

4word

October 2000

Number 5



news & views in area 4

The Right to Vote

“Estimates indicate that nearly 20% of Cambridge public school children have parents who are non-citizens and, thus, cannot vote in School Committee elections. These parents should be involved in setting the school policies that impact their children.

We have to do everything we can to involve them.”

—State Representative Jarrett Barrios

Although the Massachusetts and the U.S. Constitutions limit the right to vote to citizens 18 years of age and older for state and national offices, only a simple state law limits the right to vote in local elections. The Cambridge City Council is being urged to pass “home rule” requests that would ask the state legislature to give Cambridge the right to change local election laws. The requests propose that noncitizens be given the right to vote for school committee members and that the voting age be lowered to 16 in order to vote for city councilors, school committee members, and local referendum questions. The Area 4 neighborhood is severely underrepresented in City government decisions because we have the

highest proportion of young adults and noncitizens in Cambridge, two groups that are denied the vote. Passing new local election laws could change all that!

Campaign for Immigrant Voting Rights

The Cambridge Immigrant Voting Rights Campaign seeks to win the right of all immigrants in the city of Cambridge to vote for the school committee. According to the Campaign committee, “This is important because it allows full participation of all members of the community who have a vested interest in the leadership and functioning of Cambridge city schools . . .

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The “New School” Opens

A beautiful, bright day and smiling teachers and administrators greeted more than 350 Cambridge children on September 5 when they arrived for their first day at the Maynard-Fletcher merged school, temporarily called the “New School.” A committee will narrow the suggestions for a new name for the merged school, after which ballots will be distributed to parents, students, and neighbors. Robin Harris, the new principal and former Cambridge School Committee member



Gerald Bergman

Principal Robin Harris greets parents and students on their first day at the “New School”

summed up the day: “Everyone is so enthusiastic and excited, we are all looking forward with great expectations for the coming year. The new staff shares a common vision and a deep commitment to the children. This is a new school with dedicated staff and teachers and great new programs. We will succeed.”

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From the Editor

Participation has many faces and comes in many forms—a recycling effort to clean up the environment, a zoning campaign to control local development, the plan for a new school, a celebration with neighbors, the long, painful struggle for freedom. This edition of the *4word* speaks about Area 4 residents being involved, taking advantage of the opportunity to participate, and, if not always succeeding at making a difference, certainly not giving up hope.

This month you'll read about children's first day at the "New School" that their parents and community worked long hours to make a reality, and exciting

programs at the Area Four Youth Center, which was founded on the perseverance of Area 4 residents. And you'll be challenged and inspired by a young Area 4 woman hard at work in the Campaign for a Free Tibet.

The General Election is November 7, and those of us allowed to participate must make sure that we are registered to vote by October 18. In addition to voting for candidates, we will have the opportunity to endorse sweeping changes in our health care system by voting *in favor* of Question 5 on the ballot. This question, which is opposed by big insurance companies and HMOs

will guarantee universal health coverage and patient's rights while banning the creation of for-profit health companies.

Many of us, though, are denied the vote and the opportunity to participate because we are noncitizens or under the age of 18. But Cambridge is considering changes in the law for City elections. These proposed changes are especially important to us in Area 4 because we have the highest proportion of immigrants and young people in the City. In this *4word* you'll learn about this campaign and how you can become involved. In addition to calling City Councilors, attend the hearing on Lowering the Voting Age on Thursday, November 16 at 5:30 pm at City Hall.

Gerald Bergman, Editor

City Spraying Creates a Cloud of Controversy

This summer the City of Cambridge decided to spray the city for mosquitoes, some of which could carry the West Nile virus. Area 4 was recently sprayed for a second time. No human cases of West Nile virus have been found in New England. According to the Women's Community Cancer Project, West Nile virus causes symptoms in only 1/10 of one percent of people bitten by an INFECTED mosquito, and of those who do develop symptoms, fewer than 1% will become seriously ill.

