

WEST ROXBURY ~ ROSLINDALE BULLETIN

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FEBRUARY 6, 2020



Community wants more affordable housing at 3992 Washington



About 15 residents came for the meeting regarding a new building at 3992 Washington St., which is currently an auto garage.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

About 20 residents came out to the Archdale Community Center in Roslindale for the Boston Planning and Development Agency's (BPDA) meeting on 3992-3996 Washington St.

The plan calls for a four-story building with 18 condominium units, 18 parking spaces, bike spaces, a roof deck and bike accommodations. Attorney for the project Jeff Drago, of Drago and Toscano,

said they reduced the project from six stories and 25 units to accommodate concerns from residents at an abutters meeting they held on the project, but heard from several residents that if it meant more affordable housing on the project, they would be content with more density.

Resident Steve Gag said he would like to see the ground floor utilized for residential as well, as fewer parking spaces means more residents would be

Affordable Housing
Continued on page 2

Hyde Park Board of Trade discusses 2020 Census



The Hyde Park Board of Trade discussed implications an accurate census count could have for businesses in the district.

PHOTO BY ARIANE KOMYATI

Ariane Komyati
Staff Reporter

The Hyde Park Board of Trade (HPBOT) held their first meeting of 2020 on Jan. 28. More than 20 members gathered at the Las Delicias Colombianas restaurant to mingle with other community members and enjoy a buffet dinner. Agenda items included

discussing last month's activities, new businesses in Hyde Park, and a talk about the U.S. Census Bureau.

The hot topic of the meeting was the U.S. Census Bureau. Shelly Gillis, a Partnership Specialist with the U.S. Census Bureau, spoke to the

2020 Census
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West Roxbury resident returns from Puerto Rico aide trip



West Roxbury resident Heather MacFarlane, right, recently returned from a trip to Puerto Rico to deliver supplies and toys for those in need.

COURTESY PHOTO

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

West Roxbury resident and Salvation Army Director of Communications in Massachusetts Heather MacFarlane recently returned from a trip to help residents in Puerto Rico recover from the devastating earthquakes that recently hit the region.

"We do a lot of emergency disaster services in the

U.S. and around the world. We are always there when people need us the most, so I thought I had to go," she said. "Just hearing of the experiences people had going down with the Salvation Army after Maria, the more I thought I needed to be there."

MacFarlane said she joined four other Salvation Army team members (including Boston resident Mayra Vasquez) for 10 days.

"It was full-time and we hit

the ground running," she said. "We had a Salvation Army team on the ground before I arrived because we had a headquarters and several satellite sites in Puerto Rico after Maria. We have four Maria recovery centers located in different spots on the island. Our whole team was able to respond within a half hour of the earthquake."

Puerto Rico Aide
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Ideas for transportation, housing on tap at Roslindale meeting

Mary Ellen Gambon
Staff Reporter

About 200 people filtered in and out of the Turtle Swamp Brewery in the Roslindale Substation on Thurs., Jan. 30 seeking information from various City department reps and offering their own opinions about what can be done to improve area transportation and housing options.

The two-hour event was the second community forum sponsored by the City. It was attended by the representatives from the Department of Neighborhood Development (DND), Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) and Boston Transportation Department (BTD).

The first meeting, held on Sept. 26, had focused on developing a housing complex over the 43,000 square-foot municipal lot near Taft Hill Terrace. The idea was called "Housing with Public Access," or HWP.

This time, residents and business owners visited tables that focused on breakout topics, such as linking housing to transportation and the concept of affordable housing, as well as people's vision for Roslindale.

John Malley, the head of the Roslindale Business Group (RBG), said he and other business owners were against the proposed housing over the municipal lot because the development would take away 90 park-

ing spaces during construction that the businesses rely on for their customer base.

"A lot of people who shop and eat here come from outside the area," Malley said. "And you have the Medical Center here, and they see 30,000 people a year. That's a huge number of people that need a place to park."

He added that the Registry of Motor Vehicles and the Social Security building will be negatively impacted.

Malley, who grew up in Roslindale, said he remembered a time in the 1980s when the businesses were boarded up or had grates over them.

Roslindale Meeting
Continued on page 6

Indigenous activist coming to JP

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Bunibonibee Cree Nation member Sheila North will be coming to the First Church in Jamaica Plain at 6 Eliot St. on Feb. 7 to show her film “1200+” at 7 p.m.

The screening will show the documentary North put together with her filming partner Leonard Yakir and feature a question and answer session. The film focuses on indigenous women in Canada who have gone missing, been murdered or survived a violent experience, which is a huge problem that has gone under reported for decades. North, a survivor herself, said she wanted to raise awareness of the issue in the United States and Canada to increase representation of indigenous peoples.

“When I first realized that I was a survivor, I became a journalist,” she said. “I realized after talking with victims who shared my experiences that it was an all too common story. I left my reservation in Manitoba and went to an urban area in Winnipeg. The transition wasn’t smooth and sometimes it was outright danger-

ous. I didn’t realize how much of it was an epidemic until I became a journalist and started talking to survivors and victims’ families.”

North said the knowledge of all these experiences, more than 1,200 reported incidents and far more unreported, became an emotional burden that she had to find some way of dealing with.

“It’s not even a job, it’s part of my responsibility as a human being to raise awareness about it,” she said.

North said abused, murdered and raped indigenous women in Canada isn’t just a huge problem in Canada. She said it happens here in the United States as well, so she has presented in the U.S. several times, including two appearances at the United Nations Commission of the Status of Women.

“And I’ll be going again this year,” she said.

North said it’s a complicated issue, and she feels most people don’t realize how much of a problem it is, which is why raising awareness is her first step in trying to address it.

“It feels like we’ve been shut out of everything and left to our own defenses and are on



Sheila North

our own to survive,” she said. “We haven’t asked for financial support of any kind. We’ve just been asking people to make themselves aware and talk to people they know in their circles of influence to make changes on our world that affects indigenous girls... It’s more of a call to action at this point, and the reaction has been a lot of anger and a lot of sadness and worry.”

North said they are using the documentary to build a curriculum around the issue to make people more educated. The film is 90 minutes long. North said it starts with general statistics and a collection of short stories of indigenous women’s experiences. It then focuses on one

Shella North

Continued on page 6

Affordable Housing continued from page 1

inclined to take public transportation.

“Not only is this a 15-minute walk from Archdale on Washington to Forest Hills, but there are at least seven bus lines that run on Washington,” he said, adding that the city has successfully implemented a bus and bike only lane in the morning rush hours for Washington from Roslindale Square to Forest Hills, with another afternoon peak hour lane coming south for the return trip likely.

“We need more affordable units, and you’re doing the minimum you need to,” he said. “We’d like to see one or two more in this building and with that parking scheme you could do that.”

Several residents said they agreed.

“I would say put in more units and make that truly affordable,” said resident Claire Gosselin. “There’s a lot of displacement in this area, and while it’s true that more housing means more people have space to live, there’s been a tendency when these big developments come in that a lot of other people say, ‘oh I can increase my rent too.’ It would be very important to make sure this doesn’t contribute to displacement as well.”

Developers Seth Williams

and Chris Grossman said they could consider doing that, perhaps with a setback fifth floor near the roof deck for a penthouse-style condo that could, ostensibly, attract a higher price to offset the affordable housing (and also not creating too much of a canyon effect in terms of building height/shadows on Washington Street).

“I would personally be in favor of more density and height if you’re able to get more affordability,” Gag said.

“I will second that,” said resident Aileen Montour.

BPDA Project Manager for the development Stephen Harvey warned residents at the meeting that this could set off a trend in that area for developers.

“Once you allow a building for six, five or five-and-a-half stories, projects are going to most likely take advantage of that,” Harvey said. “Most buildings on this stretch were three to four stories and this is already above the zoning. So that was my concern, but if that’s alright with the community, that’s what I’m going to take to my bosses.”

Gag and residents at the meeting emphasized that it would have to also include much more affordable housing, perhaps also setting a prece-

dent. Montour called for 20 percent, and Drago said perhaps they would find something in between.

Regardless, Grossman and Williams said they would come back to the community sometime right before the start of or during the spring with an updated plan reflecting those issues.

Resident Greg Tobin said he would like to see more environmental concerns addressed in the project, including fully electric heat for example. Williams said they actually left space on the roof for future solar panels as well.

Harvey and Drago said they are currently working with the city and residents to try to come up with potential mitigation and community benefits for the project. Residents cited the fact that there’s no crosswalk on Washington for .3 of a mile between Archdale Street and Firth Street. Tobin and Gag also pointed out the proximity of the Arnold Arboretum and the Gateway Path project which is slated to start partial construction this spring. Harvey said residents with suggestions for other mitigation and community benefits can reach him at Stephen.J.Harvey@Boston.gov.

