Council Meeting Notes

Pat Byrne from Lesley College was our guest at the November 20 Agassiz Neighborhood Council meeting. Pat invited residents to a reception at 10 Sacramento St. (Bisbee Hall) to meet staff and residents and see the newly renovated space. The dormitory is for residents of Threshold, a two-year program for learning disabled young adults. [Any neighbors who missed that meeting, and would like further information should call the council office at 349-6287.]

She explained in some detail the use of the third floor space that Lesley rents from Porter Exchange. This space is used primarily for graduate school classes between the hours of 4-10 P.M. It was unclear exactly how many students were in class each day. A discussion of parking on and around that site followed her comments. Lesley has purchased short term T passes, and they have spaces available to students in lots closer to Lesley. Byrne advised the council that they were polling the students to see what form of transportation was being used by the students. It was unclear how this use will impact the parking situation in Porter Square, and it was suggested that if late class (7-10 P.M.) students were permitted to park in the lot, it may improve the parking for neighborhood residents. However, the health club peak use, may exclude this use.

Byrne told the council that Lesley has leased spaces in the Porter Exchange lot for faculty and staff, but the council felt that this space should not be leased. As tenants, Lesley was legally permitted some number of spaces which could be determined by square footage leased.

These parking issues deserve further review. If Porter Exchange is leasing parking to Lesley, they may also be leasing parking to their second floor tenants, the Smithsonian Institute. This effectively changes the original agreement for parking. The council will need some clarification on many details of the parking issues and further discussion on their implications to understand them.

The Council officially agreed on monthly meeting dates for Agassiz Neighborhood Council. They will be held either on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday of the third week in the month. It was agreed not to fix a definite date each month. This would allow people who had ongoing fixed evening commitments to attend at least some of our meetings. It will also give the Council some flexibility in scheduling speakers.

Officers were elected, and they are: Chairperson: Ken Basler, Vice Chairperson- Cynthia Snell, Treasurer-Andrea Averill and Secretary/Clerk- Jim O'Neill. A short discussion was held about the addition of new directors.

From this discussion it seemed that the By laws of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council should be reviewed. This was something the board had placed on its agenda for this year, and it was agreed that Joel Bard, original author of the by laws, would review them. [Please note: Any proposed changes to the ANC By Laws would be published in The Whistler just prior to an open council meeting where the proposed changes would be discussed.]
Remember the Kids Sale December 2-8
The Kids Only Holiday Sale comes early this year. It will open on Monday December 2 and run through the weekend of December 7 and 8. Weekday hours are 2:45-6 P.M. Saturday hours are 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. and Sunday Noon to 5 P.M. Gifts can be purchased for holidays and birthdays, and the prices are mainly $1-$5, although many items are under $1. There are gifts and useful items for every member of the family.

Please visit our sale with your children, and you will be amazed not only by the excellent prices but also the exceptional ambiance. Your purchases will be a gift to us and the maintenance of diversity in our children's programs, since all profits go to the Agassiz Community School Scholarship Fund. Many of our items have been donated by JOIE DE VIVRE located at 1792 Mass. Ave.

Update on Sewer Renovation Project
The Council sent a letter to the new Department of Public Works Commissioner David Haley regarding Phase VI of the sewer project which will separate storm and sanitary sewer systems in parts of Cambridge that include the Agassiz neighborhood. The letter was prompted by a current report that estimated the completion date to be seven years from now, and the Council expressed frustration and asked for an explanation of the delay.

Jeff Nutting, from the DPW, was unable to provide us with a detailed report on the sewer project for December, but he agreed to have it to the neighborhood for inclusion in the January Whistler. A complete report will be included then.

Agassiz School Renovation—(Report by Susan Sills, Community Representative to Task Force)
The Agassiz Renovation Task Force met on 11/7 and again on 11/19.

Fran Foley, of the Cambridge School Department has been appointed by the Superintendent of Schools to Chair the Task Force. He will facilitate the process of exploring the various issues, both physical and educational and provide assistance as needed.

The Task Force will provide a Report which will provide information on issues such as Educational Program, Needs Assessment, Historical Considerations and Community Concerns. The Report will outline those issues and physical options which have been considered thus far, including advantages and disadvantages of each. It is the hope of the Task Force that the Report will generate a positive dialogue within the community and at the City level.

• An initial meeting with the Planning Office at Harvard took place on 11/7. The purpose of the meeting was to
  1). inform Harvard of the planning process to date
  2). discuss some of the site options and issues raised by the community and the Task Force.

