

WEST ROXBURY ~ ROSLINDALE BULLETIN

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Roslindale Ace Hardware Owner Joseph Portelecki played accompaniment to singers from the Boston Opera Collaborative on Friday. For the full story, go to Page 12.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL E. KERPAN

Wash and Grove tree lighting delights hundreds



Dozens of children, residents, and District 6 City Councilor Matt O'Malley (left) gathered for the annual Washington and Grove Street Christmas Tree Lighting on Sunday. The day was overcast but West Roxbury residents didn't seem to care about the weather and celebrated just the same.

COURTESY PHOTO



Lisa Beatman, left, and Rick Yoder, right, celebrated 40 years of the Mount Hope Canterbury Neighborhood Association last week.

PHOTO BY MARY ELLEN GAMBON

MHC celebrates victories and holidays at monthly meeting

Mary Ellen Gambon
Staff Reporter

The Mount Hope Canterbury Neighborhood Association (MHC) celebrated its fourth decade of uniting a diverse community by discussing several victories on key development projects and hosting a holiday party at its meeting on Thurs., Dec. 12 at the Home for Little Wanderers at

780 American Legion Hwy.

Frank O'Brien of the Friends of Allandale Woods spoke about the recent defeat of the proposed development of four two-unit duplexes at 38 Stella Rd. at the Zoning Board of Appeal. The project was concerning because of its impact on the environment, residents' quality of life and overall suitability for that area. Both the Friends and MHC opposed the project.

"In the City's system, the land is designated as unusable," O'Brien explained of the quarter-acre site, which is fronted by homes on American Legion Hwy. "In addition, it's on the Stony Brook floodplain, so, like a lot of homes in this area, it's subject to floods."

Another issue is that the

MHC

Continued on page 11



McCarthy, right, and State Sen. Michael Rush at Monday night's bash at Bacaro's in Hyde Park.

COURTESY PHOTO

McCarthy says goodbye for now

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

About 60 people crammed into Bacaro's in Hyde Park on Monday night to wish outgoing District 5 City Councilor Tim McCarthy well on his way after his last Boston City Council meeting last Wednesday.

McCarthy said he felt blessed and honored at the party's turn-

out, which included friends from as far back as middle school and several elected officials.

"It's unbelievable," he said. "The best part about a party like this is there are people here from Neighborhood Services, there are people from when I was in the Parks, there are people from when I was in Public Works,

McCarthy

Continued on page 6

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Local Artist brings Nantucket Landscape to West Roxbury

Amanda Webster
Staff Reporter

For many people, two hours would not be enough time to paint an entire landscape scene; for Michael Moore it is enough time to finish two pieces of art all while chatting with an observing audience.

The West Roxbury Arts Association met at the West Roxbury Library on Monday evening, where members were able to enjoy an oil painting demonstration from Moore, an artist currently living in Dedham.

Moore's work can be seen at the Motherbrook Arts and Community Center in Dedham, the same studio that he works in.

"It's critical to have a place to paint," he said.

The first scene he paints is done incredibly fast, so much so that at first his rapid brush strokes may seem haphazard from onlookers, but within 10 minutes a tree blooms to life on the canvas and the scene is complete.

While he works, he fields questions from the audience



Local artist Michael Moore shows off his technique for the West Roxbury Art Association on Monday.

PHOTO BY AMANDA WEBSTER

about his art and lifestyle. When asked if he paints every day, Moore said that if he is able to he does.

"If I had my way I would be painting every day," he said.

A husband and father of two boys, Moore said that on certain days his other re-

sponsibilities can take precedence over his time to paint. If you were to look closely at his work, you would notice that there are often two, small people painted onto the canvas; these figures represent his two children.

Arts Association
Continued on page 10

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A brush with judgment

As the father of four daughters, I have antennae that are consistently attuned to gender inequality. They are so sensitive that I frequently compliment speakers who mention “sisters and brothers” in that sequence, violating the usual sequence of “brothers” first.

Recently at a very politically correct venue featuring Christmas music, the orchestra leader introduced the next carol as “God Bless the Master of This House.” There are two versions of this song: the short one, which was played the night in mention, and the longer one, which goes for a number of verses detailing the crucifixion.

The carol, with words spread on garlands in the middle of the last century, is said to be midway between a wassail (which I always thought to be merely an apple-cider-based drink but also actually includes singing) and a hymn.

After the orchestral leader introduced the song, I sort of tuned out, wondering why in such a venue would he have the chorale and orchestra play such a seemingly chauvinistic carol.

One of the popular songs in “Les Miserables” also references the master of house, but the setting is in 19th-century France when women were subjugated to their husbands. The catchy, humorous song from Victor Hugo’s play as sung by Monsieur Thenardier continually touts the egotistical husband as the supreme monarch when not cavalierly referencing the name of the Creator without regard for the Second Commandment.

