

# WEST ROXBURY ~ ROSLINDALE BULLETIN

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## WRCIA once again talks pedestrian safety after death on Centre



About 15 residents came out to this week's West Roxbury Civic Improvement Association meeting.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

**Jeff Sullivan**  
Staff Reporter

The West Roxbury Civic Improvement Association (WRCIA) met on Monday, Feb. 11 to discuss issues facing the neighborhood and, once again, pedestrian safety was the most significant topic of discussion.

The issue comes after pedestrian Marilyn Elaine was struck by a vehicle on Centre Street and later died last week. According to Boston Police Department District E-5 Community Service Officer Edward Roach, Elaine was exiting her vehicle at The Squealing Pig at about 4 p.m.

"I guess she got hit in the second lane where the double

yellow line hits," he said. "The driver said she couldn't see her because of the glare of the sun."

Roach said for that time of day and in that area, the glare can make visibility almost impossible.

"I had just driven through there, the day of the Patriots Parade, and by the time I got back to West Roxbury it was about quarter to four," he said. "I drove down Centre outbound towards Dedham and the sun was directly in my eyes. If your windshield isn't perfectly clean, you see that haze in your windshield... Anytime that happens you have no visibility whatsoever."

**Pedestrian Safety**  
Continued on page 13

## Beethoven students participate in BPS Winter Walk to School



The students at the Beethoven School in West Roxbury braved the cold last week to participate in the BPS Winter Walk to School. The walk is designed to get kids out and about during the cold, shut-in winter months and get exercise during a time they may not get as much as they would in other seasons. This event took place on Feb. 6 and should not be confused with the Feb. 10 citywide event, Boston Winter Walk, centered around raising awareness for those experiencing homelessness

COURTESY PHOTO

## WalkUP Roslindale pitches in for snow removal



WalkUP Roslindale is getting out the word for this year's remaining snow season that residents can earn Rozzie Bucks to spend in the Square.

COURTESY PHOTO

**Jeff Sullivan**  
Staff Reporter

Walk Urban Planning Roslindale (WalkUP) announced it is continuing its Snow Removal Collaborative this year to help the city and residents keep safe on icy and snow-filled sidewalks and crosswalks.

WalkUP's Robert Orthman said he's helping to organize the collaborative, which started last year because of a shoveling dispute between the City of Boston and the MBTA in Roslindale.

"It was Alexander the Great

Park and really that whole sidewalk that abuts the Commuter Rail Station on Belgrade going around the corner and continuing up what becomes Robert Street," he said. "That stretch, it has been a consistent problem spot and it's not cleared regularly. There's been dueling messages on which entity is responsible for it and we've just taken it on ourselves to make sure it's cleared."

Orthman said that effort garnered a lot of interest from Roslindale residents.

"It's just such a main area and one where the problem is particularly acute," he said. "But

around the neighborhood there are other issues. Unfortunately, most crosswalks on corners, particularly with large amounts of snow, they tend to get plowed in."

Orthman said the program expanded to other areas of the neighborhood based on what volunteers could do last year. He said last year it was mostly the WalkUP Steering Committee taking the helm, but this year they have been able to enlist several volunteers from around the neighborhood.

"We have several people not

**WalkUP**

Continued on page 13

## Our apologies

On March 8, 2018, this newspaper published an article, written by reporter Jeff Sullivan, that may have confused readers into believing that Gerald Nasif, Joseph Moussalli and a car dealership they had owned, West Roxbury Motors, were all associated with an infamous Ponzi scheme called Viking Financial which was owned and operated by Steven Palladino and members of his family, some of whom were convicted of fraud for their involvement in the Ponzi scheme.

Readers could have construed from the article that Gerald Nasif, Moussalli or West Roxbury Motors had

something to do with Palladino, the Ponzi scheme or Viking or its agents or employees, and this is incorrect. It is not true. This newspaper and Jeff Sullivan wish to emphasize to our readers and our community that Gerald Nasif, Joseph Moussalli, and West Roxbury Motors had nothing whatsoever to do with the Palladinos, Viking Financial and/or the Ponzi scheme and any suggestion to the contrary is categorically false. The West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin and Jeff Sullivan each hereby apologize to Gerald Nasif, Joseph Moussalli and West Roxbury for any confusion caused by this article.

# Council to go over PILOT agreements with schools, nonprofits

**Jeff Sullivan**  
Staff Reporter

The Boston City Council met last week and called for a working session to review and possibly change the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement the city enacted with 49 of Boston's largest colleges, universities and nonprofit organizations with property values of \$15 million or more.

The working session was called after the council held a hearing on the issue last year. District 1 City Councilor Lydia Edwards said the hearing and the working session was to try to figure out how to help or entice those not for profit organizations to meet the goals established for them in 2011 by the PILOT. The PILOT was

initially encouraged these organizations to pay 25 percent of what they would pay in taxes on their respective properties.

In 2018, the City of Boston requested \$104,108,066 from these organizations in either community benefits credit or cash contributions. The Community benefits credit came out on top at \$50,223,414 and the cash contribution came in at \$33,640,461. In total, Boston received 81 percent of its total requests, which is about the same for 2017 and 2016. Since the program started in 2011, however, the contributions have increased in aggregate, but with some trouble along the way. Initially, fiscal year 2012 saw a "good faith" effort of 90.7 percent paid of the request, but that dropped off sharply to 65.5 percent in 2017.

"We did see a jump in contributions from 65 percent to 81 percent just last year," said Edwards. "Actually, many of these institutions are contributing more than their fair share. But the fact is that's not 100

percent."

Edwards also pointed out that the percentages of the request are based on assessments conducted in 2011.

"That's a problem, because we really are not receiving the amount of money we should be because we do not assess these properties on an annual basis," she said. "We haven't actually done a full assessment of the properties that are tax exempt since 2009, 10 years ago. We need to do that again."

The requests have increased at least in 2016 and 2017, which saw a 1 percent and 2.5 percent increase respectively, but that is minimal compared to the increase in property values the city has experienced since 2009. Edwards also pointed out that the 25 percent requests were agreed to by all the institutions in the original PILOT agreement in 2011.

Edwards said she wants the city to be more transparent about the money it is missing out on based on 2019 property values, and she said she

wants the city to start assessing these properties.

These organizations include Boston University (which paid 87 percent of its agreed PILOT request in funds or services) and Boston College (which paid 10 percent of the same). Roxbury Latin, the Joslin Diabetes Center and the Institute of Contemporary Art all came in dead last at 0 percent.

Edwards said the majority of the PILOT payments came through in community benefits, and she said she wants the city to define these values as clearly and accurately as possible.

"And that the city defines them through the community lens," she said. "That we convene a workshop of individuals coming together to say as a community that these are actual benefits that we need and want. They are not defined right now, as we saw when many of the community benefit reports came in and one nonprofit said 'our benefit to you is the fact that our kids are not going to BPS.' There's your benefit. That's embarrassing and insulting and it's what we allow right now."

Edwards also pointed out the problem with endowments

of organizations like Harvard, which she said has the largest endowment in the world, second only to the Catholic Church.

"This is one time I agree with the administration in Washington D.C., and that is their decision to tax the endowment of some of our richest institutions, like Harvard," she said. "I agree with it because it's acknowledging that these institutions are paying more for their hedge fund managers than it is in their PILOT payments to the City of Boston. They have the money, and that is not an educational purpose, managing hedge funds."

Essaibi-George pointed out that these institutions are using services provided by the city, like police, fire, sewer and road services, but are basically asking taxpayers to pick up their tabs.

"Our nonprofit partners rely on Public Works and other city resources and infrastructure," she said. "This is really a call for fairness when it comes to assessment, when it comes to fairness in partnership and the need for these partners to be at the table and fulfilling their commitment they made so many years ago."



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# Kiwanis hosting trivia and comedy night for charity



The West Roxbury Roslindale Kiwanis is hosting a trivia night at JJ Brannelly's restaurant in Roslindale to raise money for their charitable efforts.

COURTESY PHOTO

**Jeff Sullivan**  
Staff Reporter

The West Roxbury Roslindale Kiwanis will be hosting two events in the next few months to raise money for their charitable efforts in the Parkway.

The Kiwanis donates money to the Parkway YMCA, the Jason Roberts Challenger League and the Parkway In Motion group's youth scholarship program it hosts every spring.

Kiwanis president John Sullivan said the Trivia Night will be the eighth the group has hosted at Brannelly's in the last three years, which will continue March 7 at 7:30 p.m. Go to [kiwanisboston.org/kiwanis-online-store](http://kiwanisboston.org/kiwanis-online-store) to get tickets, or sign up at 7 p.m. the day of.

"It's a nice night out, it's cheap at \$10 per player and it's just really fun," he said. "You can have teams up to six, and Brannelly's is really a great venue. They're nice guys up there and they donate the room. The restaurant gets the money from the bar and food sales, which is delicious by the way. We also use a woman who coordinates the trivia, and she's the only cost at 150 bucks."

Sullivan said the main thing they watch out for during the evening is people checking their phones for answers, as the night can get pretty competitive.

"We've also had a four-time winner, member Ken Cunningham," he said. "But he donates everything he wins. He and his wife are amazing."

Sullivan said the club is on an upswing in terms of chari-

table donations. He said they are also getting ready to host the group's second annual comedy night on May 3 at the Elks Club in West Roxbury, also starting at 7:30 p.m. The night will feature food from Montilio's Baking Company and a prime rib buffet featuring roast, mashed potatoes, caesar salad, fruit salad, dinner rolls and pastries.

"It's a good real meal," Sullivan said. "We had about 130 people last year in May, and we're looking for 200 this year. We're only printing 200 tickets, as that's the limit we've got in that room."

