

The Hyde Park Bulletin

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From left to right: District 9 City Councilor Liz Breadon, At-Large City Councilor Rithzee Louijeune, At-Large candidate Henry Santana, District 6 Candidate Ben Weber and District 5 Candidate Enrique Pepen.

COURTESY PHOTO



Last Call Foundation's Kathy Crosby Bell with Diane and Paul Cotter at the statehouse on Monday.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

City Council to remain mostly progressive

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The unofficial results are in, and as of 9 a.m. on Wednesday, the current unofficial tallies show progressives holding the majority of seats in the Boston City Council.

In District 6, progressive candidate Benjamin Weber was the winner in the Jamaica Plain and West Roxbury race, garnering 9,227 of the total 15,762 ballots cast (60.30 percent) of the vote. His opponent, William King, claimed 5,987 (39.13 percent) of the vote, and there were 88 ballots write-ins (.58 percent of the vote).

"Thank you District 6 voters for your overwhelming support," Weber said on social media. "I am thrilled for the opportunity to serve and represent you to help make Boston a city that works for all of our residents."

In District 5, Hyde Park and Roslindale, Enrique Pepen was victorious, but with a considerably tighter margin than Weber's. Pepen garnered 5,635 votes (52.37 percent) of the vote, while former Boston Police Officer Jose Ruiz came in just under with 5,081 votes (47.22) percent of the vote.

"District 5, thank you for entrusting me to become your next Boston City Councilor," he said on social media. "I am honored to have your support and I'm grateful to all of you who made this possible. Now it's time for the real work to begin and bring prosperity to the neighborhoods we call home."

In Allston Brighton's District 9, Liz Breadon held on to her seat with 4,246 votes (66.23 percent), while challenger Jacob deBlecourt gathered 2,117 vote (33.02 percent) of the vote.

The At-Large race also saw progressives either taking new seats or holding on to the ones they had. At-Large City Councilor Ruthzee Louijeune took the top spot with 43,127 (20.20 percent) of the vote, with the more conservative Erin Murphy coming in a close second at 42,476 votes (19.89 percent) of the vote. Julia Mejia came in third with 38,529 votes (18.04 percent) and newcomer Henry Santana came in fourth with 32,902 votes (15.41 percent) of the vote for the final available seat.

"We topped the ticket! A resounding victory for #TeamRuthzee," Louijeune said on social media. "To the 43,127 people who voted for

me, THANK YOU. I am so grateful. To ALL our residents, it is a privilege to serve each and every one of you, every day. Let's continue the work. Onward, and ever forward."

"Boston, tonight our city delivered a clear and resounding vote for progress," said Santana on social media. "I'm honored to serve as your next City Councilor At-Large, and I'm ready to fight on behalf of every neighborhood and every resident of this city. Let's get to work."

Bridget Nee-Walsh took fifth place with 26,119 votes (12.23 percent), Shawn Nelson was next with 10,304 votes (4.83 percent), Clifton Braithwaite was third with 10,066 votes (4.71 percent) and Catherine Vitale with 8,372 votes (3.92 percent) of the vote. There was also a significant number of write-in votes at 1,632 votes, or .76 percent of the vote.

There was a total of 76,397 total ballots cast for the At-Large race, and that came to a total of 213,527 votes (each ballot had four votes). That's down quite a bit from the 2021 election, which was a mayoral race, at 144,380 ballots cast.

For more information on the vote and to see the official results as they are posted, go to <https://tinyurl.com/2cj4tyas>

Cancerous chemicals likely in firefighter gear

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

About 50 officials, firefighters, families and others attended a screening of a new documentary at the Massachusetts Statehouse on Monday highlighting newly-discovered cancer risks associated with fighting fires.

The documentary focuses on the alleged issue of toxic levels of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in use on the protective clothing of firefighters. If you talk to any firefighter you'll likely hear this phrase: "cancer goes with the job."

That's the working reality many firefighters were told about at one time or another when considering entering the profession. You go into a burning building; you're going to be exposed to some burning materials that are extremely likely to be putting off cancerous chemicals. And that's one reason why firefighters have so much protective gear, known as turnout gear or bunker gear, to stop the cancerous chemicals from getting to where they can do the most damage.

But the irony is that the gear itself may be a significant

PFAS

Continued on page 14

Franklin Park condemns Shattuck plan

Richard Heath
Staff Reporter

About a hundred residents from around Franklin Park came face-to-face for the first time on Oct. 24 with members of the Boston Medical Center (BMC) coalition designated to redevelop the 13-acre Shattuck hospital campus. The three-hour meeting at the

Brooke School was organized by a group calling itself CORE, Coalition for Region Wide Services.

Official attendees included Abigail Vladeck; Division of Capital Asset Management and

Shattuck Plan

Continued on page 10

Stormwater hearing highlights concerns/solutions for neighborhoods

Emma Stout
Staff Reporter

The Boston City Council’s Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency and Parks hosted a hearing on stormwater management and flood hazard mitigation on Monday, Oct. 30. Testimonies were heard from committee members, community panelists, an administrative panel, and residents.

According to Rachel Bowers, a data analyst for the Metro Area Planning Council (MAPC), “stormwater, or flooding from precipitation like rain and snowmelt, is a big issue in our region, and we know it will get worse as larger storms have and will continue in frequency and intensity due to climate change.”

The hearing illuminated the city’s strengths and shortcomings with stormwater management. One concern expressed by committee members and panelists was that insufficient attention

has been paid to inland areas.

“I fully recognize the risk of sea level rise and storm surges along our coastline, but our inland neighbors are also at risk,” said District 9 City Councilor Liz Breadon.

“The city has historically focused on coastal resilience, but we are now shifting our focus to localized stormwater flood that impacts inland neighborhoods,” said Kate England, the Director of Green Infrastructure for the City of Boston. “We recognize that areas that have more pavement and more buildings, which tend to be our Environmental Justice neighborhoods, are generating more stormwater and are more vulnerable to stormwater flooding.”

To mitigate stormwater data disparities across Boston’s neighborhoods, Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) is piloting a monitoring program.

“There’s nobody watching out in the districts – Brighton, West Roxbury,

Hyde Park – no one’s looking at what’s happening with the groundwater out there. So, as we move forward, we will have an inundation model to help predict what will happen in the future,” said John Sullivan, the chief engineer of BWSC.

“We’re getting data on how it’s raining. Allston–Brighton gets hit first, then the storms seem to run down the Mass Turnpike, and then [they] hit the South End. We can see what’s happening in the Blue Hills, then we know that Hyde Park’s going to get hit, and then Dorchester,” he said. “The pilot will tell us where we need to put additional units in.”

Eventually, the program will enable the city to alert these vulnerable neighborhoods in a timelier manner.

Another issue raised during the hearing is the city’s reliance on outdated flood-risk maps. “A lot of our cities and towns are in flood zones, they’re just not recognized as flood zones because

we’re using FEMA flood zones which are decades out of date,” said Bowers.

To find these information gaps, MAPC compared flood insurance claims by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) from the March 2010 storm to FEMA’s Flood Zone Designations, which represent areas with a 1 percent chance of annual flooding.

“Only 7 percent of all flood locations in greater Boston were in FEMA’s 1 percent chance flood zones,” said Bowers. “This is a big deal because FEMA maps are the primary source of flood-risk information for communities and individuals, so most officials and residents were unprepared.”

“We know that FEMA maps are not a good predictor of risk, and our zoning needs to reflect this new reality,” said Breadon.

