



## Message from the City Manager

I am pleased to report that Cambridge has continued its rare and enviable status of earning three Triple A ratings for the sixth year in a row from the nation's three major credit rating agencies. This is the highest rating that can be awarded to a city; only 12 other cities have achieved such an honor this year. This achievement continues to affirm the very sound financial policies and practices of this administration and of the City Council and also reflects on the tremendous effort by the Budget and Finance Departments.

We work very hard to provide the highest quality of service to our residents and recently our efforts were rewarded through some very positive results from our citizen survey, which is conducted every other year. Approximately 89% of survey participants marked good or excellent in the categories of "Overall Quality of Life" in Cambridge and Cambridge "As a Place to Live."

The City makes every effort to provide access to the information you need as a resident by keeping our Web site, [www.cambridgema.gov](http://www.cambridgema.gov), fresh and continuously improving your ability to do business or obtain information online. This spring, we launched Cambridge E-Line, a weekly e-mail newsletter and City information service. Subscribers can sign up to receive snow emergency parking ban notifications, street cleaning reminders, department newsletters, construction notices and the City Council Agenda.

Last fall, we also took over production of the Cambridge Life Magazine, a biannual publication that includes feature stories on City programs and services and a helpful resource section. Pick up a free copy at one of the City squares, library branches, or at City Hall.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Healy

## City Council Announces Goals for Upcoming Fiscal Years

The Cambridge City Council has established its community goals for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 (from July 2005 - June 2007). These goals are the product of an in-depth biannual process that the Council has followed since 1996. Adopted by a unanimous vote of the City Council on December 6, 2004, the City Council goals provide guidance to the City Manager during the annual budget planning process.

High quality City services, maintaining the City's diversity, affordable housing and improving public education continue to be high priorities for the City Council. Some goals have been added or changed to reflect emerging issues and changing circumstances, including the impact that rising property valuations are having on homeowners, in particular owners of two- and three-family homes. A new

Council goal emphasizes the importance of examining tax implications when evaluating the pros and cons of City programs. Another change can be seen in the City Council's decision to expand the Council's longstanding concerns regarding air quality to include a broader environmental focus.

All nine of these goals are essential to the health and vitality of Cambridge.

### The Goals of our City Council:

- Evaluate City expenditures with a view of maintaining a strong fiscal position and awareness of the impact on taxpayers.
- Value and support the racial, socioeconomic, cultural and religious diversity of Cambridge. Cambridge will

> continued on page 2

## Cambridge E-Line: Your New Connection to City Info



The City of Cambridge cordially invites you to sign up for its new web-based subscription service, Cambridge E-Line to get the information you need automatically sent to you via e-mail.

To subscribe, visit the City's Web site at [www.cambridgema.gov](http://www.cambridgema.gov) and click on the Cambridge E-Line logo. You can choose to receive any or all of the following types of information once you have subscribed:

- Weekly City Newsletter – containing links to the same News and Information published on various pages of the City's Web site. Optional on-demand links you can sign up to receive include Construction Updates, Job Openings, City Council Agenda, Calendar of Events.

- Alerts – current options include Snow Emergency Parking Bans, School Closings, Street Cleaning Reminders and Public Safety Alerts.

- City Publications – published by City departments at various times of the year including newsletters, brochures, class catalogs.



*Find out what the Dept. of Human Services is cooking up for kids this summer... see page 5*

## City Council (continued from page 1)

continue to be a city that welcomes, values and respects people of all abilities.

- Provide high quality services, including excellent customer service, effectively and efficiently and continually strive to update the public on City issues and services.
- Provide high quality public safety services and maintain a high level of public confidence in these services.
- Preserve and create affordable housing for low, moderate and middle-income residents.
- Strengthen and support public education and other learning in Cambridge for the benefit of residents of all ages.
- Foster community and support neighborhood vitality. Support opportunities for citizens to know each other within their neighborhoods and across the city.
- Promote a healthy environment by adopting environmentally sound and energy efficient practices throughout the community.
- Promote the advantage of “doing business in Cambridge” and work to strengthen our mutually beneficial community partnerships with businesses and universities. Highlight the unique benefits of Cambridge as a community in which to live and work; focus on transmitting the values and identity of Cambridge.

