

In This Issue

Notes from February Meeting.....1
ANC Meetings Move to Wednesdays.....1
Cambridge PD Seeks New Station.....2
Kids Create.....3
Sacramento Street Gallery.....4
Introducing Art.....5
ANC Board Nominating Committee.....5
Thank You to Donors.....6
Local Cultural Events.....7
March Community Calendar.....8

Board Votes to Change Meeting Day

Beginning in May, the ANC's monthly neighborhood meeting will be held on the **THIRD WEDNESDAY** of each month, rather than Tuesday. The decision was made at February's ANC Board Meeting.

The change will prevent Agassiz neighborhood meetings from conflicting with Cambridge Planning Board and School Committee meetings, which are held on Tuesday nights.

The first Wednesday meeting will take place at the ANC's Annual Meeting, tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, May 18. This meeting will be held at 20 Sacramento St. and will include the election of next year's ANC Board.

Notes from February Neighborhood Meeting

1. Harvard University's representatives made a brief update at February's ANC Community meeting. The university will present an update on Harvard Law School (which is currently "completing programmatic studies" for classroom and student space) and other issues (including the Northwest Science Building, for which permits will be granted shortly) at the ANC's April meeting, scheduled for April 19.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to view the university's Town Gown report at www.harvard.community.edu.

2. Neighborhood Nine resident Bhupesh Patel announced a meeting, tentatively scheduled for March 17, to discuss 1) height limitations on either side of the Mass. Ave. Overlay District and 2) support for two new crosswalks on Mass. Ave., one at Newport St., and one at the frequently jaywalked area near Temple Bar.

see "Notes," page 2

ANC Monthly Meeting

Tues., March 22, 7:30 p.m.
Baldwin School Cafeteria
 (ring buzzer for entry)

AGENDA:

Report on Harvard Science Education Fund, Interim Traffic Calming

"Notes," from page 1

3. Representatives from the Cambridge Police Department appeared at the meeting to discuss the need for a new station. See opposite for more detail on this subject.

4. Following January's presentation by Lesley University, neighbors discussed the university's tentative campus plan. A decision was made to form a working committee to interact with Lesley during the process of finalizing its plan.

A representative from Lesley said that the campus plan was scheduled to be presented to the trustees on March 3. Because the trustees meet bimonthly, no feedback will be heard until May.

Neighbors said that they wished to remain involved in the planning process as changes are made to the original plan.

Questions were raised regarding the campus plan's lingering ambiguities, such as
- the open question of the Porter Square T station air rights. Neighbors wondered whether Lesley has the capital to purchase the air rights, as their original bid had come in well under the MBTA's asking price.

- If Lesley does purchase the air rights, the current building plan covers only about one-half of the track area. Will anything be done with the rest of the area?

- traffic impact on Porter Square, because Lesley's increased presence in the neighborhood will come with an as-yet-undefined influx of parking facilities. How will this impact an already high-traffic area?

One neighbor, quoting the university's endowment, wondered if the plan is too ambitious for a school of Lesley's size, fearing "development that's started and not finished."

Those who expressed interest in following Lesley's development process will continue to meet to discuss this issue in the coming months. If you're interested in participating in the Lesley working committee, please contact Rob Watson at (617) 349-6287 x 10, or rwatson@agassiz.org.

Cambridge PD Seeks Input on New Police Station

Representatives from the Cambridge Police Department presented their case for a new police station at February's Agassiz neighborhood meeting.

Superintendent Michael Giacoppo of the Police Department Support Services division led the presentation, which focused on the dilapidated conditions of the current station, located at 5 Western Ave. in the Cambridgeport section of Cambridge.

The report listed the following grievances regarding the current facility:

- no major renovations since its inception in 1932
- no thermostat controls for heat; air conditioners running during winter
- no central air conditioning
- mosquito infestation during winter months, rodents year-round
- urinals removed from 3rd and 4th floor men's rooms; some toilets leak
- plumbing and air quality problems in holding cells
- leaky roof, backed-up drainage in garage
- handicap chair lift out of order
- lead content in upper floors

see "Police," page 3

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.