Ahh, but the Christmas carol in discussion here, first heard by me ever so recently, with merely two verses is no chauvinistic song: its second line shows why.

*God bless the master of this house,
The mistress also,
And all the little children
That round the table go:*

*And all your kin and kinsfolk,
That dwell both far and near;
I wish you a Merry Christmas,
And a happy New Year.*



My Kind
of Town/
Joe Galeota

I TAKE EXCEPTION TO YOUR EXCEPTION

To the Editor:

I find your level of unrest with the current decision made by the WRCIA very divisive in nature. One of the only things that was stated in your letter that I can say is factual is that the two potential locations will be closer to your neighborhood association than mine. However, West Roxbury is West Roxbury. And, while I understand and empathize with your concern - because I have my own concerns about things close to my home, I also find that WRCIA still has a voice as it functions within West Roxbury.

As the new leadership of WRCIA, I have tried to look deeper into issues that have arisen prior to my appointment. This was one of them. At the meeting held with Finbarr in September, which you were present for, it felt very uncomfortable and forced that the WRCIA was telling a business they could not have our approval when many of the people at that meeting liked and approved of Finbarr. It was not a matter of disliking Beacon or throwing a wrench in the works, but a matter of hearing all sides. Per my understanding, Beacon came before the community groups in 2017: they then tried to change to recreational after being told they could be medicinal only. They have visited other cities in close proximity such as Framingham with plans to go recreational, and they said to Matt O’Malley in a recent letter that they would be, “Medical Only,” however,

“if that approval would be proposed to change, a re-engagement with the city would be necessary.” These words, straight from their letter do not scream medicinal only. I have no problem with recreational facilities, but I have a problem with a company coming into West Roxbury on the pretense of “medical only- always” simply to change once the surrounding community has grown comfortable with them.

WRCIA voted at the November meeting 20-0 that we were not comfortable standing by our almost 3-year-old letter of non-opposition in light of these events. West Roxbury, rather Ward 20, did actually vote in favor of medical and recreational marijuana in both the 2012 and 2016 elections respectively. I take exception to the twisting of facts to support opinion. In light of the controversy, WRCIA will be holding a meeting February 10, 2020 with a board of people who have actually had shops

open in their towns, members of the marijuana community, and any of the companies or community groups that would like to attend. Our goal is to give members of this community a bigger picture: one that is transparent, cohesive, and easy to understand. I would like to extend this letter as an invitation to anyone who would like to join the conversation- we are always happy to listen. I live in West Roxbury with my husband and five children and I participate in the WRCIA because I am concerned with and committed to my community. This is a volunteer position but I take it upon myself to do my best and I feel that is done by listening. As previously stated, we would love to listen- so feel free to drop into any of our meetings and hear what we have to say or speak your mind.

*Larissa Castro
WRCIA President*

PASSING TRUST ACT VIOLATES OATH

To the Editor:

Once again Mayor Walsh and his rubber stamp city council prove that they do not serve the law-abiding citizens, and legal immigrants of Boston. They recently expanded the unconstitutional Trust Act passed in 2014 which basically made Boston a sanctuary city for illegal aliens. Walsh and the city council took an oath to defend the U.S. Constitution. The federal laws concerning immigration were made in pursuance of the Constitution. By passing the Trust Act, not only did they violate their oath but made Boston welcoming to illegal aliens criminals.

*Hal Shurtleff
West Roxbury*

SUPPORTING TRUST ACT IS COMMENDABLE

To the Editor:

We commend the Boston City Council for passing an Ordinance to strengthen the Trust Act. The Trust Act will help to clarify that Boston police are responsible for local law enforcement - to serve and protect, and not federal immigration enforcement.

When our local police take on the role of federal immigration enforcement, they lose the trust necessary for people to report crimes, offer testimony, and seek help for themselves or their family members and neighbors. If immigrants trust that they can safely contact the police when they need help, particularly in domestic violence situations, this will make the City of Boston safer for all of us.

We thank the Council and Mayor Walsh for their work to re-visit and improve this policy, and for their public commitment to supporting it.

However City policy is not enough. We believe that state-wide protections are needed.

We ask that all of our State Representatives and State Senators support the Safe Communities Act (S.1401 and H.3573) and ask that they make passage of this bill a priority in the current legislative session.

Among many reasons for supporting this legislation – not least, to insure that all people in our Commonwealth, consistent with our state constitution, have due process and civil rights protections, regardless of their immigration status – we are most concerned that without these protections, children from immigrant families will continue to live in constant fear of being suddenly separated from their parents. Stepped up federal deportation efforts are the cause; we here in Massachusetts should not be complicit. Protecting and supporting our immigrant neighbors makes all of our communities safer, and stronger.

