

The Hyde Park Bulletin

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Roslindale Business Group presents \$6k to Roslindale Food Pantry



From left to right: RBG President John Malley, Dennis Patch, Rosemary Braverman, John Sullivan and Bob McNeil. The group and volunteers were able to raise \$6,000 for the Roslindale Food Pantry.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Members of the Roslindale Business Group (RBG), the West Roxbury Roslindale Kiwanis met at the Roslindale Congregational Church last week to present a check of \$6,000 to the Roslindale Food Pantry.

The funds came from the RBG's Canning Campaign

(which used to be run by the still in operation Roslindale Board of Trade) for which Kiwanis President John Sullivan has been doing a lot of fundraising over the years.

"We're looking to go into two locations next year so we're going to need double the amount of volunteers," Sullivan said. "We'll be looking to do collections three days every week until Christmas. The end of Novem-

ber until Christmas."

The new funds will be a boon to the pantry, and director Rosemary Braverman said the help is always appreciated, as she checked and double checked the rows of food set to go out the next day at the pantry.

"This will be all produce, this whole row, and this will **Food Pantry**

Continued on page 13

City gives updates on Father Hart and Dana Ave. Bridges



Two years ago Boston Mayor Marty Walsh announced improvements to the Father Hart Bridge, work on which will start this year.

FILE PHOTO

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Several Boston Transportation Department officials, along with District 5 City Councilor Tim McCarthy and Office of Neighborhood Services Bryan Flynn gave updates on the progress of the Father Hart Bridge, Wolcott Square and Dana Avenue Bridge improvement projects.

Contractors have been selected for the projects, according to the BTB, and work should begin when the construction season starts for the Father Hart and Wolcott Square and construction for the Dana Avenue Bridge replacement project should begin on July 4.

According to McCarthy this project has been a long time coming, even before it was announced in April of 2017.

"This is something that I brought up when I was the president of the Readville Neighborhood Association in 1996," he said.

McCarthy pointed out that the traffic has always been difficult there, as the bridge and other natural barriers create choke points, and with more recent GPS technologies making cut throughs and short cuts more apparent and easily accessible to drivers from out of town, he said it's just getting worse. Add that

New Bridges
Continued on page 9

Two neighborhood groups object to two new housing plans

Richard Heath
Staff Reporter

Seven Kenton Road (Keegan's Auto Service on Washington Street) and 121 Brookside Avenue are a half mile apart and neighborhood groups are using Plan JP/Rox to change them.

Both are proposed by Scott Johnson of Cedar Hill Design and Development, who is being squeezed between Stonybrook and Brookside neighborhood associations aided by the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council housing committee.

121 Brookside Avenue is a 23-unit, four-story building on what is now a parking lot within sight of the Green Street T stop. A BPDA-sponsored public hearing was held on Jan. 23 and a second hearing before the housing committee on Feb. 19. Two of the four affordable condominium units will be set aside for artist-live work homes; 11



Scott Johnson of Cedar Hill Design and Development describes his project at 121 Brookside Ave.

PHOTO BY RICHARD HEATH

of the units will be studios.

According to Johnson, he is focused on a changing city.

"The population is growing," he said. "There is a need to create more housing. The City Innovation Lab reported

that 69 percent of housing in Boston are for one and two person households."

"I originally proposed a nine-unit building," Johnson

Groups Object
Continued on page 6

Neighbors opposed to proposed addition



Dozens of neighbors came out to oppose several WRNC items put forth to the council.

PHOTO BY ARIANE KOMYATI

Ariane Komyati
Staff Reporter

The West Roxbury Neighborhood Council (WRNC) Zoning Committee met on Tuesday, Feb. 19 at the Area E5 Police Station. The agenda included violations on

281 Vermont St, 11 Lorette St, 132-134 Groaton Road, and 175 Maple St.

The hot topic of the meeting was the proposed 2 story addition on 175 Maple St. The new addi-

Proposed Addition
Continued on page 13

Allston Civic talks artist relocation, donuts

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Last Wednesday, Feb. 20, the Allston Civic Association met and discussed several changes to the neighborhood.

Firstly, Allston's Studio 52 Community Artist Space is planning to move from its location at 52 Everett St. to 138 Harvard Ave. Representative Hailey Marsh said the transfer to the current self storage building will help to optimize the group's space and be able to offer more for their artists, as the current building, to say the least, needs some work.

"It's seen better days, so we found this location and we're pretty excited about it," she said. "It's behind Mr. Music, so the location couldn't be better. Our future abutters include some retail and restaurants surrounding us, and we're pretty close to the Brighton Music Hall, which will definitely benefit. It's also less than a mile from our existing studio which makes it very easy for our artists to make the transition."

The space allows for artists and musicians to work and hone their crafts. Marsh said there is not currently a timeline for ZBA approval on the work they're planning to do to the space. She said there will be the installation of key card entrance requirements, which will be active 24/7, as well as cameras and other

security options for the artists who use the space. She said while many of the artists currently use their Everett Street location as a home base to teach students, the facility itself does not want to facilitate lessons.

"The space is set up so artists can come to the studios and practice and work out of these spaces," she said. "To have the public enter in and out is kind of a security risk for all this expensive music and art equipment."

She did say they will continue their tradition of public outreach outside the studio. Allston Village Main Streets (AVMS) Executive Director Emma Walters said AVMS is supportive of the move.

"The Village in many ways is seen as an arts and culture and music district, so this would be perfect for us," she said.

Member Brendon Bowers was at another meeting during this meeting, but asked via Facebook Live (on which the meeting was streamed) whether they would consider murals on the exterior of the space.

"I don't see why not," Marsh said.

Also discussed during the meeting was the installation of a new 100-square foot retail doughnut shop at 100 Holton St., as well as a 5,200 square-foot baking operation. The proposal came from Blackbird Doughnuts,



About 40 residents came out to the Allston Civic Association to hear about improvements and changes coming to the neighborhood.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

which just needs a common victualler license from the City of Boston.

"We are opening a very small retail store, but a large production facility for 100 Holton," said Rebecca Gallo of the Gallo Group, who also pointed to a pizza box of free doughnut samples.

She said the retail portion of the shop will open at 4 a.m. to help serve construction workers and other late night workers in the neighborhood. She said she knows there are a few 24-hour options there for those workers, McDonald's and Speedway being the biggest late night options, but she said she felt they could offer something unique.

"We wanted to give another

option for the neighborhood," she said. "We're in a very industrial center, and it will have a very minimal impact on traffic at that hour."

She said there will be a drive through and the space will be open from 4 a.m. to 2 p.m. She said doughnut production, however, will be mostly ongoing throughout the day and night.

"We're currently open 21 hours a day at our Tremont Street location where we do all our production now and we're looking to move 90 percent of our production to Holton," she said.

Gallo said they make everything, with the exception of brand name ingredients, from scratch.

"When it says like an Oreo doughnut, we use Oreos," she said. "So there will be nothing coming out of a can; we make it, we mix it and we do have an industrial fryer which is very cool. We want consistency, and inconsistency in doughnuts happens during the frying process."

She said they have three other stores in the South End, Fenway and Harvard Square respectively.

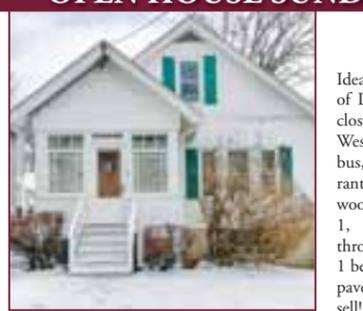
"I live close to there," one resident said. "How many calories?"

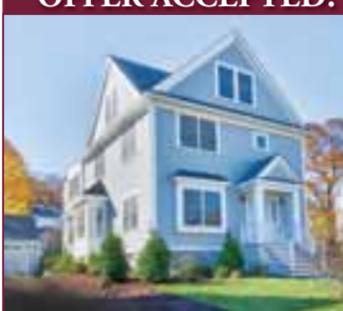
Gallo pointed out that one doughnut can have fewer calories than a bagel, muffin or croissant.

"I feel better already," said ACA President Tony D'Isidoro.



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Dozens review plans for Roslindale Library renovation

Mary Ellen Gambon
Staff Reporter

More than 50 people expressed their approval of the latest version of plans for the renovation of the Roslindale public library at a meeting Tuesday night, noting that their concerns from the previous two meetings were incorporated into the latest design.

Gregory Rideout, a senior project manager from the Public Facilities Department, said he and the design team were happy to return to Roslindale with the updated plans for the design, now 60 percent complete.

"We're very excited to share a progression of the project design," he said. "We have incorporated a lot of your feedback into the specs."

The design phase will be completed in mid-spring. Then it will be put out to bid in mid-summer. Construction will begin in October and take approximately one year to 14 months, with an expected completion in late 2020.

One of the newest features is that the building now will have a basement. This will allow for space for the Friends of the Roslindale Library, the Roslindale Historical Society as well as a room for the staff.

"This will allow for more space on the first floor," Rideout said. "There will be additional space for the early literacy center."