"Police," from page 2

- garage ramp supported by temporary bracing
- electrical and telecommunication wiring outdated
- elevator and garage door frequently out of service

The current site is also hindered by a dearth of parking. Giacoppo said that some police vehicles park at the YMCA, the armory, on the street and/or illegally, and that some vehicles must be in use 24 hours a day. He said there are typically about 30 officers on site at a time, and that the Department has 272 employees total.

The Cambridge PD feels that it would be less costly to select a new location and build a new facility than to rehabilitate the current site, and is working to gather community feedback.

An appropriate site would have to accommodate a building of approximately 82,500 square feet, with an additional 10,000 square feet needed for parking.

Locating such a site is no easy task. Giacoppo said that the PD's top priorities in terms of evaluating potential sites - besides square footage - include accessibility to pedestrians and vehicles, proximity to the population center of the city, operational efficiency, site security, visibility and aesthetic quality. He didn't comment on specific sites that are being considered.

City Councilor Henrietta Davis noted that the city currently owns no other site that

could accommodate a new police station, so a new site will have to be purchased.

The current location, in turn, will be sold to a private developer, most likely for housing. Because it is a historical site, however, certain criteria must be met for use of the building.

Giacoppo noted that the biggest impact the police station has on the surrounding neighbors is traffic - due to the large staff and high number of vehicles in use - but that a police facility is less intrusive than, for example, a fire station, where numerous vehicles respond to every call at once.

The Cambridge PD is distributing a questionnaire in order to gauge public opinion on the new station. To give your thoughts, call the non-emergency number at (617) 349-3300.

Kids Create! Art Classes for Children

Agassiz offers Kids Create! art classes for toddlers and preschoolers, 18 months to 4 years. Classes include art projects, music and storytime and require parent/caregiver participation.

Starting March 14, classes will be offered Mondays during two sessions: 9-9:45 a.m. and 9:55-10:40 a.m.

Registration is underway now - some slots available for both sessions. To register, contact Kelly Tyler at (617) 349-6287 x 12 or kt Tyler@agassiz.org.

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.

Do you know what to do each month to make your financial dreams come true? Receive a free financial planning session with this ad.



PETER G. MEYERSON, CFP
Senior Financial Advisor

400 West Cummings Park
Suite 3650

Woburn, MA 01801

781-933-2067 Fax 781-933-4385

CFP®
Mutual Funds
Annuities
Life, Disability
and Long Term Care Insurance*

(Personal Office)
48 Sacramento Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
617-661-3080

*Available through affiliates

At the Sacramento Street Gallery

Art Fresh, Art Local

Five Nights in Venice



The Sacramento St. Gallery in Cambridge seeks work by emerging artists for its second annual ART FRESH/ART LOCAL, a group exhibition opening May 13, 2005. To qualify for consideration, artists 1) must not have had more than 2 exhibitions of their work; 2) must be living, working or attending school in Cambridge, Massachusetts; and 3) must be enrolled in or be a recent graduate of a BFA/MFA program. Artists working in all media and styles are encouraged to apply (due to gallery constraints, large-scale video work cannot be accommodated). The annual exhibition will consist of work by no more than five (5) artists.

On five Thursday evenings, the storyteller and art historian BRIGID BYRNE-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 One:
Thursday, March 3
6:30 - 8 P.M.

The Magical Heritage of
Byzantine and Gothic Venice

Contact Terry DeLancey at tdelancey@agassiz.org or (617) 349-6287 for more information on this program.

