

# THE COUGAR CHRONICLES

[www.abington.k12.pa.us/cbpta](http://www.abington.k12.pa.us/cbpta)

Welcome Back!

October 2011



## *A Message from Our PTA President to You...*



*What is a great way to get involved and to add your unique perspective to our Copper Beech community? Well, joining the growing membership of our Parent-Teacher Association is one way! What is the PTA? The PTA is...*

- ❖ Copper Beech's link between school, home, and the greater Abington community;
- ❖ An organization created to encourage and support Family Involvement;
- ❖ Our school's volunteer group committed to working to enhance *each and every* child's educational experience beyond the classroom;
- ❖ Where parent volunteers join together to create Copper Beech community-building projects and fun, memorable events for our students; and the PTA is
- ❖ A national, state, and local organization that fights for the rights of children.



### *Why should you join the Copper Beech PTA?*

- ❖ To share power among all CB families (The greater the number of members, the louder our voice);
  - ❖ To give structure and support to our Family-School Partnership;
- ❖ Because our PTA can't exist, fully, without every parent's unique contributions and viewpoints; and
- ❖ To show your children, and everyone's child, that education is worth your time and investment.

### *What is the Copper Beech PTA's focus this year?*

- ❖ To include every parent who wants to get involved;
- ❖ To respect every family's unique abilities, time constraints, and family culture in all interactions;
- ❖ To bring to you concrete, usable resources and information that can help you advocate for your children, and for all children who attend Copper Beech.



### *Who can I talk to about joining the PTA?*

- ❖ Every family has received a Membership form. Membership is \$10 a family, yet any other caring adult can join, as well, for an additional \$10 fee per person.
- ❖ Membership forms can also be downloaded online at <http://www.abington.k12.pa.us/cbpta/>.
- ❖ If the membership fee is a hardship for your family, please let a PTA Board Member (or a teacher or other member of the faculty) know. Every family has a right to be a member.
- ❖ For updated information, please check out our website at <http://www.abington.k12.pa.us/cbpta/> or *Like* us on Facebook and join our Facebook group (both can be found under Copper Beech PTA).
- ❖ Any questions, ideas, concerns, or comments? Let us know at [copperpta@yahoo.com](mailto:copperpta@yahoo.com) (or send a note in your child's folder labeled "*PTA Office*").

*Let's join forces! The more we work in support of each other, the more we can assure success for our kids!*



*Welcome Back to School!*  
— *Dianna Pax*/[dpax@comcast.net](mailto:dpax@comcast.net)  
*PTA President*

*Every Child ... One Voice ...*



**The CB PTA** We are *Leading by Following!*



## Copper Beech Classes at a Glance ...

**K** *The kindergarten teachers would like to* welcome back all of our returning Copper Beech Families with children now in kindergarten. And, to our new CB families, we are happy to welcome you to your new school. The kindergarten team would also like to welcome our newest teacher, *Ms. Gia Conway*, to kindergarten! We are happy to have you!

Kindergarten students are exploring Science through the use of their five senses. They will be *hearing* different types of music, *looking* at different pictures, *smelling* all kinds of scents, *tasting* sweet, sour, and salty foods and *touching* different kinds of textured objects. We are looking forward to learning more by experiencing our five senses.

Our Reading themes this month are *Start Smart* and *Family*, an appropriate avenue to beginning a new school year. This month, we will be working on identifying the settings of stories and making predictions.

In Math, students will be counting forward to 35, counting backward from 10, reading numbers from 0-10, comparing lengths, recognizing a penny, and match one-to-one.

**1** *A warm welcome back to our returning* students and families! Despite the unusually rainy weather and second-day late arrival, it was great to see everyone refreshed and ready to begin a new school year together. We extend a special hello and welcome to our new first graders and their families. We hope you like your new school and will feel “at home” here at Copper Beech.

