

# the AGASSIZ WHISTLER

September 1979

## AGASSIZ COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWS

Those of you who are new to Cambridge or to the Agassiz neighborhood may be wondering, well what is a Community School anyway?

A COMMUNITY SCHOOL is a neighborhood program which seeks to provide interesting and meaningful activities for people of all ages in the community. It uses the elementary school building as its base and other neighborhood buildings and facilities whenever possible. (The Agassiz Community School presently has the use of a Harvard-owned building at 20 Sacramento Street, now called the Agassiz Community Center.)

The COMMUNITY COUNCIL is the governing body of each community school. Every member of the community belongs to the Council and may come to Council meetings each month. It is the job of the Community Council to create programs which reflect the needs and interests of the people in the community. In some neighborhoods, this means programs for teens and adults. In others, there is a focus on programs for senior citizens. In the Agassiz neighborhood, we have tended to focus on the program needs of elementary school-aged children by providing an extended-day cooperative kindergarten, after-school activities programs for K-3rd graders and 4th-8th graders, and evening sports activities for pre-teens. (We also have evening programs for adults, which we hope to expand this year.)

The AGASSIZ COMMUNITY COUNCIL has also served as a neighborhood forum for such issues as: zoning, neighborhood safety, MBTA Red Line extension efforts, and other community development issues.

## COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWS, Cont.

The OFFICERS of the Agassiz Community Council are:

Brian Kullman-chairperson  
Harry Pskowski-treasurer  
Julie Snow-secretary

The Council meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 8:00 p.m. in the Agassiz School library. Our first Council meeting this year will be on Wednesday, September 12th. Join us and share your ideas about the Community School program or any other concerns you might have about the Agassiz neighborhood.

The AGASSIZ COMMUNITY SCHOOL STAFF for this year includes:

Ken Basler - Coordinator  
Julie Snow - Program Coordinator  
To be hired - Cooperative Kindergarten Teacher  
Smiley Winter - After-school Activities Program  
Robin Winter - After-School Activities Program  
Diane Williams - After-School Day Care Program  
Stephanie Weissman - After-School Day Care Program  
Martha Rogers - After-School Day Care Program

plus specialists who will be hired to teach afternoon and evening courses for pre-teens, teens, and adults.

OFFICE HOURS at the Agassiz Community Center will be from 1:00-5:00, Monday through Friday. You will be able to reach either Ken Basler or Julie Snow during these hours by calling 498-9056.

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This fall, the PROGRAMS offered by The Agassiz Community School will include: an After-School Activities Program for children coming one, two, or three afternoons a week, an After-School Day Care Program for children coming every afternoon, a Program of Courses and Special Activities for 4th through 8th graders, and an Evening Program including adult courses and sports for teens and pre-teens.

AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES PROGRAM  
(for children in K-3rd grades)

This program will run every afternoon, Monday through Friday, from 2:30 to 5:00, in the Agassiz School building. Children may register for one, two, or three afternoons a week. The focus of this program will be on providing children with stimulating, creative activities, which will vary throughout the week. Activities will include: sports, arts and crafts, science, drama, music, quiet times, free play, and specialties such as gymnastics and pottery. The staff will include Smiley Winter and a new staff member, Robin Winter (no relation!). In addition, two of our wonderful work-study students, Margo Hall and Kimberly Pike will be back with us again this year.

The cost of this program will be:

\$22.00 - one day

\$44.00 - two days

\$66.00 - three days

payable at the beginning of each 12 week term. REGISTRATION will be from Monday, September 10th through Friday, September 14th (M, W, Th, F from 2:30 - 5:00, Tues from 2:30 -6:00) in the Community School room at school. (Please use the Community School room door on the side of the school.)

We will register up to 40 children per day in this program, on a first come first serve basis.

AFTER-SCHOOL DAY CARE PROGRAM (for children in K-3rd grades)

This program will run every day, Monday through Friday, from 2:30

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to 5:30 (pick up children by 6:00 at the latest), in the Agassiz Community Center at 20 Sacramento Street (three doors down from school).

This program has been developed in response to the growing needs of working parents in this neighborhood for after-school day care for their children. The program will focus on the needs of children who are out of the home five days a week. As in the Activities Program, our aim will be to provide children with a broad range of creative, stimulating activities during the after-school hours, but in this program we will also try to provide such things as: quiet times, spaces which feel homelike and nurturant, and perhaps a greater presence of familiar ritual or routine to help children feel "at home" away from home. Activities here will also include: sports, arts and crafts, science, dance and drama as well as specialties such as gymnastics, etc.

The staff of this program will include: Diane Williams, Stephanie Weissman, and Martha Rogers plus work-study students and interns.

This program will run on release days, and a decision on vacation coverage will be made in the fall by parents and staff. The cost of this program will be: \$15.00 per week, payable at the beginning of each month.

REGISTRATION will be from Monday, September 10th through Wednesday, September 12th (2:30-6:00) at the Agassiz Community Center, 20 Sacramento Street. If, at the end of the registration period, we have more than 33 applicants, we will have to do a lottery to pick the children for the openings (space limitations mean size limitations, unfortunately). Parents who do not make it into the program will be able to register their children in the Activities Program for three, and possibly more, afternoons.

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AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND COURSES for 4th through 8th graders.

This program will begin on Monday, October 1st and will include DROP-IN hours in the "Game-Room" Barn behind the Agassiz Community Center as well as a variety of courses which will meet one or two afternoons a week and include: pottery, photography, print making, batik, etc.

We will also be scheduling evening hours for gym hockey, basketball, and hopefully judo, which will also begin in October.

EVENING PROGRAM

This year we would like to expand our Evening Program to include courses for adults in the Agassiz Community Center. The first of these courses will be on PARENTING and will be taught or led by Nancy Hawley and Wendy Sanford. This will begin in October and will be further described in the October Whistler.

WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR YOUR IDEAS FOR COURSES. Would you like to learn: life drawing? pottery? Photography? Would you like to take dance or an exercise class? How about disco dancing? Shall we play volleyball again? We need to know your ideas and interests in order to really make an exciting program for you in the fall. PLEASE CALL either Ken Balsler or Julie Snow at 498-9056 any weekday afternoon with your ideas.

Our one exception to our October schedule are the rehearsals for the Little Orchestra which will resume on Monday, September 17th in the Agassiz gym, and will be held every following Monday from 7:30-9:30 p.m. This orchestra is made up of adult musicians from all over Cambridge and they are quite wonderful to listen to. Visitors to rehearsals are always welcome and we are graced with one or two free concerts by the Orchestra each year. Anyone interested in joining the Orchestra can call Gertrude Spiller at 876-8506.

SACRAMENTO FIELD UPDATE:

Last April the Cambridge City Council voted \$480,000 for the taking, by eminent domain, of Sacramento Field from Harvard. The amount of money was based on a 1978 appraisal of the land. Since that action by the Council in April the city has re-appraised the land and the new figure is now set at about \$700,000. ( In 1977 the land was valued at \$200,000 ! ) If the City is to move ahead on this issue it must come up with an additional \$200,000+.

In Sept. or Oct. the City Manager will be going before the City Council with a proposal for a bond issue that will cover the additional monies needed for Sacramento Field and a number of other open-space projects in the city. We are hopeful that the Council will pass this proposal. More information will be mailed before the above Council meeting so that residents can be present and speak on the need for open-space in this neighborhood.

Citations will be issued. This ordinance will be vigorously enforced--so pet owners, please be considerate of others.

Failure to license: \$15

Failure to leash or curb your dog: \$ 5 first offense  
\$25 second offense  
\$50 third offense

Ordinance 922

LEGAL NOTICE