

the Whistler

newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council

April 2005 ?

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Slate Revealed for 05-06 ANC Board

The ANC Board of Directors Nominating Committee has revealed the list of candidates to be nominated for the three open slots in the 2005-06 Board. The following nominees have been named:

Ellen Friedman
Arlene Holtzman
Emily Sample

The new Board of Directors will be officially chosen at the ANC Annual Meeting:

MOU Negotiating Committee Outlines Tree Fund, Interim Traffic Calming

With the first installment of funds from the \$1 million Harvard MOU fund in the bank, members of the MOU Negotiating Committee discussed several in-the-works uses for the money at March's Agassiz neighborhood meeting.

William Bloomstein, Joel Bard, Miriam Goldberg and Ellen Friedman served on the committee. Bloomstein, Bard and Goldberg addressed the meeting to let neighborhood members know the results of their negotiations, which include an interim traffic calming plan, a science education fund and a tree planting program.

The fund, managed by the Cambridge

see "MOU," page 3

Wednesday, May 18, 2005
7:30 P.M.
20 Sacramento St.

All are encouraged to attend.

ANC Monthly Meeting

Tues., April 26th, 7:30 p.m.
Baldwin School Cafeteria
(ring buzzer for entry)

AGENDA:

Harvard Update on Law School &
Northwest Science Buildings

Cambridge Crime Alert: Headlight Theft

At the March Agassiz meeting, Sgt. Steve Donahue warned residents about an increase in car theft in vandalism across Cambridge.

Specifically, thieves have been targeting the headlights on cars such as Audis, Saabs and Priuses, whose design allows headlights to be easily removed and sold to chop shops.

Donahue reported that five Audis and one Prius in the Agassiz neighborhood have lost their headlights. He said that thieves can fetch up to \$2500 a set. The Cambridge PD has made one arrest in connection with the thefts.

Sgt. Donahue urged attendees to report vandalism and petty theft, such as missing hub-caps or headlights. "Your neighbor might have had the same [experience]. They might be stealing your type of car one piece at a time."

In other crime news, the Gulf station at Mass. Ave. and Garfield St. was recently held up during the night. Only cash was stolen. No arrests had been made at the time of the meeting.

How do you want to receive The Whistler?

Want to be added to the *The Whistler* hard copy mailing list?

Or would you like to receive an electronic version in your email box every month?

Contact Rob Watson at rwatson@agassiz.org or (617 349-6287 x 10 to receive *The Whistler* in either format.

Lesley Inherits Apartment Buildings at Oxford & Wendell; No Changes for Use Planned

Lesley University has taken over ownership of two independent apartment buildings at the corner of Oxford and Wendell St. The properties were inherited as part of a gift annuity.

The two buildings include the 33 units located at 37-41 Wendell St. and the 6-unit house at 7981 Oxford St.

The university will honor all of the tenants' pre-existing leases, and has no other uses planned for the buildings, said Bill Doncaster, Lesley's VP of Community Relations.

Lesley will manage the property through the current management company, Reed Realty Trust.

The university, which is in the midst of a plan to sharply increase its on-campus housing, will not be converting the properties for university use. When a university takes over a housing property, it must build non-university affiliated housing elsewhere in order to balance the amount of housing available to the community, according to a Cambridge ordinance.

"They're more valuable to us as rental properties," Doncaster explained.

Nevertheless, despite its non-profit status, Lesley will pay tax on the properties. Tax-exempt status is dictated by use of the property, not the status of the owner.



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Dear members of the Agassiz community,

Kelly Tyler, who has worked with the neighborhood council for several years, has decided to return to school and finish her degree in business administration. She will be leaving her full-time post as Deputy Director of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council, and will continue on a part-time basis through the end of this fiscal year. During that time I will be working to find a replacement for her, and she will be available to help us through that transition period.

Kelly has helped countless families to find just the right children's program and in many cases has worked hard to find the scholarship funds to pay for it. She has helped ANC staff meet and manage problems and challenges every day, every month and every year.

