



# Cabot School

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229 Cabot Street Newtonville, MA 02460

# 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Friday

June 3, 2005

6:30-8:30 pm



# Cabot School

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## Sponsors

We are grateful to all those businesses that supported this event.

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**Basil Tree**

**Russo's Fruit Market and Produce**

**Cabot's Ice Cream & Restaurant**

**Star/Shaw's Supermarkets**

**Costco**

**Signal Graphics Printing**

**Hostess Twinkies**

It's also the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Twinkie!

**Stock Keeper**

**Humpty Dumpty Snack Foods USA**

**Stop & Shop Supermarket**

**Newbury Comics**

**Sysco Foods**

**Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc.**

**Trader Joe's**

**Prem1er Products**

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Please show your appreciation for their generosity by patronizing these sponsors.



## Donors

Thanks to all who donated to the Building Renewal Fund.



# Cabot School

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## Order of Events

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**6:30 pm Reception**

The DayLites, Cabot Field – tunes from the 1960s and 1970s

**7:00 pm Speakers: *Reflections on Cabot School*, Cabot Field**

Master of Ceremonies, Mark Wadness, former parent and PTO co-president

Marilynne Smith Quarcoo, principal

Mayor David Cohen, City of Newton

Superintendent Jeff Young, Newton Public Schools

Richard LeBovidge, former parent and PTO co-president

Penny Benjamin, former teacher

Helene Reisler, former teacher: remarks written by David Wilbourn,  
former parent and PTO co-president

Marc Laredo, former student, Newton School Committee member

Anita Stricoff, former parent and PTO member

Lois Strother, teacher: recognition of Mary Morrison, former student,  
teacher, parent, and volunteer

**7:30 pm Cabot Parent Chorus, Cabot Field**

**7:50 pm Cake cutting, Cabot Field**

**8:00 pm The DayLites, Cabot Field**

**8:30 pm Raffle: Mark Wadness, MC, Cabot Field**

## Ongoing Activities

**Cabot Museum:** artifacts, photographs, timeline, and written history

Gym - 6:30-8:30 pm

**“All This Time: 75 Years at Cabot School” DVD**

Room 104/Music Room - 6:30 • 6:50 • 7:50 • 8:10 pm

**School tours,** start at front lobby door - 6:30 • 6:35 • 6:40 • 8:00 • 8:10 • 8:20 pm



# Cabot School

## Cabot School History

Researched and written by Peggy Vaglica

*This is not a complete history, but is a compilation of interesting facts found in the archives of the Newton Free Library.*

**1762** Newton brought to court for not maintaining a grammar school as required by law

**1908** Newton elementary schools: full day Monday/Wednesday/Friday, early dismissal Tuesday/Thursday

**1914-early 1920s** All public building halted; post-war baby boom resulted in overcrowding

**October 10, 1928** Permit #2003, Application for Permit to Build (a school) submitted to Newton Public Buildings Department; architects: Charles Greco and William Hollings, Boston; builder: Phandor Construction, Boston; estimated cost: \$191,500

**Two weeks later** Newton School Committee votes to name new school Cabot because of school's location across from Cabot Park (formerly Cabot Woods—had been property of 1854 Newton settler John Cabot)

**1928-1929** Cabot School built

**September 9, 1929** Cabot School opens: 12 classrooms, kindergarten suite, assembly hall (including platform and dressing room), boys' playroom, girls' playroom, principal's office, teachers' room, health clinic

Classrooms were on second and third floors; kindergarten suite was on second floor next to Humpty Dumpty (currently the CASP room). On first floor were boys' playroom (currently office), girls' playroom (currently literacy office and Ms. Robertson's classroom), and assembly hall (now 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms facing black top). Offices and health clinic were on third floor above kindergarten. Building had coal storage bin.

275 students: 47 kindergarteners, 53 1<sup>st</sup> graders, 35 2<sup>nd</sup> graders, 36 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, 42 4<sup>th</sup> graders, 26 5<sup>th</sup> graders, 36 6<sup>th</sup> graders

Costs: construction and grading \$194,335; equipment \$8,700; land \$24,349; size 450,000 cubic feet; all modern conveniences—luxurious bubbling water fountains; no elevators

**1930** 283 students: 33 kindergarteners, 47 1<sup>st</sup> graders, 49 2<sup>nd</sup> graders, 40 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, 36 4<sup>th</sup> graders, 47 5<sup>th</sup> graders, and 31 6<sup>th</sup> graders

Grade 1 used Aldine reading system; arithmetic most emphasized; penmanship supervisor hire recommended  
Helen Hamilton, Cleanliness Institute of America, selects Newton for hand washing study; finds no schools have adequate facilities for students to wash hands before eating.