Tell 'em what you think with a Letter To The Editor

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

CITY OF BOSTON B D 26

To the Public Safety Commission
Committee on Licenses
Inspectional Services Dept. Boston, MA 01/08/2020

APPLICATION

For the lawful use of herein-described building, and other structure, application is hereby made for a permit to erect a private-public-business-garage 39 vehicle parking garage and also for a license to use the land on which such building or structure is/are or is/are to be situated for the Keeping-STORAGE of Vehicle Storage- Parking 780 gallons of gas in the tanks of vehicles.

Location of land 37 North Beacon St. Allston, MA Ward 22, Owner of land The Mount Vernon Co. Address: 1200 Soldiers Field Road, Boston, MA 02134

Dimension of land Ft. front 127.57. Ft. deep 216.39 Area sq. ft. 24,311

Number of buildings or structures on land 1

Manner of keeping in the tanks of vehicles.

City of Boston. In Public Safety Commission February 26, 2020. 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 26 day of February at 10:00 am. 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 Boston Bulletin, Allston/Brighton, 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
Sean C. Lydon, Chairman
Joseph Finn
Gregory Rooney
COMMITTEE ON LICENSES

Boston Bulletin: 02/06/2020, 02/13/2020, 02/20/2020

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This **"Lunch and Listen"** event is **FREE to ATTEND**, but registration is required. Please **RSVP by February 10th**. To learn more and to **REGISTER** today, please call **617-327-0881**.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER:

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Dr. Adrienne Ulrich has worked as an Audiologist since 2005. In November 2017, she began her own practice at Parkway Hearing in West Roxbury. As a native West Roxbury resident, Dr. Ulrich is committed to improving the quality of life for her patients through education and providing the latest treatment options for better hearing.



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Hats off to

Sixty years ago, in 1960, Del Shannon rocked the musical world with his “Hats Off to Larry.” If you were a teenager in those days, you should remember the song: it’s a classic. This being said, more than half a century later I found myself humming a bar or two of that song whenever I passed by the beautiful flowers in the flag-poled minipark at one of the entrances to the Allandale Woods at the corner of Weld Street and the West Roxbury Parkway.

The flowers were planted and nurtured by volunteers Janice Bingham, Pat Roberts, Maureen McCarthy and a couple of friends from The Evening Garden Club of West Roxbury. Instead of Larry, it was hats off to the Glenburnie Road resident and her helpers for beautifying the plot on their own—no money, no acknowledgment, no perks. Now the city maintains the site, with benches available for resting, sitting, praying, meditating, and admiring the flowers and plantings.

The Evening Garden Club of West Roxbury is no minor league group: it has 75 dues-paying members and maintains three local sites: the Beethoven School, the West Roxbury Library and its Reading Garden, and the island at the intersection of Caledonia Street and the VFW Parkway. (“Evening” is an inextricable part of the EGCWR name now: it used to be that none of its members was retired and they could volunteer only during after-work hours.)

It has numerous subcommittees, bylaws, rules, newsletters, yearbook, and a website (www.gcfm.org/eveninggcwestroxbury). Organized in 1996, the EGCWR is affiliated with The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts as well as with the National Garden Clubs, Inc. It sponsors lectures for its members and visitors. Many may remember the lecture given by Ruth L., one of the floral designers for the White House who had served under six presidents.

Promoting awareness of the need to conserve natural resources as well as developing beautification sites in the area, this non-profit holds its monthly meetings at the Elks Club. Anyone interested in joining this inspiring organization and attending its scheduled lectures should contact co-president Kathy McGrath at egcwr gardeners@gmail.com. Whether you join or not, keep June 13th open, the day before Flag Day: rain or shine it sponsors tours of the best gardens in the area, showcasing gardeners with thumbs greener than any leprechaun ever had.

And if you think that membership is relegated solely to females, be aware that the other co-president is a Vietnam veteran of the United States Army’s storied First Cavalry Division. Hats off to him and all the members.



My Kind
of Town/
Joe Galeota

Calling all mentors: help make a difference in the lives of Boston’s children

Earlier this month, a fifth grader from Dorchester named Fatoumata visited my office. She told me about her favorite types of ice cream, her favorite subjects in school, and her plans to go to college, become a human rights lawyer, and eventually run for U.S. Senate. She’s got big goals for her future, and I have every confidence that she will achieve her dreams. Fatoumata also told me about her support system. Her family loves her, she’s got great teachers at the Dever Elementary School, and she also has a mentor named Claire, a Boston College student who meets with Fatoumata every week.

Mentorship can be an incredible resource for kids like Fatoumata. She told me, “The best thing about being a mentee is that I can open up to Claire... and she’ll listen. She helps me with my homework and we do lots of fun things together.”

Fatoumata and Claire are one of about 2,500 mentor-mentee pairs that meet regularly through an initiative that is very near to my heart: the Mayor’s Mentoring Movement. In 2014, my office partnered with Mass Mentors, a nationally-recognized youth empowerment non-profit based here in Boston. We wanted to work together to increase the number of adult mentors and role models in the lives of Boston’s youth. We set an ambitious goal of recruiting 1,000 new mentors and pairing them with young Bostonians to form enriching and empowering relationships. Since then, the program has grown steadily. Now, we’re launching a new push to recruit more mentors, with a special emphasis on increasing the number of City of Boston employees who take part in the program.

Mentors provide social and emotional support that can help

kids during crucial developmental years. They help young people explore their interests and follow their academic and professional dreams. They can expose them to great opportunities like potential jobs and internships, and help them prepare for interviews and build important professional skills.

This kind of support can have significant impacts on a young person’s life. Recent studies show that children who have a mentor are less likely to skip school, drink alcohol, or do illegal drugs. They are more likely to participate in sports and extracurricular activities, and they tend to be more engaged in school, and more likely to go to college.

Mentoring is also an incredibly enriching experience for the mentor. You learn what young people are dealing with and thinking about today. You reflect on your own journey and the advice you got, or wished you got. You get more connected to the community.

To me, growing the number of mentors in our City is one of the most important investments we can make in our future. It has benefits for the entire community. It can be as important as our work to make housing more affordable for working families; to build a stronger, more equitable public transit system; and to make our schools the best they’ve ever been. Mentorship is a big priority for me, and I’m encouraging more people to get involved. Right now, we’re calling on adults in Boston to consider becoming a mentor as a part of the Mayor’s Mentoring Movement.

Mentoring can take many forms. We partner with 20 organizations to create a network of mentorship across all of Boston’s neighborhoods. Mentors offer support according to



Mayor’s Column

Martin J. Walsh

their mentees’ interests and needs. Mentors do community-based activities with their mentees, provide academic tutoring and career readiness advice, and accompany their mentees to local cultural and educational destinations like museums and plays.

The Mayor’s Mentoring Movement is helping us grow a culture of youth empowerment in Boston. When I asked Fatoumata if she wanted to become a mentor someday, she said “Most definitely. I want to help young children, and I want them to feel like they belong. There are some people that don’t have the opportunity of having someone to talk to, or having someone to play around with. So I definitely think I’ll become a mentor.”

If you’re interested in becoming a mentor, and would like to learn more about the Mayor’s Mentoring Movement, go to Boston.gov/mentor. You can also watch my conversation with Fatoumata to see how important mentorship is to a young person. Together, we can empower all our youth, and inspire a whole generation of Bostonians to be themselves, follow their dreams, and become active members of our community.

Tell ‘em
what you
think with a
Letter To
The Editor



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Letters to the Editor

IN THE END, IT COMES DOWN TO PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

To the Editor:

Since ride-hail services started, sexual assaults have been an ongoing issue. State regulators have been working on reducing with good background checks while companies have been adding other safety features. The system is open to imposter drivers, sexual predators and other violent criminals who have shown they can exploit the system.

Suffolk County D.A. Rachael Rollins says, “We are not going to victim blame. We are going to be teaching very

vocally our overwhelming young men about consent. We’re going to be talking to people about being safe when you are out drinking and when you are out.”

That makes good sense but for those sexual predators out there roaming for victims, her statement is pretty useless. The Commonwealth can pass all the legislation in the world over these ride hail drivers and public safety but in the end, the bottom line remains with those folks calling for a ride hail service.

As former Boston police commissioner Billy Evans observed, “If you’ve had a couple, and you’re not about your right wits, you’re not going to read

the plates as well. . You’d be very susceptible to jumping in the wrong car with the wrong driver.”

