

# The Hyde Park Bulletin

Volume 16, Issue 49

December 7, 2017



## Two neighborhoods: One River

**Matt MacDonald**  
Staff Reporter

The Hyde Park/Mattapan Neponset River Neighborhood Forum was held on Thursday evening, Nov. 30 at 912 River St.

The meeting featured a handful of pertinent speakers from different entities and or-

ganizations who presented their areas of expertise regarding the River to a group of over 50 people from both the Hyde Park and Mattapan neighborhoods.



Vivian Morris marks a map of the Neponset River. Residents of Hyde Park and Mattapan met last Thursday to hear about and discuss ways to try to reduce pollution in the Neponset River. PHOTO BY MATT MACDONALD

ganizations who presented their areas of expertise regarding the River to a group of over 50 people from both the Hyde Park and Mattapan neighborhoods.

Introductory speaker Vivian Morris, Chair of the Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition and Coordinator of

the Edgewater Drive Neighborhood Association, got at the reason for the meeting in her remarks. "A big part of why we had this meeting tonight is so that we who live here can feel greater ownership of the river that runs through our neighborhood," she said.

Morris went on to speak of

iniquity in terms of the Neponset River Greenway going online in 2001, while "it took 15 years to get construction started on the only section of (it) that was going to abut a community of color."

This led to a response from

**One River**

*Continued on page 13*

## Grew Park talks needles, goats, and dogs

**Matt MacDonald**  
Staff Reporter

The Grew Park Neighbors met on Monday evening, Dec. 4 at 6:15 p.m. in the community room of the Area E-18 Police Station for its monthly meeting.

The one appointment on the agenda was Cathy Horn, making her latest neighborhood meeting stop on behalf of Keep Hyde Park Beautiful. She founded this group back in May as her response to the litter problem in the neighborhood.

The goal of KHPB as spelled out by its new business cards is to empower the people and institutions of

Hyde Park to make it "a cleaner, greener place to live, work, study, and play."

Horn's brief presentation led to exchanges with the Grew Park audience that touched on a couple of different topics related to KHPB's mission. Both were brought up by Pat Alvarez.

She first brought up the growing concern of used hypodermic needles, noting Dell Rock as a place where many are found and also mentioning that one of her summer workers had been accidentally stuck with one (without negative consequence) while cleaning.

**Grew Park**

*Continued on page 11*

## Enchanted Trolley brings Christmas wishes at Readville Tree Lighting



Mayor Walsh's Enchanted Trolley Tour pulled in to Wolcott Square last Friday night, where Santa and Mrs. Claus did some entertaining, along with Mayor Walsh and others.

COURTESY PHOTO

**Matt MacDonald**  
Staff Reporter

Mayor Marty Walsh's Enchanted Trolley Tour and Tree Lighting rolled into Wolcott Square on Friday evening, Dec. 1 in a four-vehicle motorcade carrying the Mayor, Police Commissioner Bill Evans, a number of other city officials, and Santa and Mrs. Claus.

The chilly night brought out a full crowd to the sidewalk in front of the shops facing Jeremiah Hurley Memorial Park.

Adding to the Holiday mood was the spread of hot chocolate, coffee cake (from Hyde Park's My Grandma's), and donuts (from Dunkin' Donuts) made available for everyone on folding tables that had been set up before the

event got underway.

As the time drew closer to 6:30 p.m., the crowd seemed to draw a little closer to the curbside and toward the unlit tree at one point of the Park.

These included many small children, including 5-year-old Desmond Farnkoff who, while

**Tree Lighting**

*Continued on page 9*

## City Council says yes to plastic bag ordinance

**Jeff Sullivan**  
Staff Reporter

The Boston City Council voted last week on an ordinance to ban thin plastic bags in the city and require stores to provide thick plastic bags for 5 cents apiece.

Ordinance sponsor and District 6 City Councilor Matt O'Malley said the unanimous vote was a great victory for climate change advocates in the city and a good way to reduce litter in Boston. He feels the businesses are more than ready

**Plastic Bags**

*Continued on page 12*

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Residents will have some changes coming to their grocery routine next year.

COURTESY PHOTO



# Pierce Street concerned with 88 Pierce St.

**Jeff Sullivan**  
Staff Reporter

About a dozen residents and officials met on Tuesday night at the Hyde Park Foursquare Church on Arlington Street for the Pierce Street Neighborhood Watch.

The main issue of contention was the property at 88 Pierce St. and 71 Davidson St. The owner of the two parcels, listed by the BPDA as 71 Davidson LLC., has filed plans with the city to put in a two-family home at that location. Residents said the two-family would too big for the site, as it would require several variances.

“They have numerous variances for the 88 section and the other side of Davidson,” said one resident, who said they were a neighbor and did not want to give their name for fear of reciprocity. “I doubt very much all those variances will pass because one, it says they don’t have enough space for the type of house they want to build and two, they can’t support that type of house structure there.”

Another resident, who said they wished to remain anonymous for the same reason, pointed out as well that the owner is also using part of the



The Pierce Street Neighborhood Watch met on Tuesday and discussed a proposal for a two-family development on Pierce/Davidson Streets.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

land as a parking lot for a landscaping company, for which the company pays the owner rent.

“I don’t understand how they can store equipment in there because there’s no commercial zoning and there is no curb cut or anything, so anytime they want to go in and out they have to drive over a curb,” the resident said. “We spoke to a representative of (District 5 City Councilor Tim) McCarthy’s office about a year ago... nothing has ever changed.”

The resident went on to say

that the lot used to be vacant – with brush and scrub the only occupants – and the owner has since paved over the area while not putting in a curb cut, which would require going through the city’s Public Improvement Commission to do so.

Resident James Michel questioned the legality of using the lot for income.

“It’s a residential neighborhood, you shouldn’t be able to rent for commercial use,” he said.

Another resident replied.

“You can do whatever you

want until you get caught.”

McCarthy’s representative at the meeting said residents should not count on variances to stop a house being built.

“Unless they have 6,000 square feet they are going to need a variance anyway,” he said. “I know houses are getting approved, single-families are getting approved between 2,900 square feet and 3,200 square feet... Most people who are trying to build on lots are triggering a whole bunch of variances because of the zoning code, but people are getting relief, which

is why it’s very important to get input from the neighborhood.”

Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services Hyde Park Representative Bryan Flynn said the project went before the ZBA in November, but the owner asked for a deferral.

“I talked to the architect, he said he was going to take a look at it again and revise the plans and come back to the community at a later date,” he said.

In other news, Michel also updated the Watch on the Hyde Park Youth Basketball program.

“We had a bumpy start to the season, but we hopefully will open next Saturday,” he said. “We have 150 kids signed up, but we have room for more.”

Michel said they have a good deal of spots for younger kids for the skills and drills program at the Ohrenberger School in West Roxbury.

“Our mission is to serve the youth of Hyde Park and the neighboring communities, which we have been doing for 35 years,” he said. “We’re looking to have an alumni basketball game as part of the Hyde Park 150 anniversary celebration,” he said. “Hopefully some of these 40-year-old guys and gals and 20-year-olds will get out there and have some fun.”

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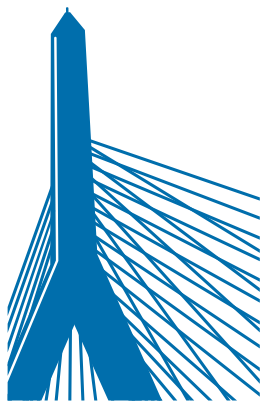
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# Property development projects highlight FHNA meeting

**Matt MacDonald**  
Staff Reporter

The Fairmount Hill Neighborhood Association gathered at the Boston Police Academy on Wednesday evening, Nov. 29 for its monthly meeting.