For twelve years, Kelly has been an important member of the ANC community, beginning as a part-time Administrative Assistant and rising to a key role in this agency. The work in a small non-profit agency can be unpredictable: from delivering turkeys to volunteer chefs to acting as a preschool teacher, and from conscripting one's own family to pitch in and help with community events to putting aside demanding desk work to help get a mailing out on time. Kelly did all of this with a sense of humor and a willingness to help whenever and wherever necessary.

I will miss Kelly, and I know that the many people she has assisted over the years will also miss her. We are all most grateful for the time she has given us and the good humor that she has kept through thick and thin. I am sure the community will join me in wishing Kelly the very best in this next exciting endeavor.

Sincerely,

Terry DeLancey

Community Foundation, has received the first \$250,000 installment of the \$1 million total. (Payment increments and schedule can be found in the original MOU document, available online at www.agassiz.org).

Of the \$250,000, \$200,000 has been designated for cultural and recreational use and \$50,000 is designated for the Tree Fund.

The interim traffic calming plan is well underway. Bloomstein said that raised intersections at Garfield and Oxford Streets and Wendell and Oxford Streets should be appearing this summer. Oxford St. will also be repaved from Garfield St. to Everett St. These interim projects will be paid for by Harvard (they're called "interim" projects because they will have to be re-done once the city begins its long-in-the-works sewer separation plan in the coming years).

The \$50,000 Tree Fund will be governed by a committee of seven neighborhood members (see "Tree Committee," page 5). The tree committee will have to decide whether to spend all of the \$50,000 at once or to let it build interest and spread out over a number of years.

Bloomstein said he hoped that Harvard would pay for trees (separately from the MOU funds) on the Oxford St. corridor as part of its Northwest Science Labs construction project.

One attendee asked if the tree fund could be used to fund avenues of the same species of tree along a street. Cambridge has traditionally not allowed uniformity in tree planting in order to safeguard against the spread of communicable tree diseases.

see "MOU," page 6

The Agassiz Neighborhood Council is seeking donations of a digital camera and an Apple computer.

If you would like to help, please call (617) 349-6287, or email Rob Watson at rwatson@agassiz.org.

At the Sacramento Street Gallery

Five Nights in Venice



The Sacramento St Gallery
20 Sacramento St
Cambridge, MA 02138
617 349 6287
www.agassiz.org

The Sacramento St Gallery
presents

Art Fresh Art Local

Emerging Artists in Cambridge

- Leah Gadd
- Anni Irish
- Kazuhiro Naganuma
- Paige Catherine Largay

Opening reception: Friday May 13, 7 - 9PM
Exhibition: May 13 - June 30, 2005
open weekdays 9 - 5



On five Thursday evenings, the storyteller and art historian BRIGID BRINE-GOLLOGLY will bring us into the secret theatre of Venice and offer up some of her delights, those of her architects and painters, mosaic artisans, and her sculptors.

Using slides, scholarship, and a little bit of Venetian gossip, we will experience a range of personalities and a host of beautiful art works, all with a particularly Venetian flair.

We will celebrate Venice as did John Ruskin, who confided in his diary, "Thank God I am here. Venice is the Paradise of Cities."

Evening Two:
Thursday, April 7, 6:30 - 8 P.M.
The Thousand and One Nights of Venice: The Enchantment of Vittore Carpaccio

Evening Three:
Thursday, April 28, 6:30 - 8 P.M.
The Blush of Eros: Reveries in the era of Giorgione

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Introducing Art Presents:

Boston Dance Collective

Tuesday, May 10
2:00 P.M.
Baldwin School Stage



Boston Dance Collective creates dances from falling, sports, sign language, martial arts, newspapers, and even gets tangled up in phone cords. This program offers an entertaining introduction to dance, dancers, and choreography. Four dancers provide explanations and demonstrations of how choreographers and dancers work together to make contemporary dances, set to a variety of music. At the end of the performance, students learn that dance is irresistible when they get a chance to improvise a dance out of natural, everyday movements.