Evans is so right. The late-night bar scene is chaotic with all kinds of numbers of people waiting for their rides to show up and many of these folks are stinking drunk too. As someone who operated a sausage cart late into the early morning hours down at Faneuil Hall Marketplace, I speak from firsthand knowledge of this situation. Many of those coming out of a bar about to go home would buy food off my cart and weren’t even able to handle putting mus-

Letters

Continued on page 14

JP Zoning Committee supports the neighborhood on two projects

Richard Heath
Staff Reporter

It was an action-packed, full house at the Jan. 22 JP Zoning Committee meeting.

Two new housing developments were debated and the zoning committee voted to support the neighborhood on both; 10 Stonley Rd. was denied and 3305 Washington St. approved.

Ten Stonley Rd. is a four story, 46-unit residential building on the site of the Mello Fuel Depot.

It's Part III in the evolution of that light industrial corner of the Stonybrook neighborhood next to the Arborway yard making way for residential; some real estate brokers are calling it Stonley Place.

Part I and II, 76 Stonley Rd. and 50 Stedman respectively, are either completed or approved and both were strongly opposed by the Stonybrook Neighborhood Association (SNA).

SNA also opposes 10 Stonley Rd. despite the fact that it has 10 affordable units – 22 percent-four of which are artist live-work spaces with high ceilings on the ground floor. The affordability mix is also low, between 30 percent and 70 percent.

It received BPDA approval on Dec. 12, 2019. The board was impressed that all the affordable units will be entirely financed from the development itself; the

developer, Brooksted LLC, is not making any cash buy out but putting it into lower affordability.

BPDA member Carol Downs was very happy with that.

“Now we know it’s possible,” she said. “You’ve set a precedent.”

Brooksted LLC has made significant design changes since its first presentation in May 2019, one of which is a dramatic stair tower with a mural on the Stonley Road side; this appealed to BPDA member Priscilla Rojas.

“I do appreciate the artist mural,” she said. “This is a very important community in the city.”

SNA put up a wall of resistance at the Oct. 24 BPDA Article 80 meeting and in the wake of the BPDA vote took the fight to the JP Zoning committee.

At the zoning committee, Brooksted partner Matt Zahler emphasized the affordability and compliance with the JP/Rox guidelines.

“We’re using the density bonus provided in JP/Rox to add more floor area and more affordability,” he said. “It’s at 22 percent, the highest of any development. This is a unique project. It has a lower (Area Median Income) provided by the revenue from the other units. We have a financing partner that’s



A full house at the JP zoning committee meeting on Jan 22.

PHOTO BY: RICHARD HEATH

willing to accept a lower rate of return.” Zahler said he listened to the community.

“We met with Keepit100 Egleston,” he said. “We agreed with them to keep the three units at 30 percent and one at 40 percent. They wrote a letter of support.”

Committee chair Dave Baron wanted to clarify who Keepit100 Egleston was. “It’s not a ‘them’, it’s a ‘he’. It’s just George Lee,” he said, adding, “but it is a better project.”

Jennifer Uhrhane from SNA spoke in opposition to 10 Stonley Rd.

She disagreed about any letter of support from Keepit100 Egleston.

“Keepit100 didn’t support this,” Uhrhane said paraphrasing the letter. “Keep it 100 wanted to see what a less dense project would do with affordability. They asked that JP zoning defer this.”

In its letter, made available to the Bulletin the next day, Keepit100 held two conflicting views. “Increasing affordability is a win-win situation... the developer should continue the right balance of affordability and design and we encourage the developer to continue conversations with SNA.”

But Uhrhane wanted Brooksted to reduce the affordability.

“We want you to reduce the unit number to 32 units,” she

said. “Take out one floor and remove nine units. This is a balanced proposal.”

Baron said that reducing the number of units by 35 percent creates a much different project. (A 32 unit building would have four affordable units at the city’s 13 percent formula).

A Brookley Road resident said she was “totally down with affordable housing ” just not there.

“Not on this tiny, tiny lot. It’s a massive expansion of density in this neighborhood.” Zahler said Brooksted could not comply with reducing the number of units.

JP Zoning
Continued on page 9

Margie Vogt, Broker 617-212-7660	Ultan Connolly 617-519-1699	Erin Vogt 617-212-7662	Joe Donnelly 617-256-3978		Alex Macrides 617-571-8746	Maureen Hayes Rossi 617-417-1000	Patsy Brennan 857-472-2982	Richard Reed 617-549-0059	Nancy Killion 617-716-9040	
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OPEN HOUSE SAT/SUN 12:30-2



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Roslindale Meeting *continued from page 1*

"I don't want to see it go back to that," Malley said, noting that, at the time of the first meeting, about 100 members of the business community signed a petition noting their opposition to the proposed housing.

"We have no issue with development and no issue with affordable housing or housing in general," Malley added. "We are just against this particular development. This will literally just kill the business community."

Ben Bruno, who moved to Roslindale to start a family three years ago, had the opposite view.

"For me, I am extremely pro-housing, especially in such proximity to tons of buses and the commuter rail running there," he said. "What are we doing building car-centric housing?"

"For the businesses here, if you have that many more people living here, that's what's going to make it more vibrant," Bruno added, noting that those against the housing have been a "very vocal minority." He added that the City representatives were really helpful in providing data on transportation as well as housing.

"I am extremely invested in making Roslindale as walkable and transit friendly as possible," he said.

Specifically, Bruno said he wanted to see the southbound dedicated bus lane implemented on Washington Street. Another goal is to see the Roslindale commuter rail stop included in Zone 1A rather than Zone 1.

"For me personally, I'm excited about Birch Street closing," he added, referring to the upcoming plan to close Birch Street off to vehicles in the spring. "And I would love to see more car-free zones."

As a former Jamaica Plain resident, Bruno said he believes "Roslindale has greater potential to be a neighborhood center" because it is concentrated. It also has an amazing farmers market, he said. He added that the fear about losing parking "is an illusion."

Mary Beth Pavlonis, a local realtor, said one of her

main reasons for coming to the forum was addressing the need for improved accessibility for people with disabilities.

"I have had a back injury, and my mother uses a walker," she said. "I have a handicapped placard, and I still can't find a space. Because of the construction with the gas lines, the streets and the sidewalks are cracked."

"They are looking at transportation," Pavlonis continued. "They are looking at bikes. But they aren't looking at the ADA and wheelchairs, crutches, canes and walkers. How are you making it accessible for everybody?"

Pavlonis also said she was upset that Birch Street, where she could once find parking to take her grandchildren to preschool, has been closed.

Rick Yoder, co-chair of the Mount Hope Canterbury Neighborhood Association (MHC), said he was amazed at the turnout.

"I think it's a good approach," he said, noting that each table is collecting people's opinions and sticky notes of priorities. "Everyone seems engaged. It would be good if they follow through with people's comments."

District 5 City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo said one of his main goals for the district, including Roslindale, is fixing transportation in all forms.

"This is a good way to invite community input," Arroyo said. "I see a lot of neighbors talking to neighbors, and some of the best ideas come from neighbors talking to neighbors. For me this is an opportunity to listen."

Arroyo added that he was concerned about some of the issues that impact transportation, such as speeding, signaling and crosswalks, which affect pedestrians as well.

"For the community to turn out this way for an event that talks about transportation and what people want to see for their community creates incentive for the City to do more because they see what the turnout looks like," he said.

Regarding the parking lot is-

sue, Arroyo said it was "very early," because he has not seen a plan yet. "I recognize that this is a destination area," he said. "But I think we'll just have to weigh that with the fact that human beings need homes, and affordable housing is important. And so figuring out the best way to marry the two is where I'm at."

Being early in the process gives all sides a chance to have input in planning, Arroyo added.

Claire Gosselin of Roslindale said she attended both meetings, and found this one more helpful.

"I think today, this meeting is more interactive," she said. "I feel like the City wants to hear a variety of perspectives. I learned something new tonight."

She said she also heard a suggestion that there be a bus that loops around the city that would allow people to do shopping.

"I think this process has been good for encouraging problem solving," Gosselin added.

Wayne Beitler said he came because he supported more opportunities for affordable housing.

"It's important that we restore parking for the merchants," he added, noting the proposed project over the municipal lot, "and that we maintain parking during the construction. I think replacing the parking and building affordable housing is the right project for Roslindale Square."

Dennis Kirkpatrick, chair of the Roslindale Community Center board of directors, said he thought the event was poorly organized.

"The venue has a very high ceiling and echoes like a train station," he said. "The tables were not labeled very well. One sheet of paper, standard print. I had a hard time navigating it. I hope something good comes out of it."

"I think that we got quite a turnout this evening," said Taylor Cain, director of the City's Housing Innovation Lab. "This was an opportunity for folks to have deeper conversations about things they really care about."

