

the Whistler

Newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council

April 2013

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ANC News

NOTES FROM THE MAR. 12 MEETING

Lesley University Updates

Threshold Program Renovations

This summer, Lesley University will proceed with renovations to the Threshold Program, a campus-based program for young adults with special needs. Buildings affected include 68 Oxford, 78-80 Oxford, and 82 Front and Rear Oxford Street. Work is expected to begin in May and continue through summer 2013.

Additional information on this project can be found in the November 2011 edition of *The Whistler* newsletter, available online at: bit.ly/whistler-archives.

Lesley Arts Center Construction Update

Bill Doncaster, Director of Community Relations at Lesley University, told the Council that the university expects to begin construction of its new Arts Center this April.

Recent preparation included:

- A community-wide meeting in February
- Removal of the church's windows for restoration and storage

Beginning in April, neighbors will notice some site preparation prior to excavating a new foundation, including the removal of the steeple and stairway of the church building in preparation for its relocation. The church will be moved on the site in late-August/early September.

The largest neighborhood disruptions this summer will be associated with Lesley taking over part of Cambridge's ongoing sewer/stormwater separation on Roseland St. At that time, Roseland will be reduced to one lane with a police detail during working hours. Construction will take place 7:00 AM-6:00 PM.

Lesley expects to open the Arts Center in phases, beginning spring 2015. For updates, visit: lesley.edu/artsconstruction.

NEXT ANC MONTHLY MEETING



APRIL 9 - 7:30 PM

Maud Morgan Arts
20A Sacramento Street
2D Studio, 2nd Floor

Agenda

- **2013/2014 ABC Board Slate**
- **Community Discussion of Recent Electrical Outages in the Neighborhood**
- **ANC Awarded Grant to Install Art and Commemorate History on Mass. Ave.**
- **Additional items TBA**

Q: I learned that the church's organ has found a new home.

A: Yes, the organ was sold to a church in the Southern U.S. and is currently being rehabbed.

Announcement

Bill Doncaster announced that he would no longer attend ANC meetings representing Lesley University. Council members thanked Bill Doncaster for his years of "tireless work, executed with grace and style," and voted to send a letter of appreciation on his behalf to the university.

Who Lives In Agassiz Now?

Cliff Cook, Planning Information Manager with Cambridge Community Development, presented demographics for the Agassiz neighborhood, as well as comparisons with other neighborhoods and Cambridge as a whole. His report was informed by the 2010 US Census and the American Community Survey, an annual statistical survey that samples a small percentage of the country's population.

Below is a sample of details that can be found in the report:

Population

- Agassiz has approximately 5,000 residents.
- Approximately 106,000 people reside in Cambridge, and the average household size has decreased to a median of 2.0.
- Women outnumber men in Agassiz, particularly among college-age and senior residents.

Children

- Slightly less than 400 children live in Agassiz.
- Approximately 12,000 children live in Cambridge.
- A decrease in the number of children in the city is a significant source of household size decline.

- Agassiz has seen a slight increase in children ages zero to four since 2000.

Families

- Agassiz has fewer families with children and fewer single parent families than the city as a whole.

Elders

- Nearly 350 elders live in Agassiz, making up about 6% of the neighborhood population.

Diversity

- The racial mix in Agassiz is 25% non-white, 75% white.
- Diversity in Cambridge, particularly among Asian populations and mixed-race persons, has been increasing.

Language

- Three quarters of Agassiz residents speak English at home.

Education

- 95% of the adult population in Agassiz holds a bachelor's and/or advanced degree.
- Slightly less than 1700 college students reside in Harvard University and Lesley University student housing in the neighborhood.

Income

- The median household income for single persons in Agassiz is \$62,000.



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- The median household income for families in Agassiz is \$133,000.

Download the full report, titled the “Agassiz Neighborhood Council Demographic Overview,” from the City’s website at: www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/factsandmaps/presentations.aspx.

Healthy Aging in Cambridge: Housing Options 2013-2030 – An Update

Stuart Dash, Director of Community Planning and Ellen Kokinda, Intern with Cambridge Community Development, presented findings from a study conducted by the Silver Ribbon Commission, a committee convened by Mayor Henrietta Davis to address the needs of Cambridge’s senior community.

