



JUNE 1987

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AGASSIZ NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



Community News

**SEARS DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT STILL UNSIGNED
(Slater Development Back to the Drawing Board)**

Most residents will remember last summer when the Porter Square Advisory Committee was established to hammer out an agreement between both Slater Co. and CDIA/Wasserman and the City of Cambridge. The advisory committee was pressured to have an agreement ready as quickly as possible, certainly before winter, so the developers could begin construction as quickly as possible.

As of now neither agreement has been signed by the developers.

The Slater Co. has completely revamped their plans for the site, and the Porter Square Advisory Committee has been reviewing these plans as they are presented. There will be an advisory committee meeting regarding the latest plans on June 16th.

All parties have finally come up with an agreement for the Sear's development site (Porter Exchange) that is scheduled to be voted on and signed by Peter Wasserman of CDIA and the City of Cambridge at a meeting of the Cambridge Licensing Commission to take place on Tuesday June 16th at 5:30 in City Hall. Highlights of the new agreement are as follows:

next council meeting...

AGASSIZ NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING

June 10 Agenda:

7:30 Officer Kelly, Animal Control Officer

8:00 Larry Weinstein, Cambridge School Board
will discuss school admissions procedures

9:00 Update on Development-CDIA, Slater, Laverty

1. To solve the problem of employee parking, CDIA has agreed to give out (or have the merchants give out) half price T passes to 40-44 Cambridge residents who are employed at Porter Exchange.

2. Instead of using the originally proposed yellow brick as a building material for the exterior of the building, the agreement now allows CDIA to use insulcrete for 36% of the exterior, none of which can be at eye level on sides facing Roseland St. or Mass. Ave.

3. There is no change in the allotted parking spaces originally agreed to be 289 open air spaces, and the developer will be allowed 2 liquor licenses

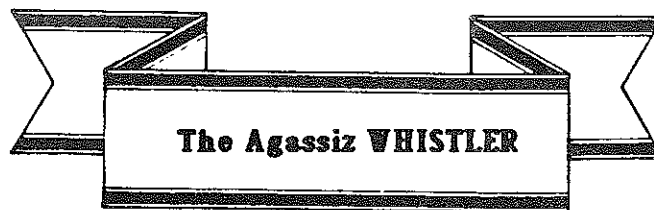
As of this time, neither the advisory committee members nor the neighborhood council has a final draft of the agreement. The Licensing Commission has promised copies by June 1, and anyone wishing to obtain a copy of the agreement should call the council office at 498-9056.

CDIA/ WASSERMAN IS NOT FINISHED DEVELOPING.....

Porter Exchange may not be finished even when the agreement is signed. Wasserman/CDIA has been meeting with a number of residents from all the abutting neighborhoods to discuss the possibility of building a PARKING GARAGE for 300 cars behind Porter Exchange. (This is in addition to the 289 other spaces for Porter Exchange). This garage would have entrance and egress at Roseland Street, and these additional parking space would enable them to develop property across the street at the corner of Mass. Ave. and M¹/₂ Vernon Streets.

The council will keep you informed on the progress of these developments. Please contact the office at 498-9056 if you are not on our Whistler mailing list and would like to be.

The Agassiz Neighborhood Council has formally objected to this garage through a letter to Licensing Commissioner McDavitt citing traffic congestion, the sacrifice of quality of life for residents on Roseland St. and a bad precedent in a neighborhood where the scale is small and residential.



Tot Lot Renovations Money is Approved

Thanks to the many tot lot users who helped in a petition, letter writing, and City Councillor calling campaign, money in the amount of \$150,000. has been approved to renovate the Tot Lot on the corner of Sacramento and Oxford Streets.

The Tot Lot Renovation Committee will be in touch with the Community Development Department to plan meetings at which we discuss design plans and work schedules.

We hope to have a representative speak to us at a council meeting. However, we do not expect there to be anything forthcoming soon. Anyone who wishes to work on these issues and be advised of future meetings should call the council office to be placed on our mailing list-498-9056.

Agassiz Neighborhood Council Budget

The Agassiz Neighborhood Council budget has been prepared in draft form, and endorsed by the executive committee. It is scheduled to be voted on at the June Council meeting. Anyone who wishes to obtain a copy of the draft budget should call or write to Terry DeLancey at the Agassiz Neighborhood Council office, 20 Sacramento St., Cambridge, 498-9056.