**1931** Newton considered pioneer in public kindergarten (not mandatory); health teaching now one of seven cardinal principles of education; physical education required

**1934** Assessed at \$145,000

**1935** Assessed at \$140,000; average Newton teacher salary \$2,239/year; state average \$2,087/year; average Newton principal salary \$3,300/year; per pupil spending \$98.48/year for elementary school students

Special classes for those with poor intellectual endowment; standardized tests: grade 1 reading; grade 3 reading, vocabulary, spelling, arithmetic; grade 6 reading, language

**1936-1937** Superintendent appoints committee to study Newton's arithmetic program



# Cabot School

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## History, continued

**1937** Assessed at \$140,000

**1938** Land value \$24,348; total value \$186,048

**1948** Newton fire station ring bells to signal weather cancellation of just elementary schools; older children expected to hear radio announcements

**1949** Cabot Elementary School Council represents all grades; operates by parliamentary procedure; discusses school problems, manages lost and found, publishes school newspaper, supports care and use of bicycles, organizes and manages school library, handles milk delivery; promotes good personal qualities

**1950** 5<sup>th</sup> graders inventory school library and catalog new books; few Newton schools had libraries

**1951** Students spend day in woods using natural resources, cook a meal

**1952** Must be 4 years and 9 months by October 1 to enter kindergarten in September; children turning 5 in January could start kindergarten on first Monday in second semester, provided there were fewer than 31 students; children entering kindergarten in February had to remain in kindergarten the following year

**1953** Claflin School built on Lowell Avenue at Craigie Terrace

**June 11, 1956** Cabot permit submitted to add four classrooms and gym; builder Rocheford Construction, Framingham; architect Samuel Glaser, Boston; estimated cost \$303,000; Cabot assessed at \$488,000

**May 5, 1957** New wing opens at PTA-sponsored tea; ribbon cut by Superintendent Harold B. Gores

**1959** Gym roof leaks

**1960** Split in roof repaired by Burgess and Blacher Company, Boston

**1960s** Teacher Edith McQuaid produces annual spring circus

**1963** Telephone number LAseII 7-3442; assessed at \$488,000; 77,522 sq feet

**1966** Dan DeWolf, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade science, strove to teach children to "conserve animal life;" his 5<sup>th</sup> grade classroom had a screech owl, sparrow hawk, sopher snake, bat, and several turtle varieties; other classrooms had gerbils, guinea pigs, toads, hamsters, and a cricket farm

METCO program and students come to Newton; come to Cabot a few years later

**1968** Mary Everett speaks to Cabot PTA about school's condition, "windows leak; we are overcrowded; we are operating in closets, hallways, and the basement; we have no outdoor play equipment." She said that having 20% of families move in and out of the district every year made it hard to justify additional classrooms.

**1973** Helen Thomas, teacher since 1964, becomes acting principal; state law requires kindergarten at least 12.5 hours per week; Cabot assessed at \$488,000—unchanged for 20 years

**April 8, 1975** Catherine Bruce's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class talks via ham radio to pen pals at Colegio Nueva Granada School, Bogotá, Columbia—Columbian school taught by former Newton teacher; students, teachers, and parents spend five days camping in North Truro—sleep in tents; art, science, weather, astronomy stations; also hiking, writing, painting, beachcombing



# Cabot School

## History, continued

**December 17 + 19, 1975** 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders read their poetry on radio station WNTN, Newton—collaboration between Boston College and Newton Public Schools

**1976** 4<sup>th</sup> graders in Hale Reservation Outdoor Program on science and environment

**1980** Project 7717 improved lighting quality and provided emergency and outdoor lights

**1980s** Cabot joins Newton-Boston University Cluster, a teacher-training collaborative; teacher Patty Dukakis holds yoga classes; emphasis on creative arts—artists, poets in residence, visiting musicians

**1981** Joyce and David Wilbourn, PTO co-presidents, and others, reverse School Committee decision to close Cabot and keep Claflin open; Claflin closes, merges with Cabot; Claflin and Cabot parents bond after merge

**1983 or 1984** Cabot uses Newton Writing Project for grades 2-6; fire alarms installed

**1984** 14 classrooms; grades 4-6 co-op teaching plan; special ed classes; Cabot in Newton Advance Challenge for academically talented in elementary schools; science fair grades 5-6; science challenges expand in grades 3-4; Ginn 720 Reading K-5; new Ginn program grade 6; grade 6 camps a week in South Yarmouth, Cape Cod

