With the help of social media, community members and residents from West Roxbury, Roslindale, Jamaica Plain and Hyde Park helped donate car-loads of toys for those in need this holiday season.

West Roxbury resident Michael Fagone, along with his sister Julie Fagone, normally run a Toys for Tots (T4T) collection through their after-school program, but COVID-19 meant that the program could not run this year. Fagone wasn’t sure how he would still help this cause – so he decided to look for help from the community via social media and Facebook.

Starting in early November, Julie and Michael launched their drive. “We also decided that we would start in early November as we expected COVID-19 would impact online and store inventory for toys, and it did,” explained Fagone. Within two days of launching the drive, Fagone said toys started arriving at his home.

They reached out to families and friends via social media and posted about the drive in local Parkway, JP, and Hyde Park Facebook groups. Fagone created an Amazon wishlist and included his Venmo (an online money app) information in his posts. This past summer, Fagone raised money and collected books for West Roxbury’s Anti-Racist Little Library, so many community groups recognized him.

“Having already entered the local Toys for Tots
Continued on page 2

Stonybrook N/A reexamines guidelines, criticizes 3390 Wash

Richard Heath
Staff Reporter

The Boston Mayor’s Office gave the Stonybrook Neighborhood Association (SNA) marching orders that may reverberate citywide: stop delaying development projects. The office gave SNA a three-month time frame to vote on projects.

Faced with pandemic-enforced virtual meetings, delayed filings and staff shortages, ISD and the BPDA are buried in a pile of back-logged projects complicated by the unpredictable pace of obligatory community meetings.

As The Bulletin reported, SNA was chastised at the Dec. 2 Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council Zoning Committee for its delaying tactics over a small, six-unit residence at 97 Williams St.

The SNA took this to heart and at its Dec. 14 meeting discussed at length how it could in the future interact with developers.

Jon McCurdy opened the discussion.

“The reason why we’re discussing this tonight is that recently the project at 97 Williams St came under a spot light,” he said.

“For 14 years the process of refer-
Continued on page 7

Hyde Park has its own COVID-19 testing site - at last

Mary Ellen Gambony
Staff Reporter

On Dec. 15, a drive-thru COVID-19 testing site opened near the site of the Boston Renaissance Charter School in Hyde Park at 1432 Hyde Park Ave. after not having a mobile testing site for the majority of the pandemic.

The free site was originally slated to be open until Sat. Dec. 19. However, a source at the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) said that the site was expected to be extended “for several weeks.” District 5 City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo confirmed this statement on his Facebook page.

Neither Arroyo, the chair of the City Council’s Public Health Committee, nor his staff responded to multiple requests from The Bulletin seeking comment over a two-week period.

“The hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday,” said Denyel Fonseca, the Hyde Park liaison for the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services via email. “Sign up at app.beacontesting.com/login .” She noted the appointment is valid for only one person and that those accompanying the person being tested need separate appointments.

After the announcement on Dec. 15, appointments quickly filled in less than an hour.

A mobile testing site was open at 1337 Hyde Park Ave. at the Brigham and Women’s Faulkner Community Physicians at Hyde Park parking lot for less than two weeks beginning on April 16. It was sponsored by Brigham Health and was for Hyde Park residents only.

During much of the pandemic, particularly in the early stages, Hyde Park experienced the highest rates of the COVID-19 virus out of many other Boston neighborhoods, calling into question the availability of testing.

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The Bulletin

Page 2

Toys for Tots

continued from page 1

December 24, 2020

area Facebook pages and been
welcomed warmly with my li-
brary project, I decided I would
try bringing our Toys for Tots
collection to the community,” he
said. “I am so glad that I did. It
has been a hard year for us all.
One that tested our emotions like
no other. And one that often had
the community on very opposite
sides that sometimes led many of
us, myself included, to believe
we would never find common
ground. The community restored
my faith that there are some things
that we as a collective still
believe in…like helping others in
need. And with the massive un-
employment this year, that need
was greater than ever.”

