian flu and swine flu, please visit the websites listed below or contact the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Division of Epidemiology and Immunization at 617-983-6800.

Massachusetts Department of Public Health website on influenza
<http://www.mass.gov/dph/fl>
Center for Disease Control (CDC) websites on swine flu
<http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu>

April 27, 2009

Community Potluck Breakfast

Come join other parents at the Pierce Community Potluck Breakfast on Thursday, May 21st from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. in the cafeteria.

Please bring something to share with others. Hope to see you there.



GOING ON NOW... COLLECTING USED BOOKS for the Pierce School Book Fair

Please go through those book shelves, weed out the books that you and your children no longer read and donate them to the Pierce Book Fair. Please bring your books to the barrel located under the stairs between the office and the cafeteria.

The Book Fair earns 50% of its funds from your book donations--all of which go to enhance learning at Pierce School. Thank you.

(Book Fair begins Tuesday, May 26th)

**** THE PIERCE BOOK FAIR ****

MAY 26-28

Pierce Auditorium

Tuesday, May 26th: 2pm - 7:30pm

Wednesday, May 27th: 7:30am - 7:30pm

Thursday, May 28th: 7:30am - 6:30pm

No need to go to a book store, buy your books at the Pierce Book Fair and support Pierce School at the same time!

The Pierce Book Fair features...

New books from the *Book Fair Company*; Pierce receives 20% of these sales.

\$1 Used books; Pierce receives 100% of these sales.

Brookline Required Summer Reading List Books.

Teacher Wish Lists: Purchase a book selected by your Pierce teachers; we will deliver it, wrapped with a book plate.

Of course, whether or not you are interested in purchasing anything, your Used Books are always welcome. Please donate books by dropping them in the barrel below the stairs between the main office and the cafeteria.

Please volunteer to help during this worthwhile event, contact:
Cherie - adams_gaehde@hotmail.com - 617-738-8269

**** PIERCE BOOK FAIR EVENTS ****

Grades K & 1 PAJAMA NIGHT--Tuesday, May 26th- 6:30 pm

Guest reader: Mr. David Weinstein

Grade 2, 3, 4 PAJAMA NIGHT – Wednesday, May 27th 6:30 pm

Guest reader: Ms. Ginny Carroll

The Pierce Book Fair accepts checks, cash & credit cards for new books; checks & cash for the Used Books, PierceWear.

Latest News

Save the Date!

Brookline Bikes Beacon Bicycle Parade
Sunday, May 31
Amory Park
12:30 PM start

Free and safe community celebration for bicycle riders and spectators Two parades starting and finishing at the same place: A shorter one for younger children (grades 1-4) and their parents/guardians and a longer parade for bike riders 10 years old and older. Go to www.BrooklineBikes.org for more information.

Pierce Problem of the Week #15

I had \$13 to spend on my vacation.
I had 2 bills and 11 coins.
I spent them all on souvenirs!
What were the bills and coins I spent??



Answer to the Pierce POW# 14 Correction!! (Thank you Douglas Chin and Tara Washburn for noting the error)

Money Plant

It will take 24 weeks to reach its full grown height of 3 feet, if it grows 1 and 1/2 inches per week.

The money plant will sprout \$108, if it sprouts \$1.00 for every 1/3 of an inch it grows.

Welcome to the Pierce GREEN Corner:

TIP: It's great to conserve water. It saves energy and an important natural resource. Consider turning the water off while you brush your teeth.

TIP: "Am I clean yet?" Reducing your average shower time is a great green step. Many people spend as much as 10 minutes in the shower each day. Heating hot water for this length shower can generate as much as 4 pounds of CO2. Reducing the length of time that you spend in the shower is friendly to the planet and your wallet.

The next GREEN Team meeting will be held on Thursday May 14th at 8am.

School menu—The school menu will no longer be distributed on paper. Check the website for this month's information: <http://www.brookline.k12.ma.us/NR/rdonlyres/F11BCF49-7AC4-4986-A1E8-2F775BDD205A/2797/May2009.pdf>

Join Our Mailing List <http://visitor.constantcontact.com/email.jsp?m=1102166646585>

Thank you for your interest and support!

