

# the Whistler

Newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council

November 2011

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## ANC News

### NOTES FROM THE OCT. 11 MEETING

#### **Lesley University Threshold Program Improvements**

George Smith, Lesley University's Director of Operations and Planning, and Jim Wilbur, Director of the Threshold Program, described plans for upcoming improvements to the Threshold Program's Oxford Street campus.

Threshold is a two-year, campus-based program for young adults with special needs. Its goal, according to Mr. Wilbur, is to provide a "safe environment for students to live independently, develop a rich social life, and have a job they feel good about doing."

Buildings slated for renovation include 63 Oxford, 78-80 Oxford, and 82 Front and Rear Oxford Street. Currently in the design phase, construction for the project is expected to begin

in summer 2012. Improvements include new or improved accessibility, updated interiors, and creation of a "mini-quadrangle."

This December, Lesley will apply to the Planning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals for the necessary variances and special permits, which include:

- Zoning relief to consolidate programs to a particular site
- Zoning variance to construct a new building
- Reduced parking

Lesley will contact the immediate abutters about the upcoming construction, as well as provide a more detailed report at the November ANC meeting.

Council members voiced their approval for Lesley's preliminary presentation of the project.

#### **Turn Off Your Car to Protect Your Neighborhood and The Environment**

Prepared by Susan Redlich, Agassiz resident

Are you a car idler? You can help your pocketbook and the planet at the same time if you switch off your car engine when not moving. When you idle your car, you are costing

### NEXT ANC MONTHLY MEETING



**NOV. 8 - 7:30 PM**

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

#### **Agenda**

- Lesley Report on **AIB Progress**
- Lesley's **Threshold Program Update**
- What We Can Do About **Snow On Sidewalks**
- **LWN Computer Lounge Update**

yourself gas money as well as adding destructive gases to the air, which is bad for the lungs and speeds global warming. Idling your vehicle for ten minutes a day uses more than twenty-five gallons of gasoline a year.



Massachusetts law (known as the “Anti-Idling” law) limits vehicle idling to no more than five minutes. The regulation applies to all motor vehicles, not just school buses.

What are examples of unnecessary idling?

- Sitting in your car with the engine running while you wait to pick up your child at school or another activity;
- Keeping the engine running to keep the heater or air conditioner going (your car will stay warm or cool for up to ten minutes on its own, or you can wait inside the building);
- Letting the engine run longer than five minutes to heat or cool the car (heaters and air conditioning units work faster when the vehicle is being driven);
- Letting the engine run to charge a cell phone.

**Am I causing more pollution by stopping and starting the engine?**

No. An idling engine causes more pollution by running than by stopping and starting up again. The car will produce more pollution idling longer than ten seconds than it will by shutting down and starting the engine.

**Does it help the engine to “warm it up?”**

No. Excessive idling is hard on your engine. Because the engine is not working at its peak operating temperature, fuel combustion is incomplete, which leaves fuel residues that contaminate engine oil and foul spark plugs.

**Will I wear out my starter if I keep stopping and starting the engine?**

No. More damage occurs to engines that are left idling over long periods of time.

**What are some exceptions to the law?**

- Running the engine to operate the windshield defroster to clear ice;
- Operating a refrigerator unit on a truck during delivery, wheelchair lifts, and other special equipment.

For more information, consult the DEP website at <http://1.usa.gov/DEP-idling-guidelines>.

**Update On City Snow Removal**

Members of ANC have been working together with the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities to address issues with snow clearing in the city. As reported in previous editions of the Whistler, residents seek solutions in particular to issues with unshoveled sidewalks made impassable by snow and street corners piled high with snow deposited by city plows.

Fred Meyer, ABC Board Member, told the council, “Starting this upcoming winter, the city has agreed to take responsibility for clearing major streets’ corners.”

Council members discussed a variety of topics, including:

- Requesting that the city agree to clear all street corners as a first pass
- City organized clearing on all sidewalks offset by savings on required fire, police, and EMT responses
- Public/private collaboration to pay for sidewalk clearing
- Approaching the universities about extending the use of their snow removal vehicles and teams
- Piloting a public/private snow removal program in the neighborhood or in an apartment building with a large population of elderly residents
- Identifying critical travel paths in the neigh-

- neighborhood and reporting these to the city
- The snow removal service offered by ABC's Living Well Network
- Other strategies that utilize volunteers and discounted fee-for-service arrangements

**Harvard Updates**

Prepared by Tom Lucey, Dir. Community Relations

**Food Truck Program**

As many of you have probably noticed, during the month of October Harvard is conducting a pilot program outside of the Science Center involving visiting specialty food trucks on site. To date, we have received very positive feedback from the students and residents of the surrounding neighborhoods.

