

# the Whistler

Newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council

October 2010

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## ANC News

### NOTES FROM THE SEPT. 15 MEETING

#### **Renovations Planned for Cambridge Common**

Bill Deignan, Transportation Program Manager for the City of Cambridge, presented plans for improvements to the Cambridge Common, last renovated in the 1970s. The project has two components: renovation of the Common and creation of a multi-use path in Flagstaff Park, the "island" of grass and trees that hosts a flag pole and serves as an egress to the tunnel for MBTA buses.

"Plans are conceptual at this point, but they've been in the works for at least ten years," stated Mr. Deignan, who described the Common as a "historic open space in the city, centrally located, important to people in many different ways." Four city committees, the Historical Commission, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committees, and the Committee on Public Planting (tree advisory), have advised the

project, and Agassiz resident Cynthia Smith of Halvorson Design has been hired as the landscape architect.

#### **Renovations to the Common**

The goals of the renovation include simplifying the landscape, meeting accessibility codes by reconstructing paths, and increasing the lighting in areas that are deficient. The path locations will stay as they are, except for the re-creation of a central path leading from the entry gate to the monument.

In addition, there are plans to:

- Pave one small trodden path
- Reduce the paved central area: pave circular areas with bricks and relocate the current cobbles
- Plant over one hundred new trees and

### NEXT ANC MONTHLY MEETING



**OCT. 20 - 7:30 PM**

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

### AGENDA

#### **LESLEY**

Students share food from Lesley garden  
Art Institute of Boston - planning progress  
Bourbon Coffee - new University Hall tenant

#### **SACRAMENTO FIELD/PARK**

Proposed improvements

#### **SIDEWALK SNOW CLEARING**

Progress of our request to city

#### **MEETING DAY CHANGE**

Proposed change from Wed. to Tues. at  
7:30 PM

remove some trees near the central monument to open a clearer view of it

- Remove the baseball diamond to create an area suitable for both passive and active use
- Remove the shrubs from perimeter
- Remove cement planters and replace trash barrels
- Replace granite benches with new benches arranged to promote conversation

**Renovations to Flagstaff Park**

Community Development (CDD) will increase the size of Flagstaff Park to include a new, two-way multiuse path to improve connections from Harvard Square to Mass. Ave.

**Redesign of Waterhouse Street**

Waterhouse Street is on the city’s five-year plan for repaving. CDD plans to add a crosswalk at the intersection of Waterhouse and Mass. Ave. as well as install a sidewalk along the Waterhouse edge of the Common.

**Start Date**

Renovations to the Common are expected to begin in 2014. However, CDD intends to complete the design by summer 2011 in the event that funding becomes available sooner. The project will cost \$3.5 to \$4 million-dollar, with a little over \$2 million in funding from the Federal government.

**Q&A**

Q: Can you install a sidewalk for people exiting parked cars along Mass. Ave., or perhaps create breaks in the fence?

A: CDD will consider this request. New breaks

in the fence require accessibility considerations.

Q: Can you make the conditions better for trees in the Common?

A: CDD will plant a variety of different tree species and amend the soil in areas with drainage problems.

Q: We’d like to support this project. How can we help?

A: Residents can show support by attending the public meetings that CDD will host to discuss the project.



SECTION A: NEW PATH ON AXIS TO CIVIL WAR MONUMENT

**Cambridge Goes Single Stream**

Randi Mail, Cambridge Recycling Director, announced that the city will switch to single stream recycling starting October 25, 2010. Whereas previously the city required that recycling be separated, paper, plastic, and metals can now be co-mingled in one receptacle. The city’s recycling contractor will make use of six new vehicles, including rear-load, compacting trucks and side-load trucks (for large cardboard), and additional staff.

Although the revenue Cambridge receives from the sale of recycling materials will likely decrease, the city hopes that residents, encouraged to recycle more, will produce less trash. To assist with this, single family homes and buildings containing up to five units will receive free rolling “toter” bins. The Recycling Department is also lifting the size restriction on cardboard.

Consulting and Design



**Garden Coach** *SM*  
Seija Hälvä, PhD

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Casella, the recycling processor located in Charlestown, MA, is using advanced equipment to sort and pack materials in bales averaging about one ton. These materials are sold to domestic and overseas markets. Plastics can be remade into durable goods such as plastic lumber, and floor tiles, and metals might become bicycles, “new” soft drink cans, etc..

