

The Hyde Park Bulletin

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November 5, 2020



The Zoning Board of Appeals approved a chicken coop in West Roxbury and this larger structure on Market Street in Brighton.

COURTESY PHOTO



Msgr. Frank Kelley

Msgr. Kelley steps down as pastor

Mary Ellen Gambon
Staff Reporter

Msgr. Frank Kelley has left an indelible imprint on Sacred Heart's parish and school and Roslindale itself during his three decades as pastor. During his tenure, he has worked to knit together a diverse community that has seen rapid expansion.

Sitting in the parish library on Oct. 30, he reflected on his time as the church's spiritual leader, his 52 years in the priesthood and the legacy he will leave behind. He noted that he is not retiring but will be reassigned as a head priest at another Boston church, as yet unknown, where he will pass on his knowledge.

Kelley Steps Down
Continued on page 10

Chickens finally home to roost in West Roxbury

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) met on Tuesday, Oct. 27 and heard cases for projects in West Roxbury, Roslindale and Brighton.

Most notably, or at least most uniquely for a ZBA meeting, the Board approved a new chicken coop in West Roxbury for six chickens at 27 Montclair Ave. Readers may remember a serious controversy at the West Roxbury Neighborhood Council (WRNC) three years ago when residents on Corey Street tried to get approval for their chicken coop after the fact of installing it, as some neighbors

had taken issue with the installation.

Variances required for the project include keeping of poultry is a forbidden use, rear yard maximum occupancy by accessory buildings cannot exceed 25 percent and application of dimensional requirements for accessory buildings in side or rear yard. Owner and proponent Francesco Peri said the coop would attach to the rear of his garage, added there would be only hens in the building.

ZBA member Mark Erlich said the plans appeared adequate, or as adequate as any other plans for chicken coops he has seen before.

"I suppose adequate would be the best word," he said with

a laugh.

Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Service West Roxbury Representative Jack Duggan said his office, as well as the WRNC are in support. At-Large City Councilor Annessa Essaibi-George and District 6 City Councilor Matt O'Malley both supported the proposal.

ZBA Secretary Mark Fortune said there was one letter in opposition, citing concerns regarding avian flu.

Also in West Roxbury, the ZBA approved a proposal for multi-family housing at 4 Anawan Ave. The proposal is for eight units with eight parking spaces. The variances requested are to provide zoning relief for insufficient floor-to-area ratio

(0.5 allowed, 1.1 proposed) excessive height in stories (2.5 allowed, 3 proposed), rear yard insufficient, multi-family use forbidden, and insufficient parking (16 required, eight proposed).

Attorney John Pulgini said that there was not too much opposition to the project in West Roxbury.

"We had done several abutters meeting and worked with residents with respect to dimensional setbacks and things like that and they were pleased with where the proposal was after those meetings," he said.

District 5 City Councilor

ZBA

Continued on page 6

Primary revises plans for 3326 Washington

Richard Heath
Staff Reporter

A year after filing its Small Project Notification for a five-story, 47-unit building at 3326 Washington Street, and eight months after COVID-19 stopped any further actions, Primary Development came back on Oct. 26 at a second Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) hearing with substantially revised plans.

A lot has changed in the public process too; this meeting was held virtually and had the usual mix of technical difficulties that frustrated even

the normally unflappable BPDA project manager Aisling Kerr.

Callers were annoyed too. One wanted the meeting stopped and rescheduled.

"The meeting is already limiting participation," he said.

What didn't change was that the same people opposed the development.

After two July meetings with the BPDA, Primary released a supplementary filing on Sept. 28 that triggered the second Article 80 meeting.

3326 Washington
Continued on page 2



The site of Jamaica Plain Glass that Primary plans to build on.

PHOTO BY RICHARD HEATH

3326 Washington *continued from page 1*

This was the first of what will not be the last post-Covid design change for Boston developments.

The Supplement stated it in the opening paragraph.

“The ongoing challenges of post-COVID-19 and its long-term impact on our cities and our way of life necessitated these changes.”

The number of rental apartments has been reduced from 47 to 43 but the number of affordable units remains at 11 (23 percent), three of which will be at 30 percent Area Me-

dian Income (AMI).

The second significant change is the original 2,600-square-foot ground floor commercial space has been eliminated.

Noting in particular that next-door Exodus Bagels was one of the first victims of COVID-19, Primary’s Jenny Shen said this caused them to rethink its ground floor.

“Even before the pandemic, there was a loss of retail on Washington Street,” she said. “We walked up and down Washington St and we didn’t

think adding a retail space was a good idea. It could stay vacant for a year or more.”

Instead, Primary has come up with a flexible ground floor living space concept that can be converted to commercial use when the economy improved.

Marie Mercurio was one of the 41 callers in the virtual meeting and she agreed with Shen.

“I know from personal experience that with retail vacancies the way they are, both lenders and investors may be

reluctant to finance this project,” she said.

“Primary might also run the risk of defaulting on its loan if the space sits empty for multiple years. I like the flexibility to convert a market rate unit to commercial in two years.”

Wyatt Komarin of Primary discussed the changes in the living spaces. “The post-Covid design of living space is the topic I want to talk about tonight,” he said. “This is a design for livability. There’s 25 percent more flexible space, workspace within the unit. This could be for childcare, a den or office. Half of the units now have private outdoor balconies with planters for growing flowers or vegetables. The balconies have been increased from the last design.”

Shen added that apartment life has changed.

“This year has asked our apartments to do more,” she said. “These changes reflected those design changes in our living spaces. We don’t know what the future will look like right now.”

Komarin described the evolution of the design.

“We’ve improved and enlarged the set backs,” he said. “They’re larger, more private terraces. A larger lobby for more social distancing as well.”

Primary is the designer with Spaulding-Tougias as architect-of-record.

“There will be no commercial space but double height windows on the street looking in to the Turnpike Gallery,” Komarin said.

Shen added that the site history has not been forgotten

“There will be a history gallery of the schoolhouse, a large gallery visible from the street.”

According to the supplementary filing, the Turnpike Gallery will be used as a lounge and gallery. It will house physical artifacts, architectural drawings and a history of the neighborhood.

