# WEST ROXBURY ~ ROSLINDALE

Volume 23, Issue 13 MARCH 30, 2023





Hundreds of residents came out to support the Empty Bowls Fundraiser at the Roslindale Substation. COURTESY PHOTO

The current doctor's office is planned for apartments above, and developers now propose to take over the adjacent mechanic shop.

# **Second Annual Empty** Bowls fundraiser a hit

Ariane Komyati Staff Reporter

More than 400 community members gathered at the Roslindale Substation (located at 4228 Washington St. in Rozzie Square) on March 26 to participate in the second annual Roslindale/Hyde Park Empty Bowls fundraiser. The event lasted from 3 to 7 p.m.

Empty Bowls is a community-driven initiative led by artists and artisans across many cities and towns worldwide. Its purpose is to raise funds for food-related charities that support the needs of community members who are food inse-

Community members picked a ceramic, hand-painted, handmade bowl made by local Boston artists and filled it with soup from local restaurants. Each bowl had a piece of paper in it with questions about food inequality, such as "How much food goes to waste in the world each year?" and "Do you think food insecurity is more of an issue in rural or urban America?" While eating their soup, community members listened to live music and purchased local brews from Vitamin Sea Brewing. The tickets cost a suggested donation of

Proceeds from the event support the Neighborhood Food Action Collaborative (NFAC) of Roslindale and Hyde Park: Food Access Volunteers of Roslindale (FAVOR), the Roslindale Food Collective



The fundraiser is designed to raise funds for food for those in need.

Courtesy Photo

(RFC) and the Hyde Park Food Leah Arteaga of FAVOR. "It's

over 400 tickets," said Rick Food Collective, and FAVOR. Henry of NFAC HP. "We have local restaurants participating from Hyde Park and Roslindale. Everything has been going really well today, and I'm feeling really proud. One Saturday, we [NFAC HP volunteers] had a glazing party - we went to Create and designed and painted some bowls. I have worked on some of the bowls that people are taking. I'm also proud of the entertainment - we have a high school band here. Everyone is coming out, participating, donating, enjoying themselves, and enjoying the soup."

Due to the success of last year's Empty Bowls, the event was one hour longer this year.

"We are serving about 400 people at this event," explained

a collaboration between the "As of this morning, we sold Hyde Park Pop-up, Roslindale We also have a vendor for beer, and the proceeds will be going to NFAC."

The funds raised from the Empty Bowls event will be used to supply the NFAC programs with fresh fruits and vegetables. NFAC aims to "build, facilitate and coordinate a network of community members and organizations focused on increasing access, choice, & affordability to healthy food to improve overall community health." NFAC hosts multiple free food programs for community members throughout the week, with help from volunteers who pick up donations from grocery stores.

> **Empty Bowls** Continued on page 8

# 735-745 River St. development proposed

Mary Ellen Gambon Staff Reporter

The Belnel Family Neighborhood Association (BFNA) discussed modifications to a redevelopment proposal at 735-745 River St. at its quarterly meeting on Thursday, March 23.

Attorney Nick Zozula represented Hyde Park Health Associates, a medical clinic that has been a part of the community for about 25 years. It is run by owner Dr. Jean Bonnet and practice manager Clifford Bonnet.

He explained during a 45-minute presentation to 30 attendees that the project now has expanded to include 735 River St., the former location of El Rubio General Mechanic. The health clinic, currently located at 745 River St., will be expanded and will include five stories of predominantly twoand three-bedroom apartments. **BFNA** 

Continued on page 6

# **Neighbors in**

ichard Heath Staff Reporter

Two recent notices of project change demonstrate the influence of neighborhood residents on the construction of housing by Jamaica Plain developers.

On March 8, 2023, the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) released a Notice of Project Change for 4-18 Cheney St. at Grove Hall, proposed by the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation (JPNDC).

As approved by the BPDA on Sept. 13, 2021, Cheney Street housing was a four-story, 59-unit, supportive senior building and two 15-unit affordable homeownership buildings.

In the Notice of Project Change, 20 percent of the housing units have been dropped; the senior housing was reduced from

JP flexing

Continued on page 8



# Feeling the Blues?

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The Joyce Kilmer celebrated students recently, including these kids who scored a 530 or higher in either the English or math section of the test.

# Kilmer Upper School students outperform on MCAS!

Susan Kryczka

Staff Reporter

Some Joyce Kilmer 4-8 School students and their families were in for a surprise when they attended an invitational potluck dinner and cafeteria on March 21.

Ambiguously billed as a celebration of the students' academic achievements, Principal Joseph Foley welcomed everyone to help themselves to the buffet and

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presentation at the school's enjoy the meal. He then promised to reveal why they were actually asked to attend.

> "I'll give you a little hint - it's all really good news," he said.

The over 50 invitees feasted on pizza, pasta, assorted salads, fruits, cheeses, and desserts, as a party atmosphere permeated the get together. The students' high en-

> Kilmer School students Continued on page 13



Good Friday specials served from 3pm

Appetizer

Shrimp Cocktail \$12.99 Jumbo gulf shrimp, served with cocktail sauce.

Calamari Arthuro

Golden flash fried calamari rings sauté with fresh chopped garlic, butter and

Grilled Swordfish Hand-cut North Atlantic swordfish steak, lightly seasoned and grilled to order,

served with potato & vegetable. Haddock 'Brien.

Fresh haddock baked en casserole with asparagus, lemon-wine and seasoned cracker crumbs and topped with Mornay Sauce, potato and vegetable.

Scallops Nantucket...

Fresh sea scallops baked en casserole with lemon-wine, seasoned cracker crumbs topped with cheddar cheese, served with potato and vegetable.

Filet of Sole Newburg

Sole baked en casserole with homemade shrimp (stuffing, lemon wine, & seasoned crumbs, topped with newburg sauce and served with potato & vegetable.

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Easter specials served starting at 11am

Appetizer

Shrimp Cocktail. Jumbo gulf shrimp, served with cocktail sauce.

Calamari Arthuro

Golden flash fried calamari rings sauté with fresh chopped garlic, butter and fresh lemon-wine

Baked Scallops & Crab Meat Casserole...

Sea Scallops baked with jumbo lump crab meat, seafood stuffing, lemon wine and seasoned bread crumbs. Served with potato and vegetable.

Grilled Filet & Shrimp

Grilled 6 oz. filet mignon grilled to order with twin baked stuffed shrimp, served with mushroom demo-glaze, potato and vegetable.

\$16<sup>99</sup> Roast Turkey Dinner... Oven roasted turkey breast served with cornbread stuffing, pan gravy. Served

with mashed potato and vegetable.

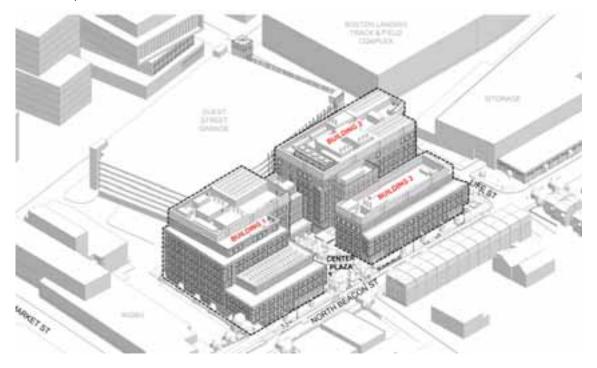
\$16<sup>99</sup> Sliced Spiral Nam..... Baked Sliced Spiral Ham served with champagne sauce, potato and vegetable.

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A rendering of the proposed lab space at 155 N. Beacon St. in Brighton.

COURTESY PHOTO

# Less parking, more benefits wanted at 155 N. Beacon

Jeff Sullivan Staff Reporter

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) held a public meeting on March 27 regarding the proposed life sciences building at 155 N. Beacon St. in Brighton.

