

Region

Stork Project Seeks Gently Used Baby Clothes

Kathi Lewis is busy, busy, busy! Her passion welcoming new babies born to low income mothers. She stumbled into her avocation four years ago when she asked volunteers at a preschool children's clothing sale what they were going to do with the leftover clothing. They groaned and said they would bag the clothing and drive around until they could find donation bins. Suddenly Kathi's purpose in life became clear. She said "No! Please give me all of the baby clothes," and with that sudden inspiration TheStork Project began.

Four and a half years later she has delivered over 2,500 Welcome Bundles of clothing wrapped in quilts, as shown, or blankets to social workers, clinics, social service agencies, hospitals, and psychologists all over the southern half of New Hampshire. Certainly the professionals must think they have won a lottery when Kathi appears on their doorsteps monthly with her bundles. At present The Stork Project is donating around 50 a month. While she works alone washing and folding and matching outfits which are donated by individuals, Mother & Child in Nashua and Infant and Baby Needs of New England in Hudson, she does have helpers called Whippersnappers, friends who snap all of the baby clothing. She accepts no cash donations but

always seems to have just what she needs. When picking up a clothing donation she is also happy to accept Pack 'n Plays, baby swings, baby monitors, fullsize strollers, bouncy seats, bassinets, exersaucers, high chairs, and car seats (which have two years left on their six year usability). Unfortunately cribs are not accepted because of the change in the safety laws. The new rules make second hand cribs unsafe and she must turn them down unless they are brand new.

Recently she appeared at a Souhegan Valley Quilters' Guild meeting to talk about The Stork Project. The quilters have quietly supported her effort for the past few years but will undoubtedly help even more after hearing her speak. It is hard to imagine what the social workers did before Kathi came on the scene. Now they deliver a beautiful bundle to each new baby. Inside the quilt are approximately 10-15 outfits, socks, sweaters and hats in sizes 0-6 months. The items being handed on are loved clothing used by loved kids. Now the love is going forward.

If you have any gently used clean items you would like to donate, please go to her website the at thestorkproject.org or email her at storkproject@aol.com. For more information about Souhegan Valley Quilters' Guild, visit their website at www.nhquilts.org.



President Patti Magaw of the Souhegan Valley Quilters' Guild presents a quilt to Kathi Lewis of the Stork Project.

Nashua Historical Society

January "Adopt-An-Artifact" Item

Jackson Company Stamped Impressions

The Nashua Historical Society's January "Adopt-an-Artifact" item is a three-volume set of colorful commercial labels and stenciled designs which Nashua's Jackson Company (later a division of the Nashua Manufacturing Company) pasted on cases or bales identifying specific products being shipped to its customers. There are over 2500 labels and 300 stencils in total, dating back as far as 1881. The conservation plan is to first create a high-resolution digital image of each page, in order to maintain as much historical information as possible, then clean and mend the individual labels and stencils as needed. The pages on which the labels and stencils are mounted will be separated from the bindings, each item will be removed from the page on which it is glued (unless its condition prevents separation), and the bindings will be retained to preserve their historical significance.

Conservation estimates for this effort range from \$16,000 for Volume 2 to \$29,000 for Volume 3.

This would be an ideal way for a civic-minded individual or company to help assure the long-term protection of one or more of these vital records from Nashua's past. Donor attribution will be associated with each volume.

A gala, attended by nearly 150, was held at the Florence Speare Museum on November 29 to bring this new program to the attention of community leaders. Among the October through December "Adopt-an-Artifact" items, donors are still being sought for the General Foster chair, a number of the bound copies of the 1900-1931 Nashua Telegraph, and a few remaining portions of the Tremont House Guest Book.

Call 883-0015 during the society's hours, from 10AM to 4PM Tuesday through Thursday, for further information or to obtain an "Adopt-an-Artifact" adoption form.




Multi-generation group enjoying Music Together class at 102 Elm St, Music Together of Milford. Penelope Bielagus with her son and parents who were visiting.