On its agenda were several zoning cases, an update on the purchase and installation of a new Fairmount Hill sign, Holiday activities, the police report, and new business.

The first zoning case moderator Joe Smith brought up had to do with the abandoned house located at 56 Williams Ave., which he and five abutters tried to block from going through.

The development required variances to the recently established Fairmount Hill zoning code, the most major of which allowed for two single-family homes to be built one behind the other on the lot.

All except one having to do with placement of the two-car garage were approved by the Zoning Board.

The building, which is still standing, is now cleared to be demolished and replaced with two new single-family houses.

The other extended discussion on property development was a follow up to a two-hour Fairmount Hill Zoning Committee meeting held the week

before.

It concerned a proposal in which the house located at 892 Metropolitan Ave. would be moved toward Beacon Street in order to construct a new house between it and 900 Metropolitan, which would be located at 896.

When attendees were given the opportunity to share their thoughts on this, Jim Lafond-Lewis stepped to the front of the room and handed out a list of salient points to send to the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) regarding the new property regarding potential zoning problems.

He also brought up the fact that the existing house might, in fact, be a good case for consideration by the Boston Landmark Commission.

“That is the oldest house on Metropolitan Avenue,” Lafond-Lewis said. “It was built in 1890. They combined two lots when they built it and they positioned the house on the center of those two lots to face the triangle. The house was designed to be where it is and it did create an effect that is lasting now and that would be lost if they move the house.”

Regarding this case, both Lafond-Lewis and Smith recommended sending comments regarding this development



Joe Smith led a Fairmount Hill Neighborhood Association meeting that was highlighted by several property development projects being planned for the Fairmount neighborhood.

PHOTO BY MATT MACDONALD

along to Marie Mercurio at the B P D A (Marie.Mercurio@Boston.gov). Lafond-Lewis also suggested sending comments to Marc Joseph at Inspectional Services (Marc.Joseph@Boston.gov).

“It’s important that they hear from us,” Smith said. “If they don’t hear from you – whether you’re for it or against it – they’re not going to make it a priority.”

Smith went on to add that based on a conversation with Mercurio, he didn’t think the Dec. 1 deadline on public commentary was an issue.

No variances are required for this development.

The last zoning case had to do with 101 Milton Ave. and, due to the lack of familiarity by the FHNA, required some explanation from Stephen Maguire, Community Liaison from City Councilor Tim McCarthy’s Office, who was also in attendance.

According to him, the plan is to build a new house on the 7-8,000 square foot lot between 101 Milton Ave. and 95 Milton Ave. There has already been an abutters meeting, at which one was opposed. The development

would require side variances (it doesn’t qualify by 2 feet).

In other business, Scott Kriscenski, Coordinator for the Fairmount Hill Sign Project, gave an update on its progress.

As Kriscenski explained it, he’s targeting April 14, 2018 as a dedication date in order to roughly coincide with Hyde Park’s 150th Anniversary, which will be celebrated on April 22.

The sign, the basic dimensions of which he gave as 6-foot-by-2.5-feet, may be raised,

**FHNA**

*Continued on page 11*

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# Letters to the Editor

## SPRAGUE STREET EXTORTION

To the Editor:

As reported in the Nov. 30, 2017 edition of the Hyde Park Bulletin, a recent meeting was conducted by BRA/BPDA for the Impact Advisory Group (IAG) regarding the proposed massive 521-unit apartment complex along the side of the Sprague Street Bridge in the Readville neighborhood. If the reader is unfamiliar with an IAG, it is a group of neighborhood residents nominated by local elected officials to sit with the BRA and the project proponents to ascertain the appropriateness and future ramifications of the proposal if implemented. This writer attended the aforementioned meeting and, quite frankly, left with a good bout of nausea.

For virtually the entire meeting, the city Councilor and the BRA manager were coaching the IAG members on how to ask the proponents for things the members might like to have. They were urged to prepare a "wish list." BRA, oddly in my view, repeatedly gave an example of asking that the developer provide some of the new solar-powered trash cans throughout the Readville neighborhood. BRA prefers to call this procedure

"mitigation." But indeed it is more accurately described as extortion. On this night the Impact Advisory Group appeared to be serving as an extortion committee. One of the IAG members rightfully proclaimed that in his view the group should be assessing whether the proposal is acceptable before drafting up a list of requests.

It should be noted that a neighborhood group, Citizens for the Preservation of Readville (CPR), conducted a thorough petition drive throughout the entire neighborhood and gathered close to 400 signatures from residents opposed to changing the current light industrial zoning so as to accommodate this apartment complex. At the end of the petition drive, we could see that 89 percent of the residents were opposed, 9 percent were unaware of the proposal or needed more information before forming a decision, and 2 percent were not opposed. These opponents were vehement in their decision and did not make it contingent on what "goodies" we could extort from the proponents.

Craig Martin  
Readville

### Letters

Continued on page 15

# Seasonal traditions bring a smile

As a young boy, I was fascinated by Jordan Marsh's fifth floor annex: that's where the Christmas toys were, a long time before toy stores came to populate the area.

And on that floor only was a huge electric train display, featuring Lionel trains running every which way.

As a teenager, I was mesmerized by Downtown Crossing in mid-December. Jordan Marsh's windows, Filene Basement's hustle-and-bustle, the all-encompassing products of Woolworth's, the sports equipment in Raymond's, and the milieu of Gilchrist's.

As a young father, I delighted in my children's eyes as they viewed the Enchanted Village of Jordan's/Macy's and tasted the ice cream sundaes of Bailey's served in pewter.

As a father of teenagers, I was not stirred by the modern malls' blaring of seasonal music. Repulsion set in upon viewing various impersonations of Santa outside grocery stores, virtually destroying the magic in the eyes of very young shoppers in strollers.

But now in the autumn, if not the winter, of my life, there's one store that seems to capture the "old-fashioned-ness" of Christmas,



My Kind of Town/  
Joe Galeota

right out of a L.L. Bean catalogue or a Hallmark made-for-television show. It sells plants, food products, various non-edible items, and even real Christmas wreaths and trees by the hundreds (no artificial ones at this store).

The few aisles are not numbered, nor do they have cutesy road names, such as Park Street, Centre Street, and Belgrade Avenue. Nor does this store feature numbered aisles.

Just as an aside, how many grocery shoppers would calmly tolerate being told, after a question about the location of say, gluten-free maple syrup, that "It's in the Hastings Street aisle." Hmmm. Why do stores think we need this familiarization

with local streets? And what's with one supermarket's idea of posting the numbered aisles with a useless zero, perpendicular to the products? Thus aisle 8 appears as 08 written at a 90-degree angle next to generic categories.

Back to the quintessential Christmas store: it straddles the Jamaica Plain-Brookline border on Allandale Road. There's a dirt parking lot. Don't bother looking for any white lines indicating parking spaces. There might even be a fire in an outside barrel to warm your hands, with an aroma of burnt pine wafting across the parking lot. There are no flyers mentioning sales or prices. There's not much heat inside: most clerks wear flannel shirts and stocking hats. Only heaven knows if there's a public restroom available.

For some great seasonal warmth, head to the Allandale Farm and Roadstand, shortened by locals to merely Allandale Farm. There's always produce but no meat; yes, the prices are - well, you be the judge - and there might even be a truck there selling fresh fish on Wednesdays.

