



Message from the City Manager

I am pleased to announce that Cambridge recently received two awards that highlight our efforts to promote a healthy environment by adopting sound and energy efficient practices in our community. The Environmental Protection Agency named the City of Cambridge as one of the Best Workplaces for Commuters. Cambridge became the first municipality to join the elite list that recognizes leading, innovative employers committed to improving their communities by reducing traffic congestion and air pollution and improving the health and quality of life for thousands of commuters in the region.

Cambridge was also chosen as one of only three recipients to receive the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Environmental Purchasing and Sustainability Awards for FY06. The City was selected for the award as a result of our efforts in the areas of climate protection, energy management, green building construction and greening of our fleet.

Several months ago, the City of Cambridge participated in Operation Poseidon, one of the largest homeland security emergency drills ever conducted. Preparing for a variety of potential emergencies and improving interagency communications during an emergency are crucial. We're doing our part but I'd also like to urge our residents to think about what you need to be doing to better prepare for an emergency. As of this newsletter production deadline, we were preparing to mail out a new emergency preparedness brochure that we urge you to read carefully, review with your family and take some proactive measures at home.



Poseidon Drill Tests Emergency Preparedness



The Poseidon drill enabled first responders to work on interagency communications. Photo by Ron Richard.

In September, the City of Cambridge participated along with various local, state and federal public health and safety agencies in a homeland security training exercise called Operation Poseidon. The City's Emergency Operations Center was activated by the City Manager at 5:30 a.m. The drill, which consisted of simulated acts of terrorism in various locations, gave first responders and management personnel the opportunity to gauge the effectiveness of response, training and equipment. The purpose of this emergency preparedness exercise was to assess the tools and training that first responders currently possess, make improvements where needed, and reinforce skills and equipment that work well. Improving interagency communications and collaboration is also an important part of this process.

Emergency Preparedness Brochure Offers Helpful Tips

The Cambridge Public Health Department's Advanced Practice Center for Emergency Preparedness and the City of Cambridge have produced a new brochure with helpful information on preparing for an emergency. It has been direct mailed to all Cambridge households. If you did not receive a copy or would like additional copies, please contact

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Thousands of Cambridge families enjoyed amusement rides, arts and crafts, the energy adventure tent, music, and free hot dogs, chips and sodas at the 11th Annual Danehy Park Family Day. This free community event is coordinated through the City Manager's Office.

Project Updates



Cooling off on a hot summer day at Gold Star Mothers Park.

Gold Star Mothers Park Improvements

The City completed renovations to Gold Star Mothers Park on Gore Street in East Cambridge in August 2006. In addition to new play equipment and an exciting water play area, renovations included new fencing, surfacing and signage. The entire park received new lighting, improved pathways, benches and tables, and many new trees. New bleachers, player benches and back-stop fencing were installed around the softball field and improvements were made to the basketball court. Entrances to the park were beautified with plantings, brick pavers and columns displaying bronze relief sculptures by artist Robert Schelling, commissioned through the City's One Percent for Art Program. The design for the park renovations was developed in a series of community meetings with the East Cambridge Planning Team and neighborhood residents who provided valuable input into the design.

Alden Park / Baldwin School Playground Improvements

Renovations to Alden Park at the Baldwin School in the Agassiz neighborhood took place over the summer and were completed in October 2006. The playground has all new play structures for school-age children and toddlers, as well as new water play, sandbox, seating throughout the park, and improved lighting. Some new plantings were added within and along the edge of the park and nearly all the existing shade trees were preserved. The new design was developed through a series of community meetings held at the Baldwin School. Neighborhood residents as well as students, parents, and staff from the Baldwin School were able to provide helpful input for the design.



Playtime at Alden Park.

A Great New Option for North Cambridge Pedestrians & Cyclists

After two years of construction, the underpass between Walden Square Road and Yerxa Road has reopened to pedestrians and cyclists looking for a safe, direct route across the commuter rail line in North Cambridge. Located behind Peabody School and Rindge Field, the underpass allows easier access between numerous facilities on the north side of the tracks and residential areas on the south side. The new underpass is fully accessible, has better lighting, and is much more welcoming with new landscaping and public art.



A commuter rail train passes above while pedestrians safely cross below in the recently completed underpass. Artist Randall Thurston created the striking design for the double entrance and interior tile walls.