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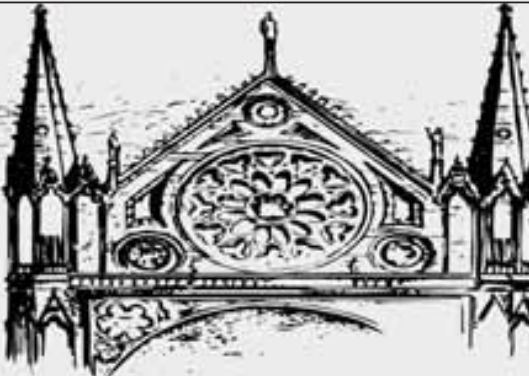
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Soloist

Sheila North *continued from page 2*

story in particular.

"A 17-year-old, who already had a little boy earlier and had been in foster care all of her teenage life. She was in 92 foster homes before she died. Two months after she left her last foster home she was dead."

North said that while the

numbers are staggering - 1,192 official victims counted in 2013 and thousands more suspected - one thing she also wants to portray is the strength and stories of those who survived.

"The good part is the survivor rate is around three times more," she said. "We don't hear

enough about the survivors. We have a lot of girls and women who have survived and gone on to thrive. There are many more of us than there are victims and I think that needs to be highlighted and celebrated."

North will also be appearing at the Black Lives Matter Vigil at the First Church on Feb. 6 at 5:30 p.m.

Pierce Street Neighborhood Watch discusses police report

Ariane Komyati
Staff Reporter

The Pierce St. Neighborhood Watch held their monthly meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 4 at the Hyde Park Foursquare Church. The meeting was attended by District E-18 Officers, Pierce Street Representative Melanie Daye, a representative from newly-elected District 5 Boston City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo's office, and Pierce St. neighbors.

The meeting opened with Boston Police Department District E-18 Community Service Officer Paul Broderick reading the police report from the past month in the Pierce Street neighborhood. The report included one assault, zero robberies, zero auto thefts, zero vandalism, and zero breaking and entering. Officer Broderick also reported two larcenies at the Dollar Tree.

Officer Broderick discussed an incident on Metropolitan Avenue on Jan. 24. Around 8 p.m., a home invasion took place with three armed and masked suspects.

"When the police arrived, they were able to escort out the residents of the three apartments - but the suspects had fled," stated Broderick. "The next day, the detectives conducted a search warrant there and seized over 900 grams of cocaine at the residence."

Meeting attendees also discussed contacting the Boston Transporta-

tion Department to add "Neighborhood Crime Watch" signs to the Pierce Street area.

One neighbor, who asked not to be identified, attended the meeting to discuss concerns about a fallen tree on her property. The tree is owned by the City of Boston. It fell on her property last autumn and damaged part of her fence. The Pierce Street resident stated that she contacted 311 back in October, and was told it could take many months to remove.

"I contacted the department that handles trees, they sent me back an email saying it could take up to six months, even though I said there was imminent damage," the Pierce Street resident remarked. She showed photos of the trees and damage to other meeting attendees. "I want to make the city aware of the need to get these trees taken down before I get more property damage."

The community member also has concerns about multiple other dead and rotten trees on the property behind her house. The representative from Councilor Arroyo's office said they will discuss the issue with him.

Neighbors also discussed upcoming community events. The Boston Transportation Department Transit Team will be holding a Hyde Park Avenue Multimodal Corridor Open House on Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. at the Hyde Park Police Station on Hyde Park Avenue. The meeting will "help



The Pierce Street NW discussed several items concerning criminal activity during the meeting, as well as upcoming events in the neighborhood.

PHOTO BY ARIANE KOMYATI

shape the future of Hyde Park Ave". The Transit Team will discuss early implementation ideas regarding transportation improvements from Forest Hills to Wolcott Square. All community members are encouraged to attend.


The Switch Co-Op (located at 21 Fairmount Ave.) will be hosting a free

Valentine's Day event for kids on Saturday, Feb. 8 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Kids will be able to create their own artsy Valentine's Day cards at The Switch (parental supervision required).

The next Pierce St. Neighborhood Watch meeting will take place on Mar. 3 at the Hyde Park Foursquare Church.




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CONTENT
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Around the Neighborhood

CITY

BCYF FAMILY GYM RETURNS FEBRUARY 8

Boston Centers for Youth & Families' (BCYF) Family Gym Program is coming back for the spring season and will be at more BCYF community centers than ever before! Family Gym is a free, weekly play program that promotes physical activity for children ages 3-8 and their families.

Family Gym will run on Saturdays beginning February 8 from 10-11:30 a.m. at BCYF Blackstone Community Center in the South End, BCYF Gallivan Community Center in Mattapan, BCYF Holland Community Center in Dorchester, and BCYF Menino Community Center in Roslindale and BCYF Jackson-Mann Community Center in Allston. Family Gym will also be offered from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at BCYF Vine Street Community Center in Roxbury. Over 3,700 children and caregivers have participated in the program since it began in 2011. More than 360 college students have volunteered for Family Gym contributing more than 9400 volunteer hours.

For updated information or program cancellations follow @BCYFCenters.

ART CONTEST SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE TO BOSTON STUDENTS

The Bow Seat 2020 Ocean Awareness Contest invites stu-

dents ages 11-18 to create visual art, writing, films, music, or multimedia about the impacts of climate change on the ocean. In addition to the general awards of up to \$1,500, Bow Seat will be granting Hometown Awards to recognize eligible Contest participants from Boston or its neighborhoods. Winners will each receive a \$250 cash scholarship.

Join our global community of 13,000+ young people who are using their creative voices to speak up for the blue planet! The deadline to participate in the Contest is June 15, 2020. For more information about the Contest and Hometown Awards eligibility, visit www.bowseat.org/contest.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT FRANKLIN PARK ZOO

Come out to support Australia at the All for Australia fundraiser on February 13 where all proceeds will benefit Zoos Victoria's Bushfire Emergency Wildlife Fun

- Celebrate Little Joe's 27th birthday on February 17! Sign a birthday card for Little Joe and enjoy cake from Montilio's Baking Company before exploring the rest of the Tropical Forest! Bring an old phone or tablet to recycle in honor of Little Joe.

- Solve the case at Franklin Park Zoo's ZOOdunnit event during February school vacation week February 17-23rd.

- Get ready for a wild party! Lion brothers, Dinari and

Kamaia, are celebrating their 11th birthday on March 7 and you're invited to join in on the fun.

- On March 14 join the St. Patrick's Day celebration, complete with green-themed animal enrichment.

- Dance and limbo your way through the Tropical Forest at the 21+ event on March 21!

ALLSTON / BRIGHTON

ICE SKATING

New Learn-To-Skate classes for children, ages 4 to 18. Classes at Brookline/Cleveland Circle Reilly Memorial Rink, 355 Chestnut Hill Avenue, are also available. Classes are held on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m., Fridays at 4:00 p.m. and Sundays at 1:00 p.m.

Use figure, recreational or hockey skates. Beginner, intermediate and advanced classes are available. For information and to register, call Bay State Skating School at 781-890-8480 or visit online at www.BayStateSkatingSchool.org. Celebrating Over 50 Years!

FIXIT CLINIC AT THE HARVARD ED PORTAL

Saturday, February 8, 2020, 11:00am to 2:00pm - Harvard Ed Portal, 224 Western Ave., Allston

Save money, help the environment, and have fun at the Harvard Ed Portal's Fixit Clinic! Bring your broken, non-functioning items including jewelry, electronics, clothing,

and more, and we'll provide the space, tools, and coaches to help you tinker, troubleshoot, and even fix your items. This is an all-ages, do-it-yourself event that's both fun and educational. So, come and have a good time while you fix your cherished items, save money, and reduce your waste!

<https://edportal.harvard.edu/event/fixit-clinic>

23RD ANNUAL TASTE OF ALLSTON WILL BE HELD SATURDAY JUNE 20, 2020!

Our annual Taste of Allston, which highlights the delicious restaurants of Allston and also the diverse business mix, will be held on June 20th! There will be live music, lawn games, and plenty of family-friendly fun, so bring the whole crowd! Early Bird Tickets to go on sale in March!

PROGRAMS AT THE BRIGHTON LIBRARY

POETRY PRESENTATION

February 13, 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Local author Ric Calleja will share his poetry and discuss the importance of writing accessible poetry. Feel free to bring a poem of your own to share. Refreshments will be served at 6:00 p.m. Courtesy - Friends of the Brighton Branch Library.

NATIONAL PARKS DEPARTMENT

February 27 at 6:00 p.m. National Parks Department presents, "I Give to my Mullato Women Margaret"-Female Independency and African American Dependency in a Colonial Massachusetts Household. Two extraordinary women lived in the same Charlestown household as the beginning of the 18th century. This program will explore the unusual legal measures that widow Elizabeth Thomas Inscribed in her will. It will also delve as deeply as possible into Margaret's world, following her to the end of her life.