### Remember

- Be sure recycling is free of liquids and food waste.
- Plastic bags, videotapes, and cassette tapes are NOT accepted as they can damage the machines.
- Residents are welcome to keep their current blue bins, but otherwise these should be placed upside down on the curb the day after your normal collection day (November only.)
- When in the market for something new, consider purchasing items that contain post-consumer content.

### New!

Cambridge recycling is now accepting as of October 25:

- Empty pizza boxes (no cheese or crust)
- Empty paper coffee cups (no Styrofoam)
- Big plastic items like laundry baskets, buckets, and toys (please remove batteries)
- Spiral cans (i.e. potato chip, coffee, and nut cans)

Take a tour of the recycling facility in Charlestown! The next tour will be on November 18th. To reserve a spot or learn more, e-mail [recycle@cambridgema.gov](mailto:recycle@cambridgema.gov) or call (617) 349-4815.

Learn more online at: [www.cambridgema.gov/TheWorks/departments/recycle/singlestream.html](http://www.cambridgema.gov/TheWorks/departments/recycle/singlestream.html).

Watch a video on how single stream works at: [www.casella.com/what-we-do/recycling/zerosort-recycling](http://www.casella.com/what-we-do/recycling/zerosort-recycling)

### ANC Seeks Your Input on Sacramento Field

In June, Paul Ryder, Cambridge’s Director of Recreation, encouraged the council to provide feedback on the state of Sacramento Field, a park on Sacramento Street used by residents and nearby school and out-of-school-time programs.

Several council members compiled a list, which includes suggestions from Agassiz Baldwin Children’s Programs staff, and are now seeking additional input from abutters to the field, the community, and the school. Once complete, a letter will be sent to the Cambridge Parks Commission. Please send suggestions and comments to Phoebe Sinclair, Community Liaison, at [psinclair@agassiz.org](mailto:psinclair@agassiz.org)

City Councillor Leland Cheung, who was in attendance at the meeting, stated, “Several members of the city council also reviewed the park and we agree it needs work. Please send your letter to the council and we’ll review with the parks department.”



## Community

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### REMEMBERING MRS. NAGATOMI

ABC remembers our good friend and neighbor Masumi Mary Nagatomi, a longtime supporter of Agassiz Baldwin Community, who passed away in August.

Born in 1931 in California, Mrs. Nagatomi married Masatoshi Nagatomi in 1956 and relocated to Cambridge. Mr. Nagatomi

pursued a teaching career at Harvard University and Mrs. Nagatomi raised their daughters, cultivated a garden, participated in community events and, later, worked at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. Mrs. Nagatomi is survived by her



husband, three daughters, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. She will be missed.

In honor of Mrs. Nagatomi, ABC will plant a weeping cherry tree in our garden at Maud Morgan Arts. Neighbors are invited to contribute to the memorial by sending a donation to Maud Morgan Arts, 20 Sacramento Street, Cambridge, MA 02138. (Please indicate that the donation is in memory of Mrs. Nagatomi.)

### **LWN FALL PROGRAMS**

Living Well Network (LWN), ABC's program that links seniors with people of all ages in a neighborhood-based social network, invites you to take advantage of this fall's offerings.

#### **Computer Lounge**

Coming this October, visit the Living Well Network Computer Lounge, open every Wednesday from 1:00-3:00 PM in the Agassiz Baldwin Community Room located in North Hall, 1651 Mass. Ave. Stop by to have a snack, enjoy the social atmosphere, and get instruction from our new Computer Lab Coordinator Colin Barr and a team of volunteer teachers. **A five-dollar donation is suggested per class.** Stay tuned for additional information.



#### **Help Create An Agassiz Walking Path**

Community-member Seddon Wylde and LWN seek volunteers to help organize an Agassiz walking path. This path/trail will constitute a forty-minute (walking) route through the neighborhood that will identify famous and not-so-famous buildings, trees and shrubs, locally nesting birds, and more.

Volunteers are needed to help research the de-

tails of thirty places of interest, with each person responsible for five. Our goal is to eventually create a booklet/brochure designed and illustrated by local artists that would also be for sale.

Want to volunteer or learn more? Contact Seddon Wylde at [srwweaves@comcast.net](mailto:srwweaves@comcast.net) or Phoebe Sinclair at [psinclair@agassiz.org](mailto:psinclair@agassiz.org).