To apply please submit the following:

- Slides or color reproductions (8 max) identified with title, media, date, & dimensions
- Artist's statement (1 page max)
- Résumé/biography (1 page max)

Please do not send electronic images on disks, although images on web sites will be considered in lieu of slides or color reproductions on paper. To ensure return of submissions please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

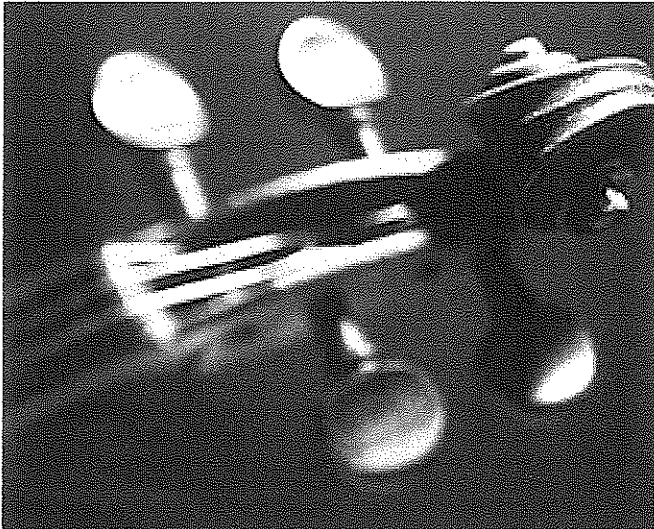
Address application to:

Rob Watson
Agassiz Neighborhood Council
20 Sacramento St.
Cambridge, MA 02138

If you are interested, please email your intent to reply to rwatson@agassiz.org by March 2, 2005. Applications must be received no later than Friday, March 18, 2005. Notification of acceptance will occur by April 8, 2005. For more information contact Rob Watson at rwatson@agassiz.org or (617) 349-6287 x 10, or visit www.agassiz.org.

Introducing Art Presents: Cello Tales

Wednesday, March 16, 2005
2 P.M.



A cellist and a storyteller meld myth, music and memories and take listeners into the soul of the story and song.

\$2 per person, \$5 per family
Call (617) 349-6287 x 10 for more info.

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.agassizhomes.com

Nominating Committee for ANC Board, 2005-06

The following neighborhood members will serve on the nominating committee for next year's Agassiz Neighborhood Council Board:

Joel Bard
Stephen Diamond
Richard Griffin
Craig Hyland
Joan Squeri

If you wish to nominate someone for next year's ANC Board, please contact one of the above, or email ANC Executive Director Terry DeLancey at tdelancey@agassiz.org.



FREE MARKET EVALUATIONS
FREE RENTAL SERVICES
TO LANDORDS

Sales (617) 497-6555
Rentals (617) 661-8400

1675 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138

www.century21avon.com

EACH OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

Thank You to Our 2004 End-of-Year Donors

Donors - Gifts of \$100 or More

Peggy and Tom Badenhausen
Joel and Betsy Bard
Cambridge Common Restaurant
Christopher's
Margaret Curtis
Devon Davidson
Hull Fulweiler and Cathy Chute
Russell and Linda Gee
Richard Griffin and Susan Keane
Victor and Margaret Guillemain
George Hein and Emily Romney
Ross Hoffman and Dorothy Crawford
Margaret Hutaff
Fred Iannacone
Robert and Nancy Johnson
Andrea and Ron Kadomiya
Richard and Jean Kindleberger
Stephen Kosslyn and Robin Rosenberg
Deborah Lee
David and Clare Leslie
LOOKS
Kathleen Manion
Susan Pollak and Adam Weisenberg
Wendy Prellwitz and David Chilinski
Ellen Semonoff and Daniel Meltzer
Lucy and Dan Stroock
West Side Lounge

Donors

Amy Barad
Carroll and Thomas Bisson
Linda and Steven Brion-Meisels
Janet Burns
Randy Byers and Danielle Levi-Alvarez
Anne Charette
Jane Clark
Mary Jo Clark
Meg and Mike D'Ambra
Jessica Daniels

