

# the Whistler

Newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council

November 2013

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## ANC News

### NOTES FROM OCT. 8 CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES' FORUM

On Tuesday October 8, Agassiz Neighborhood Council collaborated with Porter Square Neighbors Association, Neighborhood Nine, Massachusetts Avenue Improvement Committee, and the Association of Cambridge Neighborhoods to host a City Council Candidate's Forum. The Forum was held at Lesley University from 7:30-9:00 PM.

The message below was prepared by John Howard of Porter Square Neighbors Association.

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The City Council Candidates Forum was a great success, drawing a standing-room-only crowd. All but two of the candidates attended and provided revealing, if necessarily brief, answers to questions about key issues in our area and throughout Cambridge. The list of questions asked, and all the questions submitted

by the public, may be found at: [portersquare.net/forum-questions](http://portersquare.net/forum-questions).

Lesley University generously provided the venue. Alice Wolf, former MA State Rep, both moderated and provided



invaluable advice developing the event format. Susana Segat also advised and was timekeeper. Members of the sponsoring organizations provided questions, planning, and publicity. We thank them, the candidates who gave thoughtful answers to the questions while keeping with very tight time limits, and all the people who took the time to attend.

The taped forum can be viewed on Cambridge Community Television's (CCTV) website at: [www.cctvcambridge.org/citycouncillesley](http://www.cctvcambridge.org/citycouncillesley)

View photos from the Forum on Agassiz Baldwin Community's Flickr page: [bit.ly/candidates-forum-2013](http://bit.ly/candidates-forum-2013).

### NEXT ANC MONTHLY MEETING



**NOV 12 - 7:30 PM**

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

#### Agenda:

- Update on Lesley University Art School Construction
- Update on Harvard University groundwater remediation project at 'Bence Pharmacy' site at corner of Mass. Ave. & Everett St.
- Additional items TBA

**Public Art Planned for Mass. Ave.**

The message below was prepared by Ruth Ryals and Stephen Diamond, Co-Chairs for the Committee for Art on the Avenue.

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Dear Mass. Ave. Neighbors,

It is with great pleasure and anticipation that the Committee for Art on the Avenue has chosen the proposal by Ross Miller to be included in the construction of the Mass. Ave. Demonstration Block.

After reviewing the artwork of over one hundred artists who have filed their interest in creating public art in Cambridge, three finalists were invited to make a proposal:

- Vivian Beer
- Lajos Heder
- Ross Miller

All three of the proposals received are for exciting and wonderful works of art. The one chosen was considered most appropriate for inclusion in our Demonstration Block.

Work is scheduled to begin on the Demonstration Block in the spring of 2014. Ross Miller will begin design development of his proposal in cooperation with the Mass. Ave. Improvement Committee, the Arts Committee, the City of Cambridge and the construction contractor.

This project is supported by the Cambridge/Agassiz/Harvard Community, Culture, and Recreation (CAH) Fund.

Learn more about the Mass. Ave. Demonstration Project:  
[bit.ly/master-plan-draft-2012](http://bit.ly/master-plan-draft-2012).

Read a history of the Mass. Ave. Master Plan in the January 2013 edition of *The Whistler* newsletter at: [bit.ly/jan-whistler-2013](http://bit.ly/jan-whistler-2013).



**ABC REACHES OUT**

This November, check your doorknob or mail slot for an outreach packet containing information about your favorite (we hope!) neighborhood agency.



The packets, contained in eye-catching oxo-biodegradable bags, will introduce ABC to new neighbors and inspire long-time residents to engage with the many important and fun programs and events we offer to people of all ages from Cambridge and beyond.

**How You Can Help**

Help us get the word out! We are looking for volunteers to leave packets at homes and apartments. Do you have an hour or two one evening or morning? Contact us and we will prepare a bag of packets for you to pick up and deliver.

Available streets:

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Everett St.        | Forest St.         |
| Prentiss St.       | Exeter Pk.         |
| Bryant St.         | Irving St.         |
| Scott St.          | Farrar St.         |
| Francis St.        | Kirkland Pl. & St. |
| Holden St. & Green | Shady Hill Sq.     |

**On November 5th, Give Minka Your #1 Vote!**



Minka vanBeuzekom uses her experience as a business leader, parent, neighborhood activist, and epidemiologist to bring together diverse community members for positive change.

