

the Whistler

Newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council

December 2013

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ANC News

NOTES FROM NOV. 12 ANC MEETING

Update on Lesley University Art Center Construction

Marylou Batt, Vice President for Administration at Lesley, and John Sullivan, the University's new Director of Communications, provided an update for the Art Center now under construction at the corner of Roseland St. and Mass. Ave.

The renovated North Prospect church, a new four-floor building, and a two-story connector building are expected to be completed within a year and open for second semester 2015.

Upcoming work includes:

- Early December: complete the new foundation for the church (currently 2/3 done)
- Week of December 2: move the church south and forward of its current location
- Later in December: begin the foundation for the new building
- Winter 2014: complete the foundation and 1st and 2nd floors of the Art Center

- March 2014: complete the 3rd and 4th floors of the Art Center

Q&A

Q: Have you taken measures to reduce rodents?

A: We initiated rodent control before starting the excavation for the church's new foundation. There are traps out but no rats have been caught recently.

Q: Have you considered that the location of the HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) unit might present noise issues for abutting neighbors?

A: Lesley has run tests on noise levels and is complying with the City's regulations. Additionally, some of the HVAC equipment has been moved into the basement.

Q: Are the renovations for the Threshold Program* on schedule?

A: Due to weather and damage in one of the buildings, Lesley's renovations of several



NEXT ANC MONTHLY MEETING



DEC. 10 - 7:30 PM

Maud Morgan Arts
20A Sacramento Street
2D Studio, 2nd Floor

Agenda:

- Update on Fire Command Center (Hammond St.) with Harvard University
- Learn about Mass. Save with Cambridge Energy Alliance

houses on the Threshold campus along Oxford Street is behind schedule.

More Information

To stay abreast of Lesley University construction projects, sign up for weekly emails at construction@lesley.edu, or leave a message on the construction voicemail at (617) 349-8700.

For safety concerns contact Lesley Public Safety at (617) 349-8888.

* Threshold is a non-degree program that prepares students with special needs to lead independent lives. Learn more in the November 2011 edition of *The Whistler*.

Update: The North Prospect church was moved to its new location on Thursday, December 5th.

Harvard Update on “Bence Pharmacy” Site

Groundwater remediation work continues at 1607-1615 Mass. Ave., formerly the location of several retail stores (Central Barber, Evergreen dry cleaners, 3 Aces Pizza, Looks clothing boutique, etc.), sometimes referred to as the “Bence Pharmacy” site.

Tom Lucey, Director of Government & Community Relations at Harvard, reiterated that when dry cleaning solvents were discovered in the ground water at the corner of Mass. Ave. and Everett St., the University began a bioremediation process in 2010 that uses a combination of aged-water and food-grade oil to dissolve the pollution.

Mr. Lucey stated, “As part of the remediation process, Harvard is evaluating whether or not it is viable to retain key structural elements of the building. The remediation process may require demolition of the building.” He emphasized a commitment to keeping retail at the location, as desired by both the community and University.

In the meantime, Mr. Lucey is working with the University to install a new series of displays in

the empty windows of the storefronts.

Q: When do you expect the remediation process to be complete?

A: We have to clean the site to regulated specifications and it is an iterative process by which treatment is followed by testing. Therefore it is impossible to provide a precise date for completion. Following remediation, our goal to create retail space will require the community’s support because retail is not allowed by zoning on that parcel.

Q: What happened to 3 Aces Pizza and the other shops?

A: The owner of 3 Aces Pizza sold his liquor license and retired; Harvard helped Looks relocate to Harvard Square; and Central Barber moved to a nearby building.

Learn More

Read about this project in the October 2012 edition of *The Whistler*.



Community

THANKSGIVING POTLUCK RECAP

ABC extends thanks to this year’s eight turkey cookers, four turkey carvers, Agassiz Baldwin staff, Maria L. Baldwin School custodial and kitchen staff, and all



who contributed a delicious dish, good company, and conversation. We look forward to seeing everyone at next year’s 43rd annual event!

View photos from the event online at:
bit.ly/thanksgiving-potluck-2013

Leave a Dish?

Did you leave behind a dish or utensil at this year's potluck? Contact Phoebe Sinclair at (617) 349-6287 x10 or psinclair@agassiz.org.



Proceeds from the sale benefit the Agassiz Baldwin Children's Programs.



Maud Morgan Arts

CHANDLER GALLERY PRESENTS "DRAWN FROM WITHIN"

THANK YOU TO INFO DROP VOLUNTEERS

This past November, ABC sent outreach packets to introduce ourselves to new neighbors and inspire long-time residents to engage with our many programs and events. We would like to express our gratitude for the volunteers who helped us in our effort, delivering packets during chilly, rainy November.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Emily Anderson | Stephen Diamond |
| Larry Faye | Kate Frank |
| Hull Fulwieler | Richard Griffin |
| Susan Keane | Trish Marti |
| Fred Meyer | Wendy Prellwitz |
| Susana Segat | Andrea Walsh |
| Kathy Weller | |

This December, view "Drawn From Within: A Creative Community Presents," an exhibit that celebrates the diverse talents of Agassiz Baldwin and Maud Morgan Arts staff and faculty.



"Untitled" by Boriana Kantcheva

This show embodies the mission of Maud Morgan Arts to foster artistic exploration for beginners and professionals alike. It also demonstrates the sense of community among ABC & MMA staff and gives them a chance to appreciate their co-workers' creativity. As a whole, the exhibit will be a fascinating study of the personalities and visions behind an urban cultural non-profit organization.

KIDS ONLY! HOLIDAY SALE 2013

Kids are invited to this December's Kids Only! Holiday Sale to buy fun and inexpensive gifts for family and friends.



- When:** Wednesday, Dec. 4th to Friday, Dec. 6th and Monday Dec. 9th to Tuesday Dec. 10th, 3:00-6:00 PM
- Where:** Maud Morgan Arts, 3D Studio, 1st Floor, 20A Sacramento St.
- Contact:** Phoebe Sinclair, (617) 349-6287 x10, psinclair@agassiz.org

- When:** Thursday, December 5, 2013 - January 3, 2014
- Where:** Chandler Gallery, 20 Sacramento St.

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The Whistler newsletter is a neighborhood based vehicle for getting out the word about your business or service. Ads start at \$50 per month for business-card-size.

Learn more: bit.ly/whistler-advertising

Community Calendar

December 2013

Wednesday, December 4	3:00-6:00 PM	Kids Only! Holiday Sale 2013, Maud Morgan Arts, 20A Sacramento St., 1st Floor 3D Studio, through Friday, December 6; Monday & Tuesday December 9 & 10
Tuesday, December 10	7:30-9:00 PM	ANC Meeting (see page 1 for agenda) Maud Morgan Arts, 20A Sacramento St., 2D Studio All are welcome, please join us!
Wednesday, December 11	6:00-7:30 PM	ABC Board Meeting, 20 Sacramento St, 2nd Floor Public welcome
Tuesday, December 24		Christmas holiday, ABC Programs & office closed through Wednesday, December 25

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.

The Whistler December 2013



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