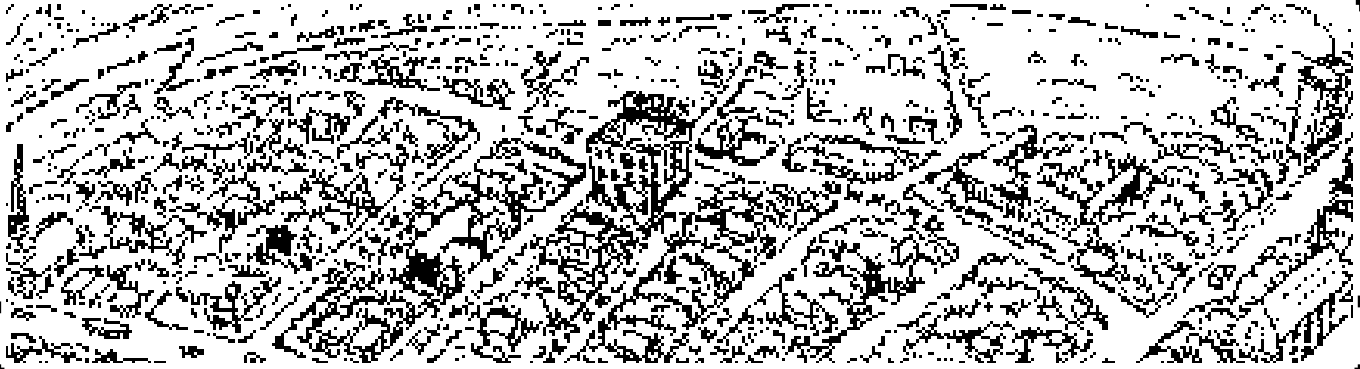


The Whistler

February 2001



Newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council

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v ANC News v

Notes from the January 16 ANC Meeting

Wendell Street Sewer Construction

Judy Kavanagh and **David Knowlton** of SEA Consultants gave a presentation on the upcoming Wendell Street sewer project. Several meetings have been held with the residents and block captains in anticipation of the start of construction. Major parking restrictions will be in effect. Residents were reminded of the need to inform the field office of any deliveries or special needs during the construction; that parking is available for residents in several lots in the neighborhood; and that the police detail officers will be asked to assist children and seniors as they walk to and from their homes through the construction area. Lesley University has offered the use of its reading room in the Porter Exchange for residents use as a quiet space during the noisier phases of the construction.

Mr. Knowlton also reported that the opening of Oxford Street has been delayed until early February.

For more **CRITICAL** information on the upcoming sewer construction, see page 2.

SEWER CONSTRUCTION - CONTACTS

Field Office	Ray Elie	354-8216
Community Relations	Judy Kavanagh	498-4710
<u>Block Captains:</u>		
Helen Lambert	Sacramento St.	661-0690
Chantal Fujiwara	Museum St.	661-6488
Althea Buckley	Wendell St.	868-0502
Kate Frank	Crescent St.	547-5174
Amy Barad	Eustis St.	492-6640

DPW 24 hour emergency service 349-4860

Check the kiosk at Agassiz or DPW Web Site for updates:
<http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~TheWorks/>

Maud Morgan Visual Arts Center



Agassiz Neighborhood Council has received a \$4,500 grant from the **CAMBRIDGE ARTS COUNCIL** to fund designs currently being developed by eight Cambridge artists. These designs will be fabricated as elements in the new building when constructed, and final designs will be presented in late February. These designs will be on display in the Sacramento Street Gallery beginning March 9. For more information on this exciting visual arts project, see page 7.

Agassiz Neighborhood Council

Next Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, February 13

7:30 p.m.

Agassiz School Dining Hall

28 Sacramento Street Entrance

Agenda:

Loeb Fellow Ben Hamilton Baillie will return to discuss possible scenarios for Oxford St. based on the European model discussed at the December meeting. Call 349-6287 for more information.