Fortunately, the data being gathered

Stormwater
Continued on page 6



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Veterans should check out their PACT Act eligibility

Susan Kryczka
Staff Reporter

If you're a veteran with possible service-related illnesses, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) wants to hear from you. Representatives from the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) were on hand at an open forum held at the Elks Club in West Roxbury on Thursday, Nov. 2, to help with claims and questions about the recently passed PACT (Act Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics) which expands eligibility for VA healthcare for those with toxic exposures.

Patrick Arabie, a local DAV volunteer, explained that the PACT Act is focused on service injuries due to burning pits and toxic substances which can result in different types of cancers, asthma, emphysema, lung disease, chronic bronchitis, and other illnesses. Any veteran who has served from 1953 to the present is eligible to apply.

"If they come in with something like cancer and they've been exposed to it while in the service, the VA will look into it," said Arabie. "It could be due to Agent Orange, burn pits, toxic exposure when you were in Vietnam, or cleaning solutions. There's a lot of stuff

that's covered in the PACT Act these days."

Expanded coverage includes receiving treatment and money. "You can be rated at zero percent and still get treatment."

The amount of money available to a veteran is based on the percentage of the disability attributed to the injury or related disease. Also covered are all medications and tests related to the condition. There are some limits. "You could get 50 percent for skin cancer and 50 percent for PTSD but not beyond 100 percent," Arabie said.

If you have additional related conditions, like hypertension, you will be treated but will not receive additional money beyond 100 percent.

Veterans who have been diagnosed initially and received some benefits may also experience worsening or new symptoms as they age. The VA will followup on those.

"You can come in for an eval. I tell everyone to come in after a year if you notice more things happening, you tell them, 'hey, I'm here for an eval, my hearing has gotten worse, my vision, my cancer, it's all getting worse.'" New evaluations enable benefits to be adjusted accordingly.

A DAV volunteer can help with that first step, filing a

claim. "We come to your house, we meet you at a coffee shop, wherever you want, we go wherever," said Arabie. Once filed, the claim is evaluated.

Some veterans show up having never received VA healthcare before.

"We get new enrollees all the time," said Arabie, noting that a 92-year-old veteran walked in recently who never needed anything, but he was diagnosed with cancer.

"A lot of stuff doesn't hit

PACT Benefits
Continued on page 8



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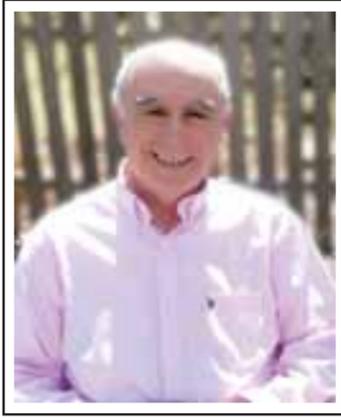
Parity for ALL Boston school children

The current admission protocols for admission to the Boston exam schools are a quagmire reminiscent of the federal tax code. Points are given for certain situations that, at the risk of being labeled “deficiencies,” make it more difficult for some to do well on the entrance tests. Thus being a foster child, living in public housing, speaking a language other than English at home and attending an elementary school in which 40% of the students are economically disadvantaged result in a heap of points being added on to test scores; there is also the Tier 1-8 system by which students living in certain neighborhoods are given bonus points because of the neighborhood’s income.

This has all resulted because of a historical disparity of the many white and Asian children gaining admission. Fingers were pointed that many applicants received out-of-school tutoring, especially within a program administered by a former West Roxbury resident, Pat Bench, whose curriculum worked wonders with students on the cusp of not getting into Boston Latin School. Her wonderful program is no longer offered; it has been defunct for several years now, dating back to the outset of COVID.

BPS could have merely hired this wonderful instructor with her program, but even she was aware that prospective students had to be performing above grade level to receive an exam school invitation.

With the Bench Advantage no longer offered, here’s a proposal for BPS. Offer free tutoring 5th and 6th graders twice a week after school; in economically challenged schools, offer such a program 4 days a week to 5th and 6th graders. And then there is summer school to better prep students. BPS teachers,



My Kind
of Town/
Joe Galeota

working at union rates, would staff the tutoring sessions. If parents/guardians of public school children want to augment these sessions with additional, private tutoring, that’s fine but don’t penalize the students by subtracting points. But what about prospective BLS, BLA, and O’Bryant students in Catholic, other private, and METCO schools? Perhaps they are not in need of such extra help because of the rigors that their schools already provide, devoid of sporadic interruptions by students acting out.

Compare such a tutorial proposal as mentioned above to a way of increasing the diversity of a high school baseball team. If one group is not well represented on the team, then give extra practice to the deficient group BEFORE tryouts are conducted; the tryouts to make the team are based on ability, not anything else. Or consider an 800-meter race: make sure that all have running sneakers and appropriate clothing and know the route is twice around the track and breaking lanes past a certain mark is permitted, but nobody—NOBODY—gets a head start.

Yes, fair is fair.

VETERAN’S DAY

Its warm whisper infuses an otherwise boastful state. Angelina County slow roasts amid piney woods, two hours north of Houston. Logging trucks grind along loaded with fresh-cut product. Outside Lufkin, country roads meander alternating landscapes of open cattle pasture and dense pine forest. Homes are small, many mere cottages and trailers, often cluttered with rural refuse.

The land simmers in summer, redolent of rotting vegetation and emerging new life. Driving past John Kolb and Harley Golden Roads, great thunderclouds hover in billowing, intimidating silence. The land exudes hard-scramble character, sharing with the rest of Texas unabashed pride in place. Individuals are reserved and thoughtful, possessing that southern disposition to wry comment. I pick up the “East Texas Peddler” and appreciate a column’s country humor. (Pete’s News: “all the news that’s fittin’ to print...and a whole lot that ain’t!”) It is tongue-in-cheek and intentionally poorly written; a winking authenticity.

“Young men began pouring into the Selective Service System’s induction centers for physical and psychological examinations in the last weeks of 1940. Eventually nearly eighteen million were examined, and their records provided a remarkable composite portrait of a generation’s physical and mental makeup. To meet its manpower needs, the army undertook remedial work with draftees. Some twenty-five thousand army dentists pulled fifteen million teeth; army optometrists fitted 2.25 million pairs of eyeglasses; and special army schools bestowed the gift of literacy on almost a million recruits.”

- David Kennedy,
Freedom From Fear

Each noontime I drive ten miles east on Texas 103 toward Sam Rayburn Reservoir to, depending upon which sign you believe, Sue’s or B.J.’s Country Store. On the way I pass Dollar General and Oak Ridge Village Mobile Home Park, listening to country songs such as *Why*

Does Everybody Want To Kick My Ass and You Look Like I Need A Drink.

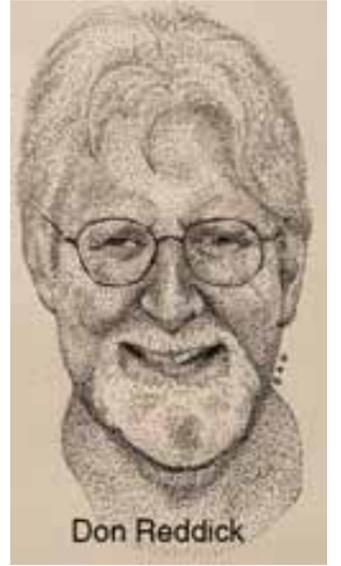
Inside Sue’s (or B.J.’s), shelves are sparsely stocked, motor oils, Royal Oak Charcoal Briquettes, an open case of Raman Noodles. There are canned potatoes and Wolf Brand Chili, Bush’s Beans, Great Value Sliced Carrots, but mostly items catering to the fishing crowd. Wee Willy Wigglers, Original H&H Double Spinners (“King of the Spinner Lures”), Salt Filled Wiggle Tails (“Scientifically Formulated to Catch More Fish”), Cajun Spinners (“One of America’s Most Sought After Lures”), and Danny King’s Catfish Dough Bait all prominently displayed.