#### **Snow Removal Program**

Back by popular demand, LWN will arrange for a snow removal program for community members over age fifty. Details to follow.



#### **Yoga**

LWN Yoga class with teacher Christine Palamidessi begin this November 9. Classes will take place on Saturdays from 9:30-10:30 AM in Lesley's University Hall, 1815 Mass. Ave. Students should wear loose clothing and bring a yoga mat and beach towel. The fee for the full month is \$25 (\$6.25 per class) or \$12 per class for drop-in participants.

This class requires ten students to commit to a full month, so sign up now and invite your friends, family, and neighbors! To register or learn more, contact Phoebe Sinclair at (617) 349-6287 x10 or [psinclair@agassiz.org](mailto:psinclair@agassiz.org).

### **CALL FOR CHEFS/TURKEY COOKERS**

Agassiz Baldwin Community seeks twelve volunteers to cook turkeys for our 39th Annual Thanksgiving Potluck Feast. As is our tradition, we will deliver a free turkey and roasting pan to volunteers' homes the week of the potluck. Please drop off the cooked turkey before dinner begins on the evening of Tuesday, November 23rd. We also need volunteers to help carve turkeys just before and during the event.



#### **Can't Cook a Turkey? Bring a Side Dish!**

ABC encourages everyone from the Agassiz neighborhood, Agassiz Baldwin Children's

Programs, and Maria L. Baldwin School communities to come together for an evening of celebration, good company, and delicious food. Neighbors and friends are encouraged to bring a side dish ample enough for their family and a few more to share.

**Save the Date**

**Date:** Tuesday, November 23  
**Time:** 5:30-8:00 PM  
**Location:** Maria L. Baldwin School cafeteria, 28 Sacramento St.  
**Contact:** Phoebe Sinclair at (617) 349-6287 x10 or psinclair@agassiz.org.

Please remember that while we will host kids' activities, parents are ultimately responsible for their children.




## Agassiz Baldwin Children's Programs

### JOIN OUR PARENT AND CHILD PLAYGROUPS

This year, Agassiz Baldwin Parent and Child playgroups are meeting on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 9:30-11:30 at ABC's North Hall Community Room (1651 Mass. Ave. at Wendell St.) Families with infants and toddlers are welcome to join. Please contact Emma Mrozicki at emrozicki@agassiz.org or (617) 349-6287 x 14 with questions.

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### AFTERSCHOOL WELCOMES NEW 1ST-5TH SITE DIRECTOR

Agassiz Baldwin Afterschool bids a fond farewell to Alice Vogler, Site Director, a creative force behind Flying Zucchini Café, and Outback cookie eating champion.



Maria Laine, afterschool teacher, has stepped into the role of Site Director for the 1st through 5th grade. Originally from Minnesota, Maria earned her B.A. from Beloit College in Wisconsin in 2007, where she double majored in Elementary Education and Sociology, spent a semester in Germany, and captained both the track and soccer teams.



Maria holds an Elementary Teaching License and loves to teach and work with kids. She enjoys sports and plays soccer on several local teams. Her interests include trying new vegetarian recipes, conducting science experiments, playing games ranging from pool to Sudoku, learning Spanish, finding ways to be more environmentally conscious, and making jewelry. Maria's favorite cuisine is Indian, and her favorite thing to drink is Earl Grey tea with a hint of lemon.

### INTRODUCING ART PRESENTS KINOBE

Introducing Art and Club Passim Culture for Kids Performance Series presents "Kinobe."



Ugandan music is a vibrant synthesis of song, dance, drumming, poetry, and fable. At times lively and ecstatic, at others mellow and soulful – Kinobe brings this rich culture to life with the beautiful music and enchanting folk tales of his homeland.

**When:** Wednesday, October 20,  
2:00 PM

**Where:** Maria L. Baldwin School Stage,  
28 Sacramento St.

**Tickets:** Afterschool programs free,  
\$2 per person, \$5 per family.  
School groups please RSVP

For more information, call (617) 349-6287. We hope to see you there!

**Upcoming Introducing Arts Events**

11/18/ 2010 Leland Faulker's World of Wonder

2/24/2011 Fifth Annual ABC Hip Hop Festival

3/8/2011 Pan Loco Steel Drums

will be teeming with bands raising a good time ruckus. Learn more at honkfest.org.