• The Report by the Task Force will be made available at the 7:30 P.M. December 19 Agassiz Neighborhood Council meeting. The January Whistler will include information on the report, and a meeting will be scheduled in January for comments and input.
Whistler Deliveries Reorganized

The Agassiz Neighborhood Council now mails and distributes 2,000 copies of The Whistler to neighborhood businesses and residents each month between September and June. The Agassiz neighborhood is lucky to have the Agassiz School 8th Grade available for hand delivery of The Whistler each month throughout the Agassiz neighborhood. For this service the Agassiz Neighborhood Council donates $400 each year to the eighth grade to be used toward their yearbook and field trips.

We have reorganized this system somewhat, and in this reorganization we have tried to completely cover all streets and buildings. The students each have a specific route for which they are responsible. This will enable them to learn their route and do a better job. If you have any suggestions about delivery, please call the Council office at 349-6287. We will do our best to work out any problems.

Crime Statistics Return to Whistler

True to his word, Police Commissioner Perry Anderson has had crime statistics forwarded to us for Neighborhood 8 (City name for Agassiz neighborhood). There were no street addresses included this month, but we hope to have that information available next month. However we were sent the overall information from last year as compared to this year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crime Index</th>
<th>1/90-11/90</th>
<th>1/91-11/91</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assaults</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breaking and Entering</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malicious Destruction</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Monthly Crime breakdown 9/13/91 to 11/13/91

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crime</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housebreaks</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Robbery</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Robbery</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malicious Destruction</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny from Vehicle</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threatening Phone Call</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Larceny</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assaults</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indecent Exposure</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny -Bicycle</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obscene Phone Call</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arson</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hit and Run Property</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trespassing</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Evergood Market
Finest in Meats and Produce
1674 Mass. Ave.

Liquor Licenses Granted in Capped Areas

The Whistler went to press before a City Council hearing was held regarding new liquor licenses in capped areas. The Cambridge Licensing Commission has approved several beer and wine licenses for specific restaurants that previously requested this kind of license. The Licensing Commission feels that these restaurants have a right to serve beer or wine with a meal, which justifies new licenses, but some residents believe that lifting the caps will erode the liquor caps in City neighborhoods at a time when many neighborhoods are having serious problems with establishments that serve liquor. (Capped areas are those determined by the licensing commission to already be saturated with liquor licenses, and the cap prevents new liquor licenses from being granted. However, existing licenses can be transferred, bought and sold in the capped areas.

Richard Scali of the Licensing Commission has told the Council that the proposed lifting of the ban on new licenses is limited to 16 restaurants: 3 in Harvard Square, 2 in North Cambridge and the others in Central Square. To date 8 of these restaurants have received beer and wine licenses, and the others are under consideration.

We Will Buy Your Unwanted Jewelry
1-800-427-4828
Immediate Cash Paid for
- Diamonds and gold
- Estate Jewelry
- Rolex - Patek Philippe - Cartier
- Appraisal at home, office or bank
- Open 6 days
- Gemologist on premises

Free Parking
Albano • Vallucci Ltd.
Foster Exchange - Old Sears Roebuck Building
1815 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge
Council Programs

Scholarship Fund Drive Underway
Each year the Agassiz Neighborhood Council holds a fund drive to provide scholarships for families with children in our programs. We count on these donations to help the Council maintain both economic and racial diversity in all programs provided to children. This year we are hoping to raise $5,000 from our friends and neighbors and help us meet our commitment of $10,000 in scholarships this year. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Call the Council at 349-6287 for more detailed written information on our fund drive, or you can send a donation to the Agassiz Neighborhood Council at 20 Sacramento St. Cambridge 02138.

Afterschool Now Registering for January
Call 349-6287 for information on Term II of the Agassiz Afterschool Activities Program for grades K-4 and 5-8, which will begin 1/6/92. Scholarships are available, and there are several free activities for each age group. Limited spaces are also available in the Agassiz Afterschool Childcare Program and one space has become available in the Sacramento St. Preschool. Call 349-6287.

The Gospel Chorus, directed by Deborah Brown for all Cambridge school students in grades 5-8, began in November on Thursday afternoons. There is no cost for this ongoing program, but spaces are limited, and children must register to participate. Call 349-6287 for information or to register.

The Agassiz Afterschool Players Stage II (for 5-8th grades) will begin rehearsals for a musical review and Stage I will begin their play on January 6th. The Players are directed by Carol Hantman, and Ada Park Snider will be the musical director for the musical review. Call 349-6287 for more information.

Cultural Happenings

Playwrights Platform
On the first three Sundays of each month the Agassiz Neighborhood Council will host the Platform which will present semi-staged readings of new plays and works-in-progress by playwrights from the New England area. After each reading, refreshments are served, and the audience is cordially invited to comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the play in a forum which is moderated to assure that the discussion is constructive and that all time is evenly apportioned. Most readings and subsequent discussions are over by 10 P.M.

All readings begin at 7:30 PM. They are free and open to the public. Call Carol Hantman with questions about the Playwrights Platform.