Komarin said that the affordable rental units will be a mix and scattered throughout the five-story building,

“Three are 30 percent AMI and four each at 50 percent and 70 percent AMI,” he said. He said market rents would range

from \$2,700 to \$3,600 depending on the unit size.

With a handful of exceptions, notably Tim Reardon and Marc Ebuna who spoke enthusiastically in support, none of this was acceptable to those who gave testimony at the meeting; it was as if they didn’t hear it.

There were lengthy arguments over affordability percentages but largely opposed by the ad hoc Friends of the Turnpike Schoolhouse, led by Jenny Nathans.

“The Friends are concerned about working class people,” she said, “About housing for working class people. We want more two-bedroom units. Change the IDP formula.

“The mitigation for the schoolhouse is insufficient,” she said. “We want no demolition until you have a building permit.”

Nathans then raised the financial contribution first raised at the November Article 80 meeting: \$5,000 for a national register nomination and \$10,000 for an anti-displacement survey.

George Lee pressed for the \$10,000 anti-displacement drive.

“\$10,000 is little pocket change,” he said.

Komarin reminded callers of the high number of affordable units which will be funded without subsidies.

“The 23 percent affordability is far and above any contribution you could argue,” he said.

Shen added, “We can do some of these things but not all of them.”

“The biggest community benefit is the lobby museum,” she said.

In a message to the Bulletin the next day, Primary said that construction costs were almost 30 percent more expensive than when Plan JP Rox was approved in 2017.

“As far as entitlements and community process, we are well into six figures to pay staff, consultants, legal and property tax. It’s extremely expensive to get a building permit in Boston.”

Primary told The Bulletin it would discuss with BPDA whether to build out the museum or donate an equivalent amount to a BPDA participatory fund.



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—S.G.H.

Miracle Prayer

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.

Steven Palladino dies in prison

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

West Roxbury resident and convicted Ponzi schemer Steven Palladino has reportedly died receiving medical treatment while in custody.

Palladino was serving out his sentence at the Massachusetts Corrections Institution and had apparently been brought to a local hospital to receive medical treatment on a long-term medical condition. It was at this hospital where he apparently passed. There is currently no word on the cause of death at the time of publication.

Palladino pleaded guilty to the ponzi scheme in 2014 and was sentenced to 10 years in state prison. He was then ordered to serve two years in federal court after he pleaded guilty to 25 counts of criminal contempt in the U.S. District Court in Boston in 2015, after he had violated court orders.

Those orders were imposed as a result of the Securities Exchange Commission's civil case where he had incurred thousands of dollars in credit card charges and



Steven Palladino

cash advances – including charges at high-end restaurants and department stores – and did not deposit the proceeds of said cash advances into an escrow account established by the court.

His son Gregory Palladino was sentenced to two years in the Suffolk House of Correction and five years of probation. His wife Lori Palladino, who admitted to keeping false accounting books of the company Viking Financial, got a two-year suspended sentence and five years of probation.

It is believed that \$12 million was ultimately defrauded from investors, and not more than 10 percent of that money has been found to return to investors.



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Needed: a paean to the COVID-19 vaccine

Granted, it's too early to talk about the distribution of a COVID-19 flu vaccine; perhaps it's too early to even speculate about its actual creation. But when—and I'm too scared to say "if"—it comes, we've got to pay tribute to it and to the hard-working scientists who created it.

Admittedly, "paean" is a strange word. It means a fitting tribute, usually in poetry. But it is pronounced, identically according to some pronunciation guides, to another word that has a derogatory meaning, "peon." The latter means someone very low on a totem pole of society, either in feudal times or in our modern times.

Let's get back to "paean," which can be musical. While just about every female name has a song mentioning her name as a source of admiration (except for Sue vis a vis "Run Around Sue" and Donna vis a vis "Donna, Donna, the Primadonna"), there are also a number of musical tributes to inanimate objects.

There are "Grandfather's Clock," "This Diamond Ring," and "Grandma's Feather Bed"—all from differing musical genres—that come immediately to mind extolling inanimate objects.

Even the air has been respected with songs dedicated to it: "The Wayward Wind" and "The Autumn Wind."

Dances have been similarly acclaimed: "The Twist" and "The Macarena."

There are songs that praise the seasons: "When Fall Comes to New England" and "Those Lazy, Crazy, Hazy Days of Summer."

There are tributes to rivers: "Ol' Man River" and "The Beautiful Ohio."

Some songs praise buildings: "This Old House" and "YMCA."

There are songs in which precipitation is the theme: "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head" and "I Wish It Would Rain."

There are songs about home: "Green, Green Grass of Home" and "Homeward Bound" and even songs about



My Kind of Town/ Joe Galeota

much-despised prisons: "San Quentin" and "Folsom Prison."

Some songs praise communities: small such as "Luckenbach, Texas"; a little bit larger, "Abilene"; and very large, "New York, New York." Other songs laud areas: "Old Cape Cod" and "Red River Valley"; others have high praise for states: "Country Roads" (West Virginia) and "Oklahoma."

There has been music extolling methods of transportation: for instance, boats: "Proud Mary" and "Sloop John B"; about cars, "Little Deuce Coup," and "Hot Rod Lincoln"; about trains, "Wabash Cannonball" and "Atchison, Topeka, and the Santa Fe."

Praise has been lavished on the moon, "Allegheny Moon" and "Blue Moon over Kentucky," as well as on the sun, "Let the Sunshine in" and "Here Comes the Sun."

Let's hope that the creative members of music all over the world as well as our own ASCAP community (American Society of Composers, Artists, and Publishers) are putting their minds together to create a wonderful song—perhaps even a hymn—that we can sing for years to come, nay decades, as we recall the victims to the pandemic and our resiliency to it as well as to the scientists who accomplished the herculean task of stopping it.

We'll be waiting.

Legal Notice

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department	
SUFFOLK Division	Docket No. SU19D2600DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING Victoria Lorole vs. Aly Savane	
Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114	
To the Defendant:	
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.	
You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Victoria Lorole, 42 Warren Ave., Hyde Park, MA 02136 your answer, if any, on or before 11/18/2020. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.	
Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. September 9, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate	
Hyde Park Bulletin: 11/05/2020	

DROPPING EXAMS IS NOT THE ANSWER

To the Editor:

As I read last week's Boston Bulletin (Exams temporarily eliminated for exam schools), I was saddened and angered to hear that the appointed Boston School Committee has voted to temporarily suspend the use of exams at the city's three exam schools. I believe the city has no intention of ever returning to exams.