Little Fresh Pond Gets a Facelift

Little Fresh Pond (LFP), located on the western end of Fresh Pond Reservation, has been the center of an extensive landscape restoration project over the past year. The Fresh Pond Reservation Master Plan identified Little Fresh Pond as an area of very high priority for restoration due to compaction of the shoreline, erosion and overuse. Subsequently, a Shoreline Restoration and Drainage Improvement Project has helped mitigate risks to the health and quality of the water in Little Fresh Pond and restored natural beauty to its shoreline.

Making improvements to the environment of Little Fresh Pond was a complicated undertaking that included integrating the needs of the various users of the popular spot. The pond is bordered by Fresh Pond Golf Course on one side and by the heavily used Perimeter Road on the other.

Many Cambridge dogs find relief from hot days in the water, while other animals—such as waterfowl and turtles—call Little Fresh Pond home. The health of the water at Little Fresh Pond will be vastly improved through restoration of the shoreline and wetland systems of the pond. The banks of the pond had become compacted and the vegetation trampled, which had led to very severe erosion problems. Now, a majority of the shoreline has been reloaded and replanted with a mixture of wet meadow and wetland plantings. A water-access point at the southeastern end of Little Fresh Pond has been fortified with a combination of stabilized aggregate and stone surfaces that will minimize impacts from users. Formerly isolated wetlands on the golf course have been reintegrated into the pond's drainage system, increasing filtration of the water.

The end result is a beautiful, universally accessible space that we hope Cambridge residents and visitors will have a chance to enjoy for a long time to come!

Community Preservation Act Generates \$60 Million for Affordable Housing, Historic Preservation, Open Space



Cascap completed rehab of six affordable rental units on Cambridge St.

In November 2001, Cambridge voters approved adoption of the Community Preservation Act (CPA), a state law that allows the City to receive matching funds from the state for money raised locally in support of affordable housing, historic preservation and protection of open space. The local portion of CPA funding is raised through a 3% surcharge on property taxes. With the latest appropriation for fiscal year 2007 of \$12.5 million, the City has appropriated/reserved a total of \$59.6 million in CPA funds, of which approximately \$28 million was the result of the state match.

The CPA surcharge has an essentially neutral impact on tax bills because funding of affordable housing, historic preservation and open space initiatives has been shifted from the tax levy to the surcharge. The City continues to allocate a similar amount of local funds to these initiatives. However, the state match has enabled the City to double the amount of funding appropriated for these initiatives. To date, Cambridge has received more CPA matching funds from the Commonwealth than any other participating community. Consequently, Cambridge residents will benefit from important housing, historic preservation and open space initiatives throughout the city for years to come.

The CPA Committee, appointed by the City Manager, consists of Cambridge residents, representatives from the Affordable Housing Trust, Historical Commission, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Cambridge Housing Authority and City staff. This volunteer group makes recommendations on how the CPA funds should be used annually. Prior to forwarding recommendations to the City Council, the CPA Committee holds an advertised public meeting each year to solicit input from Cambridge residents regarding priorities in the areas of affordable housing, historic preservation and open space. Below is an overview of projects to date.

Affordable Housing Projects

The \$37.68 million in CPA funds raised in fiscal years 2002 through 2006 for affordable housing initiatives have already been leveraged to support the creation or preservation of approximately 443 units of affordable housing throughout the city. CPA funds are used in the preservation of expiring use units, acquisition and creation of rental units and creation of first-time homebuyer units. It

is important to note that the City, through the Affordable Housing Trust (which administers CPA funds for affordable housing), has been able to leverage the amount it has received with over \$90 million from other funding sources. For FY07, \$10 million has been allocated to affordable housing initiatives from CPA funds. Some examples of current and planned projects include:

- Completion of renovations on six affordable rental units in East Cambridge;
- Construction of 13 affordable homeownership units to begin on Columbia St;
- Construction of 40 affordable rental and homeownership units nearing completion at Trolley Square;
- Creation of 30 affordable homeownership units on Harvard Street at Davis St;
- Creation of 9 affordable homeownership units in Porter Square;
- Acquisition of 24 affordable rental units in multi-family buildings around the city and;
- Acquisition of 22 new first-time homebuyer units.

