

The Hyde Park Bulletin

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March 21, 2024



Residents have expressed concerns at the speed of the Squares + Streets process at several local events these past few months, like this one in Hyde Park recently, but the BPDA passed the regulations last Thursday regardless.

FILE PHOTO

S+S clears BPDA, Pepén and Mejia contrast

Matt MacDonald
Staff Reporter

On March 14, the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) Board of Directors unanimously approved an Agency request to petition the Zoning Commission to add an amendment to the city's base code that would create six new zoning districts. These districts could be applied – after a six-to-nine-month community engagement process – to neighborhood transit corridors and main streets throughout the city, superseding their existing zoning.

These new districts are the key to the BPDA's Squares + Streets initiative, and their main goal is to increase zoned housing density allowances in the code, thus reducing or eliminating the need for variances. They also represent Mayor Michelle Wu's first move to overhaul the city's zoning code.

The 100-plus-page draft amendment introduced five proposed S+S zones (S0-S4) to the public on Dec. 5, kicking off a comment period that was extended to two months. Reflective of the work-in-progress nature of the amendment, a sixth zone (S5) was added to the draft in early January; this "placeholder" district is the most dense and least detailed of the six zones. Revisions to the draft continued after public review.

The first two areas selected for S+S rezoning are Roslindale Square and Hyde Park's Cleary Square. Pushback from both neighborhoods has increased as awareness has grown, with concerns focusing on the speed at which the amendment was sent through the community review process, the amount of meaningful input the community will have in the rezoning process, and a general distrust of the BPDA. These have led to the two neighborhoods' most repeated request: to slow down the amendment's codification.

Despite the fact that there was no public hearing, the appointment ran nearly an hour-and-a-half. The first half hour of it was devoted to a BPDA synopsis of the S+S community process, followed by a presentation reviewing the amendment. Also cited was the fact that 240 comments, as well as 35 letters, had been received by the BPDA's S+S team.

At its conclusion, BPDA Deputy Director of Zoning Kathleen Onufur acknowledged the "many comments asking to slow down the process of updating zoning to make sure that neighborhoods fully understand and are comfortable with the changes," and reiterated a point that she had made earlier – and would return to later – that there would be no zoning changes made until after the community engagement pro-

cess had ended.

This process will last between six to nine months, after which the final zoning recommendations will go to the BPDA Board and on to the Zoning Commission to be approved and mapped, after which the new zoning districts will go into effect in the zoning code.

Any statements made by presenters went unquestioned and unchallenged, unless by one of the four board members. Elected officials were, however, permitted to give testimony.

District 5 City Councilor Enrique Pepén represents both Roslindale and Hyde Park.

"I'm here to elevate the voices of the residents of both those neighborhoods," he began. "I've gotten many emails and phone calls from both sides: those that have questions and those that support this." He then skimmed past them on the way to his recommendation.

"I do know that, by taking this vote today, it will just... this is just to codify Squares + Streets. So this is not to basically say this is exactly what we're building, this is what's going on," Pepén explained. "And for that reason, I want to recommend the BPDA to vote yes on Squares + Streets today codifying it, just because I know that the next steps are when the community engagement will truly begin to happen. And I want

Squares

Continued on page 2



The Boston City Council recently discussed camps having to move to make way for repairs and construction

COURTESY PHOTO

Parkway camp programs moving

Katie Krom
Staff Reporter

On Feb. 29, the Boston City Council held a hearing on school facilities closing for renovations and repairs over the summer and how that affects the community programming they house at those times.

The goal of this hearing was to give more information on the facility work this summer that will be impacting the services provided for children, families and seniors. As number of Boston schools and pools will be offline this summer, the topics for this hearing included letting residents know which buildings will be closed, and answering any outstanding questions.

This was the second hearing on Docket 0267, the first taking place two weeks ago. Chair of Boston City Council Committee on Strong Women, Families, and Communities Erin Murphy headed the meeting with her two Co-Chairs, District 2 City Councilor Ed Flynn and District 9 City Councilor Liz

Camp Relocating
Continued on page 11

Weber responds to Stonybrook concerns

Richard Heath
Staff Reporter

Arguably the three biggest issues in Jamaica Plain are the Shattuck Hospital, the Arborway bus garage and White Stadium. The Shattuck and Arborway have been percolating for years and White Stadium popped up last July.

All of these have been reported on at length by The Bulletin and all of these have been inherited by new District 6 City Councilor Ben Weber. Weber addressed these issues at the March 11 Stonybrook Neighborhood Association (SNA) meeting.

In its March 7 invitation, the SNA steering committee requested that these issues were exactly what members wanted to hear. "People want to hear about the White Stadium lawsuit that was filed," Weber said opening his remarks.

Two SNA members are plaintiffs in the Emerald Necklace

Weber Responds
Continued on page 9



The Irish Social Club in West Roxbury hosted a lively St. Patrick's Day celebration this past weekend.

PHOTO BY ARIANE KOMYATI

WR Celebrates St. Patrick's Day

Ariane Komyati
Staff Reporter

The 57-degree sunny weather was perfect for St. Patrick's Day festivities across Boston on Sunday, and the annual St. Patrick's Day celebration at the Irish Social Club in West Roxbury was no excep-

tion. Festivities in the Parkway kicked off at 2 p.m. and ran for seven hours, drawing a crowd of more than 400 attendees from across New England and beyond, including visitors from Ireland. The venue was filled with families and children decked out in green and orange

attire, as well as Celtics jerseys, paddy caps, Aran sweaters, and outfits covered in four leaf clovers. Entertainment for the family-friendly event featured DJ Sean McCarthy and live performances of Irish music by The Fenian Sons.

St. Patrick's Day
Continued on page 10

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail!)

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

Miracle Prayer

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

Novena to St. Clare

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

Squares *continued from page 1*

to make sure that the BPDA continues to come to Roslindale and Hyde Park because folks still have questions. But this isn't cemented in stone. And I want to make sure that the residents, the Roslindale Coalitions, the Hyde Park Neighborhood Associations – shout out to all of them – that they have a voice when they're built. When this begins to happen."

At no point did Pepén "elevate the voices" of those shouted out groups and residents by stating their established requests to slow down the codification process for further review.

At-Large City Councilor Julia Mejia did, noting her concerns of constituents being bypassed, their uncertainty, and the opportunity for the BPDA to build trust through a community centered approach.

"I'm asking for a slowdown for us to really get this process right, because what we do today is going to impact the relationship of any type of projects that come before you moving forward. And if people don't feel affirmed and heard, then what we're doing is replicating bad behavior."

Adding that she could not in good conscience support the amendment as it is, Mejia asked for a delay. "I don't want to be the councilor that is just going along to get along... I'm not going to rubber stamp, and I'm not going to just do... what... I'm going to do what the people want me to do, and the people want me to say slow it down, and that's what I'm here to say: slow it down."