The Fagones also collabo-
rated with local toy stores to help
collect donations. The Boing Toy
Shop, located in JP, put together
a wish list for the Fagones and
gave donated gift cards to the
Toy Shop, located in JP. They have
been so helpful to the Fagones to
spend for the drive. Staff Sgt.
Howard Brown and a handful of
volunteers with ONE van trying
to collect, pick-up and distribute
toys to children in Suffolk, Nor-
folk and Northern Plymouth
Counties. That’s a lot of area to
cover! They look for sales and
deals so that they can maximize
the financial donations they re-
ceived. They even asked me on
the spot to do their social media!
They’re doing so much amazing
work with the little resources
they have!” explained Fagone.
Between toy donations from
community members, Fagone’s
Amazon wishlist, and monetary
donations, 2020 was the biggest
year the Fagones have had col-
lecting toys for T4T. Fagone also
learned a lot about the organiza-
tion this year.

“The amount of toys that
ended up in our house was both
heartwarming and overwhelming
(in the best way). Julie’s old bed-
room quickly filled up fast so
those toys were brought straight
to the Toys for Tots warehouse.
I’m glad we went. I always
thought T4T was this big organi-
zation. It isn’t. It was Staff Sgt.
Michael White of the Newton
Fire Department who brought a
large trailer to pick up the toys.
Fagone is not exactly sure how
many toys were collected in to-
ward and half of a trailer to collect all
the toys. One that tested our emotions like
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rated with local toy stores to help
collect donations. The Boing Toy
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a wish list for the Fagones and
gave donated gift cards to the
Fagones to spend for the drive.

“Kim and Ellery [of Boing
Toy Shop] have been so helpful
throughout. Kim went above and
beyond and always sent us home
with more toys than we could af-
ford! That’s a special kind of gen-
erosity right there in a year when
small local businesses are trying
to stay afloat!” stated Fagone.

Between toy donations from
community members, Fagone’s
Amazon wishlist, and monetary
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They’re doing so much amazing
work with the little resources
they have!” explained Fagone.

The toy donations kept com-
ming and “flooded” Fagone’s
home. So T4T connected
Michael and Julie with Lt.
Michael White of the Newton
Fire Department who brought a
large trailer to pick up the toys.
The drive ended last week, and
Fagone is not exactly sure how
many toys were collected in to-
tal, but it took four cars, an SUV
and half of a trailer to collect all
the toys.

For the Fagones, this T4T
drive really shows the power of
community. Michael is thankful
for the communities of West
 Roxbury, Roslindale, Jamaica
Plain and Hyde Park for once
again welcoming him into their
Facebook groups and allowing
him to post “over and over again”
looking for donations. “I am also
thankful for them trusting me to
send their money too. I didn’t take
that trust lightly. Many people
vowed me money who didn’t
know me so I appreciate that trust
and we tried to be very transpar-
ent by sharing photos and updates
so everyone knew exactly where
it was going,” explained Fagone.

“We are neighbors who can share
common goals and work together
for a greater good! Thanks to ev-
everyone – [the community] truly
warmed our hearts during this
whole process and showed what
real community and holiday spirit
is about.”

The basic mission of the Ma-
rine Toys for Tots Program is to
collect new unwrapped toys and
distribute those toys to less fortu-
nate children at Christmas. The
primary goal of Marine Toys for
Tots is, through the gift of a new
toy, help bring the joy of Christ-
mas and send a message of hope
to America’s less fortunate chil-
dren. It’s a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit
public charity which was created
by the U. S. Marine Corps in 1991.
To learn more, visit www.toysfortots.org/.
WalkUP and Mt. Hope Canterbury working to tame “The Octopus”

Mary Ellen Gambon
Staff Reporter

Walk Urban Planning Roslindale (WalkUP) and Mount Hope Canterbury Neighborhood Association (MHC) joined forces with neighborhood volunteers to find ways to improve one of the most dangerous intersections in Boston, referred to colloquially as “the Octopus,” or the Five-way through a walk audit pedestrian study this past week.

The tentacles of this transportation nexus include Cummins Highway, American Legion Highway, and Canterbury Street. While the intersection is situated in Roslindale, the outstretching streets serve as arteries connecting to Hyde Park, Mattapan and Dorchester. They also lead to two major shopping centers on American Legion Highway. In 2015, when the City of Boston had a grant to keep track of its 10 most dangerous intersections, the Five-way Octopus was 10th on the list in terms of car collisions and traffic accidents.