Anne Ellsworth
Mary Jean Farrington
Larry Faye
Susan Fleischmann
Meri Fox
Sarah Gallivan and Gopal Kadagarthur
Susan Goldhor and Aron Bernstein
John Hermanson
L. Catherine Hull and Charles Wisner
Demetrios Karis and Alicia Dwyer
Peter Kelsey and Ginger Ryan
Peter and Kyoko Kirby
Elizabeth Kline
Elliot Kronstein and May S. Baldwin
Peter Lang and Katherine LaPierre
Lynn Lazar
Steve and Judy Leff
Paul Lenart and Peggy Barnes-Lenart
Sharon McBride
Eileen McCarthy
Deborah Miller and Eric Blumsack
John Nagurney and Wendy Mariner
Fong and Mary Ning
Dr. and Mrs. J.L. Reisman
John and Kathleen Hunter Rutter
Ellis Seidman and Jenny Netzer
The Skidmore-Zarrow Family
Cynthia Smith and Steve Imrich
Nancy Sommers and Patrick Hays
Jim and Sue Stockard
Cynthia H. Sunderland and Gerrit Zwart
Meredith and Eugene Thompson
Peter and Mary Tufano
Nancy and Bill Webb
Bernd Widdig and Nadine Berenguier
Maud Wilcox

Become a Donor!

Donations to the ANC provide valuable funds for many programs and services, including this newsletter. Donations also fund scholarships, community events and mailings.

Tax deductible donations can be sent to: Agassiz Neighborhood Council, 20 Sacramento St., Cambridge, MA 02138.

This Month's Local Cultural Events

BOSTON CHILDREN'S OPERA

CHILDREN PERFORMING OPERA FOR CHILDREN

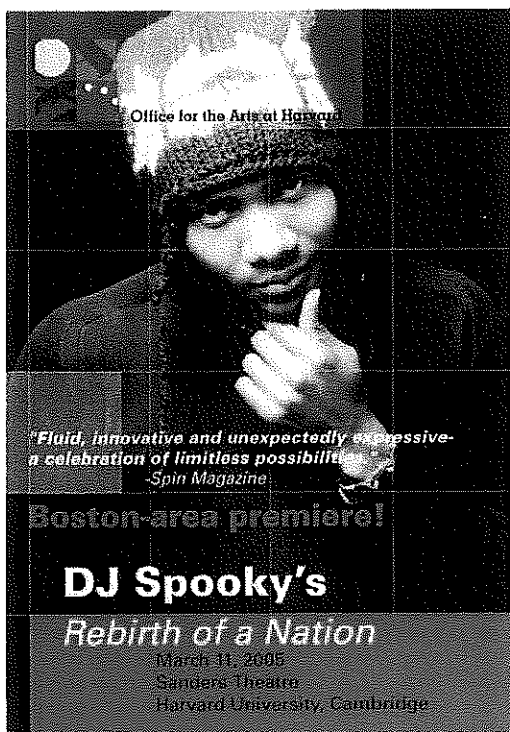
presents

Dracula

March 3 - 13

First Congregational Church, 471 Trapelo
Road, Belmont

Adults: \$7 Children: \$3 (no children under 4 admitted)
For tickets and information, call (617) 628-0063



LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC

One Follen St.
Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 876-0956

Introduction to the Orchestra
Sunday, March 20, 2005
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall
2:00 pm and 4:00 pm (two performances)
Admission: \$5 general

Back by popular demand, this annual concert features the Young Performers Chamber Orchestra conducted by George Ogata. The performance highlights all the instruments of the orchestra and spotlights a talented performer from Longy's Young Performers program. Mr. Ogata engages audience members of all ages as he talks about the wonderful world of the orchestra. Members of the orchestra will be available to showcase their instruments during a post concert 'instrument petting zoo'. Suitable for ages 4 + up.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16	2 PM	INTRODUCING ART PRESENTS: CELLO TALES Baldwin School Stage
THURSDAY, MARCH 17		EVACUATION DAY Schools Closed
TUESDAY, MARCH 22	6 PM	ANC BOARD MEETING 20 Sacramento St.
TUESDAY, MARCH 22	7:30 PM	ANC MONTHLY MEETING 28 Sacramento St., Baldwin Cafeteria
FRIDAY, MARCH 25		GOOD FRIDAY HOLIDAY Schools Closed

The Whistler is published monthly September - June by the Agassiz Neighborhood Council. 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 March 2005