Using passion, creativity, and leadership your City Councillor Minka works hard to keep our neighborhoods safe, vibrant, livable, and affordable. On Election Day, give Minka your #1 vote.

For more info, see [www.minkaforcambridge.org](http://www.minkaforcambridge.org) or call Minka at 617-596-1547.

Paid for by The Committee to Elect Minka

To volunteer or for more information, contact Phoebe Sinclair, Community Liaison, at [psinclair@agassiz.org](mailto:psinclair@agassiz.org) or (617) 349-6287 x10.

### **ANNUAL THANKSGIVING POTLUCK**

Come to our **42nd Annual Thanksgiving Potluck Feast!**

**When:** Tuesday, November 26,  
5:30-7:30 PM  
**Where:** Maria L. Baldwin School  
Dining Hall, 28 Sacramento St.

#### **Chefs Needed**

This November, help make Thanksgiving memorable by volunteering to cook a turkey. We will deliver a free turkey and roasting pan to volunteers' homes the week of the potluck.

Volunteers drop off the cooked turkey (no stuffing, please) before dinner begins on the evening of Tuesday, November 26th. We need **seven more volunteers to cook turkey, and four to help carve** just before and during the event.

To volunteer, contact Phoebe Sinclair at [psinclair@agassiz.org](mailto:psinclair@agassiz.org) or (617) 349-6287 x10.

#### **Come Early, Bring Food**

Bring a side dish ample enough for your family and a few more to share. Salads, stuffings, cranberry sauce, or dessert --your contributions are important.

#### **VIP Guest List**

That's you! We welcome everyone from the neighborhood, Agassiz Baldwin Children's Programs, Living Well Network, Maud Morgan Arts, and Maria L. Baldwin School communities to come together for an evening of celebration, good company, and delicious food.



Please remember that while we will host kids'

activities at the event, parents are ultimately responsible for their children.

### **KIDS ONLY HOLIDAY SALE**

**Calling all kids! Calling all kids!** Come to this December's Kids Only Holiday Sale to buy fun and inexpensive gifts for your family and friends. Need help picking out a gift? Just ask our staff.



**What:** Annual Kids Only Holiday Sale  
**When:** Wednesday, Dec. 4th to Friday, Dec. 6th and Monday Dec. 9th to Tuesday Dec. 10th,  
3:00-6:00 PM  
**Where:** Maud Morgan Arts, 3D Studio,  
1st Floor, 20A Sacramento St.  
**Contact:** Phoebe Sinclair, (617) 349-6287  
x10, [psinclair@agassiz.org](mailto:psinclair@agassiz.org)

Proceeds from the sale benefit the Agassiz Baldwin Children's Programs.

## **City Wide**

### **MUNICIPAL ELECTION-NOV. 5**

Vote for Cambridge City Council and School Committee candidates on **Tuesday, November 5, 2013**. Agassiz residents vote at the Maria L. Baldwin School, 28 Sacramento Street. Polls open at 7:00 AM and close at 8:00 PM.

#### **School Committee Candidates**

##### **Fran Cronin**

Fran Cronin moved to Cambridge with her children years ago after the death of her husband, a Cambridge native. Fran's children occupy opposite ends of the academic spectrum: her daughter graduated from CRLS with honors; her son, who is starting high school, struggles with learning disabilities.

Fran served as co-chair of Cambridge's Parents Advisory Council; was an officer on the CRLS School Council and co-founded MPACT, a parent's advocacy group. Fran's main priorities include building bridges between our schools and community partners; continued strengthening of the Innovation Agenda; and working to ensure universal access to quality preschool for all.



it is not. Cambridge is home to world-renowned Universities like Harvard and MIT, we should also have world-renowned public schools. I ask for your number 1 vote on Nov 5th.

**Patty Nolan**

For our district to advance, we need engaged, collaborative policymakers who work hard, use data well, and include the community and outside experts in policy discussions. That describes my work.



**Joyce Gerber**

My husband Rick and I moved to Cambridge twenty-two years ago and we are proud to call Cambridge our home. We have two children, our son is a freshman at CRLS and our daughter is in the seventh grade at the Rindge Avenue Upper School.



My consistent uncompromising courage to speak up on issues, combined with follow-through, leads to educationally sound solutions. I am known for being effective, thoroughly understanding the research and issues, and an unwavering commitment to higher expectations for all students.