Equipment is mismatched remnants of formerly failed enterprises. Water-filled plastic bags teaming with darting minnows sit next to a refrigerator holding cardboard containers of worms. There is a table of used paperbacks for sale and deer heads mounted on the walls. A hand-written sign on the vacant meat chest last year declared “Operational again as soon as the repairman arrives”; this year’s sign states, “We Still Have Meat I Just Use Refrigeration in the Back.” Missy sits out front on a shaded bench, only wandering inside when customers arrive.

“The average GI was twenty-six years old in 1944. He stood five feet eight and weighed 144 pounds. Four of ten white but fewer than two of ten black draftees had finished high school. Almost a third of the whites, and more than half the black recruits had no education beyond grade school. Overall, the statistically average GI had completed one year of high school.” - Ibid.

I am an un-avid fisherman, but this place possesses one lure as irresistible to me as a Cajun Spinner to a catfish: homemade hot links. Oh, I flap and fight, knowing they are bad for me, but with catch-and-release, I am hooked daily and reeled in.

There is no portion-control in Sue’s (or B.J.’s), the hot links heaped on fresh buns. The \$6.50 sandwich comes with pickles and onions, smothered in barbecue sauce. Yesterday Missy was absent, her replacement a



Don Reddick

fourteen or fifteen-year-old kid who, when counting my change, became confused, recounting until nervously surrendering the math and abruptly thrusting a fistful of coins and bills into my hand, blurting in deepest east Texas accent, “Hair, I hopes’ all thair.”

“The air forces skimmed off the best performers on the Army General Classification Test, a 150-question, forty-minute aptitude test administered to every recruit. A disproportionate share of low-scorers on the AGCT ended up in the infantry. Of the 5.4 million Americans who would eventually fight in the Battle for Northeast Europe, 135,576 GIs and airmen would die. In all theaters, and in all service arms, 291,557 Americans were killed in action, another 113,842 succumbed to accident or disease, and nearly a million more were wounded.” - Ibid.

I thanked the boy without counting my change, pocketing it in a manner assuring confidence in his assessment. Instead, I wanted to thank him for all he had done, all he would ever do. I wanted to apologize for those Best and Brightest who reflexively diminish his rural, country-music-listening, catfish-catching, homemade hot link culture. He is not to be measured by his erudition, his ability to add, or subtract. Every time I work in Lufkin and drive Texas 103 east, past Red Loving and Vera Mae Thomas Roads, down toward Sam Rayburn Reservoir and Sue’s (or B.J.’s), I think of the kid with utmost appreciation, admiration, and respect.

Boys like him win our wars.

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Resident Frank O'Brien commented on the BPDA project application process at the Nov. 2 HPNA meeting.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW MACDONALD

BPDA introduces zoning reform to HPNA Trust in short supply

Matthew MacDonald
Staff Reporter

The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association (HPNA) held its monthly meeting on Thursday, Nov. 2. The main appointment ran longer than an hour and featured Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) representatives introducing the Squares + Streets initiative and fielding questions about it from a very skeptical 10-person audience.

Squares + Streets is a new

planning and zoning initiative focusing on housing, public space, arts and culture, and transit in neighborhood centers along main streets. At a much broader level, the initiative will also serve as a first step toward citywide zoning reform.

Boston's zoning code is comprised of an original (1965) set of citywide base regulations, as well as much more recent neighborhood-specific codes drawn up in cooperation between City Hall and community advisory groups established for that purpose.

Hyde Park's zoning code – adopted in early 2012 by the Boston Redevelopment Authority (predecessor to the BPDA) and the Boston Zoning Commission – is Article 69.

However, as large Hyde Park residential developments have been approved by the BPDA and then the Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA), their Article 69 zoning violations have routinely been bypassed in the form of ZBA-granted variances.

HP Zoning
Continued on page 8

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Wood Avenue discussion coming Nov. 13

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The City of Boston Chief of Streets Jascha Franklin-Hodge will be sitting down with Hyde Park residents on Monday, Nov. 13 at 6 p.m. at the Boston Centers for Youth and Families Hyde Park Community Center at 1179 River St.

The focus of the discussion is to collect information, according to Franklin-Hodge, about traffic and speeding issues throughout Hyde Park. Though residents are encouraged to come to the meeting with any concerns about traffic in the area, the issue of speeding on Wood Avenue is expected to be the highlight of the discussion because of the hit-and-run death of a 4-year-old boy, Ivan Pierre during the summer (the suspected driver turned himself in a few weeks later).

“Our first goal is to listen,” Franklin-Hodge said. “This is a community that has experienced an awful tragedy this year with Ivan Pierre’s death. We’ve been in the community a bit, but we think it’s important to give folks the opportunity to tell us what they need to tell us about what happened, what they’re seeing, what they’ve experienced day-to-day, the history of the street and so that’s our first goal; to be there to listen.”

Community member

Marilynne Quarcoo said she’s been helping to organize the meeting.

“This meeting is intended to be information gathering. I am leading with the concept of empathy,” she said. “In order to create the city we desire or dream of we must collaborate and honor the knowledge and skill everyone brings to the table. We must move from models that serve to inform to models and processes that can allow us to consult, engage, collaborate and be empowered.”

Franklin-Hodge said this is very much in the forefront of the city’s collective mind at this point for the street, and he said improvements will be coming, just not before the city gets all the input it can from residents.

“We know Wood Avenue needs work, and this is not news,” he said. “It is something the city has identified in the past about safety concerns. There was a bit of work that was done to address a number of the intersections along Wood Avenue to create what we call quick-build traffic calming. We have heard and observed that this has not worked well enough. There’s more work that is needed and we’re not coming to this meeting with a baked plan. There is some community process we need to do to take before that next step.”

Franklin-Hodge stressed



Chief of Streets
Jascha Franklin-Hodge

that the city is aware of the need of improvements on Wood Avenue, but again stated that he wants this to be a collaborative process to get there. He said though the expectation is to focus on this issue, the city fully expects and welcomes residents with other issues in Hyde Park to speak up.

“I mean that’s every forum that we have,” he said. “I think for obvious reasons that we and others are paying attention to Wood Avenue right now but we’re happy to take input on other things that are concerning for folks. We’ve done some work and have some work planned on other neighborhood streets and we’re happy to discuss that.”

For more information, to register for the meeting and submit questions beforehand, go to bit.ly/HPSStreets

Stormwater

continued from page 2

by BWSC and others will help develop accurate flood-risk maps, enhancing the preparedness of inland neighborhoods.

Throughout the hearing, green infrastructure was highlighted as an important tool for floodwater mitigation, implementable on both public and private properties.

Green infrastructure can help reduce stormwater pollution, which Emily Norton, the executive director of the Charles River Watershed Association, identified as a big concern. “Whatever hits that paved surface goes straight into the storm drain, then straight into the river,” she said.

Some municipalities are considering stormwater fees and permits, holding property owners with substantial impervious surfaces accountable. “You may hear squawking from larger institutions, but it’s important to understand that it’s an equity thing,” said Norton. “Folks who are responsible for the most pollution would be required to address it.”

“The good news is that there’s an incentive credit system,” said Sullivan. “If you build a rain garden, you can get up to a 30 percent discount on your fees.”