*The Progressive West
Roxbury/Roslindale Steering
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*Laura Dowd, Roslindale,
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ROAD DIET DOESN'T PROVIDE ENOUGH BENEFIT

To the Editor:

As someone who recently moved back to Roslindale, I am very well aware of Centre Street and the business district between Holy Name and St. Theresa’s churches. I worry about all that data -driven that pedestrian-focused safety solution to the status quo along Centre Street.

I have heard both sides of this argument and attended that November 9 meeting by the West Roxbury Safety Association at the Irish Social Club attended by nearly 400 residents.

I have nothing against bike lanes for bicyclists. However, we do know that mini-motorized bikes and scooters will also be using these bike lanes caus-

Letters

Continued on page 14

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



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McCarthy *continued from page*

from when I was a councilor and even before that. There are people I played football with and people who don't even live in the city anymore and came back."

McCarthy spoke about his friend PJ Terranova, now a member of the Riverside Theater Works and an old, old friend.

"PJ and I grew up together and I knew his sister and the instant I'm not a city councilor anymore I'm going to be on the Riverside Theater Works Board," he said. "I'm looking forward to it and focusing on the things I really want to focus on now. You know, the city council is always skimming the top, you can't really be an expert in anything, you've got to know a little bit of everything and you've got to be a jack of all trades. But now I can focus really on what I like to do and maybe sit back and perhaps coach some football. Who knows. But I'm excited; I'm ready for the next thing."

Terranova said he knew McCarthy was destined for public service even back in grammar school.

"I grew up about three blocks from his house," he said. "He was the same as he is now. I always knew he would be in politics; he was very smart, driven, dedicated, family-oriented. He has not changed, he's just aged."

McCarthy said for his part he's looking forward to a small amount of downtime.

"I haven't locked down a job yet for January, but I'm still putting my feelers out and I have a couple of irons in the fire, as they say," he said.

McCarthy's Chief of Staff Lee Blasi, who worked for former City Councilor Robert Consalvo, said both of them showed incredible integrity during her time with them.

"It's been amazing and it's been an honor," she said. "Tim is honest, genuine and compassionate. I come from a generation where we value respect and hard work. Tim's that guy; he has a love of this city and his community."

Resident and former Boston Police Department Superintendent Lisa Holmes said she first met McCarthy at Curry College where they were both working toward degrees as adults. She said it was great having a confidant because when work butted into their busy class schedules they were able to cover for each other.

"We stayed very close and helped each other out. He helped me out at the police department and I did whatever I could for him within the neighborhood and District 5," she

said. "For the last five years I was over at the Boston Police Training Academy and with all those community meetings, I made sure they had what they needed on the first days of work and stuff, and we've just been good friends for years."

McCarthy said at his last Council meeting on Wednesday that he's been working in the city at the Department of Public Works, Parks and Recreation and Department of Neighborhood Services.

"I've been here for 27 years, so it's been good stretch," he said. "It's not a wake, I'm not leaving forever. I'll still be active in the community and I hope that the person who fills in my seat will be ready, I'll be very active in my community."

McCarthy also thanked his staff, who have been with him since he was elected to office six years ago.

"It's amazing when you get the new staff updates, my staff never changed," he said. "Twenty-seven years, it's been a good stretch. I started in August of 1992. So yeah, it's bizarre when you hear earlier Councilor (Andrea) Campbell had someone up there who has been working for 30 years, I'm like 'wow, that's a long time,' and it dawned on me that, 'whoah, that's me.'"

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Gloria Rice Stuart



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SWBCDC focusing on piecemeal housing

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Southwest Boston Community Development Corporation (SWBCDC) met on Tuesday for its annual meeting.

The meeting was designed to get everyone together to celebrate the group's recent accomplishments and look to the future. Executive Direct Jean DuBois said while they are very proud of the Residences at Fairmount Building, the more than 10 years it took to finance the build left a lot of people out of the process. She said for that reason, they're looking at purchasing homes – triple deckers at this point – and keeping residences where they live to keep the housing in the area affordable.

"Here's the cheaper, faster way," she said. "We now have \$8 million, \$5 million from the Boston Property Casualty Initiative, which is basically an insurance pool, and \$3 million from the City of Boston to buy these kinds of houses. The city gives us about \$100,000 for each apartment."

DuBois said they have secured housing for 13 families by the end of the year and are looking to keep 30 more in their homes in the coming months. She said the original model for this was the apartments they keep now at 875-889 American Legion. She said there were some

bumps along the way, as they and the City assumed the costs would be lower and did not allocate enough funding to keep those residences solvent at first, but the model is working now and they are looking to expand it in the neighborhoods they currently serve and then possibly into Jamaica Plain.

They've been able to purchase three apartments at 17 Lexington St., six units at 63 Westminster St. and four units at 144 Arlington St. She said the apartments had 63 Westminster actually came with something extra.

"They had two illegal extra units in the back, so we can't use those," DuBois said. "The Mayo Group owned this house before buying it during the last recession."