The study also includes what WalkUP chair Matt Lawlor referred to as “the missing middle,” which is the triangular area from Cummins Highway down Rowe Street through Hyde Park Avenue to American Legion Highway at the Octopus.

“In a pre-pandemic world, we would do this walk audit in person in one day,” Lawlor said. “We would meet first as a group and go through a presentation called ‘Ped 101’ that WalkBoston has had for a long time. We’d introduce the group to concepts related to walkability and safe walking with a focus on the design and infrastructure aspects of that.”

Because of COVID-19, this Five-way intersection continued on page 10.
My favorite Christmas book is gone — forever! It was a thin and somewhat dilapidated paperback that, having survived numerous readings as well as hot summers and brutal winters in our attic, must have been tossed out last year after the holidays.

Most people have a favorite Christmas movie—the one they enjoy seeing on TV. Mine is so old that it is usually not reshown and reshown, as happens to many Xmas movies: the original “Miracle on 34th Street” with Edmund Gwynn, John Payne, Maureen O’Hara, and a very young Natalie Wood. (If you think I’m picky about the original version, I know somebody who, as an informal Dickensian aficionado, claims that the only “Christmas Carol” worth watching is the 1951 version with Alastair Sim playing Ebenezer Scrooge.)

Most people have favorite Christmas carols that they enjoy hearing over and over. They might even have renditions by their favorite recording artists. So don’t I: “Joy to the World” by the Ray Conniff singers in which there are some spectacular harmony at stratospheric high notes, the less common “Mary’s Boy Child” by Anne Murray, and “For Unto Us a Child Is Born” by the Boston College Chorale.

They may even have their favorite essays/short stories. Mine happens to be taken from The New York Sun newspaper on December 21, 1912, when an editor replied to a letter by a very young Virginia O’Hanlon whether there is a Santa Claus. “Yes, Virginia, There Is a Santa Claus” actually came in handy several weeks ago when I had to paraphrase a line or two from it when the question was posed to me, “Where is Jesus?” I knew that the answer “in heaven” would not suffice to an inquisitive six-year-old.

Back to a favorite book, which actually did not reach that echelon until several decades ago. It’s actually a Young Adult book, according to some librarians: “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.” Written in 1971 by Barbara Robinson, the novelette is tender and hilarious at the same time as it details the actions of Imogene Herdman and her five hard-scrabble siblings preparing to participate in the annual church Christmas play.

A reading of the reviews will surprise you as to how many other adults characterize it as a great read, even inducing tears for a number of readers.

So this year there won’t be any curling up beside the fireplace in the days leading up to Christmas with some Hood’s Golden Eggnog while reading Robinson’s heart-warming words. But there will be thoughts of Imogene as well as her brothers and sisters, as the book ever so furiously touches upon the real meaning of the season.
DEFINITELY NOT ROCKET SCIENCE

To the Editor:
To the reader to understand what the community is enduring in this conflict with City Hall for over 2 years. BPDA and ISD are conjecturing that the apartment building would be built “as-of-right” as they saw no zoning violations and thus the developer would not be compelled to go to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) to seek relief in the form of variances. It was obvious to the abutter and most members of HPNA that this was in error as there were many significant violations. The most blatant violation is the construction of a parking garage on the first floor of this building in the “Neighborhood Shopping” zoning sub-district, when said sub-district encourages commercial and office storefronts on the ground level and thus specifically forbids a parking garage on this floor. The ZBA rejected this appeal and your article presents a quote from the chairwoman of the ZBA defending their decision. “We are looking at a parking garage as an accessory use to the main use. It’s not a parking garage.” Make up your mind. You can’t say it is an accessory parking garage and then claim it’s not a parking garage. Hyde Park Zoning Article forbids a parking garage on the first floor. It does not care if it is for main use, i.e. the cars of permanent residents, or for accessory uses, i.e. cars belonging to plumbers who come in to fix the sinks of tenants. This is just one example of the frustrations we’ve faced in this conflict with City Hall for over 2 years.

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Covid Testing
continued from page 1

Hyde Park residents should have been notified by mail because not everyone has access to a computer or the Internet. The people in Hyde Park are not getting enough time to schedule an appointment, Daye said. However, she did learn that there will be limited hours on Dec. 23 and 30. The site will be closed Dec. 24, 25, 30 and 31 due to the holidays.

