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# CAMBRIDGE FAMILY NEWS

## from the Center for Families

Information, Support, & Activities for Cambridge Families with Children Ages 0-8

### July-August 2012

Summer is here, and that means lots of fun, free activities for families in Cambridge! It is incredible how much is going on around the City, from free movies, to waterplay parks, to StoryWalks, and of course playgroups outside at the many parks around Cambridge!

No matter what neighborhood in Cambridge you live in, you will find plenty to do. We included a waterplay map on **page 2**, an activity guide on **page 7** and a quick guide to Arts around Cambridge below. As always, for more information on ways to stay up-to-date on what's happening at the Center for Families and around town, turn to **page 6**.

You can also begin to get ready for school. On **page 1** are some tips and books to read together. In the meantime, we hope you have a wonderful summer and hope to see you at the parks for a playgroup or other summer activity!

#### Summer Arts in Cambridge

Enjoy the summer and enjoy the Arts! Full schedules for the following FREE summer programs are available at the Center for Families

##### Arts in the Park

Arts & crafts activities and multicultural performances for families and community groups in parks throughout Cambridge. Sponsored by the Cambridge Community Schools and Neighborhood Councils and presented by the Cambridge Department of Human Services. Check out [http://www2.cambridgema.gov/CityOfCambridge\\_Content/documents/ArtsInThePark.pdf](http://www2.cambridgema.gov/CityOfCambridge_Content/documents/ArtsInThePark.pdf)

##### Summer in the City

Every summer, the Cambridge parks come alive with music, dance, storytelling, theatrical performances, puppetry and more! Cambridge Arts Council offers lots of FREE family-friendly activities around the City for children ages 4-12. July 10th-August 30th. For more info. go to [www.cambridgema.gov/CAC/Community/summer.cfm](http://www.cambridgema.gov/CAC/Community/summer.cfm), or call 617-349-4380.

##### Screen on the Green, Wednesdays in Cambridge

Outdoor family-friendly movies projected onto a theater-size screen in parks throughout Cambridge. Enjoy performances by jugglers, clowns, musicians and magicians at 7 pm. Screenings begin at nightfall. Presented by the Cambridge Department of Human Service, Youth and Community Schools Division. For more info., call 617-349-6200.



#### Getting ready for School



Summer is here, but it is a great time to get your child ready for school. Here are 5 simple things you can do over the summer:

- ◆ **Talk to your child about starting school.** Children do best when they know what to expect. Talk to them about what they will be doing at school.
- ◆ **Visit the school.** Bring your child to the school before they start and walk around—look at the building, neighborhood parks, playground, etc.
- ◆ **Get your child into a routine.** Begin having a set snack, play, and rest time like they will in school. When they start school, they will be used to routines!
- ◆ **Read books about starting school.** There are some great children's books about the first day of school: *Chrysanthemum* by Kevin Henkes, *Timothy Goes to School* by Rosemary Wells, *Emily's First 100 Days of School* by Rosemary Wells.
- ◆ **Focus on the positive.** Talk about all the fun things your child will be doing!

#### Upcoming Events

Arts in The Parks	7/16 & 8/13
StoryWalk	7/20
Dads & Kids	7/21
Yoga	7/21
Pajama Storytime	7/27 & 8/24

#### Table of Contents

Playing and Summer Activities	page 2
Information for Fathers	page 2
Summer Playgroup Listings at the Park	page 3
Calendar	page 4
Parent Education and Support	page 5
Center News	page 6
Community Events and Activities	page 7
Community Information	pages 8-9
Contact Information	page 10

The Center for Families is located at 70 Rindge Ave, in the rear of the Peabody School. It is near the Davis Square and Porter Square T stops and can be accessed by the 77 and 83

# PLAYING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Here is a map of the Waterplay locations in Cambridge. There are also two free Cambridge public pools: **McCreehan Memorial Swimming and Wading Pool**, 359 Rindge Ave. (617) 354-9154 or (617) 576-2081 and **Veterans Memorial Swimming and Wading Pool** (Magazine Beach), 719 Memorial Dr., (617) 354-9381

Both the water play areas and swimming pools give your child an opportunity to work on gross motor skills, including jumping and swimming. Be sure to wear a hat and plenty of sunscreen!



## Waterplay Locations Cambridge, Massachusetts May 2012

Looking for a break from the summer heat? The City of Cambridge invites you to visit any of our 26 parks that have waterplay facilities. These facilities include a variety of sprinkler, spray, and shower configurations located in parks throughout the city. All waterplay facilities are free and open to the public during the summer months.

