

HMS PARENT FLASH 4-1-11

Driving to work yesterday I listened to news reporters speak about a very different world in America than what most of us have known. The poor economy has led to much smaller coffers in most of the 50 state treasuries. When people spend less money, companies sell fewer products, and citizens earn less, the Governors and state legislators simply have less tax dollars to work with and tough decisions have to be made on what to do with limited resources.

Two thousand demonstrators descended on the New Hampshire State House yesterday, protesting the \$10.2 billion budget proposal that the House eventually passed which contains \$742 million in cuts for virtually every component of the state budget. There are miles to go before the Senate finishes their deliberations and it may not be until July before the state budget is passed. Of course, we will feel it here in Hopkinton within our school budget as we will may have to make significant cuts to cover the likelihood of retirement money that will no longer flow in from the state.

I'm sure some of you demonstrated in Concord yesterday and others cheered what you may think of as fiscal responsibility for a change. Wherever you are on this issue, it is likely that our lives will be altered to some degree and perhaps they already are due to economic adjustment. Through it all, I am fearful of the impact it will have on our children. Beyond the fiscal affects of dwindling resources, it's the stress on our families I am most concerned about. As parents take on more overtime, extra jobs, or face the unfortunate scenario of unemployment or underemployment, we cannot forget that our most important jobs are raising our children. Somehow we have to keep the stress of our lives far away from our children...as much as possible.

I also hope that if times are tough for your family that you trust us enough to let us help in any way possible. It's possible that your children may benefit from some extra TLC or counseling. We're also good listeners for you adults. Remember that we are partners in the education of our children.

On another note, there's information below on our upcoming calendar changes. Life has been very interesting during this snowy winter.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Bill Carozza, Principal

Calendar Adjustments Due to Snow Days

- There **will be school** on **Friday April 8th**. The staff professional day has been cancelled.
- **C-Time** (when classes start at 9:00) on Tuesday, **April 19th, has been cancelled.**
- Starting **Thursday April 7th, through Friday, April 22, a half hour will be added** to the school day. School will start at **7:45 AM** and dismiss at **2:50 PM.**
- The **buses** will pick up in the morning **15 minutes earlier.**
- Students will arrive **home 15 minutes later.**

We will also have a recommendation early next week on how we will make up today's *Reaching For The Stars* session. We are not yet sure how we will deal with today's snow day. Stay tuned for that.

KIDS HOME ALONE

It has come to our attention that some of our students have been left home alone lately without adult supervision. It's possible that you may not be aware of guidelines on this issue. There are very few states with specific regulations about the age of a child left home alone – largely because there are so many variables to consider.

In the State of New Hampshire there is no specific age that a child can be left home alone. However, it is recommended that children under the age of twelve be provided with appropriate supervision (an adult or babysitter) while their parents are away from home. Children under the age of 12 aren't ready to self-supervise for an extended period of time – they are reliant on caregivers to structure their time

and keep them safe.

The above guidelines are recommended by <http://www.safekids.org/>, <http://latchkeykids.com/>, and <http://www.expertlaw.com/>

If you have any questions on this, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jackie Kleiner, School Counselor
jkleiner@hopkintonschools.org

The First Congregational Church of Hopkinton Presents:

"The Amazing gRace" a musical variety show

Hopkinton Middle High School Auditorium

Friday, April 8th at 7:30 PM

Saturday, April 9th at 7:30 PM

Sunday, April 10th at 2:00 PM

Donations: \$8 per ticket

Advanced tickets can be purchased during First Congregational Church business hours, or by calling 746-3685.

**NEXT WEEK AT
'TWEEN SCHOOL 'N HOME
CHILD CARE PROGRAM**
at Harold Martin School

Multi-Purpose Room
2:30-5:30 p.m.

APRIL THEME: OUR WONDERFUL WORLD

Week of April 4-8, 2011

Monday:	End Junk Mail Drive
Tuesday:	Pine Cone Pets
Wednesday:	Poetry Day
Thursday:	Recycled Birdhouses 3:20—Taekwondo
Friday:	Needle Brooms Piano Lessons

If you are interested in registering your child for a fun-filled afternoon at TSNH, contact Linda Ottery at tsnh@tweenschoolhome.com or call 529-2186.

PTA BIKE HELMETS

Need a bike helmet? The PTA is selling discounted, first quality, Bell/Giro bike helmets for children and adults, for about \$8.00. Contact Natalie Duval at cspalding@tds.net subject line "bike helmets," to obtain an order form. Print the order form and return it to the office with a check made out to "Hopkinton PTA." **Orders must be placed by April 8, 2011.**

RECREATION DEPARTMENT NEWS

Please check the Hopkinton Recreation website for updated information. <http://www.hopkinton-nh.gov> (then click Recreation)

You can sign up for our email list serve at <http://www.hopkinton-nh.gov/subscriber> and clicking "Recreation Notices."

Indoor Yard Sale

On April 2nd, come to the Slusser Senior Center (41 Houston drive) and shop till you drop. Tables are sold out so you know there will be lots of good deals. The sale will be on Saturday from 9am – 1pm. Call 746-2915 with any questions.

Community Scrapbooking and Crafts

The Recreation Department's Community Scrapbooking and Crafts is held the 2nd Friday and 4th Sunday of EVERY month!!

Whether you're young or old, scrapbooking keeps your memories alive. The scrapbooking group is for everyone from beginners to experts and are hosted by volunteers Liz, Patrice and Tammy. Now including all type of craft activities! Bring your pictures to organize and scrapbook if you have one. Some other materials and tools will be provided. Fridays are from 6:30pm – 10pm and Sundays from 1:30pm – 5pm and are held at the Slusser Senior Center. Next session is Friday April 8th at 6:30pm. Call 746-2915 for more information.

