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JANUARY 25, 2019

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JPNC votes to approve change in occupancy for marijuana store at 401A Centre St.

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Marijuana business Core Empowerment returned before the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) in a heated meeting on January 22. Core Empowerment is looking to open a marijuana store at 401A Centre St., and came to the JPNC zoning committee in December seeking a change in occupancy to open the business. Rather than voting at the December meeting, the zoning committee asked Core Empowerment to come back in front of the full council.

JPNC voted 8-4 to accept the change, with some provisos.

Core Empowerment CEO Tomas Gonzalez presented the proposal for his business in front of a packed room—the “largest turnout in my experience,” according to JPNC member Bernie Doherty—at the Farnsworth House. The company is 96-percent owned by women and people of color and 100-percent of investors are local, according to Gonzalez. He also said that they are hoping to hire a diverse group of local people.

The dispensary would be open from 10am-10pm, with an estimated 15-30 customers per hour. The capacity of the store is about 150, Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez touched on security, as that is a major concern for the community. He said there would be an entry point into the dispensary that would have a greeter who would tell the person to have their ID ready. The person would then head downstairs where they would be greeted by another

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BOSTON FOR ALL EVENT



Photo by Derek Kouyoumjian

Naveen O'Connell takes a great leap while fellow JP kid James Lanfer looks on while spinning a plate. The fun came last Sunday, Jan. 20, at the Boston For All event in Spontaneous Celebrations. Numerous residents braved the cold to come out to celebrate an afternoon of fun. The next Boston For All event will be on June 9 at the Boathouse.

Informational meeting about construction updates at 3193 Washington Street

BY LAURA PLUMMER, SPECIAL
TO THE GAZETTE

A small group met at the Brookside Community Health Center in Jamaica Plain on Thursday, January 17, to discuss updates on the construction currently underway at 3197 Washington Street. In attendance were the construction team for the project and representatives from local neighborhood associations.

The construction team had been invited to the meeting by local neighborhood associations to discuss how construction would impact the local community. Carolyn Royce from Parkside and Eggleston Square Neighborhood Associations, Scott Shear from Brookside Neighborhood Association and neighbor Richard Heath.

The construction site is the future home of a 42,000 square foot development at the corner of Montebello and Washington Streets featuring 40 condos, 20 parking spaces and 2,560 square feet of re-

tail space. In charge of this project are Josh Fetterman of City Realty Group, project manager Jeremy Henry, and Christopher Grossman, the

Continued on page 2

Reunión informativa sobre actualizaciones de construcción en 3193 Washington Street

LAURA PLUMMER, ESPECIAL A
GAZETTE.

Un grupo de siete personas se reunió en el Brookside Community Health Center en Jamaica Plain el jueves 17 de enero para hablar sobre la construcción actualmente en curso en 3197 Washington Street. Asistieron el equipo de construcción del desarrollo y representantes de las asociaciones de vecinos locales.

El equipo de construcción

había sido invitado a la reunión por las asociaciones de vecinos locales para hablar sobre cómo la construcción impactaría a la comunidad local. Entre los representantes de las asociaciones de vecinos locales se encontraban Susan Pranger de las asociaciones de Chilcott Place y Parkside, Carolyn Royce de las asociaciones Parkside y Eggleston Square, Scott Shear de la

Continued on page 4

Residents and developers meet on proposal for 121 Brookside

BY LAURA PLUMMER, SPECIAL
TO THE GAZETTE

About 20 people attended a public meeting sponsored by the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) on Wednesday, January 23, to discuss the proposed project currently being planned for 121 Brookside Avenue. Those in attendance included representatives of the local neighborhood associations,

members of the public and a team of developers hoping to transform a parking lot at the corner of Green Street.

The development team included project developer Scott Johnson of Cedar Hill Residential, project architect Cheryl Tougias, project attorney Jim Green, and Tim Czer-

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JPNC

Continued from page 1

person who would scan their ID. In addition, Dan Linskey of Kroll Experts said that Core Empowerment's products are all barcoded and tracked, so someone can be caught misusing the product and not allowed back in the store.

There will also be another security guard below. Gonzalez said that since the space is so large, there will also be an educational component within the dispensary to inform people about marijuana.

Gonzalez talked about the Traffic and Parking Management plan that was requested by the Jamaica Pond Association. As previously reported by the Gazette, the plan includes dropoff/pickup spaces, parking spots in nearby lots, and the potential for a shared valet service. Core Empowerment is also going to provide 100% subsidized MBTA passes and shuttle buses for its employees, as well as two flashing beacons to alert drivers that pedestrians are walking by.

A Good Neighbor Agreement also must be signed by every customer so they know the consequences of their actions. Three percent of gross sales will go to the Host Community Agreement, and a \$500,000 commitment over five years will go towards charitable contributions to local groups, Gonzalez said.

JPNC member Bruce

Marks said he has a "real concern" that Core Empowerment is renting from well-known landlord Morty Levin, who Marks said has kept that building vacant for ten years. "He has said to me and others that he would not rent it out over ten years at a lower rate, and you are paying him \$40,000 a month," Marks said to Core Empowerment. "This has a huge impact on businesses in Hyde Square."v

Mike Ross, Core Empowerment's attorney, said he could neither confirm nor deny that number, as they are under contractual obligation not to talk about the lease that was signed. He said that when Core Empowerment was searching for a site, they were looking for a place that can accommodate more people with a good location. "Cannabis rates right now in MA are at a level well beyond any other number that normal rents are getting," Ross said. "It doesn't bring other rents up, it brings other cannabis rents up."

"I would like to know how much money you're going to take home at the end of the year," said JPNC member Gert Thorn. He said he would like to see some sort of public benefit corporation be founded and that it would have an ownership of 5 percent of the firm "so we become real participants in your corporation."

"I encourage you to take on the community as a partner financially," Thorn said.

"We are as community oriented as it's going to be," Gon-

zalez replied. He said that they are partly from the community and some of the investors are from JP. "We are a small wholesale group," he said.

"Make sure this community gets a benefit out of this," Thorn reiterated.

JPNC member Priscilla Yang wanted to know if any type of crime information and other statistics will be released to the public. "I want to know that once you've been operating for six months [there will be] a regular mechanism for people to communicate to work and solve problems."

"We can come back quarterly or every six months to have community meetings," Gonzalez said.

"I'm not just here for licensing," Linskey added. He said for people to call him with any issues right away, even if it's "stuff that happens off our property three miles away—we're saying if we're informed about those things we'll be part of that process."

"We will commit to a regular schedule of meetings," Ross said, and have the whole team back with any security data.

"I think the community has earned that right to be more involved in a more specific matter," said JPNC member Bernie Doherty.

Community members were split about the idea of having this marijuana store in their neighborhood. Sherry Mason said that she is "thrilled that this amazingly community-oriented business, thrilled that this proposal is out there." She said that there is "so much misinformation about marijuana out there," though she does understand that people might be concerned.

Another resident on Boylston St. was not as enthusiastic. "I've watched marijuana ruin lots of young people's lives," she said. "I am very very concerned about the young people in this city and the effect that marijuana has on their minds. Once there's more access, there's more use. I don't want to pretend that we are not opening a drug use store in our neighborhood."

"I really think that this is a question of quality of life," another said, citing the traffic issues and saying she hopes people will use the proposed shared valet service. "My quality of life suffers," she said.

After further discussion between the JPNC members and some limited public comment, the JPNC made a motion to approve the change in occupancy with the provisos that it is subject to the material presented at the January meeting, Core Empowerment is subject to quarterly meetings with JPNC on security and other matters, JPNC is invited to the Hyde Square Merchants Association, and that the change in occupancy is a conditional use for this applicant only.

The Community Host Agreement meeting regarding this proposal is on Thursday, January 24th.

ZONING COMMITTEE UPDATES

The JPNC Zoning Committee met on January 16 and reported back to the full neighborhood council at the meeting on January 22. JPNC

voted 7-1 with two abstentions to approve the project at 632-638 Centre St. as-is on committee reports. The project is a four story building that will have 18 residential units, 4 commercial units, and permeable exterior parking spaces. The zoning committee said that they broke ground on this project, were sued by neighbors, and have since worked it out. JPNC voted 10-0 to refuse that the proponents move forward with the project at 95-97 West Walnut Park, which was originally a four family home but has been scaled down to three. The zoning committee said it was received as a controversial project. JPNC 10-0 to deny the project at 7-15 Catherine St., where the comments from the community were "overwhelmingly negative," the zoning committee reported. The proposed project is to construct 5 townhouses.

3193 Washington

Continued from page 1

general contractor from New Boston Builders.

Armed with three posters of different construction phases, Henry provided updates on the construction plan, including timeline, work schedules, pedestrian access, vehicle management, rodent control, and site protection.

With most of the mass excavation already complete, the development is slated to be finished by early spring of 2020. A concrete foundation will be laid this winter, followed by the addition of steel in the spring. Approximately 25 non-union carpenters are slated to carry out the actual construction.

Drivers accessing the site will adhere to a strict 7am start time so as not to disturb neighbors in the early morning hours. Construction vehicles will have their own access to the site and will not be permitted to block traffic along major thoroughfares. A construction storage trailer will be housed off-site, with location to be determined.

In regards to safety, a police detail would be assigned only for scheduled deliveries, which will include weekly re-

bar deliveries. There will be temporary lighting installed on the sidewalks surrounding the project to ensure pedestrian safety.

The neighborhood associations have learned what to look for in a construction project after years of monitoring different properties erected in the area. Concerns included parking for the 25 construction workers and how it would impact upon the parking options for local residents.

Henry stated that the workers would be encouraged to park along Washington Street and not on the side streets, but agreed that this was hard to enforce.

Another concern was how the laborers would be sourced. The city has jobs compliance standards for new construction projects to ensure the hiring of local and minority workers. Although this project isn't large enough to be subject to the standards, the construction group was enthusiastic about hiring minority, female and local workers, and, asked for referrals for subcontractors.

You can read more about the development at bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/3193-washington-street. Subcontractors interested in the project can email cgrossman@nbproperties.com.

PLEASE WRITE...

The Gazette welcomes letters to the editor. Word limit: 500. Deadline: Friday at 5 p.m. one week before publication. Letters may be emailed to letters@JamaicaPlainGazette.com. Please include address and telephone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters will not be published.

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Rep. Malia updates JP community on legislative agenda

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Representative Liz Malia came to the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council meeting on January 22 to update the community on what she has on her legislative agenda for the new year.

Malia said that she is just coming off the deadline for filing legislation on January 18, where she filed 31 bills. There were over 6,000 bills filed between the House and the Senate, she said. Malia said some of the bills involve substance abuse treatment, affordable housing, lower barriers to employment, healthcare, and cost urban agriculture.

She said her personal priorities are working on legislation she's worked on previously, including guaranteeing 30-day coverage for substance abuse treatment. A few years ago, legislation passed that forced insurers to cover 14 days of substance abuse treatment. Now, Malia is looking to add mental health issues to the substance abuse issues. "We don't have the bridges to the programs we have," she said. "Someone who's in recovery needs about a year to get stable," so Malia said that job readiness, housing, and so many other parts need to be in place to help people.