Treacherous Walkways

A neighborhood resident raised a concern at the meeting about difficulties for pedestrians at the Beacon Street Star Market. On several occasions, the pedestrian opening at the Sacramento Street crosswalk has been very icy or filled with slush. In general, the sidewalks and pedestrian walkways in the parking lot have been kept clear of ice and snow but there are often lapses in "attentiveness," resulting in treacherous icy patches. A letter will be sent from the ANC to Star Market management asking that a completely cleared, de-iced path from the parking lot to the crosswalk, including a generous path across the public sidewalk, are consistently maintained.

Other meeting attendees mentioned the icy sidewalk on Sacramento Street between Mass. Ave. and Oxford Street. Unfortunately, the majority of residents on the even side of Sacramento Street have failed to clean their sidewalks. Of particular concern is the difficulty faced by the young children going to and from the Agassiz School and ANC after-school programs. Many times, they have been forced to walk in the street.

v Neighborhood News v

Sewer Construction

Sewer Construction Update

Please note that notices you receive at your door will now be color coded: Orange = Construction Activities, Blue = Water Activities, Green = Tree Work or Planting, Yellow = Utility Activities, Red = Parking/Traffic Notices

Work has recently begun on Wendell Street with the **water main installation**. It will begin on Carver and continue to Gorham and Howland, **finishing by approximately February 2**. Once the new water main is installed and tested, individual house services will be switched to the new service. **There will be a one hour service interruption**, and each home will receive written notice three days prior to the interruption. There will also be a reminder on your door knob the day before each interruption.

Concurrently with the water main, **support of excavation will begin**. This involves installing beams or "soldier piles" into the ground around the perimeter of the proposed storage tank location. **Installation of these piles involves drilling a hole into the road and vibrating the beams into the ground**. Installation will begin at Carver St. and proceed toward Gorham, extending past Howland and stopping at 69 Wendell Street. **Installation is expected to last until approximately February 12**. This will involve parking restrictions. (See chart on page 3.)

Tank Installation will begin around February 5 with a tentative finish date of April 15. The tank will be installed in sections beginning at the Carver Street end of Wendell and ending near Gorham St. this activity is expected to take approximately eight weeks. Tank installation is expected to reach Howland Street on or about March 23. **DURING THIS TIME, WENDELL STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO THROUGH TRAFFIC 24 HOURS A DAY**. Through traffic will be detoured to Museum Street via Carver Street and Gorham Street. Truck route parking restrictions will also remain in effect. As the construction zone progresses down the street, **ACCESS TO EACH DRIVEWAY WILL BE INTERRUPTED APPROXIMATELY 2-3 WEEKS**. Access to all properties will be maintained though, with the sidewalks in



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the work zone clearly delineated with fencing to keep people out of the work zone.

During this time, pump stations will also be installed in front of #80 and 83 Wendell Street. This will take approximately 6 weeks, at which time the tank installation will have moved down the street toward Gorham.

In April when the tanks have been installed, new sewer and drainage piping will be installed from Carver to Gorham St. and the roadway will be paved. The work will take approximately 3 weeks to complete and will occur from approximately April 5 through 30th.

