A TRIBUTE TO JOANN HOFFMAN
Note: JoAnn Hoffman died on April 4th, 1996 after a courageous battle with brain cancer. At the time of her death, she was the Chairperson of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council. I write the following tribute to JoAnn with the greatest respect and love.

Terry DeLancey

It was a delight from the start to have JoAnn in the Agassiz political arena. She told me once that she agreed with Tip O'Neill’s philosophy, “All politics is local.” She was fun to work with, and she enjoyed the nuts and bolts of community work.

JoAnn took a low key approach in Agassiz, which revealed her warm and friendly spirit, but did not immediately reveal her uncanny ability for “gathering community data”. JoAnn talked to everyone: she talked to the dog walkers, she talked to the mayor, she talked to people down the street, she talked to people at meetings and on many different committees. JoAnn knew what was going on all the time.

Talking is one thing, but JoAnn also listened to everyone. At meetings, I watched her deal with the funny and sometimes not so funny human baggage that people carried with them. She always found the essence of their issue, so everyone could get to work and solve the problem.

JoAnn’s brand of politics was the kind we long for and rarely find. Power was not her goal. She wanted to live in a community that valued respect and understanding; a community where differences could be aired civilly and mutual agreement found. A community where everyone has value.

I am grateful that the Agassiz Community was able to benefit from JoAnn’s involvement. We all knew she held much promise for wider leadership roles in Cambridge—and beyond, if that was her desire. Her sense of humor, her compassion and her plain old common sense alone would do us a world of good in the political arena.

Newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council
Our culture worships people for extravagant deeds. We have very little to teach us about how to live. Is people like JoAnn who really set a tone of respect, civility and care in the life of our neighborhood. JoAnn was happy in life, valued her family and community and gave of herself freely to others. She was a wonderful role model for us all.

Services were held after JoAnn’s death. Exquisite and touching remarks were made by friends and family members about the meaning of JoAnn’s life. A remarkable letter was read, full of love and humor, written by her sons. Afterwards someone said, “This is the memorial I would like.”

Wouldn’t we all.

ANC News

Notes from the 4/23 ANC Meeting

General Business

The slate of candidates for the Agassiz Neighborhood Council Board of Directors was presented to the Council. See Neighborhood News for a list of the candidates who will be elected at the May 21 ANC Annual Meeting.

See Neighborhood News for the complete information on Cumberland Farms License Commission hearing to convert the Gulf on the corner of Mass. Ave. at Garfield St. from a full service to a self service gas station.

Construction on Sacramento this Summer

Steve White, Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Public Works, is in charge of sewer reconstruction in Cambridge. He visited the council to discuss the upcoming sewer improvements on Sacramento St. (this includes

MAY ANNUAL MEETING
Agassiz Neighborhood Council

MAY 21, 1996

7:00-8:00 p.m.
Tour the New Agassiz School
8:00 p.m.
Elections, Recognitions and Reception to Meet the ANC Board
Sacramento Place) that will begin in June and be completed this fall. The cost of this portion of the project will be more than $900,000.

The construction will include new, larger sewer pipes, storm drains, new water mains, utilities, and sidewalks. In short, Sacramento St. residents will be inconvenienced throughout the summer with construction. Steve would like to help us mitigate the inconveniences and potential problems this project may generate. He promised to let everyone know (by flyer) when the street will be closed or if there will be any interruption in utilities.

The ANC agreed to re-institute the HOT LINE (497-4388) which was very helpful during the construction of the Agassiz School. If residents have concerns, they can call them in immediately. The messages will be forwarded to the DPW on a daily basis and the DPW can identify and solve problems as soon as possible.

There was a discussion of the material to be used for Sacramento sidewalks. For more on this see Traffic and Transportation. Another meeting will be scheduled in May for further discussion on the issue of sidewalks.

The remainder of the sewer reconstruction project, which is essentially the rest of the Agassiz neighborhood, will not begin until 1998 with an expected finish date of 2001. The traffic committee has been reviewing the more than 80 returned traffic surveys for some direction on a design for neighborhood streets with emphasis on the reconstruction of Oxford Street (and sidewalks).