In addition, Malia is working on providing transportation for students enrolled in recovery high schools. There are five recovery high schools located throughout the Commonwealth, with one right in downtown Boston. A lot of students who need to attend these schools are not able to because they have no way of getting there. Malia said that working with the state to figure out a way to pay for transportation is high on her list, because the "outcome for kids who have gone to recovery high schools is fantastic," she said.

Malia also has several co-sponsorship priorities, including banning conversion

therapy, working on the carbon tax and renewable energy, and working with Senator Chang-Diaz on the education funding formula, which Malia said "started out with some good goals last year."

She is also looking to work on healthcare finance as a whole, as well as safe consumption facilities, also known as safe injection sites. Malia said she realizes that there is a lot of controversy surrounding safe consumption facilities, but they're "something that's beginning to take a more central focus in public policy." She said she's had a lot of arguments with Mayor Walsh about safe consumption facilities, but he's starting to give it another look.

She is also working on legislation around same day voter registration, as well as preventing employers from requesting a credit check when hiring.

Malia is the primary sponsor of (and is working with the Institute of Policy Studies on) the luxury real estate transfer fee so cities and towns can implement an excise tax. She is finding ways to raise money through some of the affordable housing mechanisms, as well as trying to pursue the philosophy of the millionaires tax, as there's "a lot of interest in that," she said.

She's also working with the Department of Conservation and Recreation on things like the Arborway, and talking to MassDOT about the Arborway yard.

Malia told the community that she has office hours on the second Friday of the month in Grove Hall and the third Friday of the month at the JP library, and invites the public to come to her for information or any questions.

ELIOT SCHOOL RECEIVES DONATION



Steve Murakishi, of Fire Opal, presents a check to Abigail Norman, Executive Director of the Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts, proceeds from this holiday season's Shop with a Cause and Fire Opal's special gift-wrap fundraiser. Dozens of local businesses participated in the annual event, which benefits local non-profits.

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JP OBSERVER

JP police activities for youths build trust; need support from community

BY SANDRA STOREY / SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Boston police at Jamaica Plain's District E-13 do so much for and with young people in the neighborhood, just the list of activities nearly fills a page. Year-round events and programs are organized and managed by the Community Service Office (CSO)—and supported by Jamaica Plain Coalition: Tree of Life/Arbol de Vida (TOL). They range from summer “camp” to parties to ongoing programs.

The friendly, productive interactions, which were started years ago, are designed to build trust between JP young people and police.

Now, CSO police officers Angie Oller and Antonette Ramsay and Tree of Life staff say they need to expand programs to include more young people and services and provide needed continuity in the relationships they form with youths and families.

For example, the CSO has access to a van that holds only 13 young people. Another van is needed so more kids can go skating or bowling and to other activities. Getting another van, even a used one, would be extremely helpful, they said.

And families need follow-through, according the organizers. Having a person who

could log activities and make calls would really help. That person might also be able to compile statistics and information about the effects of programs.

“They are awesome,” Yolanda Torres, a resident of the Mildred C. Hailey Development (formerly Bromley-Heath), said recently. “I have teenagers, and I know that if I need the CSO officers, they will be there to help.”

In a telephone interview on January 11, Ramsay and Oller and former TOL Director Margaret Noce described some of the many programs and activities that the CSO has for youths and families in a year and what their growing needs are.

Oller talked about setting up games, including softball, in the parking area around the Washington Street police station one day in the summer. Eight or nine patrol officers came for a little while to participate with the young people, she said.

Free summer camp involves young people meeting at the station daily for a week to go for different activities. Parents are given an agenda of what will happen each day, according to Ramsay. “Camp is limited to 13,” she said, “because we have only one van.”

More than 300 people attended the District 13 barbecue last summer, Oller said. “The captain and officers interacted with people, who were invited to go into the station for a tour.”

Other activities they talked about with enthusiasm included a fishing derby at Jamaica Pond that attracted more than 400 people last summer. Noce said a moms group at the Mildred C. Hailey (formerly Bromley-Heath) Housing Development helped plan and put together a large Halloween party.

“They have helped us in many ways,” Zoe Perez, another grateful mother who lives at the Hailey development, said recently of the CSO officers. “We have been able to attend events. They even encouraged us to play tennis with our kids. They have helped with food, clothing and toys during the holidays.”

Current Tree of Life Director Carol Miranda put together a list of CSO activities for a community fundraising letter. Along others, she named: Holiday Activities: Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner giveaway; Thanksgiving Dinner delivery w/ ETHOS (partnering with South Street Youth Center Teens); District E-13 Community Christmas Party; Emman-

uel Church Toy drive; Hailey Housing Development Family Toy drive. Youth Activities: Girls Group at Match Middle School; Girls Group at Margarita Muniz High School; Meet the Faces Behind the Badge; and school vacation week activities. Family Activities: Healthy Families Initiative: series of parenting workshops for parents with children 11-16 years old (in collaboration with Mass Housing); Zumba with a Cop in the Park.

Ramsay said over the past 10 years she has observed that, “We couldn’t do it without our community partners and parents.” She pointed out that regular officers can’t take time to put together and carry out all the programs, and there are only four people in the CSO. “We can’t do everything,” she said.

More young people and families could be served with more resources to support the CSO youth and family programs. “We need extra money to follow up with families and to see if we are making a difference,” Noce added.

Ramsay agreed. “One of the purposes of the relationships that form is to build trust,” she said. “To really build trust our goal is to be consistent with the families. We need funding to do

that.”

Expanded services are also being requested these days, Noce said. For example, some Boston Public Schools have been asking the CSO to run more girls clubs. They have boys clubs already.

Police, like other municipal agencies, can’t ask for donations or fundraise directly. Local 22-year-old nonprofit Tree of Life, working with fiscal agent Community Cares, Inc., is doing that hoping the CSO youth and family programs that are so valuable to the community can grow.

“Over the past 10 years I have observed that the biggest things to pay attention to are community, commitment and consistency,” Ramsay said. “That’s where change comes from.”

Community support to continue this kind of positive change is needed now. For more information about these activities for JP youths and families, contact the CSO of District E-13 at 617-343-5624. For information about these activities and how to help support them, contact JPC: Tree of Life /Arbol de Vida at 617-501-3918.

Sandra Storey is founder and former publisher and editor of the Jamaica Plain Gazette.

Black

Reunión

Continued from page 1

asociación de Brookside, y el vecino Richard Heath.

El sitio de la construcción es el futuro hogar de un desarrollo de 3901 metros cuadrados en la esquina de las calles Montebello y Washington. Tendrá 40 condominios, 20 espacios de estacionamiento y 237 metros cuadrados de espacio comercial. El equipo incluye a Josh Fetterman de City Realty Group, el gerente del proyecto Jeremy Henry, y Christopher Grossman, el contratista general de New

Boston Builders.

Con tres carteles de diferentes etapas de construcción, Henry compartió detalles sobre el plan de construcción, incluidos el calendario, los horarios de trabajo y el manejo de vehículos.

La mayor parte de la excavación en masa ya está terminada y el desarrollo está programado para finalizarse a principios de la primavera de 2020. Este invierno se instalará una fundación maciza de hormigón, seguida del acero en la primavera. Aproximadamente 25 carpinteros no sindicalizados llevarán a cabo la construcción.

Los conductores que acce-

dan al sitio tendrán una hora estricta de inicio a las 7 am para no molestar a los vecinos por la mañana. Los vehículos de construcción tendrán su propio acceso al sitio y no se les permitirá obstruir el tráfico en las calles principales. Se instalará un tráiler de construcción en otro sitio.

Con respecto a la seguridad, se instalará iluminación temporal en las aceras que rodean el proyecto para garantizar la seguridad de los peatones. Se asignaría un policía para las entregas programadas, incluidas entregas de corrugado semanales.

Después de años de moni-

torio de diferentes propiedades construidas en la zona, las asociaciones de vecinos han aprendido qué buscar en un proyecto de construcción. Una de sus preocupaciones fue el estacionamiento para los 25 obreros de la construcción y cómo afectaría las opciones de estacionamiento para los residentes locales.

Henry declaró que se animaría a los trabajadores a estacionarse en la calle Washington y no en las calles laterales, pero convino en que esto es difícil de hacer cumplir.

Otra preocupación era cómo los trabajadores serían encontrados. La ciudad tiene estándares para nuevos proyectos de construcción

para asegurar la contratación de trabajadores locales y de minorías. Aunque este proyecto no es lo suficientemente grande como para estar sujeto a los estándares, el equipo de construcción se mostró entusiasmado con la contratación de trabajadores de minorías, mujeres y habitantes, y está solicitando referencias para subcontratistas.

Se puede leer más sobre el desarrollo en bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/3193-washington-street. Los subcontratistas con interés en el proyecto pueden escribirle un correo electrónico a Grossman a cgrossman@nbproperties.com.

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Neighbors and activists picketed in protest of the auction outside of the South Street home.

Neighbors protest auction of JP home

STAFF REPORT

Activists from City Life/Vida Urbana gathered to protest the auction of a Jamaica Plain home on January 14.

According to Asticou Martinwood South Street Neighborhood Association (ASMNA) member Chuck Collins, over 25 neighbors gathered at 302 South St. to help R.J. Manchester save his home from going to auction. Manchester and Jami Rogers have been trying to sell this condo for two years. A young couple had made an offer, had a home inspection done, and were finalizing a purchase and sale agreement, according to a release from ASMNA.

"When the real estate attorneys contacted the Rushmore Loan, representing US Bank NA, however, they allegedly declined to postpone the auction," the release states. He added that the purchase price would cover any obligations to lenders.

"We have a neighbor who has lived in our community for 18 years—who because of a health emergency is being forced to sell his home," Collins said. "We will call on the bank to allow the sale to go forward."

Manchester "suffered a health catastrophe" a few years back, causing him to lose his eyesight on and off for months at a time, the release said. "During his multi-

multi-year health emergency, he lost his law practice and livelihood."

"No one should lose their home because of a health emergency," Collins said.

After the protest, Collins told the Gazette that US Bank refused to call off the auction. The potential buyers also came out in support that no one would bid.

"We walked a picket line in front of the house," Collins said. Everyone chanted "If you buy this house, you buy resistance," he said. He also said that they asked potential bidders to refrain from doing so, and "probably four or five bidders got in their cars and left."

Collins said the auctioneer arrived and made a bid. "At that moment, Manchester and the young couple—who had not met before—conferred on the corner," Collins said. The couple offered higher than the auctioneer, and the auctioneer turned away.

Manchester will have to move in the near future, and "what money he might have made from the sale evaporated at the auction," Collins said. He said that Manchester and his 16-year-old dog do not know where they are going. "But he was grateful for our support," Collins said.

A phone call made to Manchester by the Gazette was not returned by press time.

121 Brookside

Continued from page 1

winski representing Aisling Kerr, the project manager from BPDA.

The proposed project is a four-story condo building. At street level would be an eleven-space parking garage and two live/work condos. The first, second and third floors would each contain seven condos, featuring a mix of studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units. There will also be a roof deck featuring a head house and a communal entertaining space. At 45 feet high and 19,347 square feet, it is considered a small construction project.