Dr. Ted Landmark asked all of the Board's questions. His first concerned future neighborhood engagement and their influence on decisions, asking, "In what ways will the community be able to shape what, in fact, goes on

within their communities?"

BPDA Planning Director Aimee Chambers responded by going through the agenda for the six-to-nine-month planning period now underway in both Hyde Park and Roslindale, starting with the community workshops and other formal and informal outreach. She further stated that the goal is to collect and connect the data and recurring themes from these interactions, "and then have residents and stakeholders really lead the discussion around what districts – and where those districts – make sense in their neighborhoods."

Board Chair Priscilla Rojas spoke last, pausing often as she made her way.

Acknowledging the 500-700 pages of comments, and recognizing the BPDA's past while alluding to its untrustworthy reputation, she emphasized the importance of adding the six districts to more effectively simplify the zoning code, echoing her colleagues sentiments.

"Even though we get called all the time a rubber stamp in the press and in some of these emails... I'm not a rubber stamp, and none of my fellow Board members are, either. So whatever vote that we individually take is absolutely based on our experience, based on our understanding, based on our having read 500, 600, 700 pages of input," she said.

"And I guess I just wanted to make that clear."

The Squares + Streets zoning amendment goes to the Zoning Commission on April 17. There will be a public hearing. For more information, visit <https://tinyurl.com/2s9tz6kb>.

For more information about Squares + Streets, visit <http://tinyurl.com/29cxfnys>.

Join us for Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday
March 24, 10:00 am

Tenebrae
March 27, 7:00 pm

Good Friday
March 29, 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday
March 31, 10:00 am



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Consalvo updates HPNA on legislative happenings

Migrant crisis, budget bills all topics

Matt MacDonald
Staff Reporter

The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association (HPNA) held its monthly meeting on March 7 at the Municipal Building/BCYF (1179 River St.). It ran an hour-and-a-half, drew about 25 members and attendees, and had several minor zoning appointments on the agenda.

The evening's featured appointment brought State Representative Rob Consalvo (14th Suffolk) before the group for a lengthy update regarding ongoing legislative business, and its implications for Hyde Park, Roslindale, and West Roxbury.

However, he began by talking about an ongoing national issue that more recently has been impacting Massachusetts and the greater Boston area: the migrant crisis. The day before, the House had passed a bill appropriating \$235 million in funding for it, while tightening regulations concerning the state shelter system. It contained more than 25 amendments, including those facilitating the hiring of migrants.

Massachusetts has spent more than \$900 million on the crisis, which Consalvo de-

scribed as an unfunded mandate, given that it is the only right-to-shelter-state.

"This is a Washington D.C. issue, not a Massachusetts issue, but in lieu of Washington D.C. acting, we've had to pass multiple appropriation bills to support the funding to shelter the migrants."

He explained the latest legislation. "There was both an economic development piece to the bill, a \$235 million funding piece, and some parameters around what our state shelter system needs to look like in this crisis. Because if we did nothing, the state shelter system would have collapsed on its own, and that's why the House took swift action." Going further, he anticipated that another \$1 billion could be allocated to the crisis in the upcoming budget if the federal stalemate regarding immigration reform is maintained. The funding is currently coming out of leftover COVID-19 relief monies.

Consalvo also brought attention to the state not having met its predicted tax revenue for the last seven months. "This is a huge issue. We're the only state in New England to actually not be reaching its tax bench-

marks," he said of the lower than expected collections, the causes of which are being looked into. "It's usually a regional thing."

Because of this, in January Governor Maura Healey invoked a little used section of state law granting her the authority to unilaterally reduce spending when tax revenues fall short of projections, resulting in

HPNA

Continued on page 6



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Hyde Park Bulletin: 03/21/24, 03/28/24




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A critical eye looks at Boston's bravest

As a boy born right after the turn of the century, my father used to watch a troika of horses pulling a fire wagon as they galloped at full speed from their Centre Street firehouse—now the site of JP Licks—down Green Street (then a two-way thoroughfare) toward Washington. At the appropriate time the driver, also a firefighter, had to rein in his snorting steeds. The time has now come for Mayor Wu to rein in the wild expenses of the city's fire department: we beleaguered taxpayers deserve such scrutiny.

A recent newspaper article revealed that 11 members of the Boston Fire Department took home more than \$300,000 annually; if this is not extravagant enough, the same article disclosed that 300 BFD employees made more than \$200,000 yearly, all because of overtime. This leads me to wonder if this is mostly the top brass raking in the OT, or is it the average young valiant firefighters assigned to climbing tall ladders abutting smoke-filled windows and walking on the rickety roofs of burning houses?

Isn't there somebody in charge of keeping tabs on overtime to give us groaning taxpayers a break? I realize that when someone calls in sick, there has to be a replacement—probably someone who has already worked his/her weekly number of hours, but the above figures strain the imagination.

In the school department, when a principal has to leave the building, the assistant principal steps right up but, as far as I



My Kind
of Town/
Joe Galeota

know, is not compensated at a high level when she/he assumes the duties. I hope that this is true for our fire department, when commanding officers have to step up temporarily.

Aside from the lack of racial and gender diversity with the new crop of firefighters, equally disappointing is the dictate that candidates for the fire department have to live in Boston for only one year before taking the civil service exam: no wonder we have so few firefighters as neighbors in our city. Furthermore, it would be interesting to know where each one of the current 46 recruits went to high school.

According to the newspaper piece, of the 46 new hires, all but nine fall into the disabled veterans category, who are given special status. Hopefully, they are not that disabled that they cannot perform advanced rescue techniques.

Sadly, don't hold your horses to expect to see changes in the near future.

NEED TO PUSH LEGISLATION FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

To the Editor:

I have recently had the opportunity to help a family of newcomers to Boston. This experience has given me a new appreciation of our City's resources. The children were welcomed by the Boston Public

Schools. The family has benefited from excellent care at Boston Medical Center and enjoyed outings at the zoo and city parks. In so many ways we have created wonderful amenities, BUT our housing crisis makes it nearly impossible for our young people to build lives here, newcomers to settle here, and even for many of our resi-

dents to remain here.

The average two-bedroom apartment in Massachusetts requires an income of more than twice the minimum wage, with the State's median house price being \$600,000. Fortunately, the Governor has introduced

Letters

Continued on page 14

FIELD OF DREAMS

Iowa rolls in every direction, immense and impressive. Here are among the world's largest farms, an expanse of harvested fields dotted with white farmhouses, big barns, and soaring silos. There is a natural beauty, particularly as the early morning sun lifts across the horizon illuminating a charm, an earthiness. This is bare-bones America, the Heartland.

The people are predominantly Protestant and polite; hard workers who drive pickup trucks, enjoy country music, and root for Iowa State. They listen to high school wrestling on the radio. Drivers have a habit of raising one forefinger from the top of their steering wheel in greeting as you pass. And they live in the land that contains the Field of Dreams.