The meeting came about because of proponent IQHQ's application for a planned development area (PDA) to change the underlying zoning from Light Industrial 2 to something that could accommodate life

sciences in the zoning. According to the supplemental filing for the PDA, some small design aspects of the building may change to what IQHQ presented in November's public meeting, but most of the building design has remained the

Though the development plan is for life sciences, it should be noted that the PDA Supplemental Filing Application asks for 12 different uses at the site, including general office, research laboratory, product development or proto-

type manufacturing, light manufacturing, general manufacturing, local retail, restaurant, bakery, bar, bar with live entertainment, accessory parking and accessory keeping of laboratory animals.

Resident Kevin Carragee said after the presentation from the development team that he felt that, along with having too much parking, he was disappointed the proposal had absolutely no housing. Residential

> 155 N. Beacon Continued on page 9





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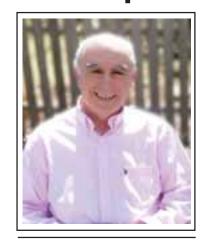


# A back-handed swipe?

I've really never been a big fan of the Massachusetts Port Authority. First of all, as an "Authority," like the T, it is a specially created agency with few checks and balances. Thus it is bloated with highpaying jobs financed by exorbitant parking fees at Logan, paid for by you and me. It owns the parking meters in the Seaport District, refusing to cede them back to the city; for years, it used to charge motorists to park there on Sundays at their meters—motorists naïve enough to think they were parking free at city meters on the Sabbath, then noticing the hefty citations on their windshields when they returned to their vehicles.

Massport has its own police department at Black Falcon Terminal (now called Flynn Cruiseport after you know who) and its own fire department at the airport (exclusively: it doesn't help with East Boston fires): surely, no heavy lifting on members' parts when compared to those working for BPD and BFD.

But Massport, in its favor, is very generous to students residing in Suffolk County (Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop) with its Deborah Hadden Gray and Lowell Richards scholarships: both are available to those involved in community service with a 3.0 GPA who envision certain college majors. METCO students and other residents who attend high school outside of Boston and the other three communities, for example, Fontbonne Academy or Thayer Academy are, thankfully, still eligible: the key word is Suf-



My Kind Town/ Joe Galeota

folk County resident.

But it is their third scholarship that has me perplexed: the Diversity Stem Scholarship, which target seniors of color living in the aforementioned Suffolk County communities and Worcester as well as the much more affluent communities of Bedford, Concord, Lexington, and Lincoln with involvement in community service and a minimum 3.0 GPA. Why is the applicant field now stretched out to include teenage residents from these four leafy suburbs? Is Massport saying that nowhere in Suffolk County can students of color be found with a B average, thereby necessitating the reaching out to the teenagers of Bedford, Concord, Lexington, and Lincoln, who by the laws of probability are in less need of financial help for college? Or perhaps in the past local high school guidance counselors were not aware and thus there were not enough qualified candidates. Hmmm.

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



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# Letters to the Editor

#### RE: 361 BELGRADE

To the Editor:

The timing of your article about 361 Belgrade left only 1 day for concerned citizens to voice comments to the BPDA, making Bulletin News seem pro-developer.

Also, the article by Ariane Komyati fails to mention how many parking spaces will be provided for the 123 units in the project, how many stories tall the building will be and how many zoning variances will be required.

Parking and building height are always big issues for neighbors, and variances are the entirety of the legal part of the process for a project being allowed.

This project is much too big for the neighborhood, which traditionally is two and three family units, and even worse, the developers and financiers are not from the area and only care about maximizing profits. It truly sucks how Vinn Valcich and everyone at the BPDA and ZBA are not looking out for the citizens. For example, as recently as Feb 13 the developer was still tweaking the project designs (see their supplemental filing), presented on Feb28 to the community, yet Vinn Valcich did not extend the comment period (ending Mar2). Things never change do they?

> J. Goodhue Roslindale

#### SAME DEVELOPMENT **ISSUES EVERYWHERE**

To the Editor:

Perhaps nearly six months ago or so, I read a New York Times Magazine piece talking about strategies taking place across large American cities. In it was a quote from Mayor Michelle Wu who expressed her viewpoint that Boston's growth potentially could reach 800,000 residents. I am wary of such an idea. I can say that I've seen this growth elsewhere in the United States. I go to Austin, TX often to visit family and that city has seen pretty much an 800,000 population growth since about 2009, but Boston isn't Austin. Geographically, we are a much smaller size city. Austin is at least three times our land mass.

I have been a housing activist here in East Boston and before that in Charlestown. As I read the news story (Changes made to BMS

Paper project, Boston Bulletin, March 23), I see the same thing happening in East Boston as is happening in Jamaica Plain, Roslindale and West Roxbury.

Recently, in Jamaica Plain, the BPDA held its first meeting in nearly two years for the Impact Advisory Group (IAG) to review changes proposed by the developer. The proposal now calls for two buildings, not one and lowering total units from 151 to 78 units. Nearly 50 percent of the units are now gone and there is a 300 seat restaurant with two bars planned in this proposal. Who is this serving?

People over on the southern side of the city are pulling out their hair just like people over here on the other side of the tunnels. We all get double teamed by both BPDA and the Zoning Board of Appeals which rarely sees a variance they don't like. I just heard about IAGs. I assume sooner or later we will be hearing about this latest alphabet soup of entities apparently created just to drive us all mad.

Finally, I appreciate the sentiments of letter writers J.Goodhue of Roslindale and Joe Donnelly of West Roxbury. I agree with Goodhue that the "ZBA and BPDA-BRA have always been of, for and by the people with money" going back to the days of the West End. I remember those days watching that neighborhood razed by wrecking balls in the name of urban renewal back when I was 10 years old.

Donnelly's letter shows a different gripe about plans for a road diet on Centre Street in West Roxbury that appears to be still alive, especially in the mind of District 6 city councilor Kendra Lara who says she ran on a platform that included a road diet and stands by her decision.

I would suggest that voters in Ward 20 remember her recent remarks on this issue and vote accordingly later this year at election time. Maybe, if West Roxbury had voted for Mary Tamer by a three-to-one margin, Tamer might have won in 2021 but they didn't. Elections have consequences.

Finally, I loved that quote in the BMS story from the development consultant and former BPDA project manager Chris Tracy when he said, "We're trying to make as many people happy as possible." Doesn't look that way from here, does it?

> Sal Giarratani East Boston

# **OPENING DAY DISEASE** San Francisco, California, 2021

ing ballparks. I have tripped once held near and dear. turnstiles at about half the major league venues, Wrigley and Fenway favorites, of course. But it is not just love of baseball that lures, but the fact I now suffer from, Opening Day Disease.

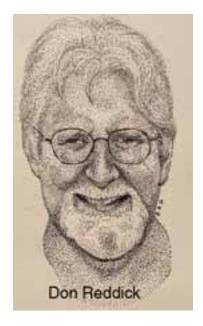
It is an insidious, harrowing affliction. A recent phenomenon, it has fast become second only to alcohol in destroying marriages, crippling American work force effectiveness, and lowering self-esteem in those afflicted. Symptoms include but are not limited to insomnia, anxiety, and a penchant for making late night phone calls to 900 numbers. Self-denial is rampant, as well as an irrational, lingering

A favorite pastime is visit- mistrust of friends and family

Yes, I'm talking about the dreaded Fantasy Baseball.

I caught it from a brother, charter member and initial winner of Canton's Morse Shoe Rotisserie Baseball League. In other words, one of the sickest. It began innocently with a gateway remark, and then, after a family dinner and watching the Red Sox on TV, was the innocuous offer uttered: "Don, we've got a vacancy in our Fantasy Baseball League, would you like to join?" Never suspecting treachery from a sibling, I enthusiastically agreed.

Since then, my life has been all downhill. The months of February and March are a blur, spent in relentless preparation for The Draft. April and May are lost to a



peculiar Fear and Loathingfear of every trade offer made to me and loathing my draft picks. June and July meld to bitterness and disgust—bitterness at the friend who offered in trade

> Opening Day Continued on page 6



The council is looking at how it cut down on single serving alcohol bottle litter in the city.