Because there will now be a basement, the library will require an elevator to make it accessible.

Accessibility was a key factor in the library's design, according to Rideout. The library's entrance will now be at sidewalk level. Sliding glass doors will open automatically.

"There will be universal access to the first floor that is exceeding the standard, rather than a sloped access," he said. "There will be a slight slope of the sidewalk rather than a ramp."

Benjamin Wilcox, the project manager from Leers Weinzapfel Associates, explained before he started the presentation that he was well aware of the fabric and culture of Roslindale.

"When I started with Leers Weinzapfel 12 years ago, my first project was the Roslindale Community Center," he said. "Plus, my dad worked right at Gourmet Caterers, so I knew the

neighborhood, even before I wanted to be an architect."

Wilcox said he wanted to provide Roslindale with a contemporary facility while being "respectful of 1960s architecture."

The best example of this is the facade of the new building. Bright multicolored terra cotta baguette tiles will grace the front of the building's textured concrete.

"We wanted to give it some vibrancy," Wilcox said. "One of the concepts was to have the multicolored tiles that look like the books in the shelves. Also, it reflects the diversity of the community."

The library's center will be a rotunda, with the circulation desk in the center. The roof will be dome-shaped.

Several types of seating will be available for adults, from wooden chairs, to soft seating to high benches.

The teen center, a new addition, will have four quadrants of seating. They can be combined for group projects or separated if teens want to study alone.

"What is important is that they have their own private space," Laura Patrick, a designer from Leers Weinzapfel, said. "That slang word, they call it 'mobbing.'"

The design for the area for younger children focused on a book shelf maze. The librarian and parents would be able to see over the shelves, and the shelves would be clear to allow for viewing. The activities for the activity wall have not been determined yet.

At least one parent found the maze concept disconcerting.

"If you have two kids, it gets harder to get around," he said. "What if you want to go home, and they decide to run in the maze? You have one running around toward the teen center and the other one running around toward the early learning center."

He added that, at the Hyde Park library, there is only one way in, so that children are easily visible.

"I don't think that parents are going to be hurtling over bookshelves to get their children," he added. "Can you put in a gate to slow them down?"

Another concern brought up was that, in the schematic, there were only four tables in the children's room, and all were occupied by computers.

"Aren't there any tables for children to do homework?," asked one woman.

Wilcox added that two of the tables may not have computers.

Another man said that computers were not necessary for really young children.

One improvement the audience favored was the addition of a terrace in the rear with an outdoor seating area and landscaping. In addition, there will be a "sliver" of greenspace where people can sit and read on the Poplar Street side, according to Wilcox.

Another benefit is an accessible conference room for community meetings and events. It can seat 100 people and can accommodate a podium and a theater screen. It is acoustically engineered and soundproofed. It also has wall space for community artwork.

The domed roof covering the entire building will be the crown-jewel of the project.

"Is there any way we could get some lighting on the dome to really show this baby off?" asked community activist Steve Gag.

"General practice is not from the outside," Wilcox said. "But we are going to put accent lighting under the dome."

Discussions for the renovation project first began in April 2013. The schematics have been in the works since 2017, but were put on hold until more funding was secured.

In total, \$10.2 million will go toward the renovation of the Roslindale library, which was built in 1961.

People were enthusiastic about the design and the progress made on the project.

"The entrance feels embracing, which is a good concept," said one man in the audience. "Before you couldn't tell it was

here."

"I want to thank you for the outside design," one woman told the development team. "You are making the outside feel as special as we feel on the inside."

"I think this is a wonderful design," said Yves Mary Jean, who is a candidate for the District Five City Council seat. "It will draw more people into the library. I love to read."

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Editorial

A BAD LOOK FOR ALL

By now, you are surely aware of the scandal sparked by New England Patriots Owner Bob Kraft's unusual—and illegal—trips to a “massage parlor” in Jupiter, Florida that served as a front for illegal prostitution and human trafficking.

As we often feel obliged to point out, Kraft is certainly innocent until proven guilty. Indeed, he has maintained his innocence thus far despite all appearances to the contrary.

Amid the wall-to-wall coverage of Kraft's legal woes, it might be easy to miss one important fact: the story should not be about him.

Oh sure, we understand the focus and attention on him. There isn't a newsroom worth its ink that could pass up this narrative: Billionaire NFL owner kills time before AFC championship game by travelling to shady massage parlor in Florida strip mall. There is, indeed, a mystery to unravel. Why wouldn't a billionaire seek out the far more discreet and upscale services available to those who can afford it, rather than a random, \$58 sex joint? Why multiple visits to the same seedy massage parlor? What was so special about the place that we know of at least two billionaires who patronized it?

It is easy to forgive all the resulting gossip-page worthy coverage. Doing so, however, misses the bigger, more crucial picture.

As details about the Orchids of Asia Day Spa emerge, media coverage would almost have you believe that Kraft was single-handedly responsible for the human trafficking allegedly uncovered by police at the site. Perhaps Kraft should have known better, but the distinct and narrow focus on “Johns” is wrong.

There is a hard-to-argue with rationale that drying up the customer base by publicly shaming “patrons” could force these illicit institutions to shut down. While that approach of naming, shaming, and impounding cars may be an effective tool for driving street prostitution from neighborhoods, however, it does little to deter these all-too-common massage parlors.

The true crime here is the sex trade that these places prop up. Human trafficking must be the priority, which is not how Jupiter Police seem to have approached their bust. For weeks—even with knowledge that women were held captive, forced to perform sex acts and barred from leaving the small premises—the cops seem to have been more focused on amassing the list of “customers” and installing hidden cameras to produce unnecessary, and possibly unconstitutional, sex tapes.

The same hypocrisy marks local efforts, where even a cursory look at certain “spas” would easily uncover human trafficking and money laundering. For years, the Boston Phoenix published in-your-face ads for these types of establishments, hyping the services they offer, rather than even trying to mask them with sly metaphors and coy advertising copy.

Chest-thumping each list of captured “Johns” is all well and good, so long as it isn't one of their own. When a cop is involved, as was the case when a local officer's gun was stolen from his car by prostitutes he was “entertaining” in a hotel room, the names may not be fully redacted, but neither are they vigorously touted.

The illegal sex trade is a horrifying and immoral plague upon cities and neighborhoods. Let's move past the Puritanical enjoyment of busting patrons and focus on the far more important task of attacking the problem at its source and liberating the victims.

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Letters to the Editor

SORRY I MISSED IT

To the Editor:

Sorry I missed the dog and pony show for Roxbury Prep. I did go there but, expecting to see row upon row of bicycles, I was very surprised to find all the parking was taken up with the overflow going up and down the Parkway. Being disabled I wasn't about to walk on the roadway.

What I'd really like to address is the letter from Mr. Patel and actually broadcast this to our counselors-at-large and city hall. What the hell do you mean city owned land is not an option for Boston school students???

It seems to me that both the Menino and Walsh administrations, including the City Counselors and School Committee have been short-changing Boston kids for decades, demonstrated by the crumbling schools. Aside from your primary responsibility to protect Boston citizens at which you've also failed miserably with your sanctuary city policy, educating kids should be your second priority.

I would propose that the space facing the field be given to Roxbury Prep to build a facility housing all of their students and suggest they add a veterinarian course too. Didn't Mt. Ida have to close one up? I would build a facility with entrances on both the top and bottom levels. There is already a road there and busses could run from Forest hills straight to the

school.

I'd also try to include the skating rink and the Boston Archives which could be a terrific possibility for research. Let's not forget the waterfront with all the learning and sports activities it could support throughout the school year and all summer for Boston and surrounding communities. These things would also be available to the new West Roxbury High.

Now, I know you all have problems with common sense, hence the most congested city in America. Adding 70,000 more units will result in 100,000 more cars. Please don't try and tell me otherwise. Just like Ms. Cortez's wish to have everyone in electric cars. I'll believe this when all the parking meters are replaced by charging stations, but I'll be gone before that happens.

Let me say I purposely left Counselor O'Malley out because he's very busy monitoring the plastics situation and I'd hate to distract him.

Kirby Boyce
West Roxbury

ROXBURY PREP WILL BE A WONDERFUL ADDITION

To the Editor:

We write in support of Roxbury Prep's high school project, which represents a significant, positive addition to our neighborhood. Although we have no personal or family connection to Roxbury Prep or any

of its students, we are strong proponents of improving access to quality public education in the city.

The proposed project will replace a car dealership and repair facility and will unite two separate units of a high school. Building an attractive, modern public high school on the site of a former auto dealership constitutes a major upgrade for the neighborhood. The new school will further revitalize Belgrade Avenue and serve as a much-needed community gathering space and resource for local groups. The presence of a diverse group of young people in the area on school days will also have a positive impact on neighborhood vitality.

On its face, neighborhood support for this project ought to be a no-brainer. The traffic issues cited by opponents will be negligible, far less than for many schools, including nearby Holy Name with its 450 students, because 90 percent of Roxbury Prep students are expected to use public transit.

This project is a wonderful opportunity to support public education in the City of Boston. A high school is the perfect use for that section of Belgrade Avenue; we hope our neighbors agree about the benefits Roxbury Prep will bring to our community.