Sincerely,

Felina

Felina-Marie Mucha-Cyr
Editor, The Pierce School Broadsheet
piercebroadsheet@gmail.com



Printing Current and Past Issues of the Broadsheet: Consider reducing paper and printing a more user friendly version of this broadsheet and any past issue by visiting: <http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org/Broadsheet.shtml>. Thank you for thinking GREEN.

Broadsheet Publication Dates for 2008-2009

09/11/08 * 09/25/08 * 10/09/08 * 10/23/08 * 11/06/08 * 11/20/08 * 12/04/08 * 12/18/08 *
01/08/09 * 01/22/09 * 02/05/09 * 02/19/09 * 03/05/09 * 03/19/09 * 04/02/09 * 04/16/09
04/30/09 05/14/09 05/28/09 06/11/09 * *Past Issues available online*

Welcome to the Pierce School Community Classified

Lots of folks in Brookline want to reach the Pierce School Community. We'd like to keep the Broadsheet focused on school news as much as possible, so occasionally we will send out the Pierce Community Classifieds as well. If you'd like to place your ad here, please email Felina Mucha-Cyr. A small fee may apply depending on the nature of your news or organization. Notices and ads are printed as space permits, without PTO endorsement. We reserve the right to edit all copy.

League of Women Voters of Brookline: Now Conducting a Study to Learn More About the Experience of Public Elementary School Children Growing Up in Brookline

As part of the study, the League has designed a short survey for parents and middle school students to answer on line. **Why Should Parents Participate in the Survey?** The Town of Brookline, like all municipalities, is facing the need to make budget cuts. The survey, assuming that at least 10% of parents from each school respond, will provide important information regarding meeting the community needs of Brookline's young public school children. Answering just the 5 basic questions that make up the survey, can highlight which Town resources are being well-utilized by our kids....and where more money needs to be invested. The data could help set priorities in the Town's budget as future cuts are considered, and parents could add their voices to this decision-making process.

Responses from the survey can guide Brookline in equalizing the out-of-school recreational and other free-time resources for kids throughout the town.

5 Questions is All It Takes! The survey is quick to fill out (one for each child in the household in grades K-8). And, a second "detail" page offers parents the opportunity to add more comments. All responses will be aggregated by school, so that no individual data will be retained. This is a confidential survey.

The New Deadline is June 22nd. The survey has just been extended to the end of the current school year, June 22nd. Please go to the League of Women Voters of Brookline web site for the links to the survey: www.lwvbrookline.org. Thanks to the Many Parents Who Have Already Responded!

Janice Kahn, LWV Brookline jske514@aol.com

The Brookline Chorus, which includes several members of the Pierce community, will perform Mendelssohn's masterpiece oratorio 'Elijah' on May 9th at Sanders Theater in Cambridge at 8 PM. The 100 voice chorus will be joined by a full orchestra and fabulous soloists, including baritone David Kravitz as Elijah. In honor of Mother's Day, there will be some special offers in the program.

Half price tickets of \$15 are available to members of the Pierce community interested in attending the concert (students, parents, faculty, administrators, etc.), as long as the group includes at least 10 people. Please contact Carla Rothaus for more information (crothaus@comcast.net).

Brookline babysitter available between 2:30-5:30/6, four or five days a week. Has valid driver's license (no car) and can do after school pickup. Please contact Ingrid Holm at: 510-917-4348 (cell) or ingridenzian.holm@gmail.com.

Brookline Village House for Sale Now's the time to move into the perfect neighborhood! Lovely house right next to Emerson Park in Brookline Village, a quick walk to schools, library and public transportation and fabulous neighbors! 2200 sf, 5BR, 2.5 BA, top floor has master bedroom with skylights, walk in closet and master bath, second floor has four bedrooms, first floor has LR, DR, sunroom and kitchen. Wonderful side garden for your evening summer barbecues and full sun for your tomatoes! Porch, dry basement, one parking. Price dropped to \$689K ! Contact Elie at elie3@mac.com or call 617-256-4727 for more information.