## Police Department Open House:

**May 16 - 21**

The Cambridge Police Department will hosts its annual Open House May 16-21. On May 19, the department will hold a special awards ceremony for Police Officers who will be recognized for exceptional performance during the year. The week will conclude with the annual Police Auction and Barbecue on Saturday, May 21.

## City, MIT Form Clean Diesel Collaborative for a Healthy Cambridge

The City of Cambridge is pleased to announce a collaboration with Massachusetts Institute of Technology to reduce diesel pollution from their respective vehicle fleets over the next two years. Through this Clean Diesel Collaborative for a Healthy Cambridge, 34 medium and heavy-duty vehicles will be retrofitted with advanced pollution control equipment to reduce harmful emissions. This innovative program was recently recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency, who has awarded the City and MIT a competitive grant to launch the initiative and cover the implementation costs.

Like many cities, Cambridge has a large population of people who are especially vulnerable to air pollution, particularly diesel emissions. Exposure to diesel pollution has been linked to numerous health conditions, including asthma, heart disease, and cancer. The Cambridge Health Alliance has identified childhood asthma as a priority health concern in its 2004 Cambridge Public Health Assessment.

The Clean Diesel Collaborative will enable Cambridge residents to enjoy significant reductions in diesel engine pollution through the application of advanced clean-diesel technologies (including catalyzing equipment and filters) to both City and MIT vehicles, as well as through the first introduction of biodiesel, a renewable fuel, into MIT's vehicle fleet. This project intends to reduce per vehicle emissions 40 to nearly 70% for some pollutants. Building on the environmental expertise of MIT and the fleet operation experience of the City's Department of Public Works, the project will involve the demonstration of new technologies in innovative applications and the sharing of lessons learned to help others implement similar programs.

The EPA has recognized this program through its Voluntary Diesel Retrofit Grant Program. Through this grant program, the City and MIT will receive \$83,467, making them one of only 18 grant recipients nationwide out of 83 applicants.

This new Clean Diesel Collaborative marks the second major phase of the City's effort to reduce emissions from its working vehicles, and an expansion of MIT's efforts to improve the environmental performance of its campus fleet. Last fall, as part of the first phase, the City adopted the use of biodiesel—a clean burning alternative fuel, produced from domestic sources—for the majority of their large vehicle fleet. Now over 80 City-owned vehicles (including garbage trucks, construction vehicles, and over a dozen City-owned school buses) run on biodiesel.

## Making Strides in Climate Protection

The Climate Protection Action Committee has issued its first annual report. It outlines Cambridge's efforts to date to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It shows that since the City Council adopted the goal of cutting emissions in Cambridge by 20% by 2010 activities have sprung up in every sector of the community, including City operations.

Biodiesel fuel is powering City trucks and more efficient lighting and other energy efficiency measures are being taken in City buildings. Local efforts like these are at the cutting edge of dealing with climate change.

To support the business community, the City has a grant from the EPA to provide free help to businesses that would like to reduce their energy bills. Experts will help businesses and non-profits assess their current energy use and take advantage of opportunities to cut costs and make their workplace more comfortable through the Energy Star program. Businesses that have pledged or carried out efforts to reduce their transportation impacts, increase recycling, or become more energy efficient, through the City program or on their own, will be recognized at a special Go Green event in May.

On the residential side, Cantabrigians are joining ecoteams, small groups that meet to discuss ways to reduce the environmental impact of their household activities and measure their results. So far, teams have sprung up at workplaces, a residential complex, and at churches. Future possibilities also include neighborhood or community organizations. City staff provide materials and technical help for the teams and help them get started.

Other exciting climate protection actions are under way in the universities and local schools. A grassroots citizens group has been formed, and many residents and businesses are taking advantage of NSTAR's energy efficiency programs. On a larger scale, including the City Hall Annex, Cambridge now has 12 of the 73 buildings in Massachusetts that follow the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED standards for environmentally advanced buildings.

For more information, visit [www.cambridgema.gov/climate](http://www.cambridgema.gov/climate) or call 617-349-4604.



# Making Parents Good Teachers

"Let's Talk," the Community Learning Center's (CLC) 25 Literacy Ambassadors have told 450 parents in their workshops. They don't mean just any kind of talk, however. The Literacy Ambassadors are CLC students trained to teach how important it is for parents to talk to children in their native language to help develop their oral language skills and get them ready for school. The workshops are conducted in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Amharic, and Haitian Creole.