Historic Preservation Projects

CPA funds also helped support the Cambridge Historical Commission's Preservation Grants program, providing funds to conduct restoration of historic exteriors on affordable housing projects throughout the city. CPA eligible activities include the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation or restoration of historic resources. Approximately \$4.7 million in CPA funds allocated between FY02-06 have been obligated for: residential and non-profit institutional preservation grants; to support the renovation of the Cambridge Public Library's historic interior and exterior spaces; floor and stair replacement in public areas of City Hall; restoration of the historic Cambridge Common; restoration of the historic Cambridge Cemetery fence and chapel; Brattle-Craigie historic wall repair; and restoration of the Fresh Pond Golf Course Clubhouse cupola and clock. Additional Historic Preservation projects funded by FY07 CPA funds totaling \$1.25 million include:

- Continued Funding of Historic Preservation Grants Program;
- Additional Funding for stair restoration in City Hall;
- City Council Chamber improvements;

- O'Connell Branch Library window replacement;
- Renovation of Electrical Department Garage (former Fire House);
- Engine 5 (Inman Square) Renovations;
- Fort Washington Fence improvements;
- Restoration of Archival document collections;
- Improvements to Cambridge Cemetery granite steps and curbs.

Open Space Projects

It is important to note that in the area of open space preservation, the CPA legislation currently restricts communities from spending CPA funds on active and passive recreation-related open space projects; however, the City regularly dedicates other sources of funds for the renovation and maintenance of its many parks and recreation areas.

Major open space initiatives funded through CPA include the implementation of the Fresh Pond Reservation Master Plan (including the Northeast Sector Habitat Restoration Project and Little Fresh Pond shoreline restoration, as well as soil stabilization and stormwater swale restoration schematic design projects) and the purchase of a 16 acre parcel in Lincoln, Massachusetts adjacent to Stony Brook (part of Cambridge's public water supply). The Lincoln parcel purchase was part of an overall partnership with the Town of Lincoln to purchase and protect a total of 54 acres of watershed land, which will protect the quantity and quality of the City's water supply. In addition, \$153,654 was used in July 2005 to purchase a parcel of land at 12-14 Watson Street for a passive open space/community garden.

In FY07, upon the recommendation of the Open Space Working Group, \$1.25 million was appropriated to continue the Fresh Pond Reservation Master Plan implementation (\$835,000), including Little Fresh Pond shoreline restoration, restoration of the Old Birch Grove and associated bio-swales, slope stabilization efforts for Kingsley Park and Glacken slopes, and installation of an earthen berm within the Fresh Pond Reservation for watershed and stormwater management. In addition, \$415,000 was reserved for future open space acquisition and restoration.

Technology Update:

Your City Government Comes to You

Reprinted excerpts from *The Cambridge Life Magazine* Fall 2006-Winter 2007

Over the last few years, Internet services such as banking, shopping and music downloads have become so easy that even technophobes are able to take advantage of them. While many Cambridge residents pride themselves on staying at the forefront of technology innovations, the convenience and ease-of-use of some new online services offered by the City of Cambridge is too much for even the "late adopters" among us to pass up.

Ever-Expanding Online Services

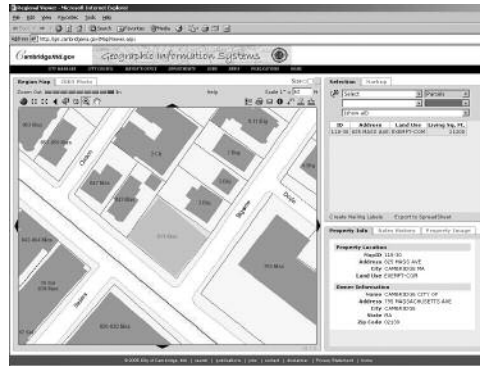
The City of Cambridge is constantly looking for ways to bring your City government to you rather than making you come to them. Among new and improved services are online bill paying and online permit applications. Online bill paying, available since 2002, has seen a significant increase in popularity recently. Simply by visiting www.cambridgema.gov and clicking on Pay Bills Online, you can pay your motor excise tax, water bill or even parking tickets from the comfort of your living room. The motor excise tax feature, which allows you to pay your bill remotely via credit card, has proven particularly popular!

Online permit applications, which are available from many different City departments, were streamlined in early 2006. Since these technological improvements, this feature has become extremely popular. For instance, of the seven permits from the Traffic Department that can be submitted online – including moving van permits and moving container permits – more than half of all submissions are received over the Internet!

Cambridge currently offers 54 permit forms and applications through the City's Website, some of which can be submitted online, while others can be filled out digitally, then printed and mailed in for approval. For a full list of available applications, visit www.cambridgema.gov and click on City Permits & Applications.

