

the *Whistler*
 newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council

May 2004

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Harvard Construction Mitigation
 Call Center
 617-496-0857
 Monday to Friday, 6 AM to 6 PM
 For emergencies during non-work hours,
 please contact Harvard University Operations Center
 617-495-5560

ANC Announces Board Slate
 The slate of directors will be presented for approval at the **ANC Annual Meeting on May 18th**, the third Tuesday in May. The public is welcome.

ANC News

Notes from the April 27th Meeting

ANC Board Member Dave Wood opened the meeting by introducing Wendy Prellwitz of Prellwitz/Chilinski Associates, Inc, the architecture firm currently working on renovation plans for the community center at 20 Sacramento Street. Wendy explained the reasons for and the scope of the project, and showed pictures of the projected community center, including paint colors (the community center's new colors will closely mimic those of the house at 10 Follen Street). The primary goal of the construction project is to make the community center accessible to those who cannot use stairs easily. A handicap-ramp will be added to the west side of the center, and inside doors will be altered to accommodate wheelchairs. A handicap-accessible restroom will also be added to the first floor, as well as a new kitchenette to replace the one displaced by the bathroom. Outdoor improvements will include new paint for the whole center and a renovation of the crumbling front porch, as well as some new landscaping to complement the changes. Wendy and ANC Executive Director Terry DeLancey explained that they hope to begin work on the interior in late June, to disrupt the children's programs as little as possible. The construction of the ramp will probably go into July, and the painting may not be done until October.

Next, Judy Kavanagh of SEAConsultants brought community members up to date on the progress of the Beacon Street Sewer Separation Project. She urged that neighbors frequent the businesses affected by the project, as they suffer from the construction (a list of those businesses is provided on page 2). Judy also wanted to make sure that residents have contact information for Bruno Cardarelli, Chief Resident Engineer. Bruno is on site and is the best person to turn to for the quickest resolution to con-

continued on page 3

Officers:
 Burt Doo, Co-Chairperson
 Andrea Walsh-Co-Chairperson
 Denise Dussault-Treasurer
 Miriam Goldberg-Clerk

Directors returning for two year terms:
Burt Doo **Prentiss Street**
Denise Dussault **Cambridge Trust**
Miriam Goldberg **Frost Street**
Andrea Walsh **Eustis Street**
Dave Wood **Gorham Street**

Directors in mid term are:
 Stephen Diamond Frost Street
 Hull Fulweiler Howland Street
 Liz Peoples Crescent Street

ANC Annual Meeting
Tuesday, May 18th, 7:30 p.m.



**Baldwin School Dining Hall -
 28 Sacramento Street
 Oxford Street Entrance**
 press buzzer for entry

Agenda: MOU Update from ACID, Election of ANC Board, and reception to meet ANC Directors
The ANC will update you by email when changes are made to the agenda. To be added to our email list, contact Amy King at 617.349.6287 x19

Beacon Street Businesses Need Your Support!

The Beacon St. Drainage Improvements Project is important to both the Cities of Somerville & Cambridge as it will alleviate the flooding experienced by both the residents and businesses located in this area of Beacon Street (Museum Street to Miller Street) during heavy rainstorms, which have in the past caused combined sewer overflows resulting in severe property damage and potential public health risks. The improved drainage system will also protect the environment by reducing combined sewer overflows to the Charles River and Alewife Brook.

However, the construction necessary to excavate and install the stormwater holding tanks does have an impact on the businesses in this area. The Cities of Somerville & Cambridge would like to remind the community that these businesses are open, and access is available, during this construction period. We encourage you to please continue to support the businesses with your patronage. This is a one-year construction and will be completed by the end of July 2004. In the meantime, the businesses need your support. Please do not allow the construction to keep you from shopping and eating in these establishments.

