

# Boston Bulletin

citywide news • street by street

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DECEMBER 26, 2019

FREE

## FBI captures 'Inconvenient Crook'



Tykei Hallman

Jeff Sullivan  
Staff Reporter

The Department of Justice announced last week that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) had captured Tykei Hallman, 25, of Hyde Park, known colloquially as the 'Inconvenient Crook,' after he allegedly robbed 15 convenience stores in Boston.

According to the FBI's charging document, Hallman operated between May 2019 and November 2019, robbing about 15 stores. During each robbery, Hallman allegedly went into each store with a mask and dark hooded garments and gloves. The suspect allegedly en-

Arrest

Continued on page 7

## RVMS gearing up for winter season



Live performances from local artists are coming to the Sons of Italy Hall.

Jeff Sullivan  
Staff Reporter

While the Christmas time season is quickly coming to an end, Roslindale Village Main Streets (RVMS) is working hard to keep the spirit of celebra-

RVMS

Continued on page 6

## Boston celebrates the holiday season



Mayor Martin J. Walsh kicks off the holiday season with the Roxbury community at the Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building as a part of the 2019 Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour.

COURTESY PHOTO JEREMIAH ROBINSON

## First Night Boston returning in big way

Jeff Sullivan  
Staff Reporter

Boston's famed New Year's Eve celebration First Night will be kicking off in style this year to celebrate the coming of the new decade.

Most notably, the city will be ringing in the New Year with a huge fireworks celebration presented by the Mugar Foundation and the City of Boston. The tradition, which has been going on for more than 45 years, will start at the Boston Common for the first fireworks demonstration at 7 p.m. The first fireworks of 2020 will take place at Copley Square as part of the Copley Countdown Pyrotechnics and Light Show in Copley Square at midnight. There will also be the traditional Midnight Fireworks on the Boston Harbor as well.

Before the fireworks on Boston Common, the city is hosting the Frog Pond Skating Spectacular. Copley Square will also be hosting dozens of events throughout the day starting at noon, including Sweet Harmony, Elliot Wren, BAND Inc., Amber Ais, Morningbird, Jonah Bencal, Paco, Daniel Laurent, GreenLight Jazz Orchestra, Sons of Levin, Single By Sunday and more. At Copley Place Mall, the shows start at 1 p.m. with the Emancipation Proclamation Concert and the First Night Organ Concert at 4 p.m. There will also be multiple perfor-

# FIRST NIGHT® Boston

mances from the Puppet Showplace Theater throughout the day.

The Boston Public Library Johnson Room at Copley Square will be hosting a series of performances from Drumming About You, Improv Boston, Jesse McKellar, Neptune's Car, Dancing Buns Studios and the Responders throughout the afternoon. The McKim Room in the Boston Public Library at Copley Square will also have afternoon performances, from the Greater Boston Chinese Cultural Association in dance performances and arts and crafts and the Boston Sax Quartet. For a full list of performances and times, go to <https://www.firstnightboston.org/schedule/>.

New England band Deer Tick will be ringing in the New Year with two shows at the Sinclair in Cambridge on Dec. 30 and 31 respectively. If you're looking for a more upscale celebration, the Boston Marriott Newton on Commonwealth Avenue will be hosting its New Years Eve Ball all night.

The Brattle Theater in Harvard Square will be hosting Tom Waits' film Big Time at 7 p.m., along with a Marx Brothers Marathon throughout New Years Day. The Boston Children's Museum in South Boston will be hosting

its annual Happy Noon Year celebration for young children starting at 10:30 a.m. with arts and crafts. They will be starting their ball drop countdown at 11:45 a.m.

Casa Cana in Allston will be hosting a Latin New Years Eve Party, filled with dancing, Djs, and local food. The party is scheduled from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. In the North End and Downtown Harbor, there will be a presentation of the annual New Year's Eve Ice Sculpture Stroll.

The Boston Harbor Hotel is also hosting a free tour of the hotel's collection of historic maps with Harvard Professor Alex Krieger at 12 p.m. Krieger helped to put the map collection together originally. Mr. Krieger is also a Principal at NBBJ, a design firm with offices in Boston and all over the world.

New Year's Eve will also be the last instance of the Blink! Light and Sound show at Faneuil Hall Marketplace. This year's Blink! features the signature holiday tree at Marketplace Center joined by all the trees and lights throughout the property. Musical performances run from 4:30 p.m. To 1 p.m. Daily until Jan. 1.

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# Holy Name volunteers for vets



**Holy Name Service Project** The first, second and third grade students at Holy Name Parish School partnered with the Veteran's Administration Hospital's Dental Clinic to work on a project for homeless Veterans. To bring some joy and cheer to the Veterans the students created Christmas cards. The Christmas cards were delivered with Christmas stockings that were filled with toiletries by the VA Dental Clinic staff. The cards and stockings were delivered to homeless veteran shelters. Thank you to Dr. Maureen Dewey, a parent of three Holy Name Parish School graduates for connecting the students to this service project.

COURTESY PHOTO

# Boston Renaissance Charter Public School students serenade seniors residents/staff at Blake Estates



The "Voices of Renaissance" Chorus performing for Blake Estates residents and staff.

COURTESY PHOTO

Students from the Boston Renaissance Charter Public School (BRCPS) school's "Voices of Renaissance" Chorus performed a holiday-themed concert for senior residents and staff at Blake Estates on Hyde Park Avenue. The Chorus is celebrating its 20th year, and will be performing at various events around the city. Its mission is to convey posi-

itive messages and inspiration to people of all ages through the performance of vocal music.

"The students enjoyed their time bringing some holiday cheer to our neighbors at Blake Estates," said Alexandra Buckmire, Head of School. "Part of our mission is to nurture and develop confidence, character and citizenship

among our students and to encourage them to contribute to their communities however they can. Blake Estates has been a great partner to give our children a chance to share kind moments with their residents."

Blake Estates' property manager, Robin Texeria said the residents look forward to the visit. "This was such a treat for our residents," she said. "They were so impressed by the students, and it is extra special to have them visit for the holidays."

The school conducts activities throughout the year that reflect its six core values – courage, respect, integrity, perseverance, curiosity, and kindness.

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# Belnel questions aides about lack of community investment

**Mary Ellen Gambon**  
Staff Reporter

More than 20 people braved the bitter cold to attend the Belnel Family Neighborhood Association (BFNA) on Thurs., Dec. 19 at the Match Charter School at 100 Poydras St. to discuss lack of response from state legislators regarding their community as well as a victory at the Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) on a proposed development.

Chair Helena Tonge introduced Cynthia Lewis, the district director for Rep. Dan Cullinane, and his legislative director, Leon David. She is a Mattapan resident who said she understands the community's needs and is bringing them back to the State House.

"The legislator would have liked to have been here tonight," Lewis said. "We have had conversations with him to make sure that the needs of the community are being heard."

Mukiya Baker Gomez, chair emeritus and an organization founder, asked where Cullinane stood on the MBTA's service from Mattapan to Hyde Park, which has been substandard for decades compared to other areas in Boston.

"I take the T all the time,"

she said. "It's atrocious in this area, and it's never on schedule. I know there's a push for the commuter rail line, but I am wondering what the representative is doing to push for equitable transportation in this area."

Lewis said she discussed concerns about the Red Line and commuter rail timing with Cullinane after the group's quarterly meeting in late September.

Baker Gomez called for a sound barrier because of the increase in noise.

"The people who manage the commuter rail line can afford to put up a sound barrier," she said. "It's distracting not only to the students but to the homeowners and seniors in the apartment building here."

"I think that people are not aware of what the office is doing because we're out there doing the work," David said.

He added that it was the community's job to help the office "prioritize the needs of Mattapan."

"We're in Hyde Park," Baker Gomez responded.

