

the AGASSIZ WHISTLER

December 1980

COMMUNITY NOTICES

BENEFIT for THE AGASSIZ AFTER-SCHOOL DAY CARE PROGRAM. Featuring: LEON COLLINS, STUBBY MALONE, THE DAY CARE PLAYERS plus A BAKE SALE AND FLEA MARKET. Sunday, December 7th, 2-5 p.m. in the Agassiz gym. Show starts at 3 p.m. Tickets: \$1.00.

AGASSIZ COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND P.T.A. MEETING, Wednesday, December 10, 8:00 p.m. in the Agassiz School.

DECEMBER RELEASE DAY - Tuesday, December 16th. School closes at 12:30. THERE WILL BE KNITTING AND COOKING CLASSES FOR 4th-8th GRADERS.

CHRISTMAS VACATION - Friday, December 19-Sunday, January 4th.

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AFTER-SCHOOL DAY CARE BENEFIT

The After-School Day Care Program for K-2nd Graders is now midway through its second year in operation. Since it is a wholly tuition-supported program, running under full enrollment means running at a deficit, which is now the case. This means that this fund-raising event, on December 7th is VERY CRUCIAL for the financial well-being of the program.

WE HOPE YOU WILL ALL COME!!!
The SHOW includes Leon Collins, a venerable master of tap, dancing alone and with one of our own teachers, Stephanie Weissman;

DAY CARE BENEFIT, Cont.

Stubby Malone, the famous little clown from Slap Happy; and a special production of "The Fat Cat" by the newly formed theater group (of 5-8 years olds), the Day Care Players!!! The Show will start at 3:00 p.m., and tickets are just \$1.00 apiece. You can buy these ahead of time from members of the Community School staff or at the door.

And ALSO, there will be a BAKE SALE and FLEA MARKET open for business before and after this SPECTACULAR SHOW!!!

Come and show your support!
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th, 2-5 p.m. in the Agassiz School Gym.

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AGASSIZ COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

A Report on 2½ - Proposition 2½, having been approved by a majority of the voters in Massachusetts, is now law. David Sullivan, a member of the Cambridge City Council, addressed the Agassiz Community Council on November 12 to describe the effects of the new law on Cambridge city services.

Sullivan said that because the law mandates that property taxes not exceed two and one half percent of fair market values of properties, Cambridge faces budget cuts. These cuts would be implemented over a three year period until tax rates were down to the 2½% figure. Some of the reductions in city workers that would need to be made to be within

Proposition 2½, Cont.

the required budget include:

- 100 Firefighters (1/3 of the present force)
- 100 Police
- 250 Teachers
- 175 Department of Public Works staff

In addition, the closing of four to six schools is being projected, as well as substantial cuts in social services. Branch public libraries would have to be closed in the first year, and the main Library would probably be shut down later in the process of complying with the new law.

In assessing the present situation, Sullivan said, "There is reason for concern but no reason for panic." His position is based on the opinion that it will be possible to find some supplementary or alternative ways of raising funds or that Cambridge will attempt to exempt itself from the dictates of the law by working towards a "home rule" petition.

Cambridge may have some chance of preventing some of the more drastic effects of Proposition 2½ because residents of the town have been consistently opposed to the legislation. Cambridge residents defeated Proposition 2½ by a 2 to 1 margin. The City Council has, by a unanimous vote, pledged to do everything in its power to prevent disastrous cuts in city services.

But much of what happens with budget cuts and tax legislation depends on the State Legislature rather than municipal government. Sullivan suggested the following actions for people concerned about the effects of Proposition 2½ and the issue of tax reform:

1) reassure your friends and

Proposition 2½, Cont.

aquaintances that disaster is not imminent since the first budget cuts will not take place before July.

2.) be ready to put time and energy into lobbying the State Legislature and attending meetings on Beacon Hill, probably in the late winter or early spring.

3) let your views on Proposition 2½ be known to members of both city and state governments.

The following people or committees should receive letters or calls:

- members of the City Council (If you support them, let them know.)

- members of the State Legislature:

- State Rep. Sandra Graham 727-7035
- Sate Sen. Michael LoPresti 727-7188
- State Sen. George Bachrach
- State Sen. Charles Flaherty 727-7790

Also, you can contact the Joint Committee on Taxation (727-4646), who so far have heard mostly from supporters of 2½. And, while you're at it, why not drop a line to Governor King to let him know where you stand.

Sullivan concluded by saying that although Proposition 2½ could have some very negative effects on Cambridge, it also has the potential of bringing about some reform in the present tax system, which places an unfair burden on property owners. More just and progressive taxation may come about, but only if there is a strong and concerted effort in that direction.

- Miriam Goldberg

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AGASSIZ COMMUNITY SCHOOL 498-9056

AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES 354-6352

(K-4th GRADES)

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AGASSIZ COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWS

Christmas vacation will run from December 19 through January 4 this year. The After-School Activities Program for K-4th Grades will offer a series of special events on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of each vacation week. A schedule of these activities will be sent home through school before the beginning of vacation.

A NEW TERM of the After-School Activities Program for K-4th Graders will begin on January 5th.

A NEW TERM of Activities for 4th-8th Graders will begin in mid-January. Details will be listed in the January Whistler.

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A " WINTER'S EVE WEEKEND " presented by the Agassiz Preschool and the North Congregational Church, on Saturday, December 13 and Sunday, December 14, featuring:

Church Bazaar - Saturday 10 a.m. -
3 p.m.

Tree Sale - Saturday 9 a.m. -
7 p.m.

Family Folk Dancing - Sunday
(with Connie and Mary Anne Taylor) 2-5 p.m.

plus additional activities
for younger children.

At the North Congregational Church, 1803 Mass. Avenue and corner of Roseland St. (next to Sears). For more information, contact the Agassiz Preschool at 547-9355.

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BROWNIES? JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTS?

Are there any mothers, fathers, other adults in the Agassiz neighborhood who might be interested in leading a Brownie Troop or a Girl Scout troop? If so, call Ken Basler or Julie Snow at the Agassiz Community School Program, any afternoon at 498-9056.

COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS

KALEIDOSCOPE WORKSHOP - individualized art instruction for children 7-12 in classes limited to 5. Workshop stresses the notion that children ARE artists who need a place where their creative expression can be nurtured. All classes taught by Carolyn Krinsky. Call 547-8444 for further information and class schedules.

WANTED - 5 Room Apartment, preferably on first floor, for feminist therapy collective. Well established, now located in Inman Square. Excellent tenants, only using space from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. and rarely on weekends. Responsible and very clean. Please call 876-8438 and leave message.

FOR SALE -

- 1.) Boy's bike (banana seat), 20" wheels. \$30.00 or best offer.
- 2.) Black figure skates, size 1½. \$15.00.
- 3.) Ski boots: 1) buckle, size 1½, \$15.00.
2) lace, size 13 or 1, \$8.00.
3) x-country, size 1, \$10.00.
- 4.) Skis, with bindings:
 - 1) 35" \$7.00
 - 2) 47" \$12.00
 - 3) 54" \$10.00 (no bindings)
 - 4) x-country: 51", \$10.00.
- 5.) Ski Rack for trunk lid of convertible. \$10.00.

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AGASSIZ COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, December 10th
8:00 p.m. at the Agassiz

School

Cambridge Community Schools
-Agassiz-
28 Sacramento Street
Cambridge, Ma. 02138

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