To be on the mailing list for further meetings and information on this project, call the Council at 349-6287.

Garfield Street Housing

Terry Lurie from the Cambridge Housing Authority, architects and other representatives visited the Neighborhood Council meeting to give us their final drawings for the 8 unit housing development that will begin construction at the corner of Mass. Ave. and Garfield St. hopefully in June. It is expected to take 7 months to complete.

The drawings reproduced here will give you a good idea of the final design. At the meeting there was a model of the building, and many drawings showing views from front back and side.

The new plans represented many changes due to input from the neighborhood. Neighbors expressed concern about the architectural detail on the building, and it was agreed to hold a meeting to discuss that, as well as the landscaping and possibly fencing and lighting. Terry wanted to include Sally Zimmerman from the Historical Commission, (who was unable to attend the ANC meeting) in the upcoming meeting.

As The Whistler goes to press, we do not have a date for that meeting. If you are not already on our mailing list for Garfield St. housing, please call the Council at 349-6287, and we will send you information on this issue and notice of future meetings.

Information on Next Meeting

Our Annual Meeting will take place in the Agassiz School on May 21. Tours of the School will occur from 7:00-8:00 p.m. Elections and a reception for the new ANC board members will follow.

At that reception Eya Paddock, Principal of the Agassiz School will be honored and thanked for her spirit of cooperation with the neighborhood. Her gracious consideration has allowed us to truly share in the bounty of a new school facility.

The ANC board will announce the activities that are planned in memory of JoAnn Hoffman, Chairperson of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council who died on April 4, 1996.

---

Do you know what to do each month
to make your financial dreams come true?
Receive a free financial planning session with this ad.

PETER G. MEYERSOHN, CFP
Account Representative

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Educaional Planning
Retirement Planning

600 WEST CUMMINGS PARK
SUITE 6050
WOBURN, MA 01801
617/390-2067

Mutual Funds
Annuities
Life, Health and Disability Insurance*
*Available through affiliates

48 SACRAMENTO STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138
617/661-3000
Neighborhood News

Slate for the ANC Board

Directors for two year terms:
- Fred Levy
- Kathleen Manion
- Sal Sagaresse
- Joan Squier
- Fred Willey

Officers for one year terms:
- Janet Rustow
- Joan Squier
- Fred Levy
- Sue Bergin

Cumberland Farms seeks license at Gulf

A hearing was originally scheduled for April 23 by Cumberland Farms to convert the full service gas station to self service. Neighborhood rumor had it that there were plans in the works for a convenience store as well.

Abutters, when they received notice from the License Commission, were most concerned that this issue had reached a hearing date without any contact from Cumberland Farms.

When the gas station changed hands in 1993, there were similar rumors. The ANC sent Cumberland Farms a letter outlining the need for a working relationship with the neighborhood. There were many traffic, safety and residential issues to be considered. Cumberland Farms agreed to contact us prior to any change in use.

After contacting the License Commission we did hear from the attorney for Cumberland Farms who agreed to meet with the neighborhood prior to their license hearing now scheduled for May 28.

There will be a meeting scheduled with representatives from Cumberland Farms in May. To receive information on this meeting and this issue, call the ANC at 349-6287.

Keep Our Neighborhood Clean

A neighbor has asked us to remind everyone that our neighborhood would look much better if we all took responsibility for cleaning up trash and debris in front and around our homes. There is still a great deal of litter from the winter, and we can all help improve our streets.

Lesley College in cooperation with the Agassiz Neighborhood Council will be sponsoring an Agassiz clean up on April 29. Lesley and Agassiz Afterschool students and teachers will be working in groups all over the neighborhood to remove trash.

Susana Segat Holds Community Hours May 9th

Susana Segat, School Committee Member, will be available to meet with Cambridge residents to discuss issues surrounding the Cambridge Public School system. Her community office hours are held on the second Wednesday of every month from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the Agassiz Community Center, 20 Sacramento St. This month due to a special budget meeting with the City Council scheduled for May 8th, Susana will meet with residents on May 9.

