



Wee Play Community Project

www.weeplayproject.org

Volume No. 4

Issue No. 1

March/April/May 2008

"Come & Play" with us!



Now on Wednesdays from 10:30 am – 12 noon Howland Library, 313 Main Street, Beacon

City of Beacon Recreation Department
Annual "Spring Fling"

Saturday, March 15 – 10:00 a.m.
Rombout Middle School Gymnasium
Music, Raffles & Treats

Sponsored by Alps Sweet Shop
Special Guest: **The Easter Bunny!**

All children are artists. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up.
-- Pablo Picasso

Ree-Play Sale

Saturday, May 17, 2008
Memorial Building, Teller and Main
10:00 – 1:00 pm

Your gently used donations of children's clothes and toys are needed for the 4th Annual "Ree-Play" Sale! Details can be found on the enclosed flyer. Please help us out by posting your flyer where you think it will do the most good! Please call Kelly at 831-4318 or e-mail kelly@weeplayproject.org if you would like to help with the publicity effort. If you have items to donate and would like to arrange a pick-up or drop-off, please e-mail Claire Browne at claire@weeplayproject.org. This year's event will also feature a raffle, with fabulous baskets filled with Beacon's Best! Tickets for the raffle will be available in early April. One ticket for \$2.50 or 10 for \$20.00. Come "Ree-Play" with us - all proceeds will go directly towards the planned shade structure.

Phase II/III Update

2007 was a great year! The garden has finally taken on its shape -- completion of Phase II and the Children's Garden is very near at hand. With the installation of the stepping stones, the crane sculpture (remember that?), another bench and the log circle, the garden's bones will be in place. Look for the daffodils and other spring blooming bulbs that we planted way back in November!

We plan to have one or two planting days in April and May (yes, during Ree Play Madness!) to get in some shrubs and perennials that will be with us for years to come, as well as some annuals to brighten the tubs. Children will be welcome to help dig!

Thanks to the Beacon Department of Public Works and Supervisor Anthony "Zep" Thomaselli for filling up the sandbox, bringing in topsoil and rocks, and for the million other things you do to make Beacon such a great place to live.

Stepping Stones: If you still need to make your stepping stone, please do so! They must be installed this spring. Thanks so much for your patience.

Shade Structure (Phase III): The grant application to the American Academy of Dermatologists has been submitted, and we will soon be forming a committee to determine what size and type of shade structure would be most appropriate for our needs. This "audit" will be performed to the specifications of the Shade Foundation, an organization formed by Shonda Schilling, a melanoma survivor and wife of Boston Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling, dedicated to eradicating melanoma through the **education** of children and the community in the **prevention** and **detection** of skin cancer and the **promotion** of sun safety. Wee Play's "Play Safe in the Sun" campaign will run parallel with the 2008 Ree Play Sale, and throughout the summer, with seminars, give-aways and lots of good, healthy information on sun safety, particularly for young children. www.shadefoundation.org. We have also partnered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's "SunWise" program, which will provide us with information and tips on how to get the word out on sun safety for our children. We estimate that the shade structure will cost approximately \$25,000. Thanks to Dr. Henry Greenblatt of **Hudson Valley Dermatology** for sponsoring our grant application!