Jonathan Spack,
Tracy Fitzpatrick
West Roxbury

Letters

Continued on page 14

Mayor Walsh announces 2019 city scholarship applications available to Boston residents

Mayor Martin J. Walsh today announced applications are now available for the 2019 City of Boston Scholarship Program. The City of Boston Scholarship Program is designed to support higher education, and is available to Boston residents interested in pursuing an undergraduate degree or continuing education in Massachusetts.

“The City of Boston Scholarship Fund helps students achieve their dream of attending college, and I'm proud that through this program, we're able to give our residents the support they need,” said Mayor Walsh. “

The City of Boston Scholarship fund is a need-based scholarship that provides up to \$10,000 over four years towards tuition, and relies primarily on generous contributions from individuals, organizations and corporations to further the goal of having more Boston residents complete a post-secondary education. During the 2018-2019 academic year, the scholarship program awarded a total of

\$290,000 to over 115 students representing almost every neighborhood of Boston, who went on to attend 30 local colleges and universities. This year, the Fund will award 30 new recipients.

The Scholarship Committee has worked in recent years to simplify and strengthen the application process. Highlights include an updated recommendation form that assesses college and career readiness, three short-answer questions in place of a longer essay, an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) calculator for students not eligible for FAFSA, and a clear recognition of financial need among continuing education students.

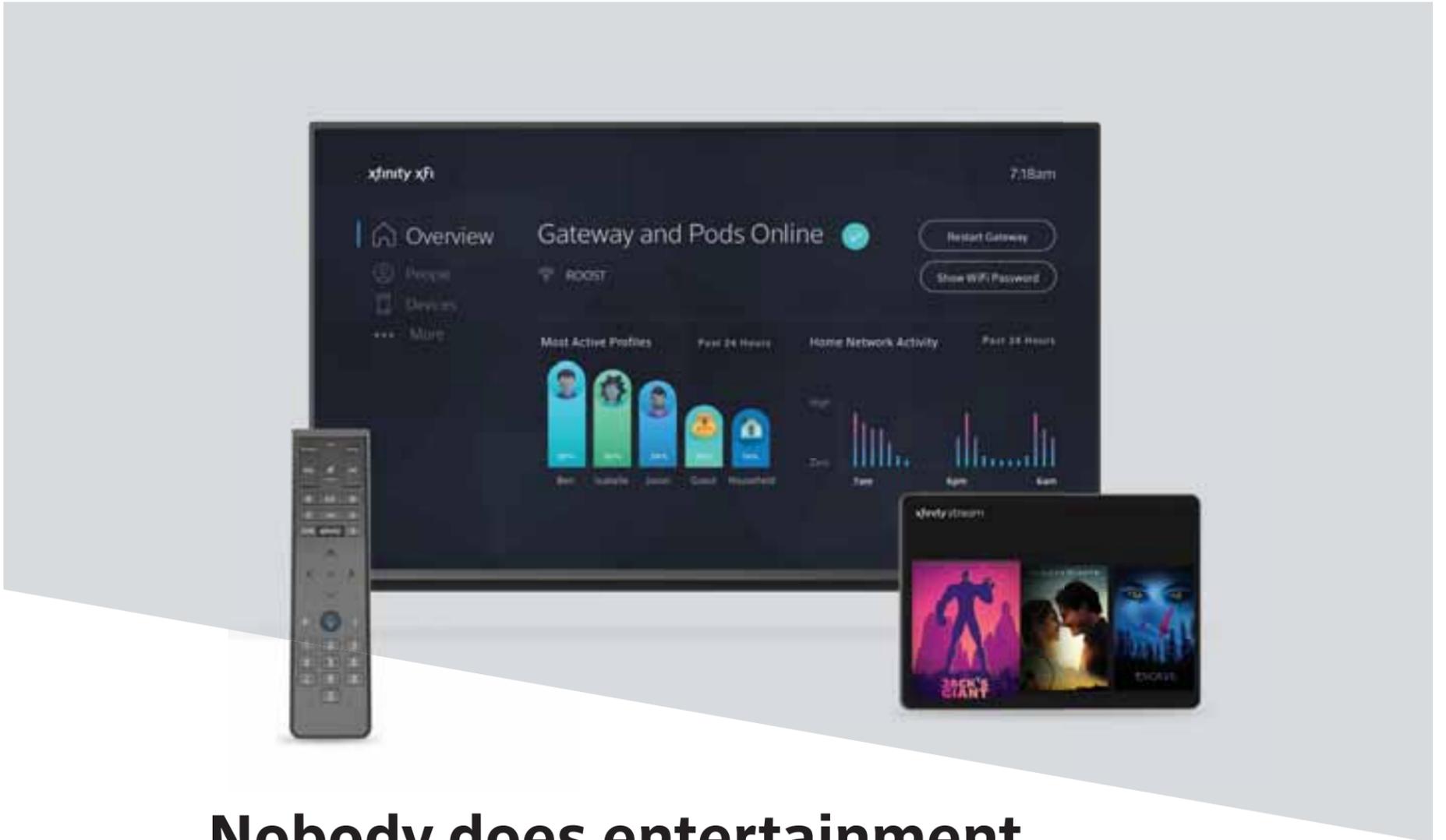
The City of Boston Scholarship program is part of Mayor Walsh's commitment to ensuring that all Boston residents are able to access and complete their post-secondary education. In 2016, Mayor Walsh launched tuition-free community college for Boston Public Schools graduates, providing a cost-effective entry point into higher education for

Boston's young people. Participating colleges include Bunker Hill Community College, MassBay Community College, and Roxbury Community College.

Candidates for the City of Boston Scholarship Program must be Boston residents who have graduated from high school or have completed G.E.D. programming by the time the awards are made. Additionally, candidates must be planning to attend, or currently attending, a two- or four-year accredited post-secondary institution in Massachusetts.

Residents who meet these eligibility requirements are encouraged to apply here. The deadline to submit applications is April 12, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. For applicants who are renewing their scholarship from a previous year, please email COBScholarship@boston.gov.

For more information on the City of Boston Scholarship, or to apply, please visit Boston.gov/scholarship.



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Groups Object *continued from page 1*

said. "But the Brookside Neighborhood Association wanted affordable units so I changed it to get the blessing of Brookside."

"I've met with the abutters and with Councilor (Matt) O'Malley and Rep. (Liz) Malia, and the Arts and Culture Department; they've been fairly positive meetings."

"At first Arts and Culture wanted all four affordable units to be for certified artist live-work units," Johnson said. "But the BPDA had different guidelines; Arts and Culture are still working out their guidelines."

The two artist live-work units will be on the ground floor and will be larger than the other units.

Housing Committee chair Carolyn Royce believes in Plan JP/Rox and was critical of Johnson for not having a wider street setback and more open spaces around the building as the Plan guidelines recommend.

"JP/Rox is looking toward the future," she said. "This neighborhood is changing to residential."

Johnson pointed out that at the upper end of Brookside Ave. houses are built up to the lot line.

"I'm trying to create more units," he said. "This is a net positive. I'm taking an area that was a parking lot. There's also the geometry of the site."

The north property line is

curved for a City sewer line easement.

Carmel Levy, vice chair of the neighborhood council and a housing committee member, was curious.

"Why do you elect to get 23 units after you started out with nine?" he asked.

"Brookside Neighborhood Association had a lot to do with that," Johnson said. "I'm trying to conform to Plan JP/Rox. Other developers are trying to circumvent that."

Brookside wanted IDP [affordable] units. It's a much larger process for us. Time is money. JP/Rox study is hard for developers to comply with. It's the only place in the city with high standards. Land costs are high."

Affordability was the hot topic. Committee member Pam Bender reminded Johnson that JP/Rox was not a study but a hard, worked-out plan. She said the JP Neighborhood Council affordability limit is 25 percent.

At the BPDA hearing a suggestion was made to eliminate some parking to add another affordable unit.

"I'd love to do 25 to 30 percent," Johnson said. "Bartlett Square [next door] is the same height I'm at and it's 13 percent. I'm at 18 percent. You can only ask a developer for so much. The bar is already high. I'm having a hard time making the

numbers work. I may end up losing my shirt."

Housing committee member Omer Hecht suggested Johnson buy a cheaper shirt.

"Bartlett Square made money," he said. "You're a nice guy, but it's hard for us to shed a tear for developers who are making a profit on concessions to the community."

Johnson said the units will be market rate condominiums but could not state the total development costs. The two artist live-work spaces will be set aside at 80% of area median income (AMI); the other two affordable units are set at 70 percent AMI.

Eighty percent of median income for one person is \$60,400. The average condominium price in the Washington street corridor is \$600,000.

Housing committee member Jamey Lionette was to the point.

"The units that are affordable are not affordable," he said. "Four units are too low a number. If you can't build housing for normal people then get a new job. Build housing for regular people. I'm tired of what's going on."