Comedians for the show include Mike Donovan, Kenny Rogerson, Tom Clark and Michele Mortensen. Sullivan said each set will be a half an hour.

"And we have music from a DJ, it's going to be a lot of fun," he said. "I got the comedians because a buddy of mine had a place over in Brighton 30 years ago and he used to have all these comedians do comedy nights every weekend."

Sullivan said they are paying each performer, but with the Elks basically donating the space, most of the proceeds will be going to their charitable efforts.

"They basically charge us

next to nothing to do, because it's a good cause," he said. "Last year we paid the comedians \$200 a piece. This year, I think the comedians are going to cost us a bit more, but they're basically donating their time on a Friday night where they could be paid real money. They're all top notch performers."

For tickets, go to [kiwanisboston.org/kiwanis-online-store](http://kiwanisboston.org/kiwanis-online-store)

Sullivan said he also helped out the Roslindale Business Group on their canning efforts this year around the neighborhood. He said they were able to raise \$6,000 for the Roslindale Food Pantry and will be presenting them a check at the food pantry on Friday at 10 a.m. He said the Parkway really opened up their wallets for the drive to help residents in need.

"Every time I canned out there somebody brought me a coffee and a muffin, it's amazing," he said. "Everybody's so nice, you can't even believe it. When people find out that it's local, they just give and give. One woman, when she found out what we were doing, brought me a homemade pie and a coffee and she put like \$50 in the can. She said 'you don't know how much these people did for me when I was sick, it just makes me cry.'"

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# Editorial

## KING OF THE ROADS

A recent report, one of many that studies automobile congestion in large cities, has made a not-so-bold claim: in 2018, Boston had the worst traffic in the nation.

Mayor Walsh, for one isn't having any of it. He took to the website Medium to blog his outrage.

"Independent analysts have pointed out that this annual report, historically, prioritizes fast driving over steady progress and punishes older, denser cities, where distances are shorter and alternatives to driving are more plentiful," Walsh wrote. "In Boston, for example, fewer than 50 percent of commuters travel by car, so a drive-time study is telling less than half the story. Our focus is on helping people move safely and reliably, not just in cars and trucks but on foot, on bikes, and on public transit."

We will cut Walsh some slack in a moment. Let's start, however, by isolating this opening salvo of his post. Our first response would have been a challenge: go drive in NYC or Los Angeles and then come back to tell us how bad Boston is. We find it hard to believe that Boston, at any time of the day, is worse than the Big Apple.

Even if only 50 percent of commuters come into the city by car, plenty of other vehicles are on the road throughout the day for non-commute needs. Traffic just simply doesn't fit neatly into rush hours. Heavy traffic does have a negative influence on pedestrian safety. Buses suffer just as much from traffic, often to the point that people abandon that mode of transportation.

Walsh goes on to tout his "Go Boston 2020" transportation plan as a move towards reducing the excessive congestion.

Initiatives include: software to adjust timing at intersections based on real-time traffic conditions; improved and expanded bicycle infrastructure; expanding bike share programs; sidewalk repairs, creating "pedestrian plazas"; and a new "Transit Team" of specialists who will work full time with the MBTA to improve transit access and "the bus riding experience on our streets."

Walsh also noted efforts to update surcharges on rideshare companies like Uber and Lyft "to encourage shared trips, encourage walking, biking, and transit, and discourage solo trips, especially during rush hour."

"These companies, along with on-demand delivery services, are a big driver of the rise in congestion," he wrote. "The state found last year that nearly 100,000 rideshare trips originate in Boston every single day. Another study found that over 40 percent of users would have otherwise used public transit. We're working to limit curbside pickups to designated areas where they will cause fewer backups. But we also need to make sure the surcharge system discourages them from needlessly clogging city streets."

That last bit illustrates where Walsh, and others, may just not get it. Many in the population cannot hop on a bike at will during the business day, nor is walking from the Financial District to South Boston and back again viable in terms of either time or typical non-spring weather conditions.

Walsh perpetually talks a good game about encouraging business growth in the city. Well, business isn't confined to a single building with an e-mail connection. People have places to go and people to see. If the state improves the MBTA, those folks may be inclined to use it.

Blaming Uber and Lyft, or even taxis for that matter, is foolishness. Also, businesses need deliveries of both supplies and often (for personnel) food. If curbside deliveries are blocked by law or bike lanes, a hardship is created. Also, lets note that food delivery is a godsend for workers and a burgeoning business for local restaurants. Create obstacles, and this newly-growing revenue stream will shrivel.

Overall, we do admit that Walsh's traffic-mitigation plans are a huge step in the right direction. We only hope he can stay clear of a never-pleased bike lobby and ride share haters. The two true lessons to learn: our terrible, always delayed transit system won't be a solution until a true overhaul is funded and committed to; and there is no way to tout and foster "growth" in a small city like Boston without consequence or side effects. It has always been, and will always be, a difficult balancing act.

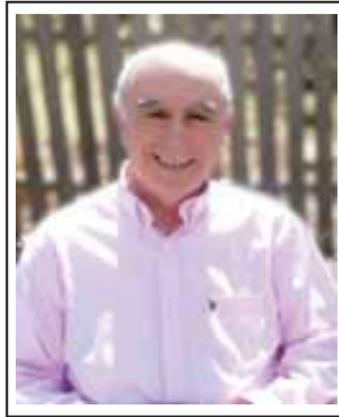
## Far from the magnificent crowds: some after-thoughts on the Patriots' parade

Judging by the language used on news reports, "rolling rally" no longer describes the Patriots activity of last week on Boylston and Tremont Streets. Whatever you want to call it, there are some lingering questions.

Before you reach into your Saturday Night Live jargon to label this humble scribe as a "Debbie Downer," there was no small amount of satisfaction in my house with the way things turned out that Sunday night in Atlanta. Quite the contrary.

And, no, I don't have any stock in liquor stores in or around Boylston Street, from which party-goers could purchase 12-ounce cans to heave at those riding on the duck boats. But perhaps the city should consider in the future closing liquor stores along this and other parade routes, as the city does in South Boston during the St. Patrick's Day parade.

While the police were (overly?) zealous about reprimanding dining establishments for allowing their patrons to eat outside on an unusually warm February day, were they equally as zealous about asking students not to climb on fragile trees and T kiosks? I shudder to think of how many flower beds were trampled in the Common and Public Gardens by euphoric crowds right after the completion of the game. It would have been nice to hear about some arrests for destroying public property.



My Kind of Town/  
Joe Galeota

A friend of mine lamented the police absence in the morning in Dewey Square as the Purple Line trains at South Station disgorged thousands of riders, many of whom jaywalked at will, creating chaos.

Keolis should be commended for putting all hands on deck (or whatever you call that part of a railroad car) for transporting people—about twice what it carries on a regular workday. Regrettably, a fatality at a Norwood station by a hurtling outbound train tied up that route for hours, as medical examiners, police from several jurisdictions, and others arrived. I feel bad for all involved—especially the family of the deceased and the thousands seriously inconvenienced.

Because Purple Line trains coming from near and distant suburbs were packed beginning

at their points of origin, trains had to bypass stations closer to Boston. I wonder how many prospective boarders at intermediate stations witnessed overcrowded trains rumbling by, leaving disappointed families standing on the platforms.

As frenzied football fans last week purchased costly items at Robert Kraft's Patriot Place, Boston homeowners on fixed incomes had to worry who is paying for this vast amount of police overtime. Beginning at the third quarter of the Sunday game, hundreds of Boston's finest were deployed at Kenmore Square as well as near the Common. On the parade day itself, they lined the entire route. Who is picking the tab for all this? Undoubtedly EMS and Public Works put in a lot of overtime; hopefully no other city departments tried to fanagle overtime from the aching city coffers during the euphoria of the day(s).

Wouldn't it be nice if the colleges kicked in some funds for the Sunday night protection and the Patriots and the State helped us out with the parade day overtimes?

Now is the time for our news (as opposed to sports) anchors—understandably devoid of any gravitas during the elation of victory—to stop fawning over athletes and stand in awe of Boston's vast medical community who day in and day out operate, literally and figuratively, without any such adulation.

## Letters to the Editor

### SULLIVAN RUNNING FOR TRAUMA VICTIMS

To the Editor:

Hi Family and Friends!

On April 15, 2019, I am running the 2019 Boston Marathon in support of The Gillian Reny Stepping Strong Center for Trauma Innovation at Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH). I am reaching out to ask if you would consider supporting my run. Let me explain why this cause is so timely and important to me.

Every 3 minutes, someone dies from a traumatic injury. The Gillian Reny Stepping Strong Center for Trauma Innovation, which was founded in the aftermath of the 2013 Boston Marathon bombings, bringing together multidisciplinary experts to transform research, care, and outcomes for civilian and military heroes who suffer

from devastating traumatic injuries. Stepping Strong funded initiatives are making a profound difference for trauma patients and their families worldwide. You can read about the center's groundbreaking work at [BWHsteppingstrong.org](http://BWHsteppingstrong.org).

This brings me back to why I'm so passionate about supporting this special cause. I am running in honor of the Boston Strong spirit that still defines our city, in honor of our wounded warriors, and to honor my father, who with a positive attitude is able to overcome the daily challenges he faces due to his traumatic injury that occurred when he was just 24 years old.

I have been training very hard for the race but can't do it alone. My fundraising goal is \$8000, and I would be so grate-

ful for your support. I will be hosting a fundraiser at the Elksin West Roxbury February 22nd, from 7-11pm. 25\$ cost at the door. Raffles, food, drinks, dancing and more! If you are unable to join us but would still like to contribute you can either donate at [\[https://www.crowdrise.com/briannasullivan7?lang=en-us\]](https://www.crowdrise.com/briannasullivan7?lang=en-us), or you can send me a check made payable to Brigham and Women's Hospital, with my name in the memo line, at: 549 LaGrange St / West Roxbury MA, 02132.