**Park with Waterplay Location**

Ahem Field	Kennedy-Longfellow School - Sixth St
Alden Park	Baldwin School - Oxford Street
Bergin Park	Peabody School - Haskell Street
Cambridge Common	Waterhouse Street
Cooper Park	Hancock Street
Corporal Burns Park	Flagg Street
Dana Park	Magazine Street
Danehy Park	Sherman Street
Donnelly Field	King Open School - Willow Street
Fr. Callanan Playground	Tobin School - Concord Ave.
Franklin Street Park	Franklin Street
Gannett/Warren Pals Park	Jefferson Street
Glacken Field	Huron Avenue
Gold Star Mothers Park	Gore Street
Greene • Rose Heritage Park	Harvard Street
Hoyt Field	Montague Street
Hurley Park	Hurley Street
King School	Putnam Avenue
Maple Avenue Park	Maple Avenue
New Riverside	Neighborhood Park - Western Avenue
North Point Park (Mass. DCR)	Museum Way
Paine Park	St. Mary Road
Pine Street Park	Pine Street
Reverend Williams Park	Cedar Street
Riverside Press Park	River Street
Sennott Park	Broadway

**Waterplay**  
 Small waterplay designed for children age 5 and under

For questions about waterplay maintenance and operation, including when waterplay will be turned on, call Public Works at (617) 349-4800.  
 For questions about North Point Park, contact the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) at (617) 626-1413.  
 For general questions about waterplay, call Community Development at (617) 349-4600.

## FATHERS' CORNER

### Men's Health League

#### Saturday Bike Rides

Saturdays, July 7th and August 4th—Meet at the Footbridge on Memorial Drive at 8:30 am. Bike ride lasts about an hour. All men are welcome!

For more info. on the **Saturday Bike Rides** and other programs in the **Men's Health League**, including:

- \*Fit for Life—August 13th Registration
- \*Fitness Brothers
- \*Navigated Healthcare

Call Albert Pless at 617-665-3677 or [apless@challiance.org](mailto:apless@challiance.org).



### Dads and Kids Saturday in the Park

Come have fun at the parks playing and meeting other dads and their children. We will have food and fun play activities for all ages. Yes, also for babies!

**Saturday, July 21** from 10:00-11:30 at Bergin Park on Haskell St. (across the street from the Peabody School, 70 Rindge Ave. *If it rains, we will meet in the Gately Gym.*

**Facilitator: Michael Clontz**

Registration appreciated.  
 Contact Christine at [cdoucet@cambridgema.gov](mailto:cdoucet@cambridgema.gov) or 617-349-3003



# PLAYING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES



## CENTER FOR FAMILIES: FREE FAMILY PLAY AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

We bring toys, activities, singing, and snacks, you bring the kids and the fun! Children play and learn with their parents, caregivers, and other children. The routines and activities help children grow and get ready for school. Bring your children (0-6), and come play with us. You don't need to sign up for these groups, just come when you want. **For more information or questions**, call Lucy at 617-349-6967.

**The following playgroups are outside in the parks: July 9th through August 23rd.**

### Mondays

- *Silva Park*, Otis St. & Sciarappa St., 10:00-11:30 am\*\*
- *Hoyt Park*, Gilmore St., 10:00 -11:30 am\*\*
- *Cedar St. Park*, Cedar St. & Dudley St., 10:00-11:30 am \*\*
- *Infant Playgroup* (15 mos. and under)\*  
Center for Families, 70 Rindge Ave. (rear), 12:30—2:30 pm

### Tuesdays

- *Russell Field/Fresh Pond Apartments*  
This group will meet at the park across the street from 364 Rindge Ave. (next to the McCrehan Pool). 10:00 — 11:30 am
- *Glacken Playground*, 633 Huron Ave., 10:00-11:30 am\*\*
- *Infant Playgroup* (15 mos. and under)\*  
Margaret Fuller Neighborhood House, 71 Cherry St., 12:30 – 2:30 pm