Traffic and Transportation

Brick or Concrete Sidewalks???

An interesting discussion took place at the April 23 ANC meeting. Members of the council argued the merits of concrete, rather than the brick sidewalks currently planned for Sacramento St. The sidewalks will be replaced this summer after the sewer work is completed on Sacramento St. between Oxford St. and Mass. Ave.

Most people agreed that brick looks better, but opinion was strong that it did not work better for wide segments of the pedestrian population. Many people have an extremely hard time getting around due to inevitable heaving of brick sidewalks. This includes not only wheelchairs, but strollers, as well as people with limited mobility or vision.

While the brick sidewalks planned for Sacramento St. are to be constructed in a way that will minimize the heaves associated with brick (use of a cement bed), this can be detrimental to tree growth and drainage. The cost to place this brick is also extremely high. There was some discussion of the tinted sidewalk used in front of the new Agassiz School, an improvement over the usual gray.

It was agreed to set a meeting to discuss the merits of both kinds of sidewalks. Steve White, Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Public Works agreed to set up a meeting that would supply more information on sidewalks and materials. This meeting will be set for sometime in May, so it can go out to bid in June. A meeting has been planned for May 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Agassiz School Cafeteria. Call the council at 349-6287 to be on the mailing list for this issue.

UNIVERSITY REAL ESTATE
"HOUSES NEAR HARVARD" "CHOICE CAMBRIDGE CONDOMINIUMS"
Fred Meyer, C.R.B., C.R.S., G.R.L., REALTOR ® (617) 876-1200
Certified Residential Real Estate Appraiser
Personally owned and managed for 33 years
Office: 5 J.F.K. St., overlooking Harvard Square
Home: 83 Hammond Street 876-1213

City Wide

Porter Square Monthly Meeting

The Porter Square Neighbors Association meets on the third Thursday of every month from 7-9 p.m. in the Metro Baptist Church at 16 Beech Street on the corner of Orchard St. Anyone interested in Porter Square is welcome. For more information call 576-3542.
Agassiz Community School

ARTS FESTIVAL AND OPEN HOUSE MAY 30

If you would like to see a sampler of Agassiz Afterschool activities, this is your chance. Come to the Agassiz School at 28 Sacramento St. on Thursday May 30 between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. There will be demonstrations and exhibits by the children in our programs featuring dance, martial arts, woodworking, drama, visual arts, creative writing, cooking and much more.

You will also have a chance to meet and talk to many of the specialists who teach these activities at the Afterschool. It is a great time to see if this Afterschool is the right one for your kids.

There will be entertainment and light refreshments. Look for a brochure which will be distributed through the Agassiz School and Agassiz Afterschool for more up to date information, or call 349-6287, and we will send you a flyer.

Agassiz Afterschool and Sacramento St. Preschool

Registrations are now being taken for fall. Call 349-6287 to visit, for more information or a brochure.

Outback Summer Camp

Brochures for OUTBACK SUMMER CAMP are now available. Children can be registered for as many as the full eight weeks of camp. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with an extended day option until 5:30 p.m.

Special activity areas include sports, arts, crafts, drama, nature, and dance. The Agassiz School will be available for rainy day activities.

To receive a brochure, or for more information on this day camp for school age children, call 349-6287 or stop into 20 Sacramento St.

Evening Programs

Yoga Has Begun

There is now an adult yoga class at the Agassiz School which meets on Mondays from 6:15-7:15. This first session will run through June 10th. The cost is $6 per class. Please call Jody Garber at 349-6287 for more information.