Cedar Hill is also planning to develop the Keenan's Auto Service site at Kenton Rd and Washington St; their attorney Jim Greene first discussed this with the Stonybrook Neighbor-

hood Association at its August meeting. Named 7 Kenton Road, Greene said the five story, 37-unit building is complying with Plan JP/Rox guidelines: artist live-work spaces, setbacks and using the density bonus to achieve a 20 percent affordability percentage. A BPDA project notice has not been filed yet.

The Stonybrook Neighborhood Association considers Plan JP/Rox to be incomplete. Jennifer Uhrhane of SNA has long said that the zoning code has not been written for Plan JP/Rox.

Josh Hanye is co-chair of 7 Kenton and he gave an update at the Feb. 11 SNA meeting. He said he talked at length with Marie Mercurio, BPDA Jamaica Plain planner and coordinator of the Plan JP/Rox process.

"The BPDA has no appetite to change zoning," Hanye said. "They want to use the JP/Rox Plan just as guidelines. They're never changing the underlying zoning. Marie said to consider Kenton Road area as residential."

Hanye said he sent a five-page letter to Cedar Hill outlining the 7 Kenton sub committee concerns that are chiefly height and density.

"It's way too big," he said. "Thirty-seven units is too much. They're just small studios."

After over a year of debate and multiple votes, the SNA caused the BPDA to reschedule its January vote on 50 Stedman

Street until the developer made acceptable concessions. Finally after a one-foot building setback from the abutter's vacant lot line and wider sidewalks was agreeable to SNA, the BPDA voted in favor on Feb 14 after a six minute, 40 second hearing.

Hanye said on Feb. 11 that the abutters could file a lawsuit over 7 Kenton Rd.

"I've talked with the attorney on the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council who filed a lawsuit against the ZBA on a South Huntington development," he said.

In December 2012, Jeffrey Wiesner, then a member of the JP Neighborhood Council filed lawsuit on behalf of the council against the Zoning Board of Appeals objecting to their approval of 161 South Huntington Avenue, a five-to-six story, 196-unit building. The JPNC claimed that its negative vote was binding; the court disagreed in May, 2013.

Not everyone wants the SNA to intervene. Wentworth Auto will have to move for 50 Stedman Street. SNA said it would ask the developers, Helm Investments, to donate \$16,000 to Bill Micelli, owner of Wentworth, for relocation expenses.

In an undated "to whom it may concern" letter distributed to SNA in February, Micelli said that Helm will provide him with assistance in relocating. Fred Vetterlein is chair of the 50 Stedman St sub-committee.

"Bill is kind of nervous," he said. "He doesn't seem to want our help."

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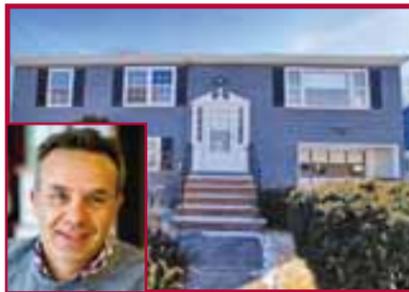
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Residents and developer reach impasse at Catherine Street meeting



Five units is too many for many residents, but is also the least the developer at 15 Catherine St. is willing to propose, and for all intents and purposes, no agreement could be reached, at least on Monday.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Developer Bee Yao, Development Attorney John Lydon and about 40 residents came to the unofficial abutters meeting for the proposal at 15 Catherine St. on the Roslindale, Jamaica Plain line on Monday night.

The discussion appeared to come to a standstill about half-way through the meeting. The residents wanted fewer than five units at the site, while Yao said she cannot make anything fewer than five profitable.

Lydon presented a new concept for the proposal, which would separate the five units into two sections, one three-unit building (using salvageable pieces of the existing structure) and one two-unit building to the right of the three. He said it would use the footprint of the existing building, salvage as much as they can and create an addition to the back of the property.

“The three-unit structure will be identical in style and spirit to 34 Catherine St.,” he said. “We

would take our architectural inspiration from the existing structures that are on Catherine Street already.”

But residents still balked at that number of units about 45 minutes into the meeting.

“Everybody who thinks that’s a nonstarter, raise your hands,” one resident said, to a vast majority of agreement from those attending.

“I think you just ended the meeting,” another resident said as about a third of those in attendance walked out then and there.

Lydon said they changed the building layout and presented a concept – not something they would be able to submit to the ZBA – because they wanted to keep costs down and not spend a lot of money on something they weren’t sure the community would get behind.

The former plan had one large building containing five townhouse units for sale to potential residents. Lydon said resident feedback on that plan was negative in several areas, but the new plan also appeared to have its problems in that the split design required two separate driveways, which reduced the greenspace of the area.

“We’ve reduced the mass, we’re not going to four stories, it might not even be three, and we’ve heard people talk about parking and so there has to be compromise somewhere, and so it was on greenspace,” he said.

“You didn’t have enough open space on the last plan,” said resident Celeste Walker. “You have townhouses, five units, I just don’t see how this concept is any improvement. We’re just looking for the city to enforce its own regulations.”

Lydon pointed out that from a legal perspective, the other proposal had enough greenspace according to zoning regulations. He also pointed out that the former proposal would more than likely need fewer variances than what they were proposing.

Residents said primarily they wanted a proposal that has

fewer than five units and conformed to what they saw as the character of the neighborhood, which meant to them a floor-to-area ratio of .6 (building living space to lot size).

Resident and self-proclaimed architect Hansy Barraza said the neighborhood would agree to that, to which Lydon and Yao said it just wouldn’t work financially.

“If we weren’t here asking for this, someone else would be here asking for something else,” Lydon said.

“All we’ve heard was ‘build within code, build within code,’” said Yao. “If I could build within the code I would not have had to hire (John Lydon) and have meetings for a year, it’s just not profitable.”

Walker said she felt it wasn’t on the city to accept Yao’s proposal based on what she felt was a bad business decision to buy the property in the first place if Yao couldn’t build the project within the zoning regulations.

“I don’t think it’s the city’s responsibility to mitigate bad business decisions on the part of property owners,” she said. “You buy the land and you assume you can build whatever you want, but you can’t. The city should not be enabling these developers to do this, it’s just not the role of the city to mitigate bad business decisions for people who want to develop property.”

Resident Richard Friend pointed out that you can’t build in the City of Boston now within the code, and variances are just a part of life, but there is a limit.

“Every new construction in Boston will require a variance, but that doesn’t mean a 10-story building in a two-family zone is okay, and I know this isn’t a 10-story, but still...,” he said.

As of the date of publication, the proposal is due at the Zoning Board of Appeals for April 9 for two separate applications, as Lydon said the parcel has been or will be subdivided into two proposals for the three-unit and two-unit buildings.

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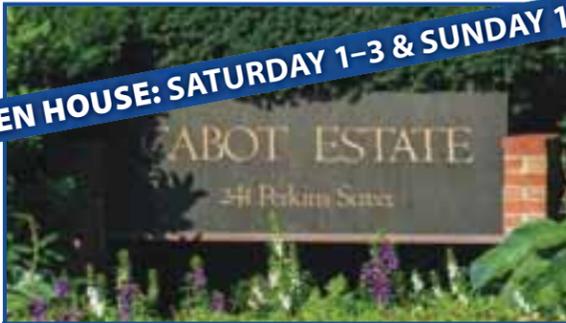
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Ask The Doctor

Junior Damato began servicing vehicles in 1969. He owns a 10-bay auto repair service center in Hyde Park and an 8-bay center in Middleboro. Junior is an ASE-certified Master Technician, ASE-certified L-1 and ASE-certified Natural Gas.

To the Doctor: I was recently given a 2015 Chrysler 300S. I call it my “Red Rocket” – it has a great ride. However, I cannot move the passenger power seat from the rearward position, and the rear USB charging ports don’t work. Are these issues related?

From the Doctor: The first step is to check all the fuses in the fuse boxes. Second, do a computer scan of the body control module. Next, check both Alldata and Identifix sites for any common history faults and to get wiring diagrams and connection junction box locations.

To the Doctor: I have a 2001 Ford F-350 4x4 with the 5.4-liter, V8 engine and 32,000 miles on it. During the very cold days of January I noticed that the oil pressure gauge wasn’t working and the oil light came on. I usually noticed this after not driving the vehicle for a week or more. There is no noise coming from the engine and it is smooth. I use Amsoil 0W30, which has a very low pour point. In the past when I used Amsoil, the oil pressure gauge shot up, regardless of the outside temperature. However, now it takes a while and the needle starts moving only after the engine has been running for 2 – 3 minutes and then bounces before finally showing the correct pressure. This problem only happens when the temperature is in the 20s or below. Is this a sending unit or connection problem? You recommend using only factory OEM transmission fluids in all vehicles. However, I am an Amsoil user and I feel that its fluids are superior to factory OEM fluids, especially since the car manufacturers don’t make the fluids. What are your thoughts?