You recall the movie, Kevin Costner building a baseball field in his corn, encouraged by bewildering whispers, "If you build it, he will come;" his ensuing travels, picking up James Earl Jones and a young Moonlight Graham in attempt to unravel the mystery. *Field of Dreams* transcended baseball, addressing a common cultural norm, culminating in Costner's character Ray Kinsella reconciling with his deceased father.

I know that W.P. Kinsella wrote *Shoeless Joe*, the novel upon which the film is based. I know Kinsella is rolling in his proverbial grave because Hollywood has Ray Liotta, in his role as Shoeless Joe Jackson, batting right-handed. I know Kinsella did not write the emotional father-son ball tossing scene in his novel, but saw it added by screenwriters. I know Jackson's grand jury testimony regarding the throwing of the 1919 World Series is inconsistent. He admits knowing of the plot and receiving \$5000, but also insisted his record fifteen hits in the series proved

innocence. One suspects a rural naiveté, a rough hewn integrity, a damaged unsophisticate. Walter Johnson, a player as straight as an arrow, supported this conclusion, saying, "Poor Joe...I feel sorry for him. Others were guilty; Joe was merely foolish...I shall never believe that he was a bad fellow at heart. He was easily and terribly misled by his associates."

The mess culminated in eight players acquitted in court but banned, nevertheless, from professional baseball for life by commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis. I know Kenesaw Mountain Landis' father fought at Kennesaw Mountain outside of Atlanta in the Civil War and was so seared by the experience he named his son after it. I know years later, working in a liquor store in South Carolina, Jackson saw Ty Cobb enter. As The Georgia Peach was leaving, he recognized his old adversary and asked why he had not said hello, to which Jackson replied, "Because I didn't think you or any of the old fellows would want me to."

I drive 151 North through wooded hills, bestrewn with small farms. I arrive in Dyersville, a larger town than expected, a sign proclaiming, "Farm Toy Capital of the World." I am directed onto a lonely country road and soon see light standards.

The farm covers a slight rise affording views of miles of surrounding farmland. There are facts I could gather, inquire about visitors, learn more about old-timer and MLB games now held here, but I do not care. The field requires all my attention. I look at the small stands, at the spot where the little girl fell and was saved by Doc Graham. I walk where Ray played catch with his father, look past the sward toward harvested corn, the face of the earth like stubble of a two-day-old beard. It is silent; I am alone. I imag-



Don Reddick

ine Shoeless Joe Jackson, that tragic figure, walking from the outfield, forever young. He was among the greatest ballplayers of all, but because of that infamous World Series his likeness will never grace the Baseball Hall of Fame. And yet, isn't this the Field of Dreams?

My Baseball Encyclopedia states that Shoeless Joe Jackson ended his career at age thirty-one with 54 home runs, 785 RBIs, and a stunning .356 batting average. I also know the encyclopedia contains errors, such as stating that Tip O'Neil, the great 19th century Canadian ballplayer, died in Woodstock, Ontario. I happen to know that Tip O'Neil died of a heart attack stepping off a trolley in Montreal. So maybe there are other errors, maybe Shoeless Joe really had many more seasons, many more homers and RBIs. Maybe he never made the one mistake that haunted his lifetime and legacy. Maybe he is in Cooperstown today, where he belongs.

Cold wind picks up from the north, dancing over open fields, gathering in force until I pull up my collar and head toward my rental car. I glance one last time toward the corn; I stop and wave goodbye. It is March. It is spring. It will grow again soon.

Don Reddick is a writer from Norwood.
He can be reached at donreddick534@gmail.com

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New Mission gets it done!



The New Mission Boys basketball team is Division 5 state title champions on Saturday, March 16 at the Tsongas Arena in Lowell after beating Hoosac Valley Regional High School by a score of 57-49. Led by coaches Malcolm Smith and Eleazar Clayton, the Titans end the season with a record of 19-6.

PHOTO BY P.E. O'CONNOR

Latin Hockey tops!



The Boston Latin Boys hockey team celebrates their Division 2 state title championship on Sunday, March 17 in Boston after beating Tewksbury 4-2 and ending the season at 17-8.

PHOTO BY P.E. O'CONNOR

To advertise, call the Bulletin at (617) 361-8400



In-Person Public Meeting

Roslindale Squares + Streets

MARCH

27

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Registration Link:

bit.ly/4c7eDuM



Project Description:

The BPDA is leading a zoning workshop as part of the 6-9 month planning process for the Roslindale Squares + Streets plan! Community members can learn more about how zoning works, the history of zoning in Boston, existing zoning conditions in the Roslindale Square area, and the proposed Squares + Streets zoning districts. An activity will discuss how zoning relates to community development processes and to other goals of Squares + Streets. There will be Spanish + Haitian Creole translation.

BPDA ap dirije yon atelye delimitasyon zòn nan kad planifikasyon 6 rive 9 mwa ak pwosis angajman pou plan Squares + Streets Roslindale lan! Nan aktivite sa a, manm kominote an ap kapab aprann plis sou fason delimitasyon zòn fonksyone, plis sou istwa delimitasyon nan Boston, plis tou sou kondisyon delimitasyon zòn ki egziste deja nan zòn Roslindale Square lan, epi plis tou sou distri delimitasyon yo pwopoze pou Squares + Streets yo. Ap gen sèvis tradiksyon Panyòl ak Kreyòl Ayisyen ki ap disponib.

mail to: **Eileen Michaud**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
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phone: 617.918.4343
email: eileen.michaud@boston.gov

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans
Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

HPNA *continued from page 3*

what are colloquially referred to as “9C cuts.”

In the 14th Suffolk, those cuts were applied to seven of nine budget amendments that Consalvo had gotten through last year delivering state funds to local organizations including the Menino Arts Center; the Riverside Theatre Works; the Parkway Little League; The Pryde housing community; and VITFriends Vitoligo Support Group; as well as to funding for senior programming in Hyde Park, Roslindale, and West Roxbury.

“So it’s a tough conversation with community groups: that money they were counting on, they’re only going to get half,” he said of the local consequences of balancing the state’s books. “And it’s also going to be a tougher one – what that means for the FY25 budget that we’ll vote on in April – for those same nine groups that I’m going to advocate for.”

The two uncut earmarks were State Police overtime for Truman Parkway patrols, and Boston Police patrols in Hyde Park – more specifically for the Fairmount housing project.

Despite the missed benchmarks and the unilateral cuts, Consalvo made clear that there was no fiscal crisis. “The good news is we’re still collecting about as much tax revenue as we did a year ago. We’re just not collecting more, like we thought we were going to.”

He also gave an update on

the wide ranging \$4 billion housing bond bill, which he anticipated the House would vote on within the next few months. As part of that, \$1.6 billion is slated for capital infrastructure repairs for public housing developments, of which there are three in the district: Washington Beech, Archdale, and Fairmount.