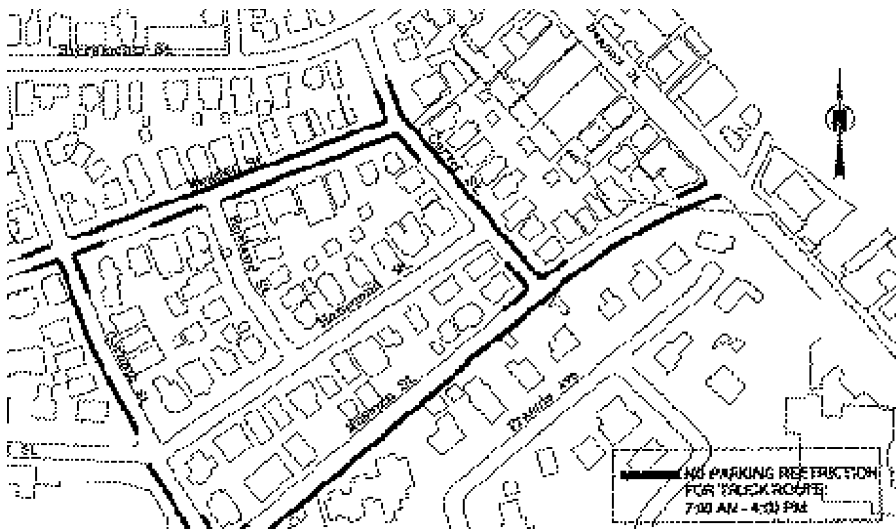
- Non-Wendell St. resident PEDESTRIANS will be detoured to Hammond St via Howland. Residents must take care to walk in designated areas only and seek police help.
- Parking is available in Harvard and Star Market lots. Contact Ray Elie, Chief Resident Engineer at 354-8216.
- Ask detail police for HELP navigating streets on foot.
- Contact SEA or block captains with questions. (See box on page one for phone numbers.)
- Dust can be a problem; keep windows closed. Report problems to Ray Elie at 354-8216.
<http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~TheWorks/>

v City Wide v

Read Jarrett Barrios E-Newsletter

Jarrett Barrios, State Representative for the Agassiz district, provides an electronic newsletter for all who are interested. In the newsletter it says "If you would like to be added to the list, please send your name and e-mail address to: list@barrios.org, and of course, always feel free to check out our website at www.barrios.org where you can also subscribe to this newsletter. If you would also like to be our regular mailing list, please be sure to include your mailing address.

Map of Parking Restrictions in effect for sewer construction Jan-April 15, 2001. All parking restrictions will be posted at least 24 hours in advance.



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∨ Lesley University ∨

**[From the Lesley News Online]
AIB Presents Faculty Exhibition**

Works by the faculty of The Art Institute of Boston at Lesley University will be exhibited in the main gallery from Feb. 3 through March 18. An opening reception with the artists will be held on February 8 from 5 - 7 p.m. in the gallery.

The Faculty Biennial Exhibition will include 65 works in traditional and nontraditional media in all areas, including printmaking, painting, sculpture, mixed media, photography, design and illustration. Each department of the college will be represented. The remarkable range of the exhibition represents a wide variety of techniques, concepts and styles which characterize the faculty of the college, reflecting their diverse approaches to making and thinking about art.

Faculty participating in the exhibition include Christopher James, Jane Tuckerman, Justin Kirchoff, and Deborah Davidson from the Photography Department; Michael David and Liza Folman from Printmaking; Tony Apesos, Geoff Koetsch, Mary Kaye, and Gene Dorgan from Fine Arts; Geoffrey Fried, John Kramer, and Jim Hood from Design; John Casey and Robert Kaufmann from Illustration.

Works by AIB faculty are found in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; the Getty Museum, Los Angeles; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Fogg Art Museum and Carpenter Center, Harvard University; and the Danforth Museum of Art, Framingham, Mass., among other institutions. Fellowships, grants and awards received by the faculty include the National Endowment for the Arts; the New England Foundation for the Arts; the Massachusetts Council for the Arts; the New York Society of Illustrators; Print Design Annual; Hatch Award; a Fulbright Fellowship; and MacDowell Colony Fellowship, among others.

Gallery Hours: Monday to Friday, 9 am - 6 pm; Saturday, 9 am - 5 PM; Sunday, noon to 5pm. The gallery is located at 700 Beacon Street, Boston, just outside Kenmore Square.