Donations for raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated!! Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

Brianna Sullivan  
West Roxbury

### ROXBURY PREP SITE A BAD CHOICE

To the Editor:

I am opposed to the 361 Belgrade Ave project proposed by Roxbury Prep. While there are a number of reasons for my opposition, there are three major points I would like to emphasize: The first is LOCATION.

Letters

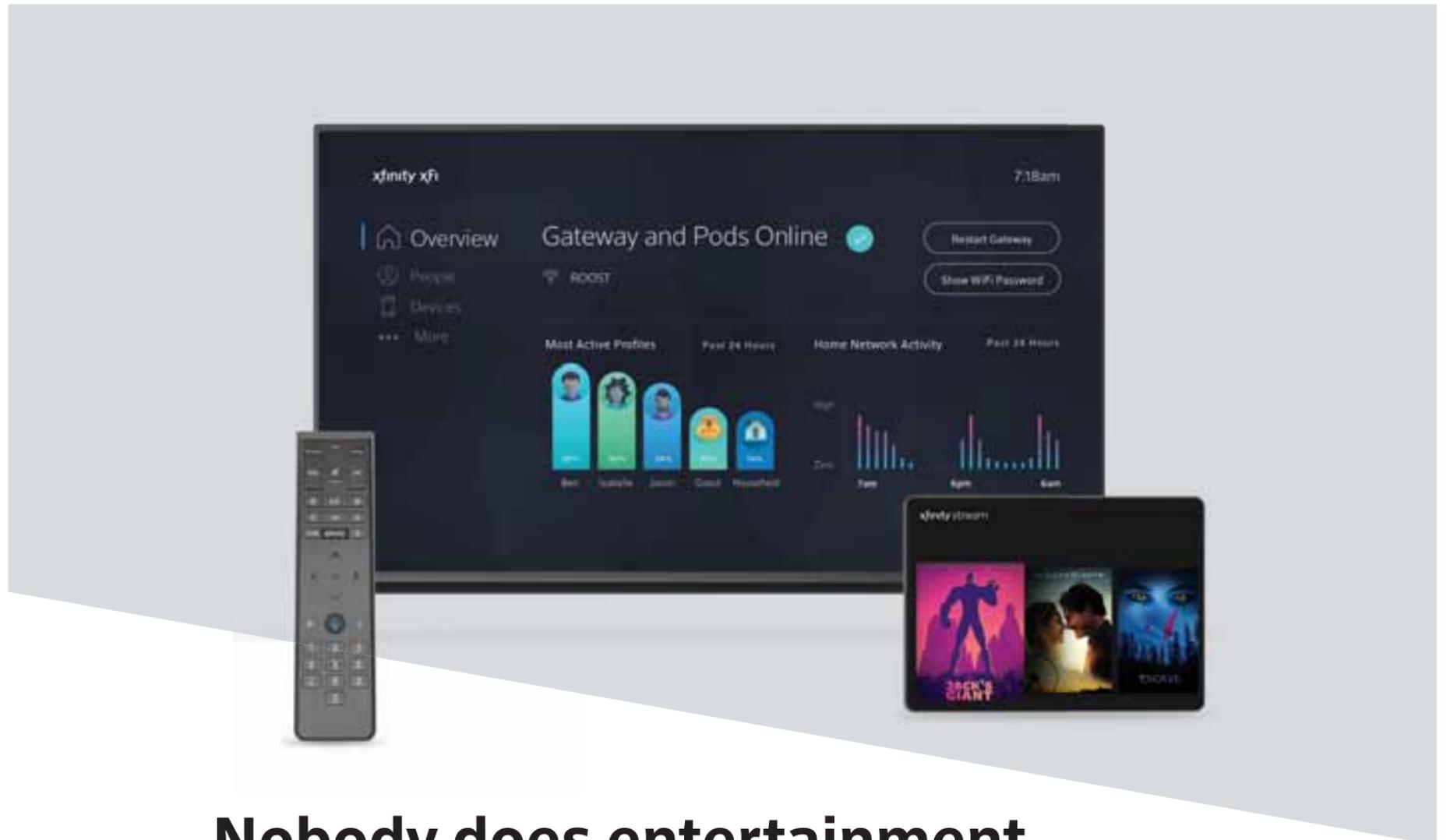
Continued on page 14

Commonwealth of Massachusetts	
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department	
SUFFOLK Division	Docket No. SU19COO43CA
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME	Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 617-788-8300
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<b>WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court</b> Date: February 1, 2019 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate	
West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin, 02/14/2019	

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Track stats and scores for your favorite leagues, while watching the big game live	<b>YES</b>	NO
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# Boston City Council talks vacant lots, senior home repair

Jeff Sullivan  
Staff Reporter

The Boston City Council met recently and called for separate hearings to reduce or activate vacant residential properties and to discuss improvements for the Senior Home Repair program respectively.

City Council President and District 4 City Councilor Andrea Campbell called for the hearing on vacant residential properties with District 6 City Councilor Matt O'Malley and District 7 City Councilor Kim Janey. Campbell said they had held a hearing last year on the issue and wanted to follow up on prior discussions.

"To my shock, when we got the data specifically for the residential lots, and the city-owned lots in particular, the overwhelming amount of vacancy-owned residential parcels were in Dorchester, Mattapan and Roxbury," she said. "We're talking in the thousands. These are not counting the privately-owned lots that are blighted or where nothing is happening."

Campbell said she has one such lot in Mattapan right behind her house. She said it is privately-owned and no one lives there.

"It literally is an eyesore to the neighborhood and has been that way for more than four years," she said. "We renewed this hearing order to

specifically talk about the residential lots, and to start with those that are city-owned."

Campbell said there are about 1,300 city-owned vacant lots, but she said there is very little data on the privately-owned lots.

"We said there is enough of an issue of the city-owned lots that we should focus on those," she said.

Campbell said she joined Janey on the issue for two reasons, one the fact that their respective districts include the highest number of vacant residential properties and the second being that both districts are in desperate need of affordable housing.

"It's shocking to me that we don't have a plan or strategy to activate these city-owned vacant lots for the City of Boston," she said. "Housing could go there or something else more creative."

Campbell said one strategy she has been considering is short-term artistic or pop up activation to help bolster interest in the area while the city works on getting permanent solutions there.

"We are partnering with Wentworth University to go into District 4 and look at city lots in Dorchester and Mattapan that are vacant and to activate those spaces with the recommendations of the residents in the community," she said. "We're asking residents what they want to see in those lots and we're going to make it happen."

Campbell also pointed out that there is already a Problem Properties Task Force with the city's government, and she feels it could be put to more effective use.

"I think everyone on this body calls the task force all the time to say 'I have these properties in my neighborhood that are causing blight or are centers of crime,'" she said. "We need the task force to step up, and that means we might have to strengthen that task force to respond."

Campbell also talked about the former Clean It or Lien It program, first implemented by former Boston Mayor Thomas Menino in 1996. The program used to work by issuing a nuisance notice to private lot owners and then "Clean It or Lien It" signs would be placed on the lot. If no action was taken by the second week of notice, a second notice would be placed. After that, a tax lien of \$1,000 on the property would be placed on the property to pay for the city to clean

it up.

"That program was dissolved at some point, maybe we need to bring that back," she said.

Campbell, along with District 1 City Councilor Lydia Edwards, also called for a hearing to discuss the Senior Home Repair program and other housing programs. She said the impetus behind the hearing came from conversations with the Home Center, which oversees the Senior Home Repair program that seniors have complained about after they participated in the program. They had contractors come out and do substandard work.

"Really bad work," she said. "We've had constituents come in with actual pictures of work that was supposed to be done that none of us in this body would accept. Frankly, if the contractor came and did the same work on our home, we'd be extremely angered and upset."

Campbell said the hearing will be an opportunity for seniors to hold some of these contractors accountable for the work they have done.

"Some of them are still working as a part of the Senior Home Repair program and doing more work," she said.

Campbell added that the program isn't always a problem, and is, in fact, a boon to many residents.

"It's a great program, it's just that in certain neighborhoods, including Mattapan, West Roxbury, Roslindale and Charlestown, we're not talking about gentrification, but displacement," she said. "Many of these seniors need help with repairing their homes and this is a great program and something that is necessary to address the housing crisis in the City of Boston. With respect to some of these seniors and those folks who have lived in our communities 40 or 50 years in some cases, we need to make sure there is transparency with contractors who work with our seniors, and that people are being held accountable for the crappy work they do."

## Deadline

The deadline for all press releases for The Bulletin is Friday.

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## Community Meeting

### Additional Dwelling Units Proposed Citywide Zoning Amendment

Monday, February 25  
6:00 PM

1 City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
BPDA Board Room  
Boston, MA 02201

#### Event Description

The Boston Planning & Development Agency will hold a public meeting to discuss a proposed amendment to the Neighborhood District Articles of the Boston Zoning Code regarding Additional Dwelling Units (ADUs). As part of the initial pilot in November 2017, the ADU amendment was made to Article 53 (East Boston Neighborhood District), Article 55, (Jamaica Plain Neighborhood District), and Article 60 (Greater Mattapan Neighborhood District) of the Boston Zoning Code. An ADU is a new typology to Boston that could create naturally affordable rental units without significantly changing the fabric of the existing neighborhoods, by allowing owner occupants to carve out space within the envelope of their home for a smaller, independent rental unit.