From the Doctor: A simple mechanical oil pressure test. Remove the oil pressure sender screw in the mechanical gauge. The mechanical gauge will have either a plastic or metal line that is long enough to get into the interior so you can check the actual pressure on a cold morning. Amsoil has had a great reputation over the years and has always met or exceeded the manufacturer’s specs. As for the factory oils and fluids, I have always made a point to stock and use them. It does cost more but, in my opinion, it is worth the extra cost. We all know the car manufacturers do not make the oil, however they DO dictate the additive packages that go into all the fluids.

Boston’s own Junior Damato, “The Auto Doctor” has agreed to field auto repair questions from *Bulletin* and *Record* readers. Please forward your questions to news@bulletinnewspapers.com and we will do our best to get your questions answered.

New Bridges *continued from page 1*

with the currently proposed two large developments planned for the area – the Residences at Readville Station (305 units) and 36-70 Sprague St. (492 units), traffic is going to be a major concern.

“But whether another unit is ever going to be built in Hyde Park or not, this is needed,” McCarthy said.

The idea is to put three-light traffic signals at each end of the bridge, at the Milton Street Neponset Valley Parkway intersection and the Milton Street Hyde Park Avenue section. The plan is also to place crosswalks on the Hyde Park/Milton Street side to increase pedestrian safety for the bus stops there, as well as a whole redesign of Wolcott Square.

Wolcott Square will also see a new digitized signal installation, which, according to Boston Public Works Principal Civil Engineer Zach Wassmuth and BTD Senior Transportation Planner William Conroy, will be able to communicate with the two signals at the Father Hart and the Transportation Office at City Hall to move traffic through as efficiently as possible.

“When you have a green light (at Wolcott Square) it flushes traffic through based on the time of day,” Wassmuth said.

Conroy said there will be sensors in the ground – called ground loops – at each intersection to detect traffic, as well as video detection that will allow the signals to move traffic through. Conroy said they will

also have the ability for transit signal priority, which would allow the signals to adjust their red light and green light times when a bus is coming through to make the public transit options more efficient than regular vehicle traffic. He said this could be a long way off, however, as most TSP projects take a lot of research to make sure the red and green light optimization of the buses does not create gridlock on other streets, and the MBTA is just currently experimenting with the idea in Cambridge.

The MBTA will, however, be changing the location of its current bus stop for Hyde Park Ave @ Wolcott Square, which currently faces east on Hyde Park Ave right at the five-way intersection there. McCarthy said they are moving the bus stop to Prescott Street. The bus will have to take a left to get to the Neponset Valley Parkway East, now a one-way street (at least officially). McCarthy said they are also working on possibly acquiring Community Preservation Act Funding for the traffic island at Wolcott Square, which will also be enlarged.

“Instead of having a raised piece of cement, we’re looking at CPA money to improve the greenspace there and maybe have something tie-in with the 54th Regiment of Massachusetts with something that establishes them not just at Meigs Field but also at the square,” he said, adding that they would also work with the arts community in Hyde Park to solicit ideas. Conroy said

they would also think about working to create a mural inside the railroad bridge in between Father Hart and Wolcott Square, as new LED lights have been installed underneath the bridge, which McCarthy said is the first time those lights have seen any kind of replacement since their original installations in 1993.

“Hopefully we can brighten up the bridge even more,” Conroy said.

“I know Brockton has done it and they’ve also done some funky computer LED lights one way down the bridge there,” he said.

McCarthy said these improvements will most likely not be a silver bullet for traffic in the area, but it will help to put the neighborhood in the right direction. According to Wassmuth, the construction will hopefully start in the spring of this year and most likely take two seasons, to be completed in the spring or summer of 2020. Flynn said he has heard agreement from many residents that this will be a help in traffic, but not a silver bullet. He did say however that Father Hart has a confusing traffic pattern, and drivers will have a clearer idea of what should be happening on the bridge in terms of rights of way.

“There’s going to be a huge difference in public safety,” he said. “Nobody knows who has got the right of way on Father Hart, and nobody uses their blinker. The public safety issue will be greatly enhanced.”

According to the original plan

back in 2017, work was supposed to have started during that year on the Father Hart Bridge. According to city officials, however, there were some changes made to the plan during that time, which included additional sidewalk and lighting in and around Wolcott Square as well as the repaving and reconstruction of sidewalks along Hyde Park Ave between the Father Hart Bridge and Wolcott Square. Officials said these changes required further work with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and the MBTA, which slowed the timetable to its current outlook.

For Dana Avenue, the project is dealing with a whole new bridge, the major construction of which will start on July 4 and last six weeks, according to projections from Public Works City Engineer Para Jayasinghe. This bridge goes over the Neponset River, and is not to be confused with the railroad bridge immediately east of it. He said while there will be some prep work to start in the spring – mainly the construction of a pedestrian walkway to open while the bridge is literally being replaced by a mostly prefabricated bridge – vehicular traffic will only be shut down on the bridge for that period of six weeks after July 4.

Jayasinghe said they will have multiple digital signs letting drivers know the start date of construction beforehand and also during the bridge work period. He said there is a traffic management plan that takes into account the Boston EMS and Public Works building at 58 Dana Ave.

“We have had excellent meetings with the Boston EMS, Fire and Police,” he said. “So because of the geography and natural barriers of the area, which are the railroad and the river, there’s only one way to get around which is through Cleary Square through Fairmount and basically go around the block.”

Jayasinghe said they will have those digital, Variable Message Signs surrounding Dana Avenue to alert residents and public safety officials of the change in traffic patterns. He said they are also working with Eversource Gas to let residents know that this would be a very good time to do any gas work they may need on their residences, as the entirety of that section of Dana Avenue, from the bridge going west towards Hyde Park Avenue, will be repaved. Jayasinghe said they even managed to get local contractors on the job.

“We have P. Gioioso and Sons on Sprague Street,” he said. “I am thrilled that Hyde Park talent get to rebuild Hyde Park bridges. Any contractor for the City of Boston needs to be pre-qualified with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to build any such bridge... They have built a couple of other bridges on River Street over the railroad tracks in Mattapan and they have a track record of doing good work.”

McCarthy said he’s also happy with the selection Gioioso.

“They have such a good commute, I mean they’re literally a par 5 from there,” he said.

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ABDELAHAD

Mary K. (Kurker) Of West Roxbury, February 22, 2019. Dear and devoted wife of the late Fred Abdelahad. Loving mother of Fred R. Abdelahad and his wife Marianne of Sherborn and Dianne M. Abdelahad-Mercado of Braintree. Cherished grandmother, "Tete" of Andrew Abdelahad, Kathryn Cook and her husband Michael, Michael Abdelahad and his wife Danielle, Alex Mercado and his wife Kyra, Nicole and Nicholas Mercado, and great-grandmother of Alexis Mercado. Dear sister of the late Edward, Joseph and Charles Kurker. Dear sister-in-law of Laurice Kurker of Arlington and Lucille Abdelahad of Walpole. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Funeral from the Kfoury Keefe Funeral Home, West Roxbury. Interment Fairview Cemetery, Hyde Park. Guestbook available at www.KfouryFuneral.com. Kfoury Keefe Funeral Home West Roxbury 617-325-3600.

BONARRIGO



Corinne M. (Stryker) of West Roxbury, passed away on February 16, 2019 with her family at her side. Beloved wife of the late Francis J. Bonarrigo. Devoted mother of Frank, Edward & Paul Bonarrigo & Joan Navarro. Sister of Emil J. Stryker Jr., Joan Farrell and the late Paul, Carl, Bob, John, and Gordon Stryker. She is also survived by several grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces & nephews.

Corinne enjoyed being the president & travel director of the West Roxbury Parkway Seniors Club for over 20 years.

Funeral from the P.E. Murray-F.J. Higgins George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 2000 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY. Interment in St. Joseph's Cemetery, West Roxbury.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Corinne's memory to the Alzheimer's Association. 309 Waverley Oaks Rd. Waltham, MA. 02452. For online guestbook and directions, gfdoherty.com. Funeral arrangements by P.E. Murray-F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, West Roxbury.

DOHERTY

James H. Of Hyde Park, formerly of Roslindale, February 18th, age 76. Husband of Patricia M. (Capobianco) of Hyde Park; son of the late John and Hilda; brother of Jean Doherty of Brookline and Mary Ellen Dunn

Deaths

of Florida. Interment at the Gardens of Gethsemane Cemetery. For guestbook please visit thomasfuneralhomes.com Carroll-Thomas Funeral Home

GALVIN

Frances E. Age 88, also known as Darryl, died peacefully at home on February 20. A West Roxbury resident for nearly 60 years, Fran loved all that life had to offer and was the ultimate people person, making friends wherever she went and enjoying every minute of it. Fran especially loved her husband of 62 years, Frank, also known as Lefty, who passed away nearly two years ago. Fran and Lefty's romance started on the dusty ball fields of Jamaica Plain, and will live on forever in our memories.