### Wednesdays

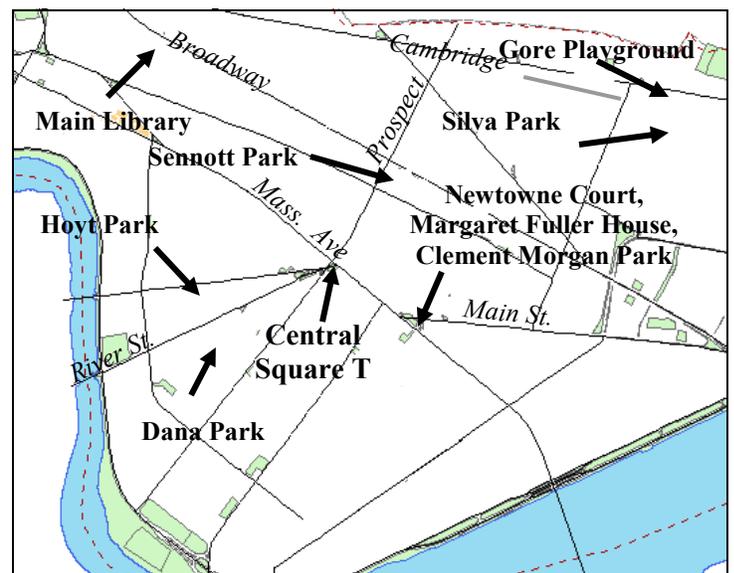
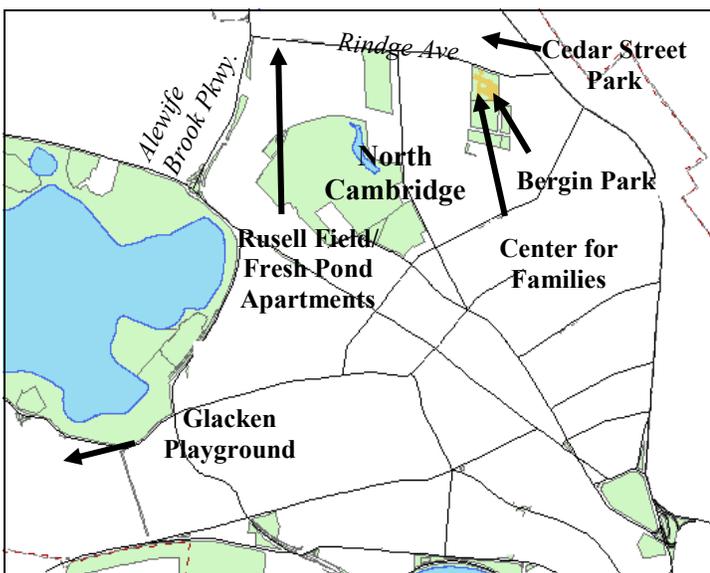
- *Bergin Park*, Haskell St., 10:00-11:30 am\*\*
- *Clement Morgan Park*, Pine St. near Eaton St., 10:00-11:30 am\*\*
- *Dana Park*, Magazine St. between Lawrence St. & McTernan St., 10:00-11:30 am\*\*

### Thursdays

- *Newtowne Ct.*, Windsor St., 10:00-11:30 am\*\*
- *Gore Street Playground*, Gore St. near Monsignor O'Brien Highway (East Cambridge) 10:00-11:30 am\*\*

### Please note:

\*Please attend **either** Monday or Tuesday Infant Group  
\*\*All outside playgroups are weather permitting. If it rains, groups will be canceled. If you are unsure if a playgroup will be happening due to the weather, please call us at 617-349-6385.



\*\*Maps are designed to give parents and caregivers a better sense of playgroup locations and are an approximation of where groups are . \*\*

# Center for Families Drop-in and Events Calendar

## July-August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
July 1	2	3	4 <b>Happy July 4th!</b>	5	6	7
8	9 Silva 10:00-11:30 Hoyt 10:00-11:30 Cedar St. 10:00-11:30 Infant CFF 12:30-2:30	10 Russell/ Fresh Pond 10:00-11:30 Glacken 10:00-11:30 Infant Margaret 12:30-2:30 <b>Story Walk -Inman 10</b>	11 Bergin 10:00-11:30 Clement 10:00-11:30 Dana 10:11:30	12 Newtowne Ct. 10:00-11:30 Gore St. 10:00-11:30	13	14 
15	16 Silva 10:00-11:30 <b>Arts in The Parks at Hoyt Park 10:00-11:30</b> Cedar St. 10:00-11:30 Infant CFF 12:30-2:30	17 Russell/ Fresh Pond 10:00-11:30 Glacken 10:00-11:30 Infant Margaret 12:30-2:30	18 Bergin 10:00-11:30 Clement 10:00-11:30 Dana 10:00-11:30	19 Newtowne Ct. 10:00-11:30 Gore 10:00-11:30	20 <b>StoryWalk— Newtowne Court 5:30pm</b>	21 <b>Dads &amp; Kids at Bergin Park 10:00-11:30</b>  <b>Yoga 10:30-11:30</b>
22	23 Silva 10:00-11:30 Hoyt 10:00-11:30 Cedar St. 10:00-11:30 Infant CFF 12:30-2:30	24 Russell/ Fresh Pond 10:00-11:30 Glacken 10:00-11:30 Infant Margaret 12:30-2:30	25 Bergin 10:00-11:30 Clement 10:00-11:30 Dana 10:00-11:30 <b>Pajama Storytime 6:45-7:30</b>	26 Newtowne Ct. 10:00-11:30 Gore 10:00-11:30	27	28
29	30 Silva 10:00-11:30 Hoyt 10:00-11:30 Cedar St. 10:00-11:30 Infant CFF 12:30-2:30	31 Russell/ Fresh Pond 10:00-11:30 Glacken 10:00-11:30 Infant Margaret 12:30-2:30	<b>August 1</b> Bergin 10:00-11:30 Clement 10:00-11:30 Dana 10:00-11:30	2 Newtowne Ct. 10:00-11:30 Gore 10:00-11:30	3	4
5	<b>6</b> Silva 10:00-11:30 Hoyt 10:00-11:30 Cedar St. 10:00-11:30 Infant CFF 12:30-2:30	7 Russell/ Fresh Pond 10:00-11:30 Glacken 10:00-11:30 Infant Margaret 12:30-2:30	8 Bergin 10:00-11:30 Clement 10:00-11:30 Dana 10:00-11:30	9 Newtowne Ct. 10:00-11:30 Gore 10:00-11:30	10	11
12	13 Silva 10:00-11:30 Hoyt 10:00-11:30 <b>Arts in the Parks at Cedar St. 10:00-11:30</b> Infant CFF 12:30-2:30	14 Russell/ Fresh Pond 10:00-11:30 Glacken 10:00-11:30 Infant Margaret 12:30-2:30	15 Bergin 10:00-11:30 Clement 10:00-11:30 Dana 10:00-11:30	16 Newtowne Ct. 10:00-11:30 Gore 10:00-11:30	17	18
19	20 Silva 10:00-11:30 Hoyt 10:00-11:30 Cedar St. 10:00-11:30 Infant CFF 12:30-2:30	21 Russell/ Fresh Pond 10:00-11:30 Glacken 10:00-11:30 Infant Margaret 12:30-2:30	22 Bergin 10:00-11:30 Clement 10:00-11:30 Dana 10:00-11:30	23 Newtowne Ct. 10:00-11:30 Gore 10:00-11:30 <b>Last day of Drop-in playgroups until September 10</b>	24	25
26	27	28	29 <b>StoryWalk— Galleria 10am</b> <b>Pajama Storytime 6:45pm-7:30pm</b>	30	31	