COURTESY PHOTO

# Arroyo looking to limit single serving booze bottles

Jeff Sullivan Staff Reporter

The Boston City Council voted last week to send a home rule petition to the statehouse that would, if passed, ban the sale of single-serving alcohol bottles in the city.

The petition's sponsor was District 5 City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, who said those small bottles do not have a 5 cent deposit return that so many cans, bottles and other recyclable containers do. And Arroyo pointed out that when someone may mistakenly put one of those small bottles into a recycling

machine, their small size means they can get caught up in the gears and actually damage those machines.

"Everyone has seen these bottles on a day-to-day basis, if you're walking around your neighborhood, if you're driving to work, I saw it today on my drive into work," he said. "These miniatures and singles are strewn on the roadway and the side of the road. I didn't realize immediately just how major of an issue it is."

This is not a new problem in Boston, and efforts have been made before to reduce singleserving alcohol bottles being

sold and thrown away in the city. Arroyo said this is an issue that a local group in his district, Keep Hyde Park Beautiful (KHPB) has been dealing with for some time. The group sponsors neighborhood cleanups on a regular basis, and while the group sometimes finds very unique trash items - couches, pieces of vehicles, toilets etc. – single-serve alcohol bottles are one of if not the most common item they pick

Arroyo said recently a liquor store in Gardner started offering 5 cents for every bottle brought

> **Small Bottles** Continued on page 6

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6*	3 BR	1086	30% of HH Income	30%	1	_	_
3	1 BR	576	\$1,315	50%	_	_	_
10	1 BR	576	\$1,578	60%	2	1	_
17	2 BR	789	\$1,893	60%	2	_	_
6	1 BR	576	\$2,130	90%	_	_	_
9	2 BR	789	\$2,555	90%	_	_	_

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Minimum incomes apply. Minimum incomes do not apply to households with housing assistance (Section 8, MRVP, VASH) or to the units in this development that include a project-based voucher.

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Monday - Saturday	3/20/2023 -	10:00 am -	BCYF Roche Family Community Center					
	3/25/2023	2:00 pm	1716 Centre Street, West Roxbury, MA					

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# **BFNA** continued from page 1

Small Project Review (SRA) application with the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) on March 9. A virtual public meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 19 at 6 p.m.

"Obviously, I think many folks in the neighborhood wouldn't be too worried about it not being there anymore," he said of the auto body shop, citing noise, fumes and parked cars as factors. "We're super happy that we've been able to take that into the development."

The mixed-use five-story building will have the expanded and modernized medical clinic on the first floor. There will now be 40 residential units, 55 percent of which will have either two or three bedrooms. The total square footage is 49,846 square feet, and there will be no studio apartments. These modifications were made because of BFNA's emphasis that the apartments be more available to families.

There will be 26 surface parking spaces and 40 bicycle parking spaces. Preference for parking spaces will be given to the multi-bedroom units. What will also help with parking, according to Zozula, is that the large curb cuts in front of the old auto body shop will be narrowed to make room for additional spaces.

A key feature of the proposed building, located at the intersection of River and Thorn streets, is the passageway between the parcels, explained project designer Sebastian Yan from J. Garland Enterprises.

"We really want to give back to the community and focus on the pedestrian experience," Yan said. There will be green buffers on all sides of the project, and the view of the spaces from River Street

Zozula said he filed the will be blocked. Benches, pedestrian lighting, an ornamental planting bed, and striped parking will be introduced along the passageway.

> There will be a 2,000 square-foot outdoor terrace lined by a fence as well as a small pocket park, he added. There will also be planters on both River and Thorn streets as well as street trees. This will help resolve some environmental justice issues.

> The first floor will incorporate a public art mural reflective of the neighborhood, while the façade will have wood and fiber cement siding, Yan said.

> Zozula noted that the passageway is owned by an abutter, but there was a previous understanding that the auto body shop could use it. There will now be a formalized agreement to make it accessible to both properties, and striped parking will be added. The passageway will be a oneway for cars that will exit onto River Street.

> He added that because the ground floor doesn't have room for a play area, open space will be included on the second floor above the parking area.

> BFNA President Helena Tonge questioned Zozula about the number of affordable units. There are seven proposed units comprising 17.5 percent of the development's units. The city's Inclusionary Development Policy (IDP) requires 13 percent. Zozula said he would be "happy to discuss" the number of affordable units with District 5 City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, who attended the meeting. Tonge advocated for 20 percent, or one more

> Tonge also asked that as part of a community benefits agreement (CBA) that \$10,000 be donated to a cur

The Bulletin

rent fund for the redesign of nearby Ross Field. Zozula said that would be "no prob-

A resident who identified herself as Brenda asked if notification about the project had been made to residents of the River Street corridor. Members of the Community Input Board (CIB), which includes the leaders of all the community groups along River Street, were in attendance. Zozula encouraged people to attend the upcoming BPDA meeting.

Also giving a presentation was Ky'ron Owens, the city's communications director for the Emergency Management Department. He stressed the importance of having an emergency plan and bags packed that include food. clothing and medication in case of the need to evacuate. For more detailed information, please visit boston.gov/ departments/emergency-management.

In other news, Tonge provided an update on the drivethru Starbucks, which will be located at the Shops at Riverwood. The proposed hours will now be 5:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day after the results of a community survey last year were taken into account. Starbucks plans to open on May 12 and is currently hiring.

# Small Bottles

continued from page 5

to them.

"In two years they collected 100,000 miniatures or singles off the streets of Gardner," he said. That amounts to \$5,000 worth of bottle deposits returned.

Arroyo said because of that, a local liquor store in Hyde Park and an anonymous donor offered \$1,000 to KHPB if they could collect and return 10,000 bottles in a year.

"They're only a group of about 12 people and it took them two months," he said. "Twelve people in Hyde Park, two months, 10,000 bottles off the street. So that was something that got on my radar as an issue we might want to look at."

He said recently the City of Chelsea managed to pass a ban of these types of bottles being sold, and not only did it cut down on litter, but it also cut the number of alcohol-related emergency calls in half over one year.

There are precedents for certain liquor stores in certain neighborhoods that have had their right to sell these bottles rescinded by the Boston Licensing Board because of neighborhood complaints. He said there are currently 70 stores in the city not allowed to sell singles, including stores in virtually all of Boston's neighborhoods.

"The city has the power to change and exclude the sale of miniaturized bottles," he said. "The reasoning for that is because the harm caused by singles and miniatures are well known."

Newton has instituted such a ban last year and have seen both reductions in litter and alcohol-related emergency calls.

"Neitherof these cities has noticed any of their liquor stores going out of business," he said. "And the only argument to me as to why we wouldn't do this is because it would harm liquor store profit margins and drive them out of business. However in Chelsea, in Newton and other places where this has been instituted that has not occurred. Here in the City of Boston we have at least 70 liquor stores that can't sell singles and miniatures as we speak."

The council voted unanimously to send the home rule petition up to the Massachusetts State Legislature.

Just as a note, while the bottles are commonly referred to as "nips," Arroyo said he wanted to stay away from using the word, as it is recognized as an ethnic slur toward people of Japan. Japan is known by its inhabitants as Nippon, which is where the word is thought to have originated.

# Opening Day continued from page 4

Chris Sale, and disgust for my accepting him. September is now given to complete depression as truth slowly dawns that, once again, I will not win this season.

October and November are hangover months, a slow recovery process when you try to amend. I've made efforts, I've purchased Friends Don't Let Friends Play FantasyBaseball and One Game at a Time bumper stickers. I've purchased

the new bestseller, I'm OK— You're OK, Except Your Fantasy Baseball Team Sucks.

Despite these endeavors, issues linger. The Disabled List alone induces paranoia. Desperately seeking reprieve, I visit Barnes and Noble, but the first book I see is, A Farewell to Arms. I come home, put on Netflix, and the first movie listed is, The Departed. Frantically switching to iTunes, the Beatles blare, I'm a Loser...

My wife insists I get help. I tell her I'm trying, but no one's got any extra pitching.