PLAYGROUPS

Every Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. Parent-child playgroup for Allston and Brighton families! Allston-Brighton Family Support Network weekly playgroup for caregivers and their children 1-4 years old. Enjoy structured free play, stories, circle time songs, and parachute play. For more information, please contact Elayne Baskin at 617-474-1143. Ext. 404.

FEBRUARY VACATION WEEK PROGRAMS

All About Anansi-On Wednesday, February 19 at 10:30 a.m. please join storyteller, Valerie Stephens, as we learn all about Anansi the spider, who was born amongst the Ashanti oral culture of the people of Ghana and become one of the more famous characters in folklore. We will celebrate the much-beloved trickster spider who has brought joy to many generations through interactive stories, games, and songs. The Highland Street Foundation made funding for this program possible. Ages 6-13.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

A book discussion group meets at the Brighton Library/40 Academy Hill Road (617)782-6032 on the last Wednesday of each month at 11:15 am. The featured selection for January 29th at 11:15 am. Everyone is invited and new members are welcome.

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 a librarian. Brighton Branch Library/40 Academy Hill Road/ (617) 782-6032.

ESL CONVERSATION GROUPS

Two ESL conversation group meet at the Brighton Library. One on Monday afternoon at 12:30 pm; the other on Thursday evening at 6:15 pm. Come and practice your language skills in an informal and friendly setting with other new English speakers. Brighton Branch Library/ 40 Academy Hill Road (617) 782-6032.

HYDE PARK

GO GO SENIORS

Trip to Twin Rivers Feb. 9. Leaving 9.45 am Hyde Park Police Parking lot.

Trip to Las Vegas, September 7. One week. Cost \$899 Direct flight with Delta airlines. Any questions call Joanne. 617-323-0071

SWEETHEART BALL

The BCYF Hyde Park Community Center invites families to our Sweetheart Ball on Saturday, February 8th from 6pm-8:30pm. Join



We Want You to be Part of Our Plan

Our public engagement plan depends on your input on the following:

- MBTA public outreach efforts
- Goals for responsible and inclusive outreach
- Methods and types of community events
- Access and accommodations so all may participate

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State Transportation Building

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For more detailed information, please visit MBTA.com/public-engagement

Absentee ballots and early voting dates now available for the Presidential Primary

The City of Boston's Election Department announced today that absentee ballots are now available for the Presidential Primary taking place on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. Voters registered in Boston who meet one of the requirements below are eligible to vote by absentee ballot:

- Voters absent from the city and unable to vote at the polls on Election Day,
- Voters who have a physical disability preventing them from getting to a polling site,
- Voters who are an active member of the armed services, and
- Voters who cannot participate due to religious obligations.

The deadline to submit an application for an absentee ballot is Monday, March 2, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. and can be done by mail or in person at the Election Department in City Hall. In person absentee voting is available during regular business hours as well as on Saturday, February 15, February 22 and February 29 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Absentee applications can be downloaded at boston.gov/absentee

When requesting a ballot by mail, voters are asked to mail their applications to the Election Department early to be processed on time. Voted ballots must be mailed back and received by the Election Department no later than 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. For more information please visit: boston.gov/absentee

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE: the deadline to register to vote or to update voter profiles for the Presidential Primary is Wednesday, February 12, 2020. On February 12, the Election Department will be open until 8:00 p.m. for those who want to register to vote. For more information on how to register to vote, please visit <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/>

EARLY VOTING: early voting for the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary will be available to all Boston voters from Monday, February 24 through Friday, February 28, 2020. Any registered voter can vote early. A listing of all early voting locations, dates, and times will be included with the annual city census. For more information on early voting please visit boston.gov/departments/elections/vote-early-boston

JP Zoning *continued from page 5*

"We are financially at the end of the road here. We cannot make any more changes," he said.

Committee members Kevin Moloney and Marie Turley made a motion to defer and come back at a later date after working things out with the neighbors

Zahler would not accept a deferral; he would not return to the committee.

The committee then voted 7 to 4 to deny.

Committee member Gerry O'Connor, who lives on Yale Terrace, voted no but expressed what he said was the duty of the neighborhood council

"Our role is to represent the community's wishes," he said.

Brooksted LLC does not have a ZBA date yet.

Regarding 3305 Washington Street, the zoning committee voted unanimously to approve Brian Murkland's proposed housing development because the Brookside Neighborhood Association liked it.

Murkland and his architect Tim Johnson are doing something different; they're taking a woodframe, 2 1/2 story, gambrel roofed duplex and tucking it inside a four story, mansard roofed building with a matching addition on an adjoining lot.

The new building, at the corner of Ophir St opposite Brookside Health Center, will be 45 feet long with six bays and balconies. There will be 15 rental

units, with three affordable, and a 1120 square foot, ground floor, corner commercial space.

Murkland will also contribute \$30,000 to the affordable housing trust fund.

Johnson explained that the city wanted to tear down the old vacant building.

"But at the abutters meeting [Nov 20, 2019], to make them happy we decided to retain the existing building and build around it."

"We agreed," said Johnson. "People see the building every day. They're familiar with it. We'll keep the first and second floor of the existing building and build two stories on top and a rear addition."

Scott Shear of the Brookside Neighborhood Association said his group wanted to save the older building.

"It's an emotional thing with us," he said. "It extends the old wood-frame, family residences in the neighborhood. We lost the building next door [3313 Washington St] to Johnnie Walker 20 years ago."

"It's also a reaction," said Shear. "It's a response to 34 Havorford. They took down that old house and put up a big box."

Johnson said there would be two garages at the rear separated by a stairway entrance, with balconies above the entrance drive off Ophir Street.

"It is a very unique angle bay

building," he said, "with shingles and very prominent porch. The main entrance will be recessed."

Johnson said the Brookside Association wanted wood shingles on the building, but the materials today are mostly non-wood, are fireproof and insect repellent board.

"It will be fibre-cement, hardi-plank with a 50-year life," he said, and added, "We have the full support of both abutters."

Several residents from Sylvia Street opposite the proposed building disagreed.

"I didn't get a notice about this meeting," said one resident. "I'm not part of Brookside Neighborhood Association?"

"You are now," said Shear. O'Connor wondered what defines an abutter.

"Just who are the direct abutters?" he asked. "Brookside does not include Sylvia Street?"

The Sylvia Street residents had no objections to the new building, but did have concerns about parking.

"Between the health center and the police station, there's no parking," said one. "They're taking up so many spaces."

Johnson said that parking for the residents would be built inside the new building. Murkland bought the vacant building last summer for \$1.5 million from The Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly - Boston Chapter that had occupied the duplex since 2000.



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Deaths

ATHANIS

Helen Of West Roxbury and Wrentham, MA, died peacefully at Pond Home in Wrentham on January 26, 2020. Born in Boston in 1927, Helen was the youngest child and only daughter of Arthur and Mary Dracousis. She graduated from Roxbury High School and attended the Jackson von Ladau School of Design. She was preceded in death by her parents and three older brothers, Jerry, Jimmy and Steve.

She was married to her devoted husband, Thomas Athanis, from 1952 until his death in 1998. After Tom died, she spent 18 years with her dear companion Adolfo (Adi) Demi. Helen is survived by her children, Mary Athanis Falconer and Dean Athanis and his wife Susan (Geishecker) Athanis, and her niece Paula Keefe to whom she was like a second mom. She also leaves behind several other nieces and nephews, all of whom she adored. A self described "people person" who always took care of others, Helen was loved by everyone who met her. She had a great sense of humor and great warmth, and was quick to laugh, and to give hugs and kisses. During her life she loved to paint, attend theatre, listen to music, and watch figure skating. She was excellent at word games and loved doing cryptograms. And any day was a good day if she had ice cream and her nightly nip of Amaretto. Helen's family would like to thank the truly in-

credible staff at Pond Home for the wonderful love and care that they provided to her during her time there. In lieu of flowers, donations in Helen's memory may be made to Pond Home Employee Appreciation Fund, 289 East Street, Wrentham, MA 02093 or to Operation Smile, 3641 Faculty Boulevard, Virginia Beach, VA 23453. Burial will be private. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. For online guestbook, please visit www.rjrossfuneralhomeinc.com