Silva = Silva Park, Otis St. & Sciarappa St.  
 Russell/ Fresh Pond = Fresh Pond Towers, 364 Rindge Ave.  
 Bergin = Bergin Park, Haskell St.  
 Cedar St.= Cedar St. Park, Cedar St. & Dudley St.  
 Clement = Clement Morgan Park, Pine St. by Easton  
 CFF = Center for Families, 70 Rindge Ave. (back of Peabody School)

Glacken = Glacken Playground, 633 Huron Ave.  
 Dana = Dana Park, Magazine St. between Lawrence St. & McTernan St.  
 Gore = Gore St. Playground (East Cambridge), near Monsignor O'Brien Highway  
 Hoyt = Gilmore St. (near Moore Youth Center)  
 Margaret = Margaret Fuller Neighborhood House, 71 Cherry St.

# PARENT EDUCATION AND SUPPORT

## Upcoming Workshops Classes, & Events

### Arts in the Parks

-Monday, July 16th, 10am-11:30am  
Hoyt Park, Gilmore Street

-Monday, August 13th, 10am-11:30am  
Cedar Street Park, Cedar Street & Dudley Street

Join us for a morning of fun and arts in the park, led by our summer interns. We will be doing a fun craft and reading a story.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Pajama Story Time

Wednesdays, July 25 & August 15, 6:45pm-7:30pm  
O'Neill Library (70 Rindge Ave.)

Come to the library to listen to stories, read with your children, and have a snack before bed and feel free to come dressed in your favorite pajamas! There will be a FREE book giveaways. No need to sign up, just come!

\*\*\*\*\*

### Movement & Yoga for Parents & Children

Saturday, July 21, 10:30-11:30 am  
Center for Families, 70 Rindge Ave.

A movement-based class for parents and children ages 3-8 years old, where they do relaxing exercises and yoga together. Please wear comfortable clothes.

*You must register for yoga. To register or any questions, call Christine at 617-349-3003 or [cdoucet@cambridgema.gov](mailto:cdoucet@cambridgema.gov).*

**Moms and craft activity will be back September 14!**

### StoryWalks

Celebrate many reading adventures this summer! There will be StoryWalks happening around Cambridge, brought to you by the Agenda for Children.



Please join the Center for Families and the Agenda for Children at the following **StoryWalk**:

**July 20th**—at 5:30 pm. Newtowne Court, Windsor Street. We will be reading *One Hot Summer Day* with a special performer.

#### Check out these other StoryWalks this summer:

- Inman Square, July 10th, 10am—Feast for 10 and I Will Never Eat a Tomato, Performers: Jungle Gym Wild About Balloons
- East Cambridge, July 29th, 10am at the Galleria Biathalon
- City Plaza/Tots Park, July—Sea Shapes
- Rindge Ave, August—My Mother's Sari

*For more information, including about the kickoff celebrations, contact Priscilla Cardoso at 617-665-3825 or [pcardoso@challiance.org](mailto:pcardoso@challiance.org).*

## Infant Activities

### **BABYTIME: Caring, Playing, Nurturing** (parents/caregivers with infants 0-15 months)

These are informal groups for parents or caregivers with infants that offer an opportunity to connect with other adults, ask questions, and relax while babies explore the playroom. To allow everyone to participate, please choose only one group to attend per week.

