


# Newton

 **56°** | traffic | transit

[home](#) [events](#) [schools](#) [sports](#) [wiki](#) [discussions](#) [real estate](#) [marketplace](#)

search

Text size - +

NEWTON

# MGH recognizes woman's work against cancer

Posted May 15, 2009 10:47 AM

[Email](#) | [Link](#) | [Comments \(3\)](#)



By Ben Terris  
Town Correspondent

Just one month after her husband Michael passed away from lung cancer in September 2003, Newton resident Susan Zuker found herself parked behind a car with New Jersey license plates that read "Conquer Cancer." A year and a half later, Zuker would be responsible for more than 1,500 applications for these same plates in Massachusetts.

For her work bringing Conquer Cancer plates to Massachusetts, Zuker will be honored on June 3rd as one of the Massachusetts General Hospital's The One Hundred. The one hundred gala honors individuals and groups who have made a difference in the fighter against cancer, and will be at the Westin Copley with guests like Oscar-Winning actor Chris Cooper, Boston Bruins Defenseman Aaron Ward, Mayor Thomas Menino and a keynote address by Elizabeth Edwards.

"Michael's passing left such a void in my life, and the best thing I could do to try and fill this void was do whatever was in my power to keep it from happening to others," Zuker said.

With no seed money, Zuker said that "getting the word out proved to be a bit of a problem at first." She would set up at malls and county fairs with her family getting people one-by-one to sign up for the plate.

"It took some time, but there are just so many people affected by cancer that the applications just kept trickling in," she said. "It didn't matter if we were at a mall or a biker bar, everyone treated us the same, because in the end everyone has the same cancer stories, no matter who you are."

On January 25, 2006, the two-year anniversary of Michael's death, Zuker presented the applications to the Registry of Motor Vehicles. In August, the plate designs—penned by Zuker's son Jonathan and featuring an eternal flame with a teardrop, a sunrise, and a boat—was officially unveiled at the State House. Zuker said that her organization has raised around \$300,000 just in selling the plates—which cost \$40 a year.

Because of the lives she has touched and the one's that have touched her, Zuker describes her experience with the Conquer Cancer organization as "life changing."

"Through my work on this project I have met more wonderful people than I ever thought possible," she said. "For all the work I put into this, it has given back way more than I could ever put in."

To check out the Conquer Cancer website, click here

## THINGS TO DO IN NEWTON

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Edible Seedling Sale
- Bike Newton Rally/Friends & Family Rider
- Concert: Handel's Italian Passion and...
- City Of Newton Memorial Day Parade

### BROWSE

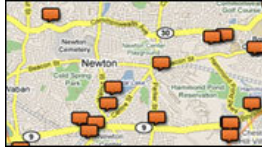
- Arts & Crafts
- Community
- Food & Dining
- Performing Arts
- Shopping
- Sports & Rec
- Family Events

<b>17</b> SUN	<b>18</b> MON	<b>19</b> TUE	<b>20</b> WED	<b>21</b> THU
------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------

ADVERTISEMENT

## ALSO FROM NEWTON

### SEE A PROBLEM? REPORT IT



Create a public record of civic problems in Newton

### ARCHITECTURE



Charles River Boathouse a model of form, function

### FROM THE GLOBE ARCHIVES



In Newton, they still speak the language of the lake

### COMMUTING



Route 128 road lines fade after harsh winter

### flyerboard

Your child's success is our greatest achievement.



Jackson School  
200 Jackson Road  
Newton, MA 02458  
Walnut Park  
27 Walnut Park  
Newton, MA 02458

www.jacksonwalnutparkschools.org

Ultimate Aesthetics  
 The ultimate in cosmetic dentistry  
 1400 Centre Street  
 Newton Centre, MA  
 (617) 795-7170

Become a part of something unique at the West Suburban YMCA!



We offer unlimited value-based programs for the entire family to stay healthy and active!

Visit us and see why we were voted 2008 Starburst of the Year!

West Suburban YMCA  
2700 Clark Street  
Downers Grove, IL 60130  
847-353-6300

Local

www.westsuburbanymca.org

ELLIN CLEGG  
 CHEMOBRAIN  
 What Chemists, Pathologists, and Doctors Need to Know  
 DR. STEWART FLEISHMAN

More than 175 Newton families have already chosen  
**Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Boston.**  
 It's time to take a closer look.



kitchen tune up  
**SPRING IS A TIME OF RENEWAL AND THAT INCLUDES KITCHENS.**  
 CABINET RESTORATION  
 CABINET REFINISHING  
 CUSTOM CABINETS  
 617-923-9889

**YOUR FLYER HERE**  
 Advertise your local business, listing, or event on the Flyerboard.

advertising by PaperG