The Saga of the Lesley Dumpster

There have been many Agassiz neighbors who have been concerned for several years about the unsightly dumpster which sits on Oxford St near Mellen St. In a meeting with Lesley officials at the end of May, representatives from the neighborhood council were advised that Lesley would have a plan to improve the situation within two weeks.

Attention Tenants of Rent Controlled Buildings

Are you concerned when you come home to find renovations in progress at your address ??? This can mean rent hikes, not always legal. Know your rights. Read the Rent Control Board Regulations which are provided by the Rent Control Board, 678 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 02139, 498-9077. They will mail the booklet to you for \$3.00 (\$1.50 for the booklet plus \$1.50 postage and handling).

7th and 8th Graders at Agassiz Hold Dance

Congratulations to all the 7th and 8th graders who worked so hard to make the dance held Friday May 22nd in the Agassiz School Gym a huge success. The event was organized by the students and sponsored by the Agassiz Neighborhood Council.

The students planned and prepared every aspect of their dance including publicity, decorations, refreshments, and music which was provided by a disc jockey. Adults and students were pleased with the dance and hope that 7th and 8th grade dances can become regular events at Agassiz.

A special thanks to Nancy Johnson who supervised the planning and chaperoned the event.

SACRAMENTO STREET PRESCHOOL registers for fall

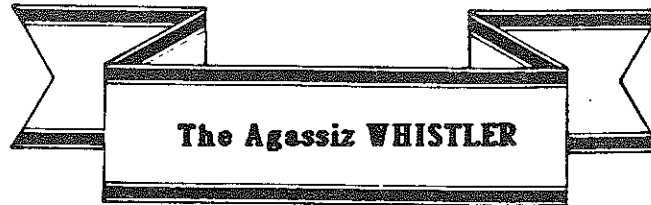
As the first successful year of the Sacramento Street Preschool comes to a close, we are happy to announce that we have increased enrollment from 12 to 16 children for the fall. The preschool runs on the Cambridge school calendar, Monday -Friday from 9 AM to 12 Noon. Children must be 2 years nine months old in September to begin. We have only a few spaces left for the fall, and anyone interested in seeing the preschool should call the Head Teacher, Dawn Greene at 547-1062 before the end of June.

NEW STORE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.....

Lesley College will open a campus bookstore in September 1987. The bookstore, operated by the 660 Corporation, will carry textbooks, paperbacks, college memorabilia, and sundries. The College wishes to thank its neighboring businesses for the support they have shown for this project. Agassiz neighbors are cordially invited to visit the campus bookstore when it opens next fall. The store will be located in the campus mall area adjacent to the Welch auditorium.

Summer Programs Flash

There are spaces available most weeks for OUTBACK SUMMER CAMP. However, there is a waiting list for extended day care after camp from 2:30-5:30. For more information, call Steve Winter at 498-9056.



CRIMEWATCH

- Mellen St.....2 incidents of property destruction (5/10-6 AM, 5/14-3 PM); Theft from unlocked car (5/10 6 PM):Theft from Lesley College bldg. (5/14-8:30 PM)
- Wendell St..... Theft of car (5/10-11PM); Theft from locked car (5/14-9:30 AM); Hit and run property (5/19-9:30 AM)
- Irving St..... 2 thefts from locked cars (5/4-7 PM and (5/7-11 PM)
- Holden St..... 2 thefts from unlocked cars(5/9-10:30 PM, 5/24-11:30 PM)
- Mass. Ave..... Hit and run property(5/10-4PM); Break and entry (5/16-3 AM)
- Kirkland St.....One theft from unlocked car (5/15-8 PM); one theft of a car (5/27-3 PM)
- Francis Ave..... Break and entry (5/12-6 PM)
- Garfield St..... Larceny (5/16-10 AM)
- Oxford St..... Larceny from person (5/24-10 PM)
- Museum St..... Theft from unlocked car (5/16-4 PM)
- Gorham St..... Theft from locked car (5/23- 2 AM)

AGASSIZ READING SERIES June 9

On June 9 the Agassiz Reading Series will present the last program for this spring at 7:30 in the Gallery of the Agassiz Community Center, 20 Sacramento St. Andy Moore and Jack Walsh will be showing their new films: Shades of Meaning and Present Tense. Shades of Meaning by Andy Moore is a ten minute color film made in 1986. The film is a meditation on music and meaning in cinema. Present Tense by Jack Walsh, designed as a time capsule, explores personal experience with historical moment during a restricted period of time-June through October 1986.

