

MESSAGE FROM THE



City Manager

I am pleased to report that the 2012 Citizen Survey yielded high marks for core City services. Overall Performance of City Government earned a 75% good or excellent rating and Quality of Life in Cambridge earned a 94% rating of good or excellent. See more on pg. 7. Cambridge was recently designated as an official cultural district by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and was again named one of the 100 Best Communities for Youth by America's Promise Alliance. Hubway, the regional bike share system now offers residents a convenient transportation alternative to driving. Two major City departments, Community Development and the Dept. of Human Service Programs, have launched dynamic new websites that I encourage you to visit. With winter upon us, please review our annual reminders related to snow and property owners' responsibilities. Learn more about the various construction projects that contribute to our healthy economic climate. For the latest City information, also visit our Website, www.cambridgema.gov.

Central Square Designated a Cultural District!



In October, the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) voted to designate Central Square in Cambridge as the second official Cultural District of the Greater Boston area. With that vote and designation, the MCC recognized that Central Square is home to a mix of independently-owned businesses, creative start-ups, well-established corporations and business services all fueled and supported by existing cultural resources such as public art, resident working artists, dynamic cultural organizations, ethnic restaurants and leading educational institutions like Cambridge College and MIT.

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Cambridge Again Named in 100 Best Communities for Young People



Cambridge was named one of America's Promise Alliance's 100 Best Communities for Young People. Presented by ING, the national award was given to Cambridge for its outstanding and innovative work in preparing young people for successful adulthood, and for its programs and services that make it an outstanding place for youth to live, learn and grow.

"Cambridge is the only community in New England and one of a small number of communities nationwide to be recognized for the sixth year as a 100 Best winner," said Mayor Henrietta Davis. *"This honor illustrates the deep commitment of the City Council and the City administration to the well-being of our children and families."*

Among the areas where Cambridge has demonstrated its commitment to helping young people thrive is through its efforts to ensure they enter the workforce. The Mayor's Summer Youth Employment Program hired over half of all Cambridge teens aged 14 to 17, providing a range of jobs with city government and community agencies. In 2012, Cambridge employed over 950 teens, providing them with valuable work experience and seminars supporting development of critical 21st century skills.

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Community Development

What's with all this Construction Around Town?

About a dozen major buildings are now under construction in Cambridge, reflecting the city's desirability as a place to live, work, learn and enjoy life. The most activity is in the east, with Kendall Square continuing to grow as it has over the last decade. Biotech/life sciences firms are leading the growth phenomenon, with about 1 million square feet of construction under way. Two buildings are being built for Biogen; an expansion of the Broad Institute is in progress on Ames Street next to the original Main Street building; and a new building for Pfizer is under construction across from Tech Square.

A little further from Kendall, Novartis is expanding along Massachusetts Ave. across from its first two buildings, the historic rehabilitation of the NECCO

candy factory and the adjacent modern structure that houses Flour Bakery and Central Bottle and Provisions on the ground floor. Also, a commercial project is under way on Second Street near the East Cambridge neighborhood, which is being built "on spec." That means a tenant is not yet committed for the space—a rare condition in today's economy and a demonstration of great confidence in Cambridge's market by a seasoned international developer.

Several housing projects, all with the requisite affordable component, are springing up across the city. In the midst of the Kendall biotech growth, 144 units are being added to the 350-unit Watermark development on Third Street. On the edge of Harvard Square, a 30-unit project at 1077 Massachusetts Ave., above ground floor retail space, is nearing completion. Along the Route 2 edge of Alewife, a 227 unit residential project is in progress, while nearer to Concord Avenue and Fresh Pond, another project of 200 units has just begun construction on Fawcett Street.

For something completely different right in the heart of the city, the major addition to Harvard's Fogg Museum, designed by world-famous architect Renzo Piano, is well under way. With so many interesting projects in progress in Cambridge, and more on the drawing boards, the city enjoys a healthy economic climate and a promising future.



Phase 2 of the Watermark residential development near Kendall Square is one of many new projects under construction.

Putnam Green Blooms in Cambridgeport

In April, Cambridge celebrated the completion of Putnam Green, a new residential development in Cambridgeport consisting of 40 affordable one, two and three bedroom apartments. When Homeowners Rehab, Inc. (HRI) purchased the property in 2009, the site consisted of a vacant lab building and brownfield. Today, the site has been transformed into an environmentally sustainable new rental community for 40 families.