#### Contact:

Bryan Glascock  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201  
617.918.4242 | bryan.glascock@boston.gov

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

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# Around the Neighborhoods

## CITY

### CHILDREN'S WINTER FEST RETURNS TO BOSTON COMMON FEBRUARY 20

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department will be bringing the annual Children's Winter Festival to Boston Common in partnership with the Highland Street Foundation during school vacation week on Wednesday, February 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Additional support is being provided by XFINITY, Capital One, the Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center, L.L. Bean, and Cricket Wireless.

"The Children's Winter Festival gives kids and families the opportunity to enjoy a day of outdoor fun in downtown Boston," said Mayor Walsh. "Come join us for free games and activities on the Common during public school vacation week."

Among the attractions will be the 45-foot-long Toboggan Tunnel mountainous adventure with twin roller lanes, the 30-foot-high inflatable Everest Climb N Slide, a Ski Lift photo op, and much more. In addition, the Highland Street Foundation is sponsoring a week-long Winter Camp at the Boston Common Frog Pond with free skating and rentals for all ages from Monday, February 18, through Friday, February 22. For more information on the Winter Camp skating, please visit [www.highlandstreet.org](http://www.highlandstreet.org).

The festival will also feature 103.3 AMP Radio's JD, giveaways (while supplies last) from

Disney's "The Little Mermaid" Signature Collection 30th Anniversary Edition and "Ralph Breaks the Internet," and refreshments from Power Crunch protein energy bars, Cabot Cheese with Fuel Up To Play 60, KIND Snacks, and Nature's Path.

For more information, please call the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at (617) 635-4505, visit [www.cityofboston.gov/parks](http://www.cityofboston.gov/parks) or go to [www.facebook.com/bostonparksdepartment](http://www.facebook.com/bostonparksdepartment).

### YOUNG CONSERVATIONIST AWARD

Nominations are now open for the "Young Conservationist Award" presented by Zoo New England. Honoring an exceptional youth demonstrating commitment to Zoo New England and its conservation mission, the award and its \$2,500 scholarship will be presented at Zootopia on May 11, 2019. The deadline for nominations is Saturday, March 16, 2019. The age requirements for this award have been changed and now all students in grades 3 through 12 are eligible for nominations. As part of the celebration of Zootopia, Zoo New England's annual fundraising gala, the zoo staff is excited to announce that applications are now being accepted for the Young Conservationist Award. The nominated youth should be between the ages of eight and 18, have demonstrated a positive commitment to Zoo New England and its conservation mission, and have engaged in some outstanding action to sup-

port this. The award, which includes a \$2,500 scholarship, will be presented at Zootopia on May 11, 2019 to further the recipient's project, conservation work and education. The winner and two adults will receive complimentary tickets to Zootopia to participate in the awards ceremony. This year's presentation marks the seventh award presented to an exceptional youth committed to conservation.

Nominations for the Young Conservationist Award are being accepted through Saturday, March 16, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. Nomination forms are available at <http://www.zoonewengland.org/engage/zootopia>. Email questions to [YoungConservationistAward@zoonewengland.org](mailto:YoungConservationistAward@zoonewengland.org)

## ALLSTON / BRIGHTON

### ANNUAL DINNER

Save the Date for the 2019 Allston and Brighton Boards of Trade Annual Dinner. Wednesday, April 24, 2019 with special guest Dan Shaughnessy

### PROGRAMS AT THE BRIGHTON LIBRARY

#### NOTICE OF TEMPORARY CLOSING

Beginning Friday February 8 at 5 p.m., the Brighton Branch of the Boston Public Library will be temporarily closed for a boiler replacement project. The branch will reopen on Monday, February 25 at 12 p.m.

#### 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 March 27th will be *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate by Bryan Stevenson. Copies of the book are available at the branch. 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 Alan. Brighton Branch Library/40 Academy Hill Road/ (617) 782-6032

#### ESL CONVERSATION GROUPS

Two ESL conversation groups meet at the Brighton Library:: One on Monday evening at 6:15 pm; The other on Tuesday afternoon at 1 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

### HPYBA

Tuesday, March 5, the Hyde Park Youth Basketball Association will hold the night of our annual All Star/Awards ceremony

### LGBTQ - PINK WEDNESDAY

Please join us for a social gathering of the LGBTQ community on Wednesday, February 20. Meet at the Fairmount Grille at 81 Fairmount Ave in Hyde Park at 7 PM for a casual get together. Pink Wednesday is held on the third Wednesday of the month. All are welcome.

### WINTER PROGRAMS AT THE BCYF HYDE PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

Senior Coffee Hour: Join us each Friday morning from 10:00am- 11:30am. Drop by the community center for an opportunity to socialize with others, enjoy refreshments and participate in activities. On Friday, January 25th we will have a guest presentation from Boston Water and Sewer Commission.

Freelance Players: Calling all actors ages 8 -13 years old, the Freelance Players, a non-profit musical theatre company, is offering a spring session at the community center. They Hyde Park Troupe will meet on Tuesdays from 4:00-6:00pm from February 5th - May 10th. For more information contact Freelance Players at 617-274-6065 or [info@freelanceplayers.org](mailto:info@freelanceplayers.org).

### MENINO ARTS CENTER HOSTS CURRY COLLEGE AND STEAMROLLER MEGA PRINT EXHIBITIONS IN FEBRUARY

The Menino Arts Center proudly announces two upcoming exhibitions: - "Art of This World," a Curry College Senior Art exhibition - "Steamroller MEGA Prints" exhibition by 41 Boston area artists. The exhibitions will run from February 1 - March 1, 2019, with an opening reception on Saturday, February 9, from 1 - 3:30 p.m. The exhibitions and reception are free and open to the public at the Menino Arts Center, 26 Central Avenue, 2nd floor, Hyde Park, MA 02136. Normal gallery hours are Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Fridays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; during scheduled workshops and events; and by appointment.

"Art of this World" is the 2nd annual exhibit featuring Curry College's Senior Studio and Design Majors. The 11 students in the exhibit will be showing recent work in a variety of media, including paintings, drawings and digital prints. This exhibition is a wonderful opportunity for the Curry students to be able to present work at a professional gallery.

The "Steamroller MEGA Prints" exhibition will feature 18 super-sized prints, some as large as 40" x 72", showcasing artwork made by over 41 artists. The artists come from Hyde Park and

many other neighborhoods of Boston, and they range in age from junior high school students up to senior adults. The wood cuts and linoleum cuts were printed by steamroller at the Urban Arts Festival, held in September 2018 in celebration of Hyde Park's 150th Anniversary.

More info on the MAC and the HPA at <http://www.hpaamac.org>.

### MY LIFE, MY HEALTH PROGRAM

My Life, My Health - the Stanford University Chronic Disease Self-Management Program is for anyone living with an ongoing medical condition like high blood pressure, arthritis, COPD, heart disease, cancer, asthma, fibromyalgia, and more. Learn to eat well, control your pain, begin an exercise program, handle stress and relax, increase your energy level. The workshop is offered at no charge and the book, *Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Disease* is provided for each participant. Chronic disease, pain and discomfort may limit the activities you enjoy. Join My Life, My Health and start to live again! Workshop meets 1 day per week for 6 weeks. Location: IORA Primary Care, 912 River Street in Hyde Park Day and Time: Wednesdays, 1:30 - 4:00 p.m. Class Dates: March 13th - April 17th, 2019 For more information or to register, contact Ann Glora at 617-477-6616 or [aglora@ethocare.org](mailto:aglora@ethocare.org)

## JAMAICA PLAIN

### FALLS PREVENTION FOR SENIORS

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Location: Springhouse Senior Living, 44 Allendale Street in Jamaica Plain Day and Time: Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Class Dates: February 22nd - April 11th, 2019

## WEST ROXBURY / ROSLINDALE

### THE WOMEN OF BROOK FARM COME TO ROSLINDALE

Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. @ Rozzie Square Theatre, 5 Basile Street, Roslindale (just off the square)

## Calendar

Continued on page 12

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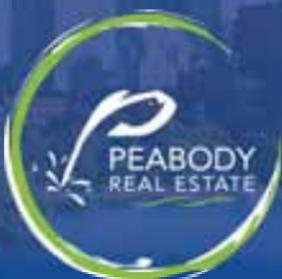
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# Neponset River Greenway Council discusses dumping along river

**Mary Ellen Gambon**  
Staff Reporter

The Neponset River Greenway Council discussed the need to penalize people and businesses who dump trash along the Neponset River, particularly along Meadow Road and Fowl Meadow in Hyde Park.

Chair Jessica Mink of Roslindale said that Meadow Road south of the Neponset Valley Parkway suffers from dumping by residents, businesses and truck drivers, who dispose of waste along the river banks.

"Neighbors want the city or the DCR (Department of Conservation and Recreation) to do something," she said. "It's hard because the road is owned by Boston, but most of the open space on either side of the river is state-owned. It's hard because the jurisdictions are crossed, and we need both to be involved."

Hyde Park resident Martha McDonough talked about recent cleanup efforts in the area by individual residents and the group Keep Hyde Park Beautiful.

People in Readville around the Camp Meigs historic site also have been tak-

ing care of that area.

"Fowl Meadow is disgusting," she said. "They have found toilets, appliances and even bottles of urine near the old Stop & Shop warehouse. Some of the stuff is toxic."

She also said Sprague Pond is a dumping site.

Mink said that part of the problem lies in the fact that people don't know what to do when they replace large household items.

"People get newer models, but they have no idea what to do with the old ones," she said. "They can't just throw them in the dumpster. So they just throw them in a park or by the river. But they have no idea of the ecological damage that they are doing."