Indeed, a great place for starting or maintaining the (secular) Christmas spirit.

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# Consulate awards Waite the Légion d'Honneur



Boston's French Consul Valéry Freland pins the honor on Boston Veteran Edwin "Bud" Waite's chest during the ceremony at the Stratford Street Church.

**Trenese Franklin**  
 Staff Reporter

Friends, family and city officials gathered on Dec. 2 to witness World War II Veteran and West Roxbury resident Edwin "Bud" Waite be awarded the French Legion of Honor.

There wasn't an empty seat at the ceremony, which drew in

a crowd of about 100 people. Rev. Enid Watson, Co-Pastor of Stratford Street Church, helped to host the event.

"We are very proud and delighted to welcome you all here today," Watson said.

The ceremony then commenced by the singing of the French and American National Anthems. Everyone stood to their feet and honored both the French and American Flags, which were held up by Veterans of West Roxbury's VFW Post 2902.

"We have a number of distinguished guests, besides Bud," Watson said jokingly. "And I would like to invite our elected officials to come forward, City Councilor Matt O'Malley, Giselle Sterling, Commissioner of Veteran Affairs and (At-Large) City Councilwoman Annessa Essaibi-George."

O'Malley then took to the podium to commend Waite on his accomplishments.

"I have had the great pleasure of getting to know Bud and his family over the last several years," he said. "I knew Bud was a veteran, but I did not know the extent of his legendary service."

O'Malley explained that for Bud, it wasn't about receiving recognition.

"It wasn't about receiving accolades and it wasn't about events like this. It was about supporting others," he said.

O'Malley also gave a brief history of Waite's life and expressed how much of an amazing person he believes Waite is.

"To the people of France, we are incredibly honored that you are recognizing one of our Native sons. In a time when we have such discord in this world and uncertainty in this country, one thing is certain: the men and

women who served in World War II truly were the greatest generation," O'Malley concluded.

Councilor Annessa Essaibi George and O'Malley then presented Waite with a Councilor proclamation and congratulated him for being awarded the French Medal of Honor. Commissioner of Veteran affairs and Lord Mayor of West Roxbury and Post 2902 Commander Richie Gormley both spoke and congratulated Waite for a job well done.

The ceremony concluded with Boston's French Consul General Valéry Freland presenting Edwin Waite with the French Legion of Honor.

"You are a true hero and you will be our hero forever," Freland said.

As Waite walked to the podium, everyone in the audience cheered for him. He then took the microphone and expressed how elated and thankful he was for the honor.


"I'm pretty overwhelmed; I don't know what to say. I can't stop thanking people, there are so many on the list," he said.

He then thanked his family and friends for supporting him and putting together the ceremony.

"I'm so honored!" Waite exclaimed.

Waite served in the Company L, 260th Infantry Regiment from July 1944 to August 1945. Stationed 16 months overseas as an automatic rifleman, Private Edwin Waite participated in assaults on enemy positions in France, Germany and Austria. After arriving in Metz, France, the 260th Infantry Regiment joined General Patton's 3rd Army in an attempt to breach the Siegfried Line.

PHOTO BY TRENESE FRANKLIN

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104 Joyce Kilmer, U#1... West Roxbury .....	\$375,000
6 Lilac Lane ..... Dedham.....	\$329,900
123 Sanborn Avenue ..... West Roxbury .....	\$510,000
64 Greaton Rd, Unit #1... West Roxbury .....	\$465,000
459 Poplar Street..... Roslindale .....	\$479,000
137 Temple Street ..... West Roxbury .....	\$1,200,000
53 Willow Street..... Westwood .....	\$655,000
216 Weld Street ..... West Roxbury .....	\$575,000
0 Sunnyside Street..... Hyde Park.....	\$150,000
4975 Washington, #113... West Roxbury .....	\$329,000
75 Seymour Street..... Roslindale .....	\$449,000
17 Garnet Road ..... West Roxbury .....	\$655,000
66 Oriole Street..... West Roxbury .....	\$685,000
227 Park Street..... West Roxbury .....	\$950,000
102 Parklawn Road ..... West Roxbury .....	\$550,000
79 Tacoma Street..... Hyde Park.....	\$485,000
10 Arborfield Road..... Roslindale .....	\$350,000
31 Houston Street..... West Roxbury .....	\$1,050,000
9 Vista Street..... Roslindale .....	\$569,000
20 Denton Terrace, U#2... Roslindale .....	\$380,000
424 Baker Street..... West Roxbury .....	\$483,000
123 Landseer..... West Roxbury .....	\$800,000



79 Tacoma Street  
Hyde Park



46-48 Sanborn Avenue  
West Roxbury



14 Heron Street, Unit #205  
West Roxbury



13 Elmview Place  
Dedham



104 Joyce Kilmer Rd, U#1  
West Roxbury



45 Woodley Avenue  
West Roxbury



101 Clement Avenue  
West Roxbury



9 Stearns Avenue  
West Roxbury



688 LaGrange Street  
West Roxbury



20 Denton Terrace, Unit #2  
Roslindale



76 Brook Farm Road  
West Roxbury



41 Woodard  
West Roxbury



100 Vermont Street  
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# Around the Neighborhoods

## CITYWIDE

### MAIN STREETS EXPLORER

Jump on a free shuttle and visit Main Streets in Hyde Park, Roslindale Village, and West Roxbury. The Main Streets Explorer is a pilot program. We're offering a shuttle on Dec. 7, 14, and 21 between three Main Street Districts: Hyde Park, Roslindale Village, and West Roxbury.

We want riders to experience the live music, restaurants, stores, and events in each neighborhood. Our free shuttle is open to anyone who wants to ride. It's an easy way to shop, eat, and play locally. Learn more about when and where to pick up the shuttle at the bottom of this page.

This pilot program is run by the Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics. Through this experiment, they are testing ways Main Street Districts could be even more welcoming spaces for all.

It goes from 4 p.m.-9:30 p.m. and repeats every Thurs-

day until Dec. 21, 2017. This service extends to Hyde Park, Roslindale Village, and West Roxbury Boston, MA 02136, 02131, 02132. If you have any questions please contact [newurbanmechanics@boston.gov](mailto:newurbanmechanics@boston.gov) or call 617-635-0044

### ALLSTON/BRIGHTON

#### BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

A book discussion meets at the Brighton Branch Library on the last Wednesday of each month at 11:15 a.m. The featured selection for Dec. 27 will be *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams. Copies of the book are available at the library. Everyone is invited and new members are welcome. Brighton Branch Library/40 Academy Hill Road/(617)782-6032.

#### ESL CLASS

An ESL conversation group meets at 12:30 p.m. every Monday. Come practice your language skills in an informal and friendly setting with other

new English speakers.

#### BEGINNING INTERNET CLASS/MYSTIFIED BY THE NET? DON'T KNOW HOW TO SURF?

Help is available on a one on one basis to get you started. Call for an appointment and ask for Alan Brighton Branch Library/40 Academy Hill Road/ (617) 782-6032.

#### HISTORY OF BOSTON'S LIBRARIES AND HOW THE BRIGHTON BRANCH CAME TO BE

An intriguing history of the Boston's libraries and how the Brighton Branch came to be with Anthony Sammarco/ Noted author and historian, Anthony Sammarco gives an intriguing history of Boston's libraries and how the Brighton Branch came to be. His highly entertaining account of the beginnings and ultimate fate of the original Holton Library—now the Brighton Branch—provides an interesting back story to the city of Boston and its growth.