Tonge said Cullinane should attend one of the group's quarterly meetings. David said he would arrange a board meeting either in the community or in



The Belnel Family Neighborhood Association discussed the recent tabling of the Match Charter School's redevelopment plan, which many felt would have negatively impacted traffic in the neighborhood.

PHOTO BY MARY ELLEN GAMBON

the office in January.

She added that District City Five Councilor-elect Ricardo Arroyo has attended BFNA's meetings.

Tonge asked what the representative is currently working on for this area.

David said Cullinane supported the integrated health model for mental health care with the Mattapan Community Health Center. Patients can seek treatment for mental health issues and related problems like drug addiction without the fear of being stigmatized.

Regarding transportation,

David said Cullinane advocated to keep the Mattapan trolley line, which "carries at least 18 thousand bodies to and fro from work."

"We're about moving things forward, and not going around in circular conversation," Tonge said, noting the problems with the T and the streetscape come into play in this area.

David responded with information about the transportation studies on Cummins Hwy. and Blue Hill Ave. Concerns on pedestrian access, ADA compliance and changing the roadway design were raised.

One part that would impact this area was the potential to redesign the intersection of River St. at Blue Hill Ave. so that buses could turn directly into Mattapan Station without having to travel into Milton, as they currently do.

"Rep. Cullinane needs to figure out how to work with his colleagues like Rep. Scaccia and the Boston delegation in tandem for this area," Baker Gomez said.

One area on which legislators should partner is to advo-

**Community Investment**  
Continued on page 12

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# Celebrating community this holiday season

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy Kwanzaa, Boston! This is a special time of the year. It's a time to spread joy, spend time with family, and show kindness and generosity to others. While people in Boston celebrate many different traditions, we are all united by a love of community, and a commitment to building peace—in our neighborhoods, and throughout our city and the world.

The holidays bring out the best in our city. Our strength is in how we treat one another as neighbors. And when we are all working together to spread happiness and lend a helping hand to those in need, our city thrives.

Throughout December, I've been honored to help kick off the holiday season in many special Boston ways. We lit Christmas trees in every neighborhood in Boston, including the Boston Common Christmas tree with our friends from Nova Scotia (and special guest, Dolly Parton!). That same night, I joined Back Bay residents for the Commonwealth Avenue Mall lighting. As part of our annual Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour, we visited 16 communities to light Christmas trees, and highlight the importance of shopping local at Boston's many small neighborhood businesses.

My favorite part of the holiday season is giving back to the community. Knowing that we can make a child's day with a gift, or make a hectic season a little easier for parents, is a great feeling. I was excited to take part in many traditions of giving—from ringing the Salvation Army's bell in Downtown Crossing, to hosting AT&T's Holiday Phone-A-Thon which helps Bostonians call their friends and family abroad, to helping out at the United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots donation warehouse. I also had fun reading holiday stories to children



## Mayor's Column

Martin J. Walsh

and joining the Boston Police Department and hundreds of kids during their annual Shop With A Cop event. All of these experiences have certainly made my holiday season brighter, and I hope it helped make others' as well.

I encourage all Bostonians to find ways to get involved in their community and give back. Volunteering for a cause you believe in, or making a donation is a great way to make the holidays extra special. And if you have extra time, help out at a shelter or food bank near where you live. This time of the year can be especially tough for families struggling to make ends meet, and for residents who are experiencing homelessness. During these long and cold winter months, it's important that we look out for one another and make sure people know their community cares about them. Together, we can show what it means to be a city of neighbors helping neighbors.

This holiday season, I'm especially grateful and honored to serve as Mayor of the greatest city on earth. I'm looking forward to all the great things we'll continue to accomplish together in 2020. I hope you have a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season, and I wish you the best in the New Year.

# How's 'bout an Xmas gift to Canada?

Halifax—not the town in Massachusetts but in Canada—and Boston take delight in the Christmas tree that Canadian community sends to us every Christmas. The tremendous explosion of munition ships in 1917 triggered an outpouring of generosity on our part, no doubt due to a large number of Bostonians with Nova Scotia roots. A Boston and Maine Railroad train left North Station for that devastated area shortly after the disaster laden with supplies.

Perhaps it's time for Bostonians—and Americans in general—to remember what Canada did for us on 9/11. The recent Broadway hit musical "Come From Away" did just that—in terms of Gander, Newfoundland. Regrettably the show recently ended its run in Boston, although it could have sold out here for weeks but perhaps previously signed contracts thwarted the play's remaining longer. The musical wonderfully highlighted the generosity of that town that accommodated so many on those tragic September days: 6,122 passengers and 473 crew mem-

bers on board 473 flights that had crossed the Atlantic had to land there, as an American government official, Ben Sliney on his very first day (!) on the job as FAA's National Operations Manager, ordered all U.S. airspace to be shut down at 9:45 our time as a result of the attacks.

As part of Operation Yellow Ribbon and the fact that Canadian airspace was shut down except for military, police, and humanitarian flights, other Canadian airports did the same: between 225 and 240 aircraft were diverted to 17 different airports across the country, with most of the flights not landing in Gander but in—you guessed it—Halifax, which accommodated 8,000 passengers and crew members from 40 aircraft. (Admittedly, some of these were domestic flights but Gander's outreach was chiefly to flights from Europe as it had been a refueling place for trans-Atlantic flights years earlier, lying beneath the flight paths' arcs.)

As a token of appreciation, Lufthansa Airlines named one of its planes in 2002 the Gan-



## My Kind of Town/ Joe Galeota

der-Halifax. The point here is that we in Boston should do something for Halifax and Gander. Obviously not a huge Christmas tree since they have plenty of them and, except for the Arboretum and a few other places, we have none to give that would match their majestic Norway spruce that now lights up the Common. Let's see, what would be an appropriate present that we could give year after year to these two communities? . . . . .

# Letters to the Editor

## OPEN MEETING INVITE TO ADDRESS WASHINGTON ST. SAFETY

To the Editor:

Our organization is hosting a meeting January 13, 2020 at 7 PM at 5160 Washington St., West Roxbury (St. Stephens Church) to address concerns about pedestrian safety and traffic in our area. WRCIA, (West Roxbury Civic and Improvement Association) was founded by Olivia Waishek about 30 years ago after her own mother was killed as a pedestrian on Washington St. The WRCIA has worked tirelessly to help create safer streets, however, although there have been many changes to Washington St. during the last three decades one thing still remains—it is still notoriously dangerous as far as traffic is concerned.

Last November Timothy O'Neil was struck and killed while walking on the sidewalk off of Washington St. Very shortly after this Marilyn Wentworth was killed on Cen-

ter st. Out of the latter tragedy sprung the highly contentious "road diet" which many West Roxbury residents oppose. Unfortunately Washington St. has not seen such a movement, other than the WRCIA, for safety measures but has been demanding them for years. The WRCIA would like to invite you to come listen to community members about their concerns surrounding Washington St. pedestrian safety, general traffic concerns in West Roxbury, and the "road diet." We would also like to give any city officials or their representatives an opportunity to speak to the community about these issues.

Please feel free to reach out to our organization if you will be able and willing to attend this meeting. Ideally, we would like to put together an agenda during the first week of January. It would be helpful to know who would be attending and which topics they feel comfortable addressing. If you have any questions, also, please

feel free to contact us. Thank you for your time and we hope to have the pleasure of seeing you in January.

Larissa Castro (WRCIA President)

Kerry Castor (WRCIA Vice President)

## ANNA'S PALS SAYS THANK YOU!

To the Editor:

We didn't want the year to end without letting you know how incredibly grateful we are for all of your support! With your help, we were able to deliver meals, toys, games, sheets, candy, electronics, smiles, and distractions to children who are hospitalized for long periods of time, fighting life threatening diseases. The patients, the siblings, and the parents are SO appreciative! These small gestures of kindness make a huge difference to these families.

