

# the AGASSIZ WHISTLER

MAY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AGASSIZ NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

1982

## AGASSIZ COMMUNITY EVENTS

SACRAMENTO STREET GALLERY, MAY  
OPENING: " ONCE UPON A CAMBRIDGE:  
PHOTOS AND PARAPHERNALIA", Friday,  
May 7, 8-10 p.m., 20 Sacramento  
Street.

AGASSIZ NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
MEETING, Wednesday, May 12, 8:00  
p.m., in the Agassiz School lib-  
rary.

A DISCUSSION NIGHT ON ADOLESCENT  
SEXUALITY FOR UPPER-GRADE  
PARENTS, Thursday, May 20, 7:30  
p.m. in the Agassiz Community  
Center, 20 Sacramento Street.

MAY RELEASE DAYS: May 13 and  
May 25. Half-day of school.  
MAY 13 FILM AT PEABODY SCHOOL:  
The Phantom Toll Booth, 1:00,  
50¢ per child.

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## AGASSIZ NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL NEWS

### Notes from the April Council Meeting

The chairperson, Joel Bard, mentioned  
several items that had been proposed  
by the City administration:

-designating one out of every  
five new housing units as low-in-  
come housing.

-converting present street  
lights to sodium vapor lights, which  
are much brighter than existing lights.

Ann Marie Masiello reported on the  
Youth Program activities that are  
scheduled for the next few months.  
Over vacation, a dance for high school  
students as well as a dance for  
6th-8th graders were held. At the  
end of May there will be a day-long

## NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL NEWS, CONT.

orientation program to opportunities  
in female athletics to be held at  
the Lincoln School for anyone inter-  
ested. Ann Marie said that inter-  
est and participation in her program  
is increasing and that help and sug-  
gestions would still be welcome.

Claire Olson from the Walnut Street  
Center spoke about her agency which  
provides residential services for  
mentally retarded adults in the  
Cambridge/Somerville area. The  
agency would like to purchase a  
building in this area with financing  
from the State Department of Com-  
munity Affairs and the Cambridge  
Housing Authority. At this point,  
things are at a preliminary stage.  
If, however, a building is found,  
Claire will come to the Council  
meeting again to further explain the  
Walnut Street Center and its services.

Julie Osherson spoke about the  
playground workers that are hired  
by the Recreation Division for the  
summer months. In the past there  
has been some overlap with the  
Community School program, especially  
in this neighborhood. Also, there  
has been a question about who is  
supposed to supervise the recreation  
workers. Because the North Cambridge  
cluster has summer day camp programs  
for children 5 to 12 years old, it  
was suggested that the Recreation  
Division program focus more on the  
pre-teens and teenagers in order  
to make better use of existing  
staff and services. A letter with  
suggestions about possible activities,  
incentives, and supervision for  
the summer Recreation workers will  
be sent to the Recreation Division  
as was requested.

cont. on page 2

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL NEWS, CONT.

The need for a neighborhood planning group was raised. Such a group had worked effectively several years ago on down-zoning parts of the neighborhood. At present, there are several locations that may be developed:

- Garfield St. MBTA site
- Sears, Newport Rd. area
- Lesley College, Harvard
- corner of Mass. Ave. and Forest St.

During the past two or three years there has been no group to stay on top of development plans and to report back to the Neighborhood Council. There is a strong need at this time to form such a group in order for community residents to have some impact on the development and changes proposed for this neighborhood. It was suggested that the neighborhood planning group consist of 8 to 10 members and represent tenants, property owners, and the different age groups that constitute the community.

A related issue was raised by a resident of the Everett Street building that the Housing Authority had tried to purchase in order to convert it to low-income housing. It was suggested that a list of recommendations be written up and presented to the Housing Authority as to how low-income housing could best be situated in this community. The group working on making recommendations on low-income housing could be a subcommittee of either the Council or the Planning Group.

Residents of the buildings near the school yard presented their concerns about the constant noise and disturbance resulting from people playing basketball and using the yard at all hours of the day and night. The need for some supervision in the play area was mentioned. A suggestion was made that hours for using

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL NEWS, CONT.

the area be decided on, posted, and publicized in the Whistler. A letter to the Police Department will request help in enforcing a curfew on using the area and preventing disturbances there. The help of the Superintendent of Schools will also be enlisted by Allen Korb.

It was also decided to send letters to Kay Cox at Agassiz School and to administrators at Lesley College to ask that residents of buildings near the school and college be alerted to scheduled events that might create a disturbance.

THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE ON MAY 12th AT 8:00 p.m. Items on the agenda will include:

1. a visit from Karen Boatman to explain more about the Citywide Coordinating Committee's role in overseeing the Community and Youth Division of the DHSP.
2. a visit from Paul Blanchard from Lesley College to discuss the possible deputization of Lesley Security Guards.
3. More on the Neighborhood Planning Group and efforts to form a subcommittee to work on low-income housing in the Agassiz neighborhood.
4. Other neighborhood concerns.