Tree Committee Seeks Members

A \$50,000 segment of Harvard's million dollar fund will be used for the annual planting of street trees in the Agassiz neighborhood. The Agassiz Neighborhood Council is seeking seven community members to serve on a committee that will oversee the use of the funds.

Committee members will be responsible for

- fielding neighborhood requests for use of the money
- developing a budget
- working with the city arborist to develop a schedule that corresponds with the planting season

Any resident who is interested in serving on the Harvard Tree Fund committee should email Terry DeLancey at tdelancey@agassiz.org, or call (617) 349-6287.

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.

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www.agassizhomes.com

"MOU," from page 3

The neighborhood will also benefit from the \$1.45 million Cambridge-Harvard Science Education Programming Initiative, which will preserve existing and create new science education programs in Cambridge Public Schools. This citywide program will include both in-school and afterschool programming. The Science Fund was "by no means invented during our negotiations," said Bloomstein, "but we helped make it a reality."

Several neighborhood members asked why the first installment of funds was only being received now, when the original MOU states that they should have been transferred last year.

"We cannot pin all the delays on Harvard," said Goldberg. "We will try to make haste to get all the money into the fund ASAP."

In the meantime, other uses for the remainder of the fund have yet to be finalized. "We need to solicit opinions from people as to what would be of benefit to the community," said Goldberg.

Julie Baer souls

A portrait exhibition

The Cambridge Hospital
1493 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, MA
(617) 665-1383

April 1 - 27, 2005

Reception: Sunday, April 10, 2005, 2-4 pm
Introduction by Harold Bursztajn MD
and Elizabeth Gaufberg MD

City Council Considers Zoning Amendments

The City Council announced plans to meet Wednesday, April 6 to discuss proposed amendments to the city's zoning ordinance.

The amendments to Section 4.50 - Institutional Use Regulations - would establish special use regulations for institutional activities in the Residence A-1, A-2, B, C and C-1 zoning districts and in the Residence C-3 zoning district within the Mount Auburn Hospital District. The uses would be regulated based on expected physical impacts on nearby residences, existing use of the lot, and location of the lot in relation to areas in which there have already been extensive institutional development.

The insitutional use of land or structures in the above districts will also be governed by the Table of Institutional Use Regulations (pre-existing in Subsection 4.56 of the Zoning Ordinance).

The amendments also establish the designation of Institutional Overlay District, which "delimits an area where there has been extensive contiguous development of institutional use types subject to regulation under this Section 4.50."



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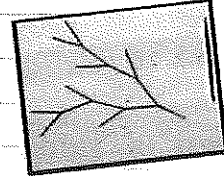
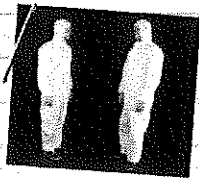
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This Month's Local Cultural Events



The Science of Causes

Harvey Loves Harvey

Andrew Neumann

A.R.T. <Art Re-envisions Technology>

April 18 - May 8
Opening Reception April 20
5:00 - 7:00pm

The Art Institute of Boston at Lesley University
& Boston CyberArts

Emily Randolph & Dancers and inFlux Dance choreography by Rose Pasquarello

cordially invite you to our performance of
NO FENCES TO NEST ON

To be performed April 15 & 16 @ 8 pm
Julie Ince Thompson Theater
Dance Complex
Cambridge, MA

RSV P Emily Randolph 617.276.4006
\$15 for adults, \$12 for students

A full evening of modern dance. *No Fences to Nest On* is a timely evening work about the development of intimacy through communication, contact and age. We all settle into homes, into relationships, families, new roles within your nest. Like a sigh of relief, allowing your life to take shape.

The Whistler April 2005

Community Calendar

MONDAY, APRIL 18

**PATRIOTS' DAY
ANC Closed**

MONDAY, APRIL 18 - FRIDAY, APRIL 22

**VACATION WEEK
Schools Closed**

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

6 PM

**ANC BOARD MEETING
20 Sacramento St.**

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

7:30 PM

**ANC MONTHLY MEETING
28 Sacramento St., Baldwin Cafeteria**

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