Residents of the neighborhood have complained about the insecticide, Resmethrin, being sprayed without adequate notice and information. According to federal guidelines, Resmethrin is a synthetic pyrethroid, which at high doses can affect the nervous system. Approved by the EPA in 1971, Resmethrin is currently under review by the Environmental Protection Agency. According to published Cambridge Health Department information, "There are no studies examining whether the use of Resmethrin to control mosquitoes has caused any long-term health effects in humans. However, since Resmethrin is applied at very low concentrations, it is unlikely that adverse health effects will occur as a result of its use to control mosquitoes. Nevertheless, some individuals may experience health effects (e.g., asthma symptoms) as a result of short-term exposure to the very low levels of Resmethrin used to control mosquitoes."

Did pets become the unwary victims of this spray? Did residents know that windows should have been closed and air conditioners turned off when the trucks came by? Did parents with small children bring in outdoor furniture and toys as suggested? Gardeners are unsure about the short and long-term effects of this pesticide. If there are no health threats to this pesticide, why all the suggested precautions?

The West Nile virus will be with us for many years to come. What discussions will take place to help us understand the health and environmental impacts of mosquito control methods and the real risks of West Nile virus? Is spraying the best method of control? What do you think?



Gerald Bergman

As a result of resident complaints about spraying, the Cambridge Health Department began advertising an information hotline.

This notice is posted outside the Maynard-Fletcher "New School."

THE FOLLOWING IS A STATEMENT BY THE WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CANCER PROJECT, AN ADVOCACY GROUP BASED IN CAMBRIDGE:

The Women's Community Cancer Project (WCCP) opposes the use of Resmethrin and other pesticide sprays to control West Nile virus. The Mt. Sinai School of Medicine in New York City published a study in 1999 that showed a correlation between human breast cancer and pyrethroids, the class of chemicals that Resmethrin falls under. Other studies indicate that Resmethrin is suspected of damaging our nervous and immune systems and that it caused liver damage, seizures, thyroid cysts, and loss of bladder control in lab animals. In addition, between 50% and 90% of the Resmethrin spray consists of piperonyl butoxide, which, according to the New York Attorney General's office, increases the toxic hazard of the chemical. Resmethrin is up for review by the EPA in 2002 for its endocrine-disrupting and cancer-producing potential. Since other pesticides once considered safe are now banned (such as Dursban), WCCP believes that caution dictates that we should never use pesticides until thorough tests prove them safe.

Area 4's Recycling and Beautification Initiative

By Sharon Stentiford

Area 4's remarkably successful year-long Recycling and Beautification Initiative has left its mark. Neighborhood cleanups, the Columbia Park Community Celebration, the Trashasaurus Carnival Parade, and the planting of 2000 tulips to greet the millennium were among the activities residents of Area 4 took part in. People of many ages and walks of life joined in, beginning with the first Area 4 cleanup held in the spring 1999. Young neighborhood children wielded rakes, as adults served refreshments to the hardworking teams.

From May 1999 through April 2000, the Recycling Initiative was promoted through events, contests flyers, and educational activities such as the "Recycling Relay." Perhaps you were among those who took part in Holiday Happenings at the DPW, venturing from your house despite the freezing cold of the winter season, beckoned by festive lights and warm cider, to bring your recyclables to the DPW around Christmas time. Your child—or the child of a neighbor—may be one of those who participated in a recycling contest at one of six after-school programs. Education and putting ideas into practice was key.

If you were part of any of these activities—congratulations—you helped to increase recycling by 35%! That's over 296,000 pounds of difference you made in this community! And while we can quantify the increase in recycling tonnage, there is much more we can't measure and report in a neat little number. How do you measure the joy of hearing a teenager say the tulips in Columbia Park look beautiful, or of hearing the children's laughter at the egg-and-spoon races, or of dancing to Samba music as the Trashasaurus was escorted through the streets of our neighborhood? These events did more than promote recycling, they brought neighbors together and something surfaced—was it pride? Was it unity?