The new method of entry into these three schools includes both grades for 20 percent of the seats and 80 percent basically by virtue of zip codes of students. This all sounds like politics all over again. Also, correct me but I thought redlining was a bad thing but here we are in 2020 talking about upping admission to the two Latins and the John D. O'Bryant in certain neighborhoods using zip codes and lowering admissions in other neighborhoods and zip codes.

Tell me if I am wrong. Isn't this what the real estate industry was accused of doing by dividing neighborhoods based on race 60 years ago playing a very racist game with homeowners?

As someone involved in the anti-busing movement back in my younger days in the Seventies, I remember Judge W. Arthur Garrity's desegregation court order that ended up forcing children onto buses on the basis of race in order to make sure every school had the appropriate number of children based on their skin color.

His order had nothing to do with making sure every Boston public school provided its students with the best books, best teachers; in short, the best education possible regardless of neighborhood or student skin color. However, that wasn't the judge's responsibility. His job was racial balance, not equity of education. And that was all he accomplished.

Jumpstart to today. If there is any perceived racial disparity stopping more children of all races getting into exam

schools, shouldn't we be looking at what is happening in the classrooms of our elementary and middle schools citywide?

Why are East Boston and the Codman Square of Dorchester underrepresented in the student bodies at the three exam schools? Why is the opposite true over in West Roxbury? Could it be that some Boston neighborhood schools are providing students with less than they deserve? Does the Boston Public Schools need to invest more in places like East Boston or Codman Square in Dorchester? Statistics seem to point in that direction.

We do a disservice to Boston children by eliminating exam schools. Also, what is not discussed is the dropout rate at the exam schools for children from various neighborhoods. This again would point a finger at those elementary and middle schools that feed into all our high schools with or without entry exams.

In conclusion, I saw two newspaper photos taken concerning exam schools. One photo showed a student-age female holding a placard that read, "Accept me for my brains - not my zip code" and the second photo showed a young woman with a placard that read: "BPS = 14% white, BLS = 44 % white, by...chance?"

The real answer to the question isn't dropping exams because you don't like the admission stats at exam schools and it shouldn't matter what zip code you live in. Our exam schools are there for all our students regardless where they attended elementary or middle school. Our job is making sure the education provided in the classroom is the same in every classroom in the entire school system regardless of zip code address.

Sal Giarratani
East Boston

THE DIVISIVE ONE

To the Editor:

As of this writing, it is not known if the current US President, frequently referred to as

the "divisive one," will remain in office. If not reinstated however, it appears we have a local politician ready to adopt the title of the "divisive one." I'm referring to a quote made by City Councilor Arroyo and recorded by the Bulletin reporter in the Oct. 29, 2020 issue of this paper. The article, "Social Justice Forum" brought up the subject of neighborhood organizations and "Arroyo mentioned that, in groups where people of color were primarily present, "racial justice was issue number one, two and three. But in neighborhood groups where almost everyone was white, they talked about development." Taken in context, it is obvious to the reader that the Councilor's mission at this forum was to belittle white residents' attempt to address significant and blatant flaws in the zoning process of local proposals for the large apartment buildings in Hyde Park. The first sentence in his quote can be accepted as appropriate, though probably not correct as will be explained in this letter. But he could not restrain his divisive impulses to utter the second sentence in his quote. As referred to earlier, this is a syndrome which also afflicts the sitting U.S. President. Let me remind the Councilor that some of those neighborhood organizations which he indicates preference, have persistently addressed development proposals in efforts to stabilize quality of life in the adjoining neighborhoods. These laudable efforts in opposition to some large egregious proposals on streets such as River Street and American Legion and Cummings Highways have been well documented in this paper.

Those "neighborhood groups where almost everyone is white" have been opposing City Hall and developers from illicitly putting up large apartment buildings as of right and thus evading their obligation to include a percentage of affordable units.

The Councilor claims this subject of affordability to be a priority for him yet we cannot get him to move. As his quote indicates he's annoyed by the topic of developments from such groups. May this writer suggest he actually display some effort to assist said groups in rectifying these gross improprieties. That is why he was employed by the residents of Hyde Park and, once fixed, these groups can focus their attentions elsewhere.

Craig Martin
Hyde Park

Letters to the Editor

Novena to St. Clare

Ask St. Clare for three favors, 1 business, 2 impossible. Say nine Hail Marys for nine days, with lighted candle. Pray whether you believe or not. Publish on the ninth day. Powerful novena. Say "May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, glorified, now and forever, throughout the whole world. Amen." *Your request will be granted, no matter how impossible it may seem.*

—S.G.H.

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, worker of miracles, 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.

—S.G.H.



Food pantries in Boston, like the Rose's Bounty in West Roxbury, are seeing a large uptick in demand going into the fall and winter months.

COURTESY PHOTO

Food pantries experience explosion in demand face holiday worries

Mary Ellen Gambon
Staff Reporter

With the COVID-19 pandemic, local food pantries have seen an exponential rise in demand as people have suffered from unemployment, illness and loss of family contact. The pantries, in turn, have been facing their own challenges, from ordering issues to a lack of physical space, and the need is expected to mount with the upcoming holiday season.

In some cases, local officials and area businesses have stepped in, providing funding and food. But all pantry organizers agree that money and volunteers are critical to keep up with the demand as COVID-19 rates are spiking.

In Roslindale, Rosemary Braverman has been running the Roslindale Food Pantry for the past 26 years. She originally started as a volunteer.

"I used to just be the person who got the food," according to

Braverman. "But when the director stepped down years ago, no one else wanted to do it. I felt like I had to step up, even though I prefer a behind-the-scenes role."

The food pantry, which runs out of the Roslindale Congregational Church at 25 Cummins Hwy., normally served 50 families every Saturday before the pandemic. That number exploded to about 200 families once COVID hit.