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NOTICE TO COMMUNITY BASKETBALL PLAYERS (AND PARENTS OF BASKETBALL PLAYERS): THE CONSTANT NOISE FROM BASKETBALL GAMES IN THE AGASSIZ SCHOOL YARD IS GETTING TO BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR THE RESIDENTS IN THE BUILDING NEXT TO THE SCHOOLYARD TO LISTEN TO DAY AND NIGHT.

PLEASE TRY TO LIMIT YOUR USE OF THE SCHOOL YARD FOR BASKETBALL TO M-SAT 10-6 AND SUN 12-6. THANK YOU!

SACRAMENTO STREET GALLERY

\*\*\* ANNOUNCEMENTS \*\*\*

Wanted: Gallery sitter for the month of May. Responsible, reliable person to 1) open the gallery, 2) greet visitors, and 3) lock up. 5 hours per week: Saturdays 1-4 p.m., Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m.. Salary \$3/hour. Interest in art helpful. Good opportunity for a student or senior citizen. Call Wen-ti at 547-2965 or Nella at 547-5399.

Announcing a One-Day Open Art Show, Saturday, June 12, 12 to 4 p.m. - All people making art in the community are invited to participate. Bring up to 3 pieces (size permitting) between 10 a.m. and noon on the day of the show. Painting, sculpture, photography, etc. - all media welcome. Work should be mounted, wired, or otherwise ready for display. First come, first choice of space. Pick up work same day, 4-5 p.m. A small donation to cover the costs will be requested. Call Wen-ti at 547-2965 or Robin at 492-6633 for more information.

The Gallery invites all neighborhood artists to begin work on a GARDEN SHOW to be exhibited at the Gallery in the fall. The Community Gardens or any gardens are welcome subject matter. All media accepted. Maximum of 3 average-sized pieces per artist. Deadline for work is the first Saturday of September after school begins. For more information call Deborah Gould at 868-7555 or Nella Waters at 547-5399.

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LOW-INCOME HOUSING IN AGASSIZ

COMMUNITY - At the last meeting of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council, it was decided to solicit residents interested in forming a sub-group to discuss issues related to the introduction of public

LOW-INCOME HOUSING, CONT.

housing in the Agassiz area. Hopefully the group would attempt to gain a sense of the community's views in regard to this issue so that it might propose a general policy statement to the Council for its debate, ammendation, and ultimate approval.

The impetus behind attempting to formulate such a neighborhood-wide consensual policy stems from last year's abortive attempt by the Cambridge Housing Authority to convert the 11 Everett Street rent-controlled residences into public housing. At that time the CHA conducted itself rather secretively, and the Agassiz Community was caught off-guard - i.e. without a consensual policy - in addressing the issue when it finally did become public.

It is important to note that the entire 9 member Cambridge City Council is presently on record favoring that all neighborhoods participate in Cambridge's public housing program and recognizing that only the Agassiz and Brattle Street areas remain bereft of such housing to date.

Anyone interested in participating should contact Julie Osherson at 498-9056, afternoons, or appear in person at May's Council meeting where the public housing sub-group will be formalized.

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AGASSIZ NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING GROUP

At the April 14 meeting of the A.N. Council, a new committee was born - The Agassiz Neighborhood Planning Group. The Planning Group was created to bring interested residents together and provide a forum for discussion of miscellaneous land use issues of concern to the neighborhood. The group's immediate purpose is to solicit and provide neighborhood response to public or private development or land use plans for the neighborhood, but it also hopes to be able to generate ideas concerning land use, housing, open space, and neighborhood preservation, etc.

cont. on page 4

AGASSIZ NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING GROUP,  
CONT.

Membership in the Planning Group is open to all interested community residents. As each issue arises, the committee would expect to reach out to members of the community who might be affected by or interested in a specific issue at hand. (For example, the committee is currently focussing its attention on the development plans for the Wicker Shop building on Mass. Ave. and new housing on Frost St.) However, the Council expressed the hope that a core membership of approximately 7-10 residents could be counted on to meet regularly and thereby assure constant community awareness in this important area. Ken Basler and Joel Bard have volunteered to provide a nucleus and to solicity further interest. Anyone interested should call Ken, days, at 498-9072 or Joel at 547-3210, or leave a message with Julie Osherson at 498-9056.

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COMMUNITY RESOURCES

THE NORTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH of Cambridge is both a place for worship and a community center. It is the home of the Agassiz Community Children's School Preschool-Playgroup which uses the building five days a week from 8:30 to 2:30 p.m. The Playgroup is a parent-run cooperative with a staff of 3 full-time teachers and a parent administrator and approximately 30 children from ages of 2 to 5 years. It is also used five days a week as a meal site for the Cambridge-Somerville Hot Lunch Program.

A wide variety of other community groups make use of the building: Boy Scout Troop 2 on Monday nights, North Cambridge Senior Citizens Group on Wednesdays, and the North Church Thrift Shop on Wednesdays and Saturdays. At the present time, a new project called Mutual Aid for Senior Citizens has recently begun to use the church as well. From time to time there are special

THE NORTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,  
CONT.

community events. The Preschool sponsors a Christmas Tree sale each December, the Church sponsors a Thanksgiving Day Dinner each year, and in the spring there are numerous concerts, dance recitals, pan cake breakfasts, music classes and other activities. It is estimated that approximately three hundred people from the neighborhood make use of this building each week.