Area 4 resident Stephanie Tull Morris said her favorite memories of the year-long effort would definitely include the feeling of unity, plus, "What I love is that people are

responding to recycling and they are recycling." She had toured KTI Industries in Charlestown where the fruits of recycling can be seen. Raw materials that would otherwise be thrown away are transformed: scrap paper into new paper, bottles into smoothed aquarium glass, and even plastic containers melted down and reshaped into beautiful benches. A vase sparkling with bits of multicolored glass from that visit graces her living room.

The Community Connections Coalition (CCC) was instrumental in the collaboration of nine organizations that helped make possible the acquisition of beautification funds from the Department of Public Works (DPW). Area 4 became the first neighborhood eligible to receive beautification funds based on increases in neighborhood recycling. In the course of one year, Area 4 increased its recycling rate of everyday items such as paper, cans, plastic, and glass by 35% and, at the rate of \$8 per ton, the CCC earned over \$4,500 in grant money!

As children were central to the activities of the Recycling Initiative, so were they central to how this hard-earned money was spent. It was used to purchase a Children's Art Board, a handsome outdoor display installed at the Margaret Fuller Neighborhood House, 71 Cherry Street, to showcase the promising artwork of Area 4 children. The inscription in part reads, "In Honor of the Precious Creative Spirits of Area 4 Children." Grant funds following installation of the Art Board are earmarked for the purchase of two trees that will be planted in Columbia Park and for art supplies for the Community Art Center.

The DPW is planning to use the Recycling and Beautification Initiative as a model for working with other neighborhoods. Please take a moment to describe your experiences with the year-long Recycling and Beautification effort by calling Jessica Nolan of the DPW at 349-4815 or by filling out a



Area 4 Cleanup

DPW web survey at: <http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~TheWorks/recycling/area4.html>

Sharon Stentiford is an Area 4 resident who participated in the Area 4 Recycling/Beautification Initiative. Her favorite activity was being part of the team that planted 2000 tulips in Columbia Park in honor of the Year 2000.

For information about the CCC, call Carolyn Dallas, Executive Director of the Margaret Fuller House at (617) 547-4680.

about **4**word

The *4word* is funded by a UDAG grant from the Area Four Neighborhood Coalition. We thank the Community Art Center for administering the grant. Suggestions about articles and interviews and contributions to People Pride and 🗓 Your Calendar are invited.

Contact Gerald Bergman, *4word* editor, PO Box 390768 (02139), telephone: 354-2648, fax: 864-2519, e-mail: gerrberg@aol.com.

The Right to Vote, *continued from page 1*

Immigrants pay taxes—federal, state, and local taxes. Immigrants have children in the Cambridge schools. They must abide by Cambridge laws. They should have a voice in how laws and taxes are decided.” Studies show that a child’s education is enhanced with full parental participation. It is a disservice to all our children if we do not allow all parents to participate in the decision-making process and supervision of their children’s education, writes the Voting Rights Campaign. They go on to say that bilingual programs especially would benefit from full participation of the constituents of such programs. At this time, without the right to vote for elected officials, it is not possible to truly represent the recipients of our public schooling. For more information about the Cambridge Immigrant Voting Rights Campaign you are urged to contact the committee at 912-8574.

Campaign to Lower the Voting Age to 16 in Local Cambridge Elections

This Campaign has been endorsed by the Democratic City Committee. The following is excerpted from a statement of the Ward Three Democratic Committee, which represents much of Area 4:

“Young adults confront serious issues on a daily basis: AIDS, racism, declining wages, shortage of affordable housing,

environmental crisis, violence, poverty, and hunger. Yet they remain active concerned citizens, taking it upon themselves to improve the world, to work with adults and infuse our commitment to social change with their energy. They deserve the right to vote.

“The right to vote is a democratic extension of community involvement and individual concern. Young people are already taking leadership, organizing against racism and sexism, violence and drugs. They are already acting to construct a future more healthy and equitable than the present. Most teenagers have some method of earning their own income and they pay sales and income taxes.

“Young men and women have a realistic view of the causes and perpetuation of poverty and other injustices. We are encouraged by their unwillingness to accept band-aid solutions.

