

75. ~~JK~~ ~~Ag~~ ~~JK~~

HD-

AG- The CM be + hereby is requested to  
ref to T, Park & Troup Dept the

the "city's worst"  
list of ~~dangerous~~ intersections as  
set in Tab reported in the attached  
article in the March 3, 1997 Tab

~~Green Magazine~~

for a rep<sup>nt</sup> on these intersections.

W/g

DATE:

2/24/97

75

TIME:

1:50

COUNCILLOR:

Sullivan

BIRTHDAY:

ATD

BIRTH:

DEATH:

MARRIAGE:

ANNIVERSARY:

BACKGROUND IN

Tab

NEWSPAPER

NAME:

That the list of the worst intersections that are published in The Cambridge Tab be referred to the CM Jail and Director of TP + Trans.

Message taken by:

VJG

Last week the TAB invited readers to call and let us know what intersections they would include on the list that qualify as candidates for the "city's worst." The phones rang all week, and here are some of the nominees...



### Columbia and Bishop Allen Drive

The worst intersection in Cambridge is the corner of Columbia and Bishop Allen Drive. There are so many accidents there . . . something should be done about that.

### Volpe Center

I think the Cambridge TAB might want to be aware of the traffic problem in front of the Volpe Center, especially the U-turn that goes to the Marriott. Cars speed from that light to the next light. They don't stop.

### 'Chicken' phenomenon

It's not one particular intersection, but a phenomenon that I call "chicken." There are several places in Cambridge, busy intersections where you get the ability to turn left before oncoming traffic but you don't know it because it's not a green arrow, it's just a regular green light. This is the case at the corner of Mass. Ave. and Sheppard Street and at the corner of Mass. Ave. and Beech street. And you're just playing chicken, because you think you can go left because the other cars that you think have a green haven't

flooded it yet. But actually, you have the green first. Why Cambridge cannot utilize a green arrow for these intersections — and I'm sure there are more than ones I just mentioned — is beyond me.

### Stop the cars on Brookline Street!

Since I moved to Cambridge, I don't take my bicycle anymore because the cars go down so fast. When I first moved I was knocked off twice. *Brookline Street resident who recently moved from Newbury Street in Boston*

### Wadsworth Street and Memorial Drive

The intersection at the corner of Wadsworth Street and Memorial Drive down by MIT and near Kendall Square. We have really terrific crashes there almost weekly — good weather or bad weather. People continue to violate the signs and make U-turns at bad intersections, which are forbidden. That's one of the worst ones.

### Mass. Ave. and Memorial

One of the worst intersections is right where Mass. Ave. and Memorial Drive intersect at the bridge. The problem is that people coming over the bridge on Mass. Ave. from Boston are flying and when there's still a pedestrian — watch. They could care less. They're not going to stop; they'd just as soon run you down.

### Impossible intersection

There are a lot of bad intersections, but the worst place to drive is Mt. Auburn Street from Brattle Street to Belmont Street. It's just impossible.

### First and Cambridge streets

The worst intersection in the city is the intersection of First Street and Cambridge Street by Lechmere Station. The cars coming up First Street never have to stop. They're making a right onto McGrath Highway. The cars come whipping around off McGrath Highway and around to make a left onto First Street without ever stopping either. It's a terrible intersection.

### Install a walk light in Porter Square

One of the fastest things to improve Porter Square is to install a walk light just to change timing on the light so one can cross the street without having to wait in the middle of the street for another light. That would certainly speed the flow of pedestrians and probably make life a little bit easier for all the traffic without pedestrians trying to jaywalk to try to catch a light and run across the street. It is probably one of the most dangerous intersections in the city.

### Quincy Street intersections terrible

A couple of intersections I think are horrible are where Broadway crosses Quincy Street and where Cambridge Street crosses Quincy Street. I have to go through these intersections on my way to work. They're just terrible for pedestrians. The Cambridge Street intersection is incredibly clogged with traffic at rush hour. You have to wait a really long time for the light if you're a pedestrian, and when it finally changes in your favor, you have to contend with cars turning left off of Quincy Street onto Cambridge Street.