The businesses located in this area are:

- * P & K Deli, 244 Beacon St., (617) 868-0772
- * Century Tire, 263 Beacon St., (617) 547-7878
- * Tadesse Quality Auto Service, 266 Beacon St., (617) 868-1430
- * Shaw's Star Market, 275 Beacon St., (617) 354-7023
- * Harvard Coin-Op Laundromat, 277 Beacon St.
- * R. F. O'Sullivan & Sons, 282 Beacon St., (617) 491-9638
- * Patsi Pies, 285 Beacon St., (617) 661-7437
- * Seven Hills Wine & Spirit, 288 Beacon St., (617) 547-1644
- * Zoe's Gourmet Chinese Cuisine, 289 Beacon St., (617) 864-6265
- * Happy Garden Chinese Restaurant, 296/298 Beacon St., (617) 876-7666
- * Top Speed Pizza, 300 Beacon St., (617) 491-1004
- * Kiki & Art Hair Styling, 307 Beacon St., (617) 491-7079

Agassiz Resident Finds Rat in Toilet

An Oxford Street resident recently reported that a rat had come into a basement toilet through the sewers. Though rare, this occasionally happens, particularly in times of flooding or construction. If you should find a rat in your home, call the Cambridge Department of Public Works 24-hour emergency service line: 617-349-4860.

Weigh In on the Alden Tot Lot!

The City of Cambridge is looking for your input in the upcoming renovation of the Baldwin School/Alden Tot Lot. In the late spring /early fall of this year they will start a community process.

By answering the following questions about the present use of the park, and about potential improvements to the park, you help the design professionals working on this project gain a better sense of the role Alden Tot Lot has played in your community up to now, and how that role can be enhanced.

Answers can be emailed to Janice Appleyard in the Community Development Department at jappleyard@cambridgema.gov. You may also contact Janice at 617-349-4651 for a paper copy of the survey.

Questions:

1. What do you like most about the Baldwin School/Alden Tot Lot?
2. What do you like least?
3. How is the Park presently used?
4. How would you like to see it used?
5. How long have you used the Tot Lot?
6. What are the ages of the members of your household?
7. Is there anything else you would like us to know about the Baldwin School/Alden Tot Lot.
8. What other city parks do you frequent and why?
9. What did you enjoy/play with as a child? Where was this park?

CLOTHING DRIVE



The Cambridge Public School's Family Resource Center is holding a clothing drive. Please bring all clean and gently worn clothing for all ages to their office located at 459 Broadway, Cambridge, in Cambridge Rindge & Latin School, R131.

Fred Meyer, Realtor

83 Hammond Street
617-876-1200

Owner, University Real Estate, overlooking Harvard Square.
Past President, MA Assoc. of Realtors.
Licensed real estate appraiser.

See all available homes now on
www.cambridgere.com



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struction-related problems. He can be reached at 617-492-5804 or at his office on Sacramento Street next to the Star Market. Judy announced that sometimes contractors will be working on Saturdays, so residents should not be surprised to see them there. This is an occasional necessity to maintain the construction schedule, but will not happen every Saturday. Another important piece of information is that sometimes unplanned water service disruptions will happen in the construction area as a result of the old, fragile infrastructure that exists under the construction. When a main breaks, MCC immediately informs affected parties and works as long as necessary to fix the problem.

A resident inquired about a natural gas smell at the Beacon end of Sacramento Street. Judy said that it was a class 2 gas leak but was monitored by Nstar.

Judy introduced Frank Ayotte of MWH, who announced that the \$5.8 million Beacon Street project is about 75% complete and is expected to be finished right on schedule in July. Over 300 feet of tank have been installed, and more difficult work (such as installing pump stations and divergent stations) has been completed. About 500 feet of tank is left to be installed. The old water main is being used temporarily until work is complete. The current closing of Eustis Street is probably the last street closing that will be done.

Next, ANC Board Member Stephen Diamond opened a discussion on possible agenda items for future neighborhood meetings. Suggestions for issues that need to be faced by the neighborhood include:

- * Rebuilding ACID with new representatives to face Law School issues
- * Representation: who is chosen to represent the Agassiz neighborhood, who choose them, and why? Can representatives be responsible for providing more updates to the community? Should it be a requirement that at least one abutter to each project serve on the committee for that project?
- * What happened with the MOU? Crescent Street resident Kate Frank spoke about her concerns with the resolution of the MOU. There was pressure to vote on it in December, but since then she feels that neighbors haven't heard anything about it: has it been signed? By whom? When? Has it changed since it neighbors voted on it? (See page 3 for answers).
- * Can community members have more time to discuss issues at meetings without representatives from Harvard present?