FORDE

Patrick J. Of Hyde Park, formerly of Craugh, Aughrim, Ballinasloe, County Galway, Ireland, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on February 2, 2020. Born February 19, 1933, the son of the late Patrick J. and Winifred (Flannery) Forde. Beloved husband of the late Margaret "Peggy" (Burke). Loving father of Kevin and his wife Karen Forde of Weymouth and Brian and his wife Jackie Forde of Middleton, and the late Patrick J. Forde. Dear family friend of Jessica Feeney and her husband Michael. Cherished "Grandpa" of Brady, Kaeley, Molly, and Mackenzie. Dear brother of Julie Murray, Eileen Nelson, James Ford, Andrew Forde and the late Bridie Flanagan, Thomas Forde, Frank "Simon" Forde and Freda Richards. Also the devoted husband of the late Eileen (Driscoll) Forde. Also survived by many

nieces and nephews. Funeral from the William J. Gormley Funeral Home, 2055 Centre Street, WEST ROXBURY on Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. followed by a Mass of Christian Burial in St. Theresa of Avila Church at 10 o'clock. Visiting Hours Wednesday from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Interment Mount Benedict Cemetery. For directions and guestbook, please visit: gormleyfuneral.com William J. Gormley Funeral Service 617-323-8600


FREEMAN

Patricia M. (Doyle) Of West Roxbury, January 30, 2020. Beloved wife of the late James J. Freeman, Sr. Boston Fire Dept. Dist. 7 Chief (Ret.). Loving mother of James J. Jr. (B.P.D.), Joseph F. (B.P.D.), Jean M. Stewart, and Patricia A. McGoldrick. Grandmother of Billy, James, III, Kristina, Michelle, Patricia, Lauren, Britanny, Jimmy, Jake, Lindsey, Joseph, Jessica and Kevin. Sister of Alice McCormick of West Roxbury and the late Francis Doyle and Margaret Goode. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. A Funeral Mass was held on Tuesday, February 4th in the St. Theresa Church. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to St. Theresa School, 40 St. Theresa Ave., West Roxbury, MA 02132 or Cops

Deaths

Continued on page 11

**Ursuline Academy Senior
Caroline Afonso signs letter of intent**



Ursuline Academy senior Caroline Afonso, a resident of West Roxbury, recently signed a letter of intent to throw the shotput for Northeastern University's D1 track and field team next year. Afonso captained the indoor track team her senior year. She captained the volleyball team her junior and senior years, and was selected to the All-State Volleyball team in 2018. Caroline is the daughter of Mary Lou Burke Afonso (also an alumna of Ursuline Academy) and Paul Afonso.

In addition to Afonso, two other Ursuline seniors recently signed letters of intent to compete in college athletics next year. Siobhan O'Sullivan, a resident of Quincy, will compete in shotput at D1 Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA, and Caleigh Wukitch of Needham will swim at Kenyon College, a D3 school in Gambier, Ohio.

Ursuline Academy is an independent Catholic school in Dedham for young women in grades 7-12 that fosters respect, compassion, intellectual curiosity, and a commitment to service. Ursuline strives to integrate the physical and social health of its students through competitive athletic programs designed to develop well-rounded individuals. The Academy offers fourteen sports over three seasons and over 70% of its students play in at least one sport. Interested applicants can visit www.ursulineacademy.net.

Ursuline Academy's Caroline Afonso, pictured left with her mother, Mary Lou Burke Afonso, will throw the shotput at Northeastern University in Boston next year.

COURTESY PHOTO

BTD wants your thoughts on HP Ave.

— Will be hosting an open house on Feb 11 —

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Boston Transportation Department (BTD) Transit Team is hosting a community Open House to develop ideas for improvements to Hyde Park Avenue between Wolcott Square and Forest Hills.

The Open House will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. at the District E-18 Station of the Boston Police Department at 2149 Hyde Park Ave. BTD Director of Planning Vineet Gupta said there are no plans right now for the 4-plus miles of street. He emphasized repeatedly the im-

portance of gaining community input first so that the project would work for the community.

“We are at the very beginning of a conversation regarding the future of Hyde Park Avenue,” he said. “At this time, we are holding the open house to get a sense of what the community would like to happen there in the coming years. We are not, in any sense of the term, designing Hyde Park Avenue at this stage. This is our initial conversation with advocates, residents and businesses to see what they think the future of the corridor is. The only design work will be done hand-in-hand with the

community.”

During a meeting discussing Washington Street in Roslindale earlier in January, the BTD Transit Team laid out what they saw as potential issues that could be addressed. First off, residents said during the meeting they do not want to see excessive “bus bunching” (several buses in a row on the same line) occurring as frequently as it does on both Hyde Park Avenue and Washington Street.

Gupta said they have no specific plans with the MBTA as yet, but representatives

Open House

Continued on page 13

Deaths *continued from page 10*

for Kids with Cancer, PO Box 850956, Braintree, MA 02185, copsforkidswithcancer.org

For and guestbook, www.gormleyfuneral.com William J. Gormley Funeral Service 617-323-8600

HOGAN-JACKSON

Julia Ann Age 54, of West Roxbury, January 26, 2020. Born on March 27, 1965 in Montgomery, Alabama. Cambridge Public School teacher for almost thirty years, most recently a kindergarten teacher at Fletcher Maynard Academy. A devoted mother, she will be missed but lovingly remembered by her children, Jahlisssa and Javier Jackson, Jr. and their father, Javier Jackson, Sr., Daughter of the late Inez (Lowery) and Jimmie Hogan. Dear sister of Mary Phillips, Jimmie Hogan, Jr., Sylvester (Wanda) Hogan, Alphonso (Brenda) Hogan, Jerline (Michael Akande) Hogan, Gloria (Jesse) Faulk, Ellen Ewans, Joe (Roslyn) Hogan, Horace Hogan and the late Jimmie L. and Earnestine Hogan. Loving Niece of Lutte Dixon, Willie Ella McKenzie, and Mary Jean West. She is survived by longtime special friend, Paul Anthony Binda, and many other family members and friends, including her Roslindale Baptist Church family and her Fletcher Maynard Academy family. A Celebration of Life Service was held on Tuesday, February 4th, at Roslindale Baptist Church, Roslindale. Burial Wednesday, February 5th at Fairview Cemetery, Hyde Park. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Roslindale Baptist Church Youth Ministry. To post a sympathy message, visit www.DavisofBoston.com

MURAD

Robert J. Of Roslindale, formerly of Boston’s South Cove, February 2, 2020. Dear and devoted husband of Frances (Sharkey). Loving father of Christine Alexander of Arlington, Elaine Rosselle and her hus-

band Michael of Dedham, Diane McDonough of Hyde Park and her late husband James, Robert Murad of Roslindale, Lynda Murad of Roslindale and Cynthia Hamilton and her husband Edmund of Roslindale. Cherished grandfather “Jidu” of Michael Francis Rosselle, Samantha Rosselle, PFC Thomas McDonough, Daniel McDonough and Thomas Robert Hamilton. Dear brother of James Murad of Hyde Park and Mary Mahanna of Boston’s South Cove and the late Abraham, Joseph, Thomas and Frederick “Moe” Murad. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Funeral from the Kfoury Keefe Funeral Home, 8 Spring St. (at the corner of Centre St), WEST ROXBURY, Friday at 9 a.m. Funeral Service at Our Lady of the Annunciation Cathedral, 7 VFW Pkwy. at 10 a.m. Visiting Hours Thursday 4-8 p.m. Relatives and friends respectfully invited to attend. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Robert’s name may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38148. Interment Mt. Benedict Cemetery. Proud US Army Veteran of the Korean War. Guestbook and other information at www.KfouryFuneral.com Kfoury Keefe Funeral Home West Roxbury 617-325-3600

THOMAS

Ellen Of the Villages, FL, passed away on January 15th, 2020 at the age of 70. Born in Dorchester, MA as Ellen Hersey, she graduated from Holy Cross Cathedral High School in Boston in 1967. Survived by her husband, Walter, daughter Kimberly Labagnara and husband Lawrence of Sudbury, and son Eric Thomas and wife Jessica of Clearwater, FL. She also leaves behind five grandchildren. She and her family lived in Mansfield, MA for 19 years. Ellen was a loving wife, mother and grandmother who love her family, cruises, and playing cards with her friends. A Celebration of Ellen’s Life will be held at St. Anselm Catholic Church in Sudbury, Massachusetts on February 8th, at 11:00 AM.

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. —S.C.A.

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Hyde Park Youth Basketball Week 7

The Hyde Park Youth Basketball Association (HPYBA) season is turning the corner to the end of the season. Teams are becoming extremely cohesive and individual players are beginning to show their leadership abilities across all platforms. The players of the Instructional Division for 6-9 year olds at the Ohrenberger Community Center continue to have fun as they develop fundamental skills. The Ray Foley and Craig Curran divisions brought excitement, intensity, and overall great play. Each of the teams has found a role for all of their players and this has made it an enjoyable season to watch.