Cambridge E-Line Keeps You In The Loop

Last year, the City of Cambridge launched a free E-mail subscription service called Cambridge E-Line. The weekly digital newsletter is essentially a snapshot of the front page of the City's website, with optional links to the latest City news, Calendar of Events, City Council Agenda, Construction Updates, Job Openings and more. E-Line subscribers can also sign up for helpful alerts such as street cleaning reminders, snow emergency parking bans and school closings. Many City departments produce brochures, class catalogs and regular newsletters that subscribers can opt to receive once they are posted online. Visit www.cambridgema.gov and



Access GIS Data with Cambridge CityViewer.

click on the "E-Line" link to start your subscription today.

New Online GIS Map Tool

A Geographic Information System (GIS) is a computer resource that makes map creation and information retrieval efficient and easy. Cambridge has a significant investment in its GIS, which is used by planners and City staff in nearly every department of the City. Examples of common GIS data include tax, infrastructure, park, school, transportation, and planning information.

Until recently, the public could only get a specific set of fixed maps from the City website. The public can now interactively access GIS data with the new online **Cambridge CityViewer**. Users can search by address for places of interest and then get information about nearby objects. For example, a user can search for their house and find the closest library, park, or historical place. They can even get tax information about their property, simply by clicking on it. The CityViewer can be found at: www.cambridgema.gov/GIS.

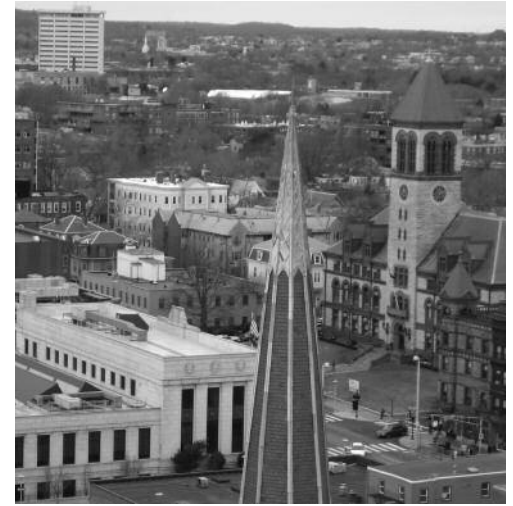
Cambridge Public Internet Coming Soon

The advent of wireless Internet access (or WiFi) promised a whole new level of convenience. However, if you've ever lost valuable time looking for an open connection, you know how aggravating that search can be – but not for long! The City's Information Technology Department (IT) has undertaken a special initiative to blanket Cambridge with free basic-level wireless access over the next few years.

The Cambridge City Council asked the administration to explore a municipally implemented wireless network that would serve the entire City free-of-charge. After extensive research, the IT Department began working collaboratively with MIT in the spring of 2006 to roll out an MIT-developed "mesh" or "Roofnet" delivery system. This innovative technology leverages existing City infrastructure (including the fiber network and existing Internet connections) by using small antennas placed on rooftops throughout the city to bounce a signal from one building to the next.

The new system is expected to deliver basic-level bandwidth sufficient to send e-mails and browse the Web, but not robust enough for streaming video or downloading photos. Although this part of the project will be deployed and tested in phases over the next few years, free wireless access is already available at most major municipal buildings, the City's Senior Centers, and the Cambridge Public Libraries. In addition, much of Central Square is now wireless, and the access has begun to expand toward the MIT campus. As coverage spreads across Cambridge, a committee has been formed to address the necessary infrastructure deployment, including rooftop locations and installation services.

Collaborating with the City in this endeavor will be MIT and Harvard, the Cambridge



The majority of Central Square is already wireless. Photo by Linda Turner.

Housing Authority, the Cambridge Health Alliance and the Museum of Science.

"While convenience for roaming laptop users is certainly one benefit of this project, the most important incentive behind this program is to bridge the 'digital divide' by delivering Internet accessibility to low income Cambridge residents," said City Manager Robert W. Healy, adding that the City has prioritized delivering service to subsidized and low-income housing areas, including Newtowne Court and Washington Elms, both of which became wireless this summer.

Chief Information Officer Mary Hart acknowledges that providing an on-ramp to the Web solves only half the problem of the technological imbalance, so the Public Internet program will also be supplemented by computer training and equipment donations to low-income families sponsored by several universities and other non-profits.

To learn more about this initiative and to see where wireless access is available today, visit the new Cambridge Public Internet Project Web Page at www.cambridgema.gov.