The Church has worship services at 11:15 every Sunday morning and a Sunday school. The congregation has currently undertaken a "shared ministry" with the Prospect Street Congregational Church in Central Square.

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THE WINGS THERAPY COLLECTIVE is at 60½ Sacramento Street. It is "an association of psychotherapists, politically committed to serving a diverse urban community of women, men, and children of all races in the context of their relationships and as individuals."

Their services include: private counseling sessions, workshops, seminars, consulting to agencies, schools and medical centers, supervision to professionals, and a referral service.

Members of the Wings Staff include: Ann Chronis, Bernadette Bryan McCaw, Joyce Pavao, Barbara Phillips, Carolyn Stack, and Eileen Zubrowski.

For more information, call 876-8438

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If you are part of an organization or service, which you think should be included in our NEW "COMMUNITY RESOURCE" column, drop off a description of it, by the third Friday of the month, at the Agassiz Community Center, 20 Sacramento St.

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NOTE: IF YOU HAVE ACCESS TO OTHER COURTS (e.g. HARVARD) WE WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE THEM, SO THAT WITHOUT SUCH ACCESS CAN LESLEY COLLEGE COMMUNITY MEMBERS HAVE MORE TIME ON THE LESLEY COURTS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

LESLEY COLLEGE

Established 1909

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02238

March 18, 1982

Revision of 12/3/81

PHYSICAL PLANT DEPARTMENT

### RULES AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE TENNIS COURT

1. The use of the tennis court will be restricted to members of the Lesley Community, their guests and members of the Agassiz Community.
2. Anyone reserving the tennis court must show a current Lesley College ID or a drivers license or other identification proving they are affiliated with the College or the Agassiz Community before they will be allowed use of this court.
3. At least one member of any group playing tennis must be able to show the proper identification as outlined above or they may be requested to leave the tennis court.
4. Sign up sheets for reserving time on the tennis court will be maintained at the Security Office located in White Hall.
5. Playing time will be:

Weekdays & Saturdays

8 A.M. - 8 P.M.

Sundays & Holidays

9 A.M. - 8 P.M.

6. Reservations for playing time are restricted to one hour periods only starting on the hour.

#### WEEKDAYS:

7. Lesley Students who are involved in the Student Teaching Programs may reserve court time between 3-5 P.M. on the previous day for the following day.
8. All students may reserve court time between 8 A.M. - 10 A.M. for that day only.
9. Agassiz Community members may reserve court space on a daily basis after 10 A.M. of each day. They may phone the Security Office (547-2297) to check the court availability. No reservations may be accepted over the telephone.

#### WEEKEND & HOLIDAY RESERVATIONS:

10. Students can reserve the court for Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays playing until 8 P.M. on the previous day. (No reservations accepted by phone.) Agassiz Community members may reserve the court for Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays between 8 P.M. to 9 P.M. on the previous day. (No reservations accepted by phone.)
11. The gates of the court will be locked during the evenings and weekends when the court is not in use. The key will be available at the Security Office. The court will open on April 1st and close on November 30th (or the first snow fall).

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE!!!

JOIN THE MOTHER'S DAY ACTION  
FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT on  
SUNDAY, MAY 9th, from 2-4 p.m.  
on the BOSTON COMMON. Helen  
Caldicott will be the speaker.  
CALL 923-9544 for more info.

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COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS:

FOR RENT: July 10-24, August  
1-15: 2 BR Cape Cod cottage in  
Dennisport. Fireplace, outside  
(but attached) shower, sunporch;  
set in pine grove; a five-minute  
(truly) walk to semi-private beach.  
Warm water, nice sand, great swim-  
ming. Cottage is in densely popu-  
lated cottage "colony" but cottage  
area has trees. Families or  
family groups preferred. Ref-  
erences. Only those NOT into  
substance abuse, parties, and  
loud music should consider this.  
\$400 for each 2-week period. For

CAMBRIDGE DEPARTMENT OF  
HUMAN SERVICE PROGRAMS  
Agassiz Neighborhood Council  
20 Sacramento Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

CLASSIFIEDS, CONT.

more info, call Doug or Astrid at  
354-6553.

SUMMER SUBLET ON EUSTIS STREET: June  
15-Sept. 1; spacious 5 room, 3 BR  
apartment; furnished, with porch  
and yard; close to Lesley College,  
walking distance to Harvard Sq.;  
children welcome. \$400/month. Call  
Barbara at 876-8438.

FITNESS CLASSES: morning and evening;  
group and individual sessions;  
Connie Keys, B.A. in dance, teacher  
at M.I.T. with Maggie Lettvin. Call  
491-4857.

WANTED: we need furniture for the  
AGASSIZ COMMUNITY CENTER - comfortable  
chairs, a couch, one or two lamps.  
If you would like to sell or donate  
any of these to the Center, please  
call Julie at 498-9056, afternoons.

TEENS STILL NEEDED FOR OUTBACK: If  
you are between 9th & 12th grade and  
want to work in our summer camp,  
call Julie at 498-9056 IMMEDIATELY!

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