Now in its second year, the Ambassador program has

expanded and in the spring will include workshops on reading with children. During Health Month in May, the Ambassadors will facilitate workshops on pediatric First Aid, using "Keeping Children Healthy at Home," a video produced in collaboration with Dr Lisa Dobberteen of the Cambridge Health Alliance.

Based on the premise that parents are their child's first teacher and that home is the first school, materials for the "Let's Talk" campaign and the reading workshops come from the Cambridge Agenda for Children (AFC) Literacy Initiative.

The CLC Family Literacy Coordinator, Carole Sousa, has adapted the AFC materials and trained CLC students. Several of our Ambassadors have also been hired to work directly with AFC.

Parent-child literacy activities, such as helping children recognize letters, reading to children, or assisting children with reading and writing assignments, have been found to improve children's language skills and heighten their interest in books. Studies show that children who are read to three or more times a week are almost twice as likely to recognize all letters of the alphabet, for example, than children read to less frequently.

***"I've learned that it's OK to speak Creole to my children"***

Since 1993, CLC's Cambridge Even Start and King Open Family Literacy Programs have enrolled parents in free English classes so they

can become more involved in their children's education. Now serving 30 families in Cambridge, the two programs also feature parenting and interactive parent child literacy activities which are educational and fun for parent and child.

In "Important People in our Lives," for example, parents bring one or two photographs of family or friends to the activity. They talk to their child about the people in the photos, emphasizing why they like them and why they are important to them. The child draws pictures or writes about his or her parent's stories.

Even Start, which serves 40 children, also provides early care and childhood education for infants and toddlers, while their parents are studying English, and child-centered educational home visits.

## City Buys Streetlights from NSTAR

The City of Cambridge recently purchased the streetlights from NSTAR Electric in a effort to improve repair response times. We are confident that this will be accomplished with the experienced staff of the Electrical Department.

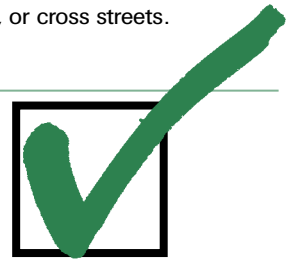
The Electrical Department has already patrolled all streets in Cambridge to identify as many defective lights as possible, and is currently in the process of making repairs.

Starting in July, we will initiate a re-lamping program to clean and re-lamp all streetlights in a particular neighborhood which will improve overall lighting in these areas and reduce the number of failures in the future. We will continue to patrol all neighborhoods periodically and make repairs until relamping is completed throughout the city.

Residents can report a defective streetlight by calling the Electrical Department at 617-349-4925 or via e-mail:

***streetlightrepair@cambridgema.gov***

Please make sure to report the location, pole number if possible, or cross streets.



## Municipal Election Nov. 8

The Cambridge Election Commission announces that the Municipal Election for City Council and School Committee will be held on November 8, 2005. The polls will be open from 7:00a.m. to 8:00p.m. Cambridge has a unique system of preference voting by Proportional Representation using numbers instead of an X. It is a method of voting gaining popularity throughout the country.

In order to vote in Cambridge a person must be a Cambridge resident, U.S. citizen, and be age 18 by Election Day. The close of voter registration is 20 days before the election. To have a form mailed to you, call 1-800-462-VOTE or 617-727-2828. You may also obtain a voter registration form which is available on the State Web site at: ***www.sec.state.ma.us*** Forms are also available at the Cambridge Election Commission, 51 Inman Street, Cambridge, MA 02139, and various sites in the city including Libraries, and Post Office branches.

For more information about voting, voter registration, Proportional Representation, and other areas of voting interest contact the Election Commission at 617-349-4361 or visit the Web site at ***www.cambridgema.gov***.



## Free Classes For Adults:

The Cambridge Community Learning Center at 19 Brookline Street is a division of the City's Department of Human Services. The CLC offers free classes to adults who wish to improve their math/reading/writing skills, get their high school diploma, or study English. Computer classes are available for enrolled students and the Bridge Transition to college course helps adults polish their skills to get ready for post-secondary education. Call 617-349-6363 for more information or to sign up.