HRI financed the project with Community Preservation Act funds through the Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust, in combination with other City, state and private funding, and incorporated many "green" features into the development, aiming for LEED for Homes Platinum certification. Among other energy efficient features, the project includes Energy Star appliances, solar hot water and electricity, an energy efficient mechanical system and water-saving plumbing fixtures. Putnam Green is the most recent example of Cambridge's investment in sustainable, affordable housing.

The two architecturally distinctive buildings—a six-unit building fronting Sidney St. and a 34-unit building on Putnam Ave.—not only provide affordable homes to Cambridge families but also help to enhance this section of Cambridgeport. Of special meaning to neighbors is the decorative mosaic on the Putnam façade created by local muralists David Fichter and Josh Winer to honor the memory of Geneva Malenfant, a long-time housing advocate and community leader in Cambridgeport.



Putnam Green brings 40 new units of environmentally sustainable, affordable family housing to Cambridge.



The Cambridge PARK(ing) Day celebration transformed 16 parking spots into engaging parks for a day! Mayor Henrietta Davis celebrated Cambridge tap water at her oasis spot in front of City Hall.



CitySmart connects you with the information and resources you need to get around without getting behind the wheel. Biking, walking and transit can take you where you need to be. Whether it's a trip to the grocery store or a day at the beach—getting there really can be half the fun!



Hubway at One Broadway/Kendall.

Hubway's Cambridge Launch

In August, Hubway, the regional bike share system, opened stations in Cambridge. Now the public can pick up bicycles at stations throughout the city for local commutes and errands, or for explorations beyond, via Hubway stations in Boston, Somerville and Brookline. Many Hubway locations are next to T stations, enabling easy transit connections, and Cambridge's local partners have made access to Harvard, MIT and the CambridgeSide

Galleria particularly convenient. The system is fully integrated and easy to use; the bikes are sturdy and adjustable; and the Cambridge stations offer an intriguing series of display posters to get folks thinking about their travel choices—check them out! For details, visit: www.cambridgema.gov/hubway.



Solar panels recently installed on a Cambridgeport triple-decker. The Solar Map predicts electricity yield and costs for installing a PV system on almost any Cambridge rooftop.

Hitting the Streets (in more ways than one)

The Community Development Department (CDD) launched a new website and established a social media presence through Facebook (CDDat344) and Twitter (@CDDat344) as part of a larger effort to broaden public engagement in the department's programs and projects, exchange time-sensitive information and encourage ongoing interactive dialogue and collaboration. The website design helps users easily find the tools they need to stay up-to-date on current activities, conduct research and business with the City, and fully access the many opportunities available to those who live, work and visit in Cambridge.

The site's interactive maps allow the user to point and click to learn about activities and information relevant to any place in the city. Also new is the ability to download data in Excel format from statistical tables in the Facts and Maps section. Followers on Twitter and Facebook "likes" are connecting the department to new audiences every day—sign up to join the conversation and reap the benefits!



Also, CDD staffers took advantage of seasonal weather to reach out to Cantabrigians at home, work and play, gathering input for active projects and offering information about the many City programs that support and enhance our community. Among these initiatives:

- Housing information sessions at neighborhood centers
- Porter Square Customer Intercept Survey
- Innovation Business Survey
- Kendall Square Central Square (K2C2) community open houses and on-site workshops
- Huron Avenue walks and open houses
- Cambridge Energy Alliance information tables at farmers markets, businesses and events
- CitySmart bicycle training, neighborhood walks and information tabling

For information about CDD activities and to connect to social media, visit: www.cambridgema.gov/CDD.

Cambridge Breaks New Ground with Solar Map

In early October, the City launched a new online interactive Solar Map for the public to view the feasibility of installing solar photovoltaics (PV) on roofs across Cambridge. With a click, the Cambridge Solar Map (www.cambridgema.gov/solar) shows Cambridge residents, businesses and property owners how much PV electricity can be produced on their rooftops. The map also shows how quickly the financial investment will pay off and how much pollution will be reduced. Solar energy adoption is a key strategy for Cambridge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and make the community more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

The Solar Map was developed by the Sustainable Design Lab at MIT and Modern Development Studio LLC (MoDe Studio), in collaboration with the City of Cambridge Community Development Department (CDD). Support for this project was also provided by the National Science Foundation, as well as Cambridge's Information Technology Department. The project has received widespread attention for both its technical innovation and user accessibility.