Basketball Continues

Basketball is available to teens on Monday nights between 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Agassiz Gym. The cost for the drop in program is $1 per session. On Wednesday nights, adult drop in basketball is available for $2 per session from 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Lesley College

Joint Agassiz-Lesley Clean Up Planned

By the time you read this, Agassiz neighborhood will be just a little bit cleaner thanks to a joint effort by Lesley College and Agassiz Neighborhood Council. On Monday April 29 you may have seen groups of Agassiz Afterschool kids picking up litter. They will be supervised by their teachers and Lesley students as they comb the neighborhood for trash. The cleaners will have protective gloves to wear, provided by Lesley.

The children will be thanked by Lesley College who will provide sundaes after the work is done at the Mellen St. campus.

Thanks to Jody Garber and Linda Brion Meisels who coordinated this event.

Seniors

Elder Services Coordinator Named

As part of its ongoing implementation of Community Oriented Policing in Cambridge, the Cambridge Police Department is pleased to announce that Community Oriented Policing Elder Services Coordinator Elizabeth Seelman will be available Mondays from 11:00 a.m. until Noon at the new Seniors Center in Central Square beginning in April. She will provide information and assistance to the senior community regarding crime and safety issues and existing police services. Ms. Seelman hopes that through education and by providing a direct link to police services that many of the senior community’s safety concerns can be addressed. Workshops on crime and safety issues can also be arranged.

The Cambridge Police Department also announces as part of the outreach at the Senior Center that police officers will be conducting periodic walk-throughs of the Center to introduce themselves to those in the building to familiarize seniors with individual officers and their work. Officer Sue Kale will be the first officer to begin the walk-throughs in April. Officer Kale is an authority on home and personal safety.
Honor Roll of ANC Donors from 1995

Miriam Adams and Dave Edelman
Leslie and John Akula
Peggy Badenhausen
Amy Barad
Charles Beye
Bill Borer
Kevin Brown and Deborah Galef
Elizabeth Browning
Jean Burden
Randy Byers and Danielle Levi-Alvarez
Cambridge Co-operative Club Trust
John and Quaker Case
Century 21 Avon
Jean Chapin Smith
Dr. Roberta Cohen
Jon Cummings
Rich Curran and Sharon Hamer
Katharine de Zengotita
Richard Deppe
Dana Realty, James DiNunzio
Mary Donaldson
Daria Donnelly and Steven Weissburg
Joan E. Donovan
Councillor Frank Duchay
Cambridge Trust Company
Lydia and Anthony Enos
Meri Fox
Sarah Gallivan and Gopal Kadagathur
Kotobukiya Inc.
Elaine Gifford
Ruth Goodman
Deborah Gould
Richard Griffin and Susan Keane
Mary, David and Charles Groark
Daniel Halston and Liliane Wong
George Hein and Emily Romney
Sandra Hewitt
JoAnn and Ross Hoffman
Margaret Huffa
Central Barbershop
Cambridge Natural Foods
Richard Kindleberger
Elizabeth Kline
Helena Lambert
Tom & Martha Lang
Bill Lazonick
Steve and Judy Leff
Sherry and Jim Leffert
Helen Lozoraitis
Healthworks
Kathleen Manion
Linda Marean
Wendy Martner and John Nagurney
Sharon McBride
Eileen McCarthy
HMFH Architects
Margaret Moore
Lynda Morgenroth
Loretta Morris
Fong and Mary Ning
Yvonne Pappenheim
Bruce Posner and Betsy Rudnick
Wendy Prellwitz and David Chilinski
Charles Preston
Cindy Quense and Tim Hughes
Susan and Terry Ragen
Rebecca Ramsay
Rosie's Bar and Grille
Michael D. Rosenberg
Herb and Betsy Rosenfeld
Ginger Ryan and Peter Kelsey
Wash and Shop Laundomat
Leighton Sheffy
David and Jane Shapiro
Henry Shawah
David Siegenthaler
Marshall Sikowitz
Richard and Mariana Silver
Cynthia Smith and Steve Imrich
Bonne Solomon
Lucy and Dan Strook
O'Sullivan's Pub Linda Sullivan
Patrick and Janice Thaddeus
Meridith Thompson
Mary Tiseo and George Pillsbury
May Waugh
Fred Willey
Marla Zarrow and Charles Skidmore

Agassiz Public School

Agassiz Auction is Set for June 7

The Annual Agassiz School Auction will be held in the Agassiz School on Friday evening June 7th, time to be announced. Funds are used to supplement extra-curricular activities and special classroom projects. Donations of items and services from merchants and members of the Agassiz community are greatly appreciated. Please call Pam Wickham at 547-3203 if you have any questions or to make a donation.