“This is not good,” Daye added. “The residents need more dates and times to get tested in Hyde Park.”

St. Jude’s Novena
May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 9th day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you, St. Jude. My Prayers were answered.

In gratitude for helping me.
— M. West

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin
Oh, most beautiful Flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, aid me in this necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech thee from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (thrice repeated). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you.
— M. West

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The Bulletin
Covid Testing
December 24, 2020

question neighborhood equity.

“The City of Boston is committed to providing equitable access to testing across the City,” said a source within the BPHC. “We’ve been partnering with community health centers to increase access to testing, particularly in neighborhoods experiencing higher rates of COVID-19. However, there is not a neighborhood health center in Hyde Park.”

As of the week ending Dec. 17, Hyde Park had the fourth-highest cumulative percent positive in Boston at 12.7 percent, trailing only East Boston and both parts of Dorchester, according to the BPHC. On Dec. 9, the rate was 9.7 percent for that week, with the same neighborhood status, according to BPHC statistics.

Community leaders had mixed opinions about the testing center. While happy about its presence, some thought the hours and lack of one up until the second wave of the coronavirus were concerning.

“It’s about time,” said Marcia Kimm Jackson, the co-chair of the West Fairmount Hill Community Group (WFHCG). “It’s a long time coming, and it’s much needed.”

Her ultimate goal, Kimm Jackson said, would be to see a neighborhood health and wellness center either on Truman Parkway or in Cleary Square. COVID-19 pointed this out as a critical need given the high population of elders, people of color and others in marginalized communities.

“That to me was sort of the screaming concern here,” she said. “There aren’t any hospitals close by. That’s been a dream of mine, frankly. I think we need something, especially since Hyde Park took over parts of Mattapan. There needs to be a balance of access to resources.”

“We are of course supportive of a Hyde Park testing site,” added Joe Smith, the chair of the Fairmount Hill Neighborhood Association (FHNA). “Hyde Park has a very high instance of COVID-19 and testing helps to identify and hopefully diminish it.”

Melanie Daye, the volunteer administrator of the Hyde Park Central River Neighborhood Group, took another view in an email conversation with The Bulletin.

“I am not happy that I had to find out from you,” Daye said. “As a leader in Hyde Park, I should have received this information as soon possible. I should not have to go to a city councilor’s Facebook page.”

She added that Hyde Park residents should have been notified by mail because not everyone has access to a computer or the Internet.

“The people in Hyde Park are not getting enough time to schedule an appointment,” Daye continued. “The site should have been for more days and/or planned for after the holidays, when the COVID-19 count might be higher.”

When she tried to schedule an appointment, the site was fully booked, Daye said. However, she did learn that there will be limited hours on Dec. 23 and 30. The site will be closed Dec. 24, 25, 30 and 31 due to the holidays.

“This is not good,” Daye added. “The residents need more dates and times to get tested in Hyde Park.”

“Hyde Park is at the edge of the city, both physically and literally,” Kimm Jackson said. “Dorchester, Jamaica Plain and Roslindale have their own health centers, but we do not.”

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Stonybrook continued from page 1

ring projects to a subcommit-
tee first and then a full SNA
teget worked pretty well," McCurdy went on.

“But the city requested that
SNA put this project up for a
vote in October. We let the city
know it was still in subcom-
mittee form.” McCurdy explained that on
Nov. 16, Faisa Sharif, Deputy
Director of the Office of
Neighborhood Services
(ONS), convened a meet-
ing that included the JP liaison
Lindsey Santana, the SNA
steering and subcommittee
members and Dave Baron,
chair of the JP zoning com-
mittee.

“What came out of this was the
city is looking for a faster
process. They want a three
month faster, time line,” McCurdy said.

“If anybody read the Bul-
lentin or the Gazette they know
what a robust discussion we
had at that [Dec. 2] JP zoning
committee.”

McCurdy recommended that
SNA work on updated guidelines
to bring the process
more in line with the city’s re-
quest. Page Sparks, who lives on
Brookley Road and is on the
steering committee, saw this as an
opportunity.

“We can be more up front
with others,” she said, “to
maintain and strengthen our
reputation.”

Going forward, she said,
the group should meet with
others for advice and guidance
like Lindsey Santana, Aisling
Kerr of the BPDA and the JP
zoning committee.