The goal for the Solar Map is to encourage people to take the next step of calling a solar installer to discuss project specifics. The City's Cambridge Energy Alliance (CEA) program assists with information about this process and can answer questions about renewable energy and energy efficiency. Visit: www.cambridgema.gov/solar or call 617-349-5323.

Human Services



The Department of Human Service Programs (DHSP) recently launched a redesigned website with a variety of new features, including: a simplified layout; an improved calendar and announcement section; various ways to search for programs; online registration for classes at War Memorial; and a new publications and forms section. Visit: www.cambridgema.gov/dhsp

Nook E-Readers at Main Library

The Main Library is thrilled to add 40 Nook e-readers with a selection of exciting titles for you to borrow. Each Nook has titles pre-loaded onto the device. Our librarians carefully selected for the Nooks, based on what Cantabrigians like to read. Popular titles include *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn, *The Hunger Games* trilogy by Suzanne Collins, *The Marriage Plot* by Jeffrey Eugenides, *Steve Jobs* by Walter Isaacson, *1Q84* by Haruki Murakami and *The Power of Habit: Why We Do What We Do in Life and Business* by Charles Duhigg and *Bringing Up Bébé: One American Mother Discovers the Wisdom of French Parenting* by Pamela Druckerman. The Nooks may be borrowed for two weeks and are available on a first come, first served basis at the Q&A desk of the Main Library. A full list of titles available on each Nook can be found online in the Minuteman Library Catalog. Very soon we will also have two Nooks with titles of interest to teens.



The Cambridge Public Library is grateful to the Elizabeth S. Atkins Foundation and the Friends of the Cambridge Public Library for their generous support of this exciting service.



New Collaborative Aims to Foster Positive Youth Development

The Cambridge Police Department, partnering with the Cambridge Health Alliance, the City's Department of Human Service Programs and Cambridge Public Schools recently launched the Cambridge Safety Net Collaborative. This program aims to foster positive youth development, promote mental health, support a safe community and schools, and limit youth involvement in the juvenile justice system through

coordinated services for Cambridge youth and their families.

We all have a role in helping Cambridge youth succeed in school and become productive, law-abiding adults. Preventing unwanted behaviors is a goal of the entire community in order to create a safer and more welcoming city. Intervening early, when youth show signs of trouble, can reduce their risk of committing crimes in the future and help keep them on the path to success.

The Cambridge Police Department believes that partnering with families, schools, mental health providers, youth activity programs and other social service agencies is essential to preventing and reducing the risk factors associated with juvenile delinquency.

Since 2007, all Cambridge Public Schools and City youth programs have had an assigned Youth Resource Officer (YRO). YROs support Cambridge youth through three primary strategies: Prevention, Early Intervention and Diversion. Learn more at www.CambridgePolice.org/SafetyNet.

Central Square Cultural District! continued from page 1

"The designation of Central Square as a Cultural District by the state arts agency affirms what those of us who live and work in Cambridge and Central Square already know. In addition to this reaffirmation, I think that the most significant outcome of the designation is to foster an even greater sense of cohesion and shared purpose among the business community, the arts and non-profit sector representatives, MIT, property owners, residents and the City to augment and showcase the creative heart of the City for local and regional audiences," said Jason Weeks, Executive Director, Cambridge Arts Council.

The Central Square Cultural District designation formally lasts for five years and encourages cohesion, community engagement, cultural tourism and amplifies an authentic, urban neighborhood that is constantly evolving while maintaining a core identity as a unique and eclectic place to live, work and play. For more information, visit: www.massculturalcouncil.org or contact the Cambridge Arts Council at 617-349-4380 or www.cambridgeartscouncil.org.



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Winter Reminders about Parking and Snow Clearing

Snow Emergency Parking Bans, School Closings

During substantial winter storms, the City may declare a Snow Emergency and a Parking Ban will go into effect at a specific time. During a Snow Emergency, parking is prohibited on streets signed No Parking during Snow Emergency and vehicles will be towed. Visit www.cambridgema.gov/traffic for a list and map of these streets, as well as information on parking garages that provide free parking during a declared snow emergency.

When a snow emergency is declared, information is available via phone at 617-349-4700, and is posted online as soon as possible at www.cambridgema.gov and on **22-CityView**. Visit the Cambridge Alert Network at www.cambridgema.gov/AlertNetwork to sign up to receive snow emergency alerts via a text message to your cell phone or to your E-mail. For school closings, call 617-349-6513 or visit: www.cpsd.us.