∨ Harvard University ∨

At a community meeting held on December 5, 2000, architects for Harvard University shared their fully developed design for a new building at the corner of Oxford and Hammond Streets. The building will house offices and a data center for University Information Systems, and faculty offices for the Division of Engineering and Applied Science. The development also includes provisions for the relocation of the Palfrey House to the Hammond Street edge. The design incorporates the positive feedback and concerns of the neighbors expressed through community meetings and focus group meetings held since May of 2000. The project includes an extensive landscaping plan developed by Michael Van Valkenburg & Associates, including a rooftop garden atop the portion of the building directly at the corner of Oxford and Hammond Streets. The new building will occupy an area currently dedicated to parking spaces, and Harvard has hired an architect to study, with the goal of designing, an adjacent underground parking garage to replace the surface parking.

Harvard plans to have another community meeting in March. In addition, the university will soon launch a website dedicated to the project, that will be updated to give current information on the project. Harvard hopes to begin the public approvals process for the project this month. If you have any questions regarding the project, please call Travis McCready at the Harvard Office of Community Affairs at 495-4955.

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Licensed Real Estate Appraiser.
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∨ Announcements ∨

West Side Lounge Launches Winter Menu

CAMBRIDGE, Mass, (January 11, 2001) - The weather outside may be frightful, but the new West Side Lounge winter menu is making diners feel warm all over! Chef Steve Heischuber starts off with irresistible seasonal appetizers, such as Warm Beet and Goat Cheese Salad; Chile Sweet Potato Soup with Lime and Crème Fraiche; and Crispy Salt Cod Ravioli with a Scallion Purée. Enticing entrées for the cold months ahead include Braised Lam Papparadelle with Gremolata; Pan Seared Striped Bass with a Potato Leek Cake and Tarragon Butter Sauce; and Porcini Risotto-Stuffed Acorn Squash with Sautéed Greens and Glazed Turnips.


And now, savor the flavors a bit longer. Beginning January 15th, West Side Lounge will extend its dinner hours, opening at 5:00 and serving a full menu until 11:00pm every night (with appetizers available until midnight). Bartender Jackson Cannon intends to keep West Side customers warm and cozy through the winter with his "Cold Nights / Hot Drinks" menu, and a new wine list featuring big, hearty reds. West Side Lounge, an intimate neighborhood bistro with a lively bar scene, is located at 1680 Massachusetts Avenue in Cambridge. It is open nightly from 5:00pm until 1:00am, serving a full menu until 11:00 and a late-night menu until midnight.

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- Peabody Terrace: on Memorial Drive behind Mahoney's
- Science Museum/EF Tours: opposite Museum Towers
- Tech Square/Kendall: on Broadway in the Draper Labs garage
- Westgate/MIT: on Vassar Street near the Hyatt
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------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

AGASSIZ STUDY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

The second portion of the Agassiz Study Group began in January and will continue through the spring. The public is welcome to the presentations, and members attend them all. Meetings are listed below:

February 13 - NO PRESENTATION NOW PLANNED

February 27 - Lesley University presentation

March 13 - Harvard University presentation


March 27 - Economic Development (tentative)

City of Cambridge Economic Development Policy, Employment Issues, Commercial activity in Agassiz - strategies for drawing and retaining businesses

April 24 - Public Forum (tentative)

For more information on this issue contact Venita Mathias at Community Development Department, 349-4603, email vmathias@ci.cambridge.ma.us or check the website: <http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~CDD/commplan/neighplan/agassiz/agassiznsc.html>

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Agassiz Community School Programs

Sacramento Street Preschool:

The Preschool is currently filled. To be placed on the waiting list, call Diane DiMaina at 349-6287. Children must be two years and nine months of age to enter, and they may be on the waiting list before that time.

Grades K-5:

The Agassiz Afterschool program offers stimulating and enriching activities in a safe environment with experienced teachers and specialists in the arts. Children may sign up for 1, 2, 3, or 5 days of afterschool care. Monthly fees are \$279 for 5 days, \$156 for 3 days, \$104 for 2 days or \$52 for 1 day.

Space is available in the Kindergarten program on Mondays and Fridays and space is available in the 1-5 grade program on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays. You will be placed on a short waiting list if you would like to register for other days.