The Friends of the Brighton Branch Library and the Brighton Allston Historical Society invite you to this unique literary event. Monday, Dec. 18, 6:30 p.m. at Brighton Branch Library/40 Academy Hill Road/ (617) 782-6032

### HYDE PARK

#### PLAY AND LEARN BLOCK PARTY

Come play, build, and learn together at a block party – library style. Playing with blocks provides opportunities to learn about math and science, pre-reading skills, social skills, and motor skills. Various building blocks will be available including wood blocks, magnetic blocks, KAPLA blocks, soft blocks, and baby blocks. No registration is required. Located at the Hyde Park Branch of the Boston Public Library, 35 Harvard Ave., Hyde Park.

#### SEVENTH ANNUAL HOLIDAY PUB CRAWL

Please join us for this year Annual Holiday Pub Crawl. Singing warm up for the Holiday Pub Crawl on December 15th, 6:30 – 7 p.m. located at the Riverside Theatre Works (RTW) with a champagne toast at the kick off the crawl!

This is a FREE EVENT sponsored by Hyde Park Main Streets.

Riverside Theatre Works (6:30 – 7 p.m.) 45 Fairmount Ave., The Switch Co-op (7 – 7:30 p.m.) 45 Fairmount Ave., Rincon Caribeno Restaurant (7:30 – 8:10 p.m.) 18 Fairmount Ave., Master McGrath's (8:10 – 8:50 p.m.) 1154 River St., ZAZ Restaurant (8:50 – 9:20 p.m.) 1238 River St., Bacaro (9:20 – 10 p.m.) 5 Fairmount Ave., Fairmount Grille (10 p.m.) 81 Fairmount Ave.

We Hope you enjoy yourselves and the holidays in Hyde Park!

#### 10TH ANNUAL TOYS FOR TOTS EXTRAVAGANZA

This year marks our 10th year of this special event. We have had a part in making sure thousands of children wake up feeling The Magic of Christmas. This night is so special to Cappy and we hope that you can be a part in creating a memorable Christmas for so many deserving children. Join us for a night full of music, friends, spirits and lots of laughs. All the best, Kathi and Ray" Cappy's Tavern, 11 Wolcott Court, Hyde Park. December 16th @ 7:00pm-1:00 am

#### ANNUAL HYDE PARK CHILDREN CHRISTMAS PARTY

Ho, Ho, HO! Santa Claus is calling Hyde Park Children between the ages of 1 and 10 years old to join him for our Annual Hyde Park Children's Christmas Party, sponsored by PAL and Boston Police District 18. Join us! Dec. 9, 2017 from 12 p.m. – 3 p.m. at BCLA/New Mission High School Gymnasium, 655 Metropolitan Ave., Hyde Park.

#### CHESS AND CHECKERS WITH CHARLIE

Children are welcome to come and learn to play chess or checkers with Charlie Cleary on Saturday afternoons at 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. Sponsored by the Friends of the Hyde Park Branch Library. No registration required. Located at the Hyde Park Branch of the Boston Public Library.

### WEST ROXBURY ROSLINDALE

#### ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2017 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Located at the Boston Lodge of Elks #10 1 Morrell St., West Roxbury. THIS EVENT IS FREE! There will be great music, dancing, our famous holiday sweater contest, and the Subaru Unveiling Ceremony to celebrate our newest Meals on Wheels vehicle. Reservations are required and accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Call reservation line 617-477-6724 and leave your name, the full names of everyone in your party, and a phone number.

#### CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

On Tuesday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. please join us for a celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. We will have a prayer service which will feature a talk on Our Lady by Sister Bárbara Gutiérrez, SND who was born and raised in Mexico City. Sister came to the United States 21 years ago and entered the congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur 11 years ago. This will be an inspiring Advent Evening of Prayer. Come and join in our evening of prayer devoted to her. Bring a

SINGLE flower to honor our Lady if you wish. There will be an opportunity to bring it up to the altar during the service. This celebration will take place at St. John Chrysostom Church, 4750 Washington St., West Roxbury.

#### ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

On Sunday, Dec. 18 at 7 p.m. there will be an Advent Penance Service for all Catholics in the West Roxbury and Roslindale area at St. John Chrysostom Church, 4750 Washington St., West Roxbury. All are welcome to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation before Christmas. This evening will include readings, songs and the sacrament itself.

#### HOLIDAY BOOK STROLL

The Friends of the West Roxbury Library is hosting a Holiday Book Stroll on Thursday, Dec. 7 at 6:30 p.m. Authors Tonya Mezrich, Casey Sherman and Dave Wedge, Carter Alan, Hank Philippi Ryan, Hallie Ephron, Jay Hajj, Jane Healey, Upton Bell and Ron Borges and others will be in attendance with their latest books, which you can purchase and have signed while enjoying refreshments and mingling.

They sign. You sip. Holiday shopping: done. Held at the West Roxbury Library.

#### ROSLINDALE VILLAGE MAIN STREET HOSTS 2ND ANNUAL HOLIDAY MARKET ON BIRCH STREET

This December brings the return of Roslindale Village Main Street's Holiday Market on Birch Street, a festive event to bring residents, visitors, and local businesses together to celebrate and shop for the season. The Holiday Market will take place on Thursday, Dec. 7 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Birch Street between Corinth and South streets. Birch Street will be closed to traffic for this special event.

Visitors can enjoy treats from the Whoopie) Wagon food truck, free hot chocolate, holiday classics sung by caroling group Songful Artists, and play-based activities for all ages, in collaboration with local group Roslindale Wants to Play. JP Honk Band will perform throughout the Village and at the Commuter Rail Station, and the folk-rock band Rock 'n Roll Dreamers will play inside Emerald Society Building during the event.

The Holiday Market will also feature over 20 visiting vendors, offering everything from French soaps, to art and prints, pottery, locally-made honeys and sauces, jewelry and accessories, children's books and clothes, and more. Vendors will be located inside the Emerald Society Building at 10 Birch St., as well as two vacant storefronts at 22 Birch St. and 756 South St.

#### Calendar

Continued on page 14

**Holiday Gift Ideas**

**WAVES GIFT CARD**

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# Tree Lighting *continued from page 1*

working his way through a donut, looked up and shared what he planned to say to Santa Claus.

“I want a present,” he said.

Two other women with children of their own stood nearby. Neither was from Readville, but one woman, Eleni, worked at Olympic Pizza on the corner with her husband, the owner.

This was her first time experiencing the Tree Lighting from the outside. Every other year she had been inside working but, with her two children, she now had time out of the shop in the afternoons.

“So I decided to come here for the first time with my babies,” she said.

Police sirens went off on Neponset Valley Parkway from the direction of Truman and soon, the Boston Police Department motorcycle escort – and the Enchanted Trolley – arrived from its previous stop in Mattapan Square.

The trolley, essentially three buses and a special carriage with a big chair for Santa Claus to take visitors, pulled in around the triangle and parked

along the sidewalk, as city officials disembarked and began greeting the familiar and unfamiliar within the crowd.

Burl Ives’ “Silver & Gold” piped in as Toy Soldiers began setting up Santa’s bright, decorated carriage for guests and, afterwards, sang “Santa Claus is Coming to Town” to the crowd.

Emcee Fast Freddie announced that the Tour, sponsored by Bank of America, would visit 16 city neighborhoods over the weekend before introducing Mayor Walsh – and then Santa Claus – to pull the switch and light the tree.

Fast Freddie, having stepped down from Santa’s carriage, shared his thoughts on the event.

