Established in the 1970s, the Agassiz Neighborhood Council (ANC) provides a forum for discussion and action, and works to enhance the quality of life in our community. In addition to direct action, such as engaging residents, the neighboring universities, and city government and departments in important dialogues, the council hosts regular monthly meetings and publishes this community newsletter.

The council encourages everyone to get involved! Suggest a topic to be discussed at a monthly meeting, organize a team of interested citizens on an issue important to you, enjoy our annual community events, join our email list for current news, or volunteer with Agassiz Baldwin programs.

Learn more on our website at www.agassiz.org.
ABC remembers Richard Kindleberger, a former reporter and editor at the Boston Globe, who was active on many Agassiz neighborhood issues. He lived on Prentiss Street for many years with his wife Jean, and his two daughters Carrie and Kate attended the Maria L. Baldwin School (then Agassiz School.) Mr. Kindleberger died on New Year's Day at age 67.

NEW PARENT-CHILD PLAY GROUP

Agassiz Baldwin Community currently hosts one parent and child group (preschool age children) that meets on Friday mornings from 9:30-11:30 AM in our Community Room located in North Hall, 1651 Mass. Ave. We are currently looking to expand the group to meet another morning of the week, probably on Monday or possibly Sunday. This group would be geared more toward families with younger infants or toddlers.

Please contact Emma Mrozicki at (617) 349-6287 x14 or emrozicki@agassiz.org for more information.

JOIN THE LWN ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Living Well Network (LWN) is looking for Cambridge residents who would like to take an active role in shaping our services by serving on our Advisory Council. Council members will help the LWN by hosting volunteer recruitment events, and by helping us create, promote, and organize activities and services. Our goal is to bring residents together to share their knowledge, skills, and energy to help make our community a safe and comfortable place in which to age.

The LWN Advisory Council meets one eve-
February has flown by! The children were excited to celebrate Valentine’s Day and express their love of school, family, and friends in many ways. We were very lucky to take a field trip to Barefoot Books where the children enjoyed listening to the many stories Alicia read to us. A guest from the Cambridge Public Library also paid us a visit to read and sing with her guitar.

This month Kim Lambert, our Preschool Teacher, introduced alphabet fitness to the Tuesday/Thursday group. They loved it, so we hope to continue in March and include the Monday/Wednesday/Friday class.

During the last week in February, the children enjoyed learning about the Olympics and pretended to skate, ski, and exercise like Olympians.

INTRODUCING ARTS PRESENTS TANGLEWOOD MARIONETTES

ABC Introducing Art and Club Passim Culture for Kids present Tanglewood Marionettes performing “An Arabian Adventure.” Featuring over a dozen beautifully hand-crafted marionettes and exquisite “story-book” style scenery, “An Arabian Adventure” tells the tale of a Persian prince who is thrown into a dungeon because of his love for a beautiful princess. Facing danger at every turn, the courageous prince must battle his way out of the underground prison to save his princess from a tragic fate.

Replete with clever stage illusions and lighting effects, “An Arabian Adventure” is an action-packed drama that is sure to delight audiences of all ages while introducing them to the magical world of puppet theater.

When: Tuesday, March 9, 2:00 PM
Where: Maria L. Baldwin School Stage, 28 Sacramento Street
Tickets: $2 per person, $5 per family, afterschool groups free with RSVP, call (617) 349-6287

COOKING WITH KIDS BAKES UP BROWNIES

Prepared by Annette Needle, LWN Volunteer

Please enjoy this report (below) written by Annette Needle, a volunteer with Living Well Network’s (LWN) Cooking With Kids program. Cooking With Kids pairs seniors in the Agassiz community with the young chefs of Agassiz Baldwin Afterschool to prepare delicious food and learn about nutrition. Read more about the program online at www.agassiz.org.

No one could dispute that “everyone loves chocolate” in this week’s cooking class. In honor of Valentine’s Day we decided to make our first dessert: individual brownie custards.

