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WinterFEST is Coming!

Newton Community Pride is excited to announce WinterFEST, a new city-wide event scheduled February 12-13th in Newton Highlands, Cold Springs Park and Newton Centre. These all-outdoor events will be filled with wintertime family friendly fun.

“We are thrilled to bring WinterFEST this year to the city of Newton. This brand-new event will provide free and accessible family entertainment, whimsy and winter fun for all to enjoy”, stated Gloria Gavis, Board Chair of Newton Community Pride. “At NCP, we love thinking of new programming that we can bring to the city. Many cold weather cities and towns have winter carnivals and festivals, why not Newton?”, Gavis added.

On Saturday evening, February 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 8:00 PM, the Hyde Community Center and the Highlands Area Council will host a Community Soup Social at the Hyde Playground. Hot bowls of soup provided by local restaurants and served by Newton notables will warm you as you listen to live music from Newton North High School’s Melocotones and keep warm by dancing to Newton’s own “Porch Rockers”. Giant puppets will engage the crowd and Olaf from Frozen will provide hot chocolate and cookies.

On Sunday morning, join the Newton Conservators for a family friendly, dog friendly (leashes please) winter walk around the 1.5-mile wooded trail of Cold Springs Park. Please meet at 10:00 AM at the 1094 Beacon Street entrance and proceed around toward the left at the trail entrance near the sports fields. Hot Chocolate, coffee and sweets will warm you at the end of your invigorating morning walk. If Olaf from Frozen is not too tired from the night before in the Highlands, he might join in on the walk as well!

On Sunday afternoon, from 12:00 – 5:00 PM Newton Centre will come alive with festive lights and family activities. Join your neighbors and friends on the village green for a live ice sculpting demonstration of a 5-foot polar bear from 1:00 – 3:00 PM by Images in Ice. Enjoy taking pictures with costumed characters near ice sculptures of Valentine’s Day Hearts, adorable ice penguins and an ice throne. From 3:00 – 4:00 PM be entertained by the award-winning Boston

College acapella group The Acoustics and shop throughout the day at a Winter Pop Market for crafts, chocolates, and edible goodies, and of course, a WinterFest would not be complete without hot chocolate, whipped cream and cookies, plus more surprises throughout the afternoon.

WinterFEST is presented by The Village Bank, support from a Festival Grant from the Mass Cultural Council, and in partnership with the Hyde Community Center and Newton's Park, Recreation and Culture Department.