Mink also spoke of drag racing in the same area, which also is a multi-jurisdictional problem because of the city and state roads.

"It's really hard to catch them," she said.

DCR Regional Planner Stella Lensing said that developers and businesses surrounding the Neponset, in Hyde Park as well as those along the river banks from Milton, Mattapan and Dorchester, should be penal-

ized for polluting the environment and should pay restitution toward the cleanup efforts.

"We should go after the developers for the maintenance of the property," she said of new buildings when they go for permits. "It looks good for one or two seasons, and then it gets horrible. There are safety concerns as well."

If property owners won't maintain their properties or mitigate the pollution caused by their employees, such as truck drivers, they should contribute to a conservation trust, "a lump sum payment, a pot of money outside of the state budget."

"We should be going after everybody on the Neponset," Lensing added. "People need to contact their elected officials on this. Perhaps back taxes can be collected to be put into a conservation trust."

Mink noted that Dan Driscoll, the director of the DCR's Office of Recreational Facilities Planning Department, has dealt with encroachment problems on the Charles River in a similar way in Watertown, Waltham and Newton.

Mink asked Lensing if she would request Driscoll to attend a future meeting, and Lensing agreed.

"Dan Driscoll is a rock star in the trail world," Lensing said.

Mink said the goal would be to have the trail clear all along the Neponset. A future mission of the coalition she has been working on is extending the Neponset Trail southward toward Dedham and Norwood.

Mink also announced that the Neponset River Greenway Council will hold a bike ride of the entire Neponset Trail on Saturday, March 23 beginning at 10 a.m. The nearly 27-mile trek will begin at Paul's Bridge in Milton and go to Castle Island in South Boston before returning.

The group also talked about the possibility of applying for grants for its Boston towns through the Community Preservation Act as well as Boston's "Love Your Block" program.

The "Love Your Block"

program awards mini-grants of up to \$3,000 to either implement or revitalize a public space. Examples of projects can include community gardens or public art installations.

Graffiti was discussed in some of the neighborhoods. The DCR has a graffiti-resistant paint that could be used as a base if people would paint over the damage.

"It's just a matter of finding someone who is willing to paint," Lensing said.

Public art projects could either restore the damage done to previous works or become new creations in the city.

The next meeting will be held in Dorchester at the Port Norfolk Yacht Club at 7 p.m. Meetings rotate among the communities of Hyde Park, Dorchester, Mattapan and Milton.

The next Hyde Park meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 5 at 7 p.m. at the Hyde Park E 18 police station, 1249 Hyde Park Ave.

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## Deaths

**CONDON**

Eleanor E. (Finigan) Of West Roxbury, February 6, 2019. Beloved wife of the late James J. Condon. Loving mother of Denise T. Moreshead, James J. Condon, Jr. and his wife Elizabeth, and Thomas K. Condon and his wife Patricia all of West Roxbury. Devoted grandmother of Cheryl, Laura, Mary, Julia, Emily, Alison, James, Michael, Patrick, Maura, Patrice, Dennis, Mary Kate, and Jacqueline. Also survived by 19 great-grandchildren. Devoted twin sister of the late Katherine M. Finigan. Daughter of the late Walter L. and Mary B. (O'Callaghan) Finigan. A Funeral Mass held on Monday, February 11, St. Theresa Church. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery. Late member of Emmanuel College Class of 1942. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to Hebrew Senior Life, 1200 Centre St., Roslindale, MA 02131. For guestbook [gormleyfuneral.com](http://gormleyfuneral.com) William J. Gormley Funeral Service 617-323-8600

**ETLING**

Ernest J. III Of West Roxbury, formerly of Braintree, died peacefully with his wife by his side on February 3, 2019, after a long illness. Beloved husband of 46 years to Patricia R. (Roddy). Loving father and best friend to David Paul Etlng, and his wife Crystal of Fayetteville, NY. Cherished "papa" of Scarlet and Hazel. Brother of Stephen Etlng and the late John Etlng. He was the son of the late Ernest and Rita (Feeney) Etlng. Ernie is also

survived by many nieces and nephews, and his loving brothers and sisters-in-law. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at Holy Name Church. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, donations in Ernie's memory may be made to Catholic Memorial, 235 Baker Street, West Roxbury, MA 02132, [catholicmemorial.org](http://catholicmemorial.org) or Good Shepherd Community Hospice, 90 Wells Avenue, Newton, MA 02459 [gscommunitycare.org](http://gscommunitycare.org) For guestbook, please visit: [gormleyfuneral.com](http://gormleyfuneral.com) William J. Gormley Funeral Service 617-323-8600

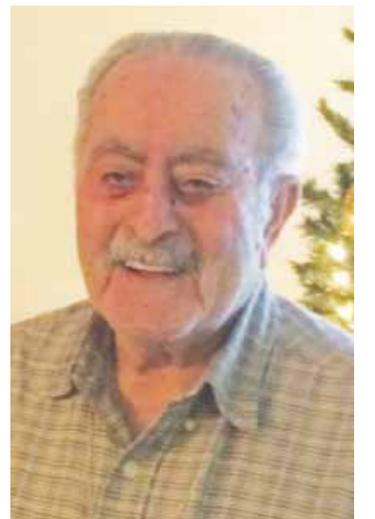
**LEARY**

John T. Of West Roxbury, February 8, 2019. Beloved brother of Edward J. Leary and his wife Margaret W. of Norwood. Loving uncle of Joan Leary of Medfield, Jean Doucette and her husband Michael of Walpole, Edward, Janet and Michael Leary all of Norwood. Great-uncle of Meghan Doucette. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on February 12, 2019 at The Holy Name Church at 11:30 am. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in John's memory to Yawkey House of Possibilities, 350 Washington St., North Easton, MA 02356. [www.lawlerfuneralhome.com](http://www.lawlerfuneralhome.com) Lawler & Crosby Funeral Home 617-323-5600

**O'BRIEN**

Carol Ann Suddenly, January 25, 2019, formerly of West Roxbury and Scituate. Daughter of the late William F. and Dorothy M. O'Brien. Sister of William F. and his wife Donna, and Timothy. Aunt of Kathryn and her husband Scott, Timothy, Jr. and his wife Beth, Kathryn O'Brien and grand-aunt of Kaia. Carol was a graduate of Mt. Saint Joseph Academy in Brighton and Mt. Ida College in Newton. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, February 16 in St. Theresa Church, West Roxbury at 10am.

**RAMMAH**



Bichara Of West Roxbury, passed away on February 10, 2019. Beloved husband of the late Khalayek (Jabbour) Rammah. Devoted father of Ilia Rammah of Wakefield, Mary Alzught of OH, George Rammah of Norwood,

**Deaths**

*Continued on page 11*

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Thank you  
Jesus for favors  
received.

Thank you  
Blessed Mother for  
favors received.

Thank you  
Saint Jude for  
favors received.

—M.P.

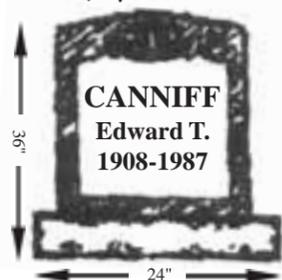
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Robert J. Lawler Sr.  
Robert J. Lawler Jr.  
William L. Lawler



# Deaths *continued from page 10*

Georgette Rammah of West Roxbury, Noel Boutros of Bradford, MA, and Laila Chammas of Norwood. Loving grandfather of Michael, Elias, Akram, Soraya, Brian, George, Michael, and Jessica. Brother of Shaheen Rammah of Syria. Visiting Hours at the P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 2000 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY, on Thursday, February 14th from 3-7pm. Funeral Service at St. George's Orthodox Church, 55 Emmonsdale Rd., West Roxbury on Friday, February 15th, at 11am (Please go directly to church). Interment, Gardens Cemetery, West Roxbury. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. George's Orthodox Church, 55 Emmonsdale Rd., West Roxbury, MA 02132. For directions and guestbook [pemmurrayfuneral.com](http://pemmurrayfuneral.com) P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins George F. Doherty & Sons West Roxbury 617-325-2000

**ROSE**



John W. age 54 of South Easton, formerly of Walpole and Roslindale passed away on February 8, 2019. Husband of Kathleen (Murphy) Rose and devoted father of Cpl. Wesley Rose, USMC and Ceilli Rose. Beloved son of the late Laurence and Barbara (Hill) Rose. Survived by his siblings (and their families): Laurence Rose, Albert Rose, Barbara Charbonneau, Michael Rose and Janet Rose. John also leaves a host of other relatives and friends. Funeral Service in the funeral home on Thursday, February 14th at 12Noon. Relatives and friends kindly invited. Interment Mt. Benedict Cemetery, West Roxbury. The family would like to thank the staff of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Brigham & Women's Hospital, especially Unit 16A, for their dedication and compassionate care provided to John. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in John's memory to Brigham & Women's Hospital, 116 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA, 02116 Attn: Development Office, or to The New England

Shelter for Homeless Veterans 17 Court St. Boston, MA 02108. Arrangements by P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home.