From the Events to Honor

Artist Nancy O'Neill and Maria Louise Baldwin March 29

Mounting the plaque honoring Maria Louise Baldwin. Left to right: Charles Sullivan, Cambridge Historical Commission, Eva Paddock, Agassiz School Principal, Lillian Kiner and LeRoy Cragwell, Afro-American Historical Committee, Mayor Sheila Russell, City Councillor Ken Reeves, Suzanne Green, Cambridge Historical Commission. Photo courtesy Astrid Dodds.

Nancy O'Neill (with her husband) is honored for creating the beautiful stained glass windows at Agassiz.
AGASSIZ CULTURAL EVENTS FOR MAY

Sacramento Street Gallery

"Teachers of Art" will open on May 1

This exhibit will showcase the work of nine teachers of art in Cambridge from the elementary to the high school level. The exhibit will give these teachers an opportunity to display their talent as artists in their own right. The gallery is located at 20 Sacramento St. in Cambridge. Hours are from 9-5 weekdays, and the show will run through May 31.

An opening reception is planned for Saturday May 4 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. to which the public is cordially invited. Artists exhibiting their work include: Robert Bouche, Teacher in Charge of Art at Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School; Lydia Garcia, Art Teacher at Agassiz School; Peter Bloom, Agassiz School grade 2/3 teacher, Cortney Skinner, Director of the Agassiz Illustrator's Studio, David Flood, Rose Bergeron and Clare Cox, Agassiz Afterschool Teachers; Anne Carroll and Robin Gile-Litwin, Art Teachers at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School.

NOONTIME CONCERT

Christian Carey, tenor, and Elaine Smith, piano, will be performing English art songs on Friday, May 3rd at North-Prospect Church in Porter Square Cambridge. Included in the 40-minute program will be Vaughan Williams' "Songs of Travel" and songs by Britten and Satie.

The concert is from 12:10 p.m. A $2 donation is suggested. The church is located at 1803 Massachusetts Avenue, at the corner of Roseland Street, where there is a handicap entrance on the lower level. For more information, please call (617) 547-1448.

ARTSPACE

ARTSPACE is exhibiting student ART WORK in a show called ARTSPACE-ARTWORKS at Harvard University, Gutman Library, May 5-18. The show represents work done over the past 2 years with 14 ARTSPACE students, 10-16 years of age. Agassiz students who are participating artists include KATIE CLARK, KAT CUMMINGS, SARAH REIFMAN-WHEELELR, DAVID HOFFMAN, ALEX MAZIANZ AND ALEX REIFMAN-WHEELELR. The show is curated by Carolyn Boross-Krinsky, Director of ARTSPACE. The opening is May 5 (Sunday) from 2-5 p.m. at the Gutman. All arc welcome.

Traditional Japanese Dance May 9

The Agassiz Neighborhood Council in Cambridge presents another distinctive and unusual cultural event. On May 9th at 3:00 p.m. Jo Ha Kyu Performance Group will introduce Japanese Imperial Court Dance, or bugaku, on the Agassiz School stage, complete with elaborate costumes and masks.

This event takes place on the May early release day for Cambridge Public Elementary Schools. Older students will attend a workshop earlier in the day, then take part in the performance. They will learn part of Nasori, a dance about playful dragons and wear the masks and costumes provided by the performers.

The performance takes place on the Agassiz School Stage located at 28 Sacramento St. in Cambridge. Admission is $1. Children and adults are welcome. There is no reserve seating, and doors will open 30 minutes before the performance. This program is part of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council's Introducing Art: A Performance Series for Children and is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Agassiz Neighborhood Council.