DuBois then brought up a discussion the group has been having with residents from the Woodbourne Community Group in Jamaica Plain regarding a proposed development at 15 Catherine St., which is on the Jamaica Plain Roslindale line. Woodbourne representative Richard Friend said they've been fighting a battle with a developer who has proposed five townhouses at the site, which currently hosts a triple decker.

"It breaks every zoning law there is, unless you want to build a skyscraper there," he said. "These are all luxury apart-

ments, selling for probably over \$1 million each and other developers in our neighborhoods have been doing the same thing, tearing down affordable housing and putting these big luxury buildings up.

Assistant Director Patrica Alvarez went over the group's Green Initiative progress, and she said they have made great strides at specific areas like Sherrin Woods (new trail, flower meadow, the removal of tons of construction materials). She stressed that more advocacy is needed for helping to fund cleanups and staff for the city's Urban Wilds and Urban Wilds program.

"There is nothing in the City's budget to maintain these 35 Urban Wilds, and in the entire City there is one human being, Paul Sutton who is in charge of taking care of them," she said. "Without friends groups and groups like ours he can't possibly take care of all of them. We've got to advocate for more funding and more staff."


She added they are continuing the work with the SWBCDC Green Team and have been advocating for adding \$5 million to the city's budget for the purchase of woodlands not appropriate for development but still at risk of development. She said she wants the City to keep that land in conservation and in perpetuity.



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William P. Hogan of East Falmouth, MA

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William P. Hogan of East Falmouth, MA

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

Date: December 11, 2019

Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 12/19/2019

Around the Neighborhood

CITY

UPCOMING EVENTS AT
FRANKLIN PARK ZOO

School Vacation Week
(December 26 – January 4) is approaching and what better way to spend it than at Franklin Park Zoo

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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: January 23rd through February 27th, 2020. For more information or to register contact Ann Glora at 617-477-6616 or aglor@ethocare.org

Retired Public Servant Surprised by "WEP"

Dear Rusty: I turned 62 in October 2018. A few months prior to my birth month, I went on the Social Security website which said my estimated benefits would be between \$900-\$1000 at full retirement age and between \$600-\$700 at age 62. I receive a pension from a city government where I was a firefighter for almost 20 years where I did not pay Social Security tax on my income, but I have over 20 years invested in Social Security from other jobs. I expected the cut in benefits for retiring early (62), but I was totally caught off guard by my benefits being cut in half again because of the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). My city pension is about \$1700 monthly, and it's my understanding that WEP is not supposed to reduce my Social Security by more than half of my government pension. My current Social Security benefit is \$348 a month which is considerably less than half of my \$1700 pension. Am I missing something? Shouldn't I be getting \$600-\$700 in Social Security benefits? Signed: Retired Firefighter

Dear Retired Firefighter: WEP rules are complicated and you certainly aren't alone in your dismay over how WEP affects Social Security benefits for public servants in certain states which didn't participate in Social Security. I'll try to shed some light on what happened to your benefit amount.

The first thing you should know is that the estimates you received from Social Security before you claimed were just that – estimates. If you were working in SS-covered em-

ployment prior to getting the estimate, the amounts given assumed you would continue to work at your recent SS-covered earnings until your full retirement age. If you didn't, your full retirement age (FRA) benefit amount would be less than the amount quoted. The estimate given at that time didn't take WEP into account either. The WEP reduction takes place before the reduction for claiming early at age 62. WEP affects your "primary insurance amount" (PIA), which is the amount you're normally entitled to at your full retirement age from SS-covered work.

When you applied for Social Security your PIA was recomputed using a special WEP formula. Your PIA is based on your "average indexed monthly earnings" or "AIME", which is the monthly average of the highest earning 35 years over your lifetime in which you contributed to Social Security. Your PIA is determined by breaking your AIME into 3 parts (called "bend points"), multiplying those parts by a certain percentage for each part, and totaling up those three computations. When WEP applies, the first part of your AIME is multiplied by 40%, rather than the normal 90%, of the first \$895 of your AIME (this is the amount for your "eligibility year" 2018). So, the first part of your WEP AIME would contribute \$358 (instead of the normal \$805) to your PIA and, thus, to your FRA benefit amount – a reduction of \$447. (If you have more than 20 years of substantial earnings in SS-covered employment, the impact of WEP is lessened by about 5% for each year over 20). There is a maximum WEP reduction (\$447 for 2018) and there is also a



Russell Gloor
AMAC Certified Social
Security Advisor

rule which says your WEP reduction cannot be more than half of your non-covered pension amount. But since half of your city pension is more than \$447, that rule does not change the WEP reduction.