**1986** 15 classrooms; 4<sup>th</sup> grade *Understanding Our Handicaps*; Bigelow Junior High School closes

**1987** 17 classrooms; combined K-1; learning center specialist; Primary Intervention Reading grades 1-3

**1988** 18 classrooms; grades 4-6 teachers share curriculum duties; CASP opens—held at Bigelow Junior High

**Early 1990s** Parent Anita Stricoff organizes committee to raise \$50,000-60,000 for playground; wooden structure built in two days by parent volunteers; later wood became safety concern

**June 3, 1991** Permit submitted to add two classrooms, two bathrooms, and connecting corridor; estimated cost \$272,120; architect TR Arnold and Associates, Elkhart, IN; contractor Scotsman Group, Pelham, NH

**1992** Cabot ends at 5<sup>th</sup> grade; Bigelow reopens; 6<sup>th</sup> grade moves to middle school (Bigelow)

**October 24, 2000** Peter D'Amico Playground dedicated

**2002** Final annual Spaghetti Supper

### Enrollment, partial list

<b>1929</b>	<b>275</b>	1980	306	1995	420
1930	283	1981	405	1996	417
1938	420	1982	344	1997	412
<b>1967</b>	<b>539</b>	1984	336	1998	393
1973	452	1986	341	1999	385
1974	441	1987	372	2000	362
1975	406	1988	377	2001	360
1976	388	1990	449	2002	352
1977	373	1991	470	2003	353
1978	349	1992	473	2004	357
1979	315	1993	443		

### Principals, partial list

**Marilynne Smith Quarcoo** 1990-present  
**Joseph Gattuso** 1984-1990  
**Henry DeRusha** 1981-1984  
**Helen Thomas** 1973-1981  
**Mary Winslow** ?-1973  
**Dorothy H. Stewart** late 1950s-1960s  
**Helen L. Thompson** 1929-?



# Cabot School

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Volunteers

*Co-Chairs: Sally Brickell and Marilynne Quarcoo, Principal*

### Audio/Visual

Merry Gerard  
Dave Seaman  
Mark Wadness

### Boston Sunday Globe

**Fun Pages, May 30, 2005**  
5<sup>th</sup> grade students  
Carolyn Eggert  
Marie Franklin, former parent  
Russell Springer, teacher

### Cabot Field Clean-up

5<sup>th</sup> grade students  
Jenny Duvall  
Joan Koffman

### Cabot Goods

Joy Huber  
Sherry Klein  
Sarah Meyer

### Cabot Museum

Carolyn Moss  
Susan Stoops

### Cabot Parent Chorus

Leslie Adelsheim  
Jenny Duvall  
Sarah Ecker  
Merry Gerard  
Andrea Hauser  
Steve Linsky  
Tracy Martin  
Carolyn Moss  
Laurie Otten  
Barbara Perlo  
Joan Ruttenberg  
Vandana Sodder  
Sayuri Miyamoto, accompanist

### Consultation

Lidia Rosenbaum  
Lori Seuch

### Cookbook

*Co-Chairs: Kirsten Feldman  
and Shara Lewis*  
Sandy Connors  
Ayako Samuels

### Costume Parade

Leslie Adelsheim

### Database

Emily Hess

### Day of June 3

Too numerous to list,  
but much appreciated

### The DayLites

Peter Conley  
Alan Dempsey  
Drew Hannah  
Bart Kiley  
Chris Kiley

### Decorations

Eileen Chodos-Beth  
Karin Oehlenschlager  
Archana Vahalia

### DVD

John Martin  
Tracy Martin  
Barbara Perlo  
Geoff Wadsworth

### Events

*Co-Chairs: Leslie Adelsheim  
and Joy Huber*  
Edye Geringer  
Laurie Otten  
Peggy Vaglica

### Events Support

Pam Adelman  
Edye Geringer  
Elana Gruen  
Susan Phillips  
Sharon Salwen  
Linda Wang  
Leslie Warner