Ballroom Dancing Workshop Beginner and Intermediate

Back by popular demand!! Hopkinton Recreation presents a six-week course in the art of dancing. Dance instructors from Let's Dance Studio will host the class, introducing beginners to at least four of the most popular social dances, like the foxtrot, waltz, rumba and others. A second class will be offered this session for intermediate dancers who have taken the beginner class or have some experience. Classes will be held every Monday from 6:30-7:30pm (beginner) and 7:30-8:30 (Inter) starting April 11 and ending May 16. Cost is \$125 per couple for the six-week course. The classes will be held at the Slusser Senior Center. Register by April 6th. Call 746-2915, spots are limited.

Easter Egg Hunt

Join the Hopkinton Recreation Department as they welcome back the Easter Bunny! On Saturday, April 16th, join us at Hopkinton High School for the festivities! Doors open at 10:30am, the Bunny will arrive at 11am and the Easter egg hunt, with 5000 eggs, will begin at 11:30 am. Children up to third grade can participate in the hunt. There will be face painting, crafts and snacks. Don't forget your

Easter Basket! Please call 746-2915 with any questions.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame!!

Tickets on Sale Now!! The Hopkinton Recreation Department wants you to join us for two amazing outings to Fenway Park to watch your beloved Boston Red Sox. Each package includes roundtrip transportation from Contoocook to Fenway on a luxury coach, driver gratuity, and a ticket to the ballgame. The two game choices are Sunday, June 5th and Tuesday, August 16th. The bus will leave Contoocook at 10:30am (June 5th) and 4pm (August 16th).

Hopkinton/Contoocook residents have first priority, but if tickets remain, the general public will be able to make the purchase one month prior to the game. Ticket cost is \$85 for June 5th and \$65 for August 16th. June's seats are right field box 87 and August's seats are grandstand 2. For either of the package deals, upfront payment is required to confirm spot. Call 746-2915 with any questions.

British Soccer Camp

The British Soccer coaches are back!!! Last year's camp attracted a record of 130 youngsters as the coaches from England helped every participant fine tune their soccer skills, while keeping all entertained. This year's camp will be even better! Camp will be held July 25 through July 29 and will include full and half-day sessions with a mini-session for the young ones. The camp is for ages 4-14 years and you can register online at <http://www.challengersports.com/>. Call 746-2915 with any questions.

Summer Movies in the Park

The Hopkinton Recreation Department is pleased to announce that this summer we will be showing THREE Movies in the Park. Saturdays—June 25, July 23 and August 27. We want to know what you want to see! So now is your opportunity to vote for which movies will be shown. Please go to www.hopkinton-nh.gov and click Recreation to vote today.

Co-Ed Adult Volleyball

Volleyball is back!!! Every Sunday night from 7-9pm at the Hopkinton High School gymnasium, come and join us for volleyball. All skill levels are welcome and there is no fee. Just show up ready for a great time! Questions call 746-2915

Stained Glass Club

Come to the Slusser Senior Center every Thursday from 6 - 8pm to work on your stained glass projects or other crafts. If you are a skilled expert in glass making or just learning, do stop by. There will be a mix of levels of skills and if you are new, we can help you get started. This is a social group with no structured teaching. Some supplies are available for use, but it is best for you to have your own. Call 746-2915 for more information.

Tai Chi for Everyone – Beginner Class Added

Are you interested in learning the art of Tai Chi or are you a seasoned expert. Beginner classes are at 6pm every Thursday evening. All are invited join the Tai Chi group at The Slusser Senior Center. More advance classes are Tuesdays 7pm – 9pm and Saturdays 8:30am – 10:30am. There will be a small cost/donation for each class. Call 746-2915 for more information.

Summer Employment

Summer Day Camp Director

The Hopkinton Recreation Department is looking for a dynamic and organized person to direct and supervise the Summer Day Camp program and staff. Requirements include: Bachelors in Recreation, Education, Early Childhood Development or other related field including teaching preferred; current CPR certification; first aid; at least two seasons of camp administrative experience helpful (i.e., camp director, unit leader, head counselor); ability to supervise staff and campers; good communication skills; ability to plan, organize, and carry out daily and special programs. Application can be found at www.hopkinton-nh.gov (click recreation). Call 746-2915 for more information.

Summer Day Camp Counselors:

Are you interested in getting paid for enjoying an exciting summer of outdoor fun? The Hopkinton Recreation Department is looking for Counselors for our Summer Day Camp. Applicants should enjoy and have experience working with young people, to include camp activities such as swimming, arts and crafts, large and small group games, trips, and more. Minimum age of 16 years for Counselors.

Application can be found at www.hopkinton-nh.gov (click recreation).
Call 746-2915 for more information.

Lifeguards and WSI Instructors:

Kimball Pond continues to be a very busy place during the summer and we look forward to an even busier summer this year! The Hopkinton Recreation Department is looking for lifeguards and Swimming Instructors who are interested in joining our team for the season. Qualifications include: Current Lifeguard Certification, CPR, and First Aid. Swim Instructors must possess ARC WSI Certification. Minimum age is 17 years old. Application can be found at www.hopkinton-nh.gov (click recreation). Call 746-2915 for more information.

Justin La Vigne
Parks and Recreation Director
Slusser Senior Center Director
Town of Hopkinton NH
603-746-2915

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Bill Carozza | Principal

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