

# CENTRAL SQUARE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Carl F. Barron, *President*  
Putnam Furniture Leasing Co., Inc.  
617-354-3358 Fax 617-547-6636

September 13, 2000

Honorable Members of the  
Cambridge City Council  
Cambridge City Council  
City Hall  
795 Mass. Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Councillors:

Over the past few years, I have sent several communications to the Cambridge City Council pertaining to the unhealthy and unhygienic aspect of permitting the feeding of pigeons in Central Square with special emphasis on the Carl F. Barron Plaza.

I have sent things from several publications in the past, wherein communities were having problems of a similar nature, and took steps to stop the feeding of pigeons in areas where humans gather. I am attaching herewith another clipping which indicates that water officials in the Town of Belchertown, Mass., were able to trace contamination of the town's drinking water to pigeon droppings. In our area, these droppings constitute a health hazard, as well as a physical one, since they may be readily tracked into food shops and restaurants, carrying bacteria that may well be harmful as the attached article indicates.

I fully realize that it is quite difficult for a police officer to arrest a little old lady on a charge of "feeding the pigeons". On the other hand, there has been a recognition of the harm that is done by this procedure to the extent that I believe a city ordinance forbids it.

My group has spoken to Judge Sragow, Presiding Justice of the Middlesex District Court, who has clearly indicated that she will uphold the city ordinance with regard to social problems of this nature.

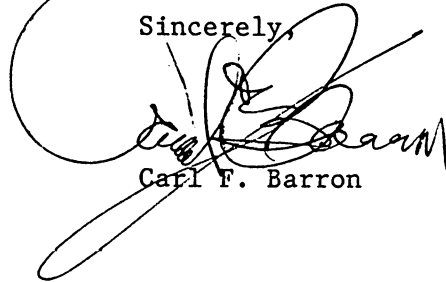
I do not feel that the pigeons should starve. My wife makes it a point to feed birds in our own back yard, in the grass, where there are no pedestrians and no likelihood of contaminating any food and water supplies. If those people who wish to feed the pigeons would do so on their own property instead of in public, I believe that a good deal of our problem would be solved.

In addition, I well remember how former buildings facing The Carl F. Barron Plaza were badly stained and disfigured by these very same pigeon droppings.

Honorable Members of the  
Cambridge City Council  
September 13, 2000  
Page 2

I trust that some assistance might be given in eliminating this problem from Central Square.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carl F. Barron", is written over a large, faint circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Carl F. Barron

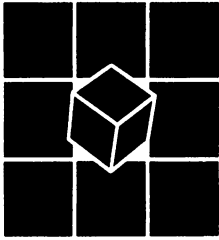
CFB00/CityCouncil2

cc: Commissioner Ronnie Watson  
District Attorney Martha Coakley  
The Honorable Roanne Sragow  
CSBA Board of Directors

Belchertown

## **Bacteria in water is linked to pigeons**

Water officials say they have traced last month's bacterial contamination of the town's drinking water to pigeon droppings. A cover plate over part of a water tower had a small gap, and during a heavy rainstorm pigeon droppings washed off the tower and into the drinking water, according to Water Superintendent Timothy Loffland. The contamination led state environmental officials to order 850 households to boil their drinking water or use bottled water. The order was in effect for 10 days. (AP)



# CENTRAL SQUARE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Carl F. Barron, *President*

Putnam Furniture Leasing Co., Inc.

617-354-3358 Fax 617-547-6636

September 13, 2000

Miss D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk  
Office of the City Clerk  
Cambridge City Hall  
795 Mass. Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

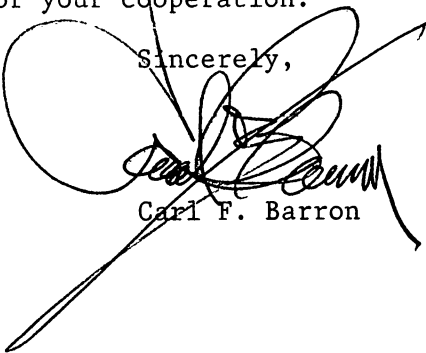
RE: FEEDING OF PIGEONS IN CENTRAL SQUARE/  
THE CARL F. BARRON PLAZA

Dear Miss Drury:

Would you please forward a copy of the enclosed letter concerning  
the above to each member of the Cambridge City Council.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

  
Carl F. Barron

CFB00/Drury4

Enc.

Consent Communication #3

S 298

A communication was received from  
Carl F. Barron, Central Square  
Business Association, relative to  
feeding of pigeons in Central  
Square/The Carl F. Barron Plaza.

In City Council October 2, 2000

**PLACED ON FILE**