

THE AGASSIZ WHISTLER

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4-C

The Cambridge Coalition for Child Care (4-C) has been holding meetings for the past few months to try to bring about free, community-controlled child care as was voted by the people of Cambridge in the last election. A proposal and a budget to cover the costs involved in organizing the various communities and for "seed money" to carry out community plans is being presented to the City Council on February 11, 1972. The Agassiz community has also submitted a proposal for both preschool day care and an extended afterschool program.

If anyone is interested in having a member of the Coalition talk to a group (such as a food co-op, playgroup, etc.) contact Mave Valvo at 547-9861. If anyone wants to attend a Coalition meeting, call Jill Herold (864-0872) or Miriam Goldberg (547-8429) to find out the time and place of the next meeting - Miriam Goldberg

FREE COURSES AT LESLEY

The Graduate School at Lesley College is offering training programs and graduate degree programs FREE to any members of the Agassiz community. Arranged through a Federal grant for Lesley to work with Community Schools, Lesley is offering 2 free courses at $3\frac{1}{2}$ credits each course, that would normally cost \$65 dollars per credit:

1.) "Organization and Administration of Day Care Centers" - taught by Ms. Belle Evans, director of the Castle Square Day Care Center in Boston.

2.) "Daily Programming for Nursery School Children in Day Care" - taught by Ms. Margaret Cline, advisor to Follow-Through at EDC. Courses are held from 7:00-9:30 PM, Monday and Tuesday and will run for 12 weeks. No previous college work is required for either course. Although the classes began January 31, late registration will be open until February 11. Register at Lesley Graduate Center, 9 Mellen Street 868-9600. Further courses will be offered in April.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETINGS - WELCOME

The Agassiz Community Council is the policy making body of the Agassiz Community School. Decisions about space use, money use, staff and programs can be made here. Meetings are open to the community and all are invited. We meet regularly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 8:00 PM in the Agassiz School library. For information about specific agenda, call 876-9268 after 2:30 PM.

T.H.A.N.K.S.

(Try Hiring A Neighborhood Kid Soon)

THANKS is in full swing and has placed four kids in jobs in the neighborhood. Remember, if you have any jobs you want done (babysitting, snow shoveling, etc.) Call 876-9268 after 2:30 and ask for Sallie or Janet.

AFTER SCHOOL

The After School program at Agassiz is alive and well. Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:30-5:00 kids aged 5-13, come and do crafts, sports, cooking, reading, writing, dancing, drama and anything else our very dedicated and talented volunteers can think up. It's a loose, comfortable program where the kids have a lot of initiative. For example, a circus-play in full costume was spontaneously planned and performed one afternoon by the younger people doing arts and crafts. The program acts as both an after-school recreation facility and as a partial day-care service for working parents. So far we have served a total of 65 kids, often having as many as 30 attending any one day. We would like to expand the program to Tuesday and Thursday, but need more volunteers, especially parents, to make that possible. If you are interested in the program have questions or suggestions, call Janet 876-9268 after 2:30.

CARAVAN THEATRE CHILDREN'S PLAY

On Saturday, January 22, 25 children and parents of the Agassiz After School Program attended a wonderful performance of "Myths and Tales of the Maori" at the Caravan Theatre which performs in the Harvard Epworth Church in our neighborhood. The play, designed for children, was a delightful combination of songs, dances, games and bright costumes, used to tell one of the myths of creation handed down by the Maori people of New Zealand. Afterwards there was an opportunity for the children in the audience to participate in a short play of their own. Our children enthusiastically took part as shepherds and gods, animals and plants.

FOUR DAYS IN FEBRUARY-----

The public school February vacation runs from February 21-27 and Community Schools has plans for that time. Last year, Four Days in February was a series of athletic events between various Community Schools. This year, at the suggestion of Sandy Platt, a 7th grader at Agassiz, Community Schools is planning to run a February Fair on Thursday, February 24 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, at Agassiz. Although still in the earliest planning stages, we hope to have an auction a palm reader, fortune teller, some crafts to do, some food to eat, games, contests, movies etc. We'll need a lot of help before the 24th...planning booths, games, contests...help in finding interesting items to auction off, prizes for a raffle, a fortune-teller...musicians...all the things that will make a good fair. The planning starts now -- so if you have ideas, something to volunteer... special skills...or want to express an interest, please call us 876-9268 after 2:30: Janet, Sallie or Dick.

A separate activity during 4 days in February is a trip to the Wallex skating rink and bowling alley, from 9:00-1:00, on Wednesday, February 23rd. We will go with kids from other schools. Everyone is invited, but kids under 7 must be accompanied by someone 14 or over. We have to plan for a bus for this trip, so we must know in advance who wishes to go. Call Janet or Sallie at 876-9268 after 2:30 or come into our office to sign up.

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ SUMMER JOBS \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

If you: 1) Are at least 18 years old, 2) have graduated from high school, 3) have lived in Cambridge for at least 6 months - You are eligible for a summer job with the Recreation Department as a recreation leader or assistant leader. But you must fill out an application by February 14th. Pick up an application at city hall, 795 Mass. Ave. (1st floor) and return completed form to the State House in Boston. The exam will be in the beginning of March. Any problems, call us. (876-9268)

PLUNGE

Anyone (up to 17) can swim at the YWCA (7 Temple St.) for a small fee, 25¢ for 12 and under and 50¢ for over 13. Schedule: Mon. 4-5, Tues, Wed. & Thurs. 3:30-4:30 and Sat. 12-1. Right now a group of 8th graders go every Thursday afternoon. You are welcome to join us. If we get other groups together, we will need adults to accompany them. Interested? Call Janet or Sallie.

****FRIDAY NIGHT IS FAMILY NIGHT*****
AT THE POOL. Families can go by themselves or call us and we'll get a group together.

THE GIRLS ARE GETTING TOGETHER.....

If you are in the 4th, 5th or 6th grade come to the library in the Agassiz School at 2:30 on Mondays and join the fun. Sarah Peak and Rhonda Massie (2 Cambridge High and Latin seniors) are the leaders of the group which will be doing arts and crafts, music, ecology, drama, anything that seems like a nifty idea. (Sarah lives on Gorham Street right in this neighborhood). Come by next Monday and see if you like it!

Please send requests, suggestions, notices, articles, or thoughts you'd like to share with your neighbors to the Community School Office in the Agassiz School on Sacramento Street so they may be included in future "Whistlers"