Committed Public Servants

Cambridge Salutes Bill Frazier for Nearly Six Decades of Service

We would like to recognize Bill Frazier for his 59 years of public service. Bill started with the Public Works Department right after WWII, during the department's first full year of operations. A lifelong Cambridge resident and a veteran, Bill worked his way up through the Sanitation Division, starting as laborer, advancing to a driver, and retiring as the head of the division. His service has truly made Cambridge a better place. Thank you Bill, and best wishes in your retirement!!



Hats Off to Current Employees with Four Decades or More!!

Sophie Anastos, Finance Dept. (54 years)
James Cassidy, Sr., Traffic Dept. (41 years)
Patsy DeMaio, Fire Dept. (40 years);
Hilda Domingos, Finance Dept. (43 years)
Mike Nicoloro, Inspectional (40 years).
Joseph Palombo, Water Dept. (40 years).

In addition to our above honorees still working for the City of Cambridge, only a handful of retired employees have reached or exceeded the 40-year milestone.

Cambridge Named Among Best Workplaces for Commuters

The Environmental Protection Agency's New England Office recently named the City of Cambridge as one of the Best Workplaces for Commuters (BWC). City employees are encouraged to leave their cars at home when commuting to work through such programs as the T Pass subsidy, EZRide Shuttle membership and bicycle parking facilities.

BEST Workplaces for CommutersSM

"The City of Cambridge is very pleased to be the first municipality in New England to receive recognition from EPA as one of the Best Workplaces for Commuters," said City Manager Robert W. Healy. "As a municipality, providing our workforce with commuter benefits is a smart investment. While our employees enjoy the flexibility of many commute options, the positive impacts of fewer vehicle trips also extends to our residents, businesses and the environment."

Cambridge Receives Environmental Purchasing and Sustainability Award

The City of Cambridge was chosen as one of only three recipients to receive the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Environmental Purchasing and Sustainability Awards for fiscal year 2006.

The City was selected for the award as a result of its efforts in the areas of climate protection, energy management, green building construction, and greening of its fleet. Specifically highlighted in our nomination were such efforts as the LEED certified City Hall Annex renovation, the Climate Leader program for businesses and two annual energy fairs.

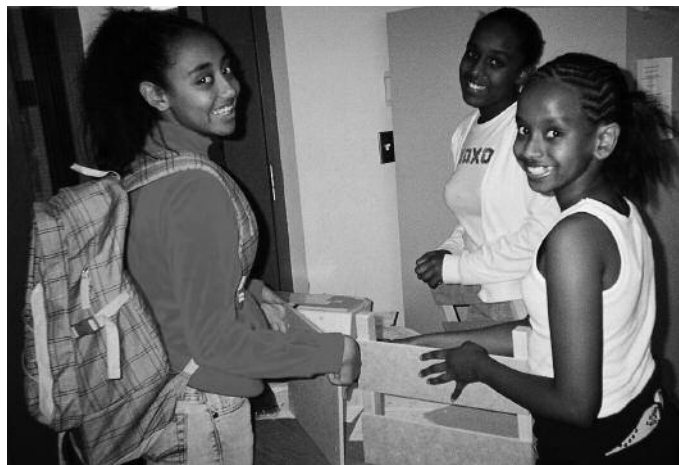
The award reflects the dedication and hard work of many City departments including Community Development, Public Works, Purchasing, Water, Library, Schools, Electrical and Traffic, Parking and Transportation. More information about the Commonwealth's Environmental Purchasing Program is available online at www.mass.gov/epp.

Middle School Partnership Promotes Creativity

The City's Department of Human Service Programs and Cambridge Public Schools have partnered to provide middle school students a safe place to meet, learn and express themselves. In a collaboration between the Fitzgerald Community School, Peabody School and the Gately Youth Center, students have designed their own clubhouse, field trips and classes catered to their interests.

Using their energetic imaginations, middle school students transformed an empty room into a fully functioning clubhouse bursting with children and a design all of their own. Students drove the project forming design teams and mapping ideas on paper. Ideas then came to life as the students took field trips to buy materials and start construction. "It was Awesome. . . It's [the clubhouse] more your own when you get to build it," said sixth-grader Elijah Scott when asked about the experience. Zewdie Tisasu, also in sixth-grade, echoed Scott's words while adding, "I know that I can really build something. I didn't know that I could do that before now." The room is no longer merely a space, but a signature of personal growth for students to enjoy every afternoon.