A rain garden is only one example of green infrastructure, which uses soil and plants to soak up and treat stormwater. “There are a bunch of different ways to mitigate [flooding],” added Christian Simonelli of Boston City Groundwater Trust. “You can plant trees; you can put in porous paves.”

Moving forward, green infrastructure will not only be a tool for flood mitigation, but also for community building.

“[The City of Boston] is piloting a green infrastructure volunteer system,” said England. “We selected a couple of sites – two in Dorchester, one in Roxbury – to essentially allow a neighborhood group that cares about the area to adopt a green infrastructure feature.”

“The overarching goal of the program is to allow the community to feel [a] sense of pride and participation and ownership over these features,” she said. “Peer-cities across the country have had the most success with these programs when the public is directly involved. We see this as an opportunity to build green economy.”

To watch the full hearing, visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_GHYZuq9w&list=LL&index=1&t=8463s.

Legals

CITY OF BOSTON

B D 26

To the Public Safety Commission
Committee on Licenses
Building Department

Boston, MA

November 1, 2023

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Number of buildings or structures on land, the use of which requires land to be licensed **ONE**. Manner of keeping **Gasoline stored within vehicle gas tanks in an 8 car garage.**

City of Boston. In Public Safety Commission, November 29 2023. In the foregoing petition, it is hereby ORDERED, that notice be given by petitioner to all persons interested that this Committee will on Wednesday the 29th day of November at 10:00. o'clock A.M., consider the expediency of granting the prayer of said petition when any person objecting thereto may appear and be heard; said notice to be given by the publication of a copy of said petition with this order of notice thereon in the Bulletin Newspapers and by mailing by prepaid registered mail, not less than 7 days prior to such hearing, a copy to every owner of record of each parcel of land abutting on the parcel of land on which the building proposed to be erected for, or maintained as a garage is to be or is situated. Hearing to be held 1010 Massachusetts Ave, Boston, MA 02118.

A true copy,

Attest: Brigid Kenny – White, Secretary Committee on Licenses

Mark Joseph, Chairman

Paul Burke, Boston Fire

Brad Garrett, Boston Transportation

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 11/09/2023, 11/16/2023, 11/23/2023

West Roxbury V.F.W. Post #2902

Richard F. Gormley, Commander, U.S.M.C. (Ret)

VETERANS DAY EVENTS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH

**8am to noon — Coffee at the
West Roxbury VA Hospital**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH

**10am — Veterans Service at
Deutches Altenheim German Centre**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

**4:30pm — Veterans Mass at
St. Theresa Church**



ZBA denies HP project, approves Rozzie/Allston plans

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Boston Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) met recently and voted on several projects in Hyde Park, Allston, and Roslindale.

The Hyde Park proposal is situated at 7-7G Sunnyside Rd. in the western half of the neighborhood. Developer and architect Alfonso Sira said the property owner, Pierre Vendieu, wants to put in eight townhouse-style units in one large building at the site.

“He’s been a resident of this property for 17 years, and his goal is to become the owner developer, and wishes to keep one of the units and sell the seven other units,” he said. “The existing site is a weird shape, sort of not exactly landlocked, but it’s a different, larger 20,000-square-foot lot located off Sunnyside Road.”

In a somewhat rare move, Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) representative Jeff Hampton said the BPDA recommends denial. He said a similar project was presented in 2021 with eight units and the ZBA then denied the project. He said the feeling was that eight units was too much for the site, and added that with new construction, it would be easier for the propo-

nent to adhere to the setback requirements in this single-family-zoned neighborhood.

“There are twos and threes in the neighborhood, however we feel eight units is excessive,” he said. “We’re on the record as recommending denial for this project.”

Sira pointed out that the original proposal back in 2021, as stated in the ZBA’s own records, was for 12 units, not eight.

Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) Hyde Park Liaison Conor Newman said the proponent held meetings with the Factory Hill Neighborhood Association (FHNA) and the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association (HPNA). He said both organizations did not support the project based on the feeling the project was too dense.

The Board voted unanimously to deny the project without prejudice (which allows the proponent to come back without having to wait two years). Member David Collins suggested before the vote to break up any multi-family proposal into separate buildings to better match the neighborhood.

The site’s lot shape is colloquially known as a “pork chop lot,” and Sira said some of the major concerns included

emergency and fire truck access. He said he and the Boston Fire Department have worked together to make sure that access will not be impeded by the shape of the lot.

The Board voted unanimously to deny the project.

In other news, the Board also heard and approved a proposal at 277 Roslindale Ave. to change the occupancy of the site from a two-family to a three-family. Representative for owner Jose de La Rosa, architect Eric Santana, said the project would also install a bulkhead door and egress window for an additional bedroom, and the installation of a sprinkler system. The violations include insufficient parking and a three-family is a forbidden use in this district.

ONS Roslindale Liaison Dianna Bronchuk said there were multiple letters and phone calls in opposition to the project, citing the belief that there are already tenants living in the basement and parking requirements. She added that there were seven abutters sending in letters of support.

Resident John Loranger said he was an immediate abutter and said that the site has already illegally been converted to a three-family home.

“He just got caught,” he said.

He added that there was possibly a daycare use, also not allowed, taking place on the site. Santana said he was not aware of any daycare on the site. De La Rosa said he is fol-

lowing the process and does not have a daycare working on site.

“No one got caught at this,”

ZBA Review
Continued on page 12



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PACT Benefits

continued from page 3

you right away. It can take 50 years. It can hit your kids. That's what a lot of people are seeing right now." Arabie acknowledged that there are still a lot of veterans who served in Vietnam who do not get their health care from the VA. "They have a lot of pride. I tell them don't worry about pride; I say come check us out. It's not free money but it's money you're owed and entitled to."

Stan Pratt is another DAV volunteer department service officer, a Vietnam veteran himself who sees veterans on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at his office at the VA hospital in West Roxbury. He helps with any issue.

"I have people who come in looking for financial help, they're looking for housing, they're looking for clothing. A lot of them come in and they're homeless and they're hungry," said Pratt. He said they will take care of it or identify the right resource for help. "Most veterans, including myself...we don't think about ourselves until the end. It doesn't come back to us until we're retired." Pratt himself said he didn't reconnect with the VA until an older member showed him his new VA card. "I had issues with my ears, I couldn't hear well, I still don't hear well, I went in and got the card." He was reevaluated and received a higher percentage of benefits. "It was fantastic. Now I do it for somebody else."

Another DAV volunteer, John Clancy, came to the event to publicize the Natick AMVETS Post #79's sponsorship of the Turkey for Vets program. As a thank you for their service, any Metro West area veteran can receive a free frozen turkey or a gift card. For information, contact <https://natickamvets.org/turkeys4vets> or call 509-960-9810.

Another resource for veterans available at no charge is Hamilton's "CapTel" telephone that provides captioned telephone conversations for those with hearing loss. For more information, contact Tina Marie Davern at 857-218-8707 or tina.davern@oeius.org.

HP Zoning

continued from page 5

Much of what was discussed on Thursday centered on that.

As described by BPDA Zoning Reform Planner Abdul-Razak Zachariah, a goal for the Squares + Streets sections of neighborhoods would be to "improve upon and update the zoning for those areas to also represent and to provide future housing opportunities for the communities that we know are already coming into a lot of these spaces."

Asked about how the code would be changed, Zachariah noted that the zoning reform team was analyzing the past five years of citywide ZBA cases to better understand what development trends have been. He added that it is also working with other City agencies to determine major needs for types of land promoting activity in these areas.