## A Special Thank You to the Community from Clients of the Carey Program

As Spring finally arrives and a spirit of renewal approaches, the 22 men in the Carey Program, the City's transitional housing program for adult homeless men, want to extend their collective appreciation to the many local Cambridge residents and City employees who responded to the call for donated winter clothing items. The public response was very encouraging! After overcoming what seemed like another long extended winter, the generosity and thoughtfulness that the local community has shown towards these men has not just warmed the hearts of these men but of the staff of the Carey Program. Your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you so much!!

The Carey Program at the City's Multi-Service Center, a division of the Department of Human Services, 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.



### Transition House Awards:

*The Transition House of Cambridge recently honored City officials and others who were instrumental in implementing Cambridge's unique Domestic Violence Free Zone Initiative. A Transition House board member stated that "the commitment of the top ranks of City officials has made all the difference in making this nationally-recognized project to change the dynamic of domestic violence a reality." Pictured (l to r): Police Commissioner Ronnie Watson, Assistant City Manager for Human Services Ellen Semonoff, Richard Wright, founder of the Domestic Violence Free Zone Project, Gretchen Sherwood, Citywide Violence Prevention Coordinator, City Manager Robert W. Healy and Susan Marine, director of Sexual Assault Prevention and Intervention Programs at Harvard University.*

## No Increase in Water Rates for FY06

The City administration and City Council recognize that the recent property tax increase has placed a burden on some property owners and have established the goal of mitigating the effects of water and sewer increases both for FY06 and future fiscal years. The recommendation approved by the City Council in March calls for a 0.0% increase in water rates and a 7.5% increase in sewer rates. Overall, consumers will see a 4.8% increase in their annual water/sewer bill. These rate increases are substantially below the rate increases projected for FY06 when these recommendations were submitted to the City Council in March 2004. At that time, projected FY06 rate increases for water, sewer and combined were 5.0%, 11.2%, and 9.0% respectively.

## DanceMonth 2005

On Saturday, May 7 join Cambridge Mayor Michael A. Sullivan and dancer Rozann Kraus for the DanceMonth05 Kickoff Party, from 8-11 p.m., at the Dance Complex, 536 Massachusetts Avenue, featuring great music, food, raffle prizes and dancing of course! Upcoming events include a Dance Stage at Harvard Square's MayFair on May 1 and a Tuesdays@Noon concert and lunch series. For more information or an events schedule, call 617-547-9363 or visit: [www.dancecomplex.org](http://www.dancecomplex.org).

## Parks Update:

The City continues to invest in its parks, and recently reopened Dana Park in the Cambridgeport neighborhood featuring an expanded Great Lawn, the centerpiece of the park; a 90-foot full basketball court and two half courts; additional wheelchair accessible sitting areas, with game boards, glider benches and a shade trellis; a gated playground area with new play structures for both older and younger children; waterplay features; and artwork installed through the City's 1% for Arts Program.

Lowell School Park in West Cambridge re-opened in October 2004. The renovated park features an open lawn area, a hard surface area with two basketball backstops, improved pedestrian and vehicular access, extensive plantings, new benches and park furniture, new fencing, a children's climbing structure and an artwork element with water.

Other parks that will soon be in the planning stages include Gold Star Mother's Park on Gore Street, Baldwin School/Alden Park, and a new park at Western Ave. and Memorial Drive. For more information on City parks, contact Taha Jennings at 617-349-4603 or [tjennings@cambridgema.gov](mailto:tjennings@cambridgema.gov).

The City also began construction of the Russell Field renovation project which is expected to be substantially complete by late summer 2005. The comprehensive project includes environmental remediation, renovation of the football field with artificial "Field Turf," renovation of the multi-use field and two little league fields, construction of a new tot lot, improvement of pathways, lighting and parking, and construction of a new field house, providing locker rooms, training rooms and a concession area for Cambridge athletes and visitors. A \$200,000 grant was awarded to the project by the NFL Grassroots Football Field Program.

# On Tap For Summer:

Each year, spring and summer mark the return of a variety of popular events in Cambridge. Some of these such as the Cambridge River Festival (June 18) and the Summer in the City arts and music series (July/Aug.) are mentioned separately in this newsletter. Below are a couple of City events worth marking on your calendar and a look at a special series of summer events still in the works.