We are grateful for the attendance and contributions at our events. This year we were able to deliver over 300 gingerbread house kits, a nice bedside activity, to area hospitals. Pediatric cancer and other illnesses don't take the holidays off, so we are happy to be able to make a small difference in the lives of these families.

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# Local community still argues over 3326 Washington Street

**Richard Heath**  
Staff Reporter

Primary Development has a credibility problem in its ambitious plans to build a five-story, 47-unit terraced apartment building at 3326 Washington St. next to Exodus Bagels.

JP Neighborhood Council member Michael Reiskind—who rarely expresses his opinion—was blunt at the Dec. 17 council meeting.

“These developers are not ready,” he said. “They fell flat on their face at the landmarks demo delay meeting. Landmarks was laughing at them.”

Wyatt Komarin of Primary was at the JP Housing Committee on Dec. 16, three weeks after the BPDA-sponsored Article 80 public meeting, as described by The Bulletin.

Most of the 10 people who attended the housing committee were at their first community meeting on the development and most were frustrated that Komarin was vague on rent schedule, affordable mix and the compact living policy.

Lindsay Santana, the new JP liaison, attended for part of the meeting.

Housing committee mem-

ber Jamie Lionette was at his first public meeting on 3326 Washington; there have been five since Feb. 21.

“You can’t answer these questions?” he asked. “You don’t know the area median income (AMI)? The rents? Compact Living? You’re well along in the Article 80 process. This could be another one of these projects that just collapses.”

Komarin said he was ‘just the architect’ but would be happy to report back.

“We’re not targeting the top of the market,” he added. “We’re not going to match 3200 Washington St. rents.”

On Dec. 12, Komarin emailed his responses to housing committee chair Carolyn Royce, who forwarded them to committee members.

The statement read that the rents were subject to change, but would range from a \$2,000 studio to a two bedroom at \$3,100.

Komarin listed the AMI mix for the 11 units—23 percent of the total—as 30 percent, 50 percent and 70 percent with one unit at 30 percent AMI and seven at 70 percent, what the BPDA requires.

Komarin told the housing committee that 3326 Wash-



Marie Turley of Union Ave ( L ) questions Wyatt Komarin of Primary ( R )

PHOTO RICHARD HEATH

ington St. would take advantage of the city’s Compact Living Policy, a point not raised at the article 80 meeting.

Approved by the BDA on Oct. 11, 2018, the policy is a two-year pilot that offers density without subsidy with small units, a lot of natural light, emphasis on public transportation and shared common spaces.

Royce and committee member Kevin Rainsford wanted to know if the compact living units would be part of the affordability mix and a rent discount be put on the smaller units.

Komarin responded two days later in his statement.

“All affordable rents, regardless of whether a unit is compact,” he wrote, “will be roughly at 10 percent discount for each AMI level. So the AMI mix is close to 20 percent, 40 percent and 60 percent providing an even greater level of affordability.

“With the large Pine Street project coming in just next door to our site, we view our property as complimentary to that area median income.”

This is Primary’s first rental project; they’ve done two other ownership buildings in East Boston and Mis-

sion Hill, the latter under construction.

Komarin said Primary would own 3326 Washington and have on-site property management.

Komarin also said that the type of renter would be tailored to the compact living lifestyle.

“We want to work with a broker to identify the type of renter who would like a car-free lifestyle with shared common areas,” he said.

Primary development was criticized for its community process. Its preference has

**3326 Washington**  
Continued on page 11



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# RVMS *continued from page 1*

tion, giving, and supporting local businesses alive throughout the cold months.

“It’s winter, and it may feel like things aren’t happening, but they definitely are,” said RVMS Executive Director Alia Hamada Forest.

Forest said they are currently working on preparations to open up the Winter’s Farmers Market at the Sons of Italy Hall on Corinth Street, which will start on Jan. 4 at 10 a.m.

“We’re really excited about our vendors, who will be selling winter veggies like root vegetables and cabbages and potatoes and we’ll have candle makers and local honey vendors,” she said. “Pastries too. This will be the first Winter Farmers Market where there will be Distraction Brewing too just down the street, so folks can go there, shop along Birch Street and buy their local produce on one stretch of the square.”

And speaking of Birch Street, the much-anticipated semi-permanent pilot for the pedestrian courtyard at Birch Street will be kicking off some time in the spring of 2020. Forest said this one will be a little less haphazard than the duct tape and conceptual structures of the first few pilots, and will go for two years.

“It will be closed to vehicular traffic and it’s the next level of a pilot, so to speak,” she said. “It will be permanently closed for the next two years, and if that goes well the city will really make it permanent. The spring implementation is a mix of street pavement and moveable structures like planters and table and chairs that can be moved around. The street pavement will look very similar to what we did in the pilot, but then it was duct tape in a zig zag pattern and this will look sort of like that, but sleeker and with real street paint.”

She added the plaza will be painted to look more like the street plaza alongside Birch Street where Sophia’s Grotto has outdoor seating.

“They really wanted to emulate the feeling of the courtyard area to fill out into the Birch Street area,” she said.

Later in the year, Forest said they are working on the RVMS 35th Anniversary Party, which will take the place of the group’s Savor the Square/Taste of Roslindale event.

“It will either be in the spring or summer,” she said. “We definitely want food but I don’t think it will be several restaurants like what we’ve done in the past five years of Savor the Square, we’re just

going to try something new to celebrate. I don’t know what that will look like yet, maybe in the Substation, maybe somewhere outside, but it’s definitely something we want to make unique and set apart from Savor but also brings together the neighborhood and a community feel.”

Forest said this spring will also see the roll out of improvements to Poplar Street at Adams Park, where the group has raised more than \$50,000 from residents, the Boston Main Street Foundation and the Mass Development Corporation. The funds will go towards way finding, lighting and beautification along that stretch of Poplar

“I think in 2020 you’re going to see a lot of the work that’s been planned and designed and all the back end work that happened in 2019 and 2018, well we’re hoping all our efforts will be visible to the public,” she said. “It will all showcase the hard work our volunteers, committees and staff have been doing. We have our initial designs for Poplar sitting in the RVMS office but they’re not out in the world just yet.”

For more information on RVMS’ efforts to improve the neighborhood, go to Roslindale.net.

## Shop with a Cop hits Boston once again



The Boston Police Department stated members thoroughly enjoyed getting into the holiday spirit while participating in the 11th Annual Shop with a Cop: Heroes & Helpers Holiday Celebration held at the South Bay Target Store in Dorchester. Boston Police Officers assigned to districts across the city, along with volunteers from several outside police and first-responder agencies, paired up with nearly 400 hundred deserving children from every neighborhood in Boston to pick out a special gift for the holidays.

COURTESY PHOTO



# HOLIDAY WORSHIP

**Roslindale Congregational Church, UCC**

**Christmas Eve Service**  
Tuesday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m.  
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**MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS**

**Christmas Eve – Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**  
4:30pm – Children’s Choir & Choristers  
6:30pm – Children’s Liturgy & Pageant  
12:00 Midnight – Cantor

**Christmas Day – Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30am – Cantor | 10:30am – Parish Adult Choir

*Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God*

**NEW YEAR’S DAY**  
Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> 4:30pm  
Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup> 6:45am & 9:00am

**2078 Centre Street, West Roxbury**  
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**Theodore Parker Church**  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

*Christmas Eve*  
**CANDLELIGHT SERVICES**

**5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.**

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# Arrest *continued from page 1*

tered the convenience stores brandishing what appeared to a black and silver semi-automatic handgun and demanded cash from each of the stores. It is thought Hallman made off with about \$17,000 in cash from the robberies.

The FBI stated that based on the similarity of the robberies, witness statements and video surveillance obtained from each location, law enforcement determined that the same individual was likely responsible for all the robberies.

