

#11

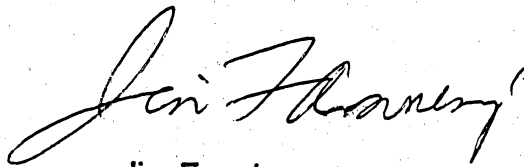
To the Mayor and City of Cambridge Counselors,

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter that the employees at the Cambridge Post Office felt had to be sent to the people of Cambridge through the Cambridge Chronicle.

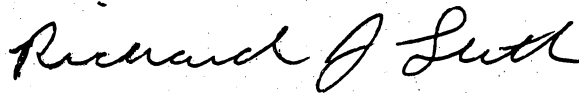
If you would like to comment or ask us any questions, please feel free to contact any of the signers at;

The Cambridge Post Office
770 Mass. Ave.
Cambridge, Ma. 02139
(617)- 876 - 0620

Thank you in advance,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jim Fanning".

Jim Fanning

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard J. Luti".

Richard J. Luti

To customers of the Cambridge Post Office,

As employee's of the Cambridge Post Office we would like to thank those citizens of the Strawberry Hill section of the city and editor John Breneman for their kind remarks towards letter carrier Steve Johnson. We are sure that this sentiment is shared throughout the community towards many letter carriers and other postal workers.

As you are probably aware service from the Cambridge Post Office in the past has lacked in efficiency. At one point in 1990 City Councilor Cyr proposed at a City Council meeting, a contest for the worst example of mail service in the City of Cambridge. Shortly there after Thomas Ranft, Postmaster of Boston, notified Councilor Cyr by letter that the Postal Service was striving to provide consistent and efficient service to the citizens of Cambridge. To achieve that goal the Postal Service , after gazing into it's crystal ball, decided that the only way to achieve those promises was to inform the City Council at a November, 1990 council meeting that the Cambridge Post Office would become independent of the Boston Post Office, and would be getting their own Postmaster, like it or not. When questioned about the changes Postmaster Ranft became enraged and stormed out of the City Council meeting. At that time the Council unanimously passed a resolution calling for an investigation in Washington and ask congressional delegates to work with the Postmaster General to alleviate the problems in Cambridge.

On July 21, 1991 the City Council and the citizens of Cambridge got their wish, when a U.S. House Subcommittee on Personal and Modernization held a hearing in city hall chambers. The house subcommittee, chaired by U.S. Reps. Joseph Kennedy (D-Mass),

Charles Hayes (D-ILL.) and Congressman Frank McCloskey (D-Ind.) recommended at that time that the government hold off on making the Cambridge branch an associate office independent of the Boston office until they can determine if the change would resolve the nagging problems with mail delivery in the city.

When the hearings were completed and the data and recommendations were looked over, mail service in Cambridge did slightly improve albeit only temporally. In a survey mailed to over 44,000 customers in Cambridge in June 1993, and responded to by nearly 10,000 customers, more than one third rated the service as fair, six percent said it was bad. Was this due to the proverbial bureaucratic lip service administered to the citizens of Cambridge by the hierarchy of the U.S. Postal service.

We were all taught in our civics class that the Post Office was a friend of the common man that would treat all of those who affixed first class postage to an envelope as equals. That may have been true when Benjamin Franklin was in charge, but the attitude towards the commoner has drastically changed in the eyes of that postal eagle soaring above.

In a city of approximately 80,000 constituents and with 80 percent of its businesses classified as small companies with one to 20 employees, it should be incumbent on the postal service to treat those of you the same as the larger companies and institutions. As many of you have noticed your letter carrier is arriving at your home or businesses at a later hour. One of the reasons for this is management at the Cambridge Post Office took it upon themselves in their infinite wisdom to have letter carriers start at a later hour in the day. They also called for inspections of the carriers routes and in most cases added

to the length of distance that each carrier must travel during their rounds. This has already taken place in the 02138 and 02139 zip codes. It will not be long until it happens in East and North Cambridge.

Since the congressional hearings in 1991 many a job within the Cambridge Post Office have been abolished for the general employee, (carrier, clerk, mailhandler and custodian). In the same span of time management positions have not only avoided the axe, but has increased from 10 to more than twenty. This action would probably be justified if a consistent and efficient service were provide as promised by Postmaster Ranft back in 1990.

Service at the Cambridge Post Office has steadily gone down in the past years. Some of this is due to management decisions and then there is the question of moral within the Cambridge Post Family. When you see your letter carrier as he or she runs past your front door, ask them how smoothly the Postal ship is sailing in Cambridge? The Postal Service is creating a work environment that is causing senior employees to walk of the job and retire suddenly, some of these people have been arriving in a timely and friendly manner, at yours and your neighbors door step for over twenty years.