Pitiable, is it not? Despite this warning, others will follow my errant footsteps. It is so easy to get started. Figure on spending roughly \$150 on the entry fee, \$50 on Fantasy Baseball guide books, \$37 on subscriptions to various magazines and USA Today, another \$20-30 on Baseball Weekly, \$159 a month for cable to get NESN and ESPN's Baseball Tonight, \$9.25 on coffee and donuts you bring to draft day, another \$5400 for the divorce lawyer, \$90-150,000 in lost equity in the house your wife will get, \$200-600 per month in child support, \$2000 a month for your new hole-in-the-wall, and, say, \$5000 more for miscellaneous items I may have missed. Given this, you can expect to lay out approximately \$163,421 to get going. The good news being, of course, that much of this is a onetime expense. Yes, \$163,421 and a decent strategy—and a little luck—will almost certainly assure of finishing in the money, which in our league brings a minimum of a hundred and fifty bucks.

(Writer's Note: at this point, seeking assessing assistance, I recite the last paragraph to my wife with the qualifier, "I'm not too confident of my humor." She replies, "Nor should you be...")

So, there you have it. No o said it would be easy. This isn't a dress rehearsal, this is life. I find myself in cheap seats down the right field line watching two teams I have absolutely no interest in. I'm alone, sitting in San Francisco's windy new park, three thousand miles from home.I'm with 30.000 people I don't know, and to whom I am merely another tragic face in the crowd. But Evan Longoria is on my team.

With one out and a man on third, Longoria hits a long fly caught in centerfield, giving my team a sacrifice fly RBI.Already on my feet, I jerk arms high, shouting,"Yes!"

Pathetic, is it not?



# Lara wants your input on budget

Jeff Sullivan Staff Reporter

District 6 City Councilor Kendra Lara is hosting a bud-Centers for Youth and Families Roche Community Center at 1716 Centre St. in West Roxbury on April 5 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

There will also be a Jamaica Plain session on March never had before," she said. 30 at 6 p.m. in Curtis Hall.

These events are designed to garner community input as the budget gets shaped, molded, cooled and then hardened into its final approved form before the end of the fiscal year in July. It used to be that the City Council could vote to hold the budget up if there was something seriously wrong in it. This didn't happen often, as it risked not having finances set to go by the next fiscal year, which could then in turn affect the city's bond rating, how it pays its bills and how it pays its employees.

Two years ago this blunt instrument of the Boston City Council was refined so that the council could amend the

budget, thanks to the passing of a ballot measure in 2021. Lara said the first time they did have public outreach sessions via virtual forums, but get town hall at the Boston now she's bringing that process out to her neighborhoods to give constituents a chance to weigh in on what they need and have Lara go to bat for it in the budget process.

> "This is power we've "It's a brand new process and the administration and the City Council are both learning how to navigate our way through it. Now since the City Council ultimately has the power to amend the Mayor's budget, we have much more power to go out in our districts and hear from our constituents on what they want to see in the budget."

> And if you can't get out to either session, you can submit comments via an online survey at bit.ly/ d6budgetpriorities.

> Lara said it's important to get your voice out there because you can have a direct impact on your neighborhood, plain and simple.

"This is an opportunity for



Hundreds came out to the Senior Center hearing, and Lara said she hopes more residents will come out to advocate for their neighborhood.

FILE PHOTO

our constituents, through the council, to have a direct say on what we spend our money on," she said. "I just want to make sure people understand that it's really important to get involved. If people can't show up to the budget assembly, if they don't have time for the survey, at any given time they can just call our office or send us an email and tell us what they want to see. I'm a really firm believer that democracy goes beyond just voting and I want to create as many opportunities for direct involvement as possible."

Lara said so far the survey has generated a lot of capital requests - large building projects – which she said is a good thing, since those requests have to first get on the city's Capital Improvement Plan before they can be funded.

"You have to get those requests in ahead of time so they can get on the Capital Plan," she said. "We've seen a lot of requests for more youth programming, more beautification. I'm the chair of the Housing and the Environmental Justice Committees so we're getting a lot of requests

Lara Budget

Continued on page 12



# **GOVERNMENT AND WE KNOW WHAT'S RIGHT** FOR YOU."

**City Councilor Kendra Lara Hicks** March 16, 2023

ARE THE COMMUNITY AND WE **KNOW WHAT IS RIGHT FOR US." West Roxbury Safety Association** 

# **SAVE CENTRE STREET** SAFE CENTRE STREET STOP THE ROAD DIET

EMAIL: 02132SAFETY@GMAIL.COM

**WEST ROXBURY SAFETY ASSOCIATION** 

# **WEST ROXBURY SAFETY ASSOCIATION**

We are opposed to the proposed **Centre Street Road Diet because:** 

- The proposed Road Diet cannot handle 16,000+ vehicles per day.
- The Business district cannot afford to lose even one parking space never mind 25. Businesses in Roslindale are suffering from reduced parking. The Internet is already negatively affecting businesses.
- Existing parking spaces will become less accessible due to increased traffic and tailgating.
- Centre Street is an Emergency evacuation route.
- The proposed plan is feasible for only 20,000 vehicles. The City has not forecasted the date of the plan's obsolescence.
- The City has not forecasted the impact of increased traffic throughout West Roxbury's residential neighborhoods.
- The City has not researched any other options.
- Delivery trucks will block the only travel lane.
- Double parkers will block the only travel lane
- Vehicles, while trying to park, will block the only travel lane.
- Buses at the YMCA will block the only travel lane.
- Parents at the YMCA will block the only travel lane.
- Events at the YMCA Pavilion(to be built) will block the only travel lane.
- Emergency vehicles will have to contend with significant increases in traffic.
- Already there are major traffic back-ups along: Spring Street (from VFWParkway/VA Hospital to Centre Street; on Centre Street from Lagrange to Corey Street; on Centre Street from Corey to Willow; on Centre Street from Belgrade Avenue to the Holy Name Rotary; on Centre Street from Weld Street to the Arborway Rotary.
- There aren't that many bicyclists.
- Bicyclists have alternative routes on Weld Street, VFW Parkway and Washington Streets.
- Years of construction will put many businesses out of business.

# Empty Bowls continued from page 1

Fifteen local restaurants provided soup for Empty Bowls at the Substation, including Blue Star, Effie's Kitchen, Fornax Bread Co., Jimmie's Cafe, Las Vegas Seafood, Village Sushi and Grill, Rincon Caribeno, Delicias Colombianas, Shanti, and more. Event attendees could choose from a variety of different soups.

About 450 handmade bowls were provided, created by local artists at Create Art in Community, a ceramics and art studio in Roslindale.

"We are excited to help host this event as a local pottery studio," stated Create owner Gena Mavuli. "Empty Bowls is something I had always wanted to do, so we are excited to partner with NFAC to put on this event. We're hopefully raising close to \$15,000 this year, so we're really thrilled."

Resident and Porchfest volunteer Clayton Cheever said he was just happy to help out.

"This second annual community gathering for Empty Bowls is another example of what makes our community so great," he said. "Like Porch Fest, supporting local musicians and food for our souls, we are at our best when we come together to support each other. I'm already looking forward to our next gathering!"

Event attendees were able

to take the bowls home, as a "reminder of ongoing hunger in the community."

Create is an art space in the heart of Roslindale Village for the community to explore new avenues of artistic expression. They offer programs in their pottery studio, as well as classes in other mediums including painting, drawing, fiber arts, writing, and kids classes. To learn more, visit www.createartincommunity.com.

To learn more about NFAC, contact the community leaders Rick Henry rhenry@healthleadsusa.org, and Leah Arteaga larteaga@healthleadsusa.org.

# ne, as a 59 t

JP flexing continued from page 1
59 units to 48 and one homeownership building reduced from none to six condominiums.

The number of senior apartments leased at 30 percent was reduced by four from 18 down to 14 and the 39 affordable units at 60 percent area median income (AMI) were reduced by nine from to 30.

The JPNDC was frank about the reasons for the changes: "They were in response to the neighbors and the Mayor's Office of Housing.

"JPNDC couldn't move forward with the program because of opposition from two neighborhood groups. We've reorganized the project to address the concerns raised by the neighbors to reduce the building height [of the senior building]."