To find out more, visit:  
<http://bit.ly/harvard-food-truck-program>.

**Harvard On The Move**

Harvard On the Move sponsors weekly walks and runs for both beginners and experienced runners and walkers. The program is a University-wide initiative that promotes physical and psychological wellness for students, faculty, staff, alumni and neighbors in Cambridge and Boston. In addition, Harvard On The Move offers workshops and lectures highlighting relevant research and practical information.

To join the mailing list, please email:  
[onthemove-list-join@lists.fas.harvard.edu](mailto:onthemove-list-join@lists.fas.harvard.edu).

**Fall 2011 Cambridge Campus Schedule**

- WALK on Tuesdays at 12 Noon
- RUN on Wednesdays at 5:15 PM
- WALK on Thursdays at 12 Noon
- RUN on Sundays at 10 AM

The walks last just under an hour and are between two and three miles in length. The runs typically include short (approximately 2-3 miles), medium (approximately 6 miles), and long (8+ miles) distances. Routes for both walking and running will include the Charles River pathway.

For all Cambridge events, meet outside on the steps of the Malkin Athletic Center, 39 Holyoke Street.



**40TH ANNUAL THANKSGIVING POTLUCK DINNER**

The Agassiz Baldwin Community Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner is celebrating its 40th year! ABC invites 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.

**Cook A Turkey**

ABC seeks **eight volunteers** to cook turkeys for the Annual Thanksgiving Potluck Feast. We'll deliver a free turkey and roasting pan to volunteers' homes the Monday before the potluck. Please deliver the cooked turkey before dinner begins on the evening of Tuesday, November 22nd. We also need volunteers to help carve turkeys just before and during the event.



**Bring a Side**

Help make our 40th year our most successful by bringing a side dish ample enough for your family and a few more to share.



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**Save the Date**

**Date:** Tuesday, November 22  
**Time:** 5:30–7:30 PM  
**Location:** Maria L. Baldwin School Dining Hall, 28 Sacramento St.  
**Contact:** (617) 349-6287 x10 or psinclair@agassiz.org

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

**LWN MEMBERSHIP**

Join the Living Well Network (LWN) as a Founding Member and your tax-deductible donation of \$75 per person or \$100 per couple will go directly to support program hours. Enjoy many free or discounted activities over the year.

Membership benefits:

- Computer Lounge open sessions and classes
- Low cost, at home computer consultations
- Early registration for Snow Removal Program
- Free admission to LWN Movie Night events
- Sunrise to sunset access to our backyard:
  - Free Wi-Fi
  - Relaxed seating
  - Access to bocce court/sports equipment
- Special spring 2012 LWN Reception
- 10% discount on all Maud Morgan Arts classes
- Personal support in using the Living Well guide

Learn more online at:  
[www.agassiz.org/living-well/lwn-membership](http://www.agassiz.org/living-well/lwn-membership).

**COMPUTER LOUNGE UPDATE**

Visit the LWN Computer Lounge, open every Wednesday from 1:00-3:00 PM in the Agassiz Baldwin Community Room located in North Hall, 1651 Mass. Ave.

Receive instruction from our Computer Lab Coordinator Colin Barr and a team of volunteer teachers, and enjoy a relaxed learning environment among your peers. The Lounge and classes are available free to LWN members. Non-members pay \$20 per two-hour Lounge session/class.

**NEW this year, we are offering at-home computer help.** Work one-on-one with Colin Barr to find answers to problems on your own home computer. At-home computer help is \$20 per hour. Participants must sign up for a minimum of one hour. Contact us to learn more at (617) 349-6287 x10 or cbarr@agassiz.org.

**LWN YOGA CLASSES**

Practice yoga this November with teachers Christine Palamidessi Moore and Matt Bagedonow. Students should wear loose clothing and bring a yoga mat.