Due to these concerns, the Annual ANC Meeting on May 18th will feature an update from ACID representatives on the MOU signing.

MOU Signed by Agassiz and Harvard Representatives

After the Agassiz Neighborhood Council approved the MOU by vote on December 16, 2003, it was signed by the following representatives of the Agassiz and Harvard:

Representing the Agassiz neighborhood:

Joel Bard, William Bloomstein, Miriam Goldberg, and Ellen Friedman

Representing the Agassiz Neighborhood Council:

Andrea Walsh and Burton Doo, Co-Chairs of the Board of Directors

Representing Harvard University:

Nancy Maull, Dean for Administration, Faculty of Arts and Sciences; David Zewinski, Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Julie Englund, Dean for Administration, Harvard Law School; Alan J. Stone, Vice President of Government, Community, and Public Affairs; Mary H. Power, Senior Director of Community Relations; and Thomas Lucey, Director of Community Relations, Cambridge

Representing the President and Fellows of Harvard College:

Sally Zeckhauser and Ann E. Berman

To obtain a copy of the signed MOU, please contact Amy King at the Agassiz Neighborhood Council, 617-349-6287 x19 or aking@agassiz.org.

Cambridge Police Department Neighborhood Meeting

Tuesday, May 11, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.
First Church of Cambridge, 11 Garden Street

This meeting will feature a Safety walk through the Cambridge Commons, as well as an update on recent Peabody area (Neighborhood 9) crime stats, and information on the services offered by the Police Department, including R.A.D classes, car seat installation, security surveys, etc.

Bring your crime & safety concerns
to discuss with CPD officers.

For more information, please call Neighborhood
Coordinator Holly Levins at 617-349-6009.

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GO GREEN!

May is GoGreen Month in Cambridge, an annual celebration to promote environmental awareness and action. The goal of GoGreen Month is to encourage environmental activities such as energy conservation, use of public transportation options and waste reduction.

As part of this monthlong celebration, the City of Cambridge is sponsoring a number of events highlighting environmental and transportation issues. Check out www.CambridgeMA.gov/~GoGreen for additional information on the following events:

GoGreen in the Squares - information and outreach events with representatives from transit and transportation organizations.

- * Cambridge City Hall/Front Sidewalk, 795 Massachusetts Ave. (May 3, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.)
- * Harvard Square/The Pit (May 11, 11:30a.m. - 1:30p.m., rain date May 18)
- * Kendall Square/Cambridge Center (May 25, 11:00am - 2:00pm, rain date May 26)

Golden Shoes 2004 – coordinated by the Cambridge Public Health Department to encourage people to walk for their health and the environment. Throughout the month of May, be on the lookout for one of the 100 gold-painted shoes hidden throughout Cambridge to win prizes and be entered into a grand prize drawing. Contact: Jeff Walker - 617-665-3834 / jwalker@challiance.org.

FreE-Zrides (May 10-14) – Your chance to try the EZRide Shuttle – FREE! Check out the schedule and route online at <http://www.ezride.info/>. Contact: Jim Gascoigne – 617-324-6119 / coin1@mit.edu.

Pedestrian Commuter Appreciation (May 14 & 28) - Members of the Pedestrian Committee will greet commuters and present them with a small gift. Look for teams of greeters in various parts of the City. Contact: Stephanie Anderberg – 617-349-4671 / sanderberg@cambridge-ma.gov.

This is only a sampling of May's GoGreen events! For more information, contact: Stephanie Anderberg - 617-349-4671 / sanderberg@cambridge-ma.gov or visit www.cambridgema.gov/~GoGreen

WHAT MATTERSTO YOU?

The Agassiz Neighborhood Council Board of Directors would like community assistance in setting priorities for the next year of activity. What topics would you like to see covered at our monthly neighborhood meetings? To weigh in on these topics and suggest others, please fill out this form and return to Amy King, Agassiz Neighborhood Council, 20 Sacramento Street, Cambridge MA 02138.