When elected to the School Committee I will focus on improving academics, supporting the arts and encouraging family engagement. I am running for a seat on the School Committee because I am involved, engaged, and ready to work. If you are interested in learning more about my campaign, please visit my website at [www.JoyceGerber.org](http://www.JoyceGerber.org). Thank you.

My perspective and contributions – built on my excellent education and professional experience – lead me to be a force for positive change.

Please vote # 1 for Patty Nolan – independent, thoughtful, reasonable.

**Elechi Kadete**

My name is Elechi Kadete. I am running for School Committee because I believe I can make a difference as I am in touch with Cambridge youth. I would like to see equal opportunity for all Cambridge students, as the city spends a large amount of money on each student.



**City Council Candidates**

**Denise Simmons**

A lifelong resident of Cambridge, Denise Simmons is currently serving her sixth term on the Cambridge City Council. Denise has spent the past three decades working to better her community – first as the Executive Director of the Civic Unity Committee in the 1980s, then as a member of the School Committee in the 1990s, and since 2002, as a member of the City Council.



Cambridge should be the top scoring Public School System in the state of Massachusetts but

During the 2008–2009 Council term, Denise proudly served as Mayor. She is an effective advocate as well as a policymaker, and she will

continue ensuring that everyone's voices are truly heard inside City Hall.

**LANDMARK DESIGNATION STUDY FOR 93 KIRKLAND ST.**

Prepared by an Agassiz community member

A petition requesting the initiation of a landmark designation study for the Grace Norton apartment house at 93 Kirkland Street will be considered by the Cambridge Historical Commission at a public hearing on **Thursday, November 7, 2013.**



For more information, view the meeting notice online at: [bit.ly/H4KzBb](http://bit.ly/H4KzBb).

Please join us to explore this fascinating piece of our shared heritage at the Cambridge Senior Center, 806 Massachusetts Avenue at 6:00 PM Thursday, November 7.

**JOIN THE GETTING TO NET ZERO TASK FORCE**

Prepared by the City of Cambridge website

Cambridge City Manager, Richard C. Rossi, is seeking volunteers to serve on a new "Getting to Net Zero" Task Force that will advise the City Manager on ways to advance the goal of putting Cambridge on the trajectory towards becoming a "net zero community," with focus on carbon emissions from building operations. This includes reducing energy use intensity of buildings and taking advantage of opportunities to harvest energy from renewable resources.

It is expected that Committee appointments will be made by the City Manager before the end of the year. The group will meet at least monthly starting December 2013 and deliver final recommendations by December 2014.

To apply, please send a letter by **Nov. 12, 2013**

describing your interest in the study and any experience you have working on similar issues to:

Richard C. Rossi, City Manager  
City of Cambridge, 795 Mas. Ave.,  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
Email: [citymanager@cambridgema.gov](mailto:citymanager@cambridgema.gov)  
Fax: (617) 349-4307

For more information, visit:  
[www.cambridgema.gov/netzero](http://www.cambridgema.gov/netzero).



**Maud Morgan Arts**

**PARSING THE UNIVERSE AT CHANDLER GALLERY**

An exhibit on the universe is a tall order, but artist Jane Goldman relishes the challenge. "I love the big universe paintings," says Goldman. "It's mind-blowing, really, to think what I'm painting. Can't complain about how long it takes when I am literally depicting part of the cosmos."

"Parsing the Universe" is on display at the Chandler Gallery from October 24 through November 28. The opening reception will be held **Friday, November 8, from 6:00-8:00 PM.**



# Community Calendar

## November 2013

Friday, November 8	6:00-8:00 PM	Parsing the Universe, works by Jane Goldman Reception at Chandler Gallery, 20 Sacramento St.
Monday, November 11		Veteran's Day holiday, ABC Programs and office closed
Tuesday, November 12	7:30-9:00 PM	ANC Meeting (see page 1 for agenda) Maud Morgan Arts, 20A Sacramento St., 2D Studio All are welcome, please join us!
Wednesday, November 20	6:00-7:30 PM	ABC Board Meeting, 20 Sacramento St, 2nd Floor Public welcome
Tuesday, November 26	 5:30-7:30 PM	42nd Annual Thanksgiving Potluck Feast Baldwin School Dining Hall, 28 Sacramento St
Thursday, November 28		Thanksgiving Day Holiday, Chanukah Holiday begins, ABC Programs & office closed through Friday, November 29

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**DO NOT FORWARD**