Plowing Operations

The Department of Public Works will clear streets as soon as possible after a snow storm, starting with major arteries. Please don't take it personally if we plow snow back into your driveway, but as we work to make streets passable, it is often

unavoidable. Your patience and participation help the City return streets and sidewalks to safe, passable conditions as quickly as possible.

Ice and Snow-Free Sidewalks are Everyone's Responsibility

The City clears over 18 miles of sidewalk areas including those around schools, public buildings, parks, City parking facilities and high volume bus stops.

City Ordinance requires property owners to remove snow from sidewalks next to their property or business within 12 hours of daytime snowfall and before 1 p.m. when it has fallen overnight. They must also remove or melt all ice within 6 hours of the time it forms. There is a \$50 fine for each day of non-compliance. If you are away, it is still your responsibility to ensure that someone clears sidewalks next to your property.

Remember to:

- Shovel the sidewalk on all sides of your property, down to bare pavement;
- Make the path wide enough for someone using a wheelchair, walker or stroller (at least 3 feet, preferably 4 feet);
- Clear snow to curb to avoid placing trash and recycling containers behind snow banks;

- Clear ramps at corners and crosswalks;
- Keep street drains clear of snow to avoid ponding and icing at the bottom of ramps;
- Be mindful of anything—hedges, trees, parked cars—that obstructs pedestrians' path of travel;
- Consider helping neighbors who may have difficulty clearing their walk.

Three ways to report a sidewalk that is not shoveled:

- Use the DPW online reporting form on the DPW Snow page at www.cambridge.gov/snow;
- Call the DPW Snow Hotline at 617-349-4903;
- Download Cambridge iReport app to your smartphone, www.cambridgema.gov/apps.

All reports will be inspected by the Traffic Dept. or Public Works staff and a ticket will be issued to the property owner if found to be in violation of the Snow Ordinance.

Cambridge operates a Snow Exemption Program for eligible seniors and people with disabilities who are low-income homeowners. Call the Cambridge Council on Aging at 617-349-6220 (voice) or 617-349-6050 (TTY) to learn more.

Preventing Ice, Protecting Pedestrians and Local Waterways

For pedestrians, ice can cause dangerous falls and can be worse than snow. Under City Ordinance, property owners are responsible for both ice and snow.

While rock salt is the most commonly used deicer, if used improperly it can damage water bodies, ground water and vegetation. Many alternatives and supplements to salt can be found at your local hardware store, including magnesium chloride, potassium acetate, calcium chloride, calcium magnesium acetate (CMA) and potassium chloride. These chemicals tend to be more efficient, thereby reducing the amount needed. CMA has been identified as the most environmentally benign deicer.

To minimize harm to human health, wildlife, pets and the environment, including the Charles River and Alewife Brook, follow the strategies below when applying any deicing agents:

- Remove as much snow and ice as possible before applying deicing chemicals;
- Know the effective temperatures for each deicer used (many don't work well below 25F), and use only enough to break the ice-pavement bond; Remove slush by shoveling;
- Select pellets, which are more effective at penetrating ice than flakes;
- Apply the least amount necessary to get the job done;
- Store salt and other products on an impervious surface and in a dry, covered area to prevent ground contamination and stormwater runoff;

Do not use sand. Sand does not melt ice or snow, and it makes hard ice more slippery. Sand also gets into street drains and is expensive to clean up in the spring.

For more ways to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff, visit: www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/ourservices/stormwatermanagement.aspx.



Energy Efficiency Projects Help Reduce Costs and Carbon Emissions

The City has taken another exciting step toward reducing energy use by performing lighting upgrades at the Coffon Building, Engine 8 (Taylor Square), Fire Headquarters and three buildings at the Cambridge Cemetery. Existing lights within these facilities have been replaced with high-efficiency lamps and fixtures, and occupancy

sensors have been installed in many locations throughout the buildings in order to reduce energy use and costs even further.

Projected energy savings from these lighting efficiency upgrades is an estimated 130,000 kilowatt hours/year, resulting in avoided costs of approximately \$18,000/year for the City. These energy savings represent averting close to 200,000 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere annually, the equivalent of removing 18 cars from the road.