There are seven sections to our grade level again this year and, for the first time in recent memory, no changes to our team of teachers. We all genuinely enjoy working together and look forward to a wonderful year ahead. These beginning days have been happy, positive ones with your youngsters. Students have been busy learning classroom and building routines and procedures. They have also enjoyed seeing returning friends from kindergarten and meeting new classmates for this year.



Our recent Open House Night presented a wonderful initial opportunity to meet parents and provide an overview of the first-grade curriculum. Teachers also introduced some special activities and events that will enrich your child’s first-grade experience.

This month, students have been exploring ways they are special in our first Reading unit called, *All About Us*. In Math, we reviewed number skills that were begun in kindergarten. Students also learned how to use tally marks as a quick and easy way to record information. This skill will also be helpful throughout our Science unit on *Weather*. These budding meteorologists will conduct a variety of experiments as they explore temperature, wind, puddles, and rainy day fabrics.

We will keep you posted each month on our grade-level activities, themes, and special events. Welcome back!

**2** *The second-grade teachers would like to* welcome everyone back to school! We are very excited to have a new teacher on our team. *Miss Rosemary Sincavage* is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh. We welcome her to our second-grade community and to Copper Beech.

The second graders have been busy learning new routines in their classrooms. They have also been busy sharing the exciting things that they did over the summer months. We have all begun our first Reading theme entitled, *Relationships*. During the next few weeks, the children will be reading exciting fiction and non-fiction stories about relationships they have with their family, friends and members of their community.

In Math, the students have been working (and having fun) in Unit 1. We’ve been busy playing lots of cool math games. These games are a great way to review computational skills.

The second-grade team wants to wish everyone a happy school year!

3

**Third grade is off to a great start.** Our first story in the Language Arts program was **First Day Jitters**. It was an awesome way to get the kids to open up about their own first-day-of-school fears and to realize that they are not the only ones with jitters. Even their teachers have butterflies in their tummies. Our Math program begins as a review and gives us the opportunity to refresh our memories after a relaxing summer break. We loved hearing about summer adventures and look forward to the year ahead.

4

**The fourth grade team would like to** welcome our families and students to a new school year filled with learning and fun! We would also like to welcome back **Mrs. Karima Boyd**, and to say hello to our newest additions, **Mrs. Kristina Ansuini** and **Ms. Heidi Gogel**. Here's to an awesome fourth-grade experience!

Fourth grade begins the first marking period with the **Ecosystems** unit in Science. We will be housing snails, mosquito fish, crickets, and roly polys in our ecocolumns in order to study life in the pond ecosystem. Students will see the importance of documenting and making observations, as well as investigating inquiries. A great big THANK YOU to those families that helped us get the soda bottles prepared for the ecocolumns. Your assistance was key to getting this project started in a timely fashion.

In Math, we will be starting the year with **Geometry**. Unit 1 focuses on identifying, drawing, and labeling lines, segments, rays, and angles. The unit also covers a review of polygons such as trapezoids, hexagons, and parallelograms. Ongoing practice with basic multiplication facts at home and in school is extremely important this year. Two- and three-digit multiplication and division will be taught this year, so basic fact knowledge is important to moving to more difficult problems. **Practice a few facts each night for automaticity.** Students are asked to take home their reference books (SRB) to help with homework if needed; so, if you don't see the book and you need the book, remind your child to **bring THE BOOK home**.

The Language Arts program challenges the students to identify the main idea, locate the problem of a selection and find the solution, make inferences, evaluate character, setting, and plot, and to summarize a story. Students will also learn to compare and contrast, summarize and use sequencing. Students will be writing a personal



narrative as well, so keep the pencil supply well stocked! Ms. Gogel, Mrs. Ansuini, Mrs. Egan, Mrs. Watson, and Ms. Benson's classes are reading **Honus and Me** by **Dan Gutman**. Mrs. McFadden and Mrs. Watson's classes are both reading **Fourth Grade Rats** by **Jerry Spinelli**. Mrs. Egan's class is also reading **Granny Torrelli Makes Soup** by **Sharon Creech**. Mrs. Boyd's class is reading **Querty Stevens Back in Time: The Edison Mystery** by **Dan Gutman**. We are focusing on reading **Dan Gutman's** books, since he will be visiting CB on Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>!