## **City of Cambridge Dance Party (July 8\*)**

The City of Cambridge cordially invites you to its annual Dance Party in front of City Hall on Friday, July 8, from 7-11 p.m. Enjoy dancing on the street as Massachusetts Avenue will be closed to traffic between Inman and Bigelow Streets—the heart of Central Square. It is a once a year opportunity for the entire Cambridge community to celebrate summer with an evening full of music and friends. Dance to the tunes of DJ Joey Demers. After dark, spectacular lights will be launched adding to the magic of the evening. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Maryellen Carvello at 617-349-4301.

\* Date was tentative at press time.

## **Taste of Cambridge (July)**

The annual Taste of Cambridge features food, beer and wine samplings from the city's most popular chefs, restaurants and breweries. At press time, the July date had not been finalized, but event organizers were considering either Thursday, July 21 or 28. The event is expected to be held in Technology Square again, corner of Main and Albany Streets. More complete information, including ticket purchase options will be posted once finalized at: [www.tasteofcambridge.com](http://www.tasteofcambridge.com).



## **Destination Cambridge 2005**

In July 2004, the City of Cambridge organized a series of events, including an Arts Festival, a Taste of Cambridge, the City Dance Party, historic walking tours, a Salsa Concert, the Central Square World's Fair and Music Festival, educational symposia, a community parade – to showcase Cambridge during the Democratic National Convention and to remind residents of all that we have to offer. The events were promoted under the umbrella theme Destination Cambridge...the Unconventional City. The series of events were such a hit that City officials are considering a similar sort of celebration in 2005. Stay tuned for more information and visit the City's Web site at [www.cambridgema.gov](http://www.cambridgema.gov). "There's something happening here."

For a listing of additional community events, visit the Cambridge Tourism Office Web site at [www.cambridge-usa.org](http://www.cambridge-usa.org).

# Give Your Child a Special Summer

The Department of Human Services (DHSP) is kicking off the 2005 summer season with lots of options for children.



Cambridge Community Schools will offer

Arts in the Parks in five neighborhoods, family trips and 11 summer camps for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. All camps will include exciting themes, swimming and adventurous field trips. A few camps will have an academic component through collaborations with Cambridge Public Schools.

Cambridge Youth Programs will provide two Arts camps and one Sports Leadership camp for 9-13-year-olds as well as basketball leagues for girls and boys, both pre-teens and teens. The Recreation Program will sponsor programs at 25 playgrounds, Camp Rainbow for individuals with special needs, Citywide Youth Games, swimming at Gold Star and War Memorial Pools, two enhanced golf camps and a weekly golf clinic for children. Summer work opportunities, particularly for 14- and 15-year-olds, are available through the Mayor's Summer Youth Employment Program. All DHSP Programs welcome children with special needs.

For more information, contact the Department of Human Service Programs at 617-349-6200 or visit [www.cambridgema.gov/DHSP2/](http://www.cambridgema.gov/DHSP2/).

## For this Mother Daughter Pair, Finances Are All in the Family

Equipped with her finance book, expense notebook, calculator, and credit report, a Cambridge resident was ready for the evening's Making Your Money Work, financial literacy workshop. The topic was credit standing and repair and like the majority of the class participants, she was reading her credit reports for the first time. Sitting next to her was her adult daughter who felt her mom needed a class like this. "I thought it was important for someone other than family to tell her about the importance of budgeting."

Over the course of the 4-week Making Your Money Work program, the mother-daughter pair explored means for more responsible money management ranging from their personal spending habits to learning how to create an accurate budget, better track

expenses, and strategies for getting out of debt.

The Cambridge Community Development Department Economic Development Division (EDD) supported Making Your Money Work which was presented by the Center for Women & Enterprise, a group that assists small businesses. Cambridge residents can learn about credit, budgeting and saving to achieve personal financial goals, such as owning a home or starting a business. EDD workshops like Making Your Money Work are held in the fall and spring. Other offerings are to new and existing business owners to plan for starting a small business; to strategize for growing a small business to help with state certification as a minority or women-owned business; and to learn about best practices

in retailing, including interior store design and marketing.