Ms. Kokinda’s report to the Council focused on findings related to housing options for residents 55+. She described the current housing options as existing in a spectrum:

- Living independently: i.e., home ownership, senior housing
- Shared housing: i.e., roommates, multi-generational families, homeowners who offer reduced rent in exchange for services, as well as co-housing and other collaborative living arrangements
- Assisted living with services: four assisted living facilities and three nursing homes exist in the city

Additionally, Ms. Kokinda identified a set of guiding principles meant to be a framework for future development and renovation of senior housing. These included:

1. **Affordability:** Housing should be affordable for low and moderate income seniors and mixed income housing should be encouraged
2. **Density:** Housing should be near retail, recreational, cultural, educational, and other sites valued by seniors
3. **Universal Design:** Housing should be

accessible to people with a variety of physical abilities and challenges; new home construction should support “visit-ability”-three simple requirements including one zero step entrance, one main level bathroom, and 32” door clearances

4. **Sustainability:** Housing should integrate environmentally sustainable materials and technology
5. **Technology-friendly:** Housing should utilize assistive technology to facilitate safety, independence, and social interaction
6. **Public/private mix:** Housing should support a mix of private and shared spaces; for example, within one house, a number of seniors could have individual bedrooms with shared common spaces such as a kitchen and dining room
7. **Service integration:** Housing should support social services within certain buildings and/or neighborhoods
8. **Small-scale, long-term care:** Reduce the negative aspects of institutionalization in long-term care facilities by having a smaller number of elders who need skilled nursing live together in buildings, or on floors of apartment buildings to maximize the residential character of the space
9. **Generational mix/inclusiveness:** Housing should foster diversity by mixing people by age, race, gender, and income
10. **Community engagement:** Housing design and location should encourage senior involvement in activities that are personally meaningful and/or contribute to the larger community

The City is following up on the recommendations of the Silver Ribbon Commission including: integrating the principles of healthy aging housing design, reviewing zoning options to encourage development of housing that supports seniors, promoting Universal Design to developers, and establishing stronger linkages between City departments and non-profit agencies.

Ms. Kokinda and Mr. Dash described the City's next step in this process: a survey of Cambridge "baby boomers" and seniors to understand residents' attitudes and preferences with regard to various types of housing. The survey will also help determine the demand for a shared housing pilot project.

For more information about the report and upcoming survey, contact Ellen Kokinda at ekokinda@cambridgema.gov or (617) 349-4618. Learn more about the City's planning efforts at www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Projects/Planning/Aging.aspx.

Introducing Kristen von Hoffman

Kristen von Hoffman, a 2013 candidate for Cambridge City Council, visited ANC as part of her "listening tour" of city neighborhoods. She briefly introduced herself as "here to learn about who you are and what you care about in the city."

Previously a resident of Museum St., Ms. von Hoffman is currently the Sustainability Manager for Cambridge Public Schools and expressed her interest in helping the city devise formalized plans to directly address sustainability and climate change.

Learn more about Ms. von Hoffman online at: www.kristenforcambridge.com.



Community

2013/2014 ABC BOARD SLATE

The following people (below) have been nominated for election to the Agassiz Baldwin Community Board. The slate will be presented at the April 9th Agassiz Neighborhood Council meeting, and voted on at the ABC Annual Meeting on May 14th.

Officers for a one-year term:

Andrea Walsh, Co-Chair, Eustis St.

Miriam Goldberg, Co-Chair, Frost St.
Hull Fulweiler, Clerk, Howland St.
Gao Wen Shao, Treasurer, Fayette St.

Directors for a two-year term:

Stephen Diamond, Frost St.
Hull Fulweiler, Howland Street
Wendy Prellwitz, Wendell St.
Susana Segat, Wendell St.
Gao Wen Shao, Fayette St.

2013 Nominating Committee

Joel Bard
Terry DeLancey
George Hein

The Nominating Committee seeks candidates for the Board; specifically those with expertise in law, finance, representatives of local businesses, and people with children in ABC programs.

Candidates should send a statement that explains their interest in the Board as well as relevant experience and a resumé (optional) to tdelancey@agassiz.org or Agassiz Baldwin Community, Attn: ABC Nominating Committee, 20 Sacramento Street, Cambridge, MA 02138.