It has just been decided that in the City of Cambridge there were far to many of those ugly blue mail boxes taking up valuable real estate in the local neighborhoods. The Postal Service is beautifying your streets by removing in excess of fifty of these metal dinosaurs. In their eyes if a certain box can only generate 15 or 20 letters a day then there is no need for it's presence. It does not matter if an elderly citizen now has to walk

twice the distance to deposit a monthly bill in these paper eating rust buckets, or that a young child will know have to cross a major street to send grandma a birthday card. If the collection box can't generate, then it can't populate in the eyes of your Postal Service.

Rest assured the declining service provided is not indigenous to Cambridge. The general customer can not even mail a priority package by simply adhering postage to the parcel. That is a privilege reserved for the corporate giant who has in their possession a meter machine. But if you were to come across one of the a fore mentioned meters no need to worry, in the very near future that mail will not be handled by the Postal Service as they have just awarded a \$1.8 billion contract to a private firm to handle that mail.

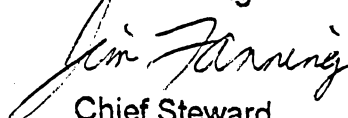
So we ask ye, citizens of this fine city. What is next? Will all of you have to congregate in front of 770 Mass. Ave. on a daily basis for mail call as your correspondence is tossed to you like it was in all those old John Wayne war movies when your name is bellowed out from the roof top by a member of management.

Maybe it is time again that the citizens of this city call for another congressional hearing. After all Cambridge is known as one of the most Intellectual gatherings on Earth, But you continue to let that eagle soar untethered amongst your city. It will not be long before the talons of the postal eagle tear apart the service, and the symbol of the U.S. Postal Service in the City of Cambridge is changed to the eagles relative a vulture.

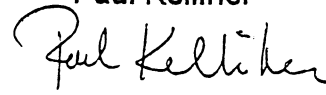
Rich Luti

Chief Steward
American Postal
Workers Union

Jim Fanning


Chief Steward
Mailhandlers
Union

Paul Kelliher


Chief Steward
National Assn.
Letter Carriers



City of Cambridge

11.

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 2, 1997

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
VICE MAYOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
MAYOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: There have been many concerns raised by residents of the City of Cambridge including, but not limited to, changes in letter carriers/routes and reductions in mailboxes; and

WHEREAS: A number of the concerns are raised in the attached letter from postal employees; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Clerk forward a copy of the resolution and letter to Congressman Kennedy and Senators Kennedy and Kerry and request their assistance in resolving concerns raised by Cambridge residents relative to postal service.

In City Council June 2, 1997

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "D. Margaret Drury".

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK

97 MAY 21 PM 3:51

CAMBRIDGE MA.

COUNCILOR SULLIVAN

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ANTHONY APICELLA

Director

JEAN E. TePASKE

Assistant Director

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC EDUCATION

CAMBRIDGE RINDGE AND LATIN SCHOOL

459 BROADWAY

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

Telephone

405-2347

349-6786

ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: May 19, 1997

From: Jean TePaske *JTP*
Cambridge Public Schools Music Department

Five music groups from Cambridge Rindge and Latin School competed in the Great East Music Festival on Saturday, May 17, 1997 in Agawam, Mass. The groups brought back to CRLS 3 gold medals and 2 silver medals. The winners by group are as follows:

Gold Medal Winners

Sisters (Women's Chorus)
Vocal Ensemble
Orchestra

Silver Medal Winners

Band
Jazz Ensemble

We especially thank teachers Robert Ponte and Pat Callan for their hard work and dedication. We are proud of CRLS music students and the accolades and awards they bring to our school.

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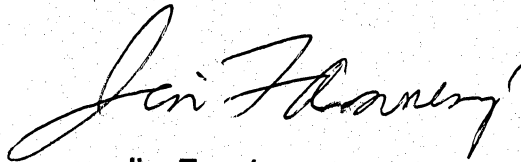
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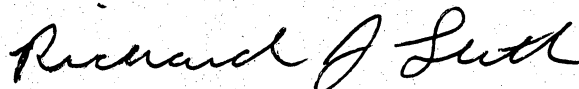
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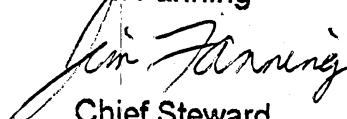
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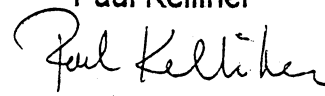
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June 2, 1997

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Burn, Davis, Duchay, Gagliaccio, Russell
Conseht Order #11
Jooney + Triantafyllou
Councillor Sullivan re: Changes in letter
carriers/routes and reductions in
mailboxes.

5-316

In City Council June 2, 1997

ORDER ADOPTED