Please number in order of priority (1 being the highest):

- Harvard Law School's development plans
- Harvard construction in Hammond Street area
- Lesley University's development plans
- MBTA Porter Sq. Air Rights development proposals
- Envisioning Massachusetts Avenue

Updates on City of Cambridge ISSUES:

- Sewer construction progress
- Snow plowing procedures
- Parking procedures
- Police, fire and safety issues
- Schedule for street/sidewalk repair & rebuilding
- School department programs and issues
- Baldwin School issues
- Maud Morgan Visual Arts Center plans & programs
- Others:

If you would be willing to serve on a committee, please contact Amy King at 617-349-6287 x19 or aking@agassiz.org.

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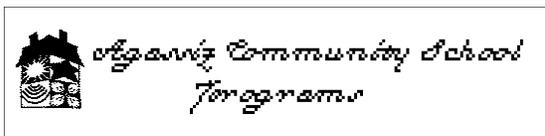
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Sign up now for the
OUTBACK
 Summer Program!

For over thirty years, the Outback Summer Program, located in the big backyard behind the Agassiz Neighborhood Council building at 20 Sacramento Street, has been providing summer-time care for children in Cambridge and beyond. OCCS-licensed and run by a team of diverse, talented counselors and specialists, Outback provides children with opportunities to learn, play, relax, cool off, explore, and make new friends in a safe, inclusive, fun environment. Children choose their activities based on daily offerings, and

enjoy Thursday field trips to local beaches and recreation areas.

Outback begins Monday, July 5th and ends Friday, August 27th. Children may sign up for all eight weeks, only one, or any number in between! Full-

day and part-day options are available. Children must be entering grades one through six. Counselor-in-Training opportunities are available for children entering grades seven through nine.

Registration has begun!

Contact Director of Programs Sharon Reidbord,
 617-349-6287 x10 or sreidbord@agassiz.org.

Sacramento Street Preschool
 now accepting registrants for Fall 2004!

The Sacramento Street Preschool is in its second decade of providing inclusive, high quality childcare to children between the ages of two years, nine months and pre-Kindergarten. Children are regarded as individuals with different social, emotional, physical and cognitive needs and strengths. The Sacramento Street Preschool is a small program with a total daily enrollment of no more than 20 children. Staff is able to respond with care to each child, providing personal attention and stimulating each child's social and emotional growth.

To register, contact Preschool Director Diane DiMaina, at
 617.349.6287 x11 or ddimaina@agassiz.org.

Register for the Fall!

The Agassiz Afterschool program provides inclusive after school care and activities for all children in Kindergarten through grade 5. Families can choose between full time (5 afternoons per week) and part time enrollment (1, 2 or 3 afternoons per week).

Licensed by the Massachusetts Office for Childcare Services, the Agassiz Afterschool is sponsored by the Agassiz Neighborhood Council. It is one of the oldest and largest after school programs in Cambridge.

Agassiz Afterschool provides safe play and exploration in a vibrant, welcoming community. Each afternoon, children choose from a "menu" of activities in areas receiving limited attention in school (namely drama, dance, visual art and athletics). Program staff helps children develop cooperation skills and respect for themselves and others.

Registration has begun for the Agassiz Afterschool's 2004-2005 term. To register, contact Sharon Reidbord, Director of Programs, at 617.349.6287 x10 or sreidbord@agassiz.org.

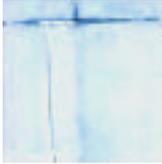


Welcome Paul Jakob Griffiths!

son of 1st-5th Afterschool Site Director
 Pascha Marlin Griffiths and her husband Paul

Born March 30, 2004
 7 lbs, 10 oz.

The Whistler May 2004



The Sacramento Street Gallery presents
Art Fresh Art Local
Emerging Artists from Cambridge

featuring Jessie Alberts, Cozette Carroll, Edward Ching,
James DeLancey and Jessica John



Opening Reception:
Friday, May 14, 7:00-9:00 PM

Exhibition:
May 14 through June 4, 2004
Open Weekdays 9:00-5:00



20 Sacramento Street, Cambridge, MA
617.349.6287
www.agassiz.org



Introducing Art: A Performance Series for Children presents



The Giving Tree and Other Stories
Little Theatre of the Deaf
Wednesday, May 19, 2004 at 2:00 PM

The Little Theatre of the Deaf combines Sign Language and spoken words to create a unique visual language which one critic described as "poetry for the eye and ear."