The class divided into two groups with each working on the same recipe. Everyone was excited and ready to grate/chop the squares of unsweetened chocolate and, of course, impatient to eat the results and enjoy the raw batter! We compared how each batter looked and noted the color and consistency differences between raw, grated, and chopped chocolate. Figuring
out how to chop the chocolate without turning one's hand into a mess was a challenge until one student held the chocolate bars with a fork while a second student chopped with a knife.

After baking, the students noticed how each tray of brownie custards looked different. We talked about how the variations in color and crusting of the final product had to do with the placement of the trays in the oven. There was only one complaint, the individual cakes looked smaller than the kids had anticipated, but the taste everyone declared was “yummy!”

Class discussion focused on the food pyramid, how often one enjoys the “extras,” the cacao bean, and the taste differences between dried and fresh fruits. Instead of making a special sauce or garnish for the custards using more sugar, we decided on a “test kitchen” of comparing fresh and dried fruits. The kids loved cutting up the fresh fruits, making individual plates for testing, and, of course, the taste testing.

**RECAP OF HIP HOP FESTIVAL 2010**

The 14th Annual Hip Hop Festival was a high-energy mix of dance, rap, singing, drumming, and quite a few Michael Jackson-inspired moves.

Returning favorites Jam‘nastics, Floorlords, Community Art Center Dance Crew, and Deborah Mason School of Dance were joined by new comers R&B singer Dazya Daye and Somerville High School World Percussion Ensemble. We were also treated to surprise performances by “Poet” rapper Owen Gallant and young students of an unknown troop (who were those dancing kids?). Master of Ceremonies Naheem Garcia charmed the crowd to a background of beats spun by DJ Luke Duke. What more could a crowd ask for? Find out next year!

Many thanks to Jacy Edelman, Alice Vogler, Micah Eglinton-Woods, and the Agassiz Baldwin Children’s Program team for pulling together a showcase of the amazing talents of Cambridge-area youth performers.
lashed “Hip and Hop, Don’t Stop” with Disney Hyperion.

COOL HAPPENINGS DURING FEBRUARY VACATION
Prepared by Alice Vogler, 1-5 Site Director

Hut reconstruction, veggie superheroes, tie-dying, fieldtrip to the Peabody Museum, dress up fashion show, chair transformation, group egg drop, snack making . . .

Vacation weeks are great because the kids get to mix and mingle; making it a great opportunity for our older students to act as mentors for the younger students. Each day there was a different group challenge with each group comprised of a mixture of different ages.

On the first day we organized an egg drop challenge. Each team got fifteen Popsicle sticks, ten straws, tape, and of course one egg to work with! The groups had twenty minutes to collaborate to create something to protect their egg. The eggs and their containers were then dropped from the top of a ten-foot ladder. Sadly none of the eggs made it, but the groups did an amazing job working together to create their containers.

On the last day each group received three straws, four lifesavers, one piece of paper, and some tape to create a movable vehicle. At the end of the challenge we hosted a race where one child from each group blew on the group’s vehicle to make it move. It was a fun race with everyone cheering his or her vehicles and teammates on.

It’s great to see the older kids helping and leading the younger kids. Our hope is that they will take these experiences of teamwork and use them everyday.

City Wide

SECOND ANNUAL CAMBRIDGE OPEN STUDIOS
Prepared by Cambridge Arts Council

Cambridge Open Studios (COS) is a collaboration with Cambridgeport Artists Open Studios (CAOS) and North Cambridge All Arts Open Studios (NoCa), as well as artists and organizations in East, West, and Mid-Cambridge.

The event literally puts Cambridge artists on the map with a guide directing visitors to the participating artists’ studios throughout the city. The Open Studios weekends also highlight the City’s public art collection of over 170 artworks in parks, municipal buildings, and open spaces. Cambridge Open Studios is a great way to explore the unique character of each neighborhood—the architecture, parks, playgrounds, shops, restaurants, and cafés.

Join us for Open Studios to meet hundreds of artists and discover unique paintings, jewelry, fiber arts, ceramics, film, mixed media, literary works, and more throughout the city.