So, using your general numbers, if your FRA benefit (before WEP) was "\$900-\$1000", let's say that your normal PIA was about \$950. After the WEP reduction your WEP PIA would be about \$503, which is what you would get if you waited until your full retirement age to claim Social Security. By claiming at age 62, your benefit was reduced by about 27%, which would make your benefit about \$367/month. This isn't far from what you are now getting, considering that we're using only estimated numbers in these calculations. Remember, the SS rule doesn't say that your WEP reduced benefit amount can't be less than half of your non-covered pension amount. Instead it says that the WEP reduction to your PIA can't be more than that.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

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Arts Association *continued from page 3*

Moore said he enjoys working on multiple pieces at a time, that way if one painting is not turning out just the way he wants, he is able to step away and work on another piece, and then later return to the first painting with a fresh set of eyes.

The second, larger image he creates is a foggy scene that he captured while in Nantucket. He explained to the crowd that he had taken a picture of the landscape and had wanted to paint it for some

time. Although he references a photograph, he paints the scene from memory.

“You don’t have to paint what’s right there. I used to be so controlling, I had to paint everything just like I see it. Thank goodness I let that go,” he said.

He works quickly at first, outlining where the land meets the sky before carving out a path that will cut through the field. Once the landscape is outlined, his pace slows and he begins adding more detail.

“I love doing landscapes,” said Moore.

The canvas he paints on is made from wood and stained a light gray color, which he uses to enhance the vision of his piece.

“I chose this particular panel because of its grayness. This painting is going to have mist and fog,” he explained.

Moore learned to paint from an artist named Frank Mason. While Moore was living on a farm in Vermont, Mason would take his students from the Art Students League of New York City to the farm.

“I had been wanting to study

painting but I wasn’t ready yet. I woke up one morning and the farm was surrounded by artists and they were painting away like crazy and the teacher came along. The artist came to me, it was very serendipitous,” said Moore.

Moore said that he enrolled in Mason’s landscape class the following summer and traveled down to New York to study.

“All I know is that I’m just so happy to be able to paint,” said Moore. “I think, how much time do I have and I have so many paintings that I want to paint so I just have to keep doing it”.

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only access to the site is through a ten-foot-wide easement, which would “basically cut through people’s front yards.”

“With Mayor Walsh’s help and ONS, they withdrew the proposal at the Board of Appeal, because they could see the writing on the wall.”

After the withdrawal, the developer, Solmon Chowdhury, purchased the property from Clifford Janey for \$200,000.

O’Brien said that he is working with the developer and the Massachusetts Audubon Society, located in Mattapan, to work toward a resolution where the land can be preserved.

“They have a lot of experience managing open space sites,” he said, noting that the organization would help to clean up the site and design trails.

O’Brien said he believes he can work with the developer to preserve this environmental flood plain, for the benefit of the City and the neighborhood. It would also help the developer recoup some of his costs.

“We’re very hopeful, but I guess that’s one of our resolutions for 2020,” he said. “This land should not be built on.”

Another issue that ties into this project is the Local Wetlands Protection Ordinance, which was passed by the Boston City Council this week. It includes protections for urban wetlands and natural resource areas and requires new developments to require green infrastructure. Roslindale, Hyde Park and West

Roxbury have some of the highest concentrated areas of urban wetlands.

“It really adds to what we all can do to help make sure that wetland areas are not built over,” O’Brien said. “The support of Mount Hope Canterbury was really a big part of it. People usually associate natural resources with rich areas like Brookline and other suburbs, but we have Canterbury Brook right here.”

Resident Abner Bonilla also discussed a meeting with some MHC members, who were part of the Impact Advisory Group (IAG) on the proposed redevelopment of the Home for Little Wanderers Building at 780 American Legion Hwy. The proposal includes a mixed-use development with a behavioral and clinical health facility with 22 units of supported housing for youth who age out of the state foster care system.

The current 32,308 square-foot building would be demolished. In addition to the mixed-use development, there would be 93 units of market rate, workforce rental and townhouse condominium units constructed.

The offices for the Home for Little Wanderers and the Dimock Street Neighborhood Health Center would be replaced. The total project has a square gross floor area ratio (FAR) of 186,559 on almost 2.5 acres with parking for 133 vehicles.

One of the biggest concerns Bonilla raised was the impact of increased traffic, particularly by

the younger adults who are aging out of the foster care system.

“This is the second most dangerous road in the City of Boston,” he said. “You have two people die in West Roxbury, and they start talking about a road diet. But if you are going up the street, there are flowers and teddy bears going up there all the time. Our 18- and 19-year-old new drivers are on the biggest race-track here.”

The main concerns about the project are its size and its changing the character of the neighborhood.

“Eleven residents were able to speak to several different municipal employees, not only from the BPDA (Boston Planning and Development Agency), but also from transportation, design and Inspectional Services,” co-chair Lisa Beatman said. “We support opportunities for our neighborhood voices and concerns to be heard.”

Another discussion that arose was the disparity of resources that have been allocated to that area of Roslindale.