The FBI stated they identified Hallman as the suspect through physical surveillance, GPS data from cell phones and the locations of motor vehicles.

The statement reads that according to the Hobbs Act, which states "Whoever in any way or degree obstructs, delays, or affects commerce or the movement of any article or commodity in commerce, by robbery or extortion or attempts or conspires to do so, commits, or threatens physical violence to any person or property in furtherance of a plan or purpose to do anything in violation of this section shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than twenty years, or both."

The statement also reads that the fine, if Hallman is found guilty, could be up to \$250,000 with three years of supervised release. Because Hallman allegedly used a firearm in the commission of a crime of violence, an additional seven years in prison is also on the table.

Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling and Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Field Office made the announcement last week. Assistance with the investigation was provided by the Quincy, Milton, Boston, Dedham, Woburn and Fitchburg Police Departments. Assistant U.S. Attorney Kenneth G. Shine of Lelling's Major Crimes Unit is prosecuting the case.

Included in the alleged robberies were two robberies at the Fairmont Food Market, Mullaney's Variety Package Store in Quincy, MVP Liquors in Roslindale, the Milton Food Mart, and two stores in Quincy.

# Affordable housing postcard delivery



Residents from neighborhoods across Boston gathered on December 12 in Mayor Walsh's office after delivering more than 1000 postcards to Chief of Policy Joyce Linehan. The postcards called on the Mayor to change the City's Inclusionary Development Policy to require that 33% of new private developments are truly affordable, including households making less than \$25,000 and \$50,000 a year. The Coalition for a Truly Affordable Boston ([affordableboston.org](http://affordableboston.org)) is looking to win affordable housing that matches the incomes of Boston residents, especially communities of color facing crises of displacement and a lack of affordable housing.

COURTESY PHOTO: RONALD DELORME - GRAFI MEDIA



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# Around the Neighborhood

## CITY

### JOIN THE "L STREET BROWNIES" FOR THE ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S DAY SWIM

Wednesday, January 1, 2020, at 12:00 PM, one of Boston's oldest traditions will continue with an estimated 600 people plunging into Boston Harbor for the annual "L Street Brownies" New Year's Day Swim. The swim is hosted by the L Street Brownies at the BCYF Curley Community Center, 1663 Columbia Road in South Boston, "M" Street entrance. Due to the tide schedule, it will start at 12:00 PM. Other information you should know: \* Doors open at 11:00 AM. and close at 1:00 PM.; \* Participants should arrive dressed for the water as the men's and women's locker and shower rooms will not be available until after the swim; \* Water shoes are suggested due to shells and rocks left by the tide; \* Pets are not allowed, please leave your furry friends at home; \* There is no need to pre-register. You will be asked to fill out a short form when you arrive; \* Lifeguards will be on duty; \* Participants must be age 16 and older. This event has taken place for over 100 years. The Brownies are the oldest "polar bear" club in America. The Brownies promote health, fun, and friendship. Each year, the swim is dedicated to past and recently deceased Brownies. Spectators are welcome and creative costumes are encouraged.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT FRANKLIN PARK ZOO

School Vacation Week  
(December 26 – January 4)  
is approaching and what better

way to spend it than at Franklin Park Zoo

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Franklin Park Zoo and Stone Zoo will offer free admission on January 14. Guests at Franklin Park Zoo are also invited to write messages of peace on the mural within the Tropical Forest Pavilion. - Ring in the Lunar New Year at Franklin Park Zoo! Guests will have the chance to make their own traditional Chinese Lantern and watch the Lion Dance Team perform, all on January 18.

### CONSERVATORY LAB CHARTER SCHOOL PRESENTS: A WINTER SHOWCASE

On Saturday, January 11, 2020, Conservatory Lab Charter School's students will come together for the annual Winter Showcase, a day of musical learning and celebration. Students will put on three performances at 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 2:30 p.m. at the Strand Theater, located at 543 Columbia Road in Dorchester.

The Winter Showcase is an opportunity for students to share their classroom experiences and passion for music with a broader audience. "At Conservatory Lab, music is a vehicle for learning how to work together and growing our students into artists, scholars, and leaders of the future. We are proud of their work and excited to celebrate their music and artistry. We would like to thank all of the Resident Artists, teachers, and staff for making this concert possible and for their dedication and commitment to our students' learning," said Nicole Mack, Principal.

Morning Concert: 10:00

a.m. Charlie Parker Orchestra, Fourth Grade Charles Mingus Orchestra, Fifth Grade Duke Ellington Orchestra, Sixth Grade

Middle Concert: 1:00 p.m. Celia Cruz Orchestra, First Grade Aretha Franklin Orchestra, Second Grade Esperanza Spalding Orchestra, Third Grade

Afternoon concert: 2:30 p.m. Nina Simone Singers, Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten Dudamel Orchestra, Seventh and Eighth Grade

Founded in 1999, Conservatory Lab Charter School aims to empower a diverse range of children as scholars, artists, and leaders through unique and rigorous academic and music education. The school also works to enrich the community in Dorchester and the Greater Boston area through performance, service, and education. Conservatory Lab holds the distinction of being the first public school in the U.S. to adopt the ensemble-focused music program El Sistema into its school day.

For more information about Conservatory Lab, please visit [www.conservatorylab.org](http://www.conservatorylab.org).

### LEARN TO SKATE CLASSES AT BOSTON AREA ICE RINKS

The Boston Area Ice Skating Rinks will open for public skating starting Friday, November 29th. The 2019-2020 Learn-To-Skate season has begun. Bay State Skating School is one of Greater Boston's most established and popular skating programs.

Professional Instructors teach Recreational, Figure and Hockey Skating Skills to beginner, intermediate and advanced

skaters ages 4 to 18. Students can wear either figure, recreational or hockey skates. New and ongoing lessons are held at 11 Greater Boston Rink locations including Brookline/Cleveland Circle, Larz Anderson Park-Brookline, Cambridge, Medford, Newton-Brighton, Quincy, Somerville, Waltham, West Roxbury, and Weymouth.

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For more information and to registration, visit [www.BayStateSkatingSchool.org](http://www.BayStateSkatingSchool.org) or call Bay State Skating School (781) 890-8480. Gift certificates available.

### ALLSTON / BRIGHTON

#### PROGRAMS AT THE BRIGHTON LIBRARY

##### BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

A book discussion group meets at the Brighton Library/40 Academy Hill Road (617)782-6032 on the last Wednesday of each month at 11:15 am. The featured selection for January 29th at 11:15 am. Everyone is invited and new members are welcome.

##### BEGINNING INTERNET CLASS

Mystified by the net? Don't know how to surf? Help is available on a one on one basis to get you started. Call for an appointment and ask for a librarian. Brighton Branch Library/40 Academy Hill Road/ (617) 782-6032.

##### ESL CONVERSATION GROUPS

Two ESL conversation group meet at the Brighton Library. One on Monday afternoon at 12:30 pm; the other on Thursday evening at 6:15 pm. Come and practice your language skills in an informal and friendly setting with other new English speakers. Brighton Branch Library/ 40 Academy Hill Road (617) 782-6032.

##### WEST ROXBURY / ROSLINDALE

##### PARIS TO PITTSBURGH

A compelling film celebrating the ways in which Americans are developing and demanding real solutions to climate change. Free screening at the West Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library. Saturday, January 11, 2020, 2-4PM

Sponsored by West Roxbury

Mothers Out Front and West Roxbury Saves Energy West Roxbury Mothers Out Front will facilitate a post-film discussion.