The comment period for the project opened on January 4. Prior to filing their Small Project Review Application (SPRA), the design team met with Brookside neighbors to hear their feedback. Originally, neighbors expressed concern about the affordability of units.

Prior to Wednesday night's meeting, the team's proposal contained nine larger units, which meant it wasn't subject to the city's inclusionary zoning. At the urging of community members, they revised their proposal to contain 21 smaller units, which means it must meet the city's standards for affordability.

According to the BPDA website, the City's Inclusionary Development Policy (IDP) helps to "preserve access to affordable housing opportunities in all of Boston's neighborhoods."

"The project is being proposed in the spirit of PLAN: JP/Rox, with an increase in IDP affordable housing," said Kerr in an email.

"The two largest units in the building, the live/work spaces, will be affordable units and reserved for certified artists," Kerr continued, "and two of the upper floor residential units will also be designated as IDP units."

Developers initially offered no affordable units in their original proposal. Their new proposal contains four affordable units, or roughly 20% of their saleable square footage.

However, this didn't seem to satisfy some in the audience.

Helen Matthews, a resident



A rendering of the proposed project as viewed from Brookside Avenue.

of Green Street and member of Green Street Renters Association, suggested that the development should feature rental properties. She was concerned that a lot of the people living in the area couldn't afford to purchase their home.

Johnson responded that he had done the math to figure out the monthly cost of renting one of his units versus purchasing and they had come out to roughly the same figure. Not only that, he stressed, buyers could see their property appreciate over time and be eligible for tax deductibles not available to renters. Moreover, he emphasized that they are condo developers and not interested in managing rentals.

Another concern was parking. One attendee suggested they reduce the size of the parking garage in order to add ground-level accessible units. In place of the eleven cars included in the design, he proposed having a couple shared vehicles and bikes in stead. Another resident disagreed, saying that providing no parking would only result in condo owners and their visitors parking in the street, "exacerbating the problem we already have."

Some residents expressed concern about the roof deck,

claiming that the addition of a head house on the roof technically counted as a fifth floor. Developers argued that the head house—which will have an elevator, bathroom, sink and counter—is not large enough to count as a separate floor. Furthermore, they insisted that is was necessary in order to make the roof deck accessible to wheelchairs.

While there seemed to be a general consensus that the Brookside Community does need more housing options to accommodate a growing population, and especially affordable housing, resident April Morales of Greenley Place is not a fan of what she calls "massive properties."

"This is turning into condo after condo after condo," she said, highlighting her preference for the two- and three-family dwellings so common to the neighborhood.

BPDA will be working with the City to determine whether another public meeting will be necessary.

For updates on this project, visit bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/121-brookside-avenue. Neighbors and residents can still submit commentary on the website until at least February 4.

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JP HISTORY

The Jamaica Plain Historical Society will be holding three events in the coming months on local and regional history. The events are as follows:

250th Anniversary of the First Church in Jamaica Plain.

The event will be held on Sunday, January 27 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the First Church in Jamaica Plain 6 Elliot Street Boston, MA, 02130.

The 250th anniversary of an act of the Massachusetts colonial legislature finalized

on May 26, 1773 is approaching. The act defined the boundaries of a new standing order parish on the "pond plain in the Jamaica end" of the Town of Roxbury. These standing order parishes were part of the organization of the colony, providing for the militia as well as taxation used for a meetinghouse and an educated teacher. It can be argued that the founding of the Third Parish of Roxbury (now the First Church in Jamaica Plain) coincides with the beginning of an es-

tablished Jamaica Plain.

George Wardle, historian of the First Church in Jamaica Plain, will tell the tale of Suzanna and Benjamin Pemberton and how they doggedly lead their neighbors in a long process to get permission to carve out a new parish in the middle of Roxbury. They persisted in the quest despite opposition by the two existing parishes (who did not want to give up tax-paying parishioners to another church). It was quite a feat, one that was almost undone in 1786 during

the economic struggles that occurred after the American Revolution.

Learn what the Jamaica Plain area was like at the time, who the other founding families were, and how Jamaica Plain fits into the story of 3 separate municipalities: Roxbury, West Roxbury and Boston.

This event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. Snow date for this event is Sunday, February 10th.

The Boston Suffragists

This event will be held on Saturday, March 30 from 1 - 3 p.m. at the Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 30 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Women – and men – from Boston were very active in the movement to gain the vote for women. Lucy Stone, Julia Ward Howe, Clara Barton and others gave speeches, wrote articles, and marched in parades during the almost seventy year struggle.

Come and listen to present day Bostonians as they read from these writings and speeches that reveal women's determination to be able to vote in order to participate fully in the political life of the country.

Judith Kalaora, from History at Play, will be a part of the program. Ms. Kalaora portrays a number of famous women through living history performances, including Deborah Sampson, Christa McAuliffe, and Hedy Lamarr. We are very pleased to have her join us in the role of Lucy Stone, one of the most important figures in the woman suffrage movement.

This event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. Co-sponsored by the Boston Women's Heritage Trail and the JPHS.

William Dawes

This event will be held on Sunday, April 7, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the First Church of Roxbury, 10 Putnam Street Roxbury, MA 02119

J.L. Bell who runs boston1775.net - history, analysis, and unabashed gossip about Revolutionary New England - will speak on William Dawes. Nearly everyone knows of Paul Revere's famous midnight ride but most are unaware another rider took a dangerous route over the land, through Roxbury, to get to Concord that night too. [More details soon!]

Join us at the First Church in Roxbury, 10 Putnam Street, Roxbury to learn more about this lesser-known hero of pre-Revolutionary Boston.

This event is co-sponsored by the Roxbury Historical Society, the Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry and the JPHS. Free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

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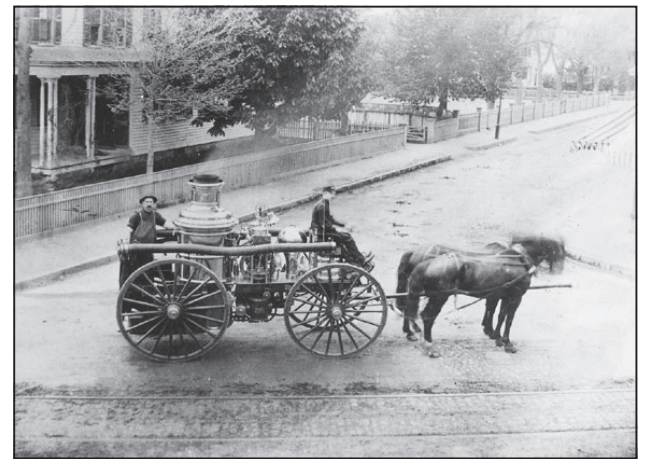
Shown below are snapshots from Jamaica Plain over the decades.
All photos are courtesy of the Jamaica Plain Historical Society | www.jpshs.org



A cyanotype shows draft horses being used to transport trees by sled for planting. Possibly Franklin Park or Arnold Arboretum.



Margaret Fuller School. 1970. Photograph courtesy of Rick Goulet.



Two firemen pose with a horse-drawn chemical fire engine in this 1880 photograph taken at Centre and Burroughs Streets. These engines used chemicals rather than water to fight fires.



The small Roessle Brewery was operated by John Roessle and stood at 1250 Columbus Avenue. Active from 1846 to 1918 and from 1933 to 1951. This photograph is circa 1905.



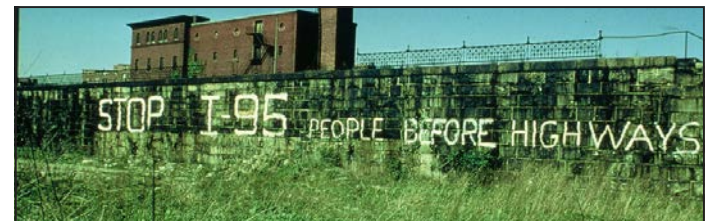
Cheerleaders of the Jamaica Plain High School in 1956, From the JPMS yearbook.



Employees of Patterson's Liquor Store, from left to right- John Riley, Steve McCauley, Vinnie Boris, Ted Patterson, and John Patterson.



Jamaica Plain residents begin to venture out of their homes after a single lane of traffic is cleared of snow in February, 1978. This view is from Green Street looking towards Boston.



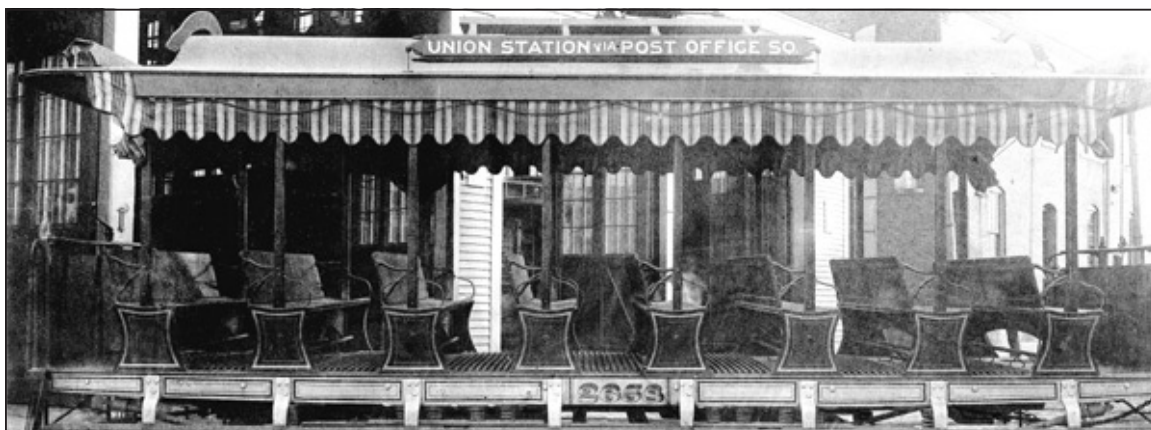
Graffiti opposing an elevated highway through JP painted ca 1969 on the embankment facing Columbus Avenue and just north of the intersection with Tremont St.



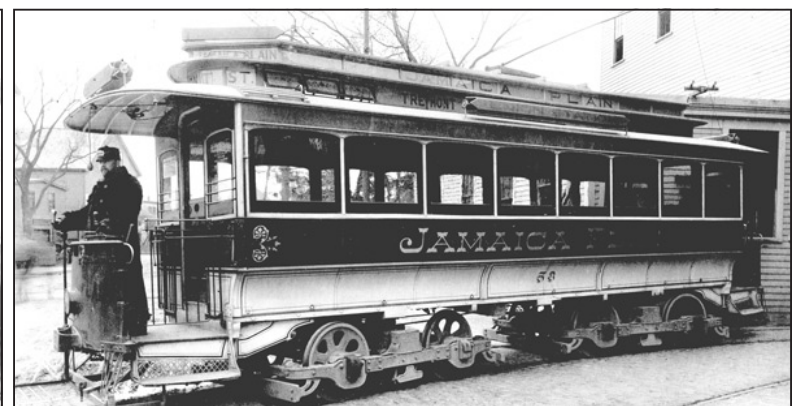
A group of men enjoy a game of curling on Jamaica Pond ca 1900.



