the Whistler
Newsletter of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council
October 2019

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ANC

NOTES FROM THE SEPT 10 MEETING

Stoked Pizza Opening at 1611 Mass. Ave.

Stoked Wood Fired Pizza Company Co-Founder Toirm Miller joined Agassiz Neighborhood Council's first meeting post-summer break to introduce his business, a restaurant and food truck serving hybrid coal-baked and wood-fired pizza, and its upcoming new location on 1611 Massachusetts Avenue.

Mr. Miller gave ANC members an overview of the company's history. Stoked Pizza started in 2014 as a food truck, which still runs and regularly visits Harvard's campus. In 2015, the food truck won "Best of Boston Pizza." In 2016, Mr. Miller and his partner Scott Riebling expanded the business to its first full-service restaurant in Brookline. Now, Stoked also provides event and corporate catering.

"We are truly a family-friendly neighborhood restaurant," he told ANC.

"We are just trying to make the best quality pizza we can in a nice, friendly atmosphere."

With the popularity of the Brookline restaurant, Mr. Miller and Mr. Riebling set their sights on Cambridge. Mr. Miller said he had some familiarity with the Agassiz neighborhood already: he lived on Elm Street (in the Wellington-Harrington neighborhood) for five years and worked at West Side Lounge.

He explained that the goal for the new location would be to fit the vibe of the Agassiz neighborhood by serving its different demographics, such as families, students, and young professionals. At the time of the meeting, the co-founders were in the process of applying for a liquor license with a hearing scheduled for September 11th.

"It's good for students and non-students to have a place to mingle," noted Fred Meyer, ANC Moderator.

NEXT ANC MONTHLY MEETING

November 12, 7:30 PM
Maud Morgan Arts,
20A Sacramento Street

AGENDA

- *Learn about The Little Crepe Cafe, coming to 102 Oxford St., formerly the location of Oxford Spa*
- *Residents discuss Off-Leash Pilot Program for Sacramento Field*

Mr. Miller told ANC he hopes to open the new location in the first quarter of 2020. In the meantime, Cambridge residents are welcome to visit the Brookline location to see how Stoked Pizza is run.

"We're hands-on operators," he said. "One of [the owners] will be at each location at all times."

Othewrise, Mr. Miller can be contacted via Stoked's website: www.stokedpizzaco.com.

Q&A

Q: What kind of pizza do you make?
A: It's a hybrid between New York/New Haven coal-baked and wood-fired Neapolitan. We're able to recreate the recipe in electric ovens.

Q: How late will Stoked Pizza be open?
A: Latest closing would be at 11:00 PM on Fridays and Saturdays. We will open at 11:00 AM, except for Sunday, we'll open at 12:00 PM.

Q: What is the restaurant's seating capacity?
A: We will have 74 seats and 14 bar seats

Q: How are you managing the trash, recycling, composting, and deliveries?
A: Deliveries will only be accepted during lunch hours - nothing before 8:00 AM or after 2:00 PM. Loading is in the back of the building. Trash, recycling, and composting services are provided by Harvard (which owns the building).

Q: Who do you see as your primary customer?
A: I wouldn't say we have one. I would like to think of pizza as one of those universal joys. We're a bit of a destination in Brookline, where we see a lot of people from Cambridge who have been hoping we'll open a place in Cambridge.

Q: What will your hiring process be?
A: There is definitely a bit of a crunch in the employee pool. I've never seen anything like it, and I've been in the industry for over 25 years. There are a lot of people interested in making pizza, so we're fortunate in that aspect. We currently have 42 employees between the truck and the restaurant in Brookline. For the Cambridge location, we'll be marketing to students and other people in the area, but we expect a little cross over with employees from other locations.

Youth & E-Cigarettes

Kathy Dalton, the new Living Well Network Coordinator at Agassiz Baldwin Community, attended the September 10th ANC meeting to speak about a concern separate from her work with ABC: youth and e-cigarettes.

Ms. Dalton described an "epidemic" of e-cigarette use, often referred to as "vaping," from middle school through high school students. The problem, as she explained, is that while these products are marketed as "safer" than traditional cigarettes, one cartridge in a vaping tool is equal to one pack of cigarettes. It both absorbs faster than traditional tobacco and causes lungs to take in more nicotine. For this reason, she said, it is also easier to become addicted.