*No pre-registration required; come or leave anytime. Christine, our infant specialist, will lead a short sing-a-long.*  
**Facilitator: Christine Doucet, CMI.**

*Groups run from Monday, July 9 until Tuesday, August 21.*

**Mondays 12:30 - 2:30 pm**  
Center for Families, Peabody School,  
70 Rindge Ave.

**Tuesdays, 12:30 - 2:30 pm**  
Margaret Fuller Neighborhood House, 71 Cherry St.



### **Support Group for Parents of Infants**

Organized by Jewish Family & Children Services.  
**Wednesdays, 10:00-11:30 am** at Temple Eitz Chayim (134-136 Magazine Street, Cambridge)  
Other support groups are offered in other towns: call 781-693-5652 or [info@jfcsboston.org](mailto:info@jfcsboston.org) for more information.

### **Baby Massage & Infant Development Series** (parents with infants 11 weeks - pre-crawling)

Massaging your baby gives you a wonderful opportunity to connect with your child. Massage helps with digestion, sleep, and baby's health. We will talk about many topics like infant sleep, infant motor and social development, and childproofing your home. This is a fun and relaxed group setting. If you are pregnant or your baby is under 11 weeks, contact Christine. *Instructor: Christine Doucet, CMI.* Please call 617-349-3003 to register.  
**Thursdays, July 26, August 2, 9 and 16th**  
12:30-1:30pm at the Margaret Fuller House

# CENTER FOR FAMILIES NEWS

## Friends of the Center for Families is now a non-profit!



**Friends of the Center for Families** is now a fully incorporated, IRS-approved 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization!

We are a group of concerned parents and caregivers who have organized to fundraise and help support the incredible work of the Center for Families.

Please keep an eye out for upcoming family-friendly fundraising events we'll be planning! You can also check out our Facebook page or e-mail us at: [friendsofthecenterforfamilies@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofthecenterforfamilies@gmail.com)

## Mark your Calendars...

**Community Playgroups start in the Fall!**



### What are Cambridge Community Playgroups?

Playgroups are fun, FREE groups for parents and caregivers from Cambridge and their children 15 months-5 years. Each week has a different theme and activity. Parents and caregivers need to sign up to register.

### When and where do they meet?

Playgroups meets once a week for 8 weeks. We have 3 sessions, one in the fall, winter and spring. They are held in schools, youth centers and parks around Cambridge.

### How do I sign up?

Registration forms will be mailed out with the September/October newsletter. They will also be at groups, events, and on the Center for Families website and listserv.

### Are there Community Playgroups in the summer?

We do not offer Community Playgroups during the summertime, however, we have many drop-in playgroups at the parks. *Turn to page 3 for a complete summer schedule.* Any questions, please call Jessi at 617-349-6327.

### Attention: Area IV and East Cambridge Families:

**What is Baby U?** It is a weekly workshop series offering support and information for families expecting a baby or with a child 3 or younger.

**When:** Saturday mornings **beginning in October** 9:30am-12pm

*\*Priority will be given to Public Housing/Section 8 Residents. For more information or to register, call 617-947-5044*



## Connect with the Center for Families!

We have lots of ways for you to **stay up-to-date** on Center for Family programs!

- Subscribe to our **Google Group Listserv** and connect with other parents. To be added to the listserv call or e-mail Jessi at (617) 349-6327 or [jmolow@cambridgema.gov](mailto:jmolow@cambridgema.gov)
- Follow us on **Twitter** @cntrforfamilies
- Friend us on **Facebook** at <http://on.fb.me/xzNyXs>
- Check out our **website:** [www.cambridgema.gov/DHSP2/families.cfm](http://www.cambridgema.gov/DHSP2/families.cfm)

Also, please fill out a **Center for Families Registration Form** to be on our mailing list. Registration forms are at our office, at playgroups, events, or on our website.

## Caught in the Act



At the Center for Families, our staff, families, and volunteers are always doing amazing things! This newsletter is featuring **Michelle Godfrey**, our fabulous Director at the Center for Families. She is always helping everyone with a smile!

Congratulations Michelle!  
**You were Caught in the Act.**

## Ask Jayne...

If you are looking for information and/or referrals about child care, wait lists and vouchers, kindergarten, after school, summer camps, or community series and resources for your family with children birth to 8 years, please contact **Jayne Cantor**, Family Support Specialist at the Cambridge Community Partnerships for Children at **617-868-2900 x324** or [jayne\\_ccpc@yahoo.com](mailto:jayne_ccpc@yahoo.com)



# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



## Lets Move! With Summer Food!

Come enjoy **FREE** activities & meals at the parks this summer!

Meals are provided to children 18 and under. Locations are:

- Gold Star Mothers Park (Gore Street)
- Harvard Street Park (Greene Rose Park)
- Hoyt Field
- Sennott Park
- Danehy Park.