“They’ve been doing it for an awfully long time and I think that it’s wonderful that Mayor Walsh took the baton from Mayor Menino and has made it an even bigger celebration over the last few years,” he said.

Freddie has been acting as emcee for four years – as long as Walsh has been

Mayor – and plans to continue for another four, now that Walsh has been re-elected.

A woman standing by herself takes photos of several different children visiting with Santa Claus on her phone and she somewhat sheepishly makes a minor confession.

“I wish I’m a little one so I can sit over there on Santa’s lap,” she said.

When advised that Santa might very well be just fine with that anyways, she bursts out laughing.

“I don’t think so,” the woman said.

She continues watching the goings on in the Enchanted Trolley with a smile on her face, but with Mrs. Claus hovering over Santa’s shoulder, never makes her move.

Between the table of diminishing coffee cake and Olympic Pizza, Ann Marie Curran keeps an eye on her 6-year-old grandson Michael, as does his grandfather, Chucky Varney.

Michael has not yet paid a visit to Santa’s Enchanted Trolley and the

line – which had stretched all the way to the end of the last bus – is beginning to shorten.

According to Varney, they’ve been coming to this Tree Lighting “every year since he’s been born. It’s all about the kids.”

But Curran looks a little anxious as Michael runs past.

“He was so anxious to come down this time and all of a sudden he’s nervous about meeting Santa Claus,” she said.

The call goes out for passengers to board the

Trolley and Rudolph and a tall Toy Soldier come walking over to where Curran and Varney are standing.

Michael slows down long enough to have his photo taken with them and his Great Grandma and Grandpa, with Santa Claus making it into the frame. Close enough for this year.

The Trolley is fastened down, Santa boards a bus, the motorcycles rumble to a start, and the Enchanted Trolley Tour is on to West Roxbury for its last stop of the night.



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 The Gaffney Team 781-223-7575 • 781-636-8385	 Joe Donnelly 617-256-3978	 Diana Bradley 617-312-2432	 Lianne Rich 617-470-1937	 Chris Kennedy 857-204-7540	 Dave Maguire 617-763-5752	 Joe Regan 617-771-3366	 Michael Griffin 617-869-1257	 Mina Papoulidis 617-319-6363	 Anthony Carrabino 617-953-6029	 A.M. Home Team 617-301-8344

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## 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CLOTHING DRIVE



Vogt Realty Group will be collecting clothing donations this holiday season for the St. Francis House, Boston’s largest day shelter. We will be collecting these items at our West Roxbury office at 2085 Centre Street from Wednesday, November 15 – Thursday, December 14 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

*See special instructions and needed items listed on our website and Facebook page.*



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The Bulletin Newspapers and The Boston People's Voice publishes obituaries from information supplied by funeral homes. Relatives and friends also may supplement information by e-mailing to [news@bulletinnewspapers.com](mailto:news@bulletinnewspapers.com) by Monday at 1 p.m. Photos also will be accepted.

## Deaths

### SHEPHERD



Scot C. Of Brighton formerly of Hyde Park, suddenly Nov. 23, 2017. Beloved life partner of Christiana Viscusi. Son of the late Sonny Shepherd and the late Sandra Wilson.

Devoted brother of Richard D. Shepherd and his wife Christine of Norwood, Michael Shepherd of Chestnut Hill, and Helene Legendre of West Roxbury. Also survived by his loving nieces and nephews, Michael C. Daley, Stacey Shepherd, Jillian Shepherd, Hailey Legendre and Ava Legendre. Scot attended Mt. Ida College. He loved playing poker and cards, loved movies, music and spending time with family. Visiting hours were at the P.E. Murray-F.J. Higgins George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 2000 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY. A funeral service was held at the funeral home. Interment was in St. Joseph's Cemetery, West Roxbury.

## Senior Club News

### COMMUNITY SENIORS

The Community Seniors meet the second Tuesday of the month at St. John's parish hall, 4740 Washington St., West Roxbury, at 12:30 p.m. New members welcome to join. For more information, call Phyllis at 617-364-2280

### GO-GO SENIORS

Go-Go Seniors Meetings are on the First Tuesday's of every month. We are looking for new membership and our annual membership dues are \$8.00. All are welcome. Meetings located at the Municipal Building on Hyde Park Avenue at noon in Hyde Park.

Jan. 3: Annual Christmas Party At Victory Grille in Dedham. Cost to be determined.

Jan. 7-10: Atlantic City, N.J., staying at the Tropicana Hotel. Any further information please contact Joanne 617-323-0071

### THE VILLAGERS

The Villagers of Roslindale meet on the first Tuesday of the month in St. John Chrysostom Church Hall, 4740 Washington St., West Roxbury. The social hour is from noon to 12:45 p.m. with refreshments. Our Dues are paid annually and are \$10.00 per member. All inquiries, please call our President Diane Grallo @ 617-323-8654 or Jean Parrelli @ 617-325-4695

### MIL-PAR

Our next Mil-Par Meeting is scheduled for Jan. 18 and will be a 50/50 meeting. If you haven't bought your tickets for the Christmas Party scheduled for Dec. 10, please call Peggy Lydon or Josie Pero. We will not have another meeting before the party and you don't want to miss this event.

Please call Sal Ferlito at 617-361-2845 if you are unable to come to the meeting so that he can order the appropriate number of lunches.

PLEASE NOTE: All of our meetings will be held at the Blue Hills Collaborative, previously known as St. Anne's School. We will continue having meetings there until the renovations are done at Saint Pius X Church and hall.


Bingo is played after all meetings if you are interested.

**To advertise, call (617) 361-8400**

**Correction**

In the Nov. 30 edition of the Hyde Park Bulletin POHWER article beginning on Page 1, Alex Nadel's last name was incorrectly spelled Navel.

Also, in the Nov. 30 HP150 article beginning on Page 4, Bob Vance's email address is listed incorrectly. It should be [Vance02136@gmail.com](mailto:Vance02136@gmail.com)



**Thank You Novenas**  
*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 9<sup>th</sup> 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. —I.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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# Grew Park *continued from page 1*



Cathy Horn spoke about her anti-litter/neighborhood beautification group Keep Hyde Park Beautiful. Her brief presentation led to a discussion about discarded needles, the possibility of cleaning urban wilds, and the use of goats as weed whackers/fertilizing machines.

PHOTO BY MATT MACDONALD

Anne Clark built on this, complaining about the lack of response when she called 311 for assistance removing needles in the West/Austin Street area, forcing her to take matters into her own hands (she was worried about her grandchild and other children picking them up) to collect them herself.

In response to this, Sgt. Dan MacDonald recommended calling the Sharps Hotline to have found needles removed. The hotline number is 617-534-3967.

Mayor's Office Hyde Park Community Liaison Bryan Flynn also emailed the Parks Department as the meeting was underway regarding the reports of Alvarez and Clark.

As for KHPB, Horn said that participants have instructions not to touch needles when they find them. However, she took down the Sharps Hotline number, as did several others at the meeting.

Alvarez also made the suggestion that KHPB might also consider adopting an urban wild, citing the fact that Hyde Park has more of them than any other neighborhood in the city, including four in the Grew Park area: Sherrin Woods, Deforest, West/Austin, and Monterey Hilltop.

As a byproduct of her comments, an attendee mentioned goats-as-brush-removers, opening the door for Alvarez to address the issue in different detail than she had in November's meeting.