**Dates:** Four Saturdays  
– November 5, 12, 19, 26  
**Time:** 9:30-10:30 AM  
**Location:** University Hall, Room 4-004, 1815 Mass. Ave. Take the elevator behind the security desk to the 4th floor.  
**Fee:** \$25 per month or \$10 per class  
**Parking:** The fee for the parking lot at the rear of University Hall is \$1.00 per hour. Meter parking on Mass. Ave.  
**Contact:** psinclair@agassiz.org or (617) 349-6287 x10

**LWN MOVIE NIGHT PRESENTS  
“FOOD, INC.”**

The LWN Movie Night and Discussion Series kicks off with “Food, Inc.” on Tuesday, November 15 at 7 PM at the Maud Morgan Arts Center. Join us for the film and a friendly

discussion afterward! Admission is \$3 per person.

For more information or to suggest a film, please contact Colin at [cbarr@agassiz.org](mailto:cbarr@agassiz.org) or (617) 349-6287 x10.

### PAINTING PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

Prepared by Stephen Diamond, ANC Meeting Chair

Have you wondered how the pedestrian crossing stripes are produced? Here is one way it is done.

It is near midnight on Prentiss Street. A large trailer truck carries sheets of solid white plastic. They are melted into a bright white liquid in the tank shown at the rear of the truck, and the liquid plastic flows down a chute into the striping machine.

The striping machine is carefully rolled along the pre-marked locations on the pedestrian crossings. Two passes of the machine produce the broad stripes. A sprinkling of glass beads before the plastic cures adds to the reflectivity of the stripe. The stripes are dry after just a few moments.



The result is clear, safer pedestrian crossings. The message of the stop sign is reinforced and the best accessible pathway is marked.



## Agassiz Baldwin Children's Programs

### INTRO. ARTS PRESENTS LI MIN MO

Li Min Mo is a professional storyteller and artist who was born in China and lived in many parts of the world, before settling in Cambridge.



Li Min has been teaching art, drama, storytelling and history to children and adults, winning praise and awards for her work for over twenty years. She has brought her exciting programs to schools, universities, and communities all over the country.

- When:** Thursday, November 17, 2-3 PM
- Where:** Maria L. Baldwin School, 28 Sacramento Street
- Tickets:** \$2 per person, \$5 per family group, free for Agassiz Baldwin Afterschool and Sacramento Street Preschool families, other afterschool groups free with RSVP
- Contact:** Jacy Edelman at (617) 349-6287 x11 or [jedelman@agassiz.org](mailto:jedelman@agassiz.org)



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### 2011 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.



The sale will be held in the Chandler Gallery at 20 Sacramento Street. Mark your calendars!

**What:** Annual Kids Only Holiday Sale  
**When:** Weekdays, Monday, December 5-Friday, December 9, 3-6 PM

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

### **AFTERSCHOOL FALL UPDATE**

Prepared by Maria Laine, 1st-5th Site Director

The 1st-5th grade after-school is off to a fantastic and fun start! As always, we have many interesting activities for students.



We continue to offer weekly dance, taekwondo, and cooking classes, and have added a Spanish Club. Our regular teaching team has also been including more weekly clubs than ever this year. The idea behind offering clubs is that students and teachers can have ongoing projects and delve deeper into their ideas and activities.

- The Transformation Club led by Dolores Cuccovia has been working on creating bats, spiders, and other spooky decorations that they will be using to transform a room at 20 Sacramento into a fun and spooky space for the preschoolers to have their Halloween party.
- Rachelle Laine's Reading Club is reading "6th Grade Secrets" by Louis Sachar, which they read together and then discuss each week.
- Fibers Club led by Easton Smith explores various fiber arts and allows students to have

ongoing knitting, sewing, and other fiber projects.

- Jewelry Club as always is also a popular activity.

We were lucky to have a special performance by rapper RhymeZWeLL featuring former Outback teacher and DJ Luke Olson. RhymeZWeLL makes hip hop music for children and the performance was a great opportunity for kids to show off all their excellent dance moves!

Now that the year is underway, we are turning our attention to preparations for the popular Flying Zucchini Café, an annual project that allows students to experience and learn all about what it takes to run a restaurant. Stay tuned for more on the Café!



### **"TRAVELS & MEMORIES: SEVENTY YEARS OF PAINTINGS & DRAWINGS"**

The Chandler Gallery is proud to present "Travels & Memories: Seventy Years of Paintings & Drawings," a selection of paintings and drawings by Jacek von Henneberg, curated by Diane Charyk Norris. The show will be on display November 3-30, 2011.