One example given by MHC co-chair Rick Yoder was in trying to get Parks Department funding three years ago to turn 12,000 square feet of City-owned land behind the Army building on Brook St. into a park.

“It’s hard to get resources for our area,” Yoder said. “It’s just hard”.

He said the City has concentrated its funding on reinvesting in parks and tot lots all over Boston, and noted the benefits of the “beautiful, imaginative structures.”

allocation in the budget to go toward the costs.

Beatman also passed around cards for the members to sign. One was a congratulations card to District City Councilor Andrea Campbell, who represents the area. The outgoing council president gave birth to a baby boy and returned to the Council a few days later to vote. The other card was for her deputy chief of staff, Caroline Kimball-Katz, the liaison who attended every MHC meeting and advocated for the group’s concerns. Dustin Gardiner will be representing Campbell in this role.

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Tony's Meat Market brings opera to neighborhood once again



Boston Opera Collaborative member Carley DeFranco entertains the crowd at Tony's Market in Roslindale.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL E. KERPAN

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Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Almost 100 people packed into Tony's Meat Market on Friday to hear the dulcet tones of opera and Christmas classics as part of the market's annual Christmas Pop-up Opera Night.

Owner Tony DeBenedictis has been putting the show on for almost 10 years now. He said he wanted to share his love of opera with the neighborhood, and with the help of the New England Opera Collaborative and local resident Fran Rogers, he has been able to open the opera to a wide Roslindale audience.

"People love it, we have good food and a lot of people come," he said. "A lot of people love opera. It was like a festival atmosphere here. We have the opera singers, we have (Ace Hardware owner) Joe Portelecki come and play the violin all night. WE have some food some wine and yeah."

DeBenedictis was born in 1939 in Pratola Serra in Italy and grew up during World War II. He said when the fighting was finally over, he heard his first love.

"Opera was the first music I heard in my life," he said. "In Italy they were feasting the town, when there was war there was no feast, but when the war was over there was a feast and they were playing Aida. I was fascinated. I

never heard music before, there was a war. And it was the first music I heard and it stuck with me."

DeBenedictis said he does it to give something back to the community that has been supporting him and his store since 1963.

"Two years ago we had 100 people and tonight we have more," he said. "Tonight I'm trying to give back to the community you know because they've been so good to me. Do you know any other business that's been here for this many years?"

DeBenedictis, now 80, added he believes there are several reasons for his own longevity.

"Let me put it this way, It's a combination of many things," he said. "I've been eating good food from Tony's Market for 56 years. And they say you are what you eat and I've been eating good food. But you know the future will tell you what the right decision was or was not. It's just like history, it's the same in your life. It's like I've been a ballroom dancer my whole life and that's the best exercise you can do. Physically and mentally, it makes you happy, that's the thing, exercise. And the good food, meat and pasta, and I have two glasses of cognac every night before dinner too."

Megan Biscelglia and Junhan

Choi performed during the night on behalf of the New England Opera Collaborative. Biscelglia said this was her first time performing at the market and felt it was a great space for it.

"It's just such a great opportunity to share our music with the community and what the Opera Collaborative does, performing music in unique spaces and this is just a great venue for us," she said. "We are doing the Marriage of Figaro Feb. 6 through 9 at the Longy School of Music in Cambridge."

Resident Swapnil Rajiwade said he came to see his wife, Biscelglia, perform, and said he doesn't usually miss a show.

"In this intimate types of spaces, I love them, I remember this cozy bookstore where she performed and honestly I just like to see the community come together to enjoy these performers," he said. "There's clearly an audience for it and it's just a great appreciation for the art. It's really warm and I really love it."

Resident Judith Merritt said this was her first time at the pop up but she definitely wants to come back next year.

"I saw it on Keep Roslindale Quirky (the Facebook group) and I live nearby so I just walked up here," she said. "I just love the idea of being able to walk to go see opera. I like most kinds of music, but I haven't seen it live before and I'm trying to get interested in opera. It's just wonderful, it's really really wonderful."

Resident Julian Braxton and Robert Bevilacqua said this was their first time too.

"Tony brought me out, I've known him a long time," Braxton said. "It's so unique and just look at this, opera on a Friday night and the place is full? It's amazing."

"He's been here for 56 years, and I come to buy all my meats and it's nice to support a local vendor and he has great quality," said Bevilacqua.

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BOGUE

Paul J. Ret. BPD Detective Age 88, of West Roxbury and Lauderdale by the Sea, formerly of Roxbury, MA. Passed away peacefully on December 11, 2019, after a courageous battle with cancer. Devoted husband of 66 years to Jean (Kelly) Bogue. Dear brother of Patricia Baikewicz of Newburyport, MA and the late Dorothy Crane, Catherine King, Helen Elworthy, John, Stephen, Jr. Francis, Ralph, Robert and George. Also survived by many caring nieces and nephews. Paul was a 38 year veteran of the Boston Police Dept., member of the Boston Police Detective's Benevolent Society, Boston Police Relief Association and the Boston Police Emerald Society. 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.