"I think the City needs a cadre of goats to go all through the city," she said. "They're tick resistant, they love poison ivy and other invasives, and their poop doesn't have to cure like cow manure; it's instant fertilizer. So they're, like, the best multi-purpose tool."

When asked about the possibility of using goats, Horn very tentatively agreed to put them on the idea list.

In other KHPB news, on Thursday, Dec. 7, a Planning Committee meeting is scheduled, during which members will be speaking with the President of Keep Massachusetts Beautiful regarding affiliation options, as well as other ideas. This meeting had originally been scheduled for November.

Those interested in KHPB can visit [www.KeepHPBeautiful.org](http://www.KeepHPBeautiful.org) or email [keephpbeautiful@gmail.com](mailto:keephpbeautiful@gmail.com).

Lynda Wallack also brought up as a topic for investigation the status of the Thompson Center Dog Park, which is caught in between those plans and its original proposed use as a senior recreation area.

"Right now, everybody is log jammed and, meanwhile, we've got nothing," Wallack said. "We have no dog park. We have no senior park. It just sits there and it's an eyesore."

Returning generally to the topic of needles, she continued.

"Kids drink there. Junkies go there. It's just a wasteland. So we'd like to see some movement on it," Wallack said.

She referred to the Dog Park Boston website ([www.dogparkboston.org](http://www.dogparkboston.org)) for those interested.

In old business, the Grew Park Neighbors are researching the 2018 application process for the Slow Streets program in which speed humps would be installed on differ-

ent streets in the neighborhood.

In an additional item of note, Alvarez reviewed the Neponset River Forum from Nov. 30 and the problems of river pollution. This led to an announcement from Sgt. MacDonald regarding the disposal of unused medication.

"You're not supposed to flush unused medication down the toilet because it pollutes the water," he said.

He went on to inform the group that BPD stations provide medication drop-offs.

Finally, the police report for the past month was very quiet. However, one larceny – the theft of a package from a front porch – was of some interest.

The suspect was videotaped and although still at large, has a warrant for his arrest.

Following up on this, Sgt. MacDonald had a recommendation for delivery shoppers during the run-up to Christmas.

"Be careful if you've ordered something expensive," he said. "Have it delivered to somebody who's home, or to a location where you go and pick it up, because it's easy pickings just driving around and seeing stuff on people's doorsteps and just walking up and, you know, walking away. If these people hadn't had a camera, he would have gotten away with it."

The Grew Park Neighbors meet on the first Monday of the month. Because of New Year's Day, this may be moved to Jan. 8. Check [www.itsyourneighborhood.com](http://www.itsyourneighborhood.com) for details.

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

# FHNA *continued from page 3*

depending on the Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) determination of whether or not it will be a sight obstruction.

Kriscenski also announced that he will be asking the DCR to waive the annual maintenance fee, giving the FHNA the responsibility for upkeep and replacement.

In an effort to be cost effective, the sign will be a 3-inch thick solidcore slab with two cedar posts with an estimated cost of \$3,000.

The new sign will be installed at the tip of Beacon Street and Truman Highway – at the intersection of Fairmount Avenue – in a small round bed of cobblestones, where the current and somewhat worse for wear sandwich board sign is located. The sign, as planned, will face toward Fairmount Bridge.

In additional FHNA business, Officer Paul Broderick cited an Oct. 25 vandalism incident in which a residential fence on Fairmount Avenue was spray painted: "Home of a rapist."

This led Sgt. Dan MacDonald to address the issue, informing the group that it is, in fact, a crime to illegally discriminate or harass an offender.

"I just want to let people know that if they're going out and (being a) vigilante or spray painting – stuff like that – that it is a penalty," MacDonald said. "That guy's been arrested, tried in court, did his time, and he's on the list."

When certain attendees complained about the public drunkenness of the person in question, they were advised to call 911, with a qualifier from Sgt. MacDonald.

"Like you would anybody else," he said. "Like you'd call on anybody else. You can't just pick on him because of his designation."

At the end of the hour-plus long meeting, the topic came up again, when the neighbor across from the vandalized property made an emotional statement on behalf of the two other adult residents living at that address.

"We can't forgive, necessarily, a crime," they said. "But it really hurt that they were violated in that way, and it felt like a violation to me, as well, looking across the street at that."

In another announcement of note, an attendee announced that there is a meeting scheduled for Jan. 9, 2018 at 7 p.m. regarding the continued existence of Most Precious Blood Church. It will be held at the Blue Hills Collaborative at 20 Como Rd.

In other announcements:

The Area E-18 Holiday Party will be on Saturday, Dec. 9 from Noon – 3 p.m. at New Mission High School (655 Metropolitan Ave.)

The FHNA Christmas Sing-A-Long will take place on Sunday Dec. 10 at 2:30 p.m. at the Blake Estates (1344 Hyde Park Ave.).

On Friday, Dec. 15, the Seventh Annual Pub Crawl will run from 6:30 p.m. at the Riverside Theatre Works (45 Fairmount Ave.) until 10 p.m. at the Fairmount Grille.

The FHNA Holiday Social is also tentatively scheduled to be held in the lobby of the Everett Square Theatre. The date has yet to be determined.

The next FHNA meeting is scheduled for Jan. 24, 2018 at 7 pm.

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## Plastic Bags *continued from page 1*

to step up to the challenge.

"As we have seen with every city or town that has opposed this, once they've gone into implementation you've seen the private sector really step up," he said. "You've seen individuals step up and offer reusable plastic bags... If passed today and signed into law, this will have a one-year sort of ramping up period."

He said the ordinance won't go into effect until a year from now, and added this would give them plenty of time to work with ABCD, the Boston Housing Authority, food banks, the Boston Centers for Youth and Families and farmers markets to make sure that residents are aware of the ordinance.

"We can work and we can do this well because we've seen it done well in other cities and towns. We have worked closely with our neighbors, we know what the recipe is and how we can do this and the benefits cannot be challenged," he said. "Let's write the Boston 'greenprint.'"

At-Large City Councilor Ayanna Pressley acknowledged that the main point of opposition in the city has been that this would impact low-income families, who may see a

5 cent increase per grocery bag as a burden.

"Should this ordinance pass, I'd encourage the City of Boston to explore ways to ease the burden of what will really require a cultural shift by providing free, reusable tote bags at accessible and convenient venues throughout the city for our low-income residents and seniors," she said. "This ordinance is a critical step towards a greener, cleaner and more sustainable Boston."

Matt Seaholm, the executive director of the American Progressive Bag Alliance, said the passage of the ordinance was disappointing and believes the mayor should veto the legislation outright so that the council will have to go back and rework it.

"It was seemingly a backroom deal that transpired over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend," he said. "Before that point we were under the impression that there was opposition in the Mayor's Office and City Council, but as it turned out there were some vocal members who were more interested in getting a feel-good ordinance through and gain political capital than make good policy."

Seaholm said it wasn't fair

to the consumer. The ordinance would require businesses to use reusable, thick plastic bags instead of the single-use bags currently in circulation.

"What it ultimately does is punish those who can least afford it," he said. "That 5-cent fee might not mean a lot to city council members, but I can tell you a low income family in Boston who has to pay 50 cents every time they do their weekly grocery shopping it adds up, and it's noticeable to those who can least afford it."

Bradford Verter, Director at the Mass Green Network, said that residents are already paying for their single-use plastic bags, though they may not know it.

"Plastic bags are not free and we all pay for them. They cost grocery stores 4 cents each on average and that's folded into the overhead and the price of goods, it's just been a hidden cost and one of the things this does is make hidden costs visible," he said. "When that happens, residents bring their own reusable plastic bags very quickly."