Emergency rooms are seeing an influx of nicotine poisoning and, more recently, cases of severe pneumonia, some of which have resulted in death, Ms. Dalton said. According to the Center for Disease Control, there have been 1,479 reported lung injury cases and 33 deaths as of October 15th, 2019. Ms. Dalton also expressed concern that these products are being advertised to children and teenagers, who then obtain them illegally.

"[With] flavors like bubblegum and cupcake . . . the marketing is clearly designed to target kids," she told ANC.

Ms. Dalton is member of a group of concerned parents and Cambridge residents that want to see a restriction or ban on the sale of these devices to young people. As a parent of a high school student, Ms. Dalton emphasized the importance of youth leadership on the issue and is also collaborating with the student government at the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School.

Since Ms. Dalton's presentation on September 10th, there have been a few developments in the effort to restrict or ban e-cigarette sales.

On September 16th, Cambridge City Council unanimously passed an order to allow the city's Public Health Department to work with the Mayor's office to draft an ordinance. The ordinance would limit the sale of flavored e-cigarettes to 21+ establishments, eliminate the exemption for mint and menthol flavors, address the pricing of small cigars (which are artificially cheap compared to other tobacco products against which higher taxes are levied), and allow the group to look at other measures. On September 24th, Governor Charlie Baker placed a four-month ban on the sale of all e-cigarettes in MA.

On October 30th, from 7:00-9:00 PM, the parent group will host an educational forum to share the health concerns of e-cigarette use and possible policy responses. Ms. Dalton asked ANC to co-sponsor the event, and meeting attendees voted unanimously to do so.

For more information on this group's educational efforts, visit: https://cambridgevapingforum.wordpress.com/

Q&A

Q: How are kids getting [e-cigarettes and vapes]?
A: A couple of ways. A kid that looks older or is older goes into a store, buys a bunch and then sells them. We don't have evidence that certain stores are selling them, but I know that underage kids have been sold them. Kids also purchase them over the Internet. Currently, the age restriction is 21+ to purchase.

Q: How much do they cost?
A: It costs $30 to get started with the device and five cartridges. There is some way that kids are getting them cheaper, then selling them at the [market] JUUL price.*

*Note from Ms. Dalton: Since the September 24th ban, minors are illegally reselling devices and cartridges between three to five times the retail price.

Q: What's the difference between vaping and cannabis?
A: The same technology used for vaping is used for cannabis, which is legal in Massachusetts to vape in your own home for those over 21.

Q: How can we limit diversion: sale and consumption of these products by underage kids?
A: Some towns and cities in Massachusetts have set limits, such as where they're sold or banning the sale of them altogether. The proposal is that Cambridge, at a minimum, limit sales to establishments where you have to be 21+ to enter. When we limited sales of this product to adults 21 and over, we also eliminated all other flavored tobacco products from the Massachusetts market. Now MA only allows mint and menthol cigarettes and small cigars.

CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES' FORUM REPORT

Prepared by Phoebe Sinclair, ANC Community Liaison

The Cambridge City Council Candidates Forum, held on Thursday, October 17, 6:00 to 9:00 PM, was a success! 14 of the 22 candidates participated, and the event was well attended.

During the forum candidates were divided into two panels, from which they responded to two rounds of questions. First they spoke on a topic of their choice from a list developed using a neighborhood poll (see topic

areas below). Lastly, each candidate answered the question: *What is your highest priority for the City Council and what abilities, knowledge, and experience do you bring to addressing that priority*?

Topic Areas

Congestion: What should the Council do to improve the balance between the competing needs of drivers, bicyclists, pedestrians, public transit users, ride shares, paratransit and delivery vehicles?

Supporting small businesses: How can Cambridge attract new and maintain existing small locally-owned businesses? Considerations include: rising real estate values and higher rents, the omnipresence of online shopping/overnight delivery, and other issues with parking, regulations, etc.

Accountability: What can the council do to make sure developers are held accountable for delivering on promises? How should city officials hold developers accountable and be sure that city ordinances are enforced?

Housing: What should City Council do to make Cambridge a more viable option for those of low and moderate income who want to live here, whether renters or home-owners?

Campaign finance reform: How can we limit the undue influence of money in our city elections?

Climate change: What specific actions would you, as a councilor, take to ensure that the city has resilience against catastrophic weather and/or is leading in the broader effort to address global warming?

Education: What role do you think the City Council can play in making Cambridge schools the best for all of our children?

Social Safety Net: What are the holes in the city's safety net and what would you propose to mend them for vulnerable populations, including but not limited to low-income people, people of color and ethnic, racial, and sexual minorities, immigrants, elders, and families?