The Social Studies program begins with a review of **Geography** skills. Students will be reading maps, using map scales, and identifying the various types of maps. These skills will be used shortly to create a map of Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania is the focus of the fourth-grade Social Studies curriculum.

Finally, in Health, students are learning about themselves and their classmates through various projects on responsibility, goal-setting, and self-awareness. Remember, a healthy lifestyle involves not only staying physically fit, but also doing things that keep our mind and relationships with others "in shape" as well.

5

**We wish to welcome back all of our returning** students and extend a special welcome to our new students and families to Copper Beech. The first month of school is whizzing by, but students are still excited about coming to school, working hard, making new friends, and having fun. Thanks to all of our students and parents for being so well prepared for school and for bringing supplies and tissues. Fifth-grade teachers also wish to thank the PTA for their generous support of our school, the teachers, and families.

We are thrilled to have so many readers in our classes. We have been having great conversations about the excellent books students read last summer. Their fabulous summer reading projects are on display in the fifth-grade wing. Students are encouraged to continue reading books from the **2011-2012 Reading Olympics Book List**.

Students should be settling in routines for homework by now. This year students will be challenged by assignments that require more writing and planning for long-term projects. Parents can help by having their children show them how to set goals, plan time, and accomplish work in sections.

**Here are some highlights of the next units of study:** ☺ In **Math**, our second unit aims to strengthen computation and estimation skills.

Students will review and extend methods for performing the operations of addition, subtraction, and multiplication, this year with decimals. They will play several games to reinforce and extend skills and challenge their problem solving abilities. **Parents can help by reviewing math facts if necessary and playing any math games that are assigned.**

☺ In **Reading**, students will deepen their understanding of fiction and nonfiction texts, working to summarize texts and make inferences. Students will be writing more developed essays that require them to provide support from the text.

☺ The **Writing Workshop** for this semester will be **Personal Narrative and Persuasive Writing.**

☺ In **Social Studies**, we will also examine the exchange and conflict between European and Native American cultures in the 15th century and later colonization of the Americas by Europeans.

☺ Classes will be engaged in one of our **Science** units – **Microworlds, Food Chemistry, or Floating and Sinking.** Each is designed to provide hands-on experiences that strengthen conceptual understanding and a grasp of the scientific method.

**6** *Is it really October again? Well, as James Taylor so eloquently put it, "a few more geese are gone, a few more leaves turnin' red..."*, so I guess not all is so bad with the arrival of another fall.

Our sixth graders are rapidly getting back into the swing of things. Take Math for instance ... we're reviewing how to find data landmarks (**mean, median, mode**), and *my, oh my*, how the **mean** salary for sixth-grade teachers has changed since one Mrs. McNew rode off into the sunset! Well, at least our bar graphs are a little more evenly distributed this year with our new team member, **Mrs. Hideck**, in town. She comes to us from Abington Jr. High, so surely her secondary-level Math expertise will more than make up for our dramatic change in mean salaries.

Our initial Reading unit has required us to break down stories into their most basic components: characters, setting, and plot. I know I've promised it before, but I think this is really the year those skills will be put to use and the first-ever Copper Beech Sixth-Grade Pulitzer Prize Winner will be awarded! (**Parents: personal narratives have been assigned; ask your kids about them.**)

Oh, and I couldn't forget to mention the lovely **Fantasy Island Maps** (Social Studies) that have graced our hallways. I had a feeling I should have honeymooned at Marvelous Mango Island where there is an abundance of vitamin C available.