The Arnold Arboretum



This completely open-style car was used during the hot summer months. The destination of this car is shown on the placard on the roof as UNION STATION VIA POST OFFICE SQ.



This open-end car and engineer pose in front of the Forest Hills carhouse (which would later become the Jamaica Loop) about 1896. By 1905, all cars were enclosed.

Sights & Sounds

The deadline for listings is noon, Feb. 5 for the Feb. 8 issue. Send listings to reporter@jamaicaplain-gazette.com. Note: 617 should be dialed before numbers below, unless another area code is given.

Arts, music, and culture

"250th Anniversary of the First Church", a talk by George Wardle on Suzanna and Benjamin Pemberton who led their neighbors in a process to carve out a new parish in the middle of Roxbury in the 1770s. Learn what the Jamaica Plain area was like at the time, who the other founding families were, and how Jamaica Plain fits into the story of three separate municipalities: Roxbury, West Roxbury and Boston. Sunday, January 27 at 3:00pm, 6 Eliot Street, Jamaica Plain (in the First Church Parish Hall). Presented by the Jamaica Plain Historical Society, Free and open to the public.

Smartphone Photography: Winter Landscapes Enhanced Nancy Katz, Professional Photographer 3 Sessions: Sat January 26, February 9, 23 8:30-10:30 a.m. at Hunnewell Building and Landscape, Arnold Arboretum Capture the essence of winter, when landscapes present a diluted palette of colors and contrasts are most striking. Professional photographer Nancy Katz will introduce fundamental concepts of landscape photography and then teach techniques for getting the best pho-

tographs from your smartphone camera. You will capture images in color and black and white, then learn to enhance them using a host of editing tools provided in the Snapseed App. (Note: Nancy Katz was selected by the Apple Store of Boston as a guest artist in March 2017 for her photography work with her iPhone and has taught her techniques there and most recently at Brandeis University's Osher Life Long Learning Institute.) Fee \$84 (Reduced rate for Arnold Arboretum members) Register at my.arboretum.harvard.edu or call 617-384-5277.

Chameleon Strings in Bach-centered Up Close Recital

The Chameleon Arts Ensemble presents Chameleon Up Close featuring violinist Robyn Bollinger, violist Scott Woolweaver, and cellist Rafael Popper-Keizer, on Sunday, February 3, 2019, 4 PM, at Mary Norton Hall at Old South Church, 645 Boylston Street, Boston. The program, centered on Bach, includes Mozart's string trio arrangement of the Prelude and Fugue, BWV 883; Dmitry Sitkovetsky's exquisite arrangement of the Goldberg Variations, BWV 988; and Alfred Schnittke's haunting String Trio. The New York Times recently noted "it was the young violinist Robyn Bollinger who held me captive." The Boston Musical Intelligencer called Mr. Woolweaver "one of Boston's most respected violists," and praised Mr. Popper-Keizer for "a stunning, absolutely unforgettable rendition."

SongBeat Circle hosts another season of improvisational singing and drumming together for wellness, stress relief, and community. It is held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall at First Church in Jamaica Plain. All ages are welcome. A small donation of \$5 to \$10 is encour-

aged to help with the costs of using the space. No musical experience required. Bring your enthusiasm and willingness to be open to the joyful play of music. For further information, contact songbeatcircle@gmail.com or 617-775-7602. /

JESUS DRINKS FREE! 1950s-70s country, gospel, soul and RnB spun by 2 atheists (and guests) @Jeanie Johnston 9pm-Close FREE SOUL music & COUNTRY music. Foundational sounds of the American experience spun monthly with love, admiration, and a deep want to create fun. Throw in a non-believer's true lust for spinning GOSPEL music and you have JESUS DRINKS FREE. The music comes from the 1950s thru the 1970s. We're @The Jeanie Johnston Pub every first Thursday night of every month. Good times in Jamaica Plain."

The Haven, HOOTENANNY - JP's OPEN MIC EVERY WEDNESDAY, hosted by Tom Dowd. Sign up is 9.30pm and we have prizes every Wednesday for the most interesting acts.

Midway Café, All shows 21+, doors 8pm, 3496 Washington St, 524-9038. Thursdays are Queeraoke lesbian night; Fridays 6-8:30pm are Hippie Hour, free; Sundays 9pm-2am are open mic.

January 2019: Hippie Hour with Uncle Johnny's Band! Fri Jan 25th 6:00pm - 8:30pm Doors at 6:00 PM - No Cover until 8:30 PM!

Sunshine Riot, All Eyes On Me, Sugar Cones, Arrot To Fri Jan 25th 8:30pm \$7.00, Doors at 8:30pm, 21+ Paper Citizen, Visiting Wine, Dav Blues, Dogwood (Zoey Pierce) Sat Jan 26th 3:00pm - 7:00pm \$5.00, Doors at 3:00pm Jeanie Johnston Pub, 144 South St. Open Mic hosted by Tony Bluze, Sundays at 8pm. More events at jeaniejohnston-pub.com.

Bella Luna & The Milky Way Weekly events include; NOLA Sundays every Sunday at 5pm with a live brass band. Stump Trivia every Monday 7pm-9pm, 50% of wings. Taco Tuesday, Teacher Tuesdays plus Dirty Water Saloon Line Dancing for queer folks and allies at 7PM. Live music every Wednesday from at 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Throwback Thursday with DJ J-Wall 6- 8 p.m. Visit www.milkywayjp.com for more late night events every Thu-Sat.

Old time music, Southern/roots music, second and fourth Wednesdays, 7.30pm, back room at Doyle's Cafe, 3484 Washington St. Info: peggyconant@gmail.com.

First Fridays Youth Open Mic with renowned feature artists, first Friday of every month, 7pm at First Baptist Church, 633 Centre St. Free for performers and those under 25, \$10 suggested donation for those 25 and over.

Dance and comedy **Dance JP Revival!** Free your mind, body, and soul, and lift your spirits with high-energy, feel-good, socially conscious music from around the world! All ages. Wheelchair accessible. Nov. 16, 7:30-9:30pm, First Baptist Church JP, 633 Centre St. \$5-\$15 (No one turned away for lack of funds). More info: <https://tinyurl.com/DanceJPRevival>, DanceJP-Dance@gmail.com

Gender-Free/English Country Dance, beginners welcome and encouraged. 2nd and 4th Tuesdays (5th Tuesdays: experienced) of the month, 7:30-11:30pm, First Church, 6 Eliot St. Info: www.lcfd.org/bgfe/512-5554.

Learn to stiltwalk with Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St. Sundays, 11am-1pm, \$5. Info: 857-498-2438.

Egleston Square Branch Library, 2044 Columbus Ave.

Free Drop-In Homework Help Mondays-Thursdays, 3:30-5:30pm

The library provides free, drop-in afterschool homework help for students in grades K-8 throughout the school year.

Spanish assistance is available Mondays and Thursdays. Help is provided by trained, high-achieving high school students. This program is available at locations across Boston on days that Boston Public Schools are in session. The full list of locations is online at www.bpl.org/homework.

Baby/Toddler Music Time Fridays, November 23 & 30, December 7, and ongoing, 10:30am

Sing, bounce, read, and play in these interactive musical storytimes, followed by a play group. For children ages 6-24 months and their caregivers.

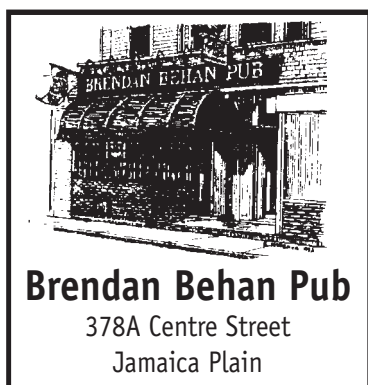
Jamaica Plain Branch Library **Oral History Listening Booth** at the JP Branch See a 1930's era wooden phone booth, transformed into a portal for exploring Boston's history as shared by a diverse group, ages 60 and older, from JP and other Boston neighborhoods. The booth is a part of Daniel Johnson's Artist in Residency (AIR) project and will hit the road soon and pop up at other spots across Boston. Booth can be viewed and listened to whenever the library is open. JP Branch Library, 30 South St, 617-524-2053.

Connolly Branch Library 433 Centre St., 522-1960, www.bpl.org.

Tours/talks/workshops **Stonybrook Fine Arts**, Make Your Own Wedding Rings workshop and teen & adult classes in welding, foundry and mold-making, ongoing, 24 Porter St. Info: stonybrookfinearts.com.

Woodworking, sewing, art classes, fiber arts, photography, book arts. Children, teens, adults, year round. Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts, 24 Eliot St. Info: eliotschool.org or 524-3313.

Shim Gum Do (Mind Sword Path), zen sword, karate and meditation classes, scholarships available, Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St. Info: 429-8024/mushimgum@gmail.com.



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Suspect arraigned in shooting death in Egleston Square

BY JOHN LYNDIS

A shootout last Friday afternoon in Jamaica Plain left a Roxbury man dead and a man from South Boston being charged from his hospital bed.

Victor Rodriguez, 28, of South Boston was arraigned Tuesday from his hospital bed at Brigham and Women's Hospital for the murder of Carl Reynolds, 28, Roxbury during the shootout that occurred on Friday afternoon, January 18

in Egleston Square.

According to Suffolk County District Attorney spokesman Jake Wark, Rodriguez was charged with Murder, Unlawful Possession of a Firearm Subsequent Offense and Unlawful Possession of

Ammunition. He was held without bail and will return to court on Feb. 25.

According to police, the two men began firing at one another at 3100 Washington St. in Egleston Square at 3:32 p.m. last Friday.

When police arrived they found both Reynolds and Ro-

driguez suffering from gunshot wounds.

Both men were rushed to the hospital with life-threatening injuries and Reynolds later succumbed to his injuries.

This is Boston's fourth homicide of the year.



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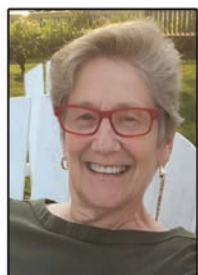


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JP resident Michael Holley interviews Mayor Marty Walsh

BY CARY SHUMAN

Boston Mayor Martin Walsh was in Everett recently to appear on “The Michael Holley Podcast” that is recorded live at the Night Shift Brewery and Taproom at 87 Santilli Highway.

Walsh said he was happy to be a guest on the popular podcast that is produced by NBC Sports Boston where Holley is a highly acclaimed host and TV personality.

“Michael is one of the best sports guys in the business and it’s an honor to come here and talk about sports,” said Walsh, who is in his second term as mayor of Boston. “I love sports.”

Prior to the podcast that took place in the Annex room at Night Shift, Walsh spoke about his connection to Everett. “It’s great to be here in Everett with its great history – obviously it’s the home of the former speaker [George Keve-

rian] and the former mayor, Eddie Connolly, two legends with whom I served in the House. Eddie Connolly was a great football player himself. And I worked together for a little while in the House with Rep. [Joseph] McGonagle.”