Fran was adored by her six children and their spouses: Mary Scardino and her husband Jim of Wellesley, Frank Jr. and his wife Lynn of West Roxbury, Kathleen Fleming and her husband Rob of Concord, Joseph and his wife Maureen of West Roxbury, Theresa Driscoll and her husband Bill of West Roxbury, and Clare Karos and her husband Jim of Roslindale. Fran had 18 loving grandchildren - Frank, Molly, Lauren, Brian, Alex, Katie, Hannah, Sam, Elizabeth, Christina, Julia, Will, Mikayla, Brendan, Owen, Gabriel, Grace and Mac - one great-granddaughter, Lucy (and two more on the way!) - and a new pal named Scout. Her grandchildren's spouses, Campbell, Josh, Jen and Kellen, round out the gang.

Fran was a JP girl through and through, and her Boston accent was even better than her husband's. She was born in 1930 to Joseph and Anne Baxter and was raised in Jamaica Plain, one of eight siblings. She was the devoted sister of Dorothy Pitts of Brockton, H. Patricia Tanner of Melbourne, Australia, Jeanne Lavine of Framingham, and John Baxter of Denton, NC. Fran was predeceased by her younger brothers Philip and Joseph Baxter, and by her dear sister, Carol O'Day.

Fran was a graduate of St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Jamaica Plain, and worked at the John Hancock Insurance Company. She was an active member of Holy Name Parish in West Roxbury, a volunteer at local nursing homes, an expert babysitter, crafter, gardener and chef. She thanked God daily for her many blessings. In addition to her immediate family, Fran loved her many nieces, nephews, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law and many friends - old and new. Special thanks to the ladies and fellow guests of The Julia Ruth House, who filled our mom's final years with love, fun and friendship.

Funeral from the Robert J. Lawler and Crosby Funeral Home, 1803 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at

Holy Name Church, or The Julia Ruth House, 199 Canton St., Westwood. Lawler and Crosby Funeral Home 617-323-5600.

KARKOUR



Adnan, passed away after a struggle with illness Tues., Feb 19, 2019 at the age of 77. Loving husband, father, and grandfather. He is survived by his wife of 40 years Najat Horanieh Karkour. Father of Racha and Majd and a loving grandfather of Naya, Dea, Manar, and Taj. Further survived by his brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

Adnan will be fondly remembered by his family and friend as the most loving, caring, respectful, thoughtful, decent man, a distinguished Professor of Economics, Dean at The Syrian University of Damascus, champion of human rights and dignity, great scholar and an author of multiple books in business and economics.

Funeral from the P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 2000 Centre St. WEST ROXBURY. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Adnan's memory to St. George's Orthodox Church 55 Emmonsdale Rd. West Roxbury, MA 02132. Arrangements by P.E. Murray-F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons.

LYCOURGOS

Sofocles "Sam" "Soph" Of Chestnut Hill, 86, died Saturday, February 23rd, 2019. He leaves his wife Dorothy (Burgess) Lycourgos and daughter Maria Lycourgos; brother Michael and his wife Meni, a niece and nephew in Greece; and many friends. Born in Greece, son of Maria and Grigorios Lycourgos, he lived in Chestnut Hill for over 30 years. Sofocles was a Corporal in the Army during the Korean Conflict, serving his country honorably. He was a businessman, owning several businesses including Elite Cleaners in Boston. He was also a longtime employee of Jimmies Harborside Restaurant. He had a warm, engaging, friendly personality that allowed him to make connections with many people, especially in the role of maître-de. Sofocles had a passion for cooking, sports, travel, and classical music. He was a longtime member of Boston YMCA. Funeral from the Robert J. Lawler & Crosby Funeral Home, 1803 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY, 617-323-5600. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Sofocles to the Hellenic Cardiac

Deaths

Continued on page 11

Deaths *continued from page 10*

Fund for Children c/o Children's Hospital, 1 Autumn St. # 731, Boston, MA 02215 or to Eliot Health & Rehab. 168 W Central St., Natick, MA 01760. Lawler & Crosby Funeral Home www.lawlerfuneralhome.com

NATES

Mary A. Of West Roxbury, February 16, 2019. Beloved daughter of the late Thomas G. and Emily Nates. Beloved sister of Matilda Nates, and the late Lila Driscoll and Dr. Joseph Nates. Survived by several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews and great-great-nieces and nephews, and especially her niece Denise Seward who cared for Mary for many years. Funeral from the Robert J. Lawler and Crosby Funeral Home, 1803 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY. Interment Mt. Benedict Cemetery. www.lawlerfuneralhome.com Lawler & Crosby Funeral Home 617-323-5600.

O'CONNOR

Martin John age 84, of Roslindale passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on February 22, 2019. Beloved husband of the late Mary Ann (Connor). Cherished father of Patrick O'Connor and his wife Josephine of Weymouth; Ann Marie Montagna and her husband David of Waltham; Mary Ellen Dean and her husband Donald of Mansfield and Noreen Sheehan and her husband Ken of Marshfield. Loving "Papa" of Sean, M.J., Jacqueline, Courtney, Patrick, Shannon, Marianne and David. He was the son of the late Patrick and Catherine O'Connor. Brother of the late Margaret Petitti, Deborah Kerrigan and Patrick O'Connor. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Martin retired from the MBTA and was a member of IBEW Local 103, a member of the Norwood K of C and the Irish Social Club of West Roxbury. Funeral from the William J. Gormley Funeral Home, 2055 Centre Street, WEST ROXBURY. In lieu of flowers, donations in Martin's memory may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 311 Arsenal Street, Watertown, MA 02472 or at act.alz.org. For directions and guestbook, please visit: gormleyfuneral.com

ROBINSON

Edward G. Of Roslindale, February 15, 2019. Beloved husband of Donna M. (McDowell) Robinson. Devoted father of Maura Robinson of Franklin, and Tara Robinson of Bellingham. Stepfather of Jeremy McDowell of Southboro. Loving grandfather of Matthew, Brynn, Jax, Quinn, and Ace. Brother of Mary Foster and Tommy, Richard, Billy, and Kevin Robinson. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Funeral from the P.E. Murray-F.J. Higgins George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 2000 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, donations may

be made in Ed's memory to the Scleroderma Foundation, 300 Rosewood Drive, Suite 105, Danvers, MA 01923-1389. Online guestbook and directions at pemurrayfuneral.com P.E. Murray-F.J. Higgins George F. Doherty & Sons West Roxbury 617-325-2000.

YOUNG

Nancy Joyce of West Roxbury, died on February 14, 2019 after a brief but fierce battle with cancer, at age 67. She leaves her wife and life partner of 32 years, Allison Bayer, her parents Chester and Marilyn Young of Austin, Texas, brothers Carlton of Cambodia, and Damon and his wife Joyce of Austin, Texas, and her beloved nephew John and his wife Kristin Young of Brighton, MA, as well as many cousins and an enormous circle of devoted friends. Nancy grew up on the Texas Gulf Coast, and completed an MA in English at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. She taught at Texas A&M and worked for political and community causes in Houston before moving to Boston. In 1989 she joined the Humanities faculty of Curry College in Milton, MA, serving for 28 years as a Senior Lecturer in Humanities, teaching English, Writing, and Women's Studies. She completed her Ph.D at Lesley University in Cambridge, MA in 2012. Nancy was known for her passion for politics and social justice, and her commitment to build a workplace that recognized and rewarded the contributions of all staff. While at Curry College, she served for 2 years as the President of the Curry Chapter of the American Association of University Professors. She was the first part-time member of the faculty elected to serve as Union President. While at Curry, Nancy was a member of the Writing Curriculum Development Committee and the Curry Women's Studies Committee, and served as faculty advisor to the Curry student Gender Sexuality Alliance. In 2012, she received the Teacher of the Year Award from Curry. Nancy's passion for music of all types was a driving force of her life. She was a follower and a scholar of Dusty Springfield, the British pop icon. Her love for Dusty's music led her to becoming a founding member of an international on-line community, Let's

Talk Dusty, dedicated to honoring, listening to and understanding Dusty's musical contributions. The forum reached Dusty fans around the world. Her 2012 doctoral thesis focused on Springfield in an interdisciplinary exploration of identity development, fan studies, and psychological theories related to projection. Nancy and Allison traveled in Europe and the US, especially the American Southwest, where Nancy indulged her passion for Native American memorabilia and historic postcards. After retiring in 2017, Nancy focused on developing her skill as a photographer, creating an extensive portfolio of bird and landscape images, and began showing and selling her work in local fairs, Open Studios, exhibitions and artists cooperatives. She was an early member of the Switch Gallery in Hyde Park, helping to build the presence of local artists in the community. She spent many hours photographing on Cape Cod, the southwest coast of England, and during the great spring migration on the Gulf Coast of Texas. A Boston Memorial Service will be held at the Theodore Parker Unitarian Church, 1859 Centre Street, West Roxbury, MA on Saturday, March 9 at 11 AM, followed by a reception at the Church. Per Nancy's wishes, a Texas Memorial will be held in the Hill Country outside of Austin during bluebonnet season on Sunday, March 31, where some of Nancy's ashes will be scattered in the Pedernales River. In lieu of flowers, gifts in Nancy's memory may be made to Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas on line at https://www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-greater-texas/charitable-giving, or to CareGroup Parmenter Hospice of Mount Auburn Hospital online at https://donate.mountauburnhospital.org/caregroupparmenter. Nancy's family extends our deepest gratitude to all the members of her care team at Mount Auburn Hospital who cared so compassionately for Nancy during the past 6 months, and to the entire nursing staff of Stanton 3. Special thanks to Drs. Debra Shapiro, Carolyn Lamb, Erin DeRose, Kate Esselen and Alden Rinaldi and her nurses Denise Natale, Ginny Davis, Tamara Jo, Melissa Ginnings and Tracy Daly.