Scenes from OPERA TO GO's April 16 performance
The Whistler May 1996

FRESH POND BALLET
Nina Alonso Hathaway
Studio
1798A Mass. Ave. • Cambridge
491-5865
• Classical Ballet
• Pre-Ballet to
pre-professional
• Adult Classes

Announcements

Summer Tutor
"As the summer flies by, don’t let your child fall behind . . . ."

Education should continue throughout the entire year to foster a value of the educational process. This is the key to your child’s success in school.

I will tutor and individualize an educational plan that will benefit your child in the curricular areas which require mastering. I am a certified teacher (grades 1-6) and a Master’s candidate at Lesley College. I hold a certificate in tutoring from the University of Pittsburgh. Credentials, references and portfolio are available upon request.

Respond now so that we may begin discussing your child’s education. I would love to meet with you as well as your child’s teacher so that I may better understand your child’s educational needs.

For further details, please call Anne Marchessault @ 629-4751.

Healthworks Announces Programs
Cambridge Healthworks Fitness Center, located in the Porter Square Shopping Center next to Tags, announces two interesting health programs for women:

Osteoporosis Awareness Week
Tuesday evening, May 14th at 7:30 p.m. there will be a workshop on “Osteoporosis and the Physiology of Aging.”
This is open to all females over 18 years of age. Please call 497-4454 to add your name to the list.

Free Workout May 15
Healthworks would like to encourage women to take the first step toward exercise. Come in for a free workout anytime on this day between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. to celebrate The Great Massachusetts Workout. Allow 10-15 minutes to fill out a health questionnaire and have it assessed. All women over 18 may participate. Bring a friend.

AmeriCorps*NCCC Seeks Young Adults
AmeriCorps*NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps) is accepting applications from women and men ages 18-24 to serve in a full-time residential national service program. Young people of all backgrounds are wanted to serve in four areas: environment, education, public safety and disaster relief, and unmet human needs. AmeriCorps*NCCC is part of the AmeriCorps national service network that has 25,000 members in 1,100 communities nationwide.

If selected, members will live on campuses in Charleston, South Carolina; San Diego, California; Perry Point, Maryland; and Denver, Colorado beginning in October 1996. Members will receive a modest living allowance, room and board, limited health benefits and an education award of $4,725 to pay for education or pay back student loans.

For an application call 1-800-942-2677.

Your Neighborhood Realtor

Elizabeth Browning
For Your Real Estate Needs

COLDWELL BANKER
HUNNEMAN & COMPANY
1730 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138
864-4430 x 354
### COMMUNITY CALENDAR for MAY 1996

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 3, Friday</td>
<td>12:10 p.m.</td>
<td>Noontime Concert - North Prospect Church 1803 Mass. Ave. (see page 7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 9, Thursday</td>
<td>6:00-8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>School Committee Member Susana Segat Office Hours Agassiz Community Center, 20 Sacramento St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 14, Tuesday</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Sacramento St. Sidewalk Discussion with the DPW Agassiz School, 28 Sacramento St. door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 21, Tuesday</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Agassiz School Tours Agassiz Neighborhood Council ANNUAL MEETING Agassiz School, 28 Sacramento St. door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 21, Tuesday</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Agassiz School Tours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 27, Monday</td>
<td></td>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 28, Tuesday</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Cumberland Farms Licensing Hearing 831 Mass. Ave. (next to City Hall) 2nd floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 30, Thursday</td>
<td>5:00-7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Agassiz Afterschool Arts Festival and Open House Agassiz School, 28 Sacramento St. door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 7, Friday</td>
<td>Time TBA</td>
<td>Annual Agassiz School Auction at the Agassiz School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**THE WHISTLER ~ Newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council ~ FREE ~

MAY 1996**

Agassiz Neighborhood Council
20 Sacramento St.
Cambridge, MA 02138  349-6287
EMail 74572.1770@compuserve.com

DO NOT FORWARD

---

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