Walsh noted the rising Encore Casino, which is located close by to Night Shift Brewery. “I’m looking at the casino going up here and it’s all lit up and it looks good and the rooms are being readied,” said Walsh.

Holley, a former Boston Globe columnist and WEEI Sports Radio host, who lives in Jamaica Plain, said it was exciting to film his show at Night Shift Brewery.

“It’s a lot of fun because of the live audience,” said Holley. “I love being around people and I love the energy of people, so that’s what makes it different. I love podcasting and it goes to another level when you have people here. Night Shift is a great space with a lot of energy. It’s a conversational space.”

Holley said he has fond memories of Everett and its unparalleled high school football program.

“When I first wrote for the



Michael Holley of “The Michael Holley Podcast” accentuates a point during an interview with Boston Mayor Martin Walsh at the Night Shift Brewery and Taproom in Everett.



Boston Mayor Martin Walsh speaks with Michael Holley of NBC Sports Boston during a live recording of “The Michael Holley Podcast” at Night Shift Brewery and Taproom in Everett.

Globe, I did some high school football and covered the ‘Everett [High] Machine,’” recalled Holley. “I was shocked that they lost this year. What an upset.”

Holley, who grew up in Ohio, said he likes the personable, hard-working nature of Everett residents.

“I grew up around a lot of hard-working, working-class, down-to-earth people and that’s what I like,” said Holley. “I like people who aren’t putting on airs – here it is, what you see is what you get. And that’s what I like about Everett.”

Kim Currier, marketing director at Night Shift Brewery,

said the establishment will host eight podcasts that are released on the NBC Sports Boston site every other Thursday.

“NBC Sports Boston was looking for a unique venue where people could participate in the podcast and we were really excited to be able to partner with them,” said Currier. “We’re looking to get our audience growing about the brewery and this is just a really cool location for them to do it on site.”

Nightshift Brewery Events Manager Carla Ricci was also on hand to welcome Walsh and Holley to the venue.

Partnerships Matching Funds program provides funding for new skate park in JP

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Continuing to make significant investments within the Massachusetts state parks system, the Baker-Polito Administration announced \$990,582 in funding to twenty five municipalities, non-profit organizations, and other entities as part of the Fiscal Year 2019 Partnerships Matching Funds Program including a skate park in the Southwest Corridor in Jamaica Plain.

The program, which is administered by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), provides critical funds for projects that are proposed by park advocacy groups, civic and community organizations, institutions, non-state government partners, and individuals with an interest in improving the Commonwealth’s natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

“Developing public, private partnerships remains a vital component of our Administra-

tion’s efforts to leverage state dollars with private funds for common goals that directly benefit the public,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “The funding provided to these twenty-five projects through the Partnerships Matching Funds Program will have a long lasting impact on the Commonwealth’s state parks system.”

“By working closely with passionate advocacy groups, non-profit organizations, individuals, and municipal leaders, we are able to make significant investments that will enhance state parks throughout the Commonwealth,” said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. “Organizations present strong project proposals for consideration every year, and I am pleased we are able to use this program to continue to focus on the needs of local parks, communities, and regions.”

Every year, DCR accepts applications from partner

organizations that provide funds for park improvements that are matched by DCR. For FY 2019, there were 25 finalists with a total investment \$1,821,400, and at least one of these finalists was in the 11th Suffolk district. The partnership work is to construct a community skate park in the Southwest Corridor Park. DCR matched Converse / Wheels of Steel’s \$25,000 with twice the dollar amount, \$50,000, for a total budget of \$75,000.

Projects proposed within the state parks system are thoroughly reviewed by agency staff and the DCR Commissioner. Once selected, the agency matches the private investment in the park. All projects are managed by DCR to oversee the implementation of the project in close consultation with contributing partners and other stakeholders.

“The Partnership Matching Funds Program expands access within state parks

across the Commonwealth by providing critical funds to support these twenty-five worthwhile projects,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Matthew Beaton. “Projects such as the construction of new pathways, trail improvements, and ADA compliant features are just some of the many enhancements that will be made utilizing these funds.”

“The Baker-Polito Administration continues to work closely with dedicated individuals and organizations to foster strong public, private partnerships in order to achieve important shared goals,” said Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner Leo Roy. “The state parks system offers a wealth of recreational opportunities, and the DCR is proud to work with park advocates to enhance our natural, cultural, and recreation resources for all to enjoy.”

DCR matches partner con-

tributions of up to and including \$25,000 at 2:1, and 1:1 for contributions above \$25,000. In certain circumstances, DCR will consider a 2:1 match for contributions above \$25,000, for example multi-phase projects with the same partner. Partner matches are donated to the Commonwealth’s Conservation Trust.

This is a project from FY14 that is finally underway thanks to the dedicated individuals at Converse, Wheels of Steel, and DCR. This project will fund the design and construction of a renovated community skate park in the Southwest Corridor in Jamaica Plain.

“I’m incredible grateful for the partnership between DCR, Converse, and Wheels of Steel, which will fund the much-needed renovation of an outdoor recreational space for our community’s youth and future generations to come,” said State Representative Liz Malia (D-11th Suffolk).

NEWS BRIEFS

EVAN THOMSON NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

Evan Thomson, Class of 2020, from Jamaica Plain, was named to the dean's list at Bucknell University during the fall semester of the 2018-19 academic year. A student must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a scale of 4.0 to receive dean's list recognition.

Located in Lewisburg, Pa., Bucknell University is a highly selective private liberal arts university that offers majors in the arts, engineering, humanities, management, and social and natural sciences, along with broad opportunities outside of class, to its 3,600 undergraduates. Graduate programs are available in select disciplines. Students benefit from a small student-faculty ratio of 9:1, personal attention from faculty, leadership opportunities, and excellent graduation rates and career outcomes.

LOCAL STUDENTS ON DEAN'S LIST AT EMERSON COLLEGE

The following students have been named to Emerson College's Dean's List for the Fall 2018 semester. The requirement to make the Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher that semester. Hannah Riffe of JP, Nicole Lawrence of JP, Rocco Sanabria of JP.

MILLER PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR AT BU

Jamaica Plain resident Mark Miller, PhD, has been promoted to the rank of professor at Boston University School of Medicine. He is a Clinical Psychologist in the Behavioral Sciences Division of the National Center for PTSD at VA Boston Health-



Dr. Mark Miller.

care System. He is an internationally recognized expert in the genetics, neurobiology, and assessment of PTSD. As a Principal Investigator, he has been continuously funded by the National Institute of Mental Health and/or the US Department of Veterans Affairs for almost 20 years. He has published more than 100 peer-reviewed papers on the topic of PTSD and related conditions and this body of work has been cited approximately 6,000 times. Dr. Miller is currently an Associate Editor for the American Psychological Association's flagship publication, the Journal of Abnormal Psychology, and he previously served in the same capacity for two other leading journals in the field of traumatic stress. He is a frequent grant reviewer for the NIH and other US and international funding agencies and he has served as a research mentor to numerous pre- and post-doctoral trainees in Boston University training programs.

1199SEIU VOTERS RATIFY FIRST CONTRACT AT FAULKNER HOSPITAL

After sixteen months of negotiations, more than 500 health-

care workers at Brigham & Women's Faulkner Hospital ratified their first contract as members of the state's largest healthcare union, 1199SEIU, on December 27, 2018.

"This is a major victory for Faulkner workers who made it very clear they wanted to fight for a contract that raises standards for healthcare workers, gives them a voice at the table, provides funding for career advancement and training, and ensures a working environment where all staff are treated with dignity and respect," said 1199SEIU Executive Vice President Tim Foley.

Faulkner workers in house-keeping, dietary, radiology, and among others are covered by the four-year contract which includes annual wage increases.

"I am so excited to win a contract that elevates our voices as caregivers. With wage increases, creation of labor-management committees, and an equitable pay scale, this contract benefits not only us but also those we care for," said Nikki Bossou, who works at Faulkner as a Gastroenterology Technician.

GARDENING LECTURE SERIES SET FOR MARCH 21

For home-gardeners looking to take their knowledge and skills to the next level, the Massachusetts Master Gardener Association (MMGA) has announced a new spring session of its popular 10-week Home Horticulture Evening Lecture Series: the program will run on Thursday evenings March through May at the Boston Nature Center and Wildlife Conservancy, Mattapan, a MassAudubon property.

According to MMGA Home Horticulture Series Coordinator Chris Gatti, "The association started Home Hort in response to experienced gardeners who were interested in Master Gardener Training but whose lifestyles

didn't permit them to attend daytime classes or volunteer. For them – as well as for novice gardeners – the Home Hort Series offers a streamlined, informal format: ten 90-minute evening classes, no homework or testing, and no volunteering."

Classes will be held on ten consecutive Thursday evenings, 6:30-8:00 p.m., March 21 through May 23. Lectures cover the same topics studied by Master Gardeners but in an abbreviated format and include important fundamentals such as building great soil and how plants work...as well as practical how-to's like basic landscape design, perennial selection and care, and combating weeds, diseases and pests.

For gardeners with some experience, the Home Hort lecture series offers an opportunity to refine their knowledge and skills. For novices, it provides a strong learning foundation for designing and planting this year's garden.

The cost is \$250.00 per person for all ten lectures. Instructors are senior Master Gardeners with in-depth experience in their respective topics. Handouts are provided.

For additional information or to sign up, visit <http://massmastergardeners.org/spring-2019-home-horticulture-series/> or email HomeHort@massmastergardeners.org

STUDENTS NAMED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT DEAN'S LIST

To be named to the dean's list, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their respective college or school.

The following local students have been named to the University of Vermont dean's list for the Fall 2018 semester: Hunter Amory of JP, Peninah Hodin of JP, Merrick Gillies of JP, Erin Gallagher of Boston. Since 1791, the University of Vermont has worked to move humankind forward. Committed to both research and teaching, UVM professors -- world-class researchers, scholars, and artists -- bring their discoveries into the classroom and their students into the field. Located in Burlington, Vermont, one of the nation's most vibrant small cities and top college towns, UVM is a Public Ivy and top 100 national research university educating 10,513 undergraduate students, 1,542 graduate students, 826 certificate and non-degree students, and 459 M.D. students in the Larner College of Medicine.

Black

Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll



YUBABA

Yubaba is a big hunka spunk looking for a new home! This stunning pigeon was found as a stray in rough shape, and was brought in to the MSPCA to be treated. He's feeling mighty fine now, and ready to blow this coop! His favorite hobbies



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For more information about Yubaba and other animals in need of adoption, please contact:



"Gazette Pet of the Week" is a biweekly submission sponsored by Sarah Carroll, Sales Associate of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage 713 Centre St. • Jamaica Plain • 617-522-4600

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7TH ANNUAL BOSTON FOR ALL EVENT AT SPONTANEOUS CELEBRATIONS

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

After the 2016 Presidential Election Jeremy Fischer wanted to be a part of a positive movement for an all-inclusive nation in response to the division he saw. So he began Boston For All, with proceeds raised donated to human rights organizations. The 7th Boston For All event on Sunday, Jan. 20, was a day of hula-hooping, plate juggling, arts and crafts, boogie boarding, and more held at Spontaneous Celebrations. The next Boston For All extravaganza will be Sunday, June 9, 10 a.m. at the Jamaica Pond Boathouse. The event will be a "Run For All" community gathering of one or two

laps (running, skipping, walking, or crab-walking) around Jamaica Pond.