Seaholm countered that the cost of the single-use bags is nowhere near as high as the thicker counterparts.

"I guarantee they are not as expensive as 5 cents, many of those bags are as cheap as half a cent. You're talking about taking a penny and increasing it by seven times the thickness," he said. "Typically, those bags for many retailers are going to be more than the 5 cents and that will heap additional cost onto the retailer."

Verter said that the city is currently paying much higher costs for the single-use plastic bags in terms of the problems they create when they hit the recycling stream, which recycling facilities are not prepared to deal with.

"The big problem is that bags gum up the works in recycling machinery at these big sorting machines that are run at recycling facilities and they just get totally jammed up with plastic bags. They have to hire people in eight-hour shifts to cut away the bags with box cutters or utility knives and they lose all this time," he said. "If plastic bags get mixed in, then that contaminates an entire shipment and they have to hire someone to sort it or just dump it all. It's a lot of wasted money and lost opportunity and those funds could go to social programs or to any other thing. It costs taxpayers and anything that costs taxpayers money hurts low-income residents the most."

Seaholm pointed out that plastic bags do not make up a large percentage of the city's waste, but Verter said that waste is determined in tonnage.

"It's certainly not as much tonnage as refrigerators, I can tell you that," Verter said.

City Council President and At-Large City Councilor Michelle Wu said the ordinance, if anything else, is a mixed bag.

"So it's been an incredible honor to be part of this process and many others that the council has been working on to really plan and take actions for our next generations here in the city," she said. "This is a hard problem the city has been facing, representative of the larger problem of climate change and climate injustices that our country and the world is facing. To be totally clear, our current economic system, our current way of life and our society is headed towards a crisis point in terms of the global impact of a warming planet and changing weather patterns that we are going to see directly affecting Boston's bottom line and our residents' quality of life. This plastic bag ordinance is an example of a small step that is completely within the city's control to take."



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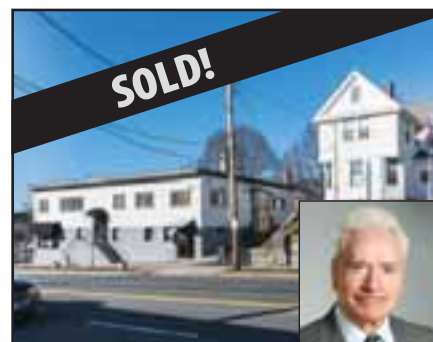


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Happy Holidays!



# One River *continued from page 1*

Dave Vieira, who felt uncomfortable addressing the Neponset in racial terms.

“The River is the River and the people are the people, and I would prefer that we go forward on that basis,” he said.

This, in turn, brought about a response from a black woman sitting nearby.

“It’s the people that control what we need done, though, so we need to call it as it is,” she said.

“I’ve lived in Hyde Park for 50 years and that river has been polluted since long before I lived here and it was never described in terms of racial inequity,” Vieira came back.

Moderator/POHWR member Raushanah Muhammad reluctantly stopped the building discus-

“outfall” pipe.

“I think it’s fair to say that the vast majority of people do not realize that they could be standing a mile away from the river and, if they’re washing their car, or if they’re saying, ‘Hey, I’ve got this motor oil. I’d like to just drop it in that catch basin...’ that it ends up in the river,” he said.

In terms of what the community can do to help, Cooke recommended that people be careful as to what goes into storm drains, that they report noticeable problems with the River to the Boston Water and Sewer Commission, that they volunteer as water testers or on River clean-ups and that they advocate on the River’s behalf to their elected officials.

Following Cooke, North-



Volunteers at September’s Hyde Park Neponset River Clean-Up. Thursday night’s meeting concentrated more on the extremely harmful chemical and sewage pollution plaguing the River.

PHOTO BY MATT MACDONALD

sion in order to keep with the program schedule and despite her suggestion that they go back to it later, it was never revisited.

Instead, the direction of the meeting did essentially shift in Vieira’s direction, as successive speakers spoke of different aspects of the Neponset River’s pollution and how to alleviate it.

Ian Cooke, Executive Director of the Neponset River Watershed Association made an informative presentation first covering some definitions (a watershed: the area of land that drains into a particular river) and laying out some logistic information (the River runs from Foxboro, is 30 miles long, covers a 120 square mile area, and has 330,000 people living in its watershed area).

He then moved on to pollution problems, spending most of his time on street stormwater runoff and showing, as one of his first slides, a common curbside storm drain/catch basin before mildly shocking probably more than a few in the room by informing everyone that whatever goes down the drain goes directly into the river via storm drain system network and

eastern University’s Carole McCauley, working under an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant dealing with the Boston Harbor ecosystem network, gave some brief details on the EPA’s involvement with the Neponset.

Having accepted an invitation from the Commonwealth, the EPA is currently conducting its own investigation and testing of the site – including muddy sections the riverbed heavily polluted with PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyl).

According to McCauley, based on its findings, the EPA may make a recommendation that the River become a “superfund” site which will “open the door for some sorts of clean ups.”

If the River does get added to this national priorities list, it will be about a year from now. McCauley also made sure to mention that the clean-up process can take from 10-20 years.

She also added the importance of project advocacy to elected officials, since states are responsible for at least 10 percent of clean-up expenses. Nonetheless, McCauley was positive.

“Even though it seems like



A packed roomful of Hyde Park and Mattapan residents listen in as one of them – standing in the back of the room and wearing a blue jacket – asks a question about Neponset River pollution.

PHOTO BY MATT MACDONALD

there’s a long road ahead, it’s really exciting progress that’s being looked into right now,” she said.

The Boston Water and Sewer Commission sent two representatives to the meeting, Director of Planning and Sustainability Charlie Jewell and Project Manager Amy Schofield.

Schofield delivered a detailed presentation that in many ways complemented Cooke’s. She concentrated on the BWSC’s ongoing efforts to find and fix illicit connections between sewer drains and storm drains that, when left unaddressed, pollute the river.

She also spoke of the ongoing inspections of the 69 total sub-catchments (a catch basin drainage network) that discharge stormwater into the Neponset. Since 2004, inspections for 57 of them are complete, with the remaining 12 scheduled to be finished by 2019. These subsystems, however, are open to re-evaluation.

The question and answer session touched on areas of each presentation, with each speaker at one point or another addressing an issue presented by the audience on index cards read by Muhammad. Many were directed at the BWSC, with contamination the focal point.

In her commentary on this problem, Schofield spoke of the difficulty in finding exactly where it comes from, despite the ability to narrow potential origin points down.

Jewell, silent during Schofield’s presentation, had more to say about these problems.

“The investigation process requires certain weather conditions,” Jewell said. “Sandbagging (a method of determining illicit runoff in a stormwater drain) requires 96 hours of forecasted dry weather. That’s sometimes very hard to get in Boston.”

He also revisited an idea that Cooke presented to reduce

contamination: “green infrastructure” – specifically, rain gardens that would allow storm water to be absorbed into the ground, letting natural processes treat it before it makes it to the river.

During the Q & A, Marc Nascarella, Director of the Environmental Toxicology Program for the Department of Public Health, encouraged River abutting residents to add signage warning against fishing, which he acknowledged as a possible issue for an immigrant popula-

tion.

Following up on Nascarella’s comments, Cooke encouraged attendees to mark up a huge map of the Neponset that had been taped to the wall with suggested signage points.

The conversation continued well after the meeting had ended, with Hyde Park and Mattapan residents lingering in small groups around each other and different presenters, while others marked coordinates on the map, planning further as to the River that ran a stone’s throw away.