Baldwin School Stage,
28 Sacramento Street, Cambridge
Questions? Amy King, 617.349.6287 x19 or aking@agassiz.org
Admission \$2.00. Groups must reserve in advance.
All Cambridge after school programs admitted at no charge.



This month at the Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center:
www.cmacusa.org

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zabang
& banafsheh sayood



may 7

princess pamplemousse



may 4, 11, 18, 25

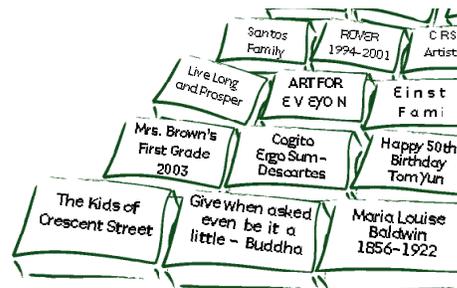
BUY A BRICK TODAY!



TO SUPPORT THE MAUD MORGAN VISUAL ARTS CENTER

Engraved bricks will be placed in the walkways surrounding the new art center to honor people, provoke thought and inspire all who visit. Each brick will have three lines (a maximum of 16 characters per line). Be creative! Honor someone, quote a hero, remember a loved one, or mark a special occasion.

Bricks cost \$250.
Contact Amy King at 617 349-6287 x 19 or <aking@agassiz.org> for information or a brochure. Thanks for your support!



Other Local Cultural Events and Programs

CAMBRIDGE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA TO PERFORM MAY 16TH
The CAMBRIDGE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, under the direction of Mark Latham, will perform its final concert of the season on SUNDAY, MAY 16TH AT 3:00 PM. at the Maria Baldwin School. The program will include the exciting Symphony Fantastique by Hector Berlioz, the American premiere of Scorpius Rising by Hayg Boyadjian, and Hungarian Andante and Rondo by Carl Maria von Weber and featuring CSO bassoonist Jerry Blum. The concert is FREE and is suitable for older children and adults.

**Newtowne School
Spring Fair
Saturday May 8, 10-2
First Church
11 Garden Street
Cambridge, MA
617.354.0919**
Featuring rides, moonwalk, games, arts-and-crafts, live music, face painting, food, raffle prizes, and a giant rummage sale. Admission is free. All proceeds benefit the Newtowne School scholarship fund.



Earth Save Boston's Healthy People Healthy Planet presents

Connecting Children with the Earth
a free talk with Jane Smillie, Executive Director of CitySprouts

Sunday, May 9th, 3:00 PM
Veggie Planet 47 Palmer St, Cambridge
617-661-1513
followed by an optional vegan dinner for \$9.50

McIntyre & Moore Booksellers hosts
Art and Artifice: What Constitutes Quality?
Davis Square Philosophy Café
moderated by Tom Clark

Tuesday, May 18, 7:30-9:30 pm

McIntyre & Moore Booksellers
255 Elm St., Davis Square, Somerville
Free and open to all (617) 629-4840.

Community Calendar

SUNDAY, MAY 9TH		MOTHER'S DAY!
FRIDAY, MAY 14TH	7:00-9:00 PM	Opening Reception for ART FRESH ART LOCAL: EMERGING ARTISTS FROM CAMBRIDGE through June 4th
TUESDAY, MAY 18TH	6:00 PM	ANC Board Meeting 20 Sacramento Street, 2nd Floor
TUESDAY, MAY 18TH	7:30 PM	ANC Annual Meeting (See page one for agenda) Baldwin Dining Hall, 28 Sacramento Street
WEDNESDAY, MAY 19TH	2:00 PM	Introducing Art: A Performance Series for Children presents THE GIVING TREE AND OTHER STORIES LITTLE THEATRE OF THE DEAF Baldwin School Stage 28 Sacramento Street, Cambridge
MONDAY, MAY 31ST		MEMORIAL DAY Cambridge Public Schools and ANC closed

The Whistler is published monthly September - June by the Agassiz Neighborhood Council, distribution 2,000. Call (617) 349-6287 to receive by mail or to be advised by email of its posting on the web each month at <www.agassiz.org/whistler.html>. Items of interest to the neighborhood may be submitted for consideration, no later than the 15th of the month prior to publication date.

The Whistler May 2004



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www.agassiz.org email: aktng@agassiz.org

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