Adam James shows off his plate spinning skills.



Founder of Boston For All Jeremy Fischer and City Councilor Matt O'Malley (top row) pose with participants of the latest Boston For All event at Spontaneous Celebrations.



Max Osher is proud of his plate spinning moment.



Founder of Boston For All, Jeremy Fischer, speaks to the gathering.

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7TH ANNUAL BOSTON FOR ALL EVENT AT SPONTANEOUS CELEBRATIONS



Aya Abramowitz has mastered her plate spinning game.



Kiva Wapinski is rocking on the boogie board.



Allison and Aaron Schmidt share in some arts and crafts.



Alejo Berk is mesmerized by his spinning plate.



Antonia and Andy Fera-Stein examine Antonia's work.



Founder of Boston For All, Jeremy Fischer, speaks to the gathering.



Linnea Hals (right) gets some help from her dad, Peter, on the boogie board.

Cyan Magenta Yellow Black

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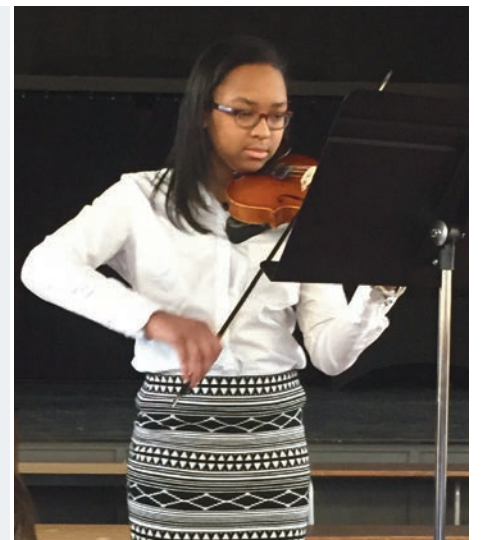
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ESAC awarded \$240,000 from AG's Health Care Division

Attorney General Maura Healey announced nearly \$3 million in funding under a new grant program focused on addressing the social determinants of health, including nutrition, safe housing, violence prevention, and substance use, all of which impact the health of individuals, families and communities. Among the recipients of the grant was Ecumenical Social Action Committee (ESAC) of Jamaica Plain. AG Healey's Social

Determinants Partnership program will provide grants to promote health equity across Massachusetts to 13 partnerships made up of health care providers, social service organizations, and municipal government agencies. Ecumenical Social Action Committee (ESAC) of Jamaica Plain will work in partnership with the Uphams' Corner Health Committee Inc. and Johns Hopkins School of

Nursing. Through this partnership, ESAC will work with the Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), a program administered by MassHealth and Medicare, to provide a range of in-home care and services to elderly patients, such as assessing and modifying their homes to reduce the risk of falls. The grant totaled \$240,000. "As a state and as a country, we continue to spend most of

our health care dollars treating people who are already sick, rather than investing to keep people healthy," said AG Healey. "These grants will support new partnerships to improve nutrition, housing, and other social determinants to protect the health of every Massachusetts resident."

The Social Determinants Partnership grants are funded by recent settlements reached by the AG's Health Care Division.

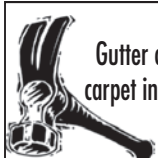


Emily Morris Litonjua, Executive Director of ESAC (left), with Attorney General Maura Healey.

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Chapter And Verse literary reading series at the Loring-Greenough House on Feb. 8

Poet, visual artist, and oral historian Susan Eisenberg works within and across genres, playing with scale and juxtaposition to investigate issues of power and social policy. Her fifth poetry collection, *Stanley's Girl* (Cornell, 2018) is rooted in her

experience as one of the first women to enter the construction industry, and reflections from that vantage point. She's the author of *We'll Call You If We Need You: Experiences of Women Working Construction*, With a New Preface, and an online exhibition, *On Equal*

Terms: Gender and Solidarity. Her essay in Denise Leverett, *In Company* explores that mentorship's impact on her writing.

Aaron Tillman is Associate Professor of English and Director of the Honors Program at Newbury College. His short story collection, *Every Single Bone in My Brain*, was published by Braddock Avenue Books in July 2017, and his book of critical non-fiction, *Magical American Jew*, was published by Lexington Books in November 2017. He is a 2019 and 2018 Pushcart Prize nominee, and his fiction has appeared in *Mississippi Review*, *Glimmer Train*, *Harpur Palate*, *Narrative Magazine*, *Sou'wester*, *upstreet*, *The Madison Review*, *great weather for MEDIA*, and elsewhere. He lives in Boston and can be found online at aaron-tillmanfiction.com.

Dan Lynn Watt, the author of *History Lessons: A Memoir of Growing up in an American Communist Family*, grew up in New York during the McCarthy Period. The book describes the idealism of his early years, and how he and his extended family fought for racial equality, social and economic justice, while struggling with political repression. Dan is retired from a long career as an innovator in educational reform movements. His book, *Learning with Logo* (1983), sold more than 100,000 copies worldwide. He is currently part of several Boston area writers networks including the North Cambridge Arts Association, the William Joiner Institute's Writers Workshop, and the Bagel Bards. He and his wife, poet Molly Lynn Watt, live in Cambridge Cohousing.

Suggested donation: \$5.00

or whatever you can afford. (We mean this. We would rather have you than your money.) Free refreshments are served.

Parking Information: The Loring-Greenough House has a parking lot, but four spaces are reserved for ZIP Cars. Please respect these spaces, and also please try not to park on the grass. There is nonrestricted street parking and a large, free public parking lot off Centre Street between Burroughs and Thomas Streets just a block from the Loring-Greenough House.

For more information check our website at <http://jamaicapon poets.com> or email dorothy.derifield@gmail.com or call 617-325-8388. Upcoming Chapter and Verse Literary Readings in the 2018/2019 Series are tentatively scheduled for Fridays at 7:30 p.m. on March 8, April 12 and May 10.



Forest Hills workers and commuters stop for a photo with the Red Sox World Series trophy at the Massachusetts Health Connector 'Day of Coverage.'

World Series trophy makes stop at Forest Hills

On Thursday, Jan. 17, the Massachusetts Health Connector held its 'Day of Coverage' featuring activities across the Commonwealth designed to help people #Get-Covered and #StayCovered with health insurance for the new year.

Day of Coverage activities included a Red Sox World Series Championship trophy photo booth at Forest Hills Station in Jamaica Plain.

Day of Coverage activities were also held in Hyannis, Oak Bluffs, Worcester, Lawrence, and Framingham, all communities with higher rates of uninsured residents than the population at large.

"Massachusetts is a leader in health care access and affordability because throughout the Commonwealth people recognize the need and importance of having health insurance, and the financial and health benefits that come with being covered," said Louis Gutierrez, the Executive Director of the Massachusetts

Health Connector. "Throughout Open Enrollment we will provide a stable experience to people who are signing up for coverage, while also making sure people who already have health insurance maintain coverage in 2019."

For those who need help with an application or picking a Health Connector plan for 2019, Navigators and Certified Application Counselors are available to offer assistance. People needing help can call 1-877-MA-ENROLL, or go to the Health Connector website and find a local assister.

The Health Connector currently serves more than 260,000 individuals and small-employer members with health insurance offering 57 plans from nine carriers. About 80,000 people receive dental insurance through the Exchange. New applicants and renewing members can go to the Health Connector's website, www.MAhealthconnector.org to secure coverage.

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JP Agenda

The deadline for listings is noon, Tues. Feb. 5 for the Feb. 8 issue. Send listings to reporter@jamaicaplainingazette.com. Note: 617 should be dialed before numbers below, unless another area code is given.

Meetings

Stonybrook Neighborhood Association. next meeting is Monday, February 11, 7-9pm, back room of Doyle's, 3484 Washington St. More/latest info: www.sna-jp.org

Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council will meet on Tuesday, February 19, 2018 at 7:00 pm, at Farnsworth House, 90 South Street.

Vacancy on the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council

People who are interested in an available seat on the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council can contact Kevin Rainsford, chair of the Council at (617)866-7672 or kprainsford@gmail.com

There is one vacancy in Area A. The area map is available at <http://www.jpnc.org/jpnc-map/>.

The Jamaica Pond Association will meet on Monday, February 4, at the First Baptist Church in Jamaica Plain, at 633 Centre Street, at the corner of Centre and Myrtle. The meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. and will adjourn at 9:00 p.m.

Police Community Relations Meeting will take place on Thursday, February 7 at 6:30pm at Curtis Hall, 20 South Street.

Commanders from Boston Police Area E, MBTA Police and State Police will deal with all issues of public safety raised by the community. All interested residents are invited to attend. Latino Monthly Meeting monthly will meet on Thursday, Feb. 14 at 6:30PM 155 Lamartine St., Jamaica Plain

The Public Service Committee of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 5 at 7:00pm at Curtis Hall, 20 South Street.

On the agenda will be a petition of Ethiopian Café at 377 Centre Street for a Beer and Wine License, with Firehiwot Zeleke as manager. All interested residents are invited to attend.

JP Zoning: Our next regularly-scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, February 3 at Farnsworth House. On the agenda will be 6 Peter Parley Road (change a single-family

to a three-family residence), 53 Jamaica Street (add new master bedroom on second level of existing dwelling and add unenclosed deck to rear), and likely 1890 Columbus Avenue (the Walgreens in Egleston Square, seeking to erect two freestanding LED signs). Our meeting following February 3 will be February 17.

The Committee's next upcoming meetings will be February 6 and February 20. For more info, visit jpnc.org.

JP Problem Properties Committee, first Wednesday of the month, 10:30am, E-13 Police Station Community Room, 3347 Washington St. Info: Liana Poston, 722-2060.

Youth/Families

Winter Dance Fest: Frozen Themed JP Dance Co-op is hosting its first ever Winter Dance Fest for preschool children and their parents. This special dance class will be inspired by Disney's "Frozen" movie. Sunday, January 27, 11-12pm, Spontaneous Celebrations. \$15. Email Caitlin to sign up: JP-DanceCoop@gmail.com.

The Roberto Clemente 21 Sports program is now accepting applications (boys and girls ages 6-16). Location: The Hennigan Community Center, 200 Heath St., Jamaica Plain. Info: 617-828-9524 or alliriano@yahoo.com.

Healthy Kids Running Series (HKRS) is a series of races and competitions held on consecutive Sunday afternoons in the fall and spring for kids ages 3 - 8th grade, and it is a really great way for kids to experience fun competition, enjoy the outdoors and get in some activity on a (hopefully) nice weekend afternoon. They are currently looking for sponsors for the fall season! If your business would like to learn more or has any interest in being a sponsor, please feel free to contact Adam at amarks555@yahoo.com or 610-999-5937.