“We’ll try for three
months,” she said. “It’s short but we’ll see where it goes,
we’re going to do our best.”

Sparks joined the Dec. 16
JP zoning committee and
asked questions of members
who gave her insights and
advice.

Sue Cibulsky has long been
active on the SNA.

“Are we going to comply with this?” she asked. “Is there
time to negotiate with the
city?”

Steering committee chair
Trevyn Langford lives on
Garland Street.

“We did push back,” he ad-
mitted, “but they [the city]
were pretty adamant about us. Where did this come from?
But they were pretty adamant that we hold to that [three month]
line.”

McCurdy said more com-
unication with Santana was
important.

“She agreed to notify us of
abutters meetings and we will
cc her on emails,” she said. “We don’t have all the time in the
world to work with developers,
” she said. “The time frame is helpful to committee mem-
bers.”

McCurdy saw some room for
change.

Eighty-four Stonley Rd. is
back and we’re recruiting sub-
committee members,” he said.

“But it’s on the edge of the
neighborhood. It doesn’t fit anyone really. We could let it
be straight to the JP zoning
committee - unless members
have objections - and skip the
SNA general meeting.”

McCurdy said that 97 Wil-
liams St “will have to come to
a conclusion.

“The [JP zoning] meeting
was not very informative, but
the developer is not going to
defeer forever. Sooner or later we’ll have to make a decision.”

He said that the developer,
Joseph Federico, has been in-
vited to the Jan. 11, 2021 SNA
meeting and a list of more con-
cerns was emailed to him on
Dec. 10.

Federico is on the Jan. 20
JP zoning committee agenda.

Jennifer Uhrhane of
Rossmore Road is on most of
the subcommittees and already
invited to the Jan. 3 SNA
meeting which is well outside the
Stonybrook neighborhood.

“I’ll give a quick sum-
mary,” she said. “It’s too
dense, too many units. It’s very
big. A lot of things going on with it. I’ve been going back and forth with
the details with the developer,”
Uhrhane said.

“Will it go on Dec. 1?
Then they told us they filed a
project notification form on
Nov. 20. They didn’t tell us.
Why didn’t they keep us up to
data?”

Overlooking the city’s
three-month time frame,
Uhrhane wants the BPDA
comment period extended past
the project notification form
(PNF) date of Jan. 3.

Uhrhane summarized her
concerns.

“It’s too bulky, too big. It
has an awkward design,” she
said. “It’s too dense, too many
units, it needs a decent design; six stories is too tall. It’s not
an interesting building. They
should put more things under-
ground.”

She said she had discussed
the plans with Kenton Rd ar-
chitect Jan Wampler. “He had
a lot to say with how bad the
architecture is,” she said.

A subcommittee with
Uhrhane has already been formed
with two other members,
both of whom live on
Burnett Street.

It will be a crowded com-
munity process; the developers
have already met three times
since Dec. 2019 with Union
Avenue residents.

Cibulsky was worried about
one word she heard at the JP
zoning committee, ‘intransi-
gence.’

“We need to be more flex-
ible,” she said. “This is a good
opportunity for us to improve
more efficiently. It will get more people involved.”

Merry Christmas

May joy and peace fill your hearts and home
this holiday and throughout the coming year.

Happy Holidays and a healthy,
prosperous New Year!
COTUGNO

Helen R. (Connolly) Longtime resident of West Roxbury, formerly of Jamaica Plain, passed away on December 21, 2020. Beloved wife of the late Matthew J. Cotugno (BPD Ret.) for 57 years. Devoted mother of Matthew J. Cotugno (MSP) and his wife Cheryl of Dedham, and Joseph P. Cotugno of West Roxbury. Loving grandmother of Caitlin and Matthew Cotugno both of Dedham. Sister of the late Margaret Coffey and Mary Bannen. Also survived by several loving nieces and nephews. Helen was employed for many years in the Division of Labor Relations for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Funeral from the P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home 2000 Centre St. WEST ROXBURY. Funeral from the funeral home on Thursday, December 24th at 9am, followed by a Funeral Mass at Our Lady of the Annunciation Cathedral, 7 VFW Pkwy., West Roxbury, MA 02132. Guestbook and other information at www.KfouryFuneral.com Complete notice to follow. Will be missed by many nieces, nephews and dear friends. A visitation was held at the P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 2000 Centre Street, West Roxbury on Tuesday, December 22, 2020 at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Antoiné’s memory may be made to Our Lady of the Annunciation Cathedral, 7 VFW Pkwy., West Roxbury, MA 02132. Guestbook and other information at www.KfouryFuneral.com