### ETHOS EVENTS

#### DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Learn to manage your diabetes (or pre-diabetes) with techniques to deal with symptoms such as fatigue, pain, blood sugar ups and downs, and stress. Discover better nutrition and exercise choices, understand treatment alternatives, and learn better ways to talk about your health with doctors, family, and friends. Classes run once a week for 6 weeks and are offered at no charge. The book, Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Disease is provided for each participant. Caregivers welcome. Location: Perfect Health Primary Care, 912 River Street in Hyde Park Day and Time: Wednesdays, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Class Dates: January 8th through February 12th, 2020 For more information or to register contact Ann Glora at 617-477-6616 or [aglora@ethocare.org](mailto:aglora@ethocare.org)

#### BINGOCIZE® PHYSICAL ACTIVITY FOR SENIORS

Bingocize® is a 10-week program that combines a bingo-like game with exercise and health education. This new evidence-based program is designed to increase the physical fitness, health knowledge, and social engagement of older adults, by combining exercise, health trivia, and Bingo. Bingocize® is offered for one hour 2 times per week for 10 weeks. Location: Blake Estates, 1344 Hyde Park Avenue in Hyde Park Day and Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. (lunch included after class) Class Dates: January 28th – April 2nd, 2020 For more information or to register contact Ann Glora at 617-477-6616 or [aglora@ethocare.org](mailto:aglora@ethocare.org)

#### LOWBUDGET RECORDS TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES

The SQUARE ROOT Café, 2 Corinth St. / Roslindale Sq. FRIDAY, JAN. 3 7:00 to 11pm

12 acts! = Bird Mancini Band - Dalia Davis - HeartSoulVoice Ensemble - The Junk Dealers - Kenny Selcer - Mr. Curt - Paul McDonough & Sean Yadisernia - Random Access Memory - Terry Kitchen - The Trap Dorz - The Unknowns - Yucca Flats and the Feral Cats  
YEAH - YEAH - YEAH! a splendid time is guaranteed for all



## Ask The Doctor

Junior Damato began servicing vehicles in 1969. He owns an 8-bay center in Middleboro, MA. Junior is an ASE-certified Master Technician, ASE-certified L-1 and ASE-certified Natural Gas.

Q) Dear Doctor: I own a 2015 Subaru Legacy 2.5i, which has been problem-free until recently. The car wants to pull to the right, especially when I take my hands off the steering wheel to test it. I've never been in an accident and am vigilant about bumps and pot holes. I check the tire pressure regularly and I even rotated the tires to see if that would help. It did not. The Subaru dealership couldn't find anything wrong, but did an alignment. When finished I was told the tech drove the car and it drove straight with no further issues. I left the dealership and as soon as I drove out of the lot, the car pulled to the right worse than when I first went there. I went back and told the manager and tech the car was pulling worse than ever. Now, they told me the passenger side lower control arm may be bent and has a space wider from the lower control arm to the sway bar compared to the driver's side. The tech said she couldn't adjust the caster, and recommended I go to a body shop. I'm very disappointed with the outcome and don't think I should have to go to a body shop to have the problem fixed. What would you advise? —Sam

A) I see cars everyday that have pulling to one side complaints. My first question to the drivers is did you hit anything in the road, or replace or rotate the tires? You need to take the car to a repair or alignment shop that has ASE certified technicians. As for the caster adjustment it is usually a non tire wearing issue, Camber and toe settings need to be set correctly for tire wear and pulling. We also see a lot of tires that cause pulling. You can have the front tires swapped side to side and see if the pulling goes to the other side, if it does you know you have a tire problem.

Junior Damato, the "Auto Doctor," has agreed to field auto repair questions from Bulletin and Record readers. Please send your questions to [news@bulletinnewspapers.com](mailto:news@bulletinnewspapers.com) and we will do our best to get them answered.



# ZBA approves Trinity in HP, denies billboard in Allston

**Jeff Sullivan**  
Staff Reporter

The Boston Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) voted on Tuesday to approve a new gymnasium and free-standing sign for the Boston Trinity Academy on Hale Street in Hyde Park and denied a request for a billboard on Lincoln Street in Allston just on the Pike.

The Billboard was the issue of most contention, as residents from the Allston Civic Association, the Brighton Allston Improvement Association, the Allston Brighton Coalition and others stood in opposition to the project.

The proposal was to erect a 14-foot by 18-foot, two-sided digital billboard at 88-94 Lincoln St. The project needed approval for variances that included excessive height, billboards forbidden in the zone and not enough front yard setback. Attorney representing Maverick Marketing Michael Ross said the most important issue with the billboard is it does not interfere with the 500-foot buffer required as distance between billboards. He added the location lends itself to the billboard, given its proximity to the Massachusetts Turnpike,

given the light pollution, exhaust pollution and noise pollution already present.

“There is nary a section of the Massachusetts Turnpike where you can find a 500-vacancy or opportunity for a new placement,” he said. “So what separates this particular billboard I think is the good it will do for the surrounding community. The first thing is this is not a billboard being proposed by a large media corporation, it’s being proposed by a single individual, Val Barsom, who used to work in the industry and learned about the industry and said ‘I can do this and I’d like to do this.’”

He said Maverick President Val Barsom has been working with the community on the issue for about a year.

“She did an exhaustive community outreach effort,” she said.

Ross also said that residents would not see light emanating from the billboard at an angle.

“You only really see it from dead-on because of the way the LEDs are situated themselves,” he said.

At-Large City Councilor Michael Flaherty’s representative Paul Sullivan said the



The Boston Zoning Board of Appeals approved a proposal from Boston Trinity Academy to erect a new gym building for the school.

councilor is in support of the billboard because of the extensive community outreach the proponent had done. Suffolk County Sheriff Steve Thompkins said he was in support because it would give his department more opportunities for public education on the opioid epidemic and what his office is doing about it.

“This is a way we can get messaging out,” he said.

The Allston Brighton representative for the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) Conor Newman, Dis-

trict 9 City Councilor Mark Ciommo representative Daniel Polanco, At-Large City Councilor representative for Annissa Essaibi-George Jessica Rodriguez, Allston Civic Association President Anthony D’Isidoro and Brighton Allston Civic Improvement Association member Annabelle Gomes said they were all in opposition to the project.

“Our major concern is opening the door for more billboards to be built going against Article 51, which makes it a

forbidden use,” said Gomes. “If you approve it, it should be changed in the Zoning Code as not a forbidden use. Our community is against it. Val did a great job outreaching and she did reach a lot of community members and we respect their opinions, but this is more about going against something in Article 51 which is a forbidden use. If we’re changing it we should change Article 51.”

D’Isidoro said his group was opposed to the project be-

**ZBA Decisions**  
Continued on page 12

## Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



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**Deaths**

**BURKE**

Mary Ellen Age 69, died December 17, 2019, at Deutsches Altenheim, West Roxbury, from complications related to Alzheimer's disease. Mary Ellen was born in Boston on March 12, 1950, the third of fourteen children of Gerald F. and Helen (McColgan) Hughes of Dorchester. She is survived by her husband of 44 years, Thomas J. Burke, of West Roxbury, and by their three children: Matthew T. Burke and his wife Jennifer Rost of Falls Church, Virginia; Andrew J. Burke and his wife Stephanie Burke of Middleton; and Emily K. Burke of San Francisco, California. She is also survived by grandsons Aaron Jackson (AJ) and Austin Thomas and granddaughter Hannah Rose. Beloved sister of Anne M. James of Quincy; Gerald F. Hughes, Jr. of Chester, Virginia; Kathleen Manna of Franklin Lakes, New Jersey; Stephen J. Hughes of Dorchester; Christine F. Burke of Scarborough, Maine; Theresa C. Hughes of Dorchester; Michael R. Hughes of Braintree, Bernadette M. Connolly of Quincy; Laurette Hughes of East Hardwick, Vermont; Joseph C. Hughes of Coldwater, Michigan; Francis X. Hughes of Bristol, Rhode Island; Peter A. Hughes of Spencer; and the late John J. Hughes of Quincy. Also a loving aunt of many nieces and nephews.