Spanish-English Language Exchange / Intercambio de Idiomas en Inglés y Español, Saturdays / sábados, 12 - 1:45 p.m. Connolly Branch Library.

Support Group for Young Parents, a program of Jewish Family and Children's Services, open to all faiths, for parents with children from birth to one-year, registration not required. Thursdays, 10:30am-noon. Info: 781-647-5327/info@jfcsofboston.org.

Tiny Tots World Music and

Movement, music classes for kids age 2-5 by Helder Tsinine, Mondays 11-11:45am; Saturdays, 10-10:45am, \$17 per class or \$90 for 6 weeks, Egleston YMCA, 3134 Washington St. Info: htsinine@gmail.com.

Family art class, wheelchair accessible, Tuesdays 10:30am-11:30am, ages 3-5. Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30pm, ages 5+. Family Resource Center, 1542 Columbus Ave. Info: 522-1018.

Egleston Square Library, free homework help, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, ongoing throughout the school year, 3:30-5:30pm, 2044 Columbus Ave, Roxbury.

Health/Fitness

JPForum: Inequality & Our Well-Being with Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett on Wed Jan. 23@7pm at First Church UU Jamaica Plain, 6 Eliot Street, Jamaica Plain, MA.

A decade ago, UK public health leaders Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett revolutionized the discussion about inequality and health disparities with the publication of their globally-recognized book, THE SPIRIT LEVEL: Why Equality is Better for Everyone. Wilkinson and Pickett will be our guests at the Jamaica Plain Forum discussing their new book: THE INNER LEVEL: How More Equal Societies Reduce Stress, Restore Sanity and Improve Everyone's Well-Being. This is one of only two Boston area appearances on their U.S. book tour. Reserve a FREE ticket to "Inequality and Our Well-Being" <http://bit.ly/PickettANDWilkinson>

parkrun is a grassroots, community running event, run by volunteers for the local running and walking community. We hold free timed 5k events every week. Everyone is invited to run, jog or walk for 5k (two laps around the pond). We are very proud to be the first parkrun in Boston, MA. It's been a very successful initiative for getting people of all ages outside to exercise, and to meet members of their local community. We meet on Saturdays at 8:45am at the top of the Sugarbowl. Run starts at 9:00am. All welcome, all ages, all abilities.

Yoga, meditation and stress reduction classes at the Mind-Body Center (SJPHC-HPC) @ 10 Green Street. Low cost or free, in English and Spanish. For more information call 983-4226.

Fitness Walk, Saturdays, 8-9am, Franklin Park Golf Club-

house parking lot. Info: alison.g.m.brown@gmail.com.

Care to Care, a support group for family caregivers of people with Alzheimer's and other dementias, second Wednesdays of the month, 6:30-7:30pm. Springhouse, 44 Allandale St. Info: Meredith Griffiths, 522-0043/mgriffiths@springhouse-boston.org.

Forest Hills Runners, several weekly group runs, info/schedule: foresthillsrunners.org.

Seniors

Café Connections NEW from Ethos! Combine a nutritious lunch with an informative and interactive workshop that also includes a simple exercise routine to stretch and strengthen. Learn how to eat well, control pain, begin an exercise program, handle stress and relax, and increase your energy level. Lunch and Workshop are offered at no charge. Anyone from any neighborhood may join in. Location: Woodbourne Apartments, 6 Southbourne Road in Jamaica Plain Day and Time: Thursdays, beginning at 11:00 a.m. Class dates: January 31st thru March 7th, 2019 For more information or to register for this workshop contact Ann Glora at 617-477-6616 or aglora@ethocare.org

Monthly Memory Café, Are you an individual with memory loss? Are you a caregiver to someone with memory loss? Are you looking for an enjoyable way to spend time together? Come and enjoy coffee, creative arts, refreshments and conversations with new friends of all ages. Amory Street Housing Development, 125 Amory St., in the community room. Meets the last Thursday of every month from 1:30-3pm. Free to all. Call Brittany McLaren at Upham's Elder Service Plan at 440-1615 or email bmclaren@uphams.org for more info.

Monthly Memory Café. Please join us on January 28 and the last Monday of each month, from 10:30-noon, at the Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 30 South Street. The January 28 Café will be cosponsored by the Rogerson House, which will provide a music therapist and refreshments that day. Come to enjoy activities and join in conversations that will allow time to share memories, laughter and concerns. If you are experiencing memory lapses, you are welcome to attend. Anyone requiring special assistance should be accompanied by a caregiver. Free to all. Questions? Contact the library at 617-524-2053.

ABCD Good Life Healthy Living Club, monthly wellness sessions, for adults 50+, Wednes-

days, 10am. My Life, My Health, class for adults 50+ with chronic health conditions, weekly classes, Thursdays, 2pm. Computer classes for adults 50 and older, Mondays, 3pm. 30 Bickford St. Info: 522-4251.

Community Arts Music Program for Seniors, Curtis Hall, 20 South St., Fridays 10:30-noon. Info: 983-3638.

Ethos workshops for healthy aging, Chronic disease management Tuesdays, 10am, SJPHC, 640 Centre St., powerful tools, Wednesdays, 4:30pm Ethos, 555 Amory St. Info: ethoscare.org.

Diabetes Self-Management Program, Hyde Park Community Center, 1179 River St., Wednesdays 9:30am-noon. Info: Ann Glora at 477-6616.

Crossroads Café, free lunch and social event for seniors and their guests, often featuring live music and educational presentations. Food made with local produce and other healthy ingredients. Bread, produce, milk, and leftovers to take home as available. Saturdays, First Baptist Church, 633 Centre St., 12:00-2pm. Info: 524-3992/www.firstbaptistjp.org.

Volunteers

Volunteer Tutors Needed, The Boston Teachers Union School is looking for volunteers to tutor middle school students one-on-one or in small groups Tuesday and/or Wednesday afternoons from 3 to 4:30 PM. Contact: David Weinstein, 7/8th Grade Math Teacher, Boston Teachers Union Pilot School, dweinstein@boston-publicschools.org, 857-334-9855.

Volunteer as a mentor or tutor, help students explore career and college opportunities. Tutor students in a range of subjects including math, science, history, English, foreign languages, SAT, and more. Tues, Weds, and Thurs, 3-8pm, Saturday 10am-2:30pm. To apply: www.hydesquare.org/get-involved/join-our-programs/

English for New Bostonians, looking for volunteers to serve as ESL tutors. Info: 982-6864 / fmartinez@englishfornewbostonians.org.

VNA Care, a nonprofit home health and hospice organization, needs volunteers to provide companionship to patients and respite for family members in close to your home. Training, supervision, and support are provided. Call 781-569-2811 for more information about becoming a hospice volunteer or visit www.vnacare.org.

INVITACIÓN

Plazo para la sección de eventos: martes, 5 de febrero para la edición de 8 de febrero. Mande eventos a reporter@jamaicaplaingazette.com. Para los números de teléfono, el código de área es 617.

Reuniones

Asociación de vecinos Stonybrook, lunes, 11 feb, 7-9 pm, Doyle's, 3484 Washington St. sna-jp.org.

JPNC, martes, 19 feb, 7 pm, Farnsworth House, 90 South Street.

JPNC vacante, hay vacante en JPNC, hable con Kevin Rainsford, director de la junta: 866-7672, kprainsford@gmail.com.

The Jamaica Pond Association, lunes, 4 feb, First Baptist Church, 633 Centre Street, 7-9 pm.

Reunión entre la policía y la comunidad, jueves, 7 feb, 6.30 pm, Curtis Hall, South Street. Con representación de la comisaría E-13.

Comité de servicio público de JPNC, reunión mensual martes, 5 febrero, 7 pm, Curtis Hall, 20 South Street. Agenda: petición de Ethiopian Café en 377 Centre Street.

Zonificación de JP: reunión jueves, 3 febrero, Farnsworth House. Agenda: 6 Peter Parley Road, 53 Jamaica Street, 1890 Columbus Avenue. Otras reuniones 6 y 20 febrero. jpnc.org.

Vacante en JPNC, los con interés: Kevin Rainsford, director, 866-7672 o kprainsford@gmail.com. Reunión mensual martes, 22 enero, 7pm, Farnsworth House, 90

South Street. Hay un vacante en Area A. Mapa: jpnc.org/jpnc-map/.

Grupo de interconexión, capítulo local de BNI, reuniones los miércoles, Farnsworth House, 7am. Consiste en 30 miembros con trabajos variados. Objetivo, promover los negocios de otros. Para gente que vive o trabaja en JP. Katelyn Atwater: 431-0929. Comité de casas abandonadas en JP, primer miércoles del mes, 10.30, en la comisaría del distrito E-13, salón comunitario, 3347 Washington St. Liana Poston, 722-2060.

Noticias públicas

MassDOT pavimentación de noche, al oeste de West Roxbury District Courthouse, de 8pm a 6am durante cuatro semanas.

Programa de comida comunitaria, comidas gratuitas, con opciones veganas. Comida casera sana. Cena cada miércoles, 6.30pm. Almuerzo, Crossroad Café cada sábado, 12pm. Más: 524-3992, [HYPERLINK "mailto:Churchoffice@firstbaptistjp.org"](mailto:HYPERLINKmailto:Churchoffice@firstbaptistjp.org) Churchoffice@firstbaptistjp.org

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Buscamos a pequeños empresarios para nuevo pro-

grama de tutoría, para ofrecer una red de interconexión para pequeños empresarios. Con oportunidades de hacer conexiones con asociaciones de negocios. Con Renee Wong, una consultante económica de JP. Renee Wong: w.renee@gmail.com. Ginger Brown: directorjpcsms@gmail.com.

Línea de quejas sobre el ruido del aeropuerto, línea de quejas de Massport sobre el ruido, abierta 6am to 6pm. Llame cuando le molesta el ruido de aviones de la pista 27 de Logan: 561-3333. Los Congresistas Mike Capuano (621-6208) y Steven Lynch (428-2000) también quiere que la gente llame sobre ruido de aviones.

La eliminación de agujas, Las agujas/jeringas no se pueden tirar en la basura normal de la casa. Lugar para depositar: AIDS Action Committee, 75 Amory St. Programa de intercambio de agujas para los usuarios de drogas inyectables disponible en AHOPE Boston en 534-3963. Si ha encontrado una aguja en un área público, llame a la línea directa del alcalde: 635-4500.

Compostaje comunal, sábados, 10am-2pm, mercado de agricultores de Egleston Square, 45 Brookside Ave. greenovateboston.gov.

Spotheoles, herramienta para reportar hoyos, 635-4500, con la aplicación móvil Citizens Connect, cityofboston.gov/mayor/24, y usando #spotheoles en twitter.

Jóvenes/Familias

Baile de Invierno: Tema Frozen; JP Dance Co-op presenta su primer baile de invierno para niños preescolares y sus padres. Tema, Frozen de Disney. Domingo, 27 enero, 11-12pm, Spontaneous Celebra-

tions. \$15. Mande un correo electrónico a Caitlin para registrarse: jpdancecoop@gmail.com.