Food Pantries
Continued on page 7

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35 Coffey Street, #2	Dorchester	\$651,000	1218 VFW Parkway, #53	West Roxbury	\$418,000
112-114 Centre Street	Jamaica Plain	\$1,150,000	41 Woodard Road	West Roxbury	\$829,900
46 Forest Hills Street, #3	Jamaica Plain	\$580,000	1210 VFW Parkway, #1	West Roxbury	\$450,000
46 Forest Hills Street, #1	Jamaica Plain	\$573,000	55 Church Street	West Roxbury	\$1,001,000
46 Forest Hills Street, #2	Jamaica Plain	\$565,000	3 Burrwood Road	West Roxbury	\$712,000
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30 Florida Street	Marshfield	\$360,000	4975 Washington Street	West Roxbury	\$363,000
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Council wants BPS to equalize curriculum standards

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Boston City Council met recently and voted to call for a hearing with the Boston Public Schools (BPS) District to try to implement consistent curriculum standards for all schools in the district.

At-Large City Councilor and Chair of the Committee on Education Anissa Essaibi-George said it seems that the curriculum and degree of rigor varies greatly across the BPS' schools.

"It's clear to me that we need to think about our curriculum holistically and district-wide," she said. "We need high-quality schools in every neighborhood that are well-resourced to meet the needs of our complex district. Our students should not have to have wildly different expe-

riences because our schools are lacking certain resources. Our students should have a well-rounded education at every level and every school so they have opportunities to explore who they are and what they can do in this world."

Essaibi-George said that standardizing the curriculum at earlier levels like pre-K and elementary school grades could lead to more students achieving better outcomes later on.

"When we think about the recent exam school debate, we must keep in mind that providing high-quality education to our pre-k and elementary students will set them up for a lifetime of success, whether or not they attend one of our exam schools," she said. "Those are the critical years for developing the fundamental skills for lifelong learn-

ing." Essaibi-George said all schools should have decent offerings of not only quality reading and math skills, but also for art and social learning as well, as the skills needed to learn are not developed simply through reading and solving math problems.

"We also must ensure that when our students graduate high school they have some degree of personal financial literacy, can swim, understand health and wellness needs and are ready to be adults in the world," she said. "There is so much more work we can do to ensure that our schools are equipped to provide a holistic education to all our students."

At-Large City Councilor Julia Mejia said that she has experience in the BPS educational system, as she has had a child in the district for the last five years.

"This is exactly the type of leadership we have been yearning for and I'm happy to see that we're going to finally address issues around some of the inequalities that have existed and persisted in the BPS for far too long," she said.

Mejia said she is happy to help elevate the voices of parents and students who have often been left out of the conversation.

"I'm really happy that the exam schools have given us an opportunity to have this very important conversation and I look forward to engaging, organizing and bringing parents into the fold so we can finally have some restorative justice," she said.

ZBA *continued from page 1*

Ricardo Arroyo's Office and Michael Flaherty's Office went on record in support of the project, as well as Roslindale Office of Neighborhood Services Representative Joseph Coppinger.

In Brighton, the Board voted unanimously to approve four additional stories at 421-425 Market St. for more housing on top of existing commercial, creating a mixed-use building with 23 units. The proponents are seeking variances for multi-family dwelling as a conditional use, FAR excessive, building height excessive, rear yard insufficient, screening and buffering insufficient and offstreet parking and loading requirements insufficient.

Attorney Jeff Drago of Drago and Toscano said owner Henry Chin has been going through the city process for abutters meetings as well as the Boston Planning and Development Agency's (BPDA) Article 80 Small Project Review Process.

"This project was approved by the BPDA Board in August of 2020," he said.

Drago said in meeting with the community, it was felt that some sort of retail should remain in that space, but nothing that would need any parking.

"It would be more walk-in traffic, and so we were thinking something like a yoga studio, bakery, or something more for the residents who live there," he said.

ZBA Secretary Mark Fortune said there were 89 letters of support and one letter of opposition, which he said was concerned about traffic. Boston Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services Allston Brighton Representative Conor Newman and District 9 City Councilor Liz Breadon were in support of the proposal, as well as the Brighton Allston Improvement Association.

In Roslindale, neighborhood opposition to one project saw the ZBA vote to deny a proposal for two townhouses at 3-5 Meyer St. A developer was proposing to knock down the two-family home sitting there now and replace it with two townhouses. Variances for the project include two or more dwellings on the same lot not allowed, a dwelling shall not be built to the rear of another dwelling, lot frontage and front yard insufficient, and improper location of a main entrance.

Attorney John Pulgini represented applicant Joe DeSipio, said they have two addresses because the townhouses will take up two lots. He added each dwelling will have one garage parking space a piece, with on-street parking for visitors.

Pulgini said the main entrance will be facing perpendicular from the street and one townhouse will be behind the other. He added they have also had four meetings with neighbors and abutters.

"They were very respectful conversations with the abutters, they were always respectful and courteous, however, with four revisions to these plans, we just couldn't get a consensus and get agreement with the abutters," he said. "I included seven letters of support. However, in the effort of full disclosure, none of those letters are from contiguous abutters. Direct abutters yes, contiguous abutters no."

The Mayor's Office spoke in opposition to the project, as well as District 4 City Councilor Andrea Campbell's office, as well as 20 letters from resident in opposition and 430 signatures in opposition to the project.

Legal Notice

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE **DOCKET No. SU20P1971EA**

Estate of: **Misha Lee Woodward** **Suffolk Division**
Also Known As:
Date of Death: **September 23, 2020**

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of
Petitioner: **Richard L Woodward of Kansas City, MO**
Petitioner: **Barbara K Woodward of Kansas City, MO**

Richard L Woodward of Kansas City, MO
Barbara K Woodward of Kansas City, MO

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Boston Bulletin: 11/05/2020

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Food Pantries *continued from page 5*

“And since COVID, we also go to the Longfellow House and deliver 150 meals every Monday to the seniors there,” she added. The food pantry is entirely run by volunteers who pick up the food, box it and give it out to recipients, the same as other food pantries.

Altogether, it gives out more than 25,000 pounds of food from a number of sources, Braverman explained. Wegman’s in Chestnut Hill, Target in Roslindale and Star Market contribute food twice a week, while a local bagel bakery and Roche Bros. make a weekly donation. This is on top of food provided by the Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB), which supplies all food pantries.