**SAHELY**

Danielle Of West Roxbury February 8, 2019. Beloved daughter of the late Abdalla and Zahia Sahely. Loving sister of Camille Sahely and his wife Venice of Wellesley, Camilia Batrouney and her husband Phillip of Australia, Mona Yacoub and her husband John of Australia, and the late Ayoub, Joseph, and Jacob Sahely. Dear aunt of Alexander, Nadia, and Colette Sahely, and many other loving nieces and nephews. A Funeral Service Wednesday, at 11 a.m. at the Church of St. John of Damascus, [stjohnd.org](http://stjohnd.org) 300 West St., Dedham. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions in Danielle's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital [stjude.org](http://stjude.org) 501 St. Jude Pl., Memphis, TN 38105. Interment Woodlawn Cemetery, Wellesley. Guestbook at [www.KfouryFuneral.com](http://www.KfouryFuneral.com) Kfoury Keefe Funeral Home West Roxbury 617-325-3600

**VOZZELLA**

Charles H. "Charlie" Of West Roxbury, February 3, 2019. Beloved father of Marcia Butler and husband Richard of Braintree, John Pierce and wife Joy of Brockton, and Karen Marshall and husband Art of Cape Coral, FL. Loving grandfather of Michelle Butler and Shannon Kartal. Loving brother of the late John D., Carmine, Edward, and Alfred Vozzella, Josephine Todesca, and

Pasqualina Pucci. Visiting Hours in The Robert J. Lawler & Crosby Funeral Home, 1803 Centre St. on Friday, February 15, from 4:00 to 8:00 pm. Relatives and friends are invited to attend. Burial Saturday morning, February 16, at 11:00 am in Mt. Benedict Cemetery, 409 Corey St., West Roxbury. [lawlerfuneralhome.com](http://lawlerfuneralhome.com) Lawler & Crosby Funeral Home 617-323-5600

**WENTWORTH**

Marilyn E. (Lotfy) A life-long resident of West Roxbury, suddenly and unexpectedly, February 5, 2019. Dear and devoted wife of Alton Wentworth. Loving mother of Matthew and Jennifer Wentworth, both of West Roxbury. Funeral Mass was held at St. John Chrysostom Church. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Marilyn's memory may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105, or to Rosie's Place, 889 Harrison Ave., Boston, MA 02118. Interment will be private. Guestbook at [www.KfouryFuneral.com](http://www.KfouryFuneral.com). Kfoury Keefe Funeral Home West Roxbury 617-325-3600

**Obituary Policy**

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.

*Happy Birthday,  
Bill Lundy  
2/18/19*

*An Irish heart is  
silent now, Life's  
journey had to end,  
God needed you for  
reasons, we on earth  
can't comprehend.*

*Until the day we meet again,  
on this we can depend, your Irish eyes  
are smiling, just around the bend.*

Love always,  
Kathleen, Billy, Brian-Scott-Owen-Ben,  
James-Mary Ellen-Liam-Connor-Norah,  
Kevin-Jen-Paige-Keira, Bobby-Kaitlin-Colin-  
Jillian-Gavin-Drew, Brendan, and Karen

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A CENTURY OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

# Calendar *continued from page 8*

In partnership with the Boston Women's Heritage Trail, New Brook Farm will an updated edition of our engaging exploration of the extraordinary women who founded, joined, and visited Brook Farm. Come hear the words of Margaret Fuller, Elizabeth Peabody, Sophia Ripley, Amelia Russell (the Mistress of Revels) and others, drawn from their journals, letters, books, and interviews.

Through a generous grant from Mass Humanities, the performance will be followed by a com-

munity discussion on "Shaping the Social Contract: Insights from the Women of Brook Farm." Historian and writer Marilyn Richardson will guide the discussion, which will examine the interconnections of gender equality, abolitionism, and women's suffrage in the 19th century and current issues of racism and sexism. Marilyn has taught and lectured nationally and internationally on African-American cultural and intellectual history. A former Fellow of Harvard's Bunting (now Radcliffe) Institute and the DuBois

Institute, her publications include Black Women and Religion (G.K. Hall) and Maria W. Stewart: America's First Black Woman Political Writer (Indiana University Press).

The event is free. All are welcome. Please note that seating in the Rozzie Square Theater is limited, so come early to be sure you get a seat. More information: [info@newbrookfarm.org](mailto:info@newbrookfarm.org) or 617-694-6407.

## PARKWAY YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Parkway Youth Soccer League is accepting applications for the 2019 season. Games begin in April. There will be 2 seasons, spring and fall, played at Millennium Park, West Roxbury. Applications may be downloaded and printed from the 'parkwaysoccerwestroxbury' site on Google. Applications may also be picked up at the Roche Family Center, Phil's Barber Shop in West Roxbury, Elie's Barber Shop in West Roxbury and Sebastian's Barber Shop in Roslindale.

Parkway Youth Soccer is in its 41th season. Children born between Jan 1, 2004 and Dec. 31, 2014 are eligible to play in the regular league. High school students born between 2001 and 2003 are eligible to play in the Senior Division. Applications received after Feb. 28 depend upon availability of space. For more information, contact 617-962-4271.

## IRISH NIGHT

St. John Chrysostom Parish will host an Irish Night on Saturday, March 16 at 5:30 pm in the parish center. Dinner is corned beef and cabbage with entertainment from local Irish dancers. All



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from the community are invited. Tickets are \$15 a person and \$25 a family. You can purchase tickets in the parish office. Please call 617-323-4410. 4750 Washington St. West Roxbury

## CAREGIVER SUPPORT WORKSHOP

Savvy Caregiver is a training program for caregivers who care for someone with Alzheimer's or related Dementias. It assists family (or friends) in their new role as caregiver, a role for which they may be unprepared. The program builds information and knowledge about the illness, helps to develop skills to manage daily life, and creates an outlet to share challenges and experiences with others. The program is offered at no charge and meets 1 day per week for 6 weeks. Location: BCYF Roche Family Community Center, 1716 Centre Street in West Roxbury Day and Time: Thursdays, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Class Dates: March 28th – May 9th, 2019 (skipping April 18th, school vacation week) For more information or to register contact Ann Glora at 617-477-6616 or [aglora@ethocare.org](mailto:aglora@ethocare.org)

## YMCA SPRING SWIM REGISTRATION OPENS FEB. 11

To prepare young people to swim safely this summer, registration opens Feb. 11 for the YMCA of Greater Boston's Early Spring Aquatics session. Lessons during the seven-week program, which runs Feb. 25 through April 14, are available for swimmers of all ages and are tailored for individual experience levels so young people are ready for the summer and know how to swim.

Y lessons focus on preparing swimmers for all aspects of the water experience and life by teaching skills in these five focus areas: personal safety, personal growth, stroke development, water sports and games and rescue. Participants are placed in a level based on age and ability to help meet the developmental needs of each swimmer. Beginner swimmers are required to wear instructional flotation devices to help them swim in the correct body position and improve their arm and leg motions while remaining afloat.

Registration for non-members runs through Feb. 24. Fees vary by class. Participants who register prior to the program's start date will save \$10. To learn more about the Early Spring Aquatics program, go to your local Y or visit: [www.ymcaboston.org/swim](http://www.ymcaboston.org/swim).

Since 1909, the YMCA has been "America's Swim Instructor." The YMCA of Greater Boston is an accessible community resource that encourages lifelong enjoyment of swimming and teaching the necessary skills to prevent drowning.

## MOVIE NIGHT FOR KIDS AT GO WEST — FEBRUARY 28TH — GROWNUPS INVITED TOO

Please pencil Thursday, Feb. 28th into your calendars. Here at

Go West, we'll show a movie starting at 5:30, for kids, in one room; and we'll provide wine and beer and conversation in other room(s). Food, too. More details to come, about everything. For now, please save the date... thanks!

## FRIENDS OF THE WEST ROXBURY LIBRARY ANNOUNCES BOOK SELECTION FOR 2019 WEST ROXBURY READS

The Friends of the West Roxbury Branch Library has selected These Truths, a History of the United States by Harvard historian Jill Lepore for its community-wide read event, "West Roxbury Reads." Dr. Lepore will discuss These Truths on April 11 at the West Roxbury Branch Library, 1961 Centre Street, West Roxbury. The event starts at 6:30 pm with a reception and book sale followed by Lepore's talk and book signing. The event is free and open to the public.

The book examines American history through the lens of the "self-evident truths" as written in the Preamble of our Declaration of Independence. It has garnered praise from critics and readers alike. NPR's Michael Schaub wrote "Jill Lepore is an extraordinarily gifted writer, and These Truths is nothing short of a masterpiece of American history." The book was published in September 2018 and is available at the West Roxbury Library.

In announcing the selection of the book, Gwynne Morgan, co-chair of West Roxbury Reads stated, "We chose 'These Truths: A History of the United States' as the centerpiece of our 2019 West Roxbury Reads series because Dr. Lepore, besides being an eloquent writer, highlights themes which still challenge the U.S today: racism, immigration, technology, press and religious freedom, and the crucial need to understand civics and history."

In addition to the author talk, "West Roxbury Reads" will present a series of events throughout the month of April related to the themes discussed in the book. A full schedule of these events will be announced in early February.

## FALLS PREVENTION CLASSES FOR SENIORS

Many older adults experience a fear of falling. People who develop this fear often limit their activities, which can result in physical weakness, making the risk of falling even greater. A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls is a program designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults. Classes run for 8 weeks and include fun videos, group discussion, a safe surroundings survey, and mild exercise to increase strength and flexibility. It is offered at no charge. Those using a cane or walker will also benefit from this program – it is a great class to help improve your balance and self-confidence. Location: BCYF Ohrenberger Community Center, 175 W. Boundary Road in West Roxbury Day and Time: Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Class Dates: March 6th – May 1st (skipping school vacation week – April 17th) For more information or to register contact Ann Glora at 617-477-6616 or [aglora@ethocare.org](mailto:aglora@ethocare.org)

## Legals

CITY OF BOSTON

B D 26

To the Public Safety Commission  
Committee on Licenses  
Inspectional Services Dept.

Boston, MA January 28, 2019

### 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 15 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 and SALE of 300 gallons of gas in the tanks of 15 vehicles.