Workshops and classes held twice annually:

- Making Your Money Work Workshop
- Starting Your Own Business Classes
- Minding Your Own Business Classes
- SOMWBA Certification Workshop
- Best Retail Practices Program

For more information on specific dates and times, contact Rona Holmes in the Economic Development Division at 617-349-4637 or [rholfmes@cambridgema.gov](mailto:rholfmes@cambridgema.gov). Information can also be found on the EDD Web site at [www.cambridgema.gov/~CDD/econdev/](http://www.cambridgema.gov/~CDD/econdev/).



## City's Urban Forestry Program Recognized by National Arbor Day Foundation

For the 13th straight year, Cambridge has been named a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation. 2004 also marked the third year that Cambridge has received the Growth Award, which recognizes environmental improvement and encourages higher levels of tree care.

### Street trees provide many benefits to Cambridge residents:

- Trees lower street and sidewalk temperatures in summer months.
- Shade trees can reduce air conditioning costs and help cleanse the air of diesel and dust particles.
- Trees absorb carbon dioxide, which helps ease the negative effects of greenhouse gasses.
- Tree roots help hold stormwater in soil.
- Tree-lined streets encourage motorists to drive slower.
- Tree leaves and roots filter particles from stormwater, improving water quality.
- Trees significantly enhance property values.

The DPW Urban Forestry Program is dedicated to pruning every public tree every four years, and strives to plant 150-300 new trees each year. Here are some ways you can help Cambridge stay a Tree City USA for years to come:

**Replace Existing Trees:** If a tree was removed from a well in front of your house, it can be replaced at no expense to you.

**Request New Tree Planting:** If you've never had a sidewalk tree in front of your house or building, you may be able to participate in the Client Tree Program. The cost for a new tree is \$140. The Commemorative Tree Program is another option for people or organizations to honor a person, significant life event, or other idea. A commemorative tree planting cost \$200.

All street trees depend on the help of residents for weeding and watering. For new street trees, weekly watering and weeding is critical for their survival.

### Some tips for caring for private property trees:

- Hire an ISA or Mass. certified arborist for care
- Choose the best tree for your space, keeping in mind the mature size of the tree, aesthetic concerns, and landscaping needs
- Water – don't overwater – during growth season
- Fertilizer isn't tree food; don't over-fertilize.
- Apply 3-4 inches of organic mulch/compost mix 6 inches away from the base. Extend the mix to the length of the branches, or as far as practical.
- Don't rent a chainsaw and ladder to prune or remove large shade trees yourself.
- Don't hire inexperienced, non-licensed arborists.
- Don't plant large species trees in confined areas or too close to buildings. Remember, they grow!
- Don't over-mulch.

For more information about any of these programs visit the Urban Forestry Web site at: [www.cambridgema.gov/TheWorks/department/parks/forestry.html](http://www.cambridgema.gov/TheWorks/department/parks/forestry.html)

## Fire Department Hires 19 Paramedic Firefighters



Friday February 18, 2005 marked a new chapter in the long proud history of the Cambridge Fire Department as 19 new Paramedic Firefighters and their families gathered in City Hall to receive their badges. The 17 men and two women will staff the new Paramedic/Advanced Life Support (ALS) Units that will be stationed at Engine 4 in North Cambridge and Engine 2 in Lafayette Square. Along with 13 members of the department that already hold the certification, this will bring the total complement to 32 Paramedics. The Paramedic ALS units are expected to go into service later this spring.

## Holocaust Commemoration

The City of Cambridge Holocaust Commemoration will take place on Wednesday, May 11, at 7:00 p.m., at Temple Beth Shalom, 8 Tremont Street, Cambridge. The program will include the voice of survivor Ilse Heyman, and music by members of Community Chorus, A Besere Velt and CRLS students.