Energy efficient lighting technologies have been installed in 22 municipal buildings over the past two years with a projected total savings of 1.3 megawatt hours/year, or the energy equivalent to power 120 average American homes for one year.



Let Us Know through iReport



Cambridge iReport is your direct connection for commonly requested City services. By using Cambridge iReport, your request is automatically assigned to the responsible department and you are given a tracking number and contact information to follow up on your request if needed. Reporting an issue is quick and easy, and helps make our city a better place to live, work and visit! Cambridge iReport can be accessed from the City's website, www.cambridgema.gov and is also available on your mobile device from the iTunes App Store and the Android Marketplace.

Submit a Report Online or through your Smart Phone:

- Report a Pothole
- Report a Missed Rubbish & Recycling Pickup
- Report a Defective Streetlight
- Report Graffiti
- Report a Rodent Sighting
- Report an Unshoveled Sidewalk

Stay in the Loop

Email us at recycle@cambridgema.gov to sign up for the Recycling monthly email newsletter, chock full of tips and program updates!

Yard Waste & Christmas Trees

Separate yard waste collection ends the week of December 10-14 and begins again April 1. Planning on a Christmas tree? Weather permitting, bare trees will be collected for recycling from Dec. 31 – Jan. 11, on regular collection days, or they can be brought to the Recycling Center at 147 Hampshire St. on Tues/Thurs 4-7:30 p.m. and Sat 9 a.m.-4 p.m. from Dec. 28 - Jan. 26. Remove stand and all decorations. No plastic bags.

Donate Your Stuff, Don't Throw It Out!

Use Freecycle and Craigslist to give and get furniture, household items and even clothing. Email recycle@cambridgema.gov for a map of the City showing clothing donation drop boxes, thrift stores, consignment shops and stores that sell second-hand furniture and goods. Did you know that furniture can be donated to the MIT Student Furniture Exchange, Boomerangs, MA Coalition for the Homeless, and the Salvation Army? These organizations can even help pick it up from you!

Opt Out of Unwanted Mail

Reduce junk mail, phonebooks and catalogs from 4,000+ companies by registering for a free account on cambridge.catalogchoice.org to start cleaning out your mailbox. For example, you can stop getting weekly circulars from Global Direct; they will honor opt-out requests, so add them to "your choices." Over 3,700 Cambridge residents have signed up and opted out of nearly 25,000 different unwanted mailings!

Recycling Increases in the City



Thanks to all for your efforts to reduce waste and recycle – it saves the City money and helps to curb climate change. In FY12, we recycled 13,767 lbs. compared to 13,278 lbs. in FY11, a 4% increase. But, did you know that 25% of the trash is still recyclable? Recycle items such as cereal/tissue boxes, empty frozen food boxes, juice/soup boxes, paper coffee cups, plastic takeout containers, aluminum foil and junk mail. The average Cambridge household could recycle about 5 more pounds per week. Remember, a little effort makes a big difference!

New Online Option to Schedule and Pay For Large Item Disposal

Arranging for the removal of your old refrigerator, stove, large TV and many more appliances has gotten a little easier with Public Works' recent launch of online payment and scheduling. Please visit www.cambridgema.gov/theworks to learn more or to schedule a pick up.

Fight the Flu!



The flu can be life-threatening for some people, such as young children, seniors and individuals with certain medical conditions. The best way to protect yourself

and your family from the flu is to get vaccinated this winter.

Residents can also slow the spread of the flu by washing their hands frequently, covering coughs and sneezes and staying home when sick. For more information, visit: www.cambridgepublichealth.org.

Protect Your Child from Lead

Even low levels of lead in a child's body can have a lifelong impact on learning and behavior. Starting this year, U.S. families will be notified if their child (up to age 6) has blood lead levels of 5µg/dl or greater and will be urged to have follow up testing.

This lower value—it was previously 10 µg/dl or higher—means that more kids will likely be identified as having lead exposure. Parents can help protect their children by having their home tested for lead; washing their child's hands often; keeping fingernails clean and short; and cooking healthy meals. Young children should be tested annually for lead.

For more information, call the Cambridge Public Health Department's Healthy Homes program at 617-665-3831.



Medical Reserve Corps



The Health Department is seeking volunteers for a regional Medical Reserve Corps that serves Cambridge

and 26 other communities. Volunteers 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 being recruited. People without medical training are also needed. Volunteers receive free training on topics such as first aid, CPR, and preparing your family for emergencies. To learn more, email region4bmrc@challiance.org or call 617-665-3702.

