

# the Whistler

Newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council

March 2010

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## ANC News

### NOTES: JOIN THE ANC

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.

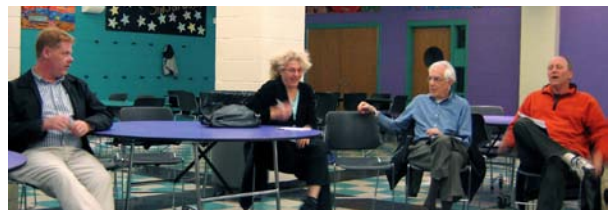
Learn more on our website at [www.agassiz.org](http://www.agassiz.org).

### Monthly Meetings

Regular monthly meetings are held, usually on the third Wednesday of each month, September through June from 7:30 to 9:00 PM in the cafeteria of the Maria L. Baldwin School, 28 Sacramento Street. Meeting agendas are printed on the first page of the previous month's Whistler newsletter and sent via email through our Community Notice email list.

### Become a Member

Any person who lives in the Agassiz neighborhood or whose children attend the Maria L. Baldwin School and/or are enrolled in Agassiz Baldwin Children's Programs is eligible to become a member of ANC. Membership is free!



### NEXT ANC MONTHLY MEETING



**MARCH 24 - 7:30 PM**

Maria L. Baldwin School Cafeteria  
28 Sacramento Street

### AGENDA

- Intro Michael Albano and Dan Hill, Candidates for Mass. State Senate
- Chestnut Hill Realty details upcoming renovations on Agassiz-area apartments
- ABC Board Report
- Lesley University Update
- Pedestrian improvements along Mass. Ave. between Cambridge Common & Upland Road



## Community

### **RICHARD KINDLEBERGER REMEMBERED**

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-

ning a month to discuss current projects and exchange ideas for new activities.

Learn more by contacting Nathaniel Meyer, LWN Volunteer Coordinator, at nmeyer@agassiz.org or (617) 349-6287 x16.

Read about LWN's current offerings online at [www.agassiz.org](http://www.agassiz.org).

### **OXFORD SPA TEA TALK WITH SPECIAL GUEST**

On Monday, March 8th, Carole Feeney Withrow of Cambridge Public Library (CPL) will present a talk on elder issues in fiction and non-fiction. The titles will feature non-fiction books addressing the subject of aging as well as seniors as heroes in fiction. Bring your CPL card; books may be checked out at the close of the discussion!

March's Oxford Spa Tea Talk will occur on the second Monday of the month. Complimentary tea and coffee are provided.

**When:** Monday, March 8th,  
9:30-11:00 AM

**Where:** Oxford Spa, 102 Oxford Street  
(corner of Oxford and Crescent)

To RSVP, please contact Nathaniel Meyer at (617) 349-6287 x16 or nmeyer@agassiz.org.

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## Agassiz Baldwin Children's Programs

### FEBRUARY PRESCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Prepared by Priscilla Browne, Preschool Lead Teacher

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](http://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

## CITYLINE FIX IT

Small Jobs



- Closets • Shelving
- Trim • Handrails • Grab bars
- Tile and Grout repairs
- Locks and Doors installed

Ellen Sippel esippel@gmail.com  
 Cambridge 617-491-5567

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.



Following the show, Agassiz Baldwin After-school students had the opportunity to write their own rhymes with local picture book author/illustrator Jef Czekajk, who recently pub-



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lished “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:** including Mid Cambridge, Area IV, and Cambridgeport  
May 22 & 23, 12 PM-6 PM

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

Learn more at [www.cambridgema.gov/CAC/](http://www.cambridgema.gov/CAC/).

**PROPOSAL FOR A WIND TURBINE ON VASSAR STREET**

Prepared by Cambridge Planning Board

The Cambridge Planning Board will hold a public hearing on an application (#246) by Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), to construct a free standing 2.4 kW Skystream wind turbine on its main campus, for the purposes of education, research, and small scale generation of electricity for on-site consumption as permitted in Section 11.43 of the Zoning Ordinance.

MIT proposes to install one wind turbine, but is submitting two sites (106 Vassar Street and 296 Vassar Street) for approval while conducting analysis to determine which site produces the best results.

Copies of this petition are on file in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall and at the Community Development Department, 344 Broadway. Questions concerning the petition may be addressed to Liza Paden at (617) 349-4647, TTY (617) 349-4621, or via email [lpaden@cambridgema.gov](mailto:lpaden@cambridgema.gov).

**What:** Public hearing for Wind Turbine

**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](http://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](mailto: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.

	<p><b>Peter G Meyersohn, CFP</b> Financial Advisor</p>
	
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Visit the Department of Public Work's website at [www.cambridgema.gov/snow](http://www.cambridgema.gov/snow) for additional information about snow removal requirements and resources, and topics like parking and plowing. The website also has a feature that allows residents to report icy or un-shoveled sidewalks using an online form.



## Sacramento Street Gallery

### "FOUR ARTISTS"

Sacramento Street Gallery is proud to present "Four Artists," on display from February 26 through April 9, 2010.

Painter Philip Gerstein states, "I am interested in the 'mood setting,' emotional effects of color. To that effect, I utilize shape, line, and texture in an arrangement that comes in a series of unpremeditated, interactive flows, alternating with periods of reflection and a kind of meditation, all aided and abetted by music –another great mood setter."



"Morning Spelled Backwards" by Philip Gerstein

Duncan Smith makes wire and metal mobiles. He states, "I see a coil of wire and a sheet of metal as an invitation to make something. I have always had this urge to make things. It started when I got a summer job helping boat builders plank skiffs. Designing and making things sprang from the joy of that job and led to my career as a designer, making furniture, and later as a museum exhibit designer.

As I started off my career, I made mobiles and wire and sheet metal sculpture that were sold by Paul Schuster, who owned Palmer Street gallery in Harvard Square. Two other outlets carried my wirework, but the income from bending wire was such that hunger loomed. Through several

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."



"Grilled Fish" by Nancy Johnson

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](mailto:ahyland@agassiz.org) or Phoebe Sinclair, Community Liaison, at (617) 349-6287 or [psinclair@agassiz.org](mailto: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](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 March 2010



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