Tell 'em what you think with a



Letter To The Editor

Please write to: THE BULLETIN 661 Washington St, Suite 202 Norwood, MA 02062 Tel: (617) 361-8400 • Fax: (617) 361-1933 e-mail us at news@bulletinnewspapers.com Please include your name, address & telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be published.

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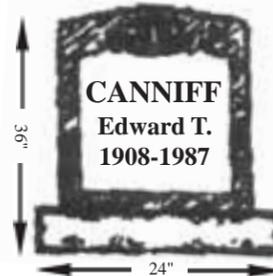
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Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Since the initiation of the Next Gen RNav GPS guidance systems in airplanes a few years ago, residents of Boston and other large cities with airports have been noticing higher levels of airplane noise, and in higher concentrations.

The system works by allowing aircraft to land and take off closer together along a specific linear path, saving time and fuel for airlines and airports. But this has led to a quality of life trade off for residents in and around airports. Instead of noise being more distributed along several different approaches to a particular runway, the noise is concentrated along specific lines to said runways. Even when Logan is using two runways at a time, those two approaches are much more concentrated than they used to be, and residents along those flight paths, mainly in Hyde Park, Milton, Roslindale, Dorchester and South Boston, are hearing a huge difference.

Many local organizations, like Fair Skies South, have taken up the call to try to mitigate those impacts on residents, and one of the ways that they can do that is to file complaints with MassPort. La Jolla resident Chris McCann said he has started a company to help residents file those complaints with the touch of a button, by using Amazon's first generation AWS IoT Button. He said he first became aware of the button when he saw an article about a man who wanted immediate gratification to problems he saw in the world, and used said button to do so.

"Every time he clicked his button it sent a donation to his local branch of the American Civil Liberties Union," he said. "So you can make this system do whatever you want, basically, and I just put that together with the other parts of this program."

McCann said he used to be a U.S. Air Force test pilot and is now a computer programmer. He said that his suburb of San Diego was seeing an uptick in airplane noise complaints, and until he saw it for himself he didn't really believe it.

"There were statements being made about pilots stunt flying and gunning the engines, and I didn't really take it too seriously," he said. "But I definitely soon realized there was an issue with the FAA and the Next Gen RNav systems and I found there wasn't a real easy way for people to give filed complaints."

McCann said the system works by taking the user's address initially, and when the button is pressed it uses publicly available Automatic Dependent Surveil-



lance - Broadcast to determine which flight is closest to that location specifically and logs it in so detailed, compiled lists of data can be used to help make said complaint more substantial.

McCann said he started this button system in San Diego two years ago in March, and almost immediately got a call from a resident of Boston.

"I'm not sure how he found out about it," he said. "He contacted me and found the website and he said, 'any chance this would work for Boston?' I did some investigation and I didn't see why it wouldn't. That was April 2017. So, Boston's been there a long time, I guess because of where Logan is set up with the harbors and the dense neighborhoods around there."

McCann said the situation in San Diego was a bit different, but it wasn't hard to adapt the programming and allow the clicker to be used in Boston. He said San Diego's problem was that it has only two runways, allowing for four possible approaches or departures (two at a time, depending on the wind, as a plane can only take off into the wind). He said any northbound plane, mostly going to either San Francisco or Seattle, would turn north from the airport and hug the coastline, causing problems for residents there.

Boston Fair Skies South member Alan Wright said he is aware of the device and said some people concerned with the issue have started using it, but he has concerns that it may lend more credence to the "cranky neighbor" argument that MassPort has used in the past to downplay residents' complaints.

"If people use it to over complain then this becomes apparent in the data that Massport tracks and publishes," he said. "If there has not been a change in air traffic but there is an uptick in complaints then it is obvious that someone has found a way to increase their volume. Massport provides two forms of complaint reporting - one that shows the total number of complaints in an area and the other that shows only the location of the complaint

as a single count. What this reveals is that in some communities - Milton in particular - there are a few people who complain all the time. What this behavior does is to degrade the value of the complaints. So I am not in favor of the technology if it is overused."

McCann said he's heard that argument before, but he pointed out that many organizations, airports, airport authorities and the FAA, never have defined a limit of complaints that would lead to them having to take action and divert planes or change procedure.

"I challenge an airport authority to say what that number is," he said. "It's a problem everywhere, but in San Diego, before I started, they made a point of listing the number of complaints and they pointed out that some large percentage is from a single household. So the airport authority, almost without fail, will try to find ways to minimize what the volume of complaints say. They will say 90 percent of the complaints came from 10 people or one person is responsible for 10,000 complaints... They try to find some number, and the funny thing is when you ask what is the number of complaints from unique citizens of the area that indicates there's a problem, they never answer."

McCann also pointed out that MassPort does not control the flightpaths of the airlines, that's the FAA.

"And I challenge you to find a place in the FAA's massive bureaucracy where you can file a complaint, because you just can't," he said.

McCann said he does charge for the service, as the flight information and the production of the buttons cost money, as well as the internet infrastructure for compiling and posting the data.

"I'm not planning to retire on the little bit of money leftover from those costs each month," he said.

For more information on the button and more details on exactly how it works, go to <https://airnoise.io/>

Food Pantry *continued from page 1*

be all meat, yogurt and eggs,” she said.

Braverman said it hasn't always been fresh food, and said the practice at food banks has definitely changed through the years.

“I've been the director here for about six years, and six years ago you got two bags of basic staples, and right now you get two banana boxes full of staples and fresh food,” she said. “I mean I'm a vegan, so we get every vegetable we can get our hands on, because that's my thing.”

Braverman also experienced a bit of personal good luck that week, as she was just given the news that the cancer she has been fighting for years is finally in remission.

“I've been here for 25 years and the pantry has been for 40,” she said, adding she's looking to be at the pantry for may years still.

Braverman said they also used to service West Roxbury, when the West Roxbury food Pantry closed down a few years ago, but stopped when Rose's Bounty formed to pick up the slack.

“We were doing both, but

my uncle went to the VA forever, so when we get things like turkeys or ham, then we bring dinners, whole dinners, turkey dinners, that kind of thing, to the veterans there,” she said. “Also Beech Street is looking to open their own food bank, and so we're sponsoring them.... We also sponsor different churches too when they need food.”

RGB President John Malley said this was one of the first projects the RBG picked up from the Board of Trade. He said they've been able to kick it into overdrive since then.

“John Sullivan asked me to bring this back and we said sure,” he said. “We basically had a year to do it.”

Malley said anyone and everyone are always welcome to volunteer.

“You don't have to be a member of the business group to volunteer, I mean we'll take any member of the community,” he said.

Sullivan said this year was amazing in that they were able to increase the amount of money they raised.

“We're looking for more. I'm going to work on the volunteers as the year goes on,”

he said. “We're really going to have to double up on our volunteering next year. If everybody does a little, a lot gets done.”

Sullivan said they also received a donation of about 200 cans of food from West Roxbury Crushed Stone, worth about \$400 of cans.

“She just asked ‘how can I help,’ and I asked her to buy the cans,” he said. “She said, ‘how much is it?’ and I just said \$400, just off the top of my head, I didn't know how much they were, and she said ‘I'll send you a check tomorrow.’ So what we did was I told the guy I had \$400, and the guy gave me 200 cans.”

Braverman said they will be able to stretch the \$6,000 for more than six months.

Sullivan said he teamed up with Joe Murphy and Carol O'Connor at the Chef's Table Foundation. He said they collect for the food pantry during the winter months and then revert to the Foundation during the rest of the year.

“Joe's a real team player,” Sullivan said.

For more information on the food pantry, go to <http://roscon.org/food-pantry/>. For more information on the RBG, go to facebook.com/roslindalebusinessgroup/

Proposed Addition

continued from page 1

tion would result in a 2.5 story dwelling. Violations included an excessive floor area ratio and an insufficient front yard.

Multiple neighbors and abutters to 175 Maple St. were present at the meeting, and were strongly opposed to this proposal. The neighbors first heard about the construction only days prior to the meeting. One abutter called the proposed construction a “surprise”.

“It's a very aggressive move, it is very concerning,” stated another neighbor. The neighbors said they received “no calls or notifications” about the proposed construction before last week. “If you want to keep middle class families, like ourselves, in this neighborhood, you better do a better job of gathering neighbors together to discuss proposals like this,” stated one neighbor.

The neighbors also disputed the numbers. “The proposal calls for, from our examination of the plans, not 2100 but 3168 feet of conditioned floor area,” stated one abutter. “In short, the plans for the call for constructing a single-family house is even larger than the multi-family homes on either side [of the lot].”