As always refreshments will be served after the performance and a chance to talk with the presenters in an informal setting. For more information call Sebastian at 492-6857.

The Whistler will not be published for the months of July and August. However, your **Neighborhood Council** office will be staffed, and a summer newsletter will be issued if there is any neighborhood business of great importance or urgency. Please feel free to call the council office with your questions or concerns during the summer months at 498-9056. **Deadline for the September Whistler will be August 25.**

JUST FOR SENIORS.....

Cambridge Committee of Elders says "Why eat alone when you can eat with friends ?" Come to the drop in center located at 15 Pearl St. for:

BREAKFAST Monday-Friday, 8-10 AM, 50¢ donation buys bacon, eggs, home fries, oatmeal, juice, toast and coffee.

LUNCH 7 days a week, 11:45 AM-12:30 PM, 75¢ donation buys a hot, nutritious lunch and dessert.

SNACK BAR Monday-Friday, 8 AM-4PM, 15¢ donation buys coffee and doughnuts are free.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 868-0800.

WATCH OUR WEIGHT Support Group for seniors- Every Thursday at 1:30 PM at the Cambridge Committee of Elders, 15 Pearl St. Weigh-ins, calorie counting, recipes, speakers, prizes. For more information call Jay at 868-0800.

ads....ads...ads...ads...ads...ads...ads...

EMPLOYMENT OPENINGS-

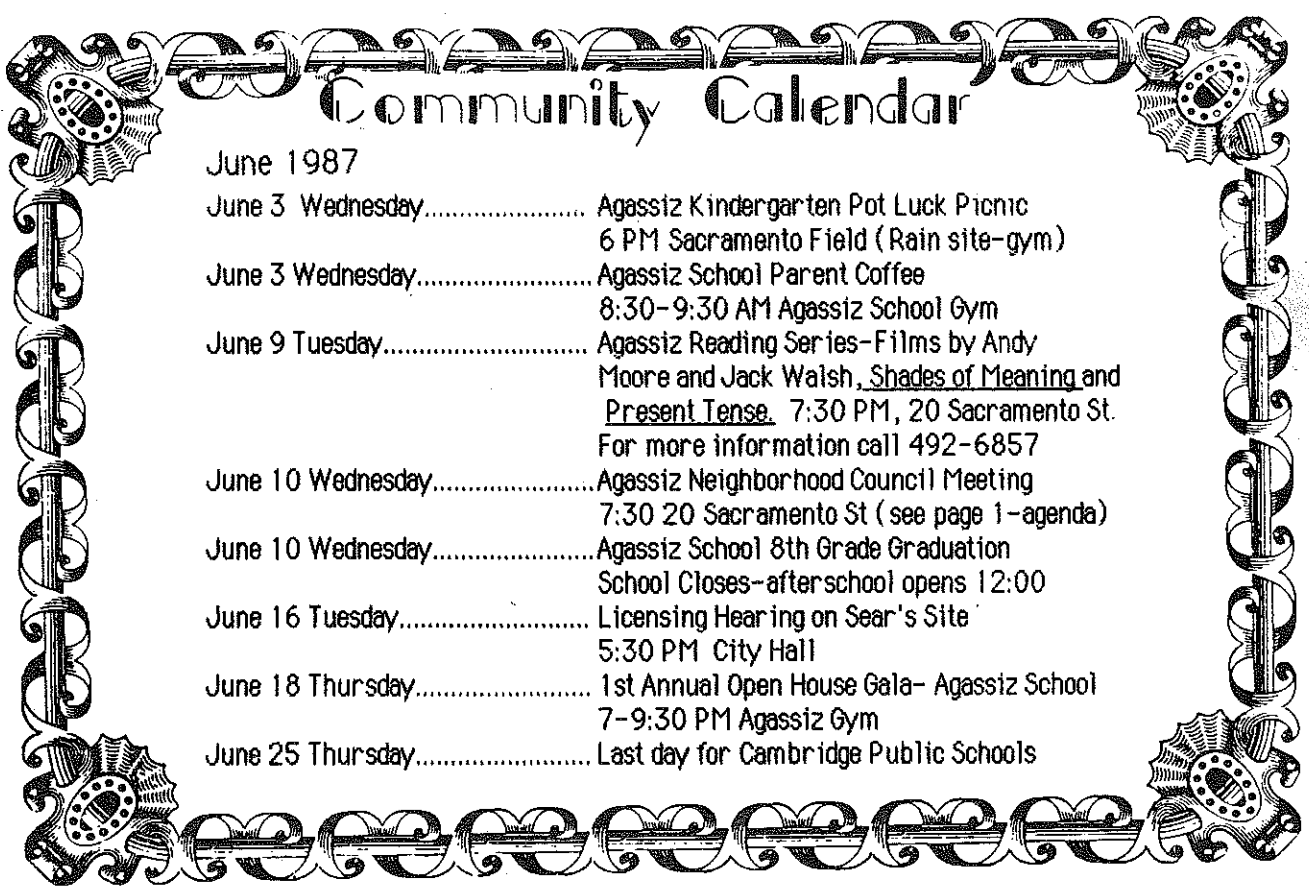
Summer Youth Theatre ages 14-21 Be paid to act ! (Must be ERI eligible) 25 hours a week, 9 AM-2 PM Monday- Friday, July 6-August 15 working toward a theatre production including dance and music in late August. Call Pat Daugherty at 723-5386 or Cambridge MultiCultural Arts Center at 577-1400.