“The Target gives us about two vans full of food a week,” she said. “The Wegman’s gives lots of fresh bread, pastries, fruit, and prepared salads that we give to the seniors in the Longfellow House.”

These local donations were helpful because of ordering challenges with the GBFB, which was inundated with requests. Braverman later learned she had to order between 8,000 and 10,000 pounds of food a week because of a shift in the ordering policy.

“It’s costing me a fortune – \$600 a month – because now I have to rent a big truck,” she said. “And it’s hard to find volunteers to unload it because the truck is so big and our site has so many stairs.”

For more information, please contact roslindalefoodpantry@gmail.com.

In West Roxbury, Rose’s Bounty has been running a food pantry since 2015 at the Stratford Street United Church, which converted to a drive-up during COVID-19. But it also has faced its share of obstacles, according to board member Larry Costello.

“We are so happy to have a home at St. Stephen’s, but the church’s electrical system hasn’t been updated since it was built in 1953,” he said. “We didn’t have the capacity to refrigerate the perishables.”

“From April to September of 2019, we distributed more than 110,000 pounds of food from the GBFB,” he continued. “But during the same time frame this year, it was more than double that – 249,076 pounds.”

In response to the needs of food pantries, in June, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts announced the FY 21 Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program. The program’s mission is to strengthen food delivery measures. Costello, with the support of state Sen. Mike Rush and Rep. Ed Coppinger, applied to the program and won an \$18,300 grant, which Rose’s Bounty will receive this month.

The funds will be used to create an insulated cooling room with additional refrigerators and freezers, as well as to upgrade the elec-

trical infrastructure.

Darra Slagle, Rose’s Bounty’s executive director, said that “one of the lights in the darkness” during COVID has been the way that the pantry has worked to connect people.

“We have been reaching out to homebound neighbors,” she said. “We’ve also been building connections with Ethos, the Italian Home and Councilor Matt O’Malley’s office to reach people who need food.”

Although there has been tremendous community support, one thing Slagle lamented is that, because school has been virtual, the pantry has been short of student volunteers, who provide “enthusiasm and muscle.”

She also said that Rose’s Bounty will not be able to provide Thanksgiving turkeys, but will offer all of the other fixings.

All of the food pantries are feeling the strain right now, Slagle added.

“I don’t think any of us can keep this up at the pace we’re going at right now,” she said.

For more information about Rose’s Bounty, please visit www.rosesbounty.org. Rose’s Bounty serves residents of West Roxbury, Roslindale, Hyde Park, Mattapan and Jamaica Plain.

The Hyde Park Food Pantry had to find a new site twice, according to director Joe Consalvo, at a time when it was of its greatest service to neighborhood resi-

dents.

“I’ve been running it for 16 years now,” he said, noting that he took over when his predecessor, Bob Consalvo, stepped down. “I totally got roped into it, but it became a family affair with my kids volunteering.”

Earlier this year, the Hyde Park Community Center, or “the Muni,” where the food pantry is hosted, had to close because of substantial water damage.

“There were leaks in the walls which caused mold issues,” Consalvo said. “Robert Hickey, the Muni director, was able to contact the Boston Prep Charter School, so we were really lucky. They donated the use of the lower level, and we were able to distribute several tons of food from there.”

When the school planned to reopen, the food pantry got moved to the former King’s Chinese Restaurant at 1203 River St. for several weeks this fall.

Consalvo this week returned to a totally refurbished site, thanks to funding provided by Mayor Marty Walsh and the Boston Center for Youth & Families. It received its first food delivery on Mon. Nov. 2.

“Marty Walsh single-handedly saved the Hyde Park Food Pantry,” he said. “We are coming home to a brand-new space. Now we will even have our own entrance on the lower level of the building.”

Consalvo has about 10 volunteers. Before the pandemic they served between 325 to 340 fami-

lies about 3,600 pounds of food a week. Now he orders 13,000 pounds of food per week.

The GBFB’s policies initially made it difficult to get food, he explained, because the orders had to be placed at midnight. The other sites experienced this as well.

“My daughter would be online at 11:59 p.m.,” Consalvo said. “When she clicked at midnight, the food would already be gone. Now I get 8,000 pounds on the first Monday of the month and 5,000 on the third Monday.”

Consalvo is looking ahead toward Thanksgiving. But he acknowledged it will be different from years past.

“We always provided the turkey and everything from soup to nuts,” he explained. “People would be lined up all the way up River St. But this year I think we may just be giving out vouchers.”

For more information, contact hydeparkfoodpantry@gmail.com.

A Hyde Park bakery will be participating in a Thanksgiving fundraiser called “Pie in the Sky.” Boston Baking Inc. is contributing its apple and pecan pies to the cause, in partnership with Jamaica Plain nonprofit Community Servings and sponsor Whole Foods. The 26th annual community bake sale helps feed chronically and critically ill neighbors across Massachusetts. For a \$30 donation at www.pieinthessky.com, donors will receive their choice of apple or pecan pie, which covers a week’s worth of healthy meals for one Community Servings client.



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Deaths

DOHERTY

Helen M. (Barrows) Formerly of Roslindale, passed away peacefully on October 30, 2020, with her loving family by her side, at the age of 92. She was the devoted wife of the late Richard L. Doherty. Predeceased by her son Robert J. Doherty and her daughter Mary Lou Doherty, she leaves behind her sons Richard P. Doherty and wife Barbara Barrett of Dedham, Kevin W. Doherty of Vermont, and Steven J. Doherty of Florida. She also leaves her granddaughter Kerry A. (Doherty) Teixeira, husband Kyle and great-granddaughter Kenadie of RI, and grandsons Michael B. Morris of West Roxbury and Ian F. Doherty of Colorado, along with many other grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews, nieces and friends. Funeral from the William J. Gormley Funeral Home, 2055 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY, Thursday, November 5th at 10am, followed by a Funeral Mass in Holy Name Church at 11 o'clock. Visiting hours Wednesday, 4-8 pm. Relatives and friends invited. Interment Mt. Benedict Cemetery. As an expression of sympathy, donations can be made to The Corrib Charitable Trust at the Corrib Pub & Restaurant, 2030 Centre St., West Roxbury, MA 02132. For directions and guestbook, www.gormleyfuneral.com William J. Gormley Funeral Service 617-323-8600.