Maud Morgan Arts

SMALL WORKS PACK A BIG PUNCH AT CHANDLER GALLERY

They surge from pedestals and jut from walls. They are fashioned from such varied materials as bone, bronze, matchsticks, twine, postcards, and neon green plastic, and they bear fascinating names like "Elephant-Toed Alien," "Ring of Au," and "Dawn for a Discarded Drape."

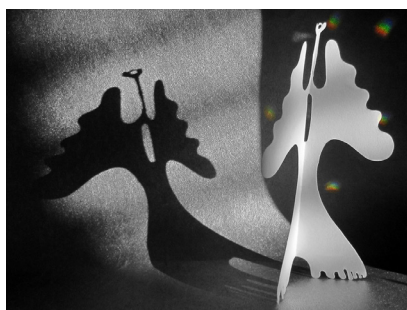


Netky by Dan Rocha

And they are small—no more than a foot wide, a foot tall or a foot deep.

They are the finalists in Maud Morgan Arts' 3D Small Works Salon 2013, an exhibit juried by artist Annette Lemieux, Senior Lecturer on Visual and Environmental Studies at Harvard University, and they are drawing viewers into their orbits at the Chandler Gallery.

From a distance, the works appear straightforward, but when the viewer leans in closer, each piece swells with complexity. In



Elephant-Toed Alien by Violet Byrd

Jeanette O'Connor's "Wholly," an unstitched softball cover hides a baseball. Kay Dolezal's work entitled "Bubble Wrap—Unpopped," appears to be just that until the viewer discovers the entire piece is constructed from tiny translucent beads. What looks like gravestones on a grassy hill in Willow Ross's "Exit 3," become, as the viewer approaches, three miniature portable lavatories on a dirt cupcake.

The Maud Morgan Arts 3D Small Works Salon is on display at the Chandler Gallery from March 21 through May 24, with an opening reception on Sunday, April 7, from 3:00-5:00 PM.

The following artists will have pieces included in the show: Violet Byrd, Ruth Daniels, Deborah Dendler, Kay Dolezal, Gary Duehr, Kara Fall, Carol Greenwood, Peter DeCamp Haines, Karine Kadiyska, Mahmood Rezaei-Kamalabad, Kathleen Kneeland, Saberah Malik, Jeanette O'Connor, Dan Rocha, Willow Ross, Jessica Straus, Stephanie Stigliano, Suzanne Stumpf, and Ariel Wolff.

City Wide

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY PHOTO CONTEST

Do you love taking photographs and think some of them are good



enough to submit for a contest? Would you enjoy having those photos on display at the Cambridge Public Library? If you answered "yes" to both questions, the Friends of the Cambridge Public Library want your entries for its 2013 Biennial Photo Contest, "Hit Me With Your Best Shot."

Cambridge residents of all ages are invited to enter one or two original photographs. **Deadline for submission is midnight, May 1, with winners chosen on May 10.**

First, second and third place winners will have their photographs displayed at the main library for the month of June. Winners will also receive a gift card to a local bookstore and be part of the gallery opening event on Saturday, June 1, at 3:00 PM. All photo entries will be posted on the library's Flickr website.

The theme for the photo contest is open, so submit your one or two best shots. Each should include a title and a one to three-sentence description.

For more information about guidelines, criteria, and rules for the contest, please go to the Friends blog, The Open Book, at cambridgelibraryfriends.blogspot.com.

Digital photos should be submitted to the Friends' e-mail address at cplfriendsphotos@yahoo.com, along with any questions about the contest.

Community Calendar

April 2013

Sunday, April 7	3:00-5:00 PM	3D Small Works Salon Opening Reception, Chandler Gallery, 20 Sacramento St.
Tuesday, April 9	7:30-9:00 PM	ANC Meeting (see page 1 for agenda), Maud Morgan Arts, 2D Studio, 20A Sacramento St. All are welcome
Wednesday, April 10	6:00-7:30 PM	ABC Board Meeting, 20 Sacramento St., 2nd Floor Public welcome
Monday, April 15		Patriot's Day Holiday, ABC School Programs and office closed

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The Whistler April 2013



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