Brookline Music School Performs the Beatles' Abbey Road Album at Pine Manor College The Final Concert in the School's Beatles Concert Trilogy

Chestnut Hill, MA -- May 16 & 17, 2009 Following two outstanding 40th anniversary concerts of Beatles' albums, Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band in 2007 and White Album in 2008, Brookline Music School will complete their Beatles concert trilogy with Abbey Road.

Nearly 100 Brookline Music School students and faculty will perform exciting new arrangements of the songs from one of The Beatles' most successful and beloved albums, including Here Comes the Sun, Something, Golden Slumbers, and Octopus's Garden. The past two years' concerts were sold-out events, receiving rave press reviews. This final Beatles concert is not to be missed! The concept of performing The Beatles albums was the brainchild of the School's Jazz/Rock Ensemble Coordinator, John Purcell, who is again an integral part of this year's performance. Purcell had this to say about Abbey Road: "The Beatles were truly greater than the sum of their parts, and when they disbanded to pursue separate careers they left their best work behind them. They also left behind millions of people who loved their music so deeply that nothing would ever take its place. They understood this well enough, and wrote their own epitaph: "And, in the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make."

The event will take place at Pine Manor College's Ellsworth Theater (400 Heath Street, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467) on Saturday, May 16th at 7:30pm and Sunday, May 17th at 2:00pm.

Tickets are \$15 General Admission and \$30 Preferred Seating. Discounts are available for group tickets. Call 617-277-4593 or email tickets@bmsmusic.org, with "Beatles Tickets" in the heading. For more information, visit our website at www.bmsmusic.org.

About Brookline Music School:

Brookline Music School seeks to awaken and nurture musical interest, appreciation, and artistic excellence in a friendly and stimulating atmosphere; to offer a high standard of comprehensive music instruction to people of all ages and backgrounds from the local community; and to serve the community by teaching in multiple locations, offering generous tuition assistance, and sponsoring a full schedule of concerts and public performances throughout the year.

Tutoring now and over the summer

Reading Specialist/Learning Support Teacher with many years supporting children in reading, writing and study skills. Master's in Education, Reading Recovery Certification (early intervention reading/writing program), and many years' experience including school administration. I can provide academic assessments and also evaluations to understand your child's learning style.

Excellent results. Reasonable rates.

Please call Maxene at 781-956-2805 or send an email to: Maxenelorroway@comcast.net

Treating Explosive Kids author to speak — When adults rethink challenging kids, amazing things can happen. Dr. Stuart Ablon, co-author of *Treating Explosive Kids*, the Collaborative, Problem-Solving Approach and Beth Edelstein, OT/L, bring expertise from their Think:Kids program at MGH to present *Through a Developmental Lens: A New Approach for Understanding and Helping the Child with Behavioral Challenges*. Learn about an innovative, collaborative approach to helping children with challenging behavior develop the skills they need to solve problems, handle frustration and be flexible. Monday, May 18, 7-9 pm, Heath School Auditorium, 100 Eliot St., Brookline. Approved for teacher professional development credit. Co-sponsored by the Brookline Education Foundation and Brookline Special Education Parents Advisory Council (SEPAC).

ActiveMinds Tutoring, LLC: Your source for in-home tutoring. Effective, Personalized and Convenient. All grades/all subjects, including test preparation (MCAS, SAT, SSAT...). Sign your child up for academic success and receive 1 free lesson by May 15. Call: (617) 663-5700 during business hours, or (617) 227-2225 Eve/Wknds. Please visit our web site at www.activemindstutoring.com.

Pierce teacher available for tutoring. 10 years teaching experience, certified English and history, experienced tutoring students in grades 6-12. Excellent references available. Areas of expertise include English (reading and writing skills through college level), math (remedial through 10th grade), science (through 8th grade), social studies (through college level), Spanish (1st and 2nd year), organization skills, summer reading and math, SAT/ACT prep, college application support and more. Now taking on new students (entering grades 6, 8, or 9-12) for limited spring slots, or a wide range of summer slots. Contact Jamie Lyons at jamie_d26@mac.com for more information, rates, or to schedule a free consultation session.