“Fairmount particularly needs work,” he said. “It was built in the ‘40s and ‘50s. It’s out of date. It’s out of code. It’s not climate ready. It’s not green. It’s not efficient.” He also noted that Archdale and Washington Beech have their own unique repair challenges.

Consalvo encouraged people to contact him about any bills that they may be interested in, explaining that the legislature will regularly be meeting through July to vote on a long list of bills prior to the end of the two year session. “Weigh in, call, read these bills,” he said in conclusion. “Tell us which ones you want us to move on by August 1.”

To contact Consalvo, email rob.consalvo@mahouse.gov or call 617-722-2140. He is also typically available at his district office (678 Truman Parkway) on Mondays and Fridays.

The HPNA meets at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month. For more information, shoot an over to email hydeparkneighbors@gmail.com.



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court
Docket No. SU23D1835DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING
Dorkas Adalgisa Dominguez vs. Juan Carlos Santana

Suffolk Probate and Family Court, 24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114

To the Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for **Irretrievable Breakdown**.

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:

Dorkas Adalgisa Dominguez, 100 Telford Street, Apt. B, Brighton, MA 02135

your answer, if any, on or before 05/14/2024. 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.

Date: March 11, 2024

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 03/21/2024



Dozens of residents came out to support this year's Roslindale Porch Fest, coming up in the fall.

PHOTO BY EMMA STOUT

Rossi hosts (Un)Porch Fest

Emma Stout
Staff Reporter

Last Friday, Roslindale hosted its second (Un)Porch Fest as a fundraiser for the coming Annual Roslindale Porch Fest, a day-long event that spans the neighborhood and features local artists who play on Roslindale residents' porches, driveways, and backyards.

The night was a spin on Porch Fest, inviting bands to "get off my lawn" and into the bar. Sixteen performers played across four (primarily indoor) Roslindale locations: Distraction Brewing Company, The Square Root, Birch St. Plaza,

and The Roslindale Substation. Performers represented a budding and diverse art scene in Roslindale.

"It's really evolved, and I think the great thing about Porch Fest is that it's a real mix," said James Glavin, a third-year member of the Roslindale Porch Fest Committee. "We have professional musicians, we have amateur musicians, we have singers, we have garage bands, hip hop artists, DJs so it's a real blend of everything from people who just live in Roslindale, love music, and want to get together with their friends, all the way up to professional artists."

Artists indeed showcased

various genres, instruments, and tastes. Extra O, a trio who played at The Square Root, offered Pop-Flamenco and Latin fusion covers and originals. Andrew Innes and the Reluctant Ramblers entertained visitors at Distraction Brewing Company with a violin, steel guitar, and double bass.

The night started at 4 p.m., and there were musicians and bands playing consistently across the four venues until 11:30 p.m. Attendees could meander between the venues as they pleased, and could always find live music.

"The growth of Roslindale

Porch Fest

Continued on page 9



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\$899,000
Nancy Killion 617-716-9040

OPEN HOUSE: SUNDAY 12:30-2



43 Searle Road, West Roxbury
Luxury New Construction 4 Bed, 2.5 Bath hip roof Colonial home in Bellevue Hill area. Designed with attention to detail, this property features 4 bd, 2.5 ba, and beautiful finishes throughout. The heart of the home is the family room, complete with a cozy fireplace, seamlessly opening to the gourmet eat-in kitchen and separate formal dining room and living room. The lower level is finished with a potential family room, home gym or whatever suits your needs! A large yard completes the picture!
\$1,599,000
Diana Bradley 617-312-2432

OPEN HOUSE: SAT AND SUN 12-1:30



360 Corey St., West Roxbury
NEW Construction custom built by premier builder. High Ceilings and gorgeous moldings/millwork adorn this 4 story Colonial. 1 car garage to finished basement/mudroom, main level offers open and airy layout but defined spaces, fireplace family room + adjacent chef's kitchen with huge island, Quartz countertops, custom backsplash, high-end appliances, easy access to beautifully landscaped enclosed lot, two additional rooms for versatile living complete the 1st floor, 2nd floor offers primary suite and 2 additional bedrooms and laundry, 2 room 3rd floor suite with another gorgeous bath, 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. Must see!
\$1,645,000 / Erin 617-212-7662 and Margie 617-212-7660



Legals

Classifieds

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department
Docket No. SU23D2198DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING
John Fredy Hernandez vs. Nancy Jocelyn Reyes

Suffolk Probate and Family Court, 24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114

To the Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for **Irretrievable Breakdown**. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.** You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:
John Fredy Hernandez, 82 Summer St, Apt. 204, Malden, MA 02148 your answer, if any, on or before 04/25/2024. 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 his Court
 Date: March 6, 2024
 Stephanie L Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin: 03/21/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department
SUFFOLK Division
Docket No. SU22D0361DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING
Santa Celeste Lugo vs. Hector Bienvenido Valdez

Suffolk Probate and Family Court, 24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114

To the Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for **Irretrievable Breakdown**. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.** You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:
Santa Celeste Lugo, 190 River Street, Apt. 1, Dedham, MA 02026 your answer, if any, on or before 04/22/2024. 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.
 Date: February 26, 2024
 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate

Hyde Park Bulletin: 03/21/2024

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court Department
Docket No. SU23P2775GD

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

In the matter of: William Winston Of: Hyde Park, MA

RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114

To The named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Brigham and Women’s Hospital of Boston, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **William Winston** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Reverend John R. Odams of Weymouth, MA** (or some other suitable person) to 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 a 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 10:00AM. on the return date of **04/15/2024**. 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
 Date: March 13, 2024
 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

Hyde Park Bulletin: 03/21/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
DOCKET NO. SU24P0589EA

Estate of: Dianne Kenney
Also known as: Dianne E. Kenney
Date of Death: 11/23/2023

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Maryellen Kerins of Hyde Park, 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: **Maryellen Kerins of Hyde Park, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Corporate Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/29/2024. 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: March 18, 2024
 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

Hyde Park Bulletin: 03/21/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
DOCKET No. SU24P0517EA

Estate of: Harry F. Carter, Jr.
Date of Death: 11/04/2022

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Jill M. Carter of Weymouth, 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: **Jill M. Carter of Weymouth, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Corporate Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/10/2024. 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: March 08, 2024
 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 03/21/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court
Docket No. SU24C0081CA

CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

In the matter of: Alla Khalid Adam

A Petition to **Change Name of Adult** has been filed by **Alla Khalid Adam of Roslindale, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Alla Talal Edriss**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Suffolk Probate and Family Court** before 10:00 a.m on the return day of **04/11/2024**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court
 Date: March 20, 2024
 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 03/21/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department
Norfolk Division
Docket No NO22D0992DR

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION, MAILING, TEXT, EMAIL
Esmeralda N. Pierre, Plaintiff vs Sherman M. Pierre - Defendant

Norfolk Probate and Family Court, 35 Shawmut Road, Canton, MA 02021
(781) 830-1200

To the above named Defendant:

The plaintiff has filed a complaint for Divorce Requesting that the court Grant a divorce for **Irretrievable Breakdown**. The complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.** You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:
Kathleen Horan McLean, 17 Orchard Street, New Bedford, MA 02740 your answer, if any on or before 4/25/24. 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 in the office of the Register of this Court.
Witness, Patricia A. Gorman, Esquire, First Judge of this Court.
 Date: March 13, 2024
 Colleen M. Brierley, Register

Hyde Park Bulletin: 3/21/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
DOCKET No. SU24P0001EA

Estate of: Richard T. Williams
Date of Death: May 26, 2022

Suffolk Division
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate and, by Petition of **Petitioner Kathleen M. Williams of West Roxbury, MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate. **Kathleen M. Williams of West Roxbury, MA** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 3/21/2024

To advertise, call the Bulletin
AT (617) 361-8400

Weber Responds *continued from page 1*

Conservancy’s Feb 20 lawsuit: Carla Lisa Caliga and Jon Ball; at the March hearing, Judge Sarah Ellis said she would make a ruling about it on March 21, the publishing date for this newspaper.

“I don’t know what is all happening,” Weber admitted. “I met with the Parkside neighbors about it. They’re waiting for a reply.”

“Professional women’s soccer [in the Stadium] is a public good,” Weber said. “The city has committed \$50 million to increase access by the community.”

Weber said in talking with Boston Mayor Michelle Wu’s office its position is that without a partnership renovating the stadium, it can’t be done. “With just a renovation portion the mayor could not get approval,” Weber said paraphrasing Wu’s office.

Caliga said she wanted to “clear up some facts... This will be vendors, a beer garden. We can raise the \$50 million to renovate White Stadium. The soccer team will displace football,” she said.

New Stonybrook neighbor Lisa Schuster lives at 3531 Washington St. opposite the carwash; she had suggestions for raising money. “Sell the naming rights to make big bucks,” she said, “have a silent auction, a black tie dinner.”

Sue Cibulski said the soccer team will have a significant role in the maintenance of the stadium. “I’m a supporter of this project,” Cibulski said, “The benefits are huge. The park is not just for plants and animals, it’s for people.”

Weber said the issue the court needs to decide on is whether the public-private partnership is allowed under the White Fund Trust.

He seemed to agree with Michael Epp who called in to say “the stadium has been neglected for 50 years.”

“It’s pretty obvious we should not be proud of this,” he said. “The site is degraded. The track is not in good shape,” Weber said. “Fix the stadium and we get more use.”

Weber admitted there was no adequate parking plan, but he said a flawed plan is easier to work with than no plan. “A \$50 million proposal or let the stadium decline and support the park,” he said.

Jennifer Uhrhane noted what seems increasingly obvious to many people. “There’s two different processes,” she said. “The city runs its process. The Boston soccer team plans go to the BPDA. It’s confusing. It almost seems on purpose.”

Weber agreed. “The team has its own schedule,” he said. “You deserve a better process. I will see what I can do to improve it. It should not be this confusing.”

Peter Fraunholtz lives on Williams Street. “The park and the stadium have been degraded for years. The place is a pit,” he said. He said White Stadium has generated a lot of ideas; “a lot of people came to the [Zoom] meetings... I’ve learned a lot about Franklin Park; more than I want to know.”

The Boston Unity Sports Partners, he said, “are smart people. They probably realize that they’ve gotten more than they bargained for.”

In a follow-up message to SNA, Weber wrote later that evening, “Reaching out to the mayor’s office and the response was the city could not simply renovate the stadium on its own... it needs more than \$50 million of work.”

“Due to the push to spend money on new schools there is not enough money in the capital budget for the stadium renovations ourselves,” according to Wu’s office.

Wu went even further in an interview with The Boston Globe on March 14. “This [White Stadium] is one facility within our larger BPS portfolio. There are over 100 buildings that need significant work so it’s hard to justify making an investment for partial improvement to a stadium.”

Moving on to the Shattuck redevelopment plans, Weber said he’d heard a lot about it from talking with Alan Ihrer and Sarah Freeman. “I only have a brief update. I know all the concerns,” he said. “The BMC [coalition] is not going away, they will come back in April.”

Weber said with the Shattuck, “You’re dealing with the state, not the city. I will do my part to make sure you’re being heard.”

The arguments concerning the BMC coalition proposal – rejected by Governor Healy last fall – have been reported at length. Fred Vetterlein said that all the needles in the park “have degraded the park a great deal and ruined its reputation.”

“We really want your help,” he said.

“I do understand the impact of the needles,” Weber said. “I took a walk with Rory Coffey. I was immediately impacted by the needles and the people camping out. I don’t need convincing. It’s intolerable.”

“I do want a treatment proposal for my neighborhood, but I want a region-wide approach,” Weber said.

Weber announced that representative Samantha Montano had organized an in-person public meeting with him and Senator Miranda on March 18 to “review and explain the community process,” according to the flyer put in the chat.

“We have a lot of work to do,” Weber said. “We’ll find out in April [about the new BMC plan]. I know that it’s a work in progress, it’s going to be smaller.”

The Arborway bus garage was often discussed at the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) when Weber was a neighborhood council member.

“Affordable housing is back at the Arborway yard. The issue now is do we have the full eight acres or do we share that for parking,” Weber told the SNA. “I’d like to see us get to an agreement on this,” he said.

Alan Ihrer came on the call to repeat his lengthy theories that MBTA employee parking on the eight acres would sacrifice a grocery or pharmacy and how it is best relocated to the Forest Hills station parking lot.

Weber said, “I’m interested to hear what people think. There’s some push to build the parking garage at Forest Hills station or put a roof over the bus garage [for parking].”

Weber said he thinks a garage at Forest Hills would provoke the Forest Hills neighborhood. “We need housing that will work with the neighborhood,” Weber said referring to the eight-acre development parcel.

“I want to work on that happy medium; create housing that’s affordable and keep the sense of the neighborhood,” Weber said.

Porch Fest *continued from page 7*

Porch Fest over the past few years required more support, hence the conception of (Un)Porch Fest. It came about in one of our planning meetings last year as a way to raise funds so that we would have cash up front for our expenses,” said volunteer and committee member Kate Schlegl.

Roslindale Porch Fest has been able to cover most of their costs, and even compensate some performers with studio time and prizes, thanks to both local, national, and international sponsors.

“However, as the event grows, there are more and more costs to cover.

We need to pay for printing, t-shirts, signage; and this year we’re expanding into using a new app, so we’re test driving it tonight to hopefully use it for September, just to make the scheduling and wayfinding easier, since the Roslindale Porchfest keeps getting bigger and bigger,” said Schlegl. “Honestly, though, most of what goes into Porch Fest is just time of a ton of volunteers, people doing social media, running the website, mailings, and then organizing events like this.”

Schlegl added it’s a real passion project.