The change itself would supersede the neighborhood zoning code within Squares + Streets districts using components of the city's base zoning code. "So an area like Hyde Park Avenue, Cleary Square – some of the areas that you all might consider main street around here – instead of using what is the specific kind of main street or mixed-use zon-

ing district that is currently within Article 69, we would apply something from that base code that is appropriate to put here," he explained, adding that this would also establish a menu of zoning options applicable, at different scales, across the city.

When presented with the BPDA and ZBA's extensive disregard of Article 69, Zachariah responded that "a key thing for us in what the City's process is for zoning reform is identifying that as a major problem, and that the level of variances – compared to what goes forward with the Zoning Board of Appeal – does not make the zoning code seem like a serious legal document for folks to follow." He went on to say that the BPDA is aiming to work with the ZBA to uphold the zoning changes it is proposing.

He was later called on this by HPNA member – and Article 69 advisory group participant – Craig Martin. "No, no, no. That's evidence of the developer asking for everything on his wish list, knowing that the ZBA is going to rubber stamp it for approval," he argued. "So Article 69 works... it just hasn't been respected by the BPDA or the ZBA." Noting that the code had clearly established a zoning outline for Hyde Park's two squares, he went on. "We don't need your fancy redo. We've already done it."

Neighborhood input was an interwoven theme, with Zachariah and BPDA Community Engagement Manager Kenya Beaman emphasizing the outreach process that will lead up to the spring, 2024 determination of specific Squares + Streets plans.

"The thing is, we've had lots of community meetings about various projects that need to be done. We have the community meetings, then you go to the Zoning Board, and everything the community has said is disregarded." HPNA member Jacqueline Jones said at one point. "If you're coming to our community, but then you're going to disregard what the community says, you can't expect me to support your initiative."

Her comments were reflective

of the HPNA's recent experiences with the BPDA:

These have included a proposed development that resulted in a protracted battle in which an entire Article 69 zoning district and its regulations were ignored. The project for 11 Dana Ave has been BPDA approved, ZBA approved, and is now constructed and occupied.

Another which will take up almost the whole footprint of its existing lot, and for which the City is attempting to close a section of public road that will be turned into a public pocket park that will also effectively serve as the building's front yard and as a protective buffer for its garage door, and for which a traffic study had been repeatedly promised and then reneged on by the developer with BPDA support (1318 River St: BPDA approved, ZBA approved, pending at the Public Improvement Commission regarding the taking of the road); and another residential development – in the heart of Hyde Park's business district – for which nearly one block of ground level storefronts will be eliminated to make room, in large part, for the building's library, fitness center, and community room.

Of note is the fact that the Hyde Park branch of the Boston Public Library is around the corner in one direction, the Hyde Park YMCA is around the corner in the other, and the Municipal Building/BCYF is right next door (1201 River St.: BPDA approved, as-of-right, not yet under construction).

Resident and activist Frank O'Brien commented on the BPDA process, and the pre-filing meetings held between it and developers in which issues are resolved prior to public input. "So the process is designed to culminate in approval, starting with the pre-file," he determined, before connecting that to the new initiative. "There's very little trust in the BPDA – for many, many years," he put forward. "There's a big row to hoe that's in front of you all."

For information about the Squares + Streets initiative, visit www.bostonplans.org/squares.

The next HPNA meeting will be on Thursday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. at the Municipal Building/BCYF (1179 River St.). For more information, send an email to hydeparkneighbors@gmail.com.

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

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Legals

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. SU16P0982EA
CITATION ON GENERAL PROBATE PETITION

Estate of: Richard James Fleming
Date of Death: 03/27/2016

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

To all interested persons:

A petition has been filed by:
Emilia Lopez of Westwood, MA

Requesting The Re-opening of the Estate of Richard James Fleming and appoint Emilia Lopez as Personal Representative, and for further relief as this Court may deem just and proper for reasons more fully described in said petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have the 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 12/11/2023. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by and Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

October 30, 2023

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate,

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 11/09/2023

100 Charles Park Road receives support at IAG/Public Meeting

Susan Kryczka
Staff Reporter

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) virtual Impact Advisory Group (IAG) /Public Meeting for the proposed project at 100 Charles Park Road drew 13 attendees on Oct. 23, and all indicated enthusiastic support for the changes made to the development plans since the May 23 IAG meeting.

The site is a vacant commercial space located between Charles Park Road and Gardner Street in West Roxbury that was the former corporate offices of Uno's Pizzeria. The existing structures will be demolished and replaced with two, five-story residential buildings of 123,905 square feet. The two buildings together will contain 121 units of housing with one below-level parking garage containing 91 (increased from 85) parking spaces and 144 bike spaces.

Dennis Greenwood of Sousa Design outlined the changes made since the last meeting including greater consideration of surrounding recent development sites, landscaping between buildings, adding a landscape zone between the street and sidewalk, changes to public bike parking and blue bike stations, and adding additional connections between Gardner Street and Charles Park Road. Specifically, the original curved driveway area for drop-offs and pick-ups will be changed to a pull-over curb-cut to leave more space for plantings and a tree line buffer will be installed, similar to a set-back at 178 Garder St.

"We are working with our team to rework the intersection to Home Depot," said Greenwood. "The lawn will be in the c-shape courtyard area... The goal is to connect it more to the Charles River in Millennium Park." The unit entries will have a canopy centered in brick or the metal panel in which they sit.

Natalie Adams, landscape architect, pointed to other changes to the May 2023 design. "The project has really evolved since then," she said. "There is an amenity space for tenants and neighbors, with visitor bike stations and blue-bikes, and a grill station. Plantings include plant depth for smaller trees. We're going to do a natural open lawn space. Eco-garden principles will be used."

"I know at the last meeting this proposal was well received," said Stephen Harvey, senior project manager for the BPDA, who oversees the development team's efforts. Harvey encouraged everyone to submit any other comments or suggestions.

"I liked the project last time. I like it even more this time with the improvements to the landscaping," said resident Mary Tenenbaum, who added she is satisfied with all the changes. "More native plants, more green space, more pedestrian connectivity back there. So, great project before, even better now. I'm happy to see it going forward, sometime soon."

Danielle Sommer Kieta, a fair housing consultant for the Boston Tenant Coalition, asked about the specifics of the housing project. "I went back and reviewed the PNF for this project ...I noticed there seem to be some gaps in the assessment... there is no historic displacement and inclusion map as

part of that assessment." Kieta said that West Roxbury is historically the least racially diverse area in the city and there is a need to do more than the 13 percent baseline for affordable units. Kieta suggested increasing the units to more than two-bedroom units.

"I will definitely say that I will push the team beyond 13 percent," said Harvey. "We are just wrapping up the design portion of the proposal...most projects are doing a little bit higher."

Mary Kate Campbell, one of the attorneys for the development added, "We've been working with the affordable housing staff at BPDA. We're currently at 15 percent, we're offering 18 units... as well as an IDP (Inclusionary Development Policy) fund contribution." Funds in the IDP fund are used to subsidize or purchase housing units to keep them affordable. Kieta asked if a supplemental letter would be shared with the public about these plans. "We can work with

Steven on that," said Campbell.

"If they are saying they are doing 15 percent in a public meeting, I am going to hold them to that 15 percent," said Harvey. "We can take it from there." He added, "I hear your concerns and appreciate you attending this

meeting...I appreciate you advocating for it," said Harvey to Kieta. "I am putting forward this project to move forward... If it continues to be moving in the right direction... I hope to bring it to the November Board (BPDA) meeting."

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For Favors or Prayers Answered

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.
Grateful thanks. —K.B.

