

Newsletter

Hekko! What it is, babies? So very glad you asked - so glad indeed! Here's what's going on, so much, so big, so nice, you'll want to be a part of it all:

"Wonderful!" you find yourselves saying, "and yet I can't help but remember something about a new book coming out..." How very timely of you, and we thank you for bringing it up. [How Much Wood Could a Woodchuck Chuck?](#) is IN, and available at our website and can be ordered from your favorite store! We're making a whole real lot of [appearances](#) - you can click on the link, but there's a special one tomorrow we're making and wanted to share:

This very Thursday, February 2nd, we'll be on hand at The [Highland Park Public Library, Highland Park, New Jersey](#) - N. Main Street from 7-9 PM or so...we love library appearances, and what better way to celebrate Groundhog Day than to introduce the world to our brand new [Woodchuck?](#)

Now for those in OUR area, please look at NEXT week's [Edison/Metuchen Sentinel](#) and see a terrific article/interview featuring your favoritist newsletters writers! The issue comes out Thursday 2/9 so if you're trying for a sneak peak prior to that...we checked, it's not posted yet!

Looking for a way to keep up on us in between this newsletter and the next? Check out the story in the Feb 10th Princeton [PACKET!](#) This story will be covering Kim's participation in the Chapin School [GALLERY](#) - a month long exhibition featuring eight children's book illustrators! There's an opening next Wednesday, February 8th, from 5-7 PM...DO come, won't you? Support takes many forms, peeps, and while it's true what they used to say at the NY Metropolitan Opera, "We can't live on love alone", the truth is we can live on MOSTLY love...some come on out and show us the love. Or show it to Kim anyway! This is your opportunity to come hobnob in the great and beautiful Princeton educational arena. To harumph avec vin! To discuss philosophy, art, and nature! To fete and raise your glass oh-so-high not only to your favorite artist but her existential yet embracing muses! To impress other people at the water cooler the next day! We'll be there...and we hope you can make it, too.

Great news: You can now get [Woodchuck](#) at [Barnes & Noble.com!](#) Soon, it will probably be available at Borders, too, and of course it should be attainable at any indy store, which we encourage you to support (if you live in our area, pick it up from [The Raconteur](#) in Metuchen or [the Town Bookstore](#) in Westfield).

Of course, if your favorite store big OR small doesn't have it, or you'd like to shout out a big hello and look at Kim's [artwork](#) personally, you can always stop by [Metuchen Art Works](#) - we'd love to see you!

Speaking of the gallery, Saturday February 4th is an opening reception at [Metuchen Art Works](#) ! Please come anytime between 7:00 - 10:00 PM for a great show, featuring photographer

[Christina L. Wilson](#) - of course, Kimi's stuff will be there too! Originals, prints, books, even note cards! Something for everyone, so as they say on The Price is Right, come on down!

The album: Listen UP! is so close now, with one song left to go, that we're too excited about it to keep going on. Stay tuned. We won't keep you in the dark much longer!

Now, on to the reason you're reading this:

All of the chilluns are doing very well. All grades are excellent across the board, and we'd prefer not to dwell on it lest you accuse us of bragging. But we *could*...

Rachelle is still playing with the cello, although practicing intermittently (at best); she is also still writing "role plays" with friends; her SSATs were great, and next week she starts Middle School of the Arts, in the area of multi genre writing. Always good to have more than one genre.

Joshua is now two stripes into his senior brown belt in Tae Kwan Do...and closing in on his third! We may very well be looking at a black belt by this autumn. He still plays French Horn (and practices almost as much as Rachelle!) and is STILL building Lego towns with his brother and friends. His room is still messy. We shouldn't say that...it's messy AGAIN. He *did* clean it up once since the last newsletter...!

Our Maxx is still reading, bigger and better all the time! He read each of us James Marshall's Goldilocks...one of his favorites, and boy o boy could James Marshall write. We recommend it. Maxx has not recently painted the bathroom with wet blobs of terlit paper. We presume he is only waiting for our guard to be appropriately down.

Charles...can't get rid of him. Won't go away. Not to hamster heaven, not down the drain, not to our friend [Tony](#)'s house. Little freak.

Murray and Hercules: One says meow and rips our kitchen screen. The other woofs incessantly. Make no presumptions here. Identity crisis a real possibility...!

Bowling: WE ARE NO LONGER IN last place! How can this be? Easy: We quit! No, NOT because we were in last place. We quit because nobody should be bowling at ten in the morning. That whole 10 AM thing is WHY we were in last place.

Site of the month: We've been writing this newsletter going past four years now, and never once featured [JIM BABJAK'S Official Web Site \[The Smithereens\]](#) in this space. We thought we oughtta rectify that...poof. Done.

Rock and roll closer: Wasn't it way back in the mid '60's when The Lovin' Spoonful asked, "Do you believe in magic?" We do.

Rock on, kiddies!

- danny, kim, and their own personal three stooges

PS: If you weren't on this newsletter list, you'd have nothing to complain about. Why start not

complaining now? If you feel you must, however, just say so we'll make sure you're "nixed" off our list (but don't hold us responsible for a sorry life from that point on)!

To read our previous newsletters, just click this [News of The Past](#) link.

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