The other intersection at Broadway and Quincy, it seems like they're always doing some kind of work there. At this point they seem to have turned off the light completely as far as pedestrians go. So people end up waiting and waiting for the light. And finally they end up rushing into the street trying to cross against the light, which is extremely dangerous.

Anyway, I'm glad that this traffic calming work is being done, and I hope that more will be done in the future.

### Green and Magazine streets

The worst intersection in Cambridge is not the biggest headache — but the biggest danger. It's in Central Square at the corner of Green Street and Magazine Street by the bus stop. There is only one stop sign and most drivers ignore it. There is a traffic light ahead and people see it and completely disregard the stop sign. I've seen cars blow through the sign with a school bus approaching with adults and children in the crosswalk. It's in spitting distance of the Cambridge Police Department headquarters who could collect some serious coin for violations. But better yet, a flashing red light would keep the intersection a lot safer.

### Green Street and Magazine is life-threatening

Somebody will die at the corner of Green Street and Magazine walking across. Nobody stops — not buses, not cops, nobody.

### Pearl Street and Mass. Ave.

The intersection of Pearl and Mass. Ave. is very heavily used by pedestrians. There have been several accidents there involving automobiles

and pedestrians. People routinely ignore state law requiring people to stop at unlighted crosswalks. They took down the sign that was in the middle of the intersection reminding drivers of that and haven't replaced it since the renovations of Central Square. Something should be done about that.

### Inman Square

You'll find another bad spot in Cambridge, it's Inman Square. Try to cross on Cambridge Street or Hampshire — you're taking your life in your hands.

### Memorial Drive intersections need a 'walk cycle'

Two intersections that really concern me are the intersections of River and Memorial Drive and Western and Memorial Drive, neither of which has any sort of pedestrian walk cycle in spite of the very high volume of recreational users of sidewalks in that area. The MDC appears to be very slow to respond to complaints about the problem.

### Alewife Brook Parkway rotary

My least favorite intersection is at the rotary at the corner of Concord Ave. and Alewife Brook Parkway. People rush into the rotary. People rush out of the rotary. No one follows the traffic laws that's safe to yield to traffic in the rotary. On the other hand, if you don't follow the traffic laws, you can never get in and get to where you're going.

### Porter Square intersection

I think the intersection of Porter Square is so hazardous. I am often deterred from doing shopping there because of the anxiety involved.

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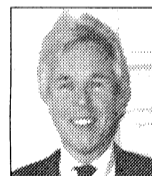
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CLUBS & CONCERTS



## Cambridge Newswire

### FROM PAGE 3

educational presentations to begin earlier in the evening and public hearings to follow immediately after presentations, according to School Committee officials.

"This is the type of agenda that has worked very well for City Council and the public, and I think it will work well for the School Committee as well," said Mayor Sheila Russell.

School Committee agendas will now be available to the public on Monday mornings before Tuesday meetings, through the School Department's Public Information Office, and will be posted at City Hall and in the School Committee Office at 454 Broadway.

### Workshops on teenage obnoxiousness begins March 2

Are you looking for a realistic approach to surviving your children's teen years? "Understanding Teenage Obnoxiousness," a three-part workshop for parents on March 2, 9 and 16 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., will address why teenagers react negatively to discipline and authority. Parents will have the opportunity to learn how to resolve specific discipline problems within their own families.

Howard Wolfe, an Arlington family therapist, will be leading the workshop. Wolfe, who has worked with teenagers since 1970, has served as a consultant and trainer on youth development and youth problems for dozens of school systems and youth programs around the country.

For more information or to regis-

ter, call 643-7272. The workshop series will take place at 821 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington.

### Library 21 Committee to meet

The Library 21 Committee will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 26, 6:30 p.m., to begin Phase Three of defining what services should be provided in the city's library system, according to Nancy Woods, co-chairwoman of the committee.