Jamie Lyons
7th Grade US History/English
The Pierce School -- Room 24
<http://www.mrslyonsonline.com>

Please donate to the Walk for Hunger and support the Pierce Team! Visit <http://www.projectbread.org/goto/jamielyons>

Summer Piano Lessons Available Have you been thinking about trying piano lessons for your child (or yourself!) but aren't quite sure you're ready to commit? Summer is the perfect time to explore the piano without the pressures of homework and after school sports. Piano teacher with years of experience and a degree in Music from Berklee is offering "Exploring Piano" lesson packages this summer. All package options at a discounted summer price, including thirty minute lessons at a rate of 4 for \$200, 6 for \$280, or 8 for \$350. Forty five minute lesson packages also available. Now accepting students age 5 to adult.

Contact Gregory Lyons with questions or to schedule via email at gregory_lyons@parkschool.org

Piano Instruction - about 1 mile from Pierce Learn Jazz/Blues/Classical, theory, sightreading from a Berklee & New England Conservatory graduate with 25+ years teaching experience. Build a high quality musical foundation with a patient, caring instructor. Beginners welcome. Gloria Jasinski, phone: 617-566-9704, email: piano566@comcast.net.

The Sunday School for Jewish Studies is now accepting registrations for grades K-7 for the 2009-2010 school year. The Sunday School provides a liberal, egalitarian approach to Jewish education in classes held Sunday mornings. Beginning September, 2009, the school will move to its new location at the OakHillSchool in Newton. The curriculum includes Hebrew, Jewish holidays, traditions, ethics, Bible stories, contemporary history and music. Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation is available but not required, and students may enter in any grade. Interfaith and nontraditional families are welcome. For additional information about the Sunday School for Jewish Studies, please call 617-264-8855 or visit www.sundayschoolforjewishstudies.org

Destination ImagiNation

Barbara Mann, Co-Director of Massachusetts Destination ImagiNation, will share information of how we can bring this unique afterschool program to Brookline!

** 5 - 7 kids * mind boggling * challenges * on the spot surprises * costumes * props
* out of the box thinking * teamwork*

Learn about the world's largest non-profit, volunteer-driven organization devoted to helping kids in grades 3-8 gain practical life skills through interesting, entertaining and mind-boggling challenges.

For more information on Destination Imagination, visit www.madikids.org

**ECS Enrichment
challenge
support**

**May 4th 6:30-7:30
Brookline Town Hall, Room 103**

First Parish in Brookline Hosts Art for the Planet Fun(D)raising Party in Celebration of the Earth

Call for Artists: Historic First Parish, active as a community center for concerts, classes, rehearsals and meetings, in addition to Unitarian Universalist worship, invites all area artists -- professional and amateur alike -- to be part of the upcoming ART FOR THE PLANET. This festive community exhibit/party June 6 will raise funds to support First Parish's commitment to "go green." In the fun spirit of an old-fashioned Yankee Swap, everyone who attends will have the opportunity to go home with one of the art works, which will be awarded by lottery. Donated pieces of art reflecting in some way your connection to our planet should be no larger than 6 x 8 inches in size in any two-dimensional medium and be signed on the back. Contributing artists admitted to the June 6 party FREE! Please call Nick Peterson at 617.232.2004 for more specific information. Deadline for drop off at First Parish, 382 Walnut St., is May 17, 2009.