Fiumaro

Gordon named President and CEO

The City of Boston Credit Union (CBCU) today announced it has selected Neil Gordon to serve as its next president and CEO. Gordon joins CBCU from Millbury Federal Credit Union, where he serves as Treasurer and Chief Financial and Operations Officer. Gordon will be focused on strengthening CBCU’s relationship with its members and maintaining the highest quality of member experience, including the enhancement of all member digital platforms.

“We are thrilled to have Neil Gordon join the City of Boston Credit Union to lead us into another decade of continued growth and success with our members,” said Board Chair Greg Rooney. “Of all the candidates interviewed, Neil’s expertise in all facets of a Credit Union’s operation — from member service and marketing to lending and retail services — stood out. During the interview process he took the proactive step of actually joining our Credit Union to immerse himself in the member experience. He understands the critical importance of continuing to build on the bedrock of trust we have established with our members.”

The selection of Gordon follows a robust, competitive search process through KLR Executive Search Group that included candidates from across the country. Gordon will begin in the role on January 4. He succeeds Daniel Waltz, who retired in September after three years as CBCU president and CEO.

“I am honored to join the City of Boston Credit Union and become part of this century-long commitment to personal, relationship-driven, member service,” said Gordon. “The tremendous growth of this institution over the past three years has put us in a strong position to continue to do more to serve our members. I’m ready to roll up my sleeves and get to work in making a positive impact for the community we serve.”

In his role as Chief Financial and Operations Officer for Millbury Federal Credit Union, Gordon significantly improved the organization’s liquidity, earnings, and key financial metrics such as net worth ratio. He also oversaw the implementation of several member service technology upgrades, including small business banking technology.

Prior to his tenure at Millbury Federal Credit Union, Gordon held leadership positions at Fidelity Cooperative Bank and Bank of America. Gordon earned a Bachelor’s degree in Economics from Boston University and an MBA in finance from Suffolk University. He recently became a board member of the Shawn Thornton Foundation, which makes a difference in the lives of children suffering from cancer or Parkinson’s disease. He lives in Littleton, Mass.

About the City of Boston Credit Union

Since 1915, the City of Boston Credit Union has provided its members with personal, convenient and value-priced financial services that support them through all of life’s milestones. Big enough to serve all your needs, and small enough to know what they are, the City of Boston Credit Union fosters a culture where relationships matter. As a credit union, we are owned by and accountable to our members, who each have an equal vote in our direction, regardless of the size of their accounts. We believe we have a responsibility to support the health and wealth of our members and their communities, and in 2019 donated over $400,000 to hundreds of local organizations, in addition to our colleagues’ dedication of time and involvement in their communities. For more information, visit CityofBostonCU.com.

Neil Gordon

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YUZHAKOV

Deaths continued from page 8

Geoff of Wilmot, NH, Peter Kasten (Patricia) of Ridgewood, N.J. Kimberly Mazzocchi and her husband Brian of Walpole, and Jessica Melott of Millbury and her husband Jason of South Boston. Also survived by 10 great-grandchildren; Sister Janet, Janice and Violet McCarthy, both of Weston and the late Fred, John, and Mona Ayoub, and Helen Shumway. A private Funeral Mass was held in St. Mary’s Church, Dedham on Tuesday, Dec. 22 at 10am followed by a private interment in Brookdale Cemetery, Dedham. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Dana-Farber/Jimmy Fund, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02264-3600 or online at gfordherty.com. George F. Doherty & Sons Wellesley 781-235-4100.

RUSSO

Joseph L. “Joe” of Costa Mesa, CA, and Hilton Head Island, SC, passed away peacefully on December 19, 2020, at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston, following an illness. Joe was survived by his loving daughter Cecilia Walsh-Russo, his son-in-law Toke Kruusnean and cherished granddaughter Ida Kruusnean. He was the dear brother of Janet Briggs of Mesa, AZ, and Laura Sarver of Poulsbo, WA.