“It’s all run by volunteers who have other jobs, who have bands, and families, and a million other things to volunteer for, so it’s kind of amazing that this comes together,” she said. “It’s also thanks to these great musicians who have all volunteered and put a ton of time in emailing back and forth with can we share equipment? Or what’s available for us to use at the venue? We all come together to make this happen for the community, and also just to remind people of all the awesome stuff that’s coming out of Roslindale.”

“(Un)Porch Fest would also not have been possible without the partnership with the local venues. Anthony (Giordano), who runs The Square Root, is actually on the Porch Fest committee,” said Glavin. “It was Anthony who was able to initiate a lot of the business partnerships. We reached out to venues and said ‘we want to do a fundraiser, would you be up for hosting some bands in your bar,’ and the other groups said, ‘Absolutely!’”

The 2024 Roslindale Porch Fest is slotted for Sept. 21. The original Porch Fest came out of Ithaca, New York in 2007, and many towns across the country have adopted it as an annual event. In 2023, the Roslindale Porch Fest saw more than 150 performers and 90 porches utilized. The hope is that 2024 will likely see even higher numbers given the event’s increasing popularity.

“Porch Fest feels far away, but it will be here before we know it. There’s a lot of community support for the arts here in Roslindale, and this helps keep a really vibrant community,” said Schlegl.

For more info, or to donate, go to <https://roslindaleporchfest.org>



Virtual Public Meeting

Roslindale Square Squares + Streets Plan

APRIL


3

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

RSVP Link:
bit.ly/roslindalereviewwkshp

Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 160 036 0384



Project Description:

The BPDA is leading a virtual review session to explore a number of topics related to the Roslindale Square Plan as reviewed in previous workshops, including housing, zoning, arts & culture, and small businesses. Translation services for Spanish and Haitian Creole will be provided.

BPDA ap dirije yon seyans vityèl pou eksplòre plizyè sijè ki gen rapò ak PlanRoslindale Square jan yo te egzaminen li nan atelye anvan yo, ki gen ladan lojman, zòn, atizay ak kilti, ak ti biznis. Y ap ofri sèvis tradiksyon pou panyòl ak kreyòl ayisyen.

mail to: **Eileen Michaud**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

phone: 617.918.4343
email: eileen.michaud@boston.gov

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

CM kids celebrate tradition



Students from Catholic Memorial High School join for a photo with Cardinal Sean O'Malley on St. Patrick's Day at the Cathedral. An annual tradition, the boys took part in the Mass by reading the Prayers of the Faithful in English and Gaelic.

PHOTO BY P.E. O'CONNOR

New WR liaison faces questions

Susan Kryczka
Staff Reporter

Ben Tayag, the newly-appointed West Roxbury neighborhood liaison for the city, met with the West Roxbury Business and Professional Association (WRBPA) for the first time on March 13 and immediately faced questions and comments regarding neighborhood services, the "road diet," and the adverse effects of commercial development in the area.

Tayag grew up in West Roxbury and is a Kilmer School and Boston Latin School graduate. He also cur-

rently lives in West Roxbury. He views his role as helping and serving the community.

"We like to describe it as the grease that connects a lot of different parts of City Hall. I'm always here to help answer questions about city services. If you have questions, I'm here to help you." Partnering with West Roxbury Main Streets, he announced a community cleanup event, "Love Your Block," for April 6.

Mimi Cushing said the West Roxbury neighborhood lacks services. "We live down off of Washington Street, off of

Woodley...DeSoto Road. We don't have sidewalks. We pay the same taxes as they do, up on Washington, but we have nothing. All we ever hear is 'we're going to look into it.' They will do nothing for us down there at all."

"I've been down there recently and gotten some phone calls from folks about similar issues," said Tayag. "Unfortunately, a lot of Woodley is a private way. That's the challenge. It's the residents who work together to maintain that roadway. There is a process for taking

Ben Tayag

Continued on page 12

St. Patrick's Day

continued from page 2

Danielle O'Donoghue, who recently moved to the Parkway from Ireland, said she has attended many events at the Irish Social Club over the past few months with her father. She spent her inaugural St. Paddy's Day in Boston at the Irish Social Club, and noted that Boston celebrates St. Patrick's Day "better than Ireland does."

"West Roxbury is only a small village, but this place is packed!" she said. "I was going to go Downtown to celebrate, but I checked Instagram, and saw all the people here. So I decided to spend St. Patrick's Day somewhere local and more family-oriented."

Three bars were set up in the venue to provide beer and other beverages. Beer has become synonymous with St. Patrick's Day, at least in the United States. According to Irish history, St. Patrick passed away on March 17, 461. This date falls during the Christian observance of Lent, a period of abstinence from certain foods, drinks, and indulgences, including alcohol. In honor of the patron saint's life, Irish Christians historically set aside Lent restrictions on this day, hosting grand celebrations of drinking and feasting to commemorate his death, at least in some dioceses (<https://tinyurl.com/yw45mner>)

The Fenian Sons provided live entertainment in the afternoon, with many dancing along to the jigs and reels.

Established in 1996 in Boston, the Fenian Sons Band has become known as the leaders of Irish music in the city. The members draw upon their Irish American heritage to honor and carry on the rich traditions of Irish legendary acts, such as the Clancy Brothers, the Dubliners, the Chieftains and the Wolfe Tones. Traditional Irish music often includes instruments such as the fiddle, flute, Irish bagpipes, bodhrán (Irish drum), accordion, and Irish harp. In the late 20th century, Irish music began integrating electric guitars, bass guitars, and drums, particularly in Irish rock and Irish pop music. The Fenian Sons play these modern instruments, blending them with traditional Irish elements.

The Irish Social Club has been hosting this St. Patrick's Day celebration for at least 20 years, explained the Club's President Sean Staunton. "We have well over 400 people attending this year, and a lot of them are kids," he said. Staunton, who lives in West Roxbury, became President of the Irish Social Club of Boston this year. "I'm opening the Irish Social Club up to the community, so they can bring their kids," he explained. Staunton's office walls are covered in large calendars, laying out the events at the club in 2023, 2024, and 2025. "I'm already booking events here for 2025," he remarked.

Staunton provided insights into the history of the Irish Social Club of Boston. "We have about 350 members. Back in the day, we had 12,000," he explained. The roots of the Irish Social Club of Boston trace back to June 1945, when it opened a hall in Nubian (Dudley) Square, Roxbury. In its early years, the Irish Social Club of Boston experienced a period of vibrancy due to the return of World War II veterans and a wave of Irish immigrants. In 1962, the club organized inexpensive charter flights from Boston to Ireland for its members.

"Many people became members to get on these charter flights. The charter flights were half the price of a regular flight to Ireland. Unfortunately, that stopped years ago," said Staunton.