Brookline Solo Parents Group Meeting

Saturday May 16th, 4:00-5:30 pm at 20 Harvard Place (Pierce parent Pablo Alvarez's home - off Harvard Street, across from Walgreens, up from Pierce School playground). Phone number is 617-734-0456. Come share, laugh, talk, and enjoy other Brookline families like yours! Whether solo by divorce, single parent by choice, death, separation, never married, or other circumstance, please join the fun! Come with kids or without! If you are interested, but can't make the meeting, please let us know if you'd like to be on our email list. We chip in for childcare. Our meeting dates for the remainder of 2008-2009 will be: Sat May 16 from 4 to 5:30 and Sun Jun 7 from 6 to 7:30. RSVP/Questions: Luisa Raposo (Pierce 2nd grade parent) at lmr2001@yahoo.com or Lisa Geiger (Pierce 1st grade parent) at 617-566-2001 or chirilisa@yahoo.com, or join us online at the website for The Brookline Solo Parent Families Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/brooklinesp>.



News Flash!

a brief message from the center on media and child health

Last week to register! Risky Business: Media and the Health of Adolescents

The top causes of morbidity and mortality in teens are unintended injury, homicide, suicide, obesity, substance use, and sexual risk-taking. When teens are asked where they learn these acquired health risk behaviors, entertainment media is their first or second response!

On May 7th, Center on Media and Child Health staff will present at Risky Business: Media and the Health of Adolescents, the preconference B session of the Adolescent Health Care Conference in Boston, MA. By attending this session, you will earn 6.75 hours of Continuing Medical Education credit!

Presenters will share ways to provide teens with the knowledge and tools they need to protect themselves from negative media effects and will explore innovative, fun, and effective strategies for using media to educate and empower youth to promote their health and well-being.

Join Us! Register for the Conference

Download or view the brochure at: <http://www.contemporaryforums.com/m413009/pdf/brochure413009.pdf>

Brookline Public School Families are Invited to the Piti Theatre Company's Special 3 Week Visit to Boston With . . . Elmer and the Elder Tree a *dance-clown-theatre nature fable for all ages*

"The whole audience . . . become[s] part of the action . . . the theater duo from Shelburne Falls dance, leap, joke, and clown their way through this original story about a city dweller who loses his job and heads to the country only to find his imagined paradise is a desert. But planting one tree leads to more and more . . . Jonathan Mirin, a former standup comic, brings mirth to the show and Swiss dancer Godeliève Richard adds whimsical choreography."

- Denise Taylor, The Boston Globe

MAY 1 - 17, at Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Commonwealth Avenue (a couple blocks towards Boston from Eastern Mountain Sports)

Fridays at 7, Sat. at 2 (except for the 5/16 Show+Gala at 6 pm only), Sun. at 2

Easy Parking and Door-Step T Access: <http://www.bu.edu/bpt/directions/index.html>

Spring Seeds Gala right after the show on May 16th: www.ptco.org/gala

Purchase first or second weekend tix online or by phone with the promo code TREE and they're 1/2 off.

Box Office: 1-866-811-4111

Liceo Scientifico "G.Ferrari" in Borgosesia

My name is Paola Crevola and I am international project coordinator at Liceo Scientifico "G.Ferrari" in Borgosesia. Lorenzo Gallazzini (17 years old), one of our brightest students, would very much like to teach Italian to young children for about one month (possibly in July) in exchange for accommodation in Boston/Brookline. He is a very cheerful, good-mannered, responsible boy, a straight-A student in all subjects and fluent in English. Also, he belongs to a very nice caring family: his mother is a clerk and his father runs his own small business. I would be most grateful if you could help Lorenzo find a host family interested in Italian classes for their kids, and I am open to find accommodation for Boston/Brookline teenagers who would like to visit our alpine area (Valsesia - Piedmont region).

Lots of thanks for your valuable cooperation and warmest greetings from Italy, Paola Crevola Tel. +39163833046
Email: mypc@tele2.it or visit: www.valsesiascuole.it/liceoborgosesia

Come fence with us at the Boston Fencing Club. Boston Fencing Club, the nation's oldest fencing club, is located at 110 Clematis Ave. (#2) in Waltham. For information on classes and schedules, visit the Club's website at <http://bostonfencingclub.org/> or call (781) 891-0119. The Club's next Open House will be held on Friday, May 1 at 7:30 PM.