Neighbors and abutters were extremely concerned about this construction causing their property values to “diminish”. They told the Zoning Board that the construction will “limit the light, air, and view” from their houses. Many of the abutters live less than 20 feet away from 175 Maple St.

WRNC Zoning Chair, Tony Saroufim, decided to not take a vote on this proposal during the meeting.

At 132-134 Greaton Road, a proposal was made to construct a new dormer addition to extend living space into the attic for a bedroom and bathroom to an existing two-family dwelling. Variances required include an excessive floor area ratio, an insufficient rear and side yard, and extension of nonconforming use. A lot of Greaton Rd. neighbors showed up to the meeting in support of the new construction. A motion was made to approve the new construction, and the motion was passed.

At 11 Lorette St, a proposal was made by the property owner (who has owned the property for over 20 years) to extend the existing dormer on the west side to match the east side of the dormer. The proposal also called for rebuilding the existing decks within the existing deck footprints, extending the first floor living space to create a family room and adding two additional parking spaces. Variances required include insufficient usable open space, insufficient front yard, and insufficient side yard. Saroufim discussed the green space surrounding the home with the property owner. There were no questions from the public, a motion was made to approve the proposal, and the motion passed.

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RFP ANNOUNCEMENT

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) Infectious Disease Bureau is seeking submissions in response to a request for proposals (RFP) to deliver effective prevention interventions to identified populations and sub-populations of individuals at high risk of HIV, Hepatitis C and/or sexually transmitted infections (STI). Providers within the City of Boston are eligible to submit proposals. The City encompasses the neighborhoods of Allston/ Brighton, Back Bay, Charlestown, Dorchester, East Boston, Hyde Park, Jamaica Plain, Mattapan, North End, Roslindale, Roxbury, South Boston, South End and West Roxbury. Qualified applicants for a Major-Grant as part of this RFP must have a minimum operating budget of \$500,000.00. Applicants that do not meet the threshold for the minimum operating budget may engage a sponsor agency to apply on their behalf with clearly articulated roles for fiscal, operational and programmatic assurances and practices. Applicants for Mini-Grants under this RFP do not need to meet this budget threshold. This RFP seeks proposals to deliver effective prevention interventions to identified populations and sub-populations of individuals at high risk of specified infections.

In applying for this funding, an applicant must describe the gap(s) in services the proposed program will address, and clearly explain what unmet need will be addressed and for what specific population of people at risk for HIV, Hepatitis C and/or STI Epidemiological data and needs assessments must be used to justify proposed activities.

The RFP will be released at **12:00 pm on Friday, March 15, 2019**. The RFP may be downloaded from the BPHC website at <http://www.bphc.org/rfp>. A Bidders' Conference will be held on **Wednesday, March 20, 2019** from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm at BPHC, 1010 Mass Ave., Hayes Conference Room, 2nd Floor. Completed proposals must be submitted to Dr. Jenifer Leaf Jaeger, Director, BPHC Infectious Disease Bureau, 1010 Massachusetts Avenue, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02118 by 12:00 pm, **Friday, April 12, 2019**. There are no exceptions to this deadline. BPHC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if it deems to be in the public interest to take such action.

Boston Water and Sewer Commission

IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small; margin: 0;">HYDE PARK</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">Hyde Park Municipal Building 1179 River Street Tuesdays, 10 AM - 1 PM March 5 & 19 April 9 & 23</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small; margin: 0;">ROSLINDALE</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">Greater Roslindale Dental & Medical Center 4199 Washington Street Tuesdays, 10 AM - 1 PM March 12 & April 2</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small; margin: 0;">WEST ROXBURY</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">Roche Community Center 1716 Centre Street Fridays, 10 AM - 1 PM March 29 & April 26</p>
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Letters

continued from page 4

CITY NEEDS TO SUPPORT ALL STUDENTS

To the Editor:

I support Roxbury Prep's high school project proposed at 361 Belgrade Ave. in Roslindale. I have reviewed the revised plan, which shrinks the footprint and student body, and have gotten a sense of the work that's gone into it. I have followed this project for some time and have been relieved to see that some of the initial opposition has quieted down and that most of what I have heard has been in support of this project. Roslindale is a wonderful community with several great public schools and charter schools. Roxbury Prep will be a positive addition to the community. I was at the BDPA hearing on Feb. 13 with my wife and children. It was clear to me in that room that the majority of people were for the project, even though the first commenter during the Q&A session claimed to represent the "silent majority" in the community. But I think we all know that anyone using the term "silent majority" is not talking about being silent or representing the majority, certainly not in Boston. I also didn't hear anyone in the opposition mention what's best for the kids, which is what I think we should be focused on. Through my work at City Fresh Foods in Roxbury, I work with Roxbury Prep and I know how hard the teams at those schools work and how dedicated they are to providing high-quality education to the kids who go there. Even though my Wife and I are very grateful that our son has had a great experience as a young BPS-student, we support charter schools and see a stronger Boston with highly-functioning public and charter schools. I see Roxbury Prep and other charter schools doing a lot of good in the community for a lot of kids. I think that the City should be focused on supporting the best possible and most well-rounded educational experience for all school kids in Boston.

*Erik Kunz
Roslindale*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. **SU18P1596GD**
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

In the matter of: Stephen J Martinez RESPONDENT
Of: Boston, MA Alleged Incapacitated Person

To The named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by
Eloise Selwood of Boston, MA / Jean Valcin of Framingham, MA
In the above captioned matter alleging that Stephen J Martinez is in need of a Guardian and requesting that
Eloise Selwood of Boston, MA / Jean Valcin of Framingham, 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 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **03/14/2019**. 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
February 15, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate
Boston Bulletin, 02/28/19

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. **SU18D2286DR**
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING
Marie A. Toussaint vs. Schiller Toussaint
Suffolk Probate and Family Court, 24 New Chardon St., Boston, MA 02114

To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for
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: **Marie A. Toussaint, 746 River Street, Hyde Park, MA 02136**, your answer, if any, on or before **04/04/2019**. 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.
February 7, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate Court
Hyde Park Bulletin, 02/28/19

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. **SU19P0337EA**

Estate of: Joseph M. Denapoli Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
617-788-8300

Date of Death: 01/07/2019

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by:
Thomas Denapoli of Bourne, 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:
Thomas Denapoli of Bourne, 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: 10:00a. m. on the return day of 03/28/2019. 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: February 14, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate
West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin, 02/28/19

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. **SU19P0303PM**
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: Dorothea Ransome RESPONDENT
Of: Roslindale, MA (Person to be Protected/Minor)

To The named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by
Central Boston Elder Services Inc. of Roxbury, MA
In the above captioned matter alleging that **Dorothea Ransome** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that
(or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve
With 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 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **03/26/2019**. 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
February 19, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate
West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin, 02/28/19

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. **SU19P0331EA**

Estate of: Eleni Papadopoulos Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
617-788-8300

Date of Death: 02/01/2018

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by:
Savas Papadopoulos of Roslindale, 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:
Savas Papadopoulos of Roslindale, MA
be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve 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: 10:00a. m. on the return day of 03/27/2019. 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: February 13, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate
West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin, 02/28/19

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. **SU19P0135EA**

Estate of: Imelda M. McLaughlin Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
617-788-8300

Date of Death: 12/30/2018

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by:
James A. McLaughlin Jr. of Roslindale, 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:
James A. McLaughlin Jr. of Roslindale, 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: 10:00a. m. on the return day of 03/11/2019. 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: February 14, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate
West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin, 02/28/19

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Please include your name, address & telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be published.

BCYF Family Gym is back!

Family Gym is a free, weekly play program that promotes physical activity for children ages 3-8 and their families.

Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) free Family Gym Program is back for the spring season and Boston families are invited to join in! Family Gym is a free, weekly play program that promotes physical activity for children ages 3-8 and their families.

Family Gym runs on Saturdays beginning February 16 from 10-11:30 a.m. at BCYF Blackstone Community Center in the South End, BCYF Holland Community Center in Dorchester, and BCYF Vine Street Community Center in Roxbury. Family Gym has had over 2,007 children and caregivers participate in the program since it began in 2011. More than 300 college students have volunteered for Family Gym

contributing more than 8,000 volunteer hours!

Children and adults move at their own pace in supervised activities. Colorful play equipment encourages individual, small, and large group play. Families can jump rope, play on an obstacle course, do the limbo, or play parachute games or sports. No pre-registration required however caregivers must participate and remain in the gym with their children

at all times. Thanks to a partnership with Northeastern University, student volunteers serve as Activity Leaders at Family Gym. Family Gym is sponsored by The Foundation for BCYF, Boston Children's Hospital, and Northeastern University.

"The program is a perfect fit for my kids Sarrah and Sudhan, offering them a place to run and play during the winter months when getting outside isn't possible," said

Dhanani Guniag, a parent who attends weekly with her children. "I also love the weekly health topics, and learning about everything from working out at home to eating seasonal fruits and vegetables."

This session of Family Gym will run through April 13. In the fall the program will expand to additional BCYF community centers. For updated information or program cancellations follow @BCYFCenters.

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