**FREE** lunch will be served, Monday-Friday, from 11:30-12:30 pm June 25 – August 10. For more information call 617-349-6247

*Provided by: Summer Food Service Program, City of Cambridge Department of Human Services.*

## Library News

The library branches have lots of great activities this summer! Programs include **Rainforest Reptiles**, performances by the **Toe Jam Puppet Band**, and the **Yo-Yo Show**. **Barn Babies Petting Zoo**; Sing along led by **Jim St. Clair**; and presentations by **Mad Science of Greater Boston and the Museum of Science**.

To check the full calendar of events, go to [www.cambridgema.gov](http://www.cambridgema.gov), or request a flyer from the Center for Families.

**Children, pre-K to 4th grade**—visit your neighborhood library to enter a raffle for a \$25 bookstore gift certificate by dropping off a timed reading sheet (pick one up at the library!).

**For children entering 6th-8th grade**, join the summer reading program 2012—Us, Reading. Check it out at [usreading.blogspot.com](http://usreading.blogspot.com). Post a book review and enter in a raffle drawing for an IPOD nano!

## Free and Fun Summertime Events for Families

Cambridge and the surrounding area offers many family-friendly activities throughout the City, from movies, to performances, to festivals.

*Check out these fun and free events:*

- **Sunday Parkland Games**  
Sundays, June 17th-September 30th.  
Riverbend Park, along Memorial Drive near the Weeks Footbridge (closest MBTA station: Harvard Square). Activities 2:00-5:00 pm, free yoga 4:00-5:00 pm.  
Free, fun, health games and activities by the river. Sponsored by the Charles River Conservancy, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, and Knuckle Bones. For more info, call the Charles River Conservancy at 617-608-1410 or [www.charlesriverconservancy.org/ParklandGames.html](http://www.charlesriverconservancy.org/ParklandGames.html).
- **Boomtown Festival**  
July 16th-19th  
Multicultural Arts Center,  
41 2nd St, East Cambridge  
Meet at the Centanni Courtyard for this four-day, annual, **FREE** festival. The Boomtown Festival will again feature dance, music, art, film, workshops and other events for our friends and neighbors to enjoy. In case of rain, events will run inside the Multicultural Arts Center. For more info visit: [www.cmacusa.org](http://www.cmacusa.org).
- **Free Fun Fridays 2012**  
*Various locations in the Boston area*

The Highland Street Foundation is offering free admission to museums and attractions every Friday this summer, June 29th– August 31st. No registration or tickets required. For a complete list of locations and dates, call 617-969-8900 or visit: [www.highlandstreet.org](http://www.highlandstreet.org)  
\*\*Schedule available at CFF office and will be posted to the listserv.

- **Sand Sculpting Festival**  
July 12th-15th, Revere Beach  
The 9th Annual National Sand Sculpting Festival brings famous sculptors from around the world to Revere Beach. There will be a Kid's Zone and Learning Center. Visit <http://reverebeachpartnership.com/sandsculpting/> for event information.
- **Run & Ride @ CambridgeSide**  
Sunday, July 29th  
Canal Park, 100 CambridgeSide Place  
8:30am Registration /11 am Event Begins  
Compete in the 3rd annual, kid's only Cambridge duathlon with biking and running in and around the CambridgeSide Galleria. Run & Ride @ CambridgeSide is a free event for children ages 5-14 years old. Pre-registration is free at [www.shopcambridgeside.com](http://www.shopcambridgeside.com).
- **Kendall Square Concert Series**  
Thursdays, 12:00 – 1:30 pm & Tuesdays, 4:30-6:00pm, 300 Athenaeum St.  
Join the Kendall Square Corporation for a series of free outdoor concerts beginning

in June lasting through September. Come listen to the area's acclaimed musicians. <http://kendallsquare.org>

- **Boston Harborfest**  
*(Various locations in Boston)*  
A 6-day Fourth of July Festival in Boston from June 28-July 4th with lots of fun activities, some which are free, including the **Boston Harborfest Children's Day**. The event, which will be on **Friday, June 29** from 10:00 am—3:00 pm at the Plaza at Boston City Hall (Government Center T), includes juggling, dance performances, balloon fun, and more! For more information [www.bostonharborfest.com](http://www.bostonharborfest.com).
- **Boston Pops & Fireworks**  
*Hatch Shell (Charles/MGH Tstop)*  
Watch the Boston Pops perform at their annual Independence Day celebration. There will be two free concerts: July 3rd starting at 8:30 pm, and the Fireworks Spectacular beginning at 8:00 pm on July 4th (fireworks being 10:35pm) For more info, go to [www.july4th.org](http://www.july4th.org).
- **National Night Out**  
The 29th Annual national Night Out is August 7th from 5-8pm at Riverside Press Park. This is a *free* event that reinforces the hard work done by the Cambridge Police Department, businesses, and more!