And in Health, we are making sure to maintain a positive self-image. Repeat several times, "**You is kind, you is smart, you is important.**" Thanks for **The Help, Ms. Aibileen!**

Until next time, CB...keep your rakes handy and the cider warm...I feel a chill in the air!



## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Activities ... Spread the Word!

**Welcome Back!** There are many fun and exciting activities planned for our sixth graders this year, and we will keep you updated as things progress.



**Activity Fee ...** This year, the sixth-grade activity fee is \$50 per child. We ask that you send in your money as soon as possible. Thanks!

**Your Involvement ...** Thanks to all who attended our June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Many of you signed up then and still others signed up at the Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> Back-To-School night – all to volunteer. Emails regarding specific functions will soon be sent to those who signed up. And, don't worry! It is never too late to get involved. Send us an email at [CB6gr2012@gmail.com](mailto:CB6gr2012@gmail.com).



**Get the Latest News ...** To receive the latest updates and information regarding sixth-grade activities, send your name, email address and cell phone number (for text updates) to [CB6gr2012@gmail.com](mailto:CB6gr2012@gmail.com).



**Quick! Take a Picture!** Remember to bring your camera this year to any event and/or function where sixth graders are involved. Photos are a big part of the yearbook, and the more the better.



**Remember ...** Your support this year will help to **strengthen** our efforts to have a successful and memorable final year for our children here at Copper Beech! We welcome and appreciate your involvement, your ideas — we welcome you!

—Your Sixth-Grade Coordinating Committee,  
**Natalie Corapi, [ncorapi1223@gmail.com](mailto:ncorapi1223@gmail.com)**  
**Merri Rullo, [merrirullo@gmail.com](mailto:merrirullo@gmail.com)**  
**Susan Wasekanes, [gkcm@aol.com](mailto:gkcm@aol.com)**

Copper Beech Parent-Teacher Association  
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## A Note from the Desk of Our New Assistant Principal ...

I would like to welcome all of our new families to Copper Beech and welcome back all our returning families for the 2011-2012 school year. I am thrilled that school has started, and I am looking forward to an exciting year as part of the Copper Beech community. Remember: Copper Beech C.A.R.E.S. and you should too!

— Mrs. Marie Salle Kim  
Assistant Principal

## What the PTA Does for You...for Us!

In September, the PTA treated the teachers to a luncheon (Sept. 6, 2011), while the faculty was busy getting ready for the first day of school. The lunch was catered by **Sorella Rose** of Flourtown and seemed to be enjoyed by all. In addition, the PTA gave the teachers gift cards to **Paine's Learning Aids Center** to be used for their classrooms.




Also in September, we provided the monetary funds for a **Scholastic News** subscription. The newsletter goes out to every Copper Beech first-grade class in an effort to help educate even the youngest about the world in which we live.



The PTA also provided funds for the kindergarteners' class trip to **Merrymeade Farms** in Lansdale scheduled to take place this month.

— Sally Sweeney  
CB PTA Treasurer

## From the Nurse's Desk ...

 **Welcome Back! . . . Calling all parent** volunteers! If you are at school more than 10 hours a week a **PPD test** is required. Our school physician, **Dr. Susan Packer** will administer the test at **Abington Senior High Health Suite (ext. 2382)**. Please pick up an authorization form from the principal's office and call the senior high to schedule an appointment. If any volunteer has had a negative PPD result within the past year, his or her physician may complete the form as well. If you prefer, volunteers may go to their private physician to have the test administered.



Also, the health room is in need of generic **sweat pants for boys or girls sizes 6 and 8**. Please think of us as you clean out your closets. Thanks!

—Holly Horner  
Certified School Nurse  
Copper Beech Elementary School

## The Library Report



After an enjoyable summer, we are off to a spectacular new school year. We are very pleased to greet many familiar and new faces as they make their way to the library.