"We are going to be beginning to discuss what program elements should be in a library to serve Cambridge for the 21st century," said Woods. Defining what audiences and services to provide to the community will be key points, added Woods.

The committee has recently completed an extensive public process involving more than 40 groups in the city.

The meeting will be held at the Main Library, 449 Broadway.

### Fifth-graders explore careers

While children are still learning reading writing and arithmetic in the classroom, for one day, 20 fifth-grade students at the Morse School will add hospitality, housekeeping and hotel management to their list of school subjects.

Students will work in uniform as bellmen, housekeepers, chefs or one of eight other positions to learn first-hand about working in a hotel. The Cambridge students will be among 1,500 fifth-graders nationwide participating in Camp Hyatt Career Day, designed to teach children

Meanwhile, Forest City Development announced last week that it contracted with Suffolk Construction Company for phase two of University Park at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Suffolk will act as the general contractor on the project that includes a 210-room hotel, a Star Market and an office building and parking garage. University Park at MIT is a mixed-use development that includes more than 200 units of rental housing, 325,000 square feet of office and research and development space, and a child-care center. □

about career opportunities in the hotel industry.

### Chamber names a chairwoman

The officers of the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce named Sarah Gallop the chairwoman of the chamber's Board of Directors. Gallop will work with chamber President Gerald Oldach during her two-year term.

"I look forward to working alongside chamber staff and volunteers, as well as Cambridge government officials, businesses and residents to promote the economic well-being of our city," said Gallop.

Gallop serves as assistant for government relations in the MIT President's Office of Government and Community Relations. She has served as a liaison to the Cambridge government and community since joining MIT in 1990.

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## CAP

### FROM PAGE 3

ter plan. Rather than more restaurants, said Boulrice, the Central Square neighborhood has a "long-standing need" for a bookstore, a family clothing store and a movie theater.

"We are not discouraging it," said Boulrice of the development. "We would just like the needs of Central Square be met, in a way that will not adversely impact the retail community. We appreciate that Forest City is willing to work with us."

## JUVENILE

### FROM PAGE 3

break each year — questioned the police-youth relationships in the city.

"In here they're friends, but on the streets they're enemies," said one Cambridge Rindge & Latin student.

Friction between youth and police is not a new issue for most cities, but it surprised some at the forum who noticed how much anger a number of students directed at the police.

"I hear a lot of mistrust between the youth and the police," said Weymouth, who works for the Roxbury Defenders Youth Advocacy Project.

Watson called the situation a "delicate balance," noting that the youth should directly address their needs to the department, and gave out his own office phone number.

"We will work with you to learn

what you need — but you've got to tell us what it is," said Watson.

City Councilor Anthony Galluccio said, "You can criticize the police for not saying hello to you — but do you say hello to them?"

Still others in the audience questioned why more prevention and intervention tactics are not emphasized. "I would like to see other solutions besides locking 14-year-olds up," said Sara Reese, a supervisor from Nite Stop. Reese argued that more youth jobs, teen centers and alternative programs like Nite Stop are more important than sending additional young people to jail.

Leroy Gibson, a graduate of Cambridge Rindge & Latin School, was also disappointed with the changed focus of the forum. "We're not getting the information where they understand it," said Gibson of the evening. "I think they answered some questions, but there's 95 percent more that need to be answered — this is just a start." □

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# City of Cambridge

75.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 24, 1997

COUNCILLOR DAVIS  
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to refer to the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department the list of the "City's worst" intersections as reported in the attached article in the Cambridge Tab on March 3, 1997; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on these intersections.

In City Council February 24, 1997  
Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.  
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy; *D. Margaret Drury*

ATTEST:-  
D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

CM-110

Consent Order #75

Councillors Davis and Sullivan re:  
Refer list of the "City's worst"  
intersections as reported in the  
Cambridge Tab on March 3, 1997 to  
Traffic, Parking and Transportation  
Department.

In City Council February 24, 1997

**ORDER ADOPTED**