**WHAT'S NEXT? AGING IN CAMBRIDGE**

This panel discussion on volunteering and life-long learning will be moderated by Ann Bookman of Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University.

**When:** Thursday, October 7, 2010

**Where:** Main Library Auditorium  
(Lower level L2), 449 Broadway,  
Cambridge

**Schedule:** 5:30 PM Light refreshments,  
6:00 PM Panel discussion with  
Q&A

**Information:** (617) 349-4205

**Panelists:**

- Jennifer Fries, Cambridge School Volunteers
- Emma Watkins, Citywide Senior Center
- Susan Hartnett, Cambridge Center for Adult Education
- Robert Snyder, Board member, Food for Free
- Bob Hurlbut, Cambridge Senior Volunteer Clearinghouse
- Louis Carbonaro, Hospice volunteer

After the panel discussion, there will be an opportunity to mingle with the panelists and others, and pick up literature and resource material.

Sponsors: What's Next? Aging in Cambridge Organizing Committee, Office of Mayor David Maher, Office of Vice Mayor Henrietta Davis, Cambridge Council on Aging, Cambridge Senior

**City Wide**

**FIFTH ANNUAL HONK PARADE**

Born out of a need for street bands to celebrate their social activist side, the increasingly popular HONK! Festival is back for a fifth year with opportunities galore for participants and festival-goers to enjoy themselves immensely.



Rain or shine on Columbus Day weekend, October 8-10, the streets primarily in and around Davis Sq. and spilling out into Harvard Square



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*Call me with your real estate questions.*

Volunteer Clearinghouse, Living Well Network  
at Agassiz Baldwin Community, 'Staying Put'  
Neighborhood Group

Gallery Hours:  
Monday-Friday, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM  
Saturdays, Noon-5:00 PM

Special appointments are available; call (617)  
349-6287 for details.



## Sacramento Street Gallery

### TENTH ANNUAL SMALL WORKS SHOW SALE AND EXHIBITION

Agassiz Baldwin Community (ABC) is pleased to present the tenth anniversary Small Works Show featuring the work of fifty-two artists. This popular exhibition and sale, devised to support the creation of the art center, showcases and celebrates the strength and breadth of work created by artists living and working in Cambridge.

The Small Works Show is an annual display, remarkable in its scope and diversity. Half the proceeds of all artwork sales will fund ABC's goal of providing children and practicing artists throughout the city with programs and work-space. Our new arts facility is named for the late Maud Morgan, a widely loved and respected artist who made her home in Cambridge.

Please join us for the opening reception for the Small Works Show 2010 on Friday, October 15 from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Enjoy the lively atmosphere and light refreshments, and meet the artists.

The show runs from October 15 to November 27, 2010.



*"Window" by David Phillips*



*"Barcino #18" by Gina Halstead*



*"Trio" by Judith Solomon*

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# Community Calendar

## October 2010

Monday, October 11		Columbus Day Holiday, ABC School Programs and office closed
Monday, October 13	6:00-7:30 PM	ABC Board Meeting, 20 Sacramento St., 2nd Floor Public welcome
Friday, October 15	6:30-8:00 PM	Reception for Tenth Annual Small Works Show, Chandler Gallery, 20 Sacramento Street
Wednesday, October 20	2:00 PM	Introducing Art Presents: Kinobe Baldwin School Stage, 28 Sacramento Street
Wednesday, October 20	7:30-9:00 PM	ANC Meeting (see page 1 for agenda) Maud Morgan Arts, 20A Sacramento St., 2D Studio All are welcome

The Whistler is published monthly September - June by the Agassiz Baldwin Community, distribution 2,000. Call (617) 349-6287 to receive by mail or e-mail. The newsletter is also posted each month online at [www.agassiz.org](http://www.agassiz.org). 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 October 2010



Agassiz Neighborhood Council  
20 Sacramento Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
P: (617) 349-6287 F: (617) 497-4388  
[www.agassiz.org](http://www.agassiz.org)

**DO NOT FORWARD**

### New!

- Check out our photos on Flickr at [www.flickr.com/agassizbaldwin](http://www.flickr.com/agassizbaldwin)
- ANC Meetings have moved to the Maud Morgan Arts Center, 20A Sacramento Street. They will be located in the 2D studio on the second floor.