Reducing the height of the senior housing form four stories to three required a redesign by Icon Architects.

The three-story homeownership building at 20–28 Cheney on the Hartwell Street corner was reduced from nine to six units and other than being pulled back more from the street, required few exterior changes by Jonathan Garland, architect.

The reason given for the change in the homeownership numbers was the neighbors' complaint about insufficient parking.

What made this notice of project change unusual was that Cheney Street had already been approved by both the BPDA and the Boston Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA).

The ZBA deferred a vote on Cheney Street in December 2022 because despite 18 months of community meetings, the board felt that JPNDC had not done a thorough enough neighborhood process.

On its return to the ZBA on March 22, 2022 the JPNDC fared much better, gaining the support of long time critics, the Garrison Trotter N/A and Project RIGHT.

They were joined by District 7 City Councilor Tania Fernandes Anderson and Jessica Boatright of the Mayor's Office of Housing. "I speak in support," Boatright said on the call. "It's important to create senior supportive affordable housing. We are really encouraged by the JPNDC's efforts to work with the community."

ZBA chair Christine Araujo cast her "yes" vote back in March with a caveat.

"I advise the JPNDC to work with the community every step of the way," she said.

This is apparently what happened, but The Bulletin was unable to determine what transpired between March 22, 2022 and March 8, 2023 that caused a 20 percent reduction in housing units at Cheney Street. In spite of repeated calls and emails there was no response from the Mayor's Office of Housing, Councilor Anderson or the JPNDC.

On March 14, 2023, the BPDA hosted a virtual public meeting to hear the notice of project change filed on Jan. 6, 2023 for 265-267 Amory Street.

As reported by The Bulletin, 265/267 Amory is a joint venture of Youth Enrichment Services for a new headquarters and an adjacent, four-story, nine-condominium building by Watermark Development.

The BPDA approved the development on Oct. 14, 2021 and the ZBA voted approval on Jan. 18, 2022, but four abutters sued on March 3, 2022.

"We followed the JP Rox guidelines over height, but JP Rox is not codified so the abutters are taking the issue with the height variances," Lee Goodman of Watermark said at the time.

A settlement was reached about six months later which caused Watermark to reduce the number of units from nine to seven and by removing the fourth floor that neighbors objected to.

On Nov. 15, 2022 YES/Watermark went to a ZBA final arbiter hearing to request approval of the litigants' settlement which was approved.

Ten people, including three members of the development team, were on the call that also included one of the litigants, Emeka Linton.

"We've lopped off the top floor," Goodman said. "Removed 11 feet. Two units cut out.

"The YES building has been reduced six feet in height. That requires removal of the mezzanine floor. There's not much changes other than height," he said.

"The YES/Watermark buildings replace a commercial building and we plan to improve the sidewalks that are now three feet wide to eight feet plus three feet for trees."

Watermark will also waive its development fee and donate \$100,000 to JPNDC, located across the street.

# **Ask The Doctor**

Junior Damato began servicing vehicles in 1969. He owns an 8-bay center in Middleboro, MA. Junior is an ASE-certified Master Technician,

ASE-certified L-1 and ASE-certified Natural Gas.

#### **Toyota Boxer GR86**

A week in young person's compact sports car brings me back to the old days. Small, hard ride, loud exhaust, high reving engine, short throw, very precise and positive shifter. The Boxer 2.4 liter 4 cylinder makes 228 HP 6 speed close ratio manual, limited slip rear end make this a multi function sports car at a very affordable price. Built in Japan this little vehicle combination between Toyota and Subaru never gets old. The car is Toyota GR86 premium 2+2. The back seat is for anything that will fit, people not included. Open the hood and there's plenty of room for servicing and to add a power adder turbo or super charger. On the plastic engine cover there is the Toyota and Subaru name. The ride is firm and seats do hold you in place. 18 inch wheels and tires give the GR86 a nice look. Heated front seats, 8 inch touch screen, 8 speaker audio with amplifier, 7 inch gauge cluster all standard with MSRP \$30,500 destination \$1095.00. Options includes GR key gloves \$20.00, black lugs and locks \$295.00, GR air filter \$75.00, GR dual exhaust \$1700.00, GR shift knob \$149.00, carpet floor mats and cargo mat\$289.00. The bottom line, it is fun to drive 20/27 mpg. The exhaust will keep you awake and never get tired of shifting through the gears. As tested \$34,123.00.

Junior Damato, the "Auto Doctor," has agreed to field auto repair questions from Bulletin and Record readers. Please send your questions to news@bulletinnewspapers.com and we will do our best to get them answered.



Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) 980 Harrison Avenue, Boston, MA 02119

# **WATER MAIN FLUSHING NOTICE**

Boston Water and Sewer Commission will commence Water Main Flushing in the Central Boston area starting:

April 9, 2023 through April 27, 2023

The boundaries for the areas being flushed are:Langone Park to the north, Kneeland Street to the south, Boston Harbor/Christopher Columbus Park to the east and Charles Street to the west.



The purpose of the Water Main Flushing Program is to improve drinking water quality for residents and businesses.

Water Main flushing will take place between the hours of 10:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M.

The flushing process *may* cause discolored water and a reduction in pressure. The discoloration of the water will be temporary and is not harmful. If the condition persists, please contact BWSC's 24 Hour Service at **(617) 989-7000**.

BWSC appreciates your patience as we work to improve the quality of drinking water we will provide to the residents and businesses of Boston.

If you have any questions, contact BWSC's Night Operations Manager at (617) 989-7000 or visit our website @ www.bwsc.org.

# Wu announces new green building code

# First up for retrofits is Honan Apartments in Allston

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Boston Mayor Michelle Wu and several city officials came out to the Brian Honan Apartments on Everett Street in Allston to announce the adoption of new green building codes and the allotment of \$10 million to retrofit buildings to reach those codes.

Wu filed an ordinance with the Boston City Council on Monday to adopt the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources' Municipal Opt-in Specialization Stretch Energy Code that governs new building construction. The announcement came along with a new grant program, named the Large Building Green Energy Retrofits Program, with \$10 million available for building owners to use to bring existing buildings up to code. Wu said the grant program would give each awardee a maximum of \$50,000 per housing unit to update their buildings to help reduce energy usage, which could see at least 200 units updated across the city for income-restricted affordable units.

"We want to make the opportunity available throughout the city and then we'll start to score the projects," said Chief of Housing Sheila Dillon. "We want to learn from this program, what worked what didn't, and then scale the program up in the years to come."

Allston Brighton Community Development Corporation (ABCDC) Executive Director John Woods said for the Honan Apartments, they will be doing extensive exterior work with the funds.

"Specifically here, we're going to be taking the skin off the building and adding some additional insulation," he said. "We're upgrading and modernizing the mechanical systems here as well to maximize the energy efficiency of the building. We're hoping to start construction in mid year of 2024. We've got some other money we need to get, but this has really started to snowball and we're really excited for it."

Wu, and in fact virtually all the speakers at the event, pointed out that 70 percent of the city's emissions are from the city's buildings, and that these new regulations, if approved, would help

> Building Code Continued on page 10

# 155 N. Beacon continued from page 3

development overall in Allston and Brighton has been slowing down recently and life science buildings at least appear to be gaining momentum, though Carragee did say that his comment was more appropriate for the BPDA than IQHQ.

"I've said this at other meetings and I know the BPDA has reflected on this and considered it, that is, if there are too many lab-only projects in Allston and Brighton, I think that harms the neighborhood severely," he said. "I think that brings enormous numbers of employees to the sites, which is a good thing in certain ways and creates jobs, I get that. But if we don't have housing adjacent to or on the sites – including affordable housing - it's not a good precedent for development in the neighborhood. We want to have the creation of large numbers of jobs with enough housing adjacent to it so people can walk or bike to work. This project doesn't advance that."

BPDA Project Manager Caitlin Coppinger said she heard Carragee's comments and would bring them back to BPDA leadership. Carragee also advocated for fewer parking spaces at the site and added he'd like to see IQHQ provide MBTA passes to its employees so car travel is discouraged.