Students are also offered an array of course work and build their own schedules



Students let their imaginations run free as they construct furniture for the new clubhouse they designed.

each afternoon. Enrichment courses taught by specialized teachers started in September and have been a hit ever since. Classes run for 6-8 weeks and offer a little something for everyone ranging from Tennis instruction to Soo Bahk Do, a Korean art of self-defense and wellness. Many use the classes to stay fit. "The classes are no joke. They keep me healthy," commented Niesha Wallace an 8th grader enrolled in Soo Bahk Do and Step It Up! Fitness. Lula Amanuel, 6th grade, takes advantage of several sports and fitness classes but enjoys her Lyrics class the best. "I know how to run, I know how to jump,

but I don't know the industry of song writing and music. I'm excited about that challenge," said Amanuel. Enrichment for every student has boosted enrollment and smiles throughout the Clubhouse.

The Middle School Partnership has allowed students to build quality programming in a fun and comfortable setting. The program draws success through the efforts of students creating a valuable experience for all involved. The City of Cambridge looks forward to continued success serving middle school students through the partnership of our faculty and your children.

Carey Program Offers a New Lease On Life

The Carey Program at the City's Multi-Service Center is a nine-month transitional housing program to help homeless men get their lives back on track. The program offers 22 individual rooms at the Cambridge Family YMCA, with the costs paid by the Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance. Carey Program Coordinator Stephen Johnson notes that men wishing to be considered for the program must be clean and sober for at least six months prior to application. Motivation is very important, and clients must demonstrate that they are committed to changing their lives for the better. Every client is expected to work full-time and to save at least 30% of his gross salary toward future housing.



Carey Program Participants

Each client meets weekly with the Program Coordinator for case management, once they have agreed upon a case plan. The program represents a true collaboration, with other resources available to the participants including a social worker from Tri-City Mental Health, a resident advisor on site at the YMCA, a substance abuse counselor from North Charles, a housing search advocate from HomeStart and a personal budgeting specialist from CASCAP. Participants

also meet as a group monthly. The men come from all walks of life, and the mutual encouragement they offer each other is also a big plus. Each year many people are inspired by the stories of hard work and success some of the men share as they participate in the annual graduation ceremony.

"These men are remarkable," stated Len Thomas, Director of the Multi-Service Center. "To witness their growth, their rise in confidence and self-esteem over nine months is testament to the success of this program. And now that success is beginning to reach beyond the nine-month stay in the program. Increasingly, graduates stay in touch and a number of them have begun an alumni group to provide ongoing support to one another and to act as mentors to men currently in the program. This spirit of giving back to the community, instilled from the beginning by Mr. Johnson, is paying dividends in a manner that few programs can claim."

The program is named after James R. Carey, another program graduate who brought personal experience and practical wisdom to his six years of work as a case manager for the Multi-Service Center. Jim died in 1997 after a prolonged struggle with cancer.

King Open School Mural: Visions of Community

With a grant through the CAC Grant Program, the Cambridge Arts Council was one of many local and state funders that helped the King Open School create the mural, *Visions of Community*, over a two-year period. The primary goal of this collaborative effort of students, staff, families and neighbors was to strengthen the recently combined school community of King Open School, the former Harrington School, and *Ola*, a Portuguese/English bilingual pro-

gram. The mural project builds on the King Open's curricula, celebrates Cambridge's history and illustrates the students' hopes for the future.

"The mural became the heart and spirit of both schools," said Eliza, a King Open School sixth-grade student who participated in the project. She added that it was a "way of giving back to the neighborhood."



This section of the King Open School mural acknowledges the importance of immigrants to the history of Cambridge and features a familiar face -- former Mayor Emeritus Alfred E. Vellucci.

> continued from front cover

Garrett Simonsen at 617-665-3866 or gsimonsen@challiance.org.

Online pdf versions will also be posted at www.cambridgema.gov and www.cambridgepublichealth.org.

File a 911 Disability Indicator Form

The City of Cambridge would like to advise residents of the availability of the 911 Disability Indicator Form. If you or someone you know has a disability, please urge them to complete a form and file it with our 911 Emergency Communications Center (ECC). The filing of this form alerts public safety officials that an individual residing at your address communicates over the phone by a TTY and/or has a disability that may hinder evacuation or transport. This information is confidential and will only appear at the dispatcher's location when a 911 call originates from your address. For a copy of this form, please contact the Cambridge ECC at 617-349-6911 or download it from the state's website: www.mass.gov.