FOSTER

Bobby G. Beloved Husband and Father Bobby Gerald Foster, or more affectionately, Fos', was born in Wellsville, Ohio on November 1, 1934 and died on October 22, 2020. His father Oscar and mother Maxine had four children: Mary Lou Gurley (deceased), Bobby Gerald Foster, Barbara Jean Porter, Betty Ann Wyatt (deceased). James "Jimmy" Young (deceased) was his half brother on his mother's side. Fos' had six half siblings on his father's side, most of whom still live in Ohio: Larry Foster, Lavon Foster, Willy Foster (deceased), Carl Foster, Shirley Carter, Jeri Lee Mahone. Fos' graduated from Wellsville High School in 1954 and was a star football and basketball player. Because of his great skills as a punter, his nickname was "The Toe". In fact, Fos' was the model for a statue, which still stands in Wellsville today, of a player kicking a football. Straight out of high school, Bob joined the Air Force and then went into the Navy where he spent 3 years in Rota, Spain and became fluent in Spanish. Bob was a unique renaissance man in that he had a high level of both technical and artistic skills. He retired after many years as a tool designer for General Electric Aircraft Engines. He always loved architecture and attended the Boston Architectural College. As a talented multimedia artist, Fos' could paint or carve anything. His artwork hangs in the homes of families and friends. Bob was also a professional drummer. He loved

Wally's Café in the South End and used to bring his bongos to sit-in with the band. He is survived by his beloved his wife of 36 years, Maria Latimore, son Bobby "Blue" Ameer Foster and daughter Amara Maxine Foster. Funeral from the Davis Funeral Home, 89 Walnut Ave., ROXBURY. Funeral Service will be private. Friends are invited to join remotely at 12 noon using the link on Bob's webpage at www.DavisofBoston.com

INDECK

Barbara (Swerdlick) Passed away Thursday, October 29, 2020 at 80 years of age at Hebrew Senior Life, Roslindale, MA. Born in Malden, MA, Barbara raised her family in Stoughton, MA. She was the devoted daughter of David & Lillian Swerdlick of Swerdlick's Kosher Meat Market, Malden, MA. She leaves behind her beloved children, Michelle Indeck of Stoughton, MA, Steven & Risa Indeck of East Taunton, MA and Marla & Adam Soreff of Pelham, NH. Her grandchildren, Debrah, Matthew, Alex, Cameron, Jacob & Asher. Her great-granddaughter Nora Lillian. Also, her brothers Howard Swerdlick of CA and his late wife Gail, the late Edward Swerdlick, sister-in-law Sandra Swerdlick of Malden, Theodore Swerdlick & sister-in-law Ann Nechtem of Marblehead. Due to Covid 19 restrictions, private Funeral Services will be held. In lieu of a formal Shiva, we ask that you celebrate the life of our mom. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 309 Waverly Oaks Road, Waltham, MA 02451 or Hebrew Senior Life, 1200 Centre Street, Roslindale, MA 02131. Schlossberg Family's Chapel on the Hill (781) 828-6990 www.schlossbergchapel.com

LaCASCIA

Josephine M. (Badessa) A Life Well Fought Family Matriarch, Josephine M. LaCascia (Badessa), 86, of Wellesley Hills, formerly of West Roxbury, passed away peacefully on October 29, 2020 after a 50-year fight with rheumatoid arthritis that could never stop her from living an amazing life. She was born in Boston, MA to the late John Badessa and Giovanna "Jenny" (Berenato) Badessa on November 29, 1933. Josephine grew up in Dorchester, MA and graduated from Dorchester High School for Girls and the Katherine Gibbs School in Boston before moving to West Roxbury where she proudly would utter the phrase "you can never take the Dorchester out of the girl." She married the late John A. LaCascia in 1960. They lived together in West Roxbury for 15 years before relocating to Wellesley Hills. Josephine is survived by a loyal and faithful sister-in-law, Anna Fioretti of Medford, MA and her loving children Joseph LaCascia and his spouse Aleta; Christine LaCascia and Janice LaCascia-Mahoney and her spouse Brendan

Mahoney. She is also survived by her adored grandchildren Ava, Nia, Sophia and Olivia. We will all miss her immensely. Josephine began her career as a high-powered legal secretary in Boston in the 1950's. She was also the former President of the Junior League of the Women's Italian Club of Boston. As a stylish, well-travelled woman she had many friends and suitors but then met her future husband and one true love of her life. "Jack" and "Jody" were soon married in 1960 and started out on their life together and the building of their loving family. When her husband passed away at a young age due to cancer, she carried on as a widowed single mother of three, taking over the family business, West Roxbury Auto School which under her management became New England Driving School, the largest driving school in the Boston area. Thousands of teenagers in Boston went through this "rite of passage" with her and knew her fondly as "Mrs. L." She continued to receive greetings and messages from them through social media until the end. She struggled through tough times and went on to become an advocate for the rights and empowerment of women in business. Her pastimes were family, grandchildren, friends, outings and politics. She loved to document her ancestry and family history and the get-togethers that she had doing this. She loved her Sicilian heritage. She spent much of her final years on social media encouraging people to vote and to get involved in political debate and discussion. Known to her children as their lovable "gypsy," she kept moving forward in her life, never looking back and enduring through a long-term battle with rheumatoid arthritis that she would never let hold her down. During her 50-year battle with the disease, she managed a busy career and her illness while continuing on as the main supporter of her children, seeing them all through college and successful careers of their own. In later years, she notably worked as a secretary for the Town of Wellesley Selectmen's office and Deland Gibson Insurance Agency in Wellesley, Hills until her retirement. A visitation was held at the George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 477 Washington St. (Rt. 16), WELLESLEY on Sunday, November 1, 2020. Interment private. For directions and online guestbook, gfdoherty.com.