**Mr. Steve Sergio** joins our library staff this year. Mr. Sergio has worked in the district as both a classroom teacher and librarian. He's here at Copper Beech all week, with three days in the library and two days teaching in the APEX program. We welcome **Mrs. Patrice Harris** (from Willow Hill Elementary School) who is here again this year, on Wednesdays and Friday mornings.

With the support of the PTA, we've invited author, **Dan Gutman**, to speak to **Grades 3 through 6 on Nov. 23, 2011**. I can safely say that Mr. Gutman's books are among the most popular in our library. He's written 98 books so far, and every single one is a winner. For more information, please check out his website at [www.dangutman.com](http://www.dangutman.com).

We are very grateful that so many of our library volunteers are returning to us, and are happy to welcome any new parents who would like to help. We'll provide on-the-job training! Please contact Maureen Coyle, library-volunteer coordinator, ([6coyles@verizon.net](mailto:6coyles@verizon.net)) to sign up. Your children will enjoy knowing that you are involved in their school.

We look forward to an exciting and busy year in the library! Happy Reading!

— Janet Boff, Librarian

## From Our Reading Specialists ...



Below are some wonderful activities and opportunities offered by the Abington Township Public Library in which children can participate.

### Abington Free Library

1030 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001

**DOGGONE GOOD Readers** will be offered three Saturdays (Oct. 1, Nov. 5, & Dec. 3, 2011 from 10:15-10:45 or 11:00-11:30) – for children who have completed first through fifth grades.



Children can practice reading in an exciting new way **by reading** aloud to **a therapy dog!** Children will have an opportunity to meet other children who love dogs and books. Children can bring their own books or choose a selection provided by the library. Children must sign up in advance. Although registration for all sessions began on Monday, Sept. 19, children do not have to attend all three weeks. However, they must be able to read and to attend programs independently. Sign up at the library or call the Children's Dept. at (215) 885-5180, ext. 28.

### Roslyn Branch

2412 Avondale Avenue, Roslyn, PA 19001

**Let's Read Math** (children will have an opportunity to play Interactive games at the Roslyn Branch) Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. Children will have an opportunity to learn about two stories (*Benny's Pennies* by Pat Brisson and *Hannah's Collections* by Marthe Jocelyn).

**Benny's Pennies:** Benny McBride has five pennies. Benny takes a walk and buys something for everyone. Children will play the game Race to a Dollar to practice the skills of counting and addition with regrouping.

**Hannah's Collections:** Hannah has a hobby of collecting interesting things she encounters in the world around her. Children will have an opportunity to take a survey. Also, they will learn how surveys are used to gather and analyze information. Finally, students will create a sculpture collection. This program is for children ages 5-9. Refreshments will be served. Registration begins Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>. Register in person or by phone (215-886-9818).

— *Your Reading Specialists,*

*Nancy Goldstein, Maryellen Holst  
and Robin Watts*



## It's Time for Our Fall Fundraiser!



**By now, you should have received your big red envelope!** CB PTA invites you to support our school by shopping the **Cherrydale Farms** catalog and, new this year, Scentiments Fragrant Candles and Accessories. Subscribe to a new magazine or renew an old favorite. **Our fundraiser could be a HUGE success if every family purchased just one item.**

Check out Cherrydale Farms' online sales program at [www.Cherrydale.com](http://www.Cherrydale.com). Copper Beech earns 50% profit on all online orders through June 2012. Just be sure to enter our group code: **159571**. Orders over \$75 are shipped free. You can also enter your family and friends' email addresses so they can help support Copper Beech too. Cherrydale will send a note informing them of your child's fundraiser and inviting them to visit [Cherrydale.com](http://Cherrydale.com). Enter five or more email addresses and qualify for a chance to win a Disney vacation or other instant drawings.

**Paper orders can be sent in to the PTA office through Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>.** Merchandise ordered through the school will be delivered the week of Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>. Flyers will be sent home soon with the specific delivery date and pick-up hours.