Location of land 1789 Centre Street LLC Ward 20  
Owner of land Residences at 1789 Centre Street LLC Address: 13 Teresa Terr., Hyde Park, MA 02136

Dimension of land Ft. front 103 Ft. deep 127 Area sq. ft. 11,834 S.F.  
Number of buildings or structures on land, the use of which requires land to be licensed One (1)  
Manner of keeping in the tanks of vehicles.

City of Boston. In Public Safety Commission February 27,2019. 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 27 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 *West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin* 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  
Gina N. Fiandaca  
COMMITTEE ON LICENSES

*West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin,*  
02/07/19, 02/14/19, 02/21/19

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# Pedestrian Safety *continued from page 1*

Elaine was 66 years old. Resident Janice Hamilton said she knows the driver who she said is a registered nurse. She, as well as witness reports, said the driver tried to revive Elaine after the collision.

“It was the sun glare, she wasn’t speeding, she wasn’t using a phone, and she got out of the car when she hit and gave her CPR,” Hamilton said. “That whole street is bad.”

District 6 City Councilor Matt O’Malley’s representative at the meeting Shannon Murphy said the councilor, state representatives, city officials and members of the Boston Transportation Department have confirmed a meeting at the West Roxbury Elks on Spring Street from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Feb. 27 to discuss the issue. The meeting comes almost two months after another transportation meeting that the WRCIA held with the Greater Belgrade Neighborhood Association and the Bellevue Hill

Neighborhood Association in January after a man was struck and killed by a car at the corner of Stimson and Washington Streets.

According to O’Malley’s Twitter page, he is calling for more traffic enforcement, signage and delineatpts along Centre Street for the short term. He said he may also be in favor of a total redesign of Centre Street according to a study from Northeastern University from 2015, which stated that the road could be reduced to two lanes with turning lanes instead of the current four-lane system.

Enforcement is already pretty high in West Roxbury in terms of speeding citations at least. In 2016, West Roxbury had 350 speeding tickets issued. In 2017, that number went down to 248 but stabilized at 255 in 2018, making it the neighborhood with the most amount of traffic enforcement by the Boston Police Department for that year.

Those numbers do not include tickets issued by State Police on state roads.

Another resident pointed out three was also a serious crash at the Real Deal Deli three years ago when a friend of hers was struck. She said he was not killed, but still suffers from severe head trauma.

“Did somebody have to die for some action to be taken?” she said. “Ultimately, it’s a design issue where we have to advocate with the city.”

Roach said the best thing to do is stay cautious.

“When we’re pedestrians, just take that extra bit of caution,” he said. “I know people have very busy lives, just keep in the back of your head to reinforce to each that that one thing that pedestrian safety can go a long way.”

The next meeting of the WRCIA will be at the St. Stephen’s Church in West Roxbury at 7 p.m. on March 11.

# WalkUP *continued from page 1*

affiliated with WalkUP and those on our steering committee,” he said.

Orthman said they work with residents to figure out where they can go to shovel after a storm before it hits. Volunteers say where they are and are asked to take before and after photos.

“We post throughout social media, our blog, our email list and the Roslindale Village Main Streets newsletter to say okay, if you’re interested in this sign up, tell us what intersections you live near and we’ll assign you somewhere nearby that’s a particularly sensitive point,” he said. “We usually have a couple of days heads up for a storm and we’ll send out a broad email to everyone signed up and an overall email list saying ‘Hey! A storm’s coming, and we’re expecting X amount of inches and we’re planning to be out there and if you can’t make it let us know.’”

The before and after shots are to promote the program with residents, but also so that participants can receive Rozzie Bucks that can be spent in any local business in the Roslindale Village. Orthman said RVMS Executive Director Alia Hamada Forrest has been really helpful in making sure they have access to those bucks.

“We kind of did it in our own volunteer time last year and we’re happy to do it as a community benefit good neighbor kind of thing, but we thought we could make this more fun for people putting their sweat equity into this,” he



The idea is to get residents to pick up the slack where some city or state agencies may be overloaded.

COURTESY PHOTO

said. “(District 5 City Councilor Tim) McCarthy pitched in to purchase a couple hundred dollars of Rozzie Bucks that go to volunteers and I believe the Roslindale Business Group also purchased more, as well as RVMS. It’s a great way to incentivize people and the money stays in the Business District.”

For more information on the program and how to sign up, go to [walkuproslindale.org/snow](http://walkuproslindale.org/snow)

## Deadline

The deadline for all press releases for The Bulletin is Friday.

Send to:  
661 Washington St, Suite 202  
Norwood, MA 02062.  
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or e-mail us at  
[news@bulletinnewspapers.com](mailto:news@bulletinnewspapers.com)

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## Legals

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department  
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. SU18C0544CA

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

In the Matter of: Kevin Dwayne Best  
A change of name has been filed by  
Kevin Dwayne Best of Roslindale, MA  
requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:  
Kevin Dwayne Walker

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/28/2019. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

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

Date: February 8, 2019

Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin, 02/14/19

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No.SU18P2290EA

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

Date of Death: 05/12/2018

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by:

Kent L. Baxter of Flower Mound, TX  
requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that:  
Kent L. Baxter of Flower Mound, TX  
be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00a.m. on the return day of 03/14/2019. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

### UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

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

Date: January 31, 2019

Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin, 02/14/19



## Ask The Doctor

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

**To the Doctor:** I had to do work on my daughter’s car, a 2009 Honda Pilot, and my 2010 Dodge Nitro that I recently purchased. I cannot get manuals for these cars anywhere. Also, the need for scan tools is putting the backyard mechanic out of business. I think an easier-to-maintain auto would be a big seller for a car maker. What should I do for finding “how-to” guides for maintaining these cars?

**From the Doctor:** Great questions. First, you can buy a scan tool for under \$100 that can read most OBDII fault codes. If you want to get into vehicle-specific tests and body control modules, etc., you will need to spend a lot more. For complete maintenance information, you can get a subscription to Alldata for each vehicle. You will learn and you can print out everything you read. Printed service manuals can also be found at Helm Incorporated, an online bookstore that provides factory-authorized technical publications ([www.helminc.com](http://www.helminc.com)). As a backyard mechanic, you should study the vehicle and understand how the system you are going to work on actually operates. YouTube is another area to watch videos on what you are interested in working on.

**To the Doctor:** I have a 2010 Lincoln MKZ AWD with 119,000 miles. It has developed a vibration that can be felt in the seat and steering wheel between 40 and 65 mph. The tires are new and recently aligned. My technician, whom I trust, says it’s a drive shaft. Is there a recall on this, as I’ve never changed a drive shaft.

**From the Doctor:** A vibration at these speeds generally means that something is out of balance. The drive axle has an inner CV joint and, usually if there is a problem with the inner joint, the vibration will be noticed when accelerating and go away when the accelerator is released. The technician may be able to run the car up to speed and watch the tires and axle to see if there is any axle warping as well as tire shaking. In the past, I have actually attached a wheel weight to the front axle to help cure vibration problems. You can also try re-balancing the tires and swapping front to rear. Has the technician checked to make sure there is no brake drag?

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

## Letters *continued from page 4*

I believe that this location is unsafe for an institution that would daily generate up to 1000 individual visits of students, faculty, parents, and others. With speeding trains on one side and speeding cars on the other, this is not a safe site for our children. Public officials must realize this before a tragic accident occurs.

The second is DAILY VOLUME.

The volume of daily activity with a school at this site would be “off the charts” compared to anything else we have in our residential community. For example, Holy Name School has about 200 students coming and going each day. Both Roxbury Latin and CM each have about 300 students coming and going each day. The proposed school for Belgrade Ave. calls for almost 600 students, plus faculty coming and going each day. That is three times the Holy Name School volume and two times the Roxbury Latin/CM volume of daily activity. Our neighborhood is already a complete and unsafe bottleneck of traffic each morning and afternoon. Additional volume of this magnitude would quickly make the daily situation even more unbearable than it is today for the surrounding neighbors and community.

Thirdly is THE PROCESS.

I believe this public process is a complete miss-fit for any proposed school in any location. The BPDA review process is designed to address apartment buildings, condos and other real estate developments. But this is a school, not an apartment building. This proposed project should not be treated as some real estate deal – it is a high school potentially full of our kids. I believe a school is a valued community resource, and as such it deserves a robust, very public and strategic site-selection and planning process that assesses many locations for critical factors such as access, safety, cost, sustainability, utilization, and community impact. You can be sure that no other town surrounding the Parkway area would allow a large high school to be planned and sited based on the BPDA’s tax/profit-oriented, developer-centric process that is driven solely by the availability of real estate and solely by the needs of the institution, while completely ignoring the needs of the community and its residents. Whether it is a public school or charter school, the taxpayers are paying for it and deserve a process that allows their voices to be heard. Instead, all our community can do is react to developer and BPDA proposals. The voices of the people have been excluded from the process, and we are only asked for input at the end of the process when decisions have already been made. For these reasons and many others, I encourage the school officials to seek a better site and I encourage Mayor Walsh and the BPDA to reject the proposal that would dam-

age our community for decades to come. Thank you.

*Dennis Orthman  
Boston*

### ROXBURY PREP DISCUSSION RACIALLY DRIVEN?

*To the Editor:*

I am a Roslindale resident and frequently travel through the Belgrade/Parkway/Anawan intersection. I attended the Roxbury Prep community meeting sponsored by the Boston Planning and Development Agency last night, January 30 and listened intently to the discussion.

It is clear that traffic and mass transit load will increase in the area immediately around the school at certain times during the day. Compared to having a vacant car dealership there, what else is to be expected? Any development of that site, including condos or apartments, would also increase traffic. After all, as one community member commented, it’s Boston.

