

Whistle Stop's

# Parent Connection

July-August 2007

## Whistle Stop Fund Raiser a Great Success

Many thanks to all the families who participated in our fund raiser Tuesday, May 22. Our staff and families had a great time socializing and enjoying the food at the Corner Bar in Rockford. Thanks to **Andy and Michele Tidey** (Claire's parents who own the Corner Bar) for hosting this event.

As a group we raised a total of \$320 from the event. We are looking into the best use for these funds. They may be used for additional staff training.

Thank you for the great turnout! We hope to make our fund raiser an annual event.

## FYI – Driveway Closing

**Beginning Tuesday, July 24, through Friday, July 27, the Fulton street driveway and circle drive will be closed for repaving.**

You will need to enter from Lakeside Drive (the northernmost drive by the pine trees) and come around through the blacktop area to reach Whistle Stop's Junior Building. There will be barriers set up to allow traffic to move through this area. **Please use extra caution as you drive through**

**this section. It is normally used as part of the senior building's play area.** Please contact Toni if you have any questions.

## We'd Like to Acknowledge:

We are proud to recognize **Karin and Andrew Smith** of **Foodsmith Catering** for supplying food to the Grand Rapids Police Department for a recent briefing on fallen soldier, Robert Kozminski.

**Foodsmith Catering** also caters our Wednesday lunches at Whistle Stop. We are proud of their support of our local police department.

## Whistle Stop T-Shirts are Here!

We now have Whistle Stop t-shirts for sale. They come in sizes 2-4, 6-8, and 10-12 for children. Adults sizes can be ordered too. The t-shirts are \$10 each and can be seen on display in each building.

## School Age Fund Raisers

The school age children are raising money for their trip to Michigan Adventure Park at the end of the

summer. They are doing car washes, a bake sale, and a cookie dough sale. Signs in each building are posted with details of the dates and times for these events. Be sure to show your support for our school age children!

## Staff Birthdays and Anniversaries

There are no staff birthdays or anniversaries in July.

### August Birthdays

Andrea Stafford – August 4

Ed Horter – August 10

Debbie Maytas – August 11

Phyllis Bush – August 13

### August Anniversaries

Toni Tyson &  
Maryann Glynn – August 1989

Phyllis Bush – August 1990

Debbie Matyas – August 1992

Mae Froyland – August 2000

## New Siblings

Jack Eber (Jelly Bean) has a new sister, Emily (Eme). Congratulations Kim and Tim!

## Welcome New Families

We would like to welcome the following new children and their families to Whistle Stop:

### Sweet Peas

**Joseph Collins** (Stew & Emilie)

**Lucie Durell** (Stephan & Rebekah)

**Peter Heintz** (Chris & Alicia)

**Samantha Williams** (Kyle & Vanessa)\*

### Jelly Beans

**Mason Litts** (Erik & Heather)

**Rachel Meston** (Dwight & Stephanie)\*

### Jumping Jacks

**Caden Fuller** (Dan & Shelly)

**Sophie Williams** (Kyle & Vanessa)\*

### Young Explorers

**Maxwell Meston** (Dwight & Stephanie)\*

\*siblings

## Staff Development Update

**Debbie Matyas** and **Phyllis Bush** attended a seminar on May 14 called "Jump, Hop, And Skip into Spring" through Kent Regional 4C. The topic focused on activities for large group music and movement time. Debbie and Phyllis will share what they learned with the rest of the staff at an upcoming meeting.

**Karin Smith** will renew her CPR/First Aid/Pathogens training on July 23 and 24.

## Reminder – Medicine Policy

If you would like to have pain reliever available for your child at Whistle Stop, you will need to provide it for him or her. Whistle Stop is not able to provide medicine for children.

**Medicine for your child needs to be brought in in the original package, labeled with your child's name, and a signed permission slip completed for us to administer it.**

Please consider bringing some in if you would like to have it on hand.

## Fall Schedule

Toni will be sending out a memo the first part of August to confirm your child's fall schedule. We will also need to know the last day your child will attend if he or she is moving up to kindergarten.

## Article:

### "Summer Nutrition"

#### **Hydration Tips**

A cranky child may be a dehydrated child. Dehydration may make you feel tired, cranky and stiff jointed. Being dehydrated may make it more difficult to be patient with children. Remind the little ones to drink water often. If a child says they are thirsty, don't make them wait for a drink. Give it right away.

Signs of adequate hydration – not to worry:

- Moist shiny mouth, pools of saliva under tongue
- Active, playful, running around

- Urinating at least every 4 hours
- Moisture present in eyes, tears when crying

When to seek medical help:

- Limp, inactive child with minimal eye contact
- Lips chapped, inside of mouth dry and sticky
- No tears; eyes dry
- Very fast heartbeat

Simple solutions to prevent dehydration:

- Make drinking water available for everyone at all times
- Take a container of water with you and drink several swallows every 20 minutes
- Avoid caffeinated drinks
- Avoid high-protein drinks
- Wear light-colored clothing
- Eat lots of watermelon. It is good tasting, easy to get, and children like it.

## Article:

### "Fun For All Ages"

#### **Name That Sound**

Collect about 5 small toys and a shoe box with a lid. Let the child see all the toys. If the child is young, put each toy in the box, cover and shake it first so the child can hear the sound. Put all the toys under a towel. Without the child seeing, pick one out, put it in the box and put the lid on. Shake the box and let the child guess which toy. Continue with all the toys. Let the child "stump" the adult.

Articles from: [News & Views](#)

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