

the Whistler

Newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council

February 2013

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ANC News

NOTES FROM THE JAN. 8 MEETING

Proposed Traffic Calming For Roseland Street

Juan Avendano, Traffic Calming Project Manager with the Environmental and Transportation Planning Division of Cambridge Community Development (CDD), introduced plans for a proposed traffic-calming table on Roseland St. The work would be completed in connection with the city's on-going sewer/stormwater separation project, currently in progress.

"After receiving a request from a Frost Street resident, CDD saw an opportunity to improve Roseland," Mr. Avendano explained. "We're doing some preliminary exploring of safety measures at the intersection of Roseland and Frost. My goal tonight is to find out what abutters and the greater Agassiz community think."

Using a visual aid, Mr. Avendano described where the traffic calming table and crosswalks would be situated, as well as warned of a possible increase in street noise due to vehicles crossing the platform.

"We will need to consider drainage in the area,"

Mr. Avendano added, detailing next steps. "I'm going to consult with CDD, the Cambridge Fire Department and Traffic, Parking and Transportation to make sure they are all are on board, and review the budget. After which, I'll report back to Council."

Stephen Diamond, ANC Meeting Chair read several emails from neighbors related to traffic in the neighborhood, to which Mr. Avendano responded that there are no plans to alter traffic patterns. Some council members expressed a desire to improve signage where Roseland converts from a two-way to a one-way street.

Q&A

Q: Are you considering installing curb extensions to shorten the crossing distance from Frost to Roseland Street?

A: No. Curb extensions would obstruct fire trucks turning left onto Frost St.

Q: Will there be a decrease in parking?

A: It's uncertain at this time. One or two parking spaces may need to be removed to create more space at the intersection of Frost and Roseland.

Nearby projects:

- Sewer/stormwater separation work continues on Frost St.
- DPW will install a traffic-calming table on

NEXT ANC MONTHLY MEETING



MARCH 12 - 7:30 PM
Maud Morgan Arts
20A Sacramento Street
2D Studio, 2nd Floor

The February 12 ANC meeting has been canceled. Please join us in March!

- Frost at Forest St to improve accessibility.
- The traffic-calming table at the intersection of Oxford and Garfield will be updated with white crossing stripes, as with the platform at Oxford and Wendell.
- The City of Somerville is in the process of redesigning Beacon Street to better accommodate current traffic patterns and uses (see “Whistler” January 2013, page 2).

Update from Juan Avendano: While DPW continues to assess traffic calming for Roseland St, the project is not currently in the budget. Additionally, work would not take place until Lesley University has completed construction of the Art Institute of Boston to prevent any impact from construction vehicles.

Exploring Memories Through “Forever Creative”

Miriam Goldberg, ABC Board Co-chair and long-time Agassiz resident, shared her experience with “Forever Creative”, a collaborative effort between Maud Morgan Arts and Living Well Network that reaches out to the over-55 populations of Cambridge with workshops on site at Cambridge Community Center, East End House, Margaret Fuller House, and Maud Morgan Arts. This pilot program was funded in part through a grant from the Cambridge Agassiz Harvard (CAH) Fund.

The class, taught by Deborah Davidson, artist and faculty member at the Art Institute of Boston, Lesley University, met Monday mornings. Over eight weeks, Ms. Davidson led students in exploring their memories through the creation of soft and hardcover books.

“This class allows people to be in contact with their own history,” Ms. Goldberg stated. “It was very interesting what people wanted to put into the books, such as memories from their early lives as children. We were introduced to methods for displaying items three-dimensionally and the variations were endless. You could use items you’ve been keeping for years that you

otherwise don’t know what to do with.”

In addition to the tiny book in the photo at right, Ms. Goldberg described creating a book for one of her grandsons to use in his language studies class. She concluded, “We hope “Forever Creative” will become a regular course at Maud Morgan Arts.”



Sign up now for winter 2013! Visit bit.ly/MMA-forever-creative or contact Terry DeLancey, ABC Executive Director at (617) 349-6287 x17, tdelancey@agassiz.org.

Contributions are voluntary and welcome. A grant from the CAH Fund covers the bottom line expenses for the workshops and exhibitions.

See below for the class schedule, locations, and exhibition date.

Location: East End House, 105 Spring St,
Date/Time: Monday, February 4,
 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Location: Maud Morgan Arts
Date/Time: Monday, February 11,
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Location: Maud Morgan Arts
Date/Time: Monday, February 25,
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Location: Cambridge Community Center,
 5 Callendar Street
Date/Time: Monday, March 4, 2013,
 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Location: Maud Morgan Arts
Date/Time: Monday, March 11, 2013,
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Student Exhibit

Location: Maud Morgan Arts
Date/Time: Sunday, March 17, 3:00-5:00 PM

Council Updates

Proposed Thai/Sushi Restaurant

Carol Weinhaus reported that the Cambridge Board of Zoning Appeal passed the application to reduce the parking requirement for a new Thai/sushi restaurant moving into 1678 Mass. Ave. Attorney Jim Raffety and Nancy Itjaruek, the restaurant’s proprietor, attended the December 2012 ANC meeting.