In the 60s and 70s, the Irish Social Club moved to Jamaica Plain, and then Dorchester. In 1980, the Irish Social Club marked a significant milestone with the grand opening of its present location at 119 Park Street in West Roxbury. Amid challenges due to aging members, increased competition from alternative venues, and the integration of Irish-Americans into American society, the club faced a sharp decline in membership and was on the brink of dissolution by April 2011. In 2012, the club reopened after some repairs to the building, thanks to dedicated West Roxbury community members, including the late Mary Mulvey Jacobson and Lord Mayor of West Roxbury Richie Gormley.

Upcoming events at the Irish Social Club include the Annual Roscommon Association of Boston Celebration, Irish American dance classes, Sunday socials, and more. For more information about the Irish Social Club of Boston and their events, visit irishsocialclub.org or facebook.com/irishsocialclub. They are also active on Instagram at @irishsocialclub.

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Camp Relocating *continued from page 1*

Breadon.

“We are in no way trying to halt or slow down the work that’s needed,” Murphy said. “But at the same time it should be a conversation about where we are; we wanted an update by BPS.”

Jose Masso, Chief of Human Services for the City of Boston (not to be confused with the Roslindale activist and WGBH radio personality of the same name), explained that they have been planning for a while to update the HVAC systems in three school buildings and complete the building envelope, and roof repairs at the Quincy school.

“Because of this, we will be relocating summer camps,” Masso said. “The Ohrenberger staff and youth will move over to the Roslindale Community Center. The Condon will move to the Walsh Community Center, The Leahy Holloran Center is still looking at multiple locations at the moment.”

Masso said that they are trying their best to maintain continuity and will be coming out with a final list soon of the location changes. He is confident that they will be able to maintain the quality of the camp program as well as the usual enrollment numbers.

Ed Flynn then discussed that along with summer camps, access to pools and swimming this summer should be a priority for the city’s children.

Currently, the city offers the Swim Safe Initiative partnered with the Boys and Girls Club that helps children stay safe around water by increasing pool access, implementing lifeguard training and recruitment, free swim lessons, and conveying water safety information.

“There is still research being done on the amount of children who want access to swimming and where they are located so we can accurately place them in pools nearby,” said Flynn.

This initiative has already enrolled 1,000 kids in free swim lessons and raised the lifeguard pay to \$22 an hour. And this May, in partnership with BPS, the USA Swimming program is visiting Boston to talk about water safety. More information on this at <https://>

[/tinyurl.com/bdhych5y](https://tinyurl.com/bdhych5y)

Part of the Swim Safe initiative is a push to hire more lifeguards. A representative explained that the city has been looking to recruit everywhere possible. Applications for lifeguarding open up in March. Now there is also a statewide residency waiver for lifeguards who live out of state and want to live here and work as a lifeguard.

Masso explained that more pools will be open this summer than any other summer in recent years, noting that 15 out of 21 city-owned pools and 8 out of 13 BPS pools will be open. Unfortunately, he said the Condon, Murphy and Quincy pools will not be in use this summer. And the Holland and Blackstone pools will be closed for big repairs.

For the Curley Community Center beach, they are working with an environmental group and currently trying to get a permit for access to the L Street section. They share the beach with an endangered bird species and do not know if there will be access to this section yet.

District 7 City Council Tania Fernandes Anderson explained that there needs to be more digital access for information like this.

She explained that in past years, many families did not know about these pool closures.”

She explained that they are looking to enhance the BPS app and put everything in one spot. “For facilities that are state-of-the-art, education is better,” Anderson said. “When you have the quality of facilities, then you can engage in the programs. We can actually implement all of the programs, but right now it is not digitally connected. It’s a lot for parents to locate.”

Anderson also explained that mental health services and information should also be located on the app.

Anderson also brought up that the Islamic community is looking for days during the summer that they can swim where the pool is not co-ed.

Masso explained that he already received funding for this and is working to enact it for this summer.

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How Do Survivor Benefits Work for a Married Couple?

Dear Rusty: How does Social Security handle the death of one spouse? Say, for example, the husband receives \$2,000 per month in Social Security and his wife receives \$1,000 per month. How is the death of either spouse handled?

Signed:
Concerned spouse

Dear Concerned: Benefits to a deceased beneficiary stop as soon as Social Security (SS) is notified of the death (notification usually done by the funeral director who handles arrangements). Benefits are not paid for the month of death, only for the preceding month when the beneficiary was alive for the entire month.

A surviving spouse is entitled to the higher of two benefits – their own personally earned SS retirement benefit, or an amount based on the deceased spouse’s benefit at death. In the example you cite, and assuming the surviving spouse has reached full retirement age (FRA): if the husband dies first the wife will receive the husband’s \$2,000 monthly benefit instead of her previous \$1,000 amount. But if the wife died first, the husband would continue receiving only his \$2,000 monthly amount because that is more than his deceased wife was receiving. Note in either case, the surviving spouse would be entitled to a one-time lump sum “death benefit” of \$255.

The surviving spouse would need to contact Social Security to claim the “death benefit” and - unless the surviving spouse was previously receiving only a spousal benefit – also to claim the higher monthly amount, if eligible. If the surviving spouse was previously receiving only a spousal benefit from the deceased (and not entitled to SS retirement benefits on their own), then Social Security would automatically award their higher survivor amount when notified of the death.

If a surviving spouse has reached full retirement age (somewhere between 66 and 67 depending on year of birth) and is eligible for a survivor benefit, the amount of the survivor benefit will be 100% of the deceased



Russell Gloor
AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

spouse’s benefit. But if the survivor claims the benefit before reaching FRA, the amount of the survivor benefit will be reduced (by 4.75% for each full year earlier). The survivor’s benefit reaches maximum at the survivor’s full retirement age.

If a surviving spouse has not yet reached their FRA, and if they are entitled to (not necessarily collecting) their own Social Security retirement benefit, the surviving spouse has the option to delay claiming the survivor benefit until it reaches maximum at their full retirement age. And if the survivor’s personal SS retirement benefit will ever be more than their maximum survivor benefit, the surviving spouse also has the option to claim only the smaller survivor benefit first and allow their personal SS retirement benefit to grow (to maximum at age 70 if desired).

With Social Security there is hardly ever a simple answer to a question but, in the example you use, if both are over their SS full retirement age:

- If the husband dies first, the wife will get 100% of the amount (\$2000) the husband was receiving, instead of the small amount (\$1000) she was previously receiving.

- If the wife dies first, the husband’s monthly benefit will remain at \$2000, and he will get no increase in his monthly amount.

- In either case, the surviving spouse will be entitled to a one-time lump sum death benefit of \$255.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation’s staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.



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Ben Tayag *continued from page 10*

your road and turning it into a public way. I can send you that information.”

Cushing replied, “We’ve been told by the administration we’re working on it,

we’re working on it. Maybe you could put in a little word in for us?”

Jack Flanagan noted that the lack of maintenance of trees where he lives on the



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The Bulletin

VFW Parkway is making it increasingly dangerous. He said 43 percent of the trees are diseased and could fall over at any time. “Five trees fell down in a windstorm and wiped out a house. Luckily the person got out a half-hour earlier, otherwise he would have been dead. Four years ago, one of the trees wiped out my car. The mayor’s road diet has pushed more trucks onto the Parkway.”