McDONALD

Margaret C. (McMahon) Age 94, of West Roxbury, MA died October 30, 2020 in Fort Pierce, FL. She grew up in Mission Hill, daughter of Richard & Nellie (Sheehan) McMahon. Survived by her children, Janet Sennott and husband Peter of Boxford, MA, Kenneth McDonald and wife Karen of Mansfield, MA and Kathleen Orton and husband Bryan of Ft. Pierce, FL with

Deaths

Continued on page 9

Around the Neighborhood

COLLEGE PREP PROGRAM AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!

Boston University Upward Bound is currently accepting applications for their college preparation program from 9th and 10th graders. Upward Bound serves 86 Boston Public High School Students by providing academic instruction, tutoring, social enrichment and personal support. This includes MCAS English, Math and Science prep, along with SAT prep. The program is free and now has openings. The priority application deadline is December 1. Students attending Brighton High School, The English High School, Community Academy of Science and Health, Margarita Muniz Academy and Snowden International High School at Copley or attend a Boston public school and live in Dorchester, East Boston, Mattapan, or Roxbury can apply. Program services include an aca-

demically intensive six-week summer program (and live at BU when local and university guidelines allow) and an afterschool program of tutoring and academic courses during the school year. For an application and more information on the program contact us at 617 353-5195 or reggie@bu.edu. You can also go to www.bu.edu/ub.

ANNA'S PALS NIGHT OF REMEMBRANCE AND LIGHT

November is the month of giving thanks. This year, with health scares, infection fears, and financial insecurities, many people are struggling to find a reason to be thankful.

Our annual Night of Remembrance and Light will be a month long event this year. Although we will not be able to gather together at Jamaica Pond, we will be able to pass the light virtually. The year of 2020 has brought many challenges, let's take this opportunity to share positive messages

and brighten someone's day. Get a virtual candle at <https://gorallyup.com/> candlelighting and share some positivity!

Back by popular demand, Anna's Fudge. For those of you who knew Anna personally, you know about her love of cooking, baking and most importantly, making fudge! She invented her own secret recipe and we have recreated that for you. The fudge is prepared in small batches, is available in full and 1/2 pound packaging, and is the perfect gift to share this holiday season.

We ALL now know the effects isolation has had on us and our children, imagine the worry of your child's health compounding that. The Anna's Pals beach house will make a difference in the lives of these families.

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METCO Accepting 2021-22 Applications Online!

The Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity has opened its online application process for the 2021-22 school year. Boston families who wish to enroll their

school-age children in suburban public schools can apply online at metcoinc.org/apply between October 2 and November 30, 2020. Other application cycles will be offered in the

new year.

For more information and/or assistance with the application process, please call

METCO

Continued on page 10

Deaths *continued from page 8*

whom she resided. She was the mother of the late James (Benny) McDonald. Grandmother of Shelley Salvatore, Meagan Castell, Matthew McDonald, Bryan Orton, Robert McDonald, David McDonald and the late Corey Sennott and Stephen McDonald. Predeceased by her siblings, Ethel Larsen, Frederick McMahan, Helen Donovan, and Richard McMahan. A Celebration of her life will be private. Arrangements are under the direction of Haisley Funeral & Cremation Service, Fort Pierce, FL. An online guestbook may be signed at www.haisleyfuneralhome.com

MESITI

Marilyn of Roslindale, formerly of Dorchester, passed away on October 22, 2020 surrounded by her family after a long valiant battle with cancer. Devoted mother of Louis John Bonilla and Theresa Bonilla, her dog Cinna and her dear sister Elaine Mesiti of Roslindale. Loving daughter of the late John C. and Theresa A. (Cannata) Mesiti. A graduate of UMass Boston with her Masters degree in Psychology, Marilyn applied her many skills and education at the East End House in Cambridge, as an English teacher in the Boston Public Schools, and Fernald State School. Marilyn is warmly remembered as a passionate gardener, her love for cooking and baking, sharing and helping neighbors. No Funeral Services will be held at this time; a celebration of Marilyn's life will be held in 2021. Joseph Russo Funeral Home www.Russofuneralhome.com 617-325-7300.

MILLER

Isabelle Died peacefully at the age of 100 on Saturday, October 24, 2020 at her home alongside her family. She was born on May 31, 1920 to the late Saul Wilson and Ella Nora (Dones) Wilson. She is survived by her sons, Robert Miller (Penny) and Kevin Miller, 5 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and 6 great-great-grandchildren, as well as a host of family and friends. Private Service & Interment, Saturday, October 31, 2020. Family & invitees only, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

O'BOY

Virginia M. (Winn) of West Roxbury, passed away peacefully at home October 22, 2020. Age 92 years. Beloved wife of the late James M. "Jim" O'Boy. Loving sister to the late William, Kenneth, Herbert, George, and Paul Winn, Sister Barbara

Winn S.N.D., Margaret Kelley Ferry, Ruth Melchin, Alice Jane Coughlin and Lillian McKenzie. Other survivors include several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. Funeral from the Gormley Funeral Home, 2055 Centre Street, WEST ROXBURY. Burial at St. Joseph Cemetery, West Roxbury. For directions and guestbook, please visit: www.gormleyfuneral.com Gormley Funeral Service (617) 323 - 8600.

QUINN

Richard F. of Hyde Park, passed away peacefully on October 29, 2020. Born in Boston on March 31, 1935. Devoted son of the late James and Mary (Farrell) Quinn. Dick proudly served his country in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He was eucharistic minister, altar server for daily Mass and funerals, always there to help at St. John's whenever there was a need. He often led the rosary and attended Bible studies whenever St. John's had them. He was the face of St. John's and he always had a smile on his face. A true devoted man of faith. Devoted godfather of Martin Joyce and his wife Lisa of Winchester. Funeral from the William J. Gormley Funeral Home, 2055 Centre Street, West Roxbury. Interment Mt. Benedict Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations in Dick's memory may be made to St. John Chrysostom Church, 4750 Washington Street, West Roxbury, MA 02132. For directions and guestbook, please visit: www.gormleyfuneral.com William J. Gormley Funeral Service (617) 323-8600.