Sponsors & Supporters

The Forum was organized by a steering committee from Porter Square Neighbors Association (Ruth Ryals, Susan Hunziker), ABC/ANC (Phoebe Sinclair, Jessica Leach), and Association of Cambridge Neighborhoods (Gary Dmytryk), plus moderator Alice Wolf and time-keeper Susana Segat.

Lesley University graciously donated their auditorium in University Hall. We extend our gratitude to Lesley Communications Director John Sullivan, who saw to it that everything went smoothly. We also thank CCTV's Seth Myer and his assistant for taping the forum to be aired on CCTV and hosted online.

Learn More

Watch the Forum on CCTV at:
http://bit.ly/candidates_forum_video_2019

Photos can be found at:
http://bit.ly/candidates_forum_2019_photos

FORUM ON TEENS & VAPING

Learn about the many health risks of e-cigarette use among teens and current efforts to address it on the local, regional, and national level.

Date:	Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2019, 7:00–9:00 PM
Location:	Lesley University, 1815 Mass. Ave, 2nd Floor Amphitheater
Info:	http://bit.ly/camb_vaping-forum

Sponsors: Porter Square Neighbors Association; Agassiz Neighborhood Council; Amigos School Council; Marc McGovern, Mayor of Cambridge; Patty Nolan, Cambridge School Committee, and Emily Dexter, Cambridge School Committee

Community

LOOKING BACK ON OUTBACK SUMMER PROGRAM 2019

Prepared by Ashley Yee, Children's Programs Special Projects Manager

This past summer went by in a blur for Agassiz Baldwin Community's children's programs staff, who delivered another summer of engaging outdoor programming for 300 local youth and around 70 additional middle schoolers. This year Directors piloted a new model that gave teachers more leadership opportunities and offered youth smaller communities to play and learn in. The delivery of Outback Summer Program is a team effort here at ABC; Maud Morgan Arts provides additional program spaces and resources, and our development team works all year to fundraise for our Equity and Access Scholarship Initiative. (Agassiz Baldwin Community granted over $50,000 in scholarship awards this summer.)

The Outback 2019 staff included a number of children's program alums, who were excited to return as teachers to create unique Outback experiences for a new generation. (Many stayed involved over the years through the Counselor-in-Training program, then Mayor's Youth, before finally joining our teaching staff.)

Former children's programs teacher and current Maud Morgan Arts instructor Ian Prishwalko designed this year's Outback T-shirt, which Outbackers wore during their weekly beach trips and other off-site outings. Field trips included taking the ferry to Spectacle Island, taking part in the Esplanade Association's Children in the Park day, and visiting cultural institutions ranging from the Boston Nature Sanctuary to the Puppet Showplace Theater.

Summer highlights included a drama club's reenactment of the "seagull incident", which explored a beach trip event from three unique perspectives, and a youth-led charitable lemonade stand. Check out pictures from this summer: http://bit.ly/outback_photos_2019.

Agassiz Baldwin Community's children's programs offers a Kindergarten and 1st-5th Grade Afterschool, as well as vacation week programming and youth employment programs. Our teachers are trained to deliver the Nurtured Heart Approach, a relationship-focused methodology that seeks to build social-emotional skills in youth. Interested caregivers can contact Jess Leach at registration@agassiz.org to learn more about our programs and inquire about financial aid.

SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL THANKSGIVING POTLUCK

Come to our 48th Annual Thanksgiving Potluck Feast!

When: Tuesday, November 26, 5:30-7:30 PM
Where: Maria L. Baldwin School Dining Hall, 85 Oxford St.
Info: http://bit.ly/thanksgiving-pot-luck-feast

Chefs Needed

Help make Thanksgiving memorable by volunteering to cook a turkey for the Potluck. We will deliver a free turkey and roasting pan, or ingredients for a meat-free main dish, to volunteers' homes the week of the event.

Volunteers drop off the cooked turkey (no stuffing, please) or meat-free main dish before dinner begins on the evening of Tuesday, November 26th.

We need **five more volunteers** to cook turkey, and three to help carve just before and during the event.

To volunteer, contact Phoebe Sinclair at psinclair@agassiz.org or (617) 349-6287 x10.

SAVE THE DATE: KIDS ONLY! HOLIDAY SALE 2019

Come to the Annual Kids Only! Holiday Sale. ABC staff members and student volunteers will be on hand to help kids browse and purchase fun and inexpensive gifts for someone they love.