Charlesview Executive Director Jo-Ann Barbour also spoke during the meeting and said she had a few problems with how the development team presented its community benefits.

IQHQ Director of Development Kim Thai went over the proposed community ben-

efits during the meeting, which included the permanent gift to the City of Boston of a new music rehearsal space, the construction of a new STEAM programming lab at the Brighton High School, increasing setbacks from the property line (a rarity in the area) allowing for larger sidewalks, and the activation of the public realm with first floor retail. Thai also said a community benefit was directing linkage funds to the Boston Housing Authority's Fanueil Gardens project in the neighborhood.

Barbour helps to run the affordable housing complex at Charlesview, and asked that IQHQ not include linkage payments in its community benefits package, since it looks like IQHQ is doing something above what is required.

"I just want to be clear that linkage is a requirement, and should not be double counted as a community benefit in this process," she said. "That seems to be something many developers are doing and something I think people should be aware of."

"We appreciate that comment and we know that obviously linkage is a requirement for all Article 80 projects, we just wanted to note that we wanted that affordable housing linkage to stay in Allston Brighton," Thai said. "We know that those linkage funds go into the Community Housing Trust and that could fund projects anywhere in the City of Boston and we did want to acknowledge that we're making an effort to make sure that

money stays in the neighborhood."

The fund for linkage payments is actually called the Neighborhood Housing Trust Fund. Thai did not elaborate on how much of an impact IQHQ's advocacy could be expected to have on the trust's board members.

Allston has the third-lowest number of linkage-created units as of 2021, with 64. Brighton in that same year had 338, with the North End coming in at 23. The highest number of linkage-created, income-restricted housing units was Roxbury with 2,814. So Allston, at least, is definitely on the low end when it comes to linkage units.

Resident Barbara Parmenter asked if the BPDA and IQHQ could better organize the Supplemental Filing that was the basis for the meeting. She said with the lack of a table of contents and page numbers on the document, it was very difficult to find in the 300-plus-page document where any of the proposed changes to the project from the November 2022 meeting were. Thai and Coppinger said they would look into it, and Thai added that the major change for the project was the PDA and the change of zoning through an overlay dis-

The next meeting for this project is scheduled for April 3 for an Impact Advisory Group (IAG) meeting at 6 p.m. The PDA comment period is set to end on April 7. For more information and/or to leave a comment, go to the BPDA's project page at https://bit.ly/3FS8NyY

# Prayer to the Blessed Virgin (Never known to fail!)

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

# Miracle Prayer

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

—*V.C.* 

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# Novena to St. Clare

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

—*V.C.* 



Worship services every Sunday at 10:00 am. All are welcome.

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# **DEATHS**

#### **CARR**

Ronald S. of Hyde Park, passed peacefully in his home surrounded by his loving family on March 22, at the age 87. Beloved husband of the late Maureen (Gleason). Son of the late Lawrence C. Carr and Helen (Sulinski) and his late step-mother, Jeanette Carr. Father of Robert and his wife, Miriam of Readville, Richard and his wife, Melanie of Manchester, NH, Lawrence and his partrner, Elaine Scaparatti of Hyde Park, Jeanne Moynihan and her late husband, Stephen of Norwood, John and his wife, Lisa of Dedham, James and his partner, Carol DeGiacomo of Walpole, and the late Baby Ronnie. Brother of the late Lorraine Wilder and her husband, Arthur, Robert Carr and his wife, Cecelia, and Thelma Carr. Loving "Papa" of Christina, Jennifer, Amanda, Catherine, Ryan, Alyson, Chloe, Michael, Ariana, Brandon, and Matthew. Also survived by five great-grandchildren and many nieces, nephews, in-laws, and friends. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at Most Precious Blood Church, Hyde Park, MA. Interment at Fairview Cemetery, Hyde Park. "Ronnie was a dedicated and long-time Local 4 IUEC worker for over 51 years.

#### **GRAY**

Robert J. (Bob) Roslindale, MA, passed away on March 6, 2023, at the age of 95, surrounded by family. Born in Poznan, Poland, July 8, 1927, Bob's given was name Romuald Wladyslaw Wincente Kaczmarek. He lived primarily in Poznan and



the port city of Gdynia. He survived the Nazi and Soviet occupations of Poland and in 1947 escaped from the Soviet regime by hiding on a boat going to Sweden. He then joined his mother, who was in London, and in 1948 they both immigrated to the U.S. He often remarked on how incredible it was to see the Statue of Liberty when they first arrived in New York Harbor. He lived in New York City and Miami, FL, before serving in the U.S. Army during the Korean War from 1950 to 1952. He was trained to drive

tanks but served stateside, primarily as an illustrator of army instruction manuals. In 1953, he became a U.S. citizen and changed his name to Robert John Gray. Hired that same year by Bell Telephone Laboratories, Bob went on to work for 33 years as an illustrator for Bell Labs in New York and New Jersey, where he created artist renderings of engineering plans, primarily for the Transatlantic Cable division. For over 80 years, Bob dedicated his life to being a fine artist in the realist tradition. His works include drawings, sculpture, and paintings in watercolor, egg tempera, and oils. He had a lifelong, passionate interest in the arts and was proud to still be able to paint, even with impaired vision, up to the age of 95. He attended art classes in New York, including a sculpture class at Columbia University, but was mainly self-taught as an artist. He most admired the Old Masters, especially Rembrandt. He studied their techniques and treatment of canvases, paints, and media. For much of his career, he stretched and primed his own canvases and mixed his own paints using colorful jars of pigments lining the shelves of his studio. Contemporary influences included Richard Schmid, David Leffel, and Pietro Annigoni, who once met with Bob to review his work. After retiring from Bell Labs in 1986, Bob enjoyed having more time to paint and focused mainly on oil portraits. He painted many portraits of doctors and nurses in New Jersey and the Boston area. He also painted seascapes and landscapes, as well as religious-themed paintings. He exhibited his work in galleries and shows in Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York. He received many blue ribbons in juried shows as well as the Bainbridge Award for watercolor painting from the Allied Artists of America in 1959. Bob married the love of his life, Suzanne Leavery, in 1956. They lived in Manhattan and enjoyed being part of the Greenwich Village art scene of the 1950's. They had one child, Lorraine, born in 1959. After Bell Labs built a new site in Holmdel, NJ, Bob was transferred there and, in 1964, the family moved to NJ, living first in Jackson, then Red Bank, and from 1973 on, in Ocean Grove. In 2006, Bob and Suzanne moved up to Boston to be near their daughter. In addition to fine art, Bob had many other creative pursuits. In the 1950's he invented and patented a navigational tool called Gray's Course Computer. He also purchased a 32foot, two-masted sailboat and spent many weekends completely restoring it. He fiberglassed the hull, replaced all the decking, sewed the sails, and restored the interior. During his youth in Poland, he had learned carpentry and woodworking and, later in life,

Deaths

Continued on page 12

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# Building Code continued from page 9

to reduce the city's greenhouse gas output.

"Here in Boston buildings are our biggest source of carbon emissions and pollution," she said. "This building code is simpler, and sets standards for both new construction and major renovations for existing buildings. It will increase energy efficiency, reduce emissions, and advance our overall climate goals. We are proud that Boston will be the largest community in the Commonwealth to adopt these new standards."

About 300 of the 351 Massachusetts municipalities currently have already adopted the stretch code. The city added in a press release that recent research from Built Environment Plus (https://bit.ly/42uPFki) shows there is little or no cost increase building efficient and fossil fuel-free multi-family housing.

Woods said he was excited to see the CDC as a recipient of the new grant program at the Honan Apartments.

"We all know the best time

to plant a tree was 20 years ago," he said. "Well, 20 years ago, we looked at this particular site, which was occupied by the Legal Seafoods Headquarters and processing plant. This was an industrial building, and at one point there was a lobster pound here with hundreds and hundreds of lobsters on their last few days on earth before they got sent to the restaurants. The place smelled bad, and often caused conflict with the nearby residents."