Mary Ellen attended Saint William's School in Dorchester and Fontbonne Academy in Milton. She joined the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph after graduating from high school. After leaving the Congregation, she went to work at New England Telephone Company and enrolled at Boston College, where she met her future husband, Tom, in Music Appreciation class. After their marriage in 1975, they settled in West Roxbury, where she lived the rest of her life. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education in 1973 and added a Master's degree

from BC in 1979. Mary Ellen spent her entire working career after college as a teacher. She taught every elementary grade along the way, but dedicated most of her years to teaching at her favorite level, the first grade. She began at Saint William's School, and then moved to Holy Name School in West Roxbury. Following the births of her three children, she resumed her teaching career at the Collicot School in Milton, where for nearly thirty years she was one of the most popular and beloved elementary teachers ever. When Milton established its Teacher-of-the-Year honor in 2001, she was the overwhelming choice for first recipient. She enjoyed occasional trips abroad to places such as Ireland, England, and France. But her favorite leisure-time activity was visiting and traveling with her immediate and extended families, and being a doting grammy to her grandkids. The year-end holiday season, especially Thanksgiving, was her favorite time of the year. She was also active as a volunteer for several years in Saint Theresa's Parish, West Roxbury, where she was a member of the Parish Council and the Marriage Preparation Team.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated in Most Precious Church, 25 Maple St., Hyde Park, on Monday, Dec. 23, 2019.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a contribution in Mary Ellen's name to the Deutsches Altenheim Foundation, 2222 Centre Street, West Roxbury, MA 02132  
www.germancentre.org/donate/ or to Fontbonne Academy, 930 Brook Road, Milton, MA 02188  
www.fontbonneacademy.org/giving Lawler and Crosby Funeral Home. 617-323-5600

**DOOGAN**

Michael J. BPD Of West Roxbury, Dec. 17th. Devoted husband of the late Karen Marie (Shea) Doogan. Loving father of Colleen Kiesel & her

wife Samantha, Michael J. Doogan, Jr. and his partner Alexander Grant, Bridget Mary Doogan & her fiance Brendan Maciejko, Kathleen Alice Doogan & her partner Brandon Gonzalez and Liam Patrick Doogan and his partner Ashley Gomez, all of West Roxbury. Beloved son of Maureen (Grennon) and the late William E. Doogan. Brother of William E. Doogan, III & his wife Annette, Kevin & his wife Margie, Maureen McCabe & her husband John and Brenda and her husband Michael Norton. Loved by many nieces & nephews. Funeral Mass was held on Saturday, December 21st at St. Theresa of Avila Catholic Church, West Roxbury. Interment St. Joseph's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to Cops for Kids Cancer, P.O. Box 850956, Braintree, MA 02185. Guestbook at www.lawlerfuneralhome.com

**NOCCA**

Cosmo Of West Roxbury, died peacefully at home surrounded by his family, December 19, 2019, at age 91. Beloved husband of Nancy (Adam) Nocca and the late Elinor (Hall) Nocca. Loving father of Paul Nocca of Waltham, Kathleen Callahan and her husband Jack of Plymouth, Lori Egan of Norwood, and Lynne Towle and her husband Robert of Rockland. Devoted brother of Regina Norton of Norwalk, CA; Louis Nocca and his wife Pauline of Burlington and the late Paul Nocca and his surviving wife Margaret of Bridport, VT. Cherished grandfather of Kristin Pizzano, Kaitlyn and Joseph Galofaro Robert and Kimberly Towle, Christopher, Matthew and Jennifer Egan. Great-grandfather of Salvatore, Gianna, Charlette, PJ and Luciana. Also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Cosmo was the co-owner of Nocca Photography Studio. He was a U.S. Army Veteran, Korea, a life Member of the

**Deaths**

*Continued on page 11*

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for Weekday Services) \$4,100

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**Prayer to the Blessed Virgin**  
(Never known to fail!)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist 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 (three times). 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.  
—J.W.D.

# Deaths

Knights of Columbus, Council # 3049 West Roxbury, and a member of the 4th degree.

Funeral from the Robert J. Lawler and Crosby Funeral Home, 1803 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY, on Friday, Dec. 27, at 9:00am. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated in St. Theresa of Avila Church at 10:00am. Relatives and friends are invited to attend. Visiting Hours in the funeral home on Thursday, Dec. 26, from 4:00 to 8:00pm. Interment Old Westwood Cemetery.

Donations may be made in Cosmo's name to St. Theresa of Avila School, 40 St. Theresa Ave., West Roxbury, MA 02132, or to Grace Foundation, 655 Brawley School Rd. Suite 200, Mooresville, NC 28117. Lawler and Crosby Funeral Home. 617-323-5600

## ZOGRAPHOS



Georgia (Papadonis) Longtime resident of West Roxbury, December 20, 2019. Beloved wife of the late Peter A. Zographos. Devoted mother of Anthony Zographos and Sofia Sermos, both of Walpole, and Maria Zographos-Gatcomb and her husband George of ME. Loving Yiayia of Lynn, Diana, Peter, Christina, Plato "PJ", Georgianna, Austin. Also survived by many great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews. Sister-in-law of James Zographos. Visiting Hours at the P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 2000 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY on Thursday, December 26th from 4-8pm. Funeral from the Funeral Home on Friday, December 27th at 10am, followed by a Funeral Service at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Chapel, 162 Goddard Ave., Brookline at 11am. Relatives and friends kindly invited. Interment Forest Hills Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 30 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701. For directions and guestbook, pemurrayfuneral.com P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins George F. Doherty & Sons West Roxbury 617 325 2000

# 3326 Washington

*continued from page 5*

been with small, targeted groups in unadvertised sessions beginning on Dec. 19, 2018 with JP YIMBY (Yes In My Backyard). This was two months before the first community meeting on Feb. 21.

Since then Primary has held nine, small, unadvertised meetings particularly with Keepit100Egleston and the Union Avenue Neighborhood Association.

These haven't worked.

Marie Turley of Union Avenue N/A remains unsatisfied although she repeatedly said she "does not want to stop this project."

"Have you been in touch with the neighbors?" she asked. "Urban Edge is the most important [abutter]. You didn't meet with them in a timely manner."

"The neighbors are not getting a really good design," Turley said. "This project needs good design, affordability and neighborhood preservation."

Amateur historian Jenny Nathans of Meehan Street said she is with the Friends of the Schoolhouse.

She repeated what she insisted on at the Article 80 meeting that Primary Development use the BPDA-required affordability buy-out of \$100,000 and underwrite a national register nomination for the site and a complete documentation of the old school building on the site including an archaeological dig.

Komarin would not commit to this.

"This project has a lot of constraints," he said. "We can do a simple documentation but not a national register nomination."

Komarin would also not commit to a demand of Keepit100Egleston, also raised at the Article 80 meeting, that an anti-displacement survey be done of the Washington-Green St area.

But this has already been done.

In April 2015 the JP neighborhood council voted \$145,000 to City Life for a two-year anti-displacement survey of the Washington Street corridor. This was the community benefit from Boston Residential Group, which built the 161 South Huntington Avenue luxury apartments. BRG allowed the council to determine how that money would be spent.

City Life did not report back to the council on its findings.

Komarin said it has been a "difficult road."

"It's been a challenge to meet the affordability guidelines of JP Rox," he said. "The BPDA is satisfied with the level of affordability. The numbers of this project -23 percent - meet JP Rox guidelines."

"We are looking at funding sources, there are no public subsidies," he said.

Komarin explained that Primary is looking at a HUD program which would provide "back-story insurance" to allow for more favorable lending terms.

Adam Wehrkamp of Paul Gore St. is a Keepit100 Egleston supporter.

"Put the \$1080 you're giving for a years T pass into the anti-displacement canvas," he said. "\$1080 times 47 units is \$50,000."