“The right to vote in local elections would give them the opportunity to replace voices of alienation with the power and the capacity to alter and improve their own destiny. Young people’s entire lives have been manipulated by political forces. With the vote, they would be better able to fight such manipulation, and with an electoral voice they would have added reason to educate themselves and each other on the issues. This action will prove to be the strongest statement we could make to break the cycle of increased apathy regarding the electoral process and cynicism resulting from exclusion from power.

“A lower voting age will be an investment in our cities. We will be telling young adults that they are accountable as members of our community, and with that accountability comes the power to help shape our lives. The voices of authority—politicians, police, parents, teachers—talk about taking responsibility and becoming involved, yet young adults are denied one of the



Library of Congress c. 1911

Women faced strong opposition during their campaign for the right to vote.

basic means to their involvement, the right to vote. We are absolutely dependent on the representation and participation of youth to fulfill our commitment to a truly diverse city.

“Will the youth vote be an additional vote in the hands of influential adults? No, of course not. That condescending argument was used by men to deny women the right to vote. Would allowing 16 and 17 year olds the vote be risking mistakes? No, they would make no more mistakes than many adults; this is the risk we take with democracy. Would they be voting before they are ready? No, like most adults, they would become involved in the electoral process when they were confident of their choices, when they were fully informed.

“Imagine young adults across the city discussing who should represent them on the School Committee and City Council, debating how their lives would be impacted by policies on issues such as public health, recreation, job training, education, public safety, wages, racism—issues that affect our communities on a daily basis. We owe it to ourselves, for our common future, to lower the voting age.”

For further information about the hearing on this voting proposal, which is scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 5:30 pm, at Cambridge City Hall, contact Gerald Bergman, a member of the Cambridge Ward Three Democratic City Committee, at 354-2648 or e-mail Gerrberg@aol.com.



Bruce Davidson

The Selma to Montgomery March, March 21-25, 1965. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 became law on August 6, 1965

Area Four Youth Center: Welcome!

The Area Four Youth Center, at 243 Harvard Street on the edge of Sennott Park, welcomes neighborhood young people to participate in a wide range of activities including dance classes, sports programs, computer training, video production, homework assistance, arts and crafts, guest speakers, workshops and discussion groups, and cultural and recreational trips. Under the guidance of the Area Four Youth Center director, Allen Platt, a very aggressive schedule of programs and activities for neighborhood youth has been instituted.

The Youth Center serves girls and boys ages 9–19. During the school year, 9–13 year olds use the center from 2–6 pm for homework assistance, followed by snacks and then involvement in a wide range of program offerings. The 14–19 year olds are allowed in from 5–9 pm on school nights, and until 10:30 pm on Fridays. The Area Four Youth Center provides a fully structured program for both the preteens and the teens, offering a balance between academic support, life skills, and recreation.

Based on the results of a citywide youth center evaluation, the Department of Human Services significantly upgraded the youth center network's resources. Some of the major changes included an increased youth center budget, a newly created youth center director position, and an improved after-school enrichment program for preteens.

Mara Hahn, a lifelong Cambridge resident and two-year part-time staff member of the Youth Center commented, "The changes have

been very positive in terms of the structure of the programs that allows the kids to get involved in new activities." Mara specifically enjoys the arts and crafts activities, as well as the girls group programming.

Director Allen Platt has worked in youth programs for more than 20 years professionally. "The long range goal for the program is to provide a safe environment that will encourage members to develop themselves toward becoming productive students and citizens. Any changes that are made won't matter unless the members feel that there have been improvements and are involving themselves in those changes."

In the 1980s, Area 4 residents took the lead in the citywide effort to build new youth centers. After having lost the campaign to have the City purchase the St. Mary's building on the corner of Harvard Street and Prospect Street (a building that already housed two gyms, a stage area for theater and music production, classrooms, showers, etc.), neighbors kept up the advocacy until the City agreed to build a new building at 243 Harvard Street. Many residents of Area 4 have remained active supporters of the Youth Center and keep up to date on Center activities by attending monthly Area Four Neighborhood Coalition meetings. Over the past several years the Area Four Coalition contributed several thousand dollars, which enabled the Center to purchase a new basketball scoreboard, video equipment



Staff member Brian Renter (center) oversees a recent chess tournament

and training provided by CCTV, theater arts equipment, and computers.