It can be faxed to the Cambridge ECC at 617-349-6918 or mailed to: Emergency Communications Center, 489 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02138.

Don't Forget to Pay your Tax Bills

We'd like to send a friendly reminder to Cambridge property owners that FY2007 first half property tax bill payments are due Nov. 20, 2006. If you have not received your bill, contact the Finance Department at 617.349.4220

or at treasurer@cambridgema.gov. It is your responsibility to make payment even if you did not receive the bill. If you are using your bank's online payment service to pay City of Cambridge bills, the fiscal year and parcel id (e.g. 2007 123-8-1) must be included with the payment. This will ensure proper credit.



Some residents may be eligible for the residential exemption or statutory exemptions, such as an elderly or veteran exemption. To learn more about the exemption process, contact the Assessing Department at 617.349.4343 or assessors@cambridgema.gov or www.cambridgema.gov/Assessor/index.html. Exemption applications are due on January 22, 2007. Please note that you need only apply for the residential exemption once. After you have applied and been granted the residential exemption, the City will automatically apply it to your real estate bill in subsequent years.

2007 Resident Permits Now Available

The Traffic Parking & Transportation Department announces that 2007 Resident Parking Permits are now available. Although current permits do not expire until January 31, 2007, residents are encouraged to renew early by mail to avoid delays. Applications are available online at: www.cambridgema.gov/traffic, though residents must renew by mail or in person in order to provide proof of residency. The department is open late on Mondays from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and from 8:30 a.m. to Noon on Fridays. For more information, call 617-349-4700.

Due to the overwhelming success of the 2007 Resident Parking Permit Photo Contest, submissions will now be accepted year-round. Entries received from now through June 30, 2007 will be considered for the 2008 contest and may be displayed in the 2008 Resident Information Brochure and/or the City of Cambridge website.



The 2007 Resident Sticker features *The Registry of Deeds*. Photo by Nimesh Patel of Cambridge.

City Survey Results

According to the most recent Citizens Opinion Survey, 86% of Cambridge residents rate their "overall quality of life" and Cambridge "As a Place to Live" as good or excellent. And 62% considered the overall performance of government as good or excellent. Core city services, such as police, fire and public works also earned top marks. Residents continued to rank affordable housing and education as the two most important issues, followed by taxes, and parking/traffic/road construction/infrastructure. There has been significant forward trend in utilizing the City website for obtaining information or conducting online transactions, such as downloading permits and paying City bills. Conducted every two years since 2000, the survey serves as a useful tool in identifying priority focus areas for the administration and City Council.

Clearing Snow – Help Us by Doing Your Part!

With winter just around the corner, we wanted to provide Cambridge residents and businesses with a few important reminders.

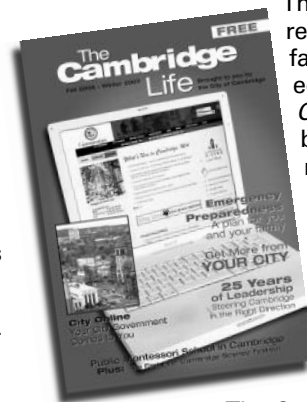
Following a major snowstorm, the Department of Public Works (DPW) will clear streets as soon as possible, starting with major arteries. Please don't take it personally if we plow snow back into your driveway, but as we work to keep streets passable, it is often unavoidable. The City's goals of keeping streets open, returning streets and sidewalks to safe, travelable conditions quickly, and keeping them clear and accessible can only be accomplished with your participation.

Cambridge property owners are required by law to remove snow from all sidewalks next to their home or business within 12 hours after snow stops falling in the daytime and before 1 p.m. when the snow has fallen overnight. Owners of homes or businesses on corners or at crosswalks should clear wide openings (enough to allow for a stroller or wheelchair) on all adjacent sidewalks.

During substantial storms, the City may declare a Snow Emergency. Information is placed as soon as feasible on a recorded message at 617-349-4700 (answered live during weekdays), posted online at www.cambridgema.gov and on City TV-8. Sign up for Cambridge E-Line to get an E-mail notice when the City declares a snow emergency. Visit www.cambridgema.gov.

When a Snow emergency is declared, parking is prohibited on streets signed "No Parking during Snow Emergency." Check signs carefully. A list and a map of these particular streets can be viewed at www.cambridgema.gov/traffic. Some parking garages will provide free parking for a limited time during a declared snow emergency. Call the Traffic Department at 617-349-4700 or visit their website. For more information about snow removal operations and policies, call 617-349-4800 or visit www.cambridgema.gov/TheWorks/services/snow.html.