Just-A -Start ...Around the Corner Program offers employment opportunities to all Cambridge youth ages 14-15 from 8:30 AM to 3 PM, \$3.55 hr., painting, beautification of parks, homes, and more. Deadline 6/30. There are better paying jobs for youth ages 16-21. For more information call Ms. Van Spanos at Just a Start, 492-7900.

APARTMENTS WANTED-

We are long time neighborhood residents who have to relocate. If you know of a 2-3 bedroom rent controlled apartment, nearby if possible, please let us know. Thanks. Paula (354-6597) Finders fee offered.

Apartment needed: Couple looking for a 2 or 1 bedroom in an older building. (MIT instructor). Please call 354-2886.



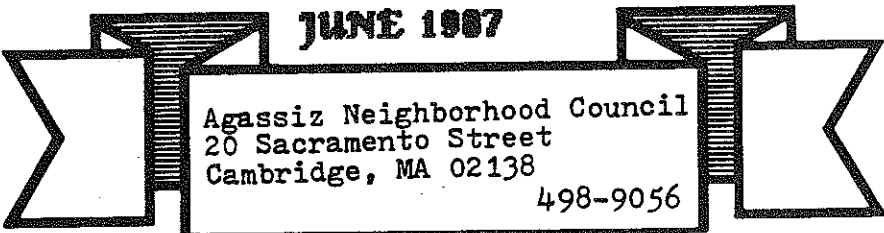
Community Calendar

June 1987

- June 3 Wednesday..... Agassiz Kindergarten Pot Luck Picnic
6 PM Sacramento Field (Rain site-gym)
- June 3 Wednesday..... Agassiz School Parent Coffee
8:30-9:30 AM Agassiz School Gym
- June 9 Tuesday..... Agassiz Reading Series-Films by Andy
Moore and Jack Walsh, Shades of Meaning and
Present Tense. 7:30 PM, 20 Sacramento St.
For more information call 492-6857
- June 10 Wednesday..... Agassiz Neighborhood Council Meeting
7:30 20 Sacramento St (see page 1-agenda)
- June 10 Wednesday..... Agassiz School 8th Grade Graduation
School Closes-after school opens 12:00
- June 16 Tuesday..... Licensing Hearing on Sear's Site
5:30 PM City Hall
- June 18 Thursday..... 1st Annual Open House Gala- Agassiz School
7-9:30 PM Agassiz Gym
- June 25 Thursday..... Last day for Cambridge Public Schools

THE WHISTLER

JUNE 1987



Agassiz Neighborhood Council
20 Sacramento Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

498-9056