Woods said when they proposed to turn the place into a residential zone, there were many who thought they were not working on sound business practices.

"There were those who thought we had imbibed what was then an illegal substance," he said. "Anywhere along the development timeline we could have listened to those who said the plan doesn't make sense, but we planted this tree, and now, 20 years later, it has taken

He said the development

does need additional work to make sure it continues to grow.

"We need to preserve this housing and any affordable housing that exists to ensure the small victories we have realized in this ongoing effort to improve housing for the people of Allston and Brighton continue," he said.

District 9 City Councilor Liz Breadon said she supported the measure and pointed out that it is the residents who live in affordable housing are the ones who need reductions in their energy bills the most.

"They live on limited income and making some changes in their energy bills is going to be life-changing," she said. "I really applaud the work of the ABCDC, they're incredible partners here in Allston and Brighton, and we're constantly trying to figure out what else we can do here."

For more information on the new codes, the grant program and how to apply for funds, go to: https://bit.ly/ 3luKXlC

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# Lara Budget

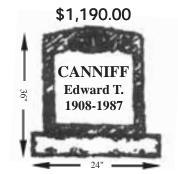
continued from page 7

related to my committees, and making more investments in senior housing, for West Roxbury specifically. Also, the people who want the senior center for West Roxbury have been organizing with my office for the last year and are vocal about seeing investments for the senior center."

Lara said they've also been asked for more funding for youth and children programming. She also said the next step for the West Roxbury Senior Center is a study, at a cost of \$100,000, to find a suitable location for such a building.

"This is a request I have made to the administration during the last budget cycle and it didn't get in and so we've been advocating for the \$100,000 for the last year," she said. "So fingers crossed, we are hoping in the next couple of weeks when we get the mayor's budget we will have the money for the study in the capital budget."

Lara said originally, last year's virtual forums were run by the city administration, but she said since those sessions are not happening this year, she felt it was on her office to host them.



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# **Artwalk returning to West Roxbury**

Jeff Sullivan

Staff Reporter

The West Roxbury Main Streets (WRMS) announced recently it will be bringing back the popular Artwalk event starting in May through June 4.

The idea is to connect businesses with artists by helping to drive more walk-in traffic to businesses with local art pieces and give more exposure and sales to local artists by providing them a place to show off their stuff. The pieces are usually shown either prominently in the businesses and/or their shop windows, giving business owners some extra eye candy for passersby.

WRMS Executive Director Jacob Robinson said the event was so well-received by residents and business owners alike that some shops still have their pieces on display from 2022.

"It was a really big hit last year and the artists really expressed positive energy in being able to showcase their work in a highly-visible way in the community," he said. "The businesses really felt like it helped drive foot traffic. Several of the businesses still have artwork up from last year's Artwalk. They just decided with the artist that it livened up the space. I thought that was surprising over the last week when we were reaching out to business to find out there's still Artwalk artwork in several locations in the district."

Robinson said with the applications they have already, either from artists looking to submit pieces or businesses looking to provide space, it's going



From left to right: WRMS Director Jacob Robinson, Lisa Mariotti, Joyce Ozer, Brian Trabish, Elizabeth Hoensched and Mary Ellen.

COURTESY PHOTO

to be a bigger event than last year.

"Last year, we had 25 local businesses displaying artwork and we had over 30 local artists participating," he said. "It is open to all skill levels, and so last year we had a mix of professional and amateur artists and we expect the same this year. We're still signing up artists and businesses. It's open to any ground-floor business that has visible windows from the sidewalk. We already have a bunch signed up and they include Ashmont Cleaners, Adi's Bike World, Elie's Barbershop, Nails Max, Pretty Moon and Centerpiece Flowershop."

Robinson said he's seen firsthand the connection the art helps to bring between the artist community and the business community.

"The idea is to support the arts and the local economy," he said. "To me, it's great to see so many different forms of art in the neighborhood, from abstract

painting to photography and fine art and watercolors. I think that's what makes it so special, in that you see so many different types of art represented."

Robinson added that all types of media are accepted for this display.

To submit your art or sign up your business for the walk, go to https://www.wrms.org/artwalk before April 10, which is the deadline to submit. Anyone who needs help with their application can email Robinson directly at Info@WRMS.org or call during regular business hours at 617-325-6400. The event is organized by the WRMS Marketing and Events Committee volunteers.

Robinson added that it is not a requirement for an artist or business owner for that matter to be a West Roxbury resident (though business owners do need to have locations in the WRMS district [Centre Street and Spring Street] to participate).

# Deaths continued from page 10

made several pieces of furniture and elaborate screen carvings. He also made silver jewelry. He loved photography and his cameras, classical music and jazz, good food especially chocolate, and all genres of film. Raised as a Roman Catholic in Poland, Bob later converted to Vedantism in the 1950's. He was philosophically minded, driven to create, and an incredibly compassionate and loving man. He will be deeply missed. Bob is survived by his daughter, Lorraine L. Gray, and her partner Mary Abigail Peck, of Roslindale; his nieces, Deborah Cook, Susan De Simone, Dorian Hodge, and their families; and dear friends in NJ, PA, and MA. He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Suzanne E. Gray (Leavery), his mother Melania Stanika, and his father Wincenty Kaczmarek. A private service was held by the family at Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, MA, on March 11, 2023. Donations may be made in Bob's memory to The Tibet Fund. Arrangements by P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, West Roxbury.

## LANG

John P. Sr. of West Roxbury, March 24, 2023. Beloved husband of the late Ruth Marjorie (Lahey). Loving father of Charles H. Lang of West Roxbury, Lisa Corbett and her husband, Thomas of Mansfield, and the late John P. Lang, Jr. Devoted grampy of Tracy, Rachael, Mark, Christina, Brendan, Ryan, Zachary, and Conor. Proud great-grampy of nine great-grandchildren. Highly decorated WWII veteran. Former Plumbing Inspector for the City of Boston. Funeral from the William J. Gormley Funeral Home, 2055 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery. For directions and guestbook, www.gormleyfuneral.com William J. Gormley Funeral Service 617-323-8600.

#### O'TOOLE



Mary A. (Hanlon), longtime resident of West Roxbury, formerly of Lawrencetown Ballinasloe, Co. Galway, Ireland, passed away

March 22, 2023. Beloved wife of the late Edward J. O'Toole. Devoted mother of Mary A. Piva and her husband Paul, Patrick J. O'Toole and his wife Christine, Edward F. O'Toole, James M. O'Toole and his wife Mary, and Catherine A. O'Toole, all of West Roxbury. Loving grandmother of Olivia, Evelyn, Timothy, Patrick, Edward, Mary, and Michael. Dear sister of Bartholemew "Bertie" Hanlon of Ireland, and Patrick Hanlon of Watertown, and the late Nora Horan, Theresa O'Hanlon. Eileen Lahiff, Thomas, Richard, and Michael Hanlon. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Funeral from the P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home 2000 Centre St. West Roxbury. Interment Mt. Benedict Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may be made in Mary's memory to Station of the Cross, 6325 Sheridan Dr. Williamsville, NY., 14221. Arrangements by P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, West Roxbury.



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

# Widow Stung by Social Security's "Claw Back" Rule

Dear Rusty: My husband of 48 years died on December 30th, and he received a Social Security direct deposit for December's benefits in early January, but Social Security demanded the bank return his December payment. I used part of his December benefits to pay for household expenses, so his bank account was overdrawn after his bank paid back his Social Security for the December benefit. My questions are:

- 1. Is it legal for Social Security to demand a return of his benefits because he died one day prior to 1/1/2023? That just seems so wrong to me!
- 2. Am I legally responsible for the overdrawn amount his bank repaid to Social Security? I was not notified by Social Security or his bank before "the deed was done".
- 3. Aren't there Social Security spousal benefits available for the surviving spouse, and how do I apply for them? (Form #, please)

My husband medically retired early, and his Social Security benefits were always lower than mine, but I fear that my benefits may be affected by his death. Is that true? *Signed:* Grieving Widow, Feeling Wronged

#### Dear Grieving Widow:

Please accept our sincere your condolences on husband's passing. Unfortunately, I don't have good news for you about his December benefit payment. Social Security pays benefits in the month following the month they are earned, and the recipient must live the entire month to be eligible for that month's benefit. Even though your husband lived until almost the end of the month, Social Security's rule says that he must live the entire month to be eligible for December benefits; thus, they



Russell Gloor AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

took back (often referred to as "Clawed Back") the December benefits paid in January.