Cambridge Life Magazine Fall 2006-Winter 2007 Edition Now Available



The City of Cambridge recently published the fall 2006-winter 2007 edition of *The Cambridge Life*. The biannual community magazine includes feature stories about City departments, programs and services and a helpful city resources section, including information for newcomers.

The Cambridge Life is a free publication that can be picked up at news boxes in the city's major squares, at Cambridge City Hall and at most library buildings. It can also be found online at www.cambridgema.gov. To request copies, contact Ini Tomeu, Public Information Officer at itomeu@cambridgema.gov or at 617-349-4339.

City Scholarship Program Invests in Our Youth

The City Scholarship Program celebrated its 14th year. Since its inception, the program has awarded 274 scholarships totaling more than \$500,000 to Cambridge residents pursuing secondary education.

We'd like to thank all of our residents and businesses that have supported us and are especially pleased to announce that we received the most number of individual donations this past year, which was helpful as we also received the most number of applications.

Applications for the 2007 City Scholarship Program will be available at Cambridge City Hall and online at www.cambridgema.gov beginning in December. For more information about the program or to make a donation, go to www.cambridgema.gov and click on the Finance Department web page. Please direct questions to the Finance Department at 617-349-4220 or via e-mail: treasurer@cambridgema.gov.

Important Telephone Numbers:

- Emergency: Dial 911
- Snow Emergency Parking Ban Status: 617-349-4700
- 24-Hour Recorded School Link Line: 617-349-6513
- Sidewalk Snow Hotline: 617-349-4903
- Public Works Dept: 617-349-4800
- Snow Exemption: low-income elderly/disabled persons: 617-349-6220



CityView is published in November and May by the City Manager's Office as a community update for residents.

Editor: Ini Tomeu, Public Information Officer, 617.349.4339/itomeu@cambridgema.gov.



CityView is printed on Recycled Paper.

For more information about recycling in Cambridge,

visit www.cambridgema.gov/theworks

Volunteers Needed for Medical Reserve Corps

The Cambridge Public Health Department is seeking volunteers for a regional Medical Reserve Corps that would help out during major emergencies and assist with routine public health activities. Nurses, doctors, pharmacists, public health workers, allied health professionals, social workers, and interpreters are currently being recruited. People without medical training are also needed for a variety of tasks. Volunteers will receive free training on topics ranging from first aid and CPR to planning for pandemic flu. The regional Medical Reserve Corps serves Cambridge and 26 other Boston-area communities. For more information, contact Alison Minkoff at aminkoff@challiance.org or 617-665-3871.

Help Prevent the Flu

The best way to prevent the flu is to get vaccinated. Annual flu shots are recommended for children 6 months to 5 years (60 months) of age, adults age 50 or older, pregnant women, people with chronic illnesses, residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities and people who could give the flu to those at high risk for severe illness. Residents can also stay

healthy this winter by washing their hands frequently, eating well and getting plenty of rest. If you do catch a virus, remember to cover your mouth or nose with your arm when you cough or sneeze. For more information, go to www.cambridgepublichealth.org.

Read To Your Baby

Parents are their baby's first and most important teacher. Listening to parents talk, sing and read helps prepare babies for learning to read and write. Some tips from the Agenda for Children Literacy Initiative:

- Choose cloth vinyl, or board books with colorful pictures;
- Choose books with rhymes and sounds that you can make;
- Hold your baby in your lap or lie down next to him or her;
- Hold the book close to your baby so he/she can see it and touch it;
- Talk about the pictures with your baby.

For more ideas, check out the Literacy Initiative's Born to Read pamphlet at www.cambridgechildren.org/resources_library/resources_library.php.

For more information, contact the Cambridge Public Health Department at 617-665-3800 or visit www.cambridgepublichealth.org.

Municipal Police Officer Exam Coming Soon

The Cambridge Police Department is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Police Officer. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Human Resources Division will hold a Civil Service Examination for Municipal Police Officer in Spring 2007.

Applications and additional information will soon be available at the following locations: Cambridge Police Department, 5 Western Avenue; the Police Department website at: www.cambridgepolice.org or Personnel Office, Cambridge City Hall, room 309; To be eligible to take the exam you must be at least 21 years of age by the filing date. The City of Cambridge encourages women, people of color, veterans and people with disabilities to apply. For more information call 617-349-3376 or e-mail personnel@cambridgepolice.org.



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