# COMMUNITY INFORMATION

## WIC

Do you have a child under 5? Are you pregnant or breastfeeding? **WIC** offers families Nutrition Consultations, Breastfeeding classes, \$\$ for fruits and vegetables, FREE FOOD! Cambridge 617- 665-3750; North Cambridge 617-575-5370



**Are you ready to be a parent?** Attend a *Happiest Baby Class* and learn how to soothe even the fussiest baby in minutes or less! Call Rebecca at 617-575-5343

## CCTV

**Cambridge Community TV and Computer Programs**  
438 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge

CCTV offers **FREE** weekly computer drop-in programs to members of the community. There is no need to sign-up. For more info., please call Nicole at 617-661-6900.

## Pathways to Family Success

*Do you have a child between the ages of 4 and 8?  
Do you live in Public Housing or have Section 8, or are on the waitlist for them?*

If you answered yes to all of these questions, then **Pathways to Family Success** could be for you! Pathways is a support program that helps families succeed. We work with families to reach goals including childcare, jobs, adult education, healthcare, and housing. For more info., contact Beth at 617-665-3827.

## East End House

105 Spring Street, Cambridge  
[www.eastendhouse.org](http://www.eastendhouse.org)

### East End House Weekly Family Playgroups

East End House holds FREE drop-in Family Playgroups **every Tuesday from 10:00am – 11:30am.**

Caregivers bring their children 0-5 years for a fun morning of arts and crafts, games, puzzles, songs, and stories. When the weather is nice, the playgroup will be held in the backyard and will move into the community room in the event of rain.

This is a chance for kids to play with one another and for caregivers to meet each other. Light snacks are provided. There is no need to sign up!

For more information call Camille at 617-876-4444

## Doula Support Programs

8 Camelia Avenue, Cambridge  
(across from Cambridge Hospital Entrance)

The Doula Program at the Cambridge Health Alliance offers groups for new parents. Bring your baby and relax. Groups are open to all new parents. **For more information**, call 617-665-1164.

**Breastfeeding Group:** Tuesdays, 10:00-12:00 noon (English & Spanish), Thursdays, 10:00-12:00 noon (English)

**Open Discussion:** Wednesdays, 10:00-12:00 noon  
*\*\*The first Wednesday of the month will be a pumping class for breast-feeding mothers.*

## Cambridge Public Library Programs for Young Children

The Cambridge Library is a great place for children. Please call any library listed below for more information about story times and other children's activities. Remember that the library also has museum passes you can use with your library card. For information about all programs, see [www.cambridgema.gov/~CPL/](http://www.cambridgema.gov/~CPL/) or call 617-349-4038.



**Main Library Children's Room, 449 Broadway, (617) 349-4038**

- ◆ Baby Lapsit for parents and pre-walking babies. Registration required, Mondays, 10:00 am
- ◆ Toddler Storytime on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:00 am
- ◆ Sing Along (All Ages) on Mondays and Wednesdays at 11:00am
- ◆ Preschool Story Time on Tuesdays at 4:00 pm
- ◆ Onesies (and Twosies) for toddlers ages 12-24 months. Registration required. Wednesdays, 10:00 am

**Boudreau Branch, 245 Concord Avenue, (617) 349-4017**

- ◆ Preschool Story Time (Ages 3.5 and up) on Mondays at 10:30am
- ◆ Toddler Sing-Along on Wednesdays at 10:30 am

**Central Square Branch, 45 Pearl Street, (617) 349-4010**

- ◆ Toddler/Preschool Story Time on Wednesdays at 10:30 am
- ◆ Toddler/Preschool Sing & Storytime on Thursdays at 10:30 am

**Collins Branch, 64 Aberdeen Avenue, (617) 349-4021**

- ◆ Preschool Story Time on Mondays at 4:00 pm
- ◆ Toddler/Preschool Sing on Tuesdays at 10:00 am

**O'Connell Branch, 48 Sixth Street, (617) 349-4019**

- ◆ Toddler Sing on Wednesday at 11:00 am
- ◆ Stories and Crafts (3-7's) on Thursdays at 3:30 pm

**O'Neill Branch, 70 Rindge Avenue, (617) 349-4023**

- ◆ Toddler Time on Mondays at 10:30 am
- ◆ Preschool Story Time on Thursdays at 11:00 am

**Valente Branch, 826 Cambridge Street, (617) 349-4015**

- ◆ Preschool Story Time on Mondays 3:30 pm
- ◆ Toddler time on Tuesdays at 10:30 am
- ◆ Portuguese Sing Along Tuesdays at 5pm
- ◆ \*New-Stories and Songs in Spanish, Fridays, 1pm (age 2-5)
- ◆ \*New-Friday afternoon crafts (ages 5+) at 3pm.

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# COMMUNITY RESOURCES

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## Adult Education

- **Cambridge Employment Program** (617-349-6166)—Provides free assistance to Cambridge residents looking for work, career counseling, help with resumes and cover letters, using a computer and the internet to help with job searches, and interviewing skills. Please call or stop by 51 Inman St, 1st floor.
- **Cambridge Community TV** offers free weekly computer drop-in programs to members of the community. There is no need to sign-up. For more info., please call 617-661-6900.
- **Community Learning Center** (617-349-6363)—Offers adult education, including GED, college preparation, and English-as-a-Second-Language classes
- **Asian American Civic Association**—Next Steps Transitional English program—free English classes for people who have an intermediate-high level of English. For more information, call 617-426-9492 x251 or x318.