3-Pointers 54 - Hoyas 23

The first half of this game started out slow but the 3-Pointers came out of the half ready to take the reins and win this game. The 3-Pointers were led on offense by Andrew Igharo who had 17 points, all coming in the first half. Andrew sat out most of the second half and was a great team player cheering for his team as Barron Langston and Daniel Armado put in the work on offense scoring 12 and 8 points respectively. On defense, it was Nathan Bodden and Barron Langston who kept the Hoyas out of the paint and forced many untimely turnovers. For the Hoyas, Corey Cunniff is starting to emerge as a leader. Hustling on both sides of the ball and leading his team on offense with 6 points. He was helped by MacKenley Pierre who scored 5 points off of offensive rebounding and Kamil Castillo who was able to score his first 4 points of the season. Defensively, it was Jerry Langston and Louis Gerrado who kept the 3-Pointers from opening up the score even more. The 3-Pointers look to have next week's game against the Cowboys have the same intensity as the second half of this game, and the Hoyas hope next week their outcome against the Darksides will be more in their favor.

Foley Division Standings

	W	L	T
Darksides	6	1	0
3-Pointers	5	1	1
Cowboys	1	5	1
Hoyas	1	6	0

Curran Division Results

3-Pointers 34- Sonics 21

The 3-Pointers came out fast in this game and never turned the speed down. The

Sonics only had three players score this week leaning on their two top offensive players, GiomniCenteo and Quinton Avenor, who scored 13 and 6 points respectively. Even with not many players able to get in the score book, the Sonics distributed the ball well on offense. On defense, Dailon Long and Mackly Pierre were nearly impenetrable forcing the 3-Pointers to run their offense to the weak side. This was not an issue for Oscar Torres and the offense of the 3-Pointers. They scored most of their points off of layups that came from the left with Oscar leading the team with 15 points as well as MJ Bruneau and Jaydon Raymond each with 6 points. On defense, it was the determination of Joshua Torres and Desmond Monteiro who locked down their opponents in the man-to-man periods. The Sonics will regroup in practice this week as they look forward to their game against the Blue Devils, and the 3-Pointers looks to keep their seat atop the league with a win next week against the Raptors

Raptors 27-Blue Devil 19

This game saw the Blue Devils fall behind and come back within reach of the lead three times, but they could not keep the Raptors from scoring in the final 10 minutes of the game. The Blue Devils were led on offense by Chandler Frederick who scored 13 points in this game. Eleanor Thompson and Frankie Davilmar were able to assist Chandler with great looks and passes on some give and gos. Defensively it was Jadon Omoruyi and Jaden Pinet who kept the the Raptors out of the paint and were able to pull in some important rebounds on defense as well as offense. The Raptors were led today on offense by the ball handling and drives of BJ O'Neil who scored 18 points. He was aided by the assists from Feliciano Taveres who scored 7 points himself. On defense, it was Zhira Watkins down low with some excellent rebounding and a blocked shot. Alex Dias also played an important role at the top of the key making it difficult for the Blue Devils to get a play developed. The Blue Devils look for their first win in a month as they prepare for their game against the Sonics as the Raptors will look to strengthen their team ahead of their matchup against the 3-Pointers.

Curran Division Standings

	W	L	T
3-Pointers	5	1	1
Sonics	4	3	0
Blue Devils	2	4	1
Raptors	2	5	0

2020 Census

continued from page 1

meeting attendees about the 2020 United States Census. Gillis gave some background on the U.S. Census, explaining that every ten years residents are counted. "This is mandated by the constitution, and it is something we have been doing since 1790," stated Gillis. "The census is important, the census is safe, and it's easy."

Gillis spoke about the importance of the census: "It [the census] determines the number of seats we send to Washington, D.C. It also determines how \$675 billion gets distributed among the states. That federal funding goes towards planning for roads, emergency services, school districts, and federally funded programs. Living in the City of Boston, we want to make sure we count every single person who lives here, so that Massachusetts and Boston gets their fair share of federal funding."

Gillis also explained that Census Bureau Representatives take an "oath for life" that they will not divulge anyone's information. "We cannot share anyone's personal information with any other government agency, court of law, or landlord. I point out landlord because we are a city with a lot of renters," explained Gillis.

How is the census easy? "This year, people have four different ways they can respond to the 2020 census: online, by phone, by paper, or someone will come to your door and follow up," Gillis told meeting attendees. The census will not ask for social security information, bank accounts, or anything about political beliefs or parties.

Census invitations will be sent to every household between Mar. 12 and Mar. 20. Reminder notices will be sent out between Mar. 16 and Mar. 24. Those who have not responded will receive a reminder postcard between Mar. 26 and Apr. 3. A final reminder will be sent between Apr. 20 and Apr. 27, and those who have not responded will receive a follow up in person. In areas with a lot of college students, such as Allston and Brighton, "door knocking" will begin in April. The census will also have language support, and will work with libraries and community centers to assist people taking the census.

Gillis explained that the census is also about redistricting - after each decade's census, state officials redraw the boundaries of congressional and state legislative districts in their states to account for population shifts. Representative Angelo Scaccia remarked that the population of Boston has increased dramatically over the past ten years, so it is crucial for everyone to be counted and take the census. The redistribution of federal funds can help Boston with their schools, the MBTA, and the roads.

HPBOT President Scott Batey began the meeting with opening remarks and discussing the events the group has helped out with over the past few months, including the Anderson Tree Lighting. Batey also welcomed new Hyde Park business owner, Vicky Pol, to the meeting. "I would like to introduce a new business every month [at the HPBOT meetings]," Batey remarked.

Vicky Pol, the owner of Skinluxe (located at 1150 River St.), also spoke at the meeting. Skinluxe offers many skin services, brow expertise, body contouring treatments, body waxing, and lash services. The business had their grand opening in December.

"This is our first business in Hyde Park, so far it's going great. We are also new homeowners in Hyde Park," stated Pol. "Valentine's Day is around the corner, and we offer gift cards." Pol also remarked that the business has gotten 1600 clients so far.

The next HPBOT meeting will take place on Feb. 25. This meeting will be an "Annual Open Issues Forum" - attendees are encouraged to bring their thoughts and ideas as to what collective issues and concerns the HPBOT can help with to improve the Hyde Park Business District.

The HPBOT was created in 1901 to "foster and promote the vitality and productivity of the Hyde Park, MA business and professional community, thereby contributing to the economic welfare of the general commonwealth of which we are a part. We seek to promote the Hyde Park, MA business and professional community by providing networking opportunities and an environment for the personal and professional growth of our members." To learn more about the HPBOT, visit <http://hydeparkboardoftrade.com/>.

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Open House

continued from page 11

from the MBTA, Boston Planning and Development Agency, the Mayor's Office and any related departments will be available at the meeting. He said this will be more of a workshop-style meeting than a lecture hall, with different stations laying out current conditions on Hyde Park Avenue and taking suggestions from residents on how they could address those conditions. Gupta said that while it is very early in the planning stages, if residents want small short-term improve-

ments, those could most likely be done by this year, anything else would have to wait.

"I don't see anything happening this year," he said. "There might be some short-term issues the community wants us to address, which we are happy to do. Repainting crosswalks, safety issues, traffic light retiming, things like that we are happy to do in the short term."

Gupta said these kinds of meetings are cropping up all over the city to help deal with increasing congestion, traffic and strain on public transit. For more information and to fill out an online survey on issues for Hyde Park Avenue, go to boston.gov/departments/transportation/hyde-park-avenue-multimodal-corridor.



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Puerto Rico Aide continued from page 1

MacFarlane said the damage was extensive, and the greatest need was in the southern mountainous regions of the island, where response to the quakes and aftershocks was already hampered by damage to infrastructure from Maria.

"In some cases, people's homes were completely destroyed," she said.

MacFarlane said the quakes stayed with residents, and described many as living in fear of roofed buildings.

"They were living in their front yards," she said. "Sometimes it would take two to three hours to get up there to provide entire families with tents, cots, food and toys for kids, especially for the kids because a lot of the schools were shut down in the southern regions because they were unsafe from damage caused from the earthquakes."

MacFarlane said she spoke with one family, a mother and her four-year-old son, dealing with the added obstacle of the son having a rare disease and the need for a liver transplant. She said just talking with residents there gave comfort and relief, not to mention the baseball and bat they brought for the son.



Emily Mew, The Salvation Army MA Division Emergency Disaster Services Coordinator; West Roxbury resident & The Salvation Army MA Division's Director of Communications Heather MacFarlane; Major Mayra Vasquez, The Salvation Army Boston Central Hispanic Corps.