"You're doing what you want to do not what the community is telling you what would benefit us."

"I feel some heat coming at me," Komarin said. "We'll sit down with the neighbors but we're in a difficult position. We've got to finance this building."

Royce drafted the customary committee comment letter to be sent to the BPDA.

Turley and Lionette wanted the anti-displacement canvas and historical register added to the letter.

"Put that in strong language," Lionette said.

Royce wrote that the committee supports housing at that corner and added those two requirements plus two others: one more affordable unit and deeper affordability by using the \$100,000 pay-out to reduce the AMI to 50 percent.

Reiskind said on Dec. 17 that the developers are not ready for a support letter and the full council agreed; the letter was sent to the executive committee for reconsideration.

Primary met with Urban Edge, which owns the adjacent 3322 and 3324 Washington St., both income-restricted apartment buildings, on Dec. 18.

After a year of community meetings, Primary does not have BPDA or Zoning Board of Appeal dates scheduled.

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# Birthday Remembrance

## Carol DeGiacomo

December 25, 1949



**You are always in our hearts,  
on your birthday and everyday**

*Love, Your Husband,  
Children & Grandchildren,  
brothers Billy & Paul*

## Community Investment *continued from page 3*

cate for the maintenance of the Neponset River, which stretches up through Dorchester from Hyde Park and Mattapan as well as nearby suburbs.

“It should be a whole coordinated effort and not piecemeal rationalities,” Tonge said. “Many of us have been here since the 1970s, and we are dealing with the same issues. We are at the point now where we are going to move on these issues. Your feedback needs to include the next steps.”

After hearing about the capital investment in the transportation plan, Tonge added, “We are capitaled out.”

Development was another concern, because the neighborhood is on a cul de sac. The addition of the Match Charter School has added to the transportation problem.

Tonge noted a traffic design study needs to be done, because kids have to run across the street from the bus stop to the school.

Also, she said, the proposed development at 46 Poydras St., which was withdrawn at the ZBA meeting on Nov. 12 because of the group’s advocacy efforts, would have added to the congestion.

Another concern that needs to be at “the top of the pyramid” is access to emergency services.

Tonge said the road is “not in compliance with federal, state and OSHA standards.”

David said he had seen the issue arise with his own eyes, when an ambulance had trouble accessing Poydras St.

Christopher Worrell, director of constituent services for Sen. Nick Collins, said he is trying to “tie all of the needs together” to see how the senator can help the community.

Collins supported the state funding of \$200,000 for the NAACP national convention, which will be held in Boston in late July.

Regarding education, neighbors questioned why there are seven charter schools in the immediate area, but admissions are done by a lottery, with no preference given to residents of the community in which they are located.

“Just have them do a map of your district, and you will see where all the charter schools are,” Baker Gomez said. “There’s a clear disparity, because they don’t have that problem anywhere else than communities of color. That’s a fact.”

Worrell said that issue needs to be addressed with the City Council rather than the state.

“When we look at the proximity of the schools, there’s no guarantee that students in this

neighborhood will be able to attend,” Tonge said. “It does not make sense.”

Worrell said he will invite the group’s board to meet with Collins “before April.”

Lewis suggested coordinating a date for meeting with public officials with a list of priorities to improve communication.

Members celebrated the withdrawal of the 46 Poydras St. proposal, which would have put a 15-unit, multi-family apartment building where a single-family house now stands.

The group was recognized at a workshop on Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Service’s for the opposition position paper they submitted.

“There were aides from several City Councilors’ offices there,” Baker Gomez said. “They wanted to know if a lawyer had prepared it. I felt comfortable that people realized the amount of work that went in the document.”

In other news, the Board announced its directors, who were elected earlier this fall. They are: Helena Tonge, Tim Fitzgerald, Ashley Tonge, Gladys Frias, Carrie Moorer, Sarah Duncan, Gloria Waters, Juanita Graves, Jowanna White and Elizabeth Rivers.

## ZBA Decisions *continued from page 9*

cause the vote from the ACA when the billboard was presented was 48-0 in opposition.

In Hyde Park, the Trinity Academy faced violations of its own but was still approved because it had the backing of many community members. The violations included freestanding signs being conditional, the ancillary use of the gymnasium is a condition and the floor-to-area ratio (FAR) was excessive.

Attorney representing Trinity Shaun Briere said the project was long overdue, as the school does not currently have

a gymnasium. But ZBA members were more concerned about the freestanding sign. Project Architect Christian Strom said the sign would just read the school’s name at the corner of Gordon and Hale Street.

“It’s about 30 inches by nine feet,” he said. “It’s not fully designed, sorry, but we’re looking at our fence height at four feet and we don’t want to be above the fence, so a maximum of four feet high.”

Hyde Park Representative for ONS Bryan Flynn said his office was in support of the

project, as the school had done extensive outreach for the project.


“There was a lengthy community process, and the administration did an excellent job in terms of reaching out to the community, under the headmaster Frank Guerra,” he said. “They did an excellent job; we held several meetings and there was no real vehement opposition from the community at all. The Trinity Academy has a very competitive basketball program, so we feel the gymnasium will be a wonderful asset for the children.”

Jessica Rodriguez, again representing At-Large City Councilor Anissa Essaibi-George, said Essaibi-George’s office was in support of the project, as well as Flaherty’s representative Paul Sullivan.

Resident and Trinity parent Tom Johnston said he lives nearby and was in support of the project as well.

“I’m speaking as a parent of a student and I attended all the community meetings and what I noticed and what I felt should be noted here is the members of the immediate community supported the proposal and have no stake in the school,” he said.

No one spoke in opposition.



### Notice of Public Meeting

Notice is hereby given that a Community Outreach Meeting for a Proposed Cannabis Establishment is scheduled for:

**Date:** Monday, January 6, 2020  
**Time:** 6:00PM  
**Location:** The Great Hall,  
 6 Norfolk St Dorchester, MA 02124

The Proposed Cannabis Establishment is anticipated to be located at:

**571B Washington St, Dorchester, MA 02124**

There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions.

If you have any questions about this meeting or have comments about the proposal please contact:

Christine Brandao  
 Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services  
 christine.brandao@boston.gov | 617-635-1880

Please note, the City does not represent the owner(s)/developer(s)/ attorney(s). The purpose of this meeting is to get community input and listen to the community’s positions on this proposal.

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The Ironworkers Training Center is an Equal Opportunity Training Recruiting Program.



## Legals

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
 The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department

**SUFFOLK Division** Docket No. **SUI9C0631CA**

**CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME** Suffolk Probate and Family Court  
 24 New Chardon St.  
 Boston, MA 02114  
 617-788-8300

**In the Matter of:** James DiGironimo  
 A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by  
**James DiGironimo of Hyde Park, MA**  
 requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:  
**James Christopher Martin**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m on the return day of 01/02/2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

**WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court**  
 Date: December 11, 2019  
 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

*Hyde Park Bulletin: 12/19/2019*

# Ordinance for voter registration moving forward



District 8 City Councilor Josh Zakim

**Jeff Sullivan**  
Staff Reporter

Despite the ordinance's lead sponsor having his last Boston City Council hearing last week, District 8 City Councilor Josh Zakim said he is happy with the progress the council is making on his ordinance to require landlords to provide voter registration forms to new residents.

"We have several landlords in our city, particularly in Mission Hill, who already do this," he said. "It's not much of a burden on them, it's easy and a good way to increase participation, as we see a new member of this body coming on having won by one vote in the citywide election, so every vote counts and removing those barriers to access is incredibly important."

The Council voted that the ordinance remain in committee, and Zakim said he believes At-Large City Councilors Michelle Wu and Government Operations Committee Chair Michael Flaherty will be able to get the ordinance through in 2020.

"There's a few technical tweaks that I will entrust to Councilor Wu and Councilor Flaherty to bring forward in the new term around enforcement and data gathering, but I think we're in agreement with the administration that this is something that can and should be done in the City of Boston."