What: COS North/West, including neighborhoods from Alewife and Fresh Pond, down to Porter and Harvard Squares
When: April 24 & 25, 12 PM-6 PM

What: COS East, including Lechmere, Inman, and Kendall Square
When: May 8 & 9, 12 PM-6 PM

What: COS Central, Central Square,
When: Tuesday, March 16, 2010
7:30 PM
Where: City Hall Annex, 344 Broadway,
Second Floor Meeting Room

WORK FOR THE 2010 CENSUS
Prepared by the US Census

The United States Census Bureau is currently looking to hire over two-hundred Cambridge residents at $22 per hour to work as Census takers on the 2010 Census. Interested parties may also call (866) 861-2010 for more info or simply log on to the Census Bureau website to take the practice test at www.2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs.

BEST SHOVELED BLOCK IN CAMBRIDGE CONTEST
Prepared by Green Streets Initiative

Does your block have well shoveled sidewalks? Nominate it for the Best Shoveled Block in Cambridge Contest, sponsored by the Cambridge Post Office, Green Streets Initiative, and Travel Responsibility Outreach & Mentoring Project (TROMP).

Send in nominations (picture and description) to Cambridge Post Office, 770 Mass. Ave, Cambridge, MA 02139, or e-mail walk-ride-days@comcast.net.

Entry deadline: March 5, 2010. The judges? Letter carriers, who use the sidewalks every day! The winner will be awarded at a ceremony at the Central Square Post Office on Walk/Ride Day, Friday, March 26, 2010.

City Ordinance requires that snow be removed from sidewalks within twelve hours after snow stops falling during the day and before 1 PM when snow falls overnight. Ice must be removed within six hours of forming. Please be sure to clear both sidewalks if you are on a corner, clear ramps at sidewalks, and please keep storm drains clear.
career twists and turns I have been bending wire and snipped metal and now, in retirement, I am back at it full time.”

Nancy T. Johnson, a Cambridge psychotherapist/psychoanalyst by training, states, “[I] experience the pleasure of transforming bits and pieces of found metal and wood scraps from the city streets of Cambridge and the Berkshire woods into whole structures –making something out of nothing– a spontaneous evolution from thoughts unknown, not yet formulated, until they are.”

Sheila Rice, Boston-native and a lifelong maker of art states, “I have for some time been working to resolve the conundrum: Image Revealed/Image Concealed. In my drawing with wet media, I always wanted to show the history of the drawing without destroying it. I devised a way of working so that I would remove some of my black painted lines with white paint, thus creating a new image but still keeping the original image visible . . .

[N]ow I am trying different ways of making images in heavier acrylic paint and then covering those images with layers or gestures of heavy paint . . . [m]eaning comes from the process used, I think. I sometimes must look at a painting for a long time before its message becomes clear to me.”

This show is free and everyone is invited.

For more information, contact Anne Hyland, Gallery Director, at ahyland@agassiz.org or Phoebe Sinclair, Community Liaison, at (617) 349-6287 or psinclair@agassiz.org.

Opening Reception: Friday, February 26, 5-7 PM
Gallery Hours: Mon. to Fri. 9:30 AM-5 PM
Community Calendar
March 2010

Monday, March 8  9:30 AM-11:00 AM  LWN “Oxford Spa Tea Talk” with Cambridge Public Library, 102 Oxford Street, RSVP required (see page 2)

Tuesday, March 9  2:00 PM  Introducing Art Performance Series & Club Passim’s Culture for Kids present “An Arabian Adventure” by Tanglewood Marionettes, Maria L. Baldwin School Stage, 28 Sacramento Street

Wednesday, March 10  6:00-7:30 PM  ABC Board Meeting, 20 Sacramento St., 2nd Floor Public welcome

Wednesday, March 17  Evacuation Day holiday, Agassiz Baldwin Children’s Programs closed, ABC Office open

Wednesday, March 24  7:30-9:00 PM  ANC Monthly Meeting (see page 1 for agenda) Maria L. Baldwin School Cafeteria, 28 Sacramento St. 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 email. 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.

The Whistler March 2010

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DO NOT FORWARD