St. Jude's Novena

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

Miracle Prayer

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

—D.J.

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Shattuck Plan *continued from page 1*

Maintenance (DCAMM) public private partnerships, Dr. Kiame Mahamiah; undersecretary of Health and Human Services, Dr. Christine Pace; BMC specialist in opioid dependency and behavioral health, Rob Koenig; BMC director of strategic programs, and the event was moderated by Diane Wilkerson.

During the meeting there were four CORE questioners, Louis Elisa from Roxbury, Leah Randolph from Mattapan, Steve Godfrey from Roslindale and Rory Coffey from Jamaica Plain.

Wilkerson came to the point when she opened the meeting: the Shattuck is a Boston phenomenon.

"Boston is mired in racial conflict," she said, "that's what's happening in our park. We're united in this. I want you to know that."

Early in the meeting when the audience was getting noisy, Godfrey stood up and asked that people be quiet and listen; they could ask their questions later.

He then turned and asked the BMC representatives where each lived and for how long.

Three members said they lived locally, but when Dr Mahamiah said he lived in Andover there were audible groans.

Facing a seemingly unfavorable audience, the BMC representatives explained the reasoning of the plan that even supporters recognize as a very large redevelopment of the hospital site.

Rory Coffey, who lives opposite Franklin Park on Forest Hills Street, set up the meeting.

"This is an expansion of what we already have," he said. "How did we get here? What are you guys thinking?"

Vladeck of DCAMM responded.

"By law, the site is deed-restricted for public health purposes," she said. "When the Shattuck decided to move their inpatient beds to the South End, Health and Human Services came to us to determine what would be the best use for the site.

"We had a year-long visionary process with a community advisory board. They came up with a visionary plan of a minimum requirement of 75 to 100 units of supportive housing.

"We provisionally designated the BMC coalition," Vladeck said. "These were the right providers to deliver the vision plan."

Community panelist Leah Robinson said, "long-term treatment is better in a smaller envi-

ronment."

"[Your] concentrated model goes against conventional wisdom."

Dr. Christine Pace of BMC disagreed.

"This is a network of small programs," she said. "It's a real opportunity to create programs that do something different; multiple small programs serve people at different stages of their recovery.

"This is a rare opportunity with multi-level programs."

Rob Koenig of BMC added that the proposal is "a model of housing first for the chronically homeless, different housing units," he said, "a lot of different programs including recovery and shelter beds and permanent supportive housing."

Community panelist Louis Elisa participated in the 2018-2019 visioning meetings.

"You changed the use of what the purpose was in 1949," he said. "You're dumping 850 beds; you're pushing a program on a community that's already overburdened."

Koenig said "our coalition was provisionally designated. This begins the start of a dialogue with us. This does not mean it's a done deal. The last thing our coalition wants is anything like Mass and Cass.

"We're providing permanent housing for people," Koenig said, "supportive services in a high quality way.

"We're making recovery in an uninterrupted way," he said. "No big buildings like today, smaller buildings with separate entrances. People will have their own outdoor spaces.

"Part of the process is right now." Koenig said, "It's beginning to hear about questions and concerns to make modifications and evolution."

Wilkerson thought otherwise. "You're still selling the plan," she said. "That means you're not listening. Nobody wants this plan. You're going to destroy this community."

Derick Evans came up to the microphone from the audience.

"You couldn't find a worse place to put this [plan] than here," he said, "because it's in a Black community. It's fundamentally racist, anti-environmental, total mayhem."

District 7 City Councilor Tania Ferdnades Anderson came up next.

"This is government doing wrong to this community," she said, "and you know it."

One speaker wanted DCAMM to de-designate the BMC coalition while another wanted a moratorium on the process.

Wilkerson seemed to want more changes in the plan.

"We're not going to waste time on this if you're not listening to us," she said as the hearing closed. "Be receptive to us."

"We're taking notes," Vladeck said. "We'll report back. We're taking it all in."

When Should I Retire and Claim My Social Security Benefits?

Dear Rusty: I am 64 years old and having difficulty working due to my arthritis, but I can continue part time as a podiatrist. I do not know the best way to determine when to retire. What is the formula or a way to determine which is a better choice?

Signed: Undecided

Dear Undecided: There is a difference between deciding when to retire from working and deciding when to claim your Social Security benefits. For the former, you should consult with a certified financial advisor, but I'll provide you with how Social Security fits into your personal circumstances. In deciding when to claim Social Security, you should look at your financial needs, your life expectancy, your work status, and your marital status. There is no one formula right for everyone because everyone's circumstances are different, but here are some things to help decide what is right for you:

- Social Security has an "earnings test" which applies to anyone who collects Social Security before reaching their full retirement age (FRA). Your FRA is 66 years and 8 months, and that is the point at which you get 100% of the SS benefit earned from a lifetime of working. If you collect SS before your FRA and continue to work, there is a limit to how much you can earn without jeopardizing your benefits. For example, the earnings limit for 2023 is \$21,240 and, if that is exceeded, SS will take away benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit. They "take away" benefits by withholding future payments until they recover the penalty for exceeding the limit. If your earnings are substantially over the limit, you will be ineligible to collect Social Security until either your earnings are less, or you reach your FRA.

- If you claim SS before your FRA your benefit amount will be permanently reduced. If, for example, you claim SS to start at age 65 your monthly benefit will be about 89% of what it would be at your FRA. That reduced benefit would not change thereafter except for Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) usually granted annually.
- If Social Security will be a major part of your retirement income, then waiting to get a



Russell Gloor
AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

higher monthly benefit may be a prudent strategy for you. The longer you wait to claim the more your benefit will be. Your SS benefit will continue to grow until you are 70 years old, and at 70 your monthly benefit will be about 27% more than it would be at your FRA. Your maximum SS benefit will be attained at age 70 but waiting until age 70 to claim is only prudent if you anticipate a long life expectancy.

- Life expectancy is a very important factor in deciding when to claim SS. If you claim at age 70 instead of at your FRA, you will need to live until you are about 83 to breakeven moneywise. If you live even longer than that, then waiting until 70 will yield the highest monthly amount and the most in cumulative lifetime benefits. But if your anticipated life expectancy is less, claiming earlier may be a better choice.

- If you are married and expect your wife to survive you, consider that the benefit your wife can get as your widow will be based on your SS benefit when you die, thus the longer you wait to claim the more your wife's benefit as your widow may be. If you predecease your wife, her benefit will be based on the amount you were receiving at your death if that is more than her personally earned SS benefit.

So, as you can see, deciding when to claim Social Security is a decision to be made after carefully evaluating your personal circumstances as described above. I hope this provides what you need to make an informed decision, but if you have further questions, please contact us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org, or at 1 (888) 750-2622.

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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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. SU23P2410EA

Estate of: William Themistocles
Date of Death: 07/02/2012

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

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by:
Rosemarie Themistocles of Boston, MA
requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

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 12/12/2023. 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: November 06, 2023
Stephanie Everett, Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 11/09/2023

Legals

Classifieds

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department

Summons By Publication
SUFFOLK Division DOCKET NUMBER: SU23W1671

Karen O’Sullivan, Plaintiff(s)
V.
Zachary Davis, Defendant(s)

To the above-named Defendant(s) Zachary Davis,

A Complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff, Karen O’Sullivan, seeking a Complaint for Custody, Support, Parenting Time..

You are required to serve upon **Karen O’Sullivan** whose address is **67 Hewlett Street #1 Roslindale, MA 02131** your answer on or before **12/21/2023**.

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 at 24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114.