Property at 1725 Mass. Ave.

Mr. Diamond reported that the Mary Prentiss Inn of 6 Prentiss St. sought to purchase the property at 1725 Mass. Ave., currently owned by Cumberland Farms, for use as a small hotel.

At a previous ANC meeting, the current lessee of 1725 Mass. Ave., whose family operates the Gulf Station on this property, claimed his family had the “right of first refusal.” The lessee said his family intends to purchase the site and continue its use as a gas station.

Evelyn & Angel

A new candy shop, Evelyn & Angel, has opened at 1702 Mass. Ave, between Rosie’s Beauty Salon and Raspberry Beret consignment shop. Learn more online at: www.facebook.com/EvelynAndAngelsCandy.

Porter Square Customer Intercept Survey

The Porter Square Customer Intercept Survey, a 2012 report of what residents and visitors want to see in Porter Square, is now available

online at: www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/econdev/districtinfo/portersq.aspx.

Direct questions regarding the report to Pardis Saffari, Economic Development Planner with Community Development Department, at psaffari@cambridgema.gov.




ABC THANKS DONORS


Agassiz Baldwin Community thanks our supporters from 2012!

Donors – Gifts of \$100 or More

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- Peggy Badenhausen and Tom Kelly
- Joel and Betsy Bard
- Steven Bonsey and Elisabeth Keller
- Cambridge Common Restaurant
- Cambridge Trust Company
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Become a Donor

Donations to ABC provide valuable funds for many programs and services, including scholarships, community events, mailings, and this newsletter.

Tax-deductible donations can be sent to:
Agassiz Baldwin Community, 20 Sacramento Street, Cambridge, MA 02138.



**Agassiz Baldwin
Children's Programs**

17TH ANNUAL HIP HOP FESTIVAL

On **Thursday, February 21**, join us for the 17th Annual Hip Hop Festival, a showcase of Hip Hop dance and music. This wildly popular event draws talented



performers from all over Cambridge, including:

- MC Naheem Garcia
- FloorLords
- Community Arts Center
- OrigiNation
- King Open Extended Day
- DJ Luke Duke

What: 17th Annual Hip Hop Festival
When: Thursday, February 21,
2:00-3:00 PM
Where: Maria L. Baldwin School Stage,
28 Sacramento Street
Tickets: \$2 per person, \$5 per family;
Agassiz Baldwin Children's Pro-
gram families free; afterschool
programs free, but please call
ahead

6TH ANNUAL FLYING ZUCCHINI CAFÉ

Prepared by Kim Baldasaro, Early Education Site Director

The 6th Annual Flying Zucchini Cafe was held on December 12th and 13th to a huge crowd and amazing success.



This year's theme of super foods included a healthy menu of kale chips, root veggie stew, sweet potato fries, and honey-glazed carrots. The decor included superhero food, a photo booth, comics, and trading cards.

Kindergarten through 5th grade afterschool students worked tirelessly to prepare menus, prep food, and create decorations. Children designed cookbook covers and menus while practicing serving and hosting skills. Performances included dance, drama, and videos from Kindergarten and 1-5th grade clubs.

Flying Zucchini Cafe would not be possible without the help of local businesses and farms.

Many thanks to:

- Hi-Rise Bread Company
- Iggy's Break of the World
- When Pigs Fly Bakery
- Taza Chocolate
- JP Licks
- Trader Joe's
- Harvest Co-op Markets
- Winter Moon Organic Farm
- Enterprise Farm
- Lizzy's Ice Cream
- Red Fire Farm
- Boston Honey Company
- Atlas Farm
- Garelick Farms

And many more thanks to the Afterschool staff, parents and youth. Their dedication and hard work truly paid off and made this one of the busiest Flying Zucchini Cafés yet!



Community Calendar

February 2013

Monday, February 4	10:00 AM-1:00 PM	Forever Creative: Books and Memories class with Maud Morgan Arts and Living Well Network, East End House, 105 Spring St., see page 2 for additional dates and details
Wednesday, February 13	6:00-7:30 PM	ABC Board Meeting, 20 Sacramento St., 2nd Floor Public welcome
Monday, February 18		President's Day Holiday, ABC School Programs and office closed
Thursday, February 21	2:00-3:00 PM	17th Annual Hip Hop Festival, Maria L. Baldwin School Stage, 28 Sacramento Street

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. Items of interest to the neighborhood may be submitted for consideration no later than the 15th of the month prior to publication date.

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