Thanks in advance for your support. Please contact me at 215-704-4549 or [jendritsas@yahoo.com](mailto:jendritsas@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

— *Jen Ricciardi,  
Cherrydale Farms Coordinator*



## A Look Ahead at the Beech

Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> / Friday  
Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> / Tuesday  
**Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> / Thursday**  
**Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> / Friday**  
**Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> / Friday**

Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> / Friday  
Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> / Monday  
Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> / Friday  
Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> / Friday

**Bach to Rock Assemblies**  
Student Picture Day  
**PTA Meeting – 7:30 pm**  
**PTA Muffins with Mom**  
**PTA Fall Festival & Pizza Night @ 6:00 p.m.**  
School Spirit Day  
Halloween Parade – 1:30  
School Spirit Day  
Red White & Blue Day

Copper Beech Parent-Teacher Association  
"Making Every Child's Potential a Reality!"

# Why Not Be a Library Volunteer This Year?



Our school library is a **BUSY** place. With more than **1,000** children using the library every week, books sometimes *fly* off the shelves. In fact, over 58,000 books circulated last year! Volunteering a little bit of time can make a **BIG** difference in helping to make our school's library run more efficiently. If you can give as little as one hour *every other* week, you can volunteer at the school library and make a **BIG** difference!

If you think you'd like to volunteer in the school library this year, then contact Maureen Coyle @ [6coyles@verizon.net](mailto:6coyles@verizon.net) with **Library Volunteers** noted on the subject line. Remember to mention what day/time you would like to volunteer. Sorry, younger siblings are not allowed to come in with volunteers. **Please note: Your preferred day/time may not be available.**

— Maureen Coyle  
Coordinator

# Your Attention Please! Presenting This Year's PTA Board Members ...

*Let's Give (& Lend) Them a Hand!*

**Dianna Pax, President,**  
[dpax@comcast.net](mailto:dpax@comcast.net) , 215-528-9917

**PRESIDENT-ELECT  
VACANT**

**Theresa Keenan-Flite,**  
**First Vice President (job share),**  
[treeflite@verizon.net](mailto:treeflite@verizon.net)

**Tina O'Neill,**  
**First Vice President (job share),**  
[oneilladb@verizon.net](mailto:oneilladb@verizon.net)



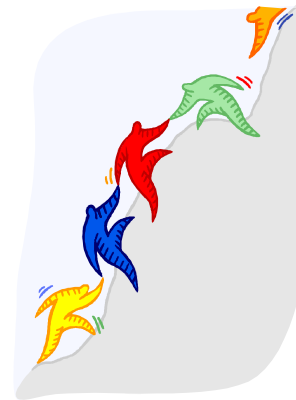
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**Second Vice President,**  
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**Zarah Adams,**  
**Recording Secretary,**  
[adamsjz@comcast.net](mailto:adamsjz@comcast.net)

**Sally Sweeney, Treasurer,**  
[Sallyanne@comcast.net](mailto:Sallyanne@comcast.net)



## A Few Important Numbers to Keep on Hand

**Child-Check: 215-881-2011**

**Copper Beech Office: 215-881-2000**

**Health Suite (Not Child-Check Calls):  
215-517-2747**



If you need to leave a message for your child's teacher, use the Abington School District voice mail system by dialing **215-517-2850.**



**FYI:** The deadline for submitting material to *The PTA Cougar Chronicles* (the official newsletter of the Copper Beech PTA) is the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month for the following month's issue. Please use the *Newsletter* mailbox located inside the PTA office for submissions, or email your submissions to [6coyles@verizon.net](mailto:6coyles@verizon.net) in *Word* format only. Please note on subject line as "Newsletter Submission."

Thank you!

— Maureen Coyle  
Newsletter Coordinator

Copper Beech Parent-Teacher Association  
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## ✓ Community Board ✓

*Check out these activities for you and your children to do together or separately...*



### **Babysitting Workshop**

This one-day course gives teens the skills to babysit. After completing the course, teens will receive a **Red Cross Certification Card** and a handbook. Topics covered during the course include: first aid, creative play, resume development and professionalism. Participants **must** attend the entire course, pass the evaluations and show maturity.