COURTESY PHOTO

"We just prayed with them, talked with them; but this little boy, when we gave him the ball and bat, I asked if it would be okay if I played ball with him for a little while and you could just see the joy overcome him," she said. "There's just so much fear right now and that's one thing you can see in people's eyes, no matter where you go. Maria and the earthquakes, I mean parts of Puerto Rico you can drive through and don't even know things are wrong. And then you get to the hardest hit areas and it's devastating. Every time there's an aftershock the fear

returns. People are just afraid to have a roof over their heads," she said.

She said now, in the recovery phase, mental health and counseling is what the Salvation Army is helping to provide.

"People are looking for emotional and spiritual care," she said.

To donate funds for relief efforts in Puerto Rico (100 percent of which will be sent to Puerto Rico) after this week's most recent earthquake, go to give.helpsalvationarmy.org/give/166081/#!/donation/checkout



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Letters *continued from page 4*

tard on their hot dogs without help from me. Do we think any of them would know if they were getting into their called for Uber or Lyft?

Whatever happened to personal responsibility on those out late bar hopping? Gina Scaramella, executive director of the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center says if I understood her correctly that this whole problem most reflects a societal failure to stem sexual assaults." I am sure that is a big part of the problem, but her suggestion that bars should have staff making sure that customers get into the right cars." That idea to me is so lame. Bars and restaurants have enough work taking care of business inside their establishments without having to escort folks to their rides outsider in the street.

Please don't accuse me of victim blaming but the bottom line is that everyone is responsible for their own safety. Stay together with your group, don't walk around alone and keep your eyes open. Oh, that and don't drink so much, you don't know how to pour mustard of ketchup.

Sal Giarratani

ROXBURY PREP OFFICIALS NEED TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING

To the Editor:

The Bulletin Newspapers' mention of a recent ZBA dismissal without prejudice of the 361 Belgrade site should give both sides an opportunity to reflect on the prime issues surrounding the school. Uncommon Schools, New Jersey business owner of Roxbury Prep, owns an alternative two-acre educational site known as 10 Vale St. LLC (state ID number 001344602) on Fort Hill. Records show state organization in August 2018. This should have afforded Uncommon Schools substantial time to be transparent and inform all parties involved about their ownership of this site. Instead they fail to mention the Fort Hill site; and they are persisting on condemning the Parkway area residents, while insisting on an inferior site for the high school. They prefer a one-acre site, auto polluted since 1949, where the school is edge to edge with the West Roxbury Parkway, Belgrade Ave, and the Needham train with little parking, even for staff. It is time for the developing petitioners to be open and forthcoming about Roxbury Prep and 361 Belgrade and other more promising alternatives.

*Susan Donlan
West Roxbury*

WHAT'S WRONG WITH 10 VALE STREET?

To the Editor:

The recent news of the dismissal of the Uncommon Schools/Roxbury Prep LLC appeal at the ZBA, will allow for a reconsideration of the controversial siting of a charter high school at the intersection of Belgrade Avenue and West Roxbury Parkway. The current students are doing well in high school and are backed by supportive families. Yes, a better consolidated school site would be a boon to them, but not on a postage stamp of a site at a congested, busy and dangerous intersection.

Representatives for the development corporation stressed the many alternative sites which had been explored, yet the two acre site (10 Vale Street, Boston) purchased by affiliates of Uncommon Schools in 2018 was never mentioned at public meetings in which 361 Belgrade Avenue was being touted as the only viable alternative.

Presumably, Uncommon Schools will restart the process of proposing a high school on leased land at 361. It is time to explore better alternatives.

*George Embleton
West Roxbury*

Legals

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE DOCKET No. SU10P1381EA

Estate of: Jean C. Payoute **Suffolk Probate and Family Court**
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
617-788-8300

Date of Death: 05/29/2010

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Sale of Real Estate has been filed by:
Diana Payoute of Hyde Park, MA

Requesting that the court authorize the Personal Representative to sell the decedent's real estate at a private sale.

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 **02/20/2020**. 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 this return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: January 22, 2020
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

Hyde Park Bulletin: 02/06/2020

Calendar *continued from page 8*

us for an evening of music, dancing and games. Cost is \$10 per family, children ages 3-10. Proceeds will benefit the Hyde Park Food Pantry. Please rsvp to michellehpc@gmail.com or 617-635-5178 by February 5th. Pizza & drinks provided.

UPCOMING SPECIAL CALL MEETING REGARDING SHOPS AT RIVERWOOD

There will be a community meeting and discussion regarding Shops at Riverwood Plaza (over by Price Rite). We are encouraging all to attend this very important meeting and to share your comments/concerns about future development in the Plaza. We are expecting the Owner/Developer (Finard Properties) to present all of his plans for the Plaza and in particular, his plans for the proposed Burger King. Date: February 6, 2020 - 7pm Location: Community Room, 912 River Street (entrance to building - behind the Perfect Dental & on upper level of Dollar Tree). I ask you to make every effort to attend this meeting and share with your neighbors.

BROOKWOOD COMMUNITY FARM

Brookwood Community Farm is currently accepting supporting memberships and registration for farm shares. This non-profit farming operation on the border of Milton and Canton cultivates 5 acres using organic practices. More information can be found at www.brookwoodcommunityfarm.org.

WEST ROXBURY / ROSLINDALE

PARKWAY ROTARY TO DISTRIBUTE CARDS AND FLOWERS

The Parkway Rotary in West Roxbury is working on a service project to provide

care and support to local seniors. Our first project for 2020 is giving away valentine flowers and valentine cards to local seniors. We will be distributing the cards and flowers at Edelweiss Village (2220 Centre Street) in West Roxbury on Friday, February 14th at 10am to over 200 seniors in various parts of Edelweiss Village to both residents and day program participants.

MEETING NOTICE

Boston's Ward 20 Democratic Caucus will be Saturday, February 15th at the Irish Social Club, 119 Park Street. Door open at 8:30 am, caucus starts at 9:30 am

The caucus is being held to elected delegates to the Massachusetts Democratic Convention on May 30th in Lowell

If you have any questions please email W20Boston@gmail.com

WEST ROXBURY LIBRARY

- Saturday, February 8, 2020 - Poetry Workshop with Mary Pinard for High School and Adults from 10 am - 11:30 am

- Saturday, February 15, 2020 - Poetry Reading from 1 - 3 pm

- On Saturday, February 8, 10 am - 11:30 am, the Friends of the West Roxbury Branch Library will sponsor a poetry workshop led by poet Mary Pinard at the West Roxbury Branch Library at 1961 Centre Street.

- On Saturday, February 15, 1 - 3 PM workshop participants will have the opportunity to share their poems with fellow poets.

The program is free and open to all high schoolers and adults. To register by email, send your name, and phone number or email address to: FriendsOfTheWestRoxburyLibrary@gmail.com or register at the front desk of the library.

About the Friends of the West Roxbury Branch Library: The Friends is a 501(c)(3) volunteer organization that raises funds to provide and enrich adult and children's programming, enhance the physical space and gardens of the library, and promote awareness of library events and services to the people of West Roxbury.

READ IT AND MEET!

Book discussion on Stories from the Shadows by Dr. Jim O'Connell on Tuesday, March 24 at 7 pm at the West on Centre, 1732 Centre St, West Roxbury. (author will not be present) Sponsored by the Catholic communities of West Roxbury, Roslindale, Jamaica Plain and Hyde Park. Adults of all faiths invited to share thoughts on this collection of stories from Dr. O'Connell's 30 years of caring for the homeless in Boston. Book available from amazon.com and is also in the Boston Public Library system. Registration is required to reserve a seat at West on Centre. Contact Mary Campion at 617-323-4410 x13 marycampion@sjchdhyoston02132.org

No registration fee but we ask that you bring a \$5 gift card to Dunkin Donuts on the day of the event to support Dr. O'Connell's ministry.

THE EVENING GARDEN CLUB OF WEST ROXBURY

"Heirloom and Native Plants: A Living History" with John Forti

Wednesday, February 12, 2020 - The Elks Lodge, 1 Morrell St, West Roxbury, MA. We request a non-member donation of \$7.00. Doors open at 6:30 PM. We welcome all and hope to greet you there.

For those interested in gardens that inspire a sense of time and place, this presentation will foster a better understanding of the most tried and true plants (natives) and the significance of heirloom (open-pollinated) plants our role in their preservation. John Forti brings to life the unique and living history of these plants that have a defining presence in our region. He explores and gives voice to the history they keep alive. This lecture qualifies for Massachusetts Master Gardener education credits.

John, a garden historian, ethnobotanist and garden writer, is the Executive Director of the 37-acre Bedrock Gardens in New Hampshire. Facebook

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