Free Demo Class for Children

MILFORD – Music Together of Milford will be offering "Visitors Week" to families who have never tried a Music Together class. There are Winter classes running Monday through Saturday in Milford, Merrimack, Nashua and Manchester with Amy Conley and Nancy Wight, who bring in various instruments and materials each week. Children, from infants through age six, learn at their own pace while parents, grandparents and caregivers sing, dance and play percussion to develop basic music competence, which includes the skills of sing-

ing in tune with accurate rhythm. Activities that combine music and movement also promote physical, cognitive and emotional growth while supporting all learning skills, according to research in early childhood development. The Music Together curriculum contains a three year cycle of songs and activities, providing a new CD and book to each family every season. To set up a visit during Visitors' Week (January 7 – 19), call Amy Conley, 249-9560, or visit www.AmyConleyMusic.com





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Free Documentary

The Real Costs of Tar Sands Oil

WILTON – There will be a free showing of the documentary film Tipping Point: The End of Oil http://tippingpointdoc.ca/ at Wilton Town Hall Theatre on Sunday January 13, 2013 at 4:30.

The film explores the human and environmental costs of the extraction and processing of oil from tar sands in Alberta, Canada. The scope of the tar sands project is vast.

All the major oil companies are there. There is a lot of money to be made, but the costs to our earth cannot be measured in dollars.

The environmental costs include an unprecedented amount of greenhouse gases going into the atmosphere. This can only accelerate the already increasing pace of the warming of the Earth's surface and the surface of the oceans. This will lead to even more frequent severe weather events and to faster melting of polar ice.

The destruction of the ecosystem cannot easily be reversed. Waste pools are leaking into groundwater and streams - poisoning the water and the fish and then the First Nations people who live from those

ivers and streams.

The purpose of the film and the discussion is to inform citizens about the dangers of tar sands oil and the proposed tar sands pipelines, two of which will go through New England. Enbridge Corporation is working to get permission to pipe tar sands oil from Canada through Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine to Portland ME through an existing pipeline which has been used to transport light crude oil. Tar sands oil is much more corrosive and prone to causing leaks than light crude oil. There will be protests along the route of the pipeline starting the third week of January.

After the film, there will be a short discussion led by David Stember of 350.org and Tar Sands Free New England. All attendees will be provided with information about actions they can take to address the issues in the film as well as local actions related to the proposed New England tar sands pipelines.

Admission to the film is free. Donations to help defray the costs of the film series are welcome. Sponsored by 350NH and NH Green Coalition.

Hospice Training Program: Volunteers Needed

NASHUA – Volunteers have always been the heart of hospice organizations and St. Joseph Home & Hospice Care is no exception. St. Joseph Healthcare and St. Joseph Home & Hospice Care are looking for talented volunteers who are interested in making a difference in people's lives. Volunteers of all backgrounds and skill levels are welcome and do not need to have a clinical or medical background.

Volunteers provide respite for caregivers and much-needed emotional support for patients and their families. Volunteers act as objective, compassionate friends to people in need. Adult volunteers are a vital part of the hospice patient care team and can also provide essential assistance to the administrative team. As a hospice volunteer, you can:

- Offer companionship
- Listen, hold a hand, run errands
- Visit or read to patients
- Allow caregivers a break

- Offer information to the community
- Make new friends
- Make a difference in someone's life
- Become an essential part of our agency
- Get back much more than you give

The hospice volunteer open house and information event will be held on Tuesday, February 12 at 6:00pm with a snow date of Wednesday, February 13, at 6:00pm. Registration for the orientation program is required by calling Volunteer Services at St. Joseph Hospital at (603) 595.3044.

St. Joseph Home & Hospice Care provides vital services and programs in two major areas of Home Care: Palliative Care and Hospice Program. The agency, housed in Milford depends on individual and business contributions to meet the needs of all our communities and our residents.

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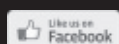
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