KLETTNER

Annette (Fullahm) of West Roxbury, formerly of Wellesley, December 11, 2020. Annette was preceded in death by her husband Larry of Newton and her sister, Ellen (Fullahm) (Lopez) (Gordon) of West Roxbury, MA. Annette was the beloved wife of Andrew (Sudakova) Yuzhakov of Moscow, Russia. Brother of Andrew Yuzhakov of Long Island, NY, and Thomas K. Yuzhakov of Littleton, Mass.

YUZHAKOV


YUZHAKOV

This will be an important step to making us all safer and allow-ency; and improve police officer training and standardize certi-
civilian-led Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) are supposed to protect them. Her bill creates a nine member, legislation. No other child should have to ever witness their 2019 and 54 percent of those were people of color.

The Bulletin
5 - Way Intersection
continued from page 3
presentation was held virtually on Monday, Dec. 14 via Zoom and was attended by about 20 people who took part in the sur-vey over the week. They noted their observations about the con-ditions of the pavement, lighting, sense of safety, availability of crosswalks and how well they were painted, and areas that could use upkeep. Signal timing and sidewalk widths also were taken into account. Areas that would benefit from traffic calmin- ing measures or beautification, particularly at the Octopus, were of great concern to residents. A map and checklist were provided during the presentation that participants could upload their pictures as well to capture their experiences. WalkBoston will compile the data into a report to submit to legis-lators and government depart-ments for further action.

“I think the advantage of this approach is that we keep adding to it as we go,” Lawlor explained. This proved to be relevant, as the comment period was extended to Jan. 8 due to the snowstorm on Dec. 17 to capture people’s ex-periences trying to traverse the streets in varying conditions.

WalkUP did a walk audit of Roslindale Square five years ago with WalkBoston, and then WalkUP did another of Cummins from the Square to Rowe Street a year ago, Lawlor noted. The Boston Transportation Depart-ment (BTD) recently began working on Cummins Highway from Mattapan Square to Wood Avenue, installing bicycle lanes and planning road improve-
ments. But this area being stud-
ed now has long been neglected, according to MHC co-chairs Lisa Beatman and Rick Yoder.

“We’ve been calling it ‘the missing middle’ because the Roslindale section was being paid attention to, and then the Mattapan section was being paid attention to,” Beatman said. Something that became very obvious was that the eastern Roslindale section was just not being touched by any of the projects going on.”

However, she said that neither project included any potential capital investment for traffic calming measures. This is despite the Five Way Octopus intersec-
tion being in the top three per-
cent of crash sites in the City of Boston.

“This is a really important opportunity to focus on the missing middle of Cummins, and the missing piece of American Le-
” Beatman said.

Historically, part of the prob-
lem is that the area borders two City Council districts, and the eastern part of 4 and 5 District is currently represented by mayoral can-
didate Andrea Campbell, and Dis-
tric 5 is represented by Ricardo Arroyo.

“One of the issues regarding that stretch is that we’ve had ex-penses for several years now because of the split of the major dis-tricts,” Beatman continued. “Each councilor – and there have been changes in the councilors – have said that they don’t want to tread on another councilor’s turf!” What’s ended up happening is nothing.”

She added that she has asked both offices to collaborate on this issue because of the growing number of accidents on Ameri-
can Legion Highway.

Trying to get to Stop & Shop can be “death defying” for hun-dreds of walkers including her self and Yoder, Beatman stressed.

The plaza is a major destination with a Walgreen’s, a Crunch Gym and a bank.

“There is a light trying to cross at the intersection of Cummins,” she said. “But no cars ever, ever, ever.”

Yoder noted that the funding for the bike lanes came from emergency funding due to COVID-19.

When the Octopus was con-
structed, “it was driven by NSTAR’s desire to put a 300,000 volt transmission wire up Cummans to American Legion to Blue Hill Avenue and then the other way to Hyde Park Avenue,” according to Yoder. “I think they paid for it, and I assume the City designed it. The reason for the split legacy is the missing middle, and the missing piece of American Legion Highway.”

“It was all about how to move the traffic in and out of Boston and how to facilitate the flow of traffic,” Yoder added. “That’s why we’re stuck with what we’re stuck with.”

For more information, go to walkuproslindale.org.
# Community Service Directory

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