Middle School: Get the New Brochure

An exciting schedule of after school classes has begun for 6th through 8th grade students. Students are studying cooking, video production, web page design, drama, art and other activities in a ten-week series of classes. Call 349-6287 to receive a brochure.

Parents are welcome to visit our programs. Please contact Vicky Ragsdale at 349-6287 for a visit or more information.

Basketball:

As of February 21 the basketball programs for teens and adults will end. This is due to lack of participation since the program opened.

Computer Classes:

CCTV Adult Computer Courses

Introduction to Word Processing, Wednesday, February 7, 6:30-9:00p.m.: This course uses Microsoft Word on the Mac to stress basic concepts and operations used in all word processing programs. Students must have taken the Introduction to Computers Course or have prior experience using a keyboard and a mouse.

Next Steps Using Microsoft Word, Wednesday, February 14, 6:30-9:00p.m.: This intermediate course will introduce more advanced features of Microsoft Word. Topics include bullets and lists, margins, indenting, headers and footers, importing clip art, and renaming files. Introduction to Word Processing or the equivalent is a prerequisite.

Both courses are \$15 for CCTV computer members and \$25 for non-members. Pre-registration is required. Classes will be held in the Agassiz School Computer lab. For registration information, call CCTV at 661-6900 or visit their web site at cctvcambridge.org.

Baby & Toddler Groups Have New Schedule

New Schedule for Groups

Join one of our free baby and toddler groups and enjoy a friendly play space with your child during the cold winter months. You'll have an opportunity to chat with other parents and make new friends. Children from birth through two years nine months are welcome. Each baby must be accompanied by a parent or caretaker. Siblings of the appropriate age are also welcome.

There are two groups daily Monday through Friday from 10:00am to 12:00pm and from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. Please drop by North Hall or call 349-6287 for more information. North Hall is located at the corner of Mass. Ave. and Wendell Street.

Toys Needed: The Baby Groups are seeking donations of new, or nearly new, age-appropriate toys. If you can help, please drop off your toys at 20 Sacramento Street or call 349-6287.

v Agassiz Public School v

There is a movement from the Agassiz School, organized by the School Improvement Committee, to rename the school in honor of Maria Louise Baldwin. Miss Baldwin, appointed principal at the Agassiz School in 1889, was the first African American Principal in New England, and dearly loved by all who remembered her. Sybil Knight explained to the *Cambridge Chronicle* in a January 17 article, that the "school is named for a man [Louis Agassiz] who held racist and anti-Semitic beliefs." . . . "As an African American female, knowing what African Americans faced during [Baldwin's] time - when even learning the alphabet was illegal in some places . . . I don't have words to express how I feel about her."

The name change was introduced to parents in a December letter, and Knight told the *Chronicle* that the majority of responses to her letter were favorable. There is a committee at the school working on this initiative, Ann-Charlotte Hogstadius, Agassiz parent and co-chair of the school's naming committee said, "The next step in the process is to hold public meetings. Then a petition will be circulated. Only if she and Knight believe there is a majority in support of the change will the name committee approach the School Committee. Hogstadius said it is important that everyone can claim ownership of the idea."

For information on the name changing process, call Sybil Knight at the Agassiz School, 349-6525.

Get off the couch and get some exercise this winter! Come to the weekly drop-in basketball games in the Agassiz School Gym at 28 Sacramento Street. With nights for teens and nights for adults, this is a great reason to get out of the house.

Teen Night: Tuesdays from 6:00pm to 8:30pm for ages 13 through 17. \$1.00 per session.

Adult Night: Wednesdays from 6:00pm to 9:00pm for ages 18 and over. \$2.00 per session.

Call 349-6287 for more information.