**Ardley Community Center**

**Ages: 11 - 15 years old**

**Saturday, 11/12/11 or 2/11/12**

**9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**For more on registration, visit the township's website:**

**[www.abington.org/parksrec/programs\\_spevents.htm](http://www.abington.org/parksrec/programs_spevents.htm)**

### **Fore Kids Golf Tournament**

Parents and kids, come out and take part in the Second Annual Par-3 Parent/Child Golf Outing. Each team consisting of one parent and one child will play 9 holes in a chance to win prizes. Don't miss out on a great fall activity for the whole family. Beverages and snacks will be provided.

**Alverthorpe Park Golf Course**

**Ages: 7 - 10 years old**

**Friday, October 14, 2011**

**Rain date Saturday, 10/15/11**

**Check-in is at 6:00 p.m.**

**Start time is 6:30 p.m.**

**For more on registration, visit the township's website:**

**[www.abington.org/parksrec/programs\\_spevents.htm](http://www.abington.org/parksrec/programs_spevents.htm)**

### **Naturally Curious Kids**

Kids who play outside stay outside! Games, hands-on activities and some plain-ole poking around encourage young minds to develop

a deeper appreciation for nature. Each week features a unique topic led by Briar Bush environmental educators. This special time "for kids to be kids" cultivates curiosity for and an understanding of plants, animals and natural processes, while empowering kids to feel confident and comfortable in a safe, natural setting.

**Briar Bush Nature Center**

**For 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders**

**Tuesdays from 4 to 5p.m.**

**For information on registration, visit Briar Bush's website:**

**[www.briarbush.org](http://www.briarbush.org)**

### **School's Out? Get Outside!**

Parents: Do you ever wonder what to do with your kids when school is closed, but work is not? Bring them to Briar Bush for a day of natural fun and learning. For the 2011-2012 school year, we are offering several programs, each with unique activities including hikes, games, live animals, crafts and so much more. Sign up for one program or the entire series.

**For more information about the program and registration, visit Briar Bush's website:**

**[www.briarbush.org](http://www.briarbush.org)**

### **Treetops Art Gallery Show**

**Improvisational Botany:**

Sculpture and Nature Prints by Gina Michaels (to Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>)

Gina Michael's large bronze "Hand Plants" have taken up residence outdoors in the wild flower garden at the Abington Arts Center. Upstairs in the Treetops Art Gallery, a series of one-of-a-kind nature prints created from plants and grasses from her garden are on

display. **Visit the Abington Art Ctr., [www.abingtonartcenter.org/](http://www.abingtonartcenter.org/)**

### **Autumn Fest /Sunday, Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> From 1 to 4. It's FREE!**

Celebrate everything natural and wonderful about fall – colorful leaves, apple cider, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and cool, crisp air! Wear your Halloween costume to trick-or-treat Briar Bush style – visit stations along the trail to play Native American games, answer creepy animal trivia, make crafts, and get your candy (and healthy snacks too). Throughout the day, families can enjoy animal shows, leaf-pile jumping, hot chocolate and cider, while surrounded by the natural beauty of autumn on display at the Abington Art Center.

**For more information about this FREE display, visit the**

**Abington Art Center website: [www.abingtonartcenter.org/](http://www.abingtonartcenter.org/)**

✓ **Check It Out ...Here are two more freebies for you and your family and your friends...**

✓ **Woodmere Art Museum...**

Tucked inside a Victorian mansion, the Woodmere features works from Philadelphia-area artists. Open Tuesday through Sunday.  
9201 Germantown Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19118  
215-247-0476

✓ **Edgar Allan Poe National Historical Site...**

Visit the home of one of America's most famous and thrilling writers. Open Wednesday through Sunday.  
**532 N 7th St. Philadelphia, PA**  
**215-597-8780**

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