Witness, Brian J. Dunn, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 26th day of October, 2023.
Stephanie Everett, Register

Hyde Park Bulletin: 11/09/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department
Docket No. SU23C0537CA

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

In the Matter of: Kristen Jeanette Flowers

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Kristen Jeanette Flowers of Allston, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Keaton Janette Luisa**

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 **11/23/2023**. 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: October 24, 2023
Stephanie Everett, Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin: 11/09/2023

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court Department

Docket No. SU23C0541CA

CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

In the Matter of:
Charles Joseph Griggs

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
617-788-8300

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Charles Joseph Griggs of Brighton, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Dianus Hekataios Elvenbough**

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 **11/24/2023**. 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: October 26, 2023
Stephanie Everett, Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin: 11/09/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court Department

Docket No. SU23P2344GD

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

In the matter of:
Maritza G. Flores Orellana
Of: Jamaica Plain, 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 **Lemuel Shattuck Hospital** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Maritza G. Flores Orellana** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Maria D. Flores Orellana of Malden, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety 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 **11/28/2023**. 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: October 27, 2023
Stephanie Everett, Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin: 11/09/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. SU23P1842EA

Estate of: Jerry Alexandre
Date of Death: 07/19/2023

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

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Joan Pinnock-Souroy 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: **Joan Pinnock-Souroy of Hyde Park, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without 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 12/12/2023. 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: October 31, 2023
Stephanie Everett, Register of Probate

Hyde Park Bulletin: 11/09/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. SU23P2424EA

Estate of: Michael Buczynski
Date of Death: 05/19/2021

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

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Maria K. Sonderland of Bradford, VT and Agnes E. Buczynski of Weymouth, MA** **Anthony M. Buczynski of Bradford, VT** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: **Maria K. Sonderland of Bradford, VT and Agnes E. Buczynski of Weymouth, MA** **Anthony M. Buczynski of Bradford, VT** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without 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 12/15/2023. 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: November 03, 2023
Stephanie Everett, Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 11/09/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. SU23P2104EA

Estate of: Robert Kiessling
Also known as: Robert A. Kiessling
Date of Death: 07/17/2023

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

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **S/A Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by: **Elizabeth M. Donnell of Bellingham, 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: **Elizabeth M. Donnell of Bellingham, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without 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 12/13/2023. 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: November 01, 2023
Stephanie Everett, Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 11/09/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court Department

CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

Docket No. SU23C0545CA

In the matter of:
Taylor Renee Smith

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

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Taylor Renee Smith of West Roxbury, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Taylor Renee Bostler**

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 **11/23/2023**. 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: October 26, 2023
Stephanie Everett, Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 11/09/2023

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We can meet with you in person, via telephone or email to assist with the planning process. We can also offer some alternatives to traditional rites and ceremonies by live streaming, online condolence books as well as other alternatives to traditional choices.

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DEATHS

O'DWYER

Edward T Jr. of Jamaica Plain and formerly of Roslindale. Born on October 24, 1948 and passed away on October 26, 2023 at the age of 75. Loving brother of Nancy Egan of Plymouth. Beloved son of the late Edward T. O'Dwyer and Anne E. (Quinn) O'Dwyer. Also survived by many nieces, nephews and friends. Edward was a graduate of Catholic Memorial in West Roxbury and received his masters in human resources and management from Emmanuel College in 1992. He was member of Boston Gay Men's Chorus and he worked at the Exeter Street Theatre and at Boston Medical. He was always known to have an ear for the music of Michael Bolton. A funeral Mass will be held for Edward at Sacred Heart Church, 169 Cummins Highway, Roslindale on Tuesday, November 14, at 10am. Relatives and friends kindly invited - please go directly to church. Visiting hours omitted. Interment in Forest Hills Cemetery, Boston. For online guestbook, pemurrayfuneral.com. Funeral arrangements by P.E. Murray-F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, West Roxbury.

THOMAS

Edward J. "Ed" of Walpole, formerly of Mountain View, CA, passed through life on October 30, 2023, at age 80. He was the fourth born son to the late Margaret and Joseph Thomas of West Roxbury; husband to the late Sara (Olesen) Thomas; and father of Andraya Van

Lone and husband, Scott Van Lone. Brother to the late John Thomas, Charles Thomas and his wife, Helen, Ronald Thomas and his wife, Patricia, the late Joseph Thomas and his surviving wife, Lorraine Thomas, Michael Thomas and his partner, Denise Capozzoli, Richard Thomas and his husband, Ralph Rossetti and Paul Thomas. Survived by many nieces and nephews and great-nieces and nephews. Ed attended English High School and was graduated from St. Columbkille's High School, where he played football and was an outstanding baseball pitcher. As a pitcher, Ed earned a Hearst Sandlot tryout and almost made it to a Fenway Park debut. Ed loved the Red Sox even though he lived for fifty plus years in California. He never forgot his Boston roots and sports teams. In 2022, he returned 'home' to the Boston area after fifty-two years. Ed felt lucky to have been an in-flight Director of Customer Service at Trans World Airlines travelling the world. Upon retirement in 1984, became "Mr. Mom," raising his daughter before he embarked upon his final career as a collegiate baseball umpire. Ed tallied over 3,400 ball games officiated before retiring in 2014. 'Be safe, call outs' was his favorite expression. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to English High School Alumni Association, www.englishhighalumni.org A Service is planned for Spring, 2024. For further information, please visit www.Lawlerfuneralhome.com Lawler & Crosby Funeral Home.

ZBA Review *continued from page 7*

he said. "I made some changes to the building and I'm going through the process to get it approved. There has been a lot of speculation on this as we move forward, on what we're doing and what we're not doing, and I just, it's not fair the way it's coming. There is no daycare. This is the misjudgment that many people with some cultures, for example the Latinos. They will take care of their children and grandchildren, and that's what is going on at that house. I think there are like, two or three children coming in and it's not a commercial business."

The Board approved the proposal with BPDA design review.

The Board also approved a proposal for 46 Parsons St. in Allston to convert a two-family into a three-family.

Originally, Developer Attorney Ryan Spitz said the proposal was for five units, not three, but neighborhood opposition changed their mind. He said the idea is to create more space on the three-story, gable-roof-structure by putting in several dormers to significantly increase square-footage.

District 9 City Councilor Liz Breadon's representative, Moira McCray, said Breadon supported the project, but asked that the Board consider provisions for a review of the parking to reduce the number of spaces, as well as requiring permeable pavers for the parking lot.

Spitz said they have a total of 12 parking spaces and said he doesn't believe they would commit to removing any of those spaces.

"Because we are compliant

with this proposal as far as the parking, and if parking spaces were removed at this point in time, it would constitute another zoning violation and that would take us back through the process," he said. "The feedback from the community appreciated the parking and complying with the parking compliance as well."

He said the pavers were something they could work on.

The project received support from the Allston Civic Association (ACA) and the Brighton Allston Improvement Association (BAIA). The Board voted unanimously to approve the project. Two residents said they were going to speak in opposition to the project originally when they saw the first proposal to turn the site into five units of housing instead of three, but chimed in to express their support.

The Board also approved a proposal from resident Patrick O'Brien to convert his Allston property at 39-41 Murdock St. from a two-family to a three-family by splitting up the six-bedroom apartment on the second and third floor into two separate units with three bedrooms apiece. The Board voted to approve the proposal unanimously, as the ACA and BAIA supported the change, presumably as family-sized units are desperately needed in the neighborhood.