## Street Cleaning Reminder

Don't forget to check signs for parking restrictions between April and December to avoid being ticketed and/or towed. Maps and schedules are available from the Traffic Department and Public Works, and online at [www.cambridgema.gov/TheWorks](http://www.cambridgema.gov/TheWorks), click on Schedules, then Street Cleaning. Even if a sweeper has gone through an area once, please do not park there before the 1 p.m. posted end time. Whenever feasible and necessary, the sweeper may make a second pass through a neighborhood. Public Works also cleans each of the City's 5,000+ catch basins annually, and knowing when streets will be free of parked cars helps in planning this major endeavor. In addition to improving the cleanliness and appearance of streets, street cleaning also plays an important role in keeping local waterways clean. By sweeping up sand and other debris, catch basins are kept clean and able to function efficiently. Street sweepers also help to remove particles and chemicals that get deposited on roadways through the wear and tear of vehicle parts, combustion, and leaking engine fluids, reducing a significant source of pollution to the Charles River and the Alewife Brook.

## Memorial Day Observance

The City, in conjunction with the Cambridge Veterans' Organization, will host its annual Memorial Day Parade and Observance on Monday, May 30. The parade will begin at the Cambridge Common at 9:30 a.m. and the observance will take place at 11 a.m. in the Cambridge Cemetery.





Mark your calendars...the 26th **Cambridge River Festival** will take place on Saturday, June 18, from Noon to 6:00 p.m. An annual celebration of the arts that takes over Memorial Drive and the Charles River bank, the festival is a local tradition that highlights music, art-making activities, roving performers, food and crafts. In the weeks leading up to June 18, artists will display paintings, prints, sculpture and other medium in window spaces donated by local businesses throughout the city. Called Art Up Front, the project will highlight the festival theme - "Ripple." The Arts Council invites you to participate in this community-oriented initiative as an artist, business location, or volunteer. For more information, contact Liz White at 617-349-4385 or [ewhite@cambridgeMA.gov](mailto:ewhite@cambridgeMA.gov).

The Cambridge River Festival is a community building event, showcasing aspects of the cultural life that make Cambridge a desirable place to live and work. The festival is one of the City's largest annual events, and relies heavily on the commitment and generosity of the Cambridge community. Volunteers are always needed, both for the day of the event and during the weeks of preparation.

**Summer in the City (July/August)** - This annual series of 14 events bring dance, movies, music, theater and puppetry to public spaces throughout the city in July and August. This is the 14th year for this popular series produced by the Cambridge Arts Council. While programming is geared to children ages 4 to 11, the talented roster of professional artists will entertain people of all ages.

In May and June 2005 the **CAC Gallery** presents an art installation by nationally acclaimed Cambridge artist Ellen Driscoll. The installation is related to a large-scale public art project that Driscoll is creating for the Cambridge Public Library in honor of women's contributions to the City and the world. At the CAC Gallery, Driscoll uses the visual and material vocabulary that she has developed for the Library project to create a unique work of art.

The CAC Gallery is located in the Cambridge City Hall Annex, 344 Broadway, at the intersection of Broadway and Inman Street. MBTA stop: Central Square. Gallery hours: M, W, Th: 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.; T: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; F: 8:30 a.m. - Noon.

**Public Art Education** - The Arts Council is collaborating with Underground Railway Theater to create 20-minute performances in dialogue with artworks in the City of Cambridge Public Art Collection. Entitled Public Art ACTS, performances will take place in Central Square, East Cambridge, Inman Square, and at the Area IV Youth Center. Performances will be free and accessible. For detailed scheduling information call 617-349-4389 or [www.cambridgeartscouncil.org](http://www.cambridgeartscouncil.org).

Two additional education programs will occur in summer 2005 that connect Cambridge youth with art in public spaces: **Art Among Us 2005** features an apprenticeship program to train youth in the process of creating public art for utility boxes around the City. **Public Art ACTS/ Youth** will train youth in the production of theatrical performances in response to public art sites in Cambridge.

For information on CAC programs and services, call 617 349-4380 or visit [www.cambridgeartscouncil.org](http://www.cambridgeartscouncil.org).

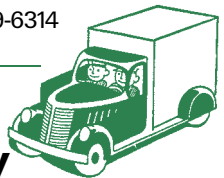
## African American History is More Than Just a Month

The sounds floating in the air at the Frisoli Youth Center in March were quite cheerful as more than 50 kids from the City's five youth centers' after school program sang, danced, read and recited poetry as well as portions of Martin Luther King's I Have a Dream speech. Families and other community residents watched and cheered as the youth center members took everyone on "A Trip Through the Decades."