So, is all of this legal? Yes, I'm afraid it is. From what you've shared Social Security took back the money they are legally entitled to, so you have no further obligation to Social Security. The bank had no choice but to return your husband's December Social Security payment – they were legally obligated to do so. Thus, your obligation to resolve your husband's overdrawn bank account resulting from the bank fulfilling its legal obligation to Social Security still remains.

As for any spousal or survivor benefits you might be entitled to – you say your husband's Social Security payment was less than yours, which means you weren't getting a spousal benefit and cannot get a surviving spouse benefit as a widow (you can only get your benefit or his, whichever is higher). You will, however, be eligible for a one-time lump sum death benefit of \$255. I know it's not much, but you're entitled to it and should claim it. And, from what you've described - that your monthly Social Security amount is more than your husband's - your own benefit will not be negatively affected by any of

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# Kilmer School students continued from page 2

ergy set a perfect stage for what was next to come.

Math teacher Stephen Mook took to his presentation, to discuss the 2022 Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) exams in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. The exams were taken last fall and results had just been received by the school but not yet released to students or parents. The good news was that for ELA Grades 4-8, Kilmer is right on track at 42 percent (MA is 41 percent), for Math Grades 4-8, Kilmer is at 48 percent (MA is 39 percent).

The statistics for Student Growth Percentiles (SGPs) were even more impressive. SGPs measure the degree to which a student's achievement has changed from the prior year(s) to the current year, in comparison to other students in the same grade who performed similarly in the past. Kilmer's 2022 Math Grades 4-8 have a SGP of 65 percent, which is third in the district. The Meets or Exceeds is at 48 percent, which is seventh in the district.

Drilling down further is Kilmer's SGP for 6th grade Math results at 69 percent,



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Students who had perfect scores in either English or math. From left to right: L to R: Ethan Ocwieja (grade 8), Steve Mook (Middle School Math), Finn Dore (grade 8), Daniel Hametaj (grade 8), Mary Gerber (Paraprofessional Grade 3), Cassidy Bryant (grade 4), Kelly Kopcso (Grade 3 Teacher), Joe Foley (Principal). Not pictured, Hana Kaneko (grade 8).

PHOTO BY SUSAN KRYCZKA

fourth in the district. The Meets or Exceeds is 49 percent. The SPG for 7th grade Math is at 75 percent, first in the district. The Meets or Exceeds is 61 percent, second only to Boston Latin School.

The students being celebrated at the dinner all received Exceeds level on the ELA or Math MCAS or both. Five students received a perfect score of 560 on the ELA or Math MCAS or both.

Congratulations were offered to the students and parents who were understandably surprised, excited, and proud of these achievements.

Mook reflected on this group of students in light of the last few years when in-

struction was hindered due to the COVID pandemic.

"I have taught many of our current 8th grade students for the last three years, and I am truly grateful to have taught these students. They are a special group of simply amazing young men and women." He added, "I still remember working from my garage during remote learning and even then, those students were coming to Zooms, doing the work, and learning despite the challenges we all faced. Seeing their hard work in class over the years, I am not surprised at their success, but it does fill me with a great sense of pride."



Letter To The Editor



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



# Thank You Novenas

For Favors or Prayers Answered

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin (Never Innoven to fail!)

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

#### St. Jude's Novena

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

In gratitude for helping me.

# Miracle Prayer

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

-DJ.

All Prayers: \$22 (1 column x 3 inches)

Call 617-361-8400 to place your prayer in the Bulletin or order online at www.bulletinnewspapers.com

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**Suffolk Division** 

Docket No.SU15P0556EA

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

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

Estate of: Dorothy Beers Also known as: Dorothy Sands Beers Date of Death: 01/29/2015

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by: Deborah Yardley Beers-Jones of Lexington, MA

requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/02/2023.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court Date: March 27, 2023

Vincent Procopio, Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin: March 30, 2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

#### CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. SU23P0637EA

Estate of: Rosemary Eileen Wheaton Also known as: Rosemary Wheaton Date of Death: 01/31/2023

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

617-788-8300

To all interested persons:

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

#### Kelly Wheaton of Brighton, MA

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Kelly Wheaton of Brighton, MA

be appointed as **Personal** Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **05/03/2023**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

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

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

Date: March 22, 2023

Vincent Procopio,, Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin 03/30/2023

The Trial Court Probate and Family Court CITATION ON PETITION FOR

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

#### FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. SU23P0617EA

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

Estate of: Carolynn E. Jones Date of Death: 02/07/2023

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal **Adjudication** of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been

#### Harvey A. Jones of The Villages, FL

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Jonathan M. Sprin, Esq. of Waltham, MA

be appointed as **Personal** Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **04/17/2023**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

#### UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE

#### MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: March 20, 2023

Vincent Procopio, Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin 03/30/2023

# Legals

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Department SUFFOLK Division Docket No. SU22D1151DR

> DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING Ana Maritza Gomez Gonzalez vs. John Anthony Gleeson

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

To the Defendant:

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

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

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

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Ana Maritza Gomez Gonzalez, 534 Georgetown Drive, Hyde Park, MA 02136 your answer, if any, on or before 04/20/2023. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

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

Date: March 21, 2023

Vincent Procopio, Register of Probate Hyde Park Bulletin: 03/30/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

#### CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. SU23P0641EA

Estate of: Peter J. Primes Also known as: Peter John Primes Date of Death: 09/20/2022

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

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Estelle Crowley of Hanson, MA

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Estelle Crowley of Hanson, MA

be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 A.M on the return day of 05/03/2023. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: March 22 2023

Vincent Procopio, Register of Probate

Hyde Park Bulletin: 03/30/23

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Department

#### CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A **GUARDIAN**

Docket No.SU14P2521GD

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

In the interests of: Sheila Auguste RESPONDENT Of: West Roxbury, MA (Incapacitated Person/Protected

To The named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by

#### West Roxbury Health & Rehabilitation of West Roxbury, MA

In the above captioned matter requesting that the court

Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00A.M. on the return date of **04/13/2023**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The abovenamed person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

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

Date: March 22, 2023

Vincent Procopio, Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin:

# Classifieds

**REAL ESTATE Triple** Decker in Roslindale 6,1 bedroom apts, front and rear porches. Ideal investment or owner occupant. By owners

# JP flexing

\$2,200,000 617-327-2900

continued from page 8

"The ZBA approved the height removal," Goodman said. "This is the final meeting so we can get our building per-

BPDA project manager Eboni Da Rosa turned the meeting over for questions.

After a long silence two callers made supportive statements, including State Representative Samantha Montano who said she would send in a support letter.

Da Rosa closed the meeting after 10 minutes.

"This has got to be the shortest meeting in BPDA history,"

Goodman told The Bulletin in November 2022 that the lawsuit increased the development cost from \$16 million to \$18.5 million.

After the meeting Goodman said, "Construction costs have risen 50 percent. And interest rates have doubled so we're building less building for more money.

"We go to the BPDA board in April for approval of the Notice of Project Change," he said. "Then we can apply for a demo permit and complete construction drawings for the building permit."

#### **Notice of Self Storage Sale**

Please take notice Prime Storage - Hyde Park located at 1641 Hyde Park Ave., Hyde Park, MA 02136 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www. storagetreasures.com on 4/12/2023 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. John Mongo unit #1039 contents: Tires, Car parts; Eze Chika unit #1054; Eddie Kotee unit #1090; Monica Cannon/ Violence in Boston inc. unit #1108; James Cofield Jr. unit #21035. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

> Hyde Park Bulletin: 03/23/23, 03/30/23



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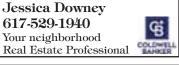
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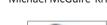




























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