Sacramento Street Gallery
20 Sacramento Street
Open Weekdays 9-5

Johanna Winter-Harper
"Paintings"
through February 23

Johanna Winter-Harper - Artist Statement

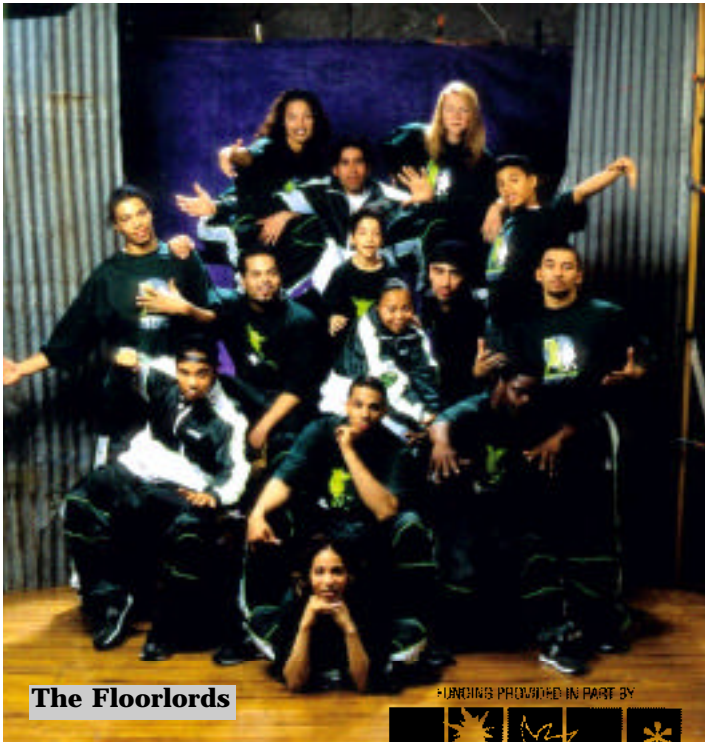
The two elements that are brought together in my paintings are those of order and mystery. Order is addressed in the formal issues of structure, and mystery is addressed in color and process, which are both intuitive and emotional responses to order.

I base these oil paintings on a grid system of sorts. I build measured areas of color sometimes slowly and sometimes thick and fast. I scrape straight lines into the surface. They lie faint, and at other times thick and cut away. These lines disclose the layers that built the painting and are records of it's history.

Even though the paintings are built around the system of the grid they are not rigid. Color blurs over the imposed boundary of a line and lines are not always straight. In some cases a line will have been drawn over and over again so that one in particular cannot be traced across the picture plain. This lack of total submission to the structure brings tension to the painting.

In my drawings, as in my paintings, the ordered moment meets the more gestural one. The emotive is recorded in oil stick, upon which I draw precise graphite lines in a structured response.

These paintings are intended to be beatific while also basic and dependent on an imposed structure.



The Floorlords

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**Introducing Art:
 A Performance Series
 for Children Presents**

6th Annual Hip Hop Festival

Thursday, February 22, 2001

2:00PM, Agassiz School Stage, 28 Sacramento St.

Admission \$1.⁰⁰, Groups Welcome

The Introducing Art Performance series continues with the 6th annual Hip Hop Festival, presented during February vacation week. This year's production will feature the *History of Hip Hop* with a focus on the four elements of hip hop: dance, rap, D.J. turntables, and graffiti art.

With performances by Jamnastics, the Floorlords, and other special guests, this production will be a vibrant, multi-media event not to be missed. Naheem Allah will once again M.C. this annual event.

Call 349-6287 for more information.

ARTISTS REDEFINE ART CENTER PLANS

ANC has brought artists together to develop architectural elements for the proposed Maud Morgan Visual Arts Center, and the project is shaping up as a major success. There will be a chance for you to see the final designs at a show in the Sacramento Street Gallery beginning on March 9 and continuing through the month. The energy and imagination artists have put into this project foreshadow the work we will see from participants when the four new studios are full of participants and the creation of art becomes the order of the day.

Eight Cambridge artists have been collaborating with each other and the architect since early December to create a unique and artful space. Artists met in late January to share their designs-in-progress. This work is being funded through a grant from the Cambridge Arts Council, and it will be completed on February 28 when artists will deliver final designs to 20 Sacramento Street.