CHRISTENSEN



Robert F. of Dedham, formerly of Roslindale after a brief illness, passed away on December 9, 2019. Longtime devoted partner of Jean Foley. Beloved son of the late Harry and Kathleen (Wall) Christensen. Dear brother of Paul Christensen of Hingham, Kathleen McCall and her husband Robert of Natick, and Donna Lyons and her husband Joseph of West Roxbury. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Funeral from the P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 2000 Centre St. West Roxbury. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery, West Roxbury. Arrangements by P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home.

FEDERICO

Ersilia (Finocchio) of Dedham, formerly of Roslindale and Poggiofiorito, Italy, December 12, 2019. Beloved wife of the late Nerio Federico. Devoted mother of John Federico and his wife Starr Crumpton of East Longmeadow, James Federico and his wife Cheryl of Stoughton, Anna Hardy and her husband Douglas of Baldwinsville, NY, formerly of Dedham. Loving grandmother of Cesare, Marchello, Sarah, Jessica, Victoria, and Tyler and great-grandmother of Wakinyan. Sister of Maria Sciola, Rosa Sellitto, Mario Finocchio, Nicoletta D'Alessandro and the late Guido and Palma Finocchio. 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. Entombment St. Michael Cemetery, Roslindale. For directions and guestbook, pemurrayfuneral.com P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins George F. Doherty & Sons West Roxbury 617 325 2000.

DEATHS

MALAMPHY

Robert J. "Bob" of Roslindale, December 11, 2019. Loving son of the late James P. and Catherine M. (Mason). Devoted partner of David Foster. Loving uncle of Lynne, James, Paula, John, Beth, Janet, Carol, Juliellen and Stephen. He was the brother of the late Julia Daly, James P. Malampy and Catherine M. Malampy. Also survived by many loving great-nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Funeral from the William J. Gormley Funeral Home, 2055 Centre Street, WEST ROXBURY. Interment Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden. Bob was the late proprietor of Auburndale Dog Grooming in Newton, longtime usher at Boston Symphony Hall. U.S. Army Veteran, Vietnam. In lieu of flowers, donations in Bob's memory may be made to Dana Farber Cancer Institute, 450 Brookline Ave., Boston, MA 02215. dana-farber.org For directions and guestbook, please visit: gormleyfuneral.com William J. Gormley Funeral Service 617-323-8600.

MEALEY

Sister Mary Paul, OSC, of Jamaica Plain, December 10, 2019. Poor Clare Nun for 76 years. Foundress of the established Monastery of Poor Clares in Kiryu, Japan. Beloved daughter of the late Catherine (McHugh) and Stephen R. Mealey. Devoted sister of the late Catherine Whitty, Ruth Gill, and Thomas Mealey. Loving aunt who delighted in her nieces and nephews Barbara Michalak, Paul Gill, Billy Gill, Catherine Walsh,

Tom Mealey, Jayne Roberts, Kevin Mealey, and Donna Mealey who predeceased Sister. Also survived by many grandnieces and nephews, and her Sisters in community. Visiting hours were at the Monastery of St. Clare, 920 Centre St., JAMAICA PLAIN, Friday, Dec. 13 and on Saturday, Dec. 14 followed by a Mass of Resurrection. Entombment in the Monastery of St. Clare Crypt. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Monastery of St. Clare, 920 Centre St., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130. Arrangements by P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home.

PARLEE



Kathleen T. (Harding) of Roslindale, December 9, 2019. Beloved daughter of the late Joseph and Rosa Harding. Devoted

wife of Douglas A. Parlee. Loving mother of Michael and Christopher and grandmother of Logan. Sister of Patrick and Joseph Harding and the late Michael Harding. Aunt of Mia, Lilly, and Madelyn. Sister-in-law of Sheri Harding. Funeral from the P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 2000 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY. Interment private. For directions and guestbook, pemurrayfuneral.com P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins George F. Doherty & Sons West Roxbury 617 325 2000.

SHAPIRO

Dorothy (Waitz) Age 101 years, formerly of West Roxbury, passed away on December 9, 2019, in Greenwich, CT. Survived by her three daughters, Dena Kaufman, Phyllis Shapiro and her husband Marty Flashner, Ruthann Shapiro, her grandchildren Will Flashner and his wife, Rivka, Jill, and Nina Flashner and her husband, Michael Fagg, her great-grandchildren Esther and Nitzan Flashner, her siblings Ruth Waitz, Morris Waitz, Fran Kalman and Laura Machlin, and many nieces and nephews. The Funeral was held on Thursday, December 12, 2019, at B'nai Tikvah, 1301 Washington St., Canton, MA. Expressions of consolation may be made to B'nai Tikvah Accessibility Fund or a charity of your choice.