Each youth center focused on a different decade from the 60's through the 2000's, highlighting music and important moments in history. Helen Ford, a longtime supporter of the City's youth and the youth centers spoke about the importance of community and about respect. She applauded the work of the youth and told them "Black History month is everyday of your life." For more information about upcoming youth programs, call the Department of Human Service Programs at 617-349-6200 or any of the following youth centers:

- Area IV: 617-349-6262
- Frisoli: 617-349-6312
- Gately: 617-349-6277
- Moore: 617-349-6273
- West Cambridge: 617-349-6314

## Cambridge Public Library is On the Move!



Cambridge Public Library at 449 Broadway closed its doors in March to allow for the new Main Library expansion project to begin. At press time, there was no official reopening date for CPL's temporary relocation site at the former Longfellow School, 359 Broadway. Until the Main Library opens at the Longfellow location, the Central Square Branch has extended its hours.

While it will not be possible to accommodate the entire library collection (over 225,000 volumes) in the Longfellow School, CPL will make its most heavily used items available. Over 60% of the print collection and all reference and audiovisual holdings will remain accessible during construction. As always, Cambridge Public Library patrons will have access to the collections in all of the six branches, as well as in the Minuteman Library Network. Staff will be happy to borrow any title through inter-library loan. We ask for your patience during these exciting times!



# Health Beat: Children's Health

This information was provided by the Cambridge Public Health Department, located at 119 Windsor Street. For more information, please call 617-665-3800.

## Hunt for Golden Shoes

This May, the Cambridge Walks campaign is once again sponsoring the hunt for "golden shoes." Pedestrians who find a specially marked golden shoe will win a free pair of New Balance shoes. (Hint: Shoes will be hidden near outdoor murals, sculptures, and other pieces of public art. Public art (and hence shoes) can also be found in City buildings, such as libraries and youth centers.

## Take a Break from TV

Luring your child away from television, computer games, and junk food this summer doesn't have to be a big chore. Cambridge offers swimming, gymnastics and many other affordable activities for kids. For a free guide, call 617-665-3854. Summer is also a great time to visit local farmers' markets, and get your child excited about fruits and vegetables. The Central Square Market will run from May 23 - November 23, 12 - 6 p.m., Mondays including holidays. There are also markets in Harvard Square on Fridays and Sundays and in Cambridgeport on

Saturdays. For market info, call 781-893-8222 or go to [www.massfarmersmarkets.org](http://www.massfarmersmarkets.org).

## Fun in the Sun

For a fun, safe summer, make sure your child:

- Uses sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher.
- Drinks plenty of water when outdoors. Parents should recognize heatstroke symptoms: rapid, weak pulse, pale skin, dizziness, change in consciousness.
- Is never alone near a pool. Consider swimming lessons for kids age 4 or older.
- Wears protective sports equipment when bicycling, rollerblading, or skateboarding.

For more information, visit [www.cambridgepublichealth.org](http://www.cambridgepublichealth.org).

## Protect Your Child from Lead

During the warmer months, children are at greater risk for breathing in lead dust from construction sites or accidentally swallowing lead-contaminated soil. Lead poisoning can cause severe health problems in young children. Some tips:

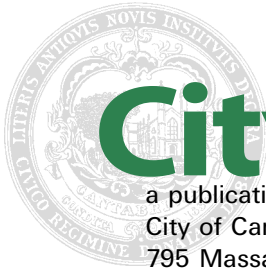
- Leave shoes at the door.
- Wash hands before meals.
- Keep fingernails clean and short
- Wash mouthing toys.
- Have your child tested for lead.
- Check your home for lead, and avoid unsafe renovations.

For more information, call Healthy Homes at 617-665-3836 or Lead-Safe Cambridge at 617-349-5323.

## Why Baby Teeth Are Important

More than just keepsakes for the Tooth Fairy, baby teeth are essential for speaking, proper enunciation, and chewing. A nice smile also helps build a youngster's self-confidence. Baby teeth damaged or destroyed by decay can lead to crowding in adult teeth. Decayed baby teeth also increase the risk for cavities in permanent teeth. To learn more, call Joyce Lefevre at 617-665-3806.

For more information, contact the Cambridge Public Health Department at 617-665-3800 or visit [www.cambridgepublichealth.org](http://www.cambridgepublichealth.org).



# CityView

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