The projects include a large round mural, whimsical benches, stained glass, mosaic work in the entry way, paint-brush door pulls, unique paving with colorful designs and bronze bugs .

The artists are Phyllis Ewen, Rhonda Smith, Linda Lichtman, Nancy Webb, Mitch Ryerson, John Tagiuri, John Devaney and Gail Boyajian.

Look for information next month on the show!

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Carol Kelly

Myra von Turkovich (Agassiz School Parent)
Jan Devereux (Agassiz School Parent)

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Other Local Cultural Events and Programs

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Attention all digital artists, performers, authors, theorists, installation artists, web designers, electronic music artists, animators, and ALL OTHER ARTISTS WHO DEAL WITH ANY AREA OF DIGITAL MEDIA! Check out the Siggraph 2001 Art Gallery at: <http://www.siggraph.org/s2001/cfp/card/art.html>

CALL FOR HIGH SCHOOL ARTISTS

Arlington Center for the Arts will host an exhibit entitled "Visions and Views" to show work by Cambridge, Arlington, Belmont, Medford, Lexington, Somerville and Winchester high school students.

Cambridge high school artists who have work created in a school setting can submit up to three pieces of work to the Arlington Center for the Arts at 41 Foster St., Arlington. DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 15. Teachers must complete the entry form and coordinate drop off/pick up. There is no fee, but work must be matted in white mats and may be no bigger than 3x5' All media will be accepted. For more information call the Arlington Center for the Arts at 781-648-6220.

Artisans Fair
Sunday February 11th at Peabody School
Linnaean and Walker St.
11-5 pm
Admission is \$1 (Kids are admitted free with an adult.)
There will be a craft table for kids, ceramics, jewelry, local and national crafters.
For more information call Angel at 547-1116.

Club Passim

Club Passim at 47 Palmer St. in Harvard Square has an ambitious schedule of events for kids that emphasizes a wide variety of cultures emphasizing music, food and arts.

Upcoming programs are listed below. Space is limited, so call for reservations. Afterschool groups are welcome.

February 20th - Cape Verde

March 5th - China

April 13th - Native American

May 14 - Brazil

June 11 - Summer Celebration Picnic - Blues/Southern

Call 491-2382 for information or to register.

Community Calendar February 2001

February 1 through 28th

Johanna Winter Harp "Paintings"
Sacramento Street Gallery, 20 Sacramento Street
See page 6 for more information.

February 2, Friday

Ground Hog Day - School Open

February 13, Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
7:30 p.m.

ANC Monthly Board Meeting - public welcome
ANC February Council Meeting - see page 1 for details
Agassiz School Dining Hall, 28 Sacramento St. Entrance

February 19, Monday

President's Day - No School

February 19-23

February Vacation - Cambridge Public Schools

February 22, Thursday 2:00

Spectacular Hip Hop Festival (See Page 6 for details)
Agassiz School Stage, 28 Sacramento St. Entrance
(This event is for school age/teen age children)

The Whistler is published monthly September - June by the Agassiz Neighborhood Council, distribution 2,000. Call 349-6287 to be on the mailing list. Items of interest to the neighborhood may be submitted for consideration to address below, no later than the 15th of the month prior to publication date.

The Whistler February 2001



AGASSIZ NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
20 Sacramento Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
617 349-6287
Fax and Hot Line 497-4388
EMail Agassiz@concentric.net

DO NOT FORWARD

Shovel Your Walk/ Melt that Ice

January snow and ice created a real hardship for older adults, people with small children and people with limited mobility. This is because some neighbors do not understand the importance of shoveling snow and spreading ice melter so that sidewalks are passable.

PLEASE BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR AND TEND YOUR
SIDEWALK. STOCK UP ON ICE MELTER NOW!
YOU HAVE NEIGHBORS WHO DO NOT GO OUT
BECAUSE THEY CANNOT NAVIGATE ICY SIDEWALKS.