Date and Time
Thursday, December 12, 3:00-6:30 PM
Friday, December 13, 3:00-6:30 PM
Saturday, December 14, 10:00 AM-1:30 PM
(while supplies last)

Location
Maud Morgan Arts, 1st Floor 3D Studio, 20A Sacramento St.

Donate Like-New Items to Kids Only! Holiday Sale

Got stuff to donate? From **Friday, November 8th to Friday, December 6th**, donations will be accepted in the box located in the front lobby of Maud Morgan Arts, 20A Sacramento Street.

We are seeking items that are:
- New or like-new condition
- Items that appeal to people of all ages
- Fun to receive as a gift

Learn more: http://bit.ly/kids-only-holiday-sale

NEW WHISTLER MASTHEAD TO DEBUT THIS WINTER

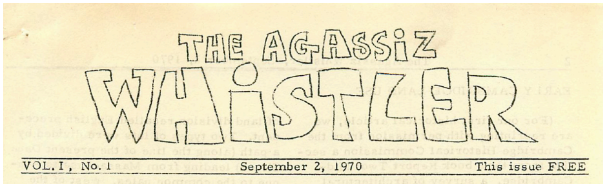
How are the images on the next page related? They've served as banners for *The Whistler*. Your neighborhood newsletter began circulation in 1970, with many wildly different mastheads –handwritten, cut-and-paste, and computer-generated-- greeting readers over the past near half-century.

The Whistler's current masthead is comprised of Dalliance Script, Dalliance Roman, and Dalliance Flourishes, a font family created by Frank Heine in 2000. Heine, a German commercial artist and designer, "based [the font] on elegant handwriting found on a map of a battle between Habsburg Coalition and France . . . in southwest Germany, in 1799.[1]" Its use in *The Whistler* began in January 2002.

A new masthead is currently in production, commissioned from painter and printmaker Ian Prishwalko, who has taught at Agassiz

Baldwin Community and Maud Morgan Arts since 2017. Stay tuned for a sneak peak in an upcoming edition.

1. https://www.emigre.com/Fonts/Dalliance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the AGASSIZ WHISTLER
December 1980

the agassiz WHISTLER
September 1990
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AGASSIZ NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

SCENES FROM THE HAMMOND ST. BLOCK PARTY

ANC Meeting Moderator, Board Director, and Hammond St. resident Fred Meyer submitted the photos below of the annual Hammond St. Block Party, which brought together neighbors for food, fun, and live music.

SPACES AVAILABLE IN AGASSIZ BALDWIN AFTERSCHOOL

Our choice-based after school program has space available for Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten students!

Financial aid options available. Please contact registration@agassiz.org for more information.

City Wide

U.S. CENSUS JOBS

Prepared by the United States Census

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting thousands of people across the country to assist with the 2020 Census count. To apply or learn more visit: https://2020census.gov/en/jobs

VOLUNTEER FOR A CITY BOARD OR COMMISSION

Prepared by the City of Cambridge

The City of Cambridge encourages and promotes involvement by residents in the decision-making process through participation in a variety of boards and commissions. Serving on a board or commission can be a rewarding experience and an excellent way to contribute to the quality of life of the community in which you live or work. We rely greatly on the interest and involvement of those volunteers who seek a more active role in the functioning of their local government.

Learn more at: http://bit.ly/camb-board-vacancies

Community Calendar
October & November 2019

Wednesday, October 30	**7:00-9:00 PM**	Forum on Teens & Vaping, Lesley University, 1815 Mass. Ave, 2nd Floor Amphitheater
Monday, November 11		Veterans' Day holiday, ABC & MMA programs & office closed
Tuesday, November 12	**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, November 13	**6:00-7:30 PM**	ABC Board Meeting, 20 Sacramento St., 2nd Floor Public welcome
Tuesday, November 26	**5:30-7:30 PM**	48th Annual Thanksgiving Potluck, Baldwin School Dining Hall, 85 Oxford Street
Thursday, November 28		Thanksgiving holiday, ABC & MMA programs & office closed

The Whistler is published monthly September-June by the Agassiz Baldwin Community, distribution 750 in 2019. Call (617) 349-6287 to receive by email or mail. The newsletter is available online at www.agassiz.org. Items of interest to the neighborhood should be submitted for consideration no later than the 15th of the month prior to publication date. Editorial team: Phoebe Sinclair, Community Liaison & Editor; Jessica Leach, Scribe; Ashley Yee, Guest Writer.

The Whistler October 2019

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