Another attendee asked if there was any documentation that the recent redevelopment of Centre Street (road diet) actually works.

Tayag said, “My understanding is there is not any data right now. The city is still working on fixing up and tweaking the signal timing. I’ll follow up on that for you and see.”

When asked why the road diet was put in, Tayag responded, “One of the main reasons was to improve the safety of the road.” It was noted that the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) handles the traffic on



Ben Tayag

the VFW. “I am going to talk to DCR about that and get a better understanding of that,” said Tayag.

Joe Impellizeri of the Highland Neighborhood Civic Association asked about the Squares + Streets initiative and its relationship to redevelopment in West Roxbury.

“There are two issues I believe that are relevant to this group. The commercial district is threatened by condo development right now. This initiative will make it more profitable to convert a commercial building to a residential condo project.”

Impellizeri said that be-

March 21, 2024

tween 30 to 40 percent of the buildings are owned by absentee landlords who live outside of the state. “It will be much more profitable to evict the existing commercial tenants from the first floor and develop the property as a multi-residential condo unit. If they do put commercial on the first floor the rent is too high for small businesses.”

He cautioned against the “mallification” of the area, suggesting that regional and national chains will open up shops, rather than small, local businesses.

As a second issue, Impellizeri said the height requirements and setbacks of the new developments will affect the residential, single-family homes that abut some of the properties. “That height is too high and the setbacks too small. It puts massive buildings next to an area that was of lower single-family homes.”

Impellizeri said he was not looking for any answers from Tayag but wanted to provide his analysis of the city’s plans. It should be noted though that this is a vast generalization of the actual S+S plan, which has six different districts with different dimensional requirements, setback, height limits and a myriad of other regulations varying from district to district. It is not a single zoning regulation.

Resident and West Roxbury Neighborhood Council member Steve Smith offered some positive feedback on Tayag at least, noting he has already been working hard to engage people. “I really want to commend Ben. He’s doing something that at least his last past few predecessors haven’t done and that he has a very long list of coffee hours that he is doing...you sent out an email to various people, on Facebook, West Roxbury Connect,” said Smith. “The list is extensive of where he’s going to be in terms of coffee hours. Take advantage of it. He’s trying to work within your schedule.”

Tayag has regular coffee hours at Roche Bros. and Farouz Restaurant on Washington Street with day and evening hours. A full list can be found at <https://www.boston.gov/events> by neighborhood.

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Letters *continued from page 4*

the Affordable Homes Act which would provide funding for various housing programs and new policy measures for affordable housing. These include enabling cities and towns, like Boston, to pass real estate transfer fees to raise money for affordable housing and creating a process to enable individuals to seal eviction records.

I know from talking with our elected representatives from both Roslindale and West Roxbury that housing is one of their major concerns. We need to encourage them to work within the legislature to support the strongest legislation possible to ensure that the residents of our communities can thrive here throughout their lives.

*Nina Lev
Roslindale*

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To the Editor:

We are proud of our history, but even more so, we are excited for our future. I write to invite you to our 2024 Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 6 at noon in Weld Hall of the Hyde Park Branch Library. We hope to see you all again and catch you up on our work and our goals for the future. The meeting will be an open house style, with tables showing off our contributions to the library, a tour of the building, and plenty of opportunities for you and other community members to share your hopes and dreams for the Library and the Friends work of the future.

I wrote last year that we were in a period of transition as new board leadership found our footing. I believe we have emerged into the post-pandemic period strongly. However, our excellent Treasurer, Rich Campagna, is transitioning off the board this year. We are extremely grateful for his service to the Friends and are now actively searching for someone to fill his shoes. If you (or someone you know) has experience with basic accounting of financial transactions and is interested in applying for this board position, please be in touch!

Your donations continue to do good work! We held two successful Book and Media Sales – one in June and a Holiday one in December. We again sponsored an Ice Cream truck for the community outside the library last summer to coincide with one of the weekly summer concerts held in the Children’s garden. The kids and families who came to hear the music were thrilled by the ice cream! We look forward to making this an annual tradition. Finally, we continued to support programming at the Library. Our new Adult Librarian Insley has been doing great work thinking up and executing wonderful programs focused on gardening and crafts, as well as other topics.

We need your help as we aim to continue to support book sales, concerts, and other patron requested activities. Volunteers with time, ideas, energy and technical skills are always appreciated. If you’re interested in donating your time or becoming a member of the Board, please reach out via our new email: friendsofhydeparklibrary@gmail.com and/or plan to attend the Annual Meeting.

If you have not recently renewed your membership, you may do via this link: https://givebutter.com/fhpl_membership

I look forward to working with you as we embark on this new era of the Friends of Hyde Park Library together!

Karen Book President

O'BRYANT MOVE BAD IDEA

To the Editor:

While I usually find the many letters sent to The Bulletin by Stephen Smith thought-provoking, I found his latest opine on the decision not to relocate the O’Bryant school to West Roxbury not an opinion of mine. I was not disappointed at all by Mayor Wu’s decision to withdraw her proposal to relocate the O’Bryant to the site of the former West Roxbury High School. I was elated. She listened to the outcry from parents of students now attending

the O’Bryant in Roxbury and her decision to keep the O’Bryant at its current site was influenced by those parents, which is the way it should be.

It makes no sense to move an exam citywide school to the West Roxbury neighborhood at the city’s edge, right next to the Town of Dedham. I know students who currently live in East Boston who go to the O’Bryant. Transportation logistics are already bad enough, can everyone not see the transportation nightmare with students traveling back and forth from East Boston to West Roxbury?

The reasons stated by the mayor and Boston Public Schools were twofold. First, creating a better environment for students learning at the O’Bryant and redeveloping the existing Madison High School next door to the current O’Bryant makes sense. Apparently though, parents were against it. The mayor couldn’t sell the idea to O’Bryant parents.

Moving the O’Bryant to West Roxbury wasn’t going to make it a West Roxbury high school which is why there was deafening silence from West Roxbury parents on the issue.

I believe the Boston Public Schools should be considering returning Boston English High School to its former status as a citywide college preparation high school. This move would open up English to students from southwest Boston who are seeking to go to college after graduation.

What about dedicating the West Roxbury School site to the trades for students interested in learning technical training and not a college degree? Boston is big enough to have more than three citywide exam schools and the city for far too long seemingly has forgotten students who are interested in a career in the trades. Everyone doesn’t go to college. We need to be thinking about all the students.

When I was a student, the Boston Public Schools still had a good reputation, but the older I got, the worse the city schools became. Then forced busing came along and seemingly put the final nail in the coffin. However, our school system of late has been coming back. We need to keep moving into the future. Isn’t it all about our children and their future successes in life?

*Sal Giarratani
East Boston*

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