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

100 Best Communities continued from pg. 1

"The award recognizes the extraordinary level of collaboration that exists among City departments and between the City and the community," said City Manager Robert W. Healy. *"Among the significant collaborations recognized here is between the Police and Human Services Departments where police officers and youth workers have worked together going door to door in housing developments to develop relationships with youth and families across the City."*

"We are very proud of the work our officers are doing in collaboration with our partners across the City," said Cambridge Police Commissioner Robert C. Haas. *"The Cambridge Safety Net Collaborative is truly making a difference in the lives of young people in our City by helping connect them and their families to services available in our community."*

Community Preservation Act Generates \$121 Million for Affordable Housing, Historic Preservation, Open Space

Since the adoption of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) in 2001, the City of Cambridge has been able to appropriate/reserve \$121 million in state and local funds for affordable housing projects, historic preservation and protection of open space. The fiscal year 2013 CPA (state and local combined) appropriation totaled \$9.65 million. The CPA Committee makes annual recommendations on how these funds should be used, based upon public input gleaned through advertised public meetings and suggestions developed by City staff. For more information, visit www.cambridgema.gov and go to the Budget Department website.

Citizens Survey Results

In the 2012 Citizens Survey, 94% of respondents rated "Overall Quality of Life" in Cambridge as good or excellent and 75% rated Overall Performance of City Government as good or excellent. Core City services continue to earn high marks. The Quality of Cambridge Public Schools earned a 65% ranking as good or excellent. The Citizen Survey has been conducted biannually since 2000. The survey methodology is a statistically valid random telephone survey of residents. Questions cover a range of issues dealing with City services. Survey results serve as a useful tool in identifying priority focus areas for the administration and the City Council. The complete survey can be found on the City's website at www.cambridgema.gov.



Thanks to a tip from Charles River Alleycats, Cambridge Animal Commission returned Wally the cat (who was lost for two months) to Cambridge resident, Grethe Thilly. "It is happy endings like this that make our job the most rewarding," said Animal Control Officer Alison Price.

2013 Resident Permits Available

Although current permits do not expire until January 31, 2013, residents are encouraged to renew early by mail to avoid delays. Residents must renew by mail or in person to provide proof of residency, unless they have lived in the city for three or more years and qualify for online renewal. The winning entry from the 2013 resident permit photo contest was "Porter Square" by Cambridge resident Jeff Myers. The City is again offering the opportunity for residents to make a voluntary contribution. Proceeds will be allocated to the City's climate change initiatives. For more information, call 617-349-4700 or visit: www.cambridgema.gov/traffic.

Volunteer Opportunities at Cambridge Public Schools

Cambridge School Volunteers (CSV) is looking for volunteers for 1-2 hours per week for early literacy or math tutoring; classroom assistance; or after-school homework support. At Cambridge Rindge & Latin School, opportunities include: one-to-one tutoring in almost any subject before, during or after school; classroom assistance; college planning and essay writing help and Science Olympiad advising. Tutoring takes place between 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Contact CSV at csv@cpsd.us, 617-349-6794, or visit www.csvinc.org to register for a required orientation.

Free Tax Preparation for Eligible Residents

The Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee (CEOC) will provide FREE tax preparation beginning January 22, 2013 for low-income residents, seniors and those with disabilities. Taxes are filed electronically and refunds are, generally, turned around quickly. CEOC also assists residents in applying for benefits such as Food Stamps, MassHealth, subsidized housing, Welfare, SSI and SSDI, and also provides financial coaching, credit counseling and assistance in completing FAFSA for college financial aid. For more information or to make an appointment, call CEOC at 617-868-2900.

ROUND: Cambridge Sound Art Installation

ROUND: Cambridge, created by artist Halsey Burgund and commissioned by the Cambridge Arts Council, is a new citywide, site-specific sound art installation. Using Cambridge's impressive Public Art Collection and public spaces as a touch-point, add your thoughts, questions and reflections, or listen to comments left by others about a specific artwork or location – all through

smartphone technology. Through the ROUND: Cambridge app, users' comments immediately upload and are combined with a music composition, adding a new auditory layer to the landscape that evolves over time. For more information, visit www.cambridgeartscouncil.org or call 617-349-4380. Download the free ROUND: Cambridge app at iTunes and Google Play.



Davenport Street Mural in Porter Square. Photos by Lannan O'Brien.

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