## Childcare, School & Support

- **The Agenda for Children** (617-665-3825)—'Let's Talk' - free program where an Early Childhood Home Visitor will come to your home to help build language development through every day activities. For parents of children birth to 15 months.
- **The Child Care Resource Center** (617-547-1063)—Provides information about all childcare options in Cambridge, childcare vouchers and other subsidies. Their ABC Room has computers, a lending library and other resources and is open every weekday from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm at their office in Central Square. See [www.ccrcinc.org](http://www.ccrcinc.org).
- **Department of Human Service Programs (DHSP)**

(617-349-6200)—Runs many programs for children and families including Preschool and School-Age Childcare, Community Schools, and Youth Centers around the City. For information, call or visit [www.cambridgema.gov/DHSP2](http://www.cambridgema.gov/DHSP2).

- **Family Resource Center** (617-349-6551)—For information about the Cambridge Public Schools, call the Multilingual voice mail: 617-349-6550 (Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Spanish).
- **The Guidance Center**—Provides an array of services to help children and families cope with developmental, mental health, social and behavioral difficulties. Call (617) 354-2275.
- **Support groups for Parents of Infants**—Organized by Jewish Family & Children Services at Temple Eitz Chayim (134-136 Magazine Street, Cambridge). Other support groups are offered for other towns. Call 781-693-5652

## Food & Clothing

- **The Cambridge Food Pantry Network**—Provides food and information about food pantries to families around the city such as the Margaret Fuller House and the East End House, call the Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee (CEOC) at (617-868-2900).
- **The Children's Clothing Exchange**—A program of Solutions At Work. The Exchange takes children's clothes in good condition to trade for other clothes or equipment. Call for information: 617-576-0039.
- **The Somerville/Cambridge WIC Program**—Provides nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and nutritious food for pregnant women, infants, and children up to age 5. For more info. call the WIC at Windsor Street Health

Center at 617-665-3750, or the North Cambridge WIC office at 617-575-5370.

## Health

- **Health Access Project at the Child Care Resource Center**—Do you need health insurance? Do you need help finding a doctor? Do you need help filling out the application? For more information, contact Stephanie Lyda at 617-547-1063 x222

## Housing

- **The Cambridge Multi-Service Center**—Provides housing information and assistance to families from Cambridge who are or are at risk of becoming homeless. Call 617-349-6340.

## Special Needs Services

- **Cambridge-Somerville Early Intervention**—Provides developmental services for children under age three at risk for developmental delays. If you are concerned about your child's development, call 617-629-3919
- **Cambridge Special Start**—Provides developmental screenings for children ages 3 & 4. For more information, call Susan Evans at 617-349-6850.
- **The Cambridge Program for Individuals with Special Needs**—Serves people with special needs from school age to adults. There is a Saturday morning recreation program. Call 617-349-6200
- **Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities**—Provides information and referrals to individuals with disabilities and their families on all kinds of disability and access issues. Call 617-349-4692 or see [www.cambridgema.gov/DHSP2/disabilities.cfm](http://www.cambridgema.gov/DHSP2/disabilities.cfm).

**The Cambridge Somerville Resource Guide** has listings for more services in the community at [www.cambridgesomervilleresourceguide.org](http://www.cambridgesomervilleresourceguide.org) If you are not able to find what you want, call the Center for Families at 617-349-6385.

# CENTER FOR FAMILIES STAFF

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The Center for Families has staff members who speak:

Amharic, Bangla, French, Haitian-Creole, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

**Main Office****617-349-6385****Fax:****617-349-6386****Web:****[www.cambridgema.gov/DHSP2/families.cfm](http://www.cambridgema.gov/DHSP2/families.cfm)****Email:****[centerforfamilies@cambridgema.gov](mailto:centerforfamilies@cambridgema.gov)****Twitter:****@cntrforfamilies****Center for Families**

Office and Resource Room:  
Peabody School Community Wing  
(entrance at back of school)

70 Rindge Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02140

**Funding for Center for Families Programs**

The Center for Families receives funding from the City of Cambridge, the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (DEEC), and the Massachusetts Children's Trust Fund (CTF). Ours is one of 42 programs around the state that are part of the EEC Massachusetts Family Network and CTF Mass Family Centers programs. We also receive financial and administrative support from the Cambridge Department of Human Service Programs, Cambridge Public Schools, and Cambridge Health Alliance. Additional funding for some activities comes from an Early Learning Opportunities grant to the Cambridge 0-8 Council from the US Dept. of Health and Human Services.

The Center for Families serves families of children 0-8. Activities are open to all Cambridge residents.

**Center for Families**

c/o Dept. of Human Service Programs  
51 Inman Street  
Cambridge, MA 02139

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