To provide a viable school building for this excellent high school is part of our social commitment as a community—to provide for the next generation. We have done so for decades building both public and charter schools. Social commitments have to be placed in someone’s “backyard.”

Why this particular project is being scrutinized so exceedingly carefully is open to debate. As was mentioned, Holy Name School causes substantial delays in commute times through that area—and yet Holy Name is considered part of the community and people accept the disruption. Themes of race whirled below the surface of last night’s discussion and emerged at times with the least provocation. That does not mean that the opposition is racist, or that proponents are playing “the race card.” What is clear, however, is that a vocal segment of the West Roxbury and Roslindale populace political and community power have rallied to a remarkable extent to fight the placement of Roxbury Prep at 361 Belgrade—the “Stop 361 Belgrade” banners hanging in the neighborhood are ample proof of that.

And yet we have a commitment to provide for our next generation. Where racism is unarguably an issue is not in the actions or feelings of individuals present last night, but in our history and in the institutional and structural residue of centuries of racism in our society, including here in Boston. Opponents in a neighborhood of plenty (or at least adequacy) like West Roxbury and Roslindale have the wherewithal to commit their time and their intellectual and monetary resources to fighting for what they want. Disadvantaged people of color, whose children make up the vast majority of Roxbury Prep’s student body, often work multiple jobs or are unable to get to places off public transit lines (like 7 VFW Parkway where the discussion was held). They do not have

the same ease and capability as the middle and upper classes—and yet as you saw, they came in droves to last night’s discussion. It is the mandate of the BPDA to be good stewards of our resources to benefit the residents of our great city. This means working to level the playing field after centuries of explicit racism and its structural residue.

Do not take too seriously the squeaky wheels whose traffic time will likely increase—a bit—as it will for all of us. It’s in the public interest to permit Roxbury Prep to build at 361 Belgrade. Yes, in my backyard!

*Mark S. Bauer, MD  
Roslindale*

### DON’T ROXBURY PREP STUDENTS DESERVE A BITTER LOCATION?

*To the Editor:*

Regarding the proposed Roxbury Prep High School at 361 Belgrade Avenue, I understand the revised plan has reduced the size and capacity of the building. Wouldn’t it be more prudent to find another site in the city which can serve the original number of students? Don’t the students and faculty deserve a state of the art building which includes green space, athletic fields, a pool, cafeteria and gymnasium? Any new school built in Boston should include these amenities. Why build a substandard facility for students in an already congested area that is too small. It doesn’t make sense. Certainly there must be other sites in Boston where this can be accomplished.

*Kathleen Lally-Haschak  
Roslindale*

### ROXBURY PREP WILL BE A VALUABLE ADDITION

*To the Editor:*

I have been a homeowner in Roslindale for the last 15 years. I have 3 children who have all been students of BPS. My oldest son recently graduated from Boston Latin and my youngest daughter is currently attending Boston Latin Academy. My middle son is now in 11th grade and has been attending Roxbury Prep since the 5th grade. I am active with all of the schools my children have attended. I support the new Roxbury Prep High School in Roslindale at 361 Belgrade Ave. because they provide a rigorous college prep curriculum for all students and offer one on one help on a regular basis.

This project is very important to me because, not only do I have a child who is currently a student at RPHS, but I also live very close to the site of the new school. I know many local families with young children who will benefit from the school in the future. I’ve been a part of the Roxbury Prep family since 2011. Over the years I have been very impressed with the quality education my son is received from the amazing staff.

I have voiced my support to Mayor Walsh and all of our local representatives. I am confident that the staff and students will be a wonderful addition to our community as the staff work tirelessly to cultivate and support the students as they develop into young adults. Mem-

bers of the community should know that Roxbury Prep’s mission is that all students are entitled to and can succeed in college preparatory programs when: 1) the curriculum is rigorous, engaging, and well-planned, 2) the school emphasizes student character, community responsibility, and exposure to life’s possibilities, and 3) a community network supports student academic, social, and physical well-being. This high school is not like any other and I encourage my neighbors to look closer if they are inclined to oppose this project.

Roxbury Prep High School students have been bouncing around for a few years to different locations in the city that are not equipped the way a proper school should be. But they have still thrived and made the best of the facilities they have. Having this new school where all of our high school students can be in one place in a state-of-the-art building will add to their ability to achieve even more!

I ask my fellow neighbors to support the new Roxbury Prep High School. The building will be beautiful and the students and staff will be a great addition to our neighborhood.

*Celdra M. Allen  
Roslindale*

### PRINCIPAL SAYS SCHOOL IS EAGER TO PARTNER

*To the Editor:*

I am writing as a parent, Roslindale community member, and principal of Roxbury Prep High School in support of the Belgrade Avenue Project. Over the last several years, we have worked to both find a permanent home for our school and respond to much of the feedback from community members, families, neighbors, and from elected officials in the area who have cited building size and parking as two of their top concerns. In response to the feedback, we have worked to make sure we do all we can to move forward in the Boston Planning and Development Agency’s (BPDA) process. The response at the latest community hearing hosting by the BPDA was overwhelmingly positive and we’re excited to see so many neighbors stand up in support of our project.

The proposal to reduce the square footage of the high school responds to feedback from the community. This redesigned school building will fit 562 students and will have a gymnasium, cafeteria and state-of-the-art classrooms to match our outstanding curriculum. There will also be more parking available in this updated plan. As demonstrated in revising the plans, Roxbury Prep is an institution that is eager to engage with the community, hear feedback, and make change. It should also be noted that as principal of the school, I am not disappointed by the reduced size, but rather I am energized and excited for what is to come. Even with the smaller size, Roxbury Prep will be able to accommodate all currently enrolled students in the high school.

At the BPDA hearing, multiple residents suggested

Roxbury Prep move to the West Roxbury High School Complex. Our project team approached the city about this idea and was told that it is not an option. Boston Public Schools owns that site and will be redeveloping it for their use.

The high school’s motto is “we are agents of change.” This high school building process and redesign speaks to how we think of change, community, resilience, and leadership. Since the founding of Roxbury Prep High school four years ago, our scholars have been in temporary facilities, and are split across 2 campuses, almost 30 minutes apart. They deserve a permanent home. They deserve a high school experience as so many across the city have each day with scholars studying, learning, and building community in one space. Where students mentor each other, push for excellence with each other, and build memories and relationships – together. With our college-graduation mission, a permanent site will allow for legacies and history to be created at one address.

As we have done since our founding, and as we graduate our first class in just a few short months, our school’s commitment to college-bound coursework, a positive and joyful culture, and a commitment to students and their families will stand front and center. The mission to have every scholar enter, succeed in, and graduate from college will continue to drive its purpose and promise. This promise and purpose deserve a home on Belgrade Avenue with a community rallying behind it as we ensure that regardless of zip code, family background and income, every scholar should receive an excellent education.

*Shradha M. Patel  
Principal of Roxbury Prep  
High School  
Roslindale Resident*

### PROJECT TEAM PROVIDED LITTLE INFORMATION

*To the Editor:*

Last week the BPDA hosted the first of two meetings with the community over the proposed project to build a high school on the site of the former Clay Auto/NTB site on Belgrade Ave. There are a good number of people who support the project based on the promise of adding additional seats to a high performing high school. But as an abutter and longtime Roslindale resident, I am opposed to the project. I have several reasons which include the safety and well-being of the students of the school.

The development project team provides no answers that might not paint the project as positive for all involved.

- They claim they are talking to the MBTA about modifying the schedules to add more stops but nobody at the MBTA can confirm these discussions have taken place. Sources at the MBTA have commented that they couldn’t make these changes even if they agreed to them.

- When asked what the impact

# Letters *continued from page 14*

of 500-600 people taking the MBTA in a reverse commute will have on the schedules for people commuting into the city, they have no response.

- The commute of the majority of their students will increase as a result of changing location. With only a small percentage of students commuting from West Roxbury and Roslindale most students will be travelling longer to arrive to school.

- They estimate that the number of students being dropped off by car will remain at a steady percent although the location is changing and we can expect more students will be getting rides to the school.

- They don't address safety issues regarding crossing the street or

tracks to get to the school.

- The ratio of school square footage to student will decrease as result of this proposal. - When asked if the school will expand, they give very lengthy legal responses. We know the school will not be able to provide enough spaces for its 700 middle schoolers with the proposed number of 562. We can only expect this is the first of multi-phase plan for the school to grow over time.

- No mention is made of where students would congregate in case of an emergency or fire drill.

- No information is shared on how the area will be impacted by even a few hundred students waiting for buses and trains on sidewalks and

platforms designed for 50 - 60 people at most.

- They report that the Level of Service in the area during peak times will degrade to an F. But they don't go on to define it. It is defined as: forced or breakdown flow. Every vehicle moves in lockstep with the vehicle in front of it, with frequent slowing required. Travel time cannot be predicted, with generally more demand than capacity. A road in a constant traffic jam is at this LOS, because LOS is an average or typical service rather than a constant state. Belgrade Ave and surrounding areas will be deadlocked in traffic at peak times due to the project.

The project team is made up of a very capable group of lawyers, consultants, a public relations firm and lobbyists. They have been planning

this project for at least two years and they know the facts behind many of the concerns of the residents. When a large Article 80 project proved too challenging, they changed the scope of the project to become a small project requiring fewer reviews and by passing an Impact Advisory Group.

They won't share these facts as it would prove that the project would be very disruptive to the area. The project team all have financial incentive for the project to be approved. For this reason, those of us who don't feel comfortable accepting their answers oppose the project. We simply can't trust what they say and more importantly what they don't say.

Bruno Giordano  
Roslindale

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