Eleven-year-old Porsha Goodman is a daily member at the Area Four Youth Center. "At first I wasn't sure if I liked going to homework room every day, but it can be fun when everybody is in there getting stuff done," Porsha said. "Sometimes my friends have some of the same homework and we can sit at the same table to help each other." Ten-year-old Daneiris Heredia enjoys the girls group activities, especially the dance classes: "I like the dance class because we learn things that we can do in a talent show, and it makes us feel like we can do things like the older girls."

Contact Allen Platt or Phil Haddix at the Area Four Youth Center, 349-6292, to learn more about programs and how you can get involved. Stop in at the Youth Center, 243 Harvard Street, and pick up your copy of the exciting fall schedule. Everyone is welcome!

Contacting City Councilors

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Library Decision— And Then There Were Two

After six years of discussion and study, the final decision regarding a location for the new Cambridge Public Library appears to have been narrowed to two sites. One site, which is in Central Square, is the 173-space parking lot at the corner of Bishop Allen Drive and Prospect Street, and the other site is the current library site at 449 Broadway. A majority of Area 4 residents and organizations such as the Area Four Neighborhood Coalition have preferred a Central Square site. With the exception of Councilor Ken Reeves, who has been an outspoken supporter of the current Broadway site, councilors have not disclosed their library site preference.

City Manager Robert Healy approved a feasibility study of the Prospect Street site that will include a full real estate appraisal.

This study is scheduled to be completed in early October. Prospect Street is also under consideration as the site for a new police station.

The new library at the Prospect Street site would be approximately 100,000 square feet, nearly three times the size of the current main branch, which is only 36,000 square feet. The design includes a multimedia theatre and a TV studio with 20-foot-high ceilings. The children's room would look out on a landscaped space on Bishop Allen Drive, with the periodicals and reading room above it. The stacks would be on the top level, and all on one floor. Below



Gerald Bergman

A bit of history: Pictured above is the destruction, several years ago, of retail stores, including a neighborhood market, to make way for a 173-space parking lot at the corner of Prospect and Bishop Allen Drive. This is now the proposed Central Square site for a new Public Library.

ground there would be more than 350 parking spaces, with ramp access from Bishop Allen Drive.

This final library decision could be made at any time. Please contact City Councilors at City Hall by calling 349-4280. Make sure that you talk directly to a councilor to make your voice heard.

Medical Interpreter's Training Program/NBC, Inc.



Sandra Mayo

Kick-off meeting for the Medical Interpreter's Training Program. Standing: Jacqueline Carroll, president, NBC, Inc.; Sylvia Saavedra-Keber, executive director, Concilio Hispano; Ezat Parnia, VP of marketing and Farah Ravanbakhsh, admissions rep., both of Cambridge College.

***by Janis Peterson,
Executive Director, NBC, Inc.***

As Neighbors for a Better Community, Inc. (NBC, Inc.) approaches our second anniversary of serving the residents of Area 4, we want to take this opportunity to update you on our work and to tell you about our future plans.

The mission of NBC, Inc. is to improve the economic conditions and opportunities in the area so that residents may achieve a better quality of life. In January, we moved into our new office at 216 Broadway, right in the heart of Area 4. We are enjoying the access to the community that this provides. We are open Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm and welcome all neighborhood residents to drop in during those hours to learn more about our program offerings.

NBC, Inc. is currently involved in a collaborative effort with the Cambridge Health

Alliance and Cambridge College to begin a Medical Interpreter's Training Program that will be made available to interested multilingual residents of the Cambridge-Somerville area. This comprehensive job training and professional education program will capitalize on community residents' strengths while also increasing their job opportunities. It will recruit, train, and employ at least 20 community members as medical interpreters by July 2001. All courses are offered in the evenings, to accommodate the schedules of working adults. The program will assist enrolled students with tutoring, child care, and transportation needs. Individuals interested in the Medical Interpreter's Training Program should call Janis Peterson at the NBC, Inc. office, 864-9911.