BIRTHDAY WISHES WANTED

Our mother, Wanda Michalowski, is approaching her 100th birthday on 12/15/2023. We are asking that you send a birthday card to her at Wanda Michalowski c/o Sophia Snow Place, 1205-1215 Centre Street, West Roxbury, MA 02132. She would love to receive 100 cards this year!

THE BEST CEMETERY



US Flag Retirement Ceremony To Be Conducted By The Scouts



Saturday, November 11th at 10:00am

**The Gardens Cemetery (Gethsemane)
670 Baker Street, Boston, MA 02132**

Torn and tattered American and other flags may be dropped off now at The Gardens Cemetery office for this year's retirement.

Thousands of flags will be retired during the course of the day, and during the ceremonial portion, a select group of flags will be retired by the Scouts on the flag poles at The Garden of Honor.

The public is welcome to attend.

For more information
Call (617) 325-0186 or Email info@TheGardensCemetery.org

cause of the cancer taking so many firefighters in the past few decades.

That's the thesis presented by the documentary, "Burned: Protecting the Protectors," which follows the story of Paul and his wife Diane Cotter, as they battled Paul's cancer diagnosis and forced retirement from the Worcester Fire Department. According to the documentary – as cited by many firefighters, officials, scientists and others – there are highly toxic levels of PFAS in the turnout gear firefighters wear to almost every emergency call. And, according to the panel assembled at the event at the statehouse, the clothes shed profusely.

"If I have a medical call and I have to wear that satu-

rated PPE (turnout gear) with PFAS, that chemical is shedding," said Fall River Firefighter and Professional Firefighters of Massachusetts (PFFM) District 8 Vice President Jason Burns. "It's shedding in your environment, and it's in your environment long after I'm gone. If I'm walking by and touching something and your kid is crawling by and touching that too – that's all I envision – they're being exposed to that same toxic chemical. It's constantly shedding."

Last Call Foundation (LCF) founder Kathy Crosby Bell spoke at the event and helped to produce the documentary with the Cotters. She lost her son, Firefighter and Roslindale native Michael Kennedy, in the 2014 Back Bay fire that also

claimed the life of Boston Fire Lieutenant Ed Walsh, who also grew up in Roslindale and Hyde Park.

Crosby Bell has made it the mission of the LCF to protect firefighters. Her son and Walsh, for example, died because their attack hose – the hose used to bring water to a burning building – caught on fire and ceased functioning. The pair died because of that and because of that stark reality she recently helped to outfit the Boston Fire Department (BFD) with fireproof hoses.

Now, she said, she's fighting to help firefighters with the Cotters and filmmaker Elijah Yetter-Bowman, who put together the documentary. Yetter-Bowman originally starting highlighting the use of PFAS in chemical processes when he found out his hometown, Wilmington, North Carolina, had a chemical company dumping PFAS into the local river for decades.

During the documentary and the panel discussion, both Burns and Paul Cotter discussed the many friends and brother firefighters who have since come to them with a cancer diagnosis. Burns said he had dressed his own daughter up years ago in these clothes for a cute photo, and very much regrets doing so. He and Diane Cotter said the chemical companies have known since at least the 60s that there were concerns around the safety of PFAS, and did nothing to inform the general public. She said there are also other factors that increase exposure and risk on the job for firefighters.

"LCF funded a study at the University of Alabama by Dr. Suzanne Lapi, and in that study she uncovered the fact that during high heat exposure, that bunker gear off gases (releases gases) that are absorbed 400 times more than average," she said (link to study: <https://tinyurl.com/42942uan>). "So 400 times. This is stuff that is designed to go into a heated environment. It's insanity."

PFAS have now been at least suspected of being cancerous, at least in large quantities (depending on which of the 16,000 variants of the chemical that are out there). Diane Cotter said they originally tested a brand new, unopened, set of turnout gear before the documentary was even an idea with Notre Dame Physicist Graham Peaslee and it was found to have extremely high amounts of PFAS. It had never

been near a working fire, and, it was apparently found out later, the companies producing the gear require their workers, according to Diane Cotter's research, to wear head-to-toe protective gear to produce it.

The panel announced that a company is soon releasing a set of turnout gear that's supposedly PFAS free.

"It was demoed this year at the FDIC (Fire Department Instructors Conference) in Indianapolis, but we have yet to be able check that," he said. "It does not appear to be literally PFAS-free, but mostly PFAS-free. That is the frustrating part; there's still an asterisk. However, I have heard through the grapevine that New Zealand Fire has had PFAS-free turnout gear for some years, and that's coming from Graham Peaslee."

Cotter said all current and former firefighters should reach out to PFAS Law Firms at <https://firefighter.pfaslawfirms.com> to get involved in upcoming lawsuits.

"Because what they're trying to do is medical monitoring and we need a large number of people to do that, and if you're a retired firefighter and you have cancer, you should go to the website as well," she said. "I did. My husband had cancer, and I handled the gear for years. I'd like every fire wife to go to that website and put their name in. Our clocks are all ticking."

She said in 2018 they began communication with then District Attorney Maura Healy, whose office said, after receiving 195 emails from Diane Cotter (according to Diane Cotter) that it was not going to be an issue they took up. She said she's hoping that current DA Andrea Campbell will start going after the chemical companies, because if the turnout gear is replaced and disposed of, that's the taxpayers who will be funding it and the chemical companies will be making money on both.

"We should not be rewarding the manufacturers again," she said. "It's imperative that the Commonwealth do the same thing for the firefighters that has been done for the opioid epidemic. This is coming out of your pocket and it truly destroys me to not see my husband riding that rig."

Even if all new gear is PFAS free the fight will not be over. Previous exposures still pose a risk, so cancer screenings for firefighters are a must.

"Absolutely, Kathy's been advocating for the fight against firefighter cancer long before I have," Cotter said.

Crosby-Bell said cancer screenings should be upped for firefighters, and she said more could be done to lessen the cost impact on firefighters, their families and the taxpayer.

"One of the things that I think really will come into being in the next three-to-five years is PFAS testing," Crosby-Bell said. "Firefighters will be tested when they join, and every three-to-five years they'll have a blood serum test – which is the only accurate test by the way. They're selling a bunch of tests now that are just garbage – they need the actual blood serum test to find out how much PFAS is in their blood. That will be key in going after manufacturers."

If you're wondering why Paul Cotter isn't much quoted in this article, he asked that all inquiries be made to his wife.

"I'm the strong silent type," he said at the meeting, noting it was all he had to say on the matter.

State Rep. Bill MacGregor attended the screening and said he has several personal connections to the issue of PFAS in firefighter turnout gear, not the least of which was his grandfather, who died in the line of duty as a firefighter.

"My brother is a Brookline Fire Lieutenant, and my best friend is a Brookline firefighter, and they have brought this issue up to me and it was important I come to this (event) just for them," he said. "It's affecting my family, the people I'm with all the time and their families."

State Rep. Brian Honan said this was his first time seeing the documentary.

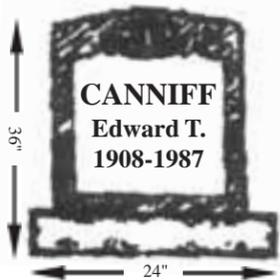
"It was very impactful," he said. "These are public servants protecting us and practice public safety at the highest realm. They come at moments of need and it's important that we protect them. It's very disturbing to learn that their equipment could be causing illness to them and I look forward to working with them on this issue."

For more information on this and to see the film, go to <https://etherealfilms.org/burned/>

For more information on the LCF, go to lastcallfoundation.org

To support legislation requiring the reduction of PFAS in turnout gear in Massachusetts, ask your representatives to support House Bill 2339 and check it out at <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/H2339>

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