WALSH

James P. Jr. of West Roxbury, formerly of Jamaica Plain and Arlington, October 31, 2020. Beloved husband of Anne C. (MacVicar) Walsh. Loving father of Christopher P. Walsh of West Roxbury and Brian P. Walsh of West Roxbury. Brother of Marybeth Walls of Raynham, Patricia Burgoyne of Waltham, and Linda Browne and her husband Dan of Billerica. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Visiting Hours at the William J. Gormley Funeral Home, 2055 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY, Thursday, November 5th from 5-7pm. Relatives and friends invited. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284-9168. For directions and guestbook, www.gormleyfuneral.com William J. Gormley Funeral Service 617-323-8600.



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Legals

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. **SU20P1903GDGD**

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF
GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO
TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

In the matter of: Robyn Swaney **RESPONDENT**
Of: Boston, MA **Alleged Incapacitated Person**

To The named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by
Brigham A Women's Hospital of Boston, MA

In the above captioned matter alleging that **Robyn Swaney** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Heidi Lemmer of Winchendon, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on the bond.

The petition asks the Court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

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 11/25/2020. 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
October 19, 2020
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin: 11/05/2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. **SU20P1894GD**

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF
GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO
TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

In the matter of: Azizbek Dalimov **RESPONDENT**
Of: Allston, MA **Alleged Incapacitated Person**

To The named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by
Mass Dept. of Mental Health of Westborough, MA

In the above captioned matter alleging that **Azizbek Dalimov** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on the bond.

The petition asks the Court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

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 11/27/2020. 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
October 14, 2020
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin: 11/05/2020

METCO *continued from page 9*

617-427-1545 or go to metcoinc.org.

METCO is the highly applauded, historic school integration program that was founded to invite Boston children of color to enroll in predominantly white suburban schools, breaking down barriers to educational opportunities and creating racially diverse learning environments for students of all backgrounds.

The METCO application process, modernized in 2019 to increase efficiency, equity and transparency, allows parents to complete an application from any online device. Upon verification of student eligibility, students will be entered into a

lottery and have an equal opportunity to be referred to suburban schools connected with METCO. Parents can track the progress of their application throughout the application process.

METCO CEO Milly Arbaje-Thomas points out that METCO is making a difference in a world plagued by racial discord, saying: "In the wake of the horrific racial incidents that shone a light on systemic racism in America this year, METCO is working with even greater passion with suburban school partners to introduce initiatives that promote racial justice."

She noted that METCO his-

torically has reduced racial isolation in suburban classrooms by enabling students to build life-long interracial friendships while preparing to become global citizens. Research shows that shared experiences is they key element in reducing racial barriers and METCO provides that at an early age. Graduation rates and college attainment among METCO students are far above state averages and lifelong friendships are forged between diverse students. SIGN UP FOR METCO: metcoinc.org/apply GET ASSISTANCE AND MORE INFORMATION: metcoinc.org 617-427-1545

Kelley Steps Down *continued from page 1*

"Being in a parish and connecting with people, that's what attracted me," he said of his decision to become a priest. "As seminarians, we went to a church for a few weeks, and that's when I said, 'I can do this and I really enjoy this.'"

After his ordination in 1968, Kelley began his career at St. Ambrose Parish in Dorchester, where he served for seven years.

"That was all through bus-ing," he explained. "It was a very complicated time of life. But the people were great, and I began to learn how to be a parish priest."

At the same time, he served on the board of the Pine Street Inn, becoming its chair. During the 1980s, he took a year off to attend Notre Dame to earn a master's degree in pastoral theology. Upon his return, he was assigned to St. John's Parish in Peabody, where he learned the dynamics of shepherding a suburban parish.

"The time at Peabody really started to make me think about my life in terms of building a church," he said. He then went to Quincy for about seven years before coming to Sacred Heart Parish in 1991.

"By then I had a good sense of being a pastor and what I wanted to do," he said. "This

has been the most difficult and complicated assignment I've had because of the racial changes, the ethnic changes and adjusting to all of that and to keep building up a church."

One of the challenges he found is that each culture has its own perception of God and how He should be worshipped, from the length of the Mass to the way the church is arranged.

"Little did we know that we would have people from over 40 countries and ethnic groups in the parish," Kelley noted. "All of them are Catholic. They all are very active believers. But they all see life differently."

"The American Catholics, whether they're Irish or German or whatever, are very focused on making money," he explained. "But the Latino Catholic looks on it and says, 'They don't do any service.' That's not true, but some don't see it the same way."

One of the greatest recent achievements during his time as pastor has been the creation of an international club. Once a month, a member will talk about how he or she was raised as a Catholic, among other issues.

Once there was a hearty disagreement over whether a local church was Catholic because it doesn't have kneelers. When a Caribbean friend told an African colleague that she never saw a kneeler until she came to America, she was asked if she was Catholic, according to Kelley.

"I stepped in and said, 'Look, there are very different ways of being Catholic,' he said. "That's a revelation to them."

"Catholicism is sort of like an accordion," Kelley continued. "It can expand or contract according to the cultural and ethnic situation it steps into."

One achievement of which Kelley is most proud is the Sa-

cred Heart School's adoption of a STEM curriculum 10 years ago, which stresses science, technology, engineering and math.

"In most Catholic schools, the education is a certain quality, but it's all vanilla," he lamented. "It's very strong on English and religion and on values and on character development. And it's kind of weak when they get into the sciences."

At the time, Kelley learned that only high schools were teaching STEM. But the most critical learning period is between grades one and three.

"Usually schools have their science nights, and you get the same 50 parents," he continued. "The first year we did this, I go in and we have 300 people in the hall. What happened is the kids had been talking about the project for the whole year, and they dragged their whole family to see what they did. If you can change a curriculum, you change not only the students but also the parents."

In May of 2019, 700 people attended the STEM night, and the event filled every classroom, the gymnasium, the cafeteria and the hallways. This year, if not for COVID-19, the projects would have included building an actual bridge, as well as essays on the history of bridges and their relationship to faith.

Creating the community of at least 1,100 people each week-end before COVID-19 has likely been Kelley's other greatest achievement. Among those are at least 80 parish leaders who serve in various capacities both in the church and school as well as in the community.

"My leaving isn't going to be as traumatic because there is a core of leadership that is going to pick up the ball and run with things," he said. "Nobody's going to come in and tell them they can't do it."

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