VACCA (photo) Ralph V. of Westwood, formerly of

Roslindale and Harwich, on December 9, 2019. Beloved husband of Patricia C. (Nevins) Vacca. Loving father of Michael P. Vacca and his wife Donna of Dedham, Kelly M. Tavalone and her husband Dave of Westwood, Ralph N. Vacca and his wife Fiona of Needham, Patricia C. Coyne and her husband Stephen of Westwood, Kathleen J. Forte and her husband Rich of Dover and Julie N. Farmer and her husband Rob of Medfield. Brother of Theresa Ascì of Norwood, Rose Vacca of Hyde Park, Grace Huber of Taunton, Jean Featherstone of CT, Lucy Dempsey of Pembroke, Marie Dunn of Hyde Park, the late Rita Powers and Pasquale and Nicholas Vacca. Also survived by 15 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. Funeral from the P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 2000 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY on Thursday, December 19, at 9am, followed by a Funeral Mass at St. John Chrysostom Church at 10am. Relatives and friends kindly invited. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery. Late US Army Korean War Veteran. Ralph was married to the love of his life for 63 years, enjoyed spending time with his family and retirement on Cape Cod. He will be greatly missed. In lieu of flowers, donations in Ralph's memory may be made to VA Bedford Hospital, 200 Springs Rd., Bedford, MA 01730. P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, West Roxbury.

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Letters

continued from page 4

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Small World Child Care has been a leader in early childhood education for over 20 years! At this moment, our **West Roxbury** location is looking for an **EEC Certified Infant Teacher** that is creative, nurturing and who is passionate about working with children and their families.

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Please contact Theresa or Danielle | vamcsmallworldassistant@hotmail.com or jpvamcsmallworldassistant@gmail.com

ing havoc as they often do.

I think that stores, restaurants and small shops in the business district could very well be hurt if parking is shrunk. I support our local economy and believe any road plan must be more positive to West Roxbury and by extension Roslindale. In many communities across the country there have been mixed results with road diets. Providence, RI is curbing them as reportedly unproductive. Others communities have done likewise.

I do understand the elimination of removing some parking spots at the end of certain blocks to make the area more visible to all based on visibly concerns.

I do know that the city is moving ahead with another road diet in Boston's South End along Tremont Street between Herald St. and Massachusetts Avenue. The same concerns are being raised.

However, reducing lanes of traffic will not reduce the numbers of vehicles in traffic. We do not live in Amsterdam, we live in America and our vehicles are part of our culture. It represents personal freedom and control over getting to and from work or to and from dining or anything else. The MBTA would halt to a stop if we all turned to public transit.

This road diet will need more discussions between BPDA and the community. Both sides need to listen to one another and come up with a plan that can work for all. No one likes things ramped down their unwilling throats. Working together and listening together is the right road to take.

*Sal Giarratani
Roslindale*



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. **SU19C0631CA**
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: James DiGironimo
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by
James DiGironimo of Hyde Park, MA
requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:
James Christopher Martin

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 01/02/2020. 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: December 11, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate *Hyde Park Bulletin: 12/19/2019*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. **SU19P2646EA**
Estate of: Theresa Nika Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
617-788-8300
Also Known As: Teresa Nika
Date of Death: 10/09/2018

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by:
Constance H. Nika of Hyde Park, MA
requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that:
Constance H. Nika of Hyde Park, MA
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: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/08/2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 27, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate *Hyde Park Bulletin: 12/19/2019*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court - Probate and Family Court Department
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. **SU19P1680GD**
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

In the matter of: Shandy C Tanelus RESPONDENT
Of: Hyde Park, MA Alleged Incapacitated Person

To The named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by
Nancy Brutus of Hyde Park, MA
John Tanelus of Hyde Park, MA

In the above captioned matter alleging that **Shandy C Tanelus** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that
Nancy Brutus of Hyde Park, MA
John Tanelus of Hyde Park, MA
(or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the Court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00A.M. on the return date of 01/15/2020. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

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

Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court
October 22, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate *Hyde Park Bulletin: 12/12/19*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. **SU19P2746EA**
Estate of: Brian P. Costello Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
617-788-8300
Date of Death: 10/16/2019

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by:
Brian T. Costello of Hyde Park, MA
requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that:
Brian T. Costello of Hyde Park, MA
be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve 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: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/22/2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of 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: December 11, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate *Hyde Park Bulletin: 12/19/2019*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. **SU19P2764EA**
Estate of: Augusta Rosemund Pezzano Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
617-788-8300
Date of Death: 10/28/2019

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will** has been filed by:
William Anthony Pezzano of Readville, 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:
William Anthony Pezzano of Readville, MA
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: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/22/2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of 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: December 10, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate *Hyde Park Bulletin: 12/19/19*

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