### Faculty

Marcie Mann, teacher  
Elaine Ropi, teacher

### Food

*Co-Chairs: Leslie Adelsheim  
and Laurie Otten*  
Daphne Potter  
Rick Reilly

### Forrest's Chauffeur

Roberta Hing

### Fundraising

*Co-Chairs: Rick Reilly  
and Susan Veroff*  
Vandana Sodder  
Michele Weinfeld

### H. T. Dumpty Mock Trial

Boston College School of Law  
Judy McMorrow

### Humpty Dumpty Visit

Jim Adelsheim  
Judy Selednik  
Libby Hohmann, sponsor

### Library-to-Library Reception

Boston College School of Law  
Lani Gerson, staff

### Logo and Design

Judy Close

### Mailings

Ann Duvall  
Jenny Duvall  
Marguerite Ingram  
Archana Vahalia

### Newton Free Library Humpty Dumpty Project

Grades K-1 student artists  
and teachers  
Rachel Boloyan  
Sharon Dwyer  
Tera Hirsch  
Alyssa Kaplan, student  
Louise Marshall  
Diana Seldin, student  
Kayla Wong, student

### Operations

Paul Fadden, staff  
Ed Reardon, staff

### Outreach

Anya Bassett  
Deb Driscoll, staff  
Jenny Gamson  
Liz Haas  
Margaret Hannah, staff  
Marguerite Ingram  
Betsy Nurczynski, staff  
Vandana Sodder

### Photography and Videotaping

Jeanine Cox  
Bill Huddleston  
Geoff Wadsworth

### Playground Supervision

Newton North High School  
students

### PTO Co-Presidents

Sally Brickell  
Marguerite Ingram

### Public Relations

Carolyn Eggert  
Melinda Roman

### Research/Speakers

Karen Axelrod  
Peggy Vaglica

### Reunion - Grade 8

Diane Davidow  
Bruce Gore

### Stained Glass Window

Pat Abbott

### Technology

Brenda Doucette, staff  
Arnold Sodder

### Time Capsule

Marcie Mann, teacher

### Timeline

Students and staff in the  
Cabot After-School Program  
Lee Guertin, staff  
Zach Hardy, staff  
Peggy Vaglica

### Tour Guides

Emily Abromowitz, student  
Emily Eldridge-Ingram, student  
Carla Forbes, student  
Maya Ingram, student  
Madeline Murphy, student  
Ilana Ruben, student  
Shereen Sodder, student

### Volunteer Central

Janet Porcaro

Thanks to all the other families, teachers, staff, alumni, and friends of Cabot School who have contributed to the success of this event.  
We apologize to anyone we have inadvertently omitted.

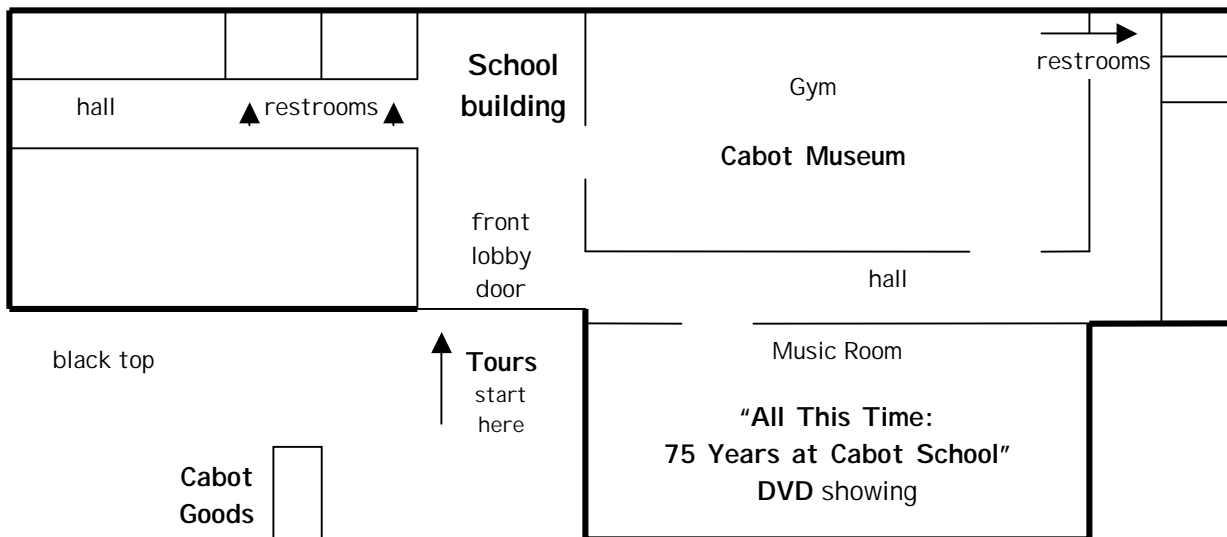


# Cabot School

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

June 3, 2005, 6:30-8:30 pm

### Map of Activities



Welcome

Welcome

volunteers



Building Renewal Fund and raffle tickets