The significance of this program has been greatly enhanced by ground-breaking legislation passed on April 4, 2000, which was sponsored by Cambridge State Representative Barrios and State Senator

People Pride: *FREE TIBET!*

Area 4 is rich with immigrants who have led struggles against injustices and oppression in their homelands. That is true with T. Keyzom Ngodup, an Area 4 resident and a cofounder and leader of the Students For a Free Tibet at Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School.

Keyzom and her three brothers were born in India after their parents fled government persecution in Tibet. Her mother lost two brothers as they walked across the mountains into India in 1959. Tibet, which is not a part of China, has been under Communist rule since 1949.

Keyzom says, "I've heard so many times that the Chinese communist government is in Tibet because they are going to liberate people. But liberation really has an entirely different meaning. To us Tibetans, and to Americans who care about Tibetans, it means freedom from oppression."

The fight for Tibetan independence is strong in Area 4, which is home to many Tibetans and Tibetan businesses including local rug and craft stores. According to



"Get on the Bus" demonstration at the Chinese Mission outside the United Nations.

Keyzom, "Tibetan parents have little opportunity to set up an organization to organize for a free Tibet; that is why the Students For a Free Tibet (SFT) is so important for all Tibetans, young and old. This organization provides a way for students and their parents to speak out and speak up on behalf of a free Tibet. We need people to demonstrate and raise awareness so that we can someday live freely in our own nation."

Last April 10, Keyzom and other members of the Students For a Free Tibet at CRLS took part in a "Get on the Bus" trip to New York City with Amnesty International. A group of 400 people took the trip, and protestors included students, Tibetans from the area, and Amnesty members. The focus of the trip was to protest outside the Chinese Mission to the United Nations and demand that the Chinese government release the Drapchi 12. These are 12 Tibetan nuns who were jailed for peacefully demonstrating for Tibetan independence. "Get on the Bus" participants signed posters, which were given to the Chinese



Gerald Bergman

Allison Roth, T. Keyzom Ngodup and Phil Sima at the Students For a Free Tibet table at the World's Fair in Central Square

Mission, and they demonstrated outside the Mission for two hours. The alliance with Amnesty International, which fights oppression in many countries, has strengthened the network that exists between many international groups fighting for independence and against injustice. Area 4 is home to many immigrants who continue to fight oppression in their countries of origin, such as Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Haiti. The recent trip to New York included a protest outside the Colombian Mission to the United Nations in response to paramilitary groups in Colombia killing citizens with the Colombian army's support.

All residents of Area 4 are urged to get involved in these ongoing struggles for freedom. For more information about the Free Tibet movement, you can contact the Students For a Free Tibet at 491-7933 or www.tibet.org.

NBC, continued from previous page

Travaglini. This legislation, titled the "Emergency Room Interpreter's Law" requires all hospitals, by July 2001, to provide competent medical interpreters in their emergency rooms and in acute psychiatric interventions. The first graduating class of the Medical Interpreter's Training Program will complete their coursework and graduate just as the legislation goes into effect.

To make residents aware of the job opportunities available at businesses in our community, NBC, Inc. has a job board in our window. If any of the jobs on the board interest you, please feel free to come in and look through the job binder to find

out more. We would also be happy to help you write a resume or search for a job. In the future we hope to hold workshops on interviewing, resume writing, and computers.

Currently, the 10,000-square-foot parcel of land that was deeded to NBC, Inc. is being used as a parking lot by the Bulfinch Companies, Inc. employees. As per the agreement signed with NBC, Inc. and the Bulfinch Companies, Inc., the use of the land will be deeded over to NBC, Inc. by January 1, 2002 at the very latest.

NBC, Inc. is currently recruiting new members to their executive board. Current board members are: Jacqueline Carroll, president,

Jonathan Carroll, vice-president, Lena Dobson, secretary, Maryann Doiron, clerk, and Clifford Truesdell. NBC, Inc. board meetings are held on Thursday evenings, once a month, from 6:30-9:00 pm. The next scheduled meetings are: Thursday October 19; Thursday November 16, and Thursday December 7, at our office at 216 Broadway.