The Council held a hearing before the regular council meeting and discussed the types of rental units not included in the ordinance, which currently include units where the landlord owns fewer than three units and resides in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, rental units in a nonprofit facility, rental units in a health facility and any unit held in trust on behalf of a developmentally disabled person.

The ordinance states that any landlord would be provided registration documents by the Boston Department of Neighborhood

Development (DND), and would have to provide them within 30 days of signing a lease. DND would be able to levy a fine against a landlord who does not cooperate, up to \$100.

DND Director of Operations Marcy Ostberg spoke during the hearing, and said she's in favor of the the proposal, as it would have the potential to increase voter turnout and civic engagement in the city.

"I think we all recognize that renters are less likely to register and to vote than homeowners, which leads to renters' voices being underrepresented," she said. "According to one recent study using census data, just 49 percent of renters cast a ballot in 2016, compared to 67 percent of homeowners."

But she said the devil is in the detail and she felt the implementation could be a problem.

While we support this goal of expanding voter registration, especially the registration of tenants, we have some concerns about how the ordinance proposes to implement this," she said. "This is a huge undertaking, according to 2018 ACS data, there are over 180,000-renter occupied units in Boston. After a review of the exemptions and the requirements, we do not feel we have sufficient data to accurately determine which units and landlords are covered by the ordinance and which are exempt."

She said it would be difficult to accurately determine which landlords own three or fewer units in Boston or live in Massachusetts but do not claim a real estate property tax exemption or other residential property.

"In addition, DND is not set up to levy and collect fines," she said. "While we work closely with landlords and tenants through our Office of Housing Stability, the work is of a different nature. We do not have currently any authority or infrastructure to levy or collect fines.

# CM Students sing at Sophia Snow



Recently, the Catholic Memorial Chorale and the Baker Street Boys visited and sang to senior citizens at Sophia Snow Place in West Roxbury.

COURTESY PHOTO

Also we have no way to know when a lease is signed or renewed, or a verbal agreement is agreed to in terms of at-will rentals. We would have to rely on residents submitting a complaint and investigating that complaint."

She said, however, the office does support the idea of requiring voter registration materials be handed out to renters.

"Getting more renters to vote is a great and worthy goal, we're just concerned about being able to implement it," she said.

Flaherty pointed out that DND already distributes notices to landlords to give out to tenants, usually regarding renters rights, lead paint notices etc., but Ostberg said while they do hand those out, it is not a requirement that they be handed to the renter.

"We don't have any requirements, but we do have materials available and we work hard to distribute those to make sure everyone is aware of their rights as tenants and as landlords," she said. "We have that on our website and maybe there is something there to add to information about voting, but it's not a requirement and we don't have any fines or collect any fees."

Zakim said he appreciated that DND does not have the infrastructure for fines, and said he knows in Seattle, where this is already a law, the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) of the city currently enforces the ordinance.

"Currently, Boston's ISD already enforces quite a bit of tenant landlord interaction requirements, so to speak, so perhaps that's a change that could occur," he said. I think we would want ISD in the room for that."

## Holiday Gift Ideas

\$ 6 Basic Washes \$40

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WAVES



# Classifieds

# Letters *continued from page 4*

**Small World Child Care** has been a leader in early childhood education for over 20 years! At this moment, our **West Roxbury** location is looking for an **EEC Certified Infant Teacher** that is creative, nurturing and who is passionate about working with children and their families. If you are an educator that is looking for an opportunity to work with infants then we would like to hear from you!

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## Legals

### Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Prime Storage - Hyde Park located at 1641 Hyde Park Ave., Hyde Park, MA 02136 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via [www.storage-treasures.com](http://www.storage-treasures.com) on 1/13/2020 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Darlene Bryant unit #1024; Roselice Louis Charles unit #1066; Kayode Awoyemi unit #20843. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

*Hyde Park Bulletin: 12/26/19, 01/02/20*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department  
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. **SU19P2070PM**  
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 §5-405

**In the matter of: Allison Devonish** **RESPONDENT**  
**Of: West Roxbury, MA** **(Person to be Protected/Minor)**

To The named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Stonehedge Rehabilitation and Skill Center of West Roxbury, MA

In the above captioned matter alleging that **Allison Devonish** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Jonathan J. Davey, Esq. of Quincy, MA**

(or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **Without Corporate Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the Court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that the protective order or appointment of Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed Conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

**You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00A.M. on the return date of **01/02/2020**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

**Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court**

December 10, 2019

Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate *West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 12/26/2019*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. **SU19P2657EA**

**Estate of: Blanche T. Guzowski** **Suffolk Probate and Family Court**  
**24 New Chardon St.**

**Date of Death: 10/11/2019** **Boston, MA 02114**  
**617-788-8300**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by:

**Paul Kosciolk of Lowell, MA**

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that:

**Paul Kosciolk of Lowell, MA**

be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised administration**.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **01/23/2020**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

**WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.**

Date: December 12, 2019

Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

*Hyde Park Bulletin: 12/26/2019*

pediatric cancer research. Pediatric cancer continues to be one of the least funded illnesses. The National Cancer Institute only dedicates 4% percent of its annual budget to childhood cancer. The result is that children are dying every day waiting for promising new treatments that lack funding. We are grateful to those who are working towards a cure, and we will continue to support their efforts.

We appreciate all you do and wish you a wonderful holiday season!

*Anna's Pals  
West Roxbury*

### GIVE CREDIT WHERE DUE FOR QUITTING NICOTINE

*To the Editor:*

This holiday season, I'd like to remind readers to thank a co-worker, friend or family member who has quit vaping, smoking, or using other tobacco products. Many users say quitting is the hardest thing they have ever done and any amount of recognition can help some-

one stay quit.

Nicotine is the very addictive substance in tobacco and many vape products. As a result, repeated tobacco and nicotine use is not a habit, it's an addiction that should be treated as a chronic relapsing condition. It takes most people with a nicotine addiction several tries to quit for good. So reach out to those who have conquered this addiction. Let them know you are proud of how hard they're working to better their wellbeing. Thank them for improving their health and the health of the people around them.

Even though the holidays can be a tough time to quit, they are a great time to support your friends and loved ones who are trying to quit vaping, smoking or other tobacco products. Even if they have tried quitting in the past, encourage them to keep trying – they learn something new every time they try to quit. And share with them the many resources available in MA to help them reach their goal.

The most effective way to

quit is to use FDA-approved medicines and coaching support together. Nicotine users of all kinds can call 1-800-QUT NOW (1-800-784-8669) for free coaching from the Massachusetts Smokers' Helpline through phone, web, and text 24 hours each day, seven days a week (except Thanksgiving and Christmas) or enroll online through [KeepTryingMA.org](http://KeepTryingMA.org). Adults who work with a coach can now receive up to eight weeks of free nicotine patches, gum or lozenges (with medical eligibility) through the Smokers' Helpline.

Smokers and vapers who get support and use medicines to quit are nearly three times as likely to quit for good as those who try to quit on their own. Quitting is hard—give thanks to someone in your life for quitting or for trying to quit. Every email, text message, phone call, or encouraging word makes a difference.

*Edgar Duran Elmudesi,  
MSW*

*Metro Boston Tobacco-Free Community Partnership*

## BFD rings a different bell



*Boston Fire Department Chief Joseph Flynn joined the Salvation Army recently, along with several other Boston City Officials, to ring the bell and help out the Salvation Army at the Boston City Hall.*

PHOTO BY BFD



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Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked You for many favours. This time, I ask you this very special one (mention favour). Take it, dear Heart of Jesus, and place it within Your own broken heart where Your Father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes, it will become Your favour, not mine. Amen. Say for three days, promise publication and favour will be granted.

—S.G.H.

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