December 1
New Musical "Coming Apart" by Mary Hazzard

December 8
Scene Evening - Scenes from three new plays

December 15
"Till Tomorrow" by Barry Brodsky

December 22 7-10 pm
Holiday Get Together and Reception - Food and Light Theatrical Entertainment. All Welcome

Agassiz Youth Chorus
The Agassiz Youth Chorus will join a holiday singing program with a newly formed chorus at Brookhaven Retirement Home in Lexington. This is a joint venture between Powers Music School in Belmont and the Agassiz Community School. Edwin Light, of the Powers Music School, is the director of the Brookhaven Chorus, and Ada Park Snider directs the Agassiz Youth Chorus.

On December 6 at the Brookhaven Retirement Home they will sing a variety of music and end with a carol sing. Participants in the Agassiz Youth Chorus are: Kylee Benton-Connell, Claire Blumenson, Umaya Cable, Katie Clark, Sara Hall-Nourse, Mekkin Lynch, Justine Nagurney, Carl Phillips, Nicholas Pillsbury, Kate Silver-Heilman, Julie Sheketoff, Sarah Wheeler, Menna Zaghliou, Maya Ballard Downs.

The Agassiz Afterschool Players deeply regrets that Claire Blumenson’s name was accidentally omitted from the program. Claire played the part of Carla in “Foul Play,” presented on November 16 in Baldwin Hall at Agassiz School.

MONTROSE SPA
1646 Mass. Ave.
547-5053

The friendly store, one block from Harvard Law School
Open 7 days a week
7:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Crafts Show December 7-15

The Sacramento St. Gallery on 20 Sacramento St. Cambridge will present a Holiday Show from Saturday December 7 through Sunday December 15th. There will be an opening reception on Sunday December 8 from 3-5 P.M. and the public is welcome. The works to be exhibited include jewelry, porcelain pottery, tile wall pieces, quilts and fabric collages, woven scarves, batiked scarves, baskets, toys, kaleidoscopes, and voodoo dolls.

Katryna Hadley, an Agassiz neighborhood artist, creates quilts and fabric collages which will be hanging. She crafts the fabric pieces with bright colors and contemporary geometric designs. Anne Hyland will be showing porcelain. She has formed this high fired white clay into bowls, vases, planters and dinnerware. She uses deep colors which are made from underglazes and lusters. The decals she uses are silkscreened from her own photographs and computer designs and are fired onto the pottery thus making them permanent. Her tile pieces utilize underglaze colors, lusters and decals. Sara Kaufman lives and works in Cambridge, and she weaves her scarves and stoles on a Dobby loom. The fibres she uses are all natural and she uses a Swedish lace weave which lends pattern and body to the work which is simple and elegant. Her luminous color combinations are created by using up to fifty different yarns in a single eight inch fade. Her warped brocades have iridescent patterns, and she weaves ikats using an ancient Japanese dying technique. The resulting pieces have lovely and unusual color combinations. Dennis Peabody makes earrings and other beaded jewelry from a special dichroic glass. This glass is iridescent and luminous and changes color as light strikes it. He slumps the glass into beads with soft edges and works them up into earrings, necklaces and bracelets. Mickey Sequenzia knots jewelry from linen thread, clay beads, antique beads, copperwire and other found material. Each tiny earring is a masterpiece in itself and often the earrings and necklaces are made with small stands for displaying them like the little sculptures which they are. His technique is a combination of knotting, braiding, coiling, wrapping, twining and beading. The clay disks which he makes are painted and finished with gold leaf. David Stearns weaves baskets from materials which he has himself gathered. These baskets are beautiful and highly unusual, and the combinations of natural materials are striking. He says "...the materials teach the basketmaker about shape. I welcome the restrictive or permissive-qualities of each stick or vine, root or leaf." The baskets are made to hold something, but they are so imaginative that utility becomes insignificant and each basket has an essence of its own. Besides the work of these artists there will be toys, dolls, buttons, clay jewelry, candles, and more.

The hours of the Holiday Sale are Weekends 1-5 P.M. and Weekdays 4-6 P.M.

AAP Donors Honored

Thanks to the following donors for their generous support:

Angels
Marlene Booth and Avi Soifer
Rita Maziarz
Ellen Semenoff and Dan Meltzer

Sponsors
Noha and Lisbeth Applebaum
Earl and Maria-Paz Avery
Eric Blumenfield and Eva Nilsen
Carol Donovan and Robert Lange
Ruth Goodman
Mark Schuster and Devon Davidson

Sustaining Donors
Mary J Clark
Valerie and Archie Epps
Irene and Alfred Garber
Richard Griffin and Susan Keane
Elizabeth Kline
Judith and H. Stephen Leff
Sherry Werb Leffert
Ronnie Littenberg
Kathleen Manton
Sharon McBride
J. Tobias Nagurney
Tony and Gail Nunes
Ornstein Hawk Family
Gregg Singer and Shelly Fishman
Eve Sullivan
Avon Associates
1675 Mass. Ave.
Apt. Rentals ■ Sales
661-8400

Avon Associates
Welcome to our newest neighborhood real estate office! Avon Associates, located at 1675 Mass. Ave. (Corner of Sacramento) offers FREE rental assistance to landlords and personalized service to tenants in finding housing. Open 7 days a week, feel free to stop by the office or call 661-8400.