So, if you find yourself walking past 216 Broadway, don't forget to take a look at the job board in our window, come in to get to know us, and let us know how we can help you and continue to benefit this community. For further information, please call Janis Peterson, at 864-9911.

Arson and Accidents: Fires Plague Area 4

Shortly after the incidents of arson that were reported in the June edition of the *4word*, major fires broke out this past summer on Harvard Street and on Broadway.

Early in the summer, firefighters responded to a two-alarm blaze at 66 Bishop Allen Drive. This fire was deliberately set and caused over \$200,000 damage to the eight-



Devastating results of the fire at Broadway and Columbia Street

unit building and the building next door at 70 Bishop Allen Drive. Three firefighters were injured and 15 residents of the two buildings were left homeless.

In August, a major fire on the corner of Broadway and Columbia Street caused more than \$1.2 million in damages and left several firefighters injured and at least 18 people homeless. Four businesses were destroyed—Sunrise Food Store, Kagen Queen Laundromat, Denise's Beauty Shop, and Charlott Enterprise. Neighborhood residents were active in seeking assistance for those displaced by the fires. Monetary donations can be sent to the Mayor's Disaster Fund. Further details about the fires and what can be done to help those displaced will be available at upcoming Area Four Coalition meetings.



The Area Four Neighborhood Coalition holds its regularly scheduled meetings on the second Thursday of every month from 7–9 pm, at the Area 4 Youth Center, 243 Harvard Street. The next meetings will be held on **Thursday, October 12** and **November 9**. Food and refreshments, often from local restaurants, are served beginning at 6:30 pm. Recent donations were received from the Atasca Restaurant on Broadway, and Cinderella's Restaurante and Toscanini's on Main Street. All residents of Area 4 are welcome.

October 17: The City Council will conduct a community meeting to discuss the FY2001 City Council goals and priorities at the Area 4 Youth Center, 243 Harvard Street, 7–9 pm.

October 18: Last day to register to vote in the General Election.

November 7: Vote in the General Election, 7 am – 8 pm.

November 16: Campaign to Lower the Voting Age hearing 5:30 pm, City Hall. Call Gerald Bergman at 354-2648 or e-mail at Gerrberg@aol.com for more information.

Translating the *4word*

Para Residentes Que Falam Português
Se precisa de ajuda com traduções ou qualquer outro assunto, a MAPS oferece serviços de traduções assim como assistência social a pessoas de língua portuguesa que residem na zona. Para mais informações, por favor contacte a MAPS através do número 617-864-7600. A MAPS está aberta de segunda a sexta feira das 9:00 da manhã as 5:00 da tarde.

Pou Rezidan Ki Pale Kreyol
Si'w yon moun bezwen èd pou li JOURNAL ZON 4 LA e pou nou byen konpran enfòmasyon yo tou. Silvoulplè rele Biwo Ayisyen: 617-349-6351.

Para Residentes Que Hablan Español
Si necesita ayuda en inglés, tenemos intérpretes que le pueden acompañar a sus citas y traductores que pueden traducir sus documentos personales por escrito. Sólo llame a Concilio Hispano al 617-661-9406 y comuníquese con Sandra o Cecilia. Nuestro horario de atención es de lunes a viernes de 9:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m.

4word

Gerald Bergman, Editor
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VOTING DISTRICTS IN AREA 4

Ward 2—Precinct 1
Rep. Timothy Toomey
phone: 722-2230
Sen. Robert Travaglini
phone: 722-1634

Ward 2—Precinct 2
Rep. Jarrett Barrios
phone: 722-2130
Sen. Robert Travaglini

Ward 3—Precinct 2
Rep. Timothy Toomey
Sen. Thomas Birmingham
phone: 722-1500

Ward 3—Precinct 4
Rep. Jarrett Barrios
Sen. Robert Travaglini

Ward 5—Precinct 1
Rep. Jarrett Barrios
Sen. Robert Travaglini