Join us for an opening reception on Thursday, November 3rd, 2011 from 5:30 PM-7:30 PM.

Learn more at [www.maudmorganarts.org](http://www.maudmorganarts.org).



"Dubrovnik Croatia"

## City Wide

### **NEW CAMBRIDGE WINTER FARMER'S MARKET**

Cambridge's first Winter Market is coming to the Cambridge Community Center, 5 Callender Street, offering fresh fruits and vegetables all winter long!

The market is expected to run every Saturday starting January 7th until April 28, 2012. Market hours are from 10 AM to 2 PM. The market will also feature an art gallery, music, food demos, visits from the New England Aquarium, the Museum of Science, and other fun and educational activities.

To learn more, call (617) 547-6811 or visit: [www.centermarket.weebly.com](http://www.centermarket.weebly.com), [www.cambridgecc.org](http://www.cambridgecc.org).

### **LIBRARY NOVEMBER PROGRAMS**

#### ***Living History of the Civil War***

The Cambridge Public Library will host a living history of the Civil War from one of New England's largest Civil War re-enactor groups, the 22nd Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry.

The lawn in front of the library will be turned into Camp Cameron (Cambridge's Civil War barracks) where the re-enactors will portray army life on the march and in the field through first person demonstration, story, song, and poetry.

Highlights of the day include:

- A vintage town baseball game played with the pre-1861 "Massachusetts game" rules, along with a discussion of baseball's beginnings and how the Civil War spread the game.
- A Civil War era fashion show.
- Civil War poetry readings.
- Antebellum, early war, and post war music played with period instruments.

- Special programming for children of all ages.

**When:** November 5th, 10 AM-5 PM

**Where:** Main Library, Lecture Hall, 449 Broadway

**Information:** [www.cambridgepubliclibrary.org](http://www.cambridgepubliclibrary.org)

**Contact:** [apacy@cambridgema.gov](mailto:apacy@cambridgema.gov)

This event is free and open to the public, and is sponsored by Cambridge Reads, the Cambridge Historic Commission, and the Cambridge Historical Society.

#### ***To Yell or Not to Yell: Managing and Expressing Anger***

Yvette Thomas will lead this workshop for parents and providers.

**When:** Wednesday, November 16, 6:15 PM

**Where:** O'Neill Branch Library, 70 Rindge Ave.

**Register:** Free childcare is available but registration is required.

**Contact:** (617) 349-4409

Sponsored by the Greater Boston Early Childhood Resource Center at the Cambridge Public Library.

#### ***Let's Share Stories***

Sharing stories from memory or made up on the spot is a meaningful and delightful way to help children develop their imaginations and literacy skills. This program for parents and providers will be presented by Jen Baily of The Agenda for Children.

**When:** Thursday, December 1, 6:30 PM

**Where:** Main Library, Children's Room, 449 Broadway

**Register:** Free childcare is available but registration is required.

**Contact:** (617) 349-4409

Sponsored by the Greater Boston Early Childhood Resource Center at the Cambridge Public Library.

# Community Calendar

## November 2011

Thursday, November 3	5:30-7:30 PM	Reception for "Travels & Memories" at the Chandler Gallery, 20 Sacramento St.
Saturday, November 5	9:30-10:30 AM	LWN Yoga, University Hall, Lesley, 1815 Mass. Ave., class continues on November 12, 19, 26
Tuesday, November 8	7:30-9:00 PM	ANC Meeting (see page 1 for agenda) Maud Morgan Arts, 20A Sacramento St., 2D Studio All are welcome
Wednesday, November 9	6:00-7:30 PM	ABC Board Meeting, 20 Sacramento St, 2nd Floor Public welcome
Thursday, November 17	2:00-3:00 PM	Introducing Art Presents "Li Min Mo", Baldwin School Stage, 28 Sacramento St.
Tuesday, November 22	5:30-7:30 PM	40th Annual Thanksgiving Potluck Feast, 28 Sacramento St.

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 November 2011



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**DO NOT FORWARD**

**K**ee up with Agassiz Baldwin Community  
and Maud Morgan Arts online at  
[www.agassiz.org](http://www.agassiz.org) and  
[www.maudmorganarts.org](http://www.maudmorganarts.org).