Christmas Tree Sale
The Agassiz Community Children’s School, located at 1803 Mass. Ave. will hold its traditional Christmas Tree Sale on the Weekends of December 7/8 and 14/15. Call the school at 547-9355 for more information.

Classes in Movement-Bodywork-Dance
Three classes will be offered by Marcie Mitler, M. Ed. (You may call her at 497-5283 with questions about any of them):
RECLAIMING YOUR BODY ongoing classes
Healing work for women with histories of sexual abuse and violence. This is a therapeutic movement and exercise class in a safe and protected environment for survivors to develop a more healthful relationship with their bodies. We will use music that is empowering and we will create movement that corresponds. This workshop will give the participants an opportunity to be in their bodies and to feel a sense of personal power and self-mastery. Cambridge YWCA Tuesdays 6:30-8 P.M. Wednesdays 9:30-11 A.M. Call 491-6050.
RECLAIMING YOUR BODY one day workshop
This workshop will include relaxation, visualization, open discussion, and an introduction to the “Reclaiming Your Body” program. The focus will be increasing self awareness and improving body image. We will spend time talking about our relationships with our bodies and with food, and we will explore new ways of self-expression. These workshops will be run monthly. They will be a combination support gathering and class. The workshop will be held on December 14 from 1-4 P.M. and the cost will be $30. Please call with questions and for the location of the workshop. Please make reservations by December 10 with Marcie Mitler at 497-5283.

BEFRIENDING YOUR BODY
Women are frequently obsessed with their bodies and often base their worth on what their weight is or how they look. Exercise is often compulsive and not pleasurable and it is difficult to know when to be satisfied with yourself. This workshop will attempt to put this in perspective and enable the participants to create a more healthful and realistic relationship with their bodies. We will use visualizations, discussions and movement to understand the origins of these ideas and then set about undoing the myths of what women should look like and be like in our society today.

This workshop is for any woman whose self esteem fluctuates based upon body image. We will use guided imagery, creative movement and discussion, working on making peace with who we are and feeling good about that. This class will be interesting and fun, as well as insightful and growthful. Saturday March 14, Cambridge Center for Adult Education 10 A.M.-3 P.M.

Lesley College News

Please See Council Notes (page one) for a report on Pat Byrne’s remarks at the November 20 Agassiz Neighborhood Council meeting. Ms. Byrne is the Executive Assistant to Margaret McKenna, Lesley College President, and she spoke on issues relevant to the Agassiz neighborhood.

PET FOOD • GROOMING • SUPPLIES

CAMBRIDGE
PET SHOP & GROOMING

1724 MASS. AVE.
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138
661-6255
Clip this Coupon and Save $1 on any item in the

Kids Only Holiday Sale

December 2-8
Weekdays 2:45 to 6 P.M.
Saturday 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Sunday Noon to 5 P.M.
or the

Holiday Crafts Sale

December 7-15
Weekdays 4 to 6 P.M. Weekends 1-5 P.M.
Agassiz Community Center 20 Sacramento St Cambridge
# Community Calendar

## December Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday December 2</td>
<td>Hanukkah begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday December 2-7</td>
<td>Kids Only Holiday Sale 2:45-6 PM Weekdays, 10 AM to 5 Saturday/Noon to 5 Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agassiz Community Center 20 Sacramento St.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday December 7-15</td>
<td>Holiday Crafts Sale, Weekdays 4-6 PM/Weekends 1-5 P.M., Opening Reception Sunday 12/8 frp, 3-5 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday December 19</td>
<td>Agassiz Neighborhood Council Meeting, 7:30 P.M., Agassiz Community Center 20 Sacramento St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday December 20</td>
<td>Agassiz School Closes for December Vacation at 2:45 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday December 22</td>
<td>All Agassiz Community School Programs close at 5:45 P.M., Playwrights Platform Community Reception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agassiz Community Center 20 Sacramento St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday December 30</td>
<td>Agassiz Afterschool Vacation Program Opens, Call 349-6287 for details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday January 6, 1992</td>
<td>Agassiz School Reopens, Agassiz Community School Begins Term II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### December 1991

**The Whistler**

Agassiz Neighborhood Council
20 Sacramento St.
Cambridge, MA 02138 349-6287

DO NOT FORWARD

*The Whistler* is now printed on 100% recycled and 100% recyclable paper.