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SUFFOLK Division Docket No. **SU17C0513CA**

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24 New Chardon St.  
Boston, MA 02114  
617-788-8300

**In the Matter of:** Elizabeth Anna Aleksandroff  
Of:

To all person interested in petition described:  
A petition has been presented by Elizabeth Anna Aleksandroff requesting that:  
Elizabeth Anna Aleksandroff be allowed to change his/her/their name as follows:  
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IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT: **Boston**  
ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON:  
12/28/2017  
**WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court**  
Date: November 24, 2017  
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

*Boston Bulletin, 12/07/2017*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department  
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. **SU17C0514CA**

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME **Suffolk Probate and Family Court**  
24 New Chardon St.  
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**In the Matter of:** Kathleen Mary Layton  
Of: Boston, MA

To all person interested in petition described:  
A petition has been presented by Kathleen M. Layton requesting that:  
Kathleen Mary Layton be allowed to change his/her/their name as follows:  
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12/21/2017  
**WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court**  
Date: November 20, 2017  
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

*Boston Bulletin, 12/07/2017*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department  
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. **SU17C0475CA**

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME **Suffolk Probate and Family Court**  
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**In the Matter of:** Christopher Figueroa  
Of: Boston, MA.

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A petition has been presented by Christopher Figueroa requesting that:  
Christopher Figueroa be allowed to change his/her/their name as follows:  
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ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON:  
12/21/2017  
**WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court**  
Date: October 25, 2017  
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

*Boston Bulletin, 12/07/2017*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department  
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. **SU17D2524DR**

**DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING**  
**Jocelyn Santiago Montero vs. Francisco Albert Hilario Sanchez**  
Suffolk Probate and Family Court, 24 New Chardon St., Boston, MA 02114

To the Defendant:  
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for irretrievable breakdown of the marriage.  
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: **Jocelyn Santiago Montero, 8 Buckingham St., Hyde Park, MA 02136** your answer, if any, on or before **01/25/2018**. 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.**  
November 22, 2017  
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate Court

*Hyde Park Bulletin, 12/07/2017*

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SUFFOLK Division Docket No. **SU17C0302CA**

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME **Suffolk Probate and Family Court**  
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**In the Matter of:** Travelle Michael Benjamin  
Of: Hyde Park, MA.

To all person interested in petition described:  
A petition has been presented by Tashanna C. Williams requesting that:  
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ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON:  
**01/18/2018**  
**WITNESS, Hon. Joan P. Armstrong, First Justice of this Court**  
Date: November 15, 2017  
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

*Hyde Park Bulletin, 12/07/2017*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

**INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE** **DOCKET No. SU16P2643**

**Estate of: Helen P. Canavan** Suffolk Division  
**Also Known As:**  
**Date of Death: December 2, 2015**

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of  
Petitioner Phyllis A.C. Swett of Abington, MA  
Phyllis A.C. Swett of Abington, 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.

*Hyde Park Bulletin, 12/07/2017*

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA – DURHAM COUNTY  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
17CVD1032

**BETHEA VS. NOTICE-BETHEA**

Lorraine Notice-Bethea:  
Take notice that a pleading seeking a Final Divorce, Equitable Distribution, & Interim Distribution with attorney's fees has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:  
That the bonds of matrimony which heretofore existed between the parties be dissolved and that the Plaintiff be granted an absolute divorce from the Defendant. That the Court determine the marital and divisible property of the parties and make an equitable distribution of said property and grant an unequal distribution in favor of the Plaintiff pursuant to N.C.G.S. §50-20 et. seq.; That the Court make an interim distribution that the marital home is Plaintiff's sole property and that the Defendant be instructed to take steps necessary to have her name removed from the deed; That the Court order Defendant to pay Plaintiff's reasonable attorney fees; That the costs of this action be taxed to Defendant; That the Court grants such other relief to the Plaintiff as the Court may deem just and proper. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than January 14, 2018 and upon failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.  
This the 30th day of November, 2017.  
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7406 Chapel Hill Rd., Suite H  
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*West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin,  
11/30/2017, 12/07/2017, 12/14/2017*

# Calendar

*continued from page 8*

“The Holiday Market creates a festive atmosphere where local retailers, artists, restaurants, and neighbors can come together on a chilly night and warm up with music and hot cocoa — all while shopping locally in the heart of Roslindale Village,” said RVMS Executive Director Alia Hamada Forrest.

The surrounding shops and award-winning restaurants will feature special sales and menus during the market. Birch Street House & Garden and Joanne Rossman offer unique gifts, and the Boston Cheese Cellar will be serving mulled wine and their famous Swiss raclette.

As a special attraction this year, owners of the newly-announced brewery, Distraction Brewing, will be at the site of their future business at 2 Belgrade Ave. for a meet and greet.

### ONE-ON-ONE COMPUTER ASSISTANCE

One-On-One Computer Assistance are on Wednesdays from 3-4 p.m. Please call 617-325-3147 to reserve a 30-minute informal session with a librarian. Bring your device or use a library laptop (library card required). Beginners are welcome. This is a free service.

### FREE DROP-IN HOMEWORK HELP

Boston Public Library locations offer free after-school homework help and mentorship provided by trained, high-achieving high school students. Homework Help is available Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m., Sept. 18 through May 24. Open to students in grades K-8. No registration is required. Program is not available on Boston Public School holidays, early-release days, or long weekends.

Homework Help mentor trainings provided by Harvard University's Public School Partnerships Team, the developers of SmartTalk, a program that uses research-based tools, strategies, and resources to support students during homework time. Located at the West Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library.

### SANTA SCAMPER 5K ROAD RACE

Race Day Registration and Pre/Post Race Festivities Registration and pre/post race festivities at the Irish Social Club, 119 Park St. in West Roxbury, just a block from the race start/finish. Our Race Day Logistics page will keep you up to date! Race Course Start/finish at Parkway Community YMCA. Rolling course thru the West Roxbury neighborhood of Boston. Chip timing

On Dec. 10, 2017 the 5K will start at 11 a.m. The Kids Run at 10:15 a.m.

The Parkway Running Club (PRC) of West Roxbury has hosted an annual Santa Scamper 5k road race since 1994. This race raises money for the Boston Globe Santa Fund, a charity to support children of need in Massachusetts.



# Letters *continued from page 4*

## GRATEFUL TO REP. LIZ MALIA

To the Editor:  
 We are grateful to and Representative Liz Malia for supporting the We the People Act (H.1926 and S.379). Not only is Rep Malia a co-sponsor but she

also took action this month by sending a joint letter to committee chairs hearing the bill urging a positive report. This bill would have Massachusetts, the cradle of American Democracy; join the other five states (Vermont, California, Illinois, New Jersey and

Rhode Island) that have already voted to propose a constitutional amendment to overturn the Supreme Court's disastrous Citizens United decision. Until We the People, through our elected state representatives and senators, exercise our constitutional author-

ity to amend the Constitution in this way, our political landscape will continue to be dominated by multi-national corporations, billionaires and other powerful special interests, and government of, by and for the people will continue to be a mirage. Amending the Constitution is a heavy lift, but it has been done 27 times before. Without constitutional amend-

ments, former slaves, women, and people old enough to serve in the military would not have a voice in public affairs. Now it's our turn to live up to the first three words of the Constitution, "We the People," and make our government responsive to the needs of all the people, not just the wealthy few.

Laura Gang  
 Roslindale

# Community Service Directory

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