Programa de Deportes Roberto Clemente acepta aplicaciones para niños y niñas 6-16. El centro comunitario, 200 Heath St. 828-9524 o aliriano@yahoo.com.

Intercambio de idiomas español/inglés, sábados, 12-1.45pm Connolly Branch Library.

Healthy Kids Running Series (HKRS) es una serie de carreras y competiciones los domingos para niños del tercero al octavo. Se buscan patrocinadores. Adam: amarks555@yahoo.com / 610-999-5937.

Intercambio de idioma inglés-español, sábados, 12-1:45pm, Connolly Branch Library.

Grupo de apoyo para padres/madres jóvenes, un programa de Jewish Family and Children's Services, para gente de todas religiones, para padres/madres de niños con menos de un año, no se requiere inscribirse. Los jueves, 10.30am-noon. 781-647- 5327, info@jfcbsboston.org.

Intercambio de idiomas inglés-español, los sábados, 12-1.45pm. Connolly Branch Library.

Egleston Square Library, ayuda con la tarea gratuita, los lunes, martes, miércoles y jueves, durante el año escolar, 3.30-5.30pm, 2044 Columbus Ave, Roxbury.

Salud y bienestar físico

JPForum: la desigualdad y nuestro bienestar, con Richard Wilkinson y Kate Pickett, miércoles, 23 enero, 7pm, First Church UU Jamaica Plain, 6 Eliot Street. Hablan de sus libros The Spirit Level y The

Inner Level. Boletos gratuitos: bit.ly/picketandwilkinson.

Yoga para principiantes con Juan Sosa; 29 dic, 4pm, Blissful Monkey Studio. Donación. 983-9698.

Paseos en bicicleta semanales, martes y jueves, paseo rápido. 7am en Ferris Wheels Bike Shop con su propia bici. 524-BIKE.

parkrun, evento comunitario de correo, con eventos de 5 kilómetros cada fin de semana. Todos los sábados, 8.45am, Sugarbowl. Carrera: 9.00am.

Yoga Franklin Park, los sábados, 9.15-10.15am, Schoolmaster Hill, tenemos alfombras. franklinparkcoalition.org.

Paseo para el bienestar, los sábados, 8-9am, Lote de estacionamiento del club de golf de Franklin Park. alison.g.m.brown@gmail.com.

Clases de yoga, meditación y la reducción del estrés, bajo costo, algunas gratis, inglés y español, MindBody/Health Promotion Center, 10 Green St. 983-4226.

Care to Care, un grupo de apoyo para la familia de personas con Alzheimer y otras demencias, segundo miércoles del mes, 6.30-7.30pm. 44 Allendale St. Meredith Griffiths: 522-0043, mgriffiths@springhouseboston.org.

Corredores de Forest Hills, varias corridas en grupo semanales, info/horario:foresthillsrunners.org.

Adultos Mayores

Café de Memoria Mensual, el último lunes del mes, 10.30am-12pm, Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 30 South Street. Compartamos actividades, memorias, risas y quejas. Los que experimenta lapsus de memoria son bienvenidos. Llame: 524-2053.



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BPDA votes to extend Jackson Square Partners as tentative designated developer for Jackson Square Master Plan Phase III

BY JOHN LYNDIS

Last week the Boston Planning and Development Agency voted to extend Jackson Square Partners, LLC status as tentative designated developer for the Jackson Square Master Plan Phase III--a mixed use development in Jackson Square involving 11.2 acres of largely vacant public and privately owned land where the Jamaica Plain and Roxbury communities meet. The extension of Jackson Square Partners, LLC, a collaboration led by Urban Edge and the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation (JPNDC), as tentative designated developer will expire on December 31, 2019.

Since the BPDA's plan to revitalize this area of Jackson Square began over a decade ago several milestones have been completed by Jackson Square Partners, LLC.

Already the development team has completed Jackson Commons. This project cost more than \$21 million and

is comprised of a 37 unit, mixed-use and mixed income housing development near the Jackson Square MBTA stop. The development is more than 10,000 square feet of ground floor retail, as well as 2,000 square feet of retail and commercial space. The redevelopment consisted of the adaptive re-use and renovation of the 100 year old, three story, 23,600 square foot Webb Building. The residential unit mix includes 25 two-bedrooms, 7 one bedrooms and 5 three-bedrooms. Eight units are reserved for homeless/formerly homeless residents while the remaining 29 units are affordable units.

The city and developer recently celebrated the groundbreaking of 75 Amory Ave. This development kicked off the third phase of a \$16 million development that will create 39 units of affordable housing for families. The project also secured \$200,000 from the EPA in the form of brownfields grant for the remediation of the former industrial sites next to Jackson

Commons at 1542 Columbus Avenue in Roxbury. This land will be transformed into a recreation center for the neighborhood.

However, the development team was forced to make some project changes that were approved by the BPDA. Due to loss of site control, Jackson Square Partners, LLC cannot proceed with one of the proposed buildings that was a proposed mixed use structure including 16 residential units connected to a 223 space structured parking facility intended to serve the project as well as provide overflow parking for other Jackson Square. The building at 15 Jackson St. has been modified to be a 100 percent affordable, multi-family, green, and transit-oriented project that will include 44 rental apartments to meet the affordable housing needs of various sized households in the neighborhood. The building also includes 22 parking spaces to accommodate the loss of structured parking on the scratched building mentioned earlier.



A rendering of the redevelopment project at Jackson Square.

The building at 250 Centre St. has been modified to be a mixed-income, mixed-use multifamily building that will include approximately 100 affordable and market-rate units to provide quality housing options to families of all incomes. This building will also include approximately 2,400 square feet of neighborhood focused retail. Approximately eighty parking spaces, both structured and at grade, have been added this part of the project to again accommodate for the loss of parking from the building eliminated from the project.

When complete, the \$250 million Jackson Square Redevelopment Master Plan will include more than 400 units of housing, 60,000 square feet of ground floor retail, two major community facilities, 10,000 square feet of office space, and will have generated an estimated 276 construction jobs. Among other funding sources, Urban Edge has received more than \$4 million in funding assistance from the City of Boston and more than \$2 million from the State's Department of Housing and Community Development.

Sen. Chang Diaz uses the spirit of Martin Luther King Day to call for education funding reform

BY SETH DANIEL

JP Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz took the podium at the 49th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast in the South Boston Convention Center and used the shining light of Dr. King's example to call for another local fight for justice -- that being the justice of equal education funding.

"I have watched this tragic inequality play out in Massachusetts schools for too long," she said at the breakfast. "We are one of the best states when it comes to educating our youth, but we are also amongst the worst with sharing that educational opportunity with every child...I named my new bill the PROMISE Act in remembrance of Dr. King's promissory note."

The speech came on the heels of Chang-Diaz filing another education reform bill on Jan. 9 -- a act in the memory of Dr. King which she called the PROMISE (Providing Rightful Opportunities and Mean-

ingful Investment for Successful and Equitable Education) Act. The act -- similar to one she filed in 2018 that died last summer before the end of the session -- will implement all four recommendations of the bipartisan Foundation Budget Review Commission (FBRC) -- including long-overdue equity provisions for low-income and English learner students. The Commonwealth has failed to update the aging foundation budget formula for more than 25 years, she said.

As an example, she told the crowd at the breakfast that in Concord schools, they spend an average of \$210 on supplies per student, while Springfield schools spend \$2.55 on the same supplies. Additionally, in Ashland, they have one social worker for every 82 students, while Boston schools have one for every 300 students.

"In the most needy district where students really need access to these social workers, we also see one of the largest

ratios of students to social worker," she commented. "We almost got there last year. This year I know we can go the distance."

She finished her fiery speech on what many education leaders are calling the greatest civil rights fight of our time with a call to past injustices against people of color and women.

"Many people will say that poor and majority-minority school districts cannot be trusted to spend any additional education dollars wisely," she said. "They will say that. I remind you to remember when those in power said blacks and women couldn't be trusted to make the correct decisions if given the right to vote."

Chang-Diaz's bill has been filed and it will advance through the legislature with several other similar bills. Speaker Bob DeLeo has said he is intent on getting some reform passed this year on education funding reform.

JP nonprofits raised money for food campus, community youth

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Community Servings

JP's Community Servings, a non-profit food and nutrition program that provides services to people throughout the Commonwealth who live with chronic illnesses, announced in their January newsletter that the \$500,000 that had been raised by December 31 was matched by the Manton Foundation to put towards their new building. Community Servings has been raising money to build an expanded 31,000 square foot food campus. According to their website, Community Servings, which delivered 650,000 medically tailored meals each year, is at capacity right now. The new food campus would allow them to increase the number of meals top more than 1,500,000 annually, increase the number of volunteers they could host, and "host families with children

and individuals with different abilities," the website states. Community Servings said they still have more work to do, so they urge people to donate to their "Food is the Foundation" campaign.

Hyde Square Task Force

In November, the Hyde Square Task Force (HSTF) was given \$100,000 by New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft. Kraft challenged the organization to match his donation. In a newsletter from HSTF on January 4, they had raised \$85,000. Celina Miranda, HSTF Executive Director, told the Gazette that as of January 23, the remaining \$15,000 was raised. "We were very excited to get to this point and appreciate the support we got from many of our neighbors!" Miranda said. The money will be used to help the youth in the community, according to the HSTF newsletter.

Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly elects Julia Wengrovitz as Board President

At the Annual meeting, last year, 2018 the Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly Board of Directors elected then Vice President Julia Wengrovitz as President.

Julia joined Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly (LBFE) as a board member in 2015, being drawn to the organization for its mission of relieving isolation in Boston's senior population. Julia was elected Board Vice President in 2017 and has also served on the Fundraising and Communications committees, acting as Chair of the Inaugural "Grandma's Kitchen" Fundraiser in 2018.

In speaking about her vision for the future of LBFE, Julia states "With Boston's

senior population increasing at a rapid rate, we will be able to keep up with that increase through programming like our City Sites and Friendship and Flowers, where we bring engaging programs into Boston senior living communities to encourage interaction with our volunteers and staff, as well as their neighbors. As we head into our 40th year, we want to be bold in the way we provide companionship, support, and care for the senior population of Boston, and we want to inspire people of goodwill to join us in this journey."

Julia has 10 years of experience in the health care and human resources industry, serving primarily in a marketing and communications



Julia Wengrovitz.

roles. Julia holds a B.S. in Marketing from Bentley University.

For more information contact Executive Director Nikki Shults at nshults.bos@littlebrothers.org or 617-524-8882.

LBFE -- Boston was founded in 1979 as part of a national network of non-prof-

it volunteer-based organizations committed to relieving isolation and loneliness among the elderly in Greater Boston. Our motto, flowers before bread, reflects our belief that living is more than a roof over our heads and food on the table, but also the presence of people who care. Staff and over 1,500 volunteers, provide companionship, support and care to over 800 elders seventy and over without the bene-

fit of family or adequate social contacts. Priority is given to those living independently at, or below the poverty line, without charge and without regard to race, gender, creed, nationality, or sexual orientation. LBFE - Boston is a 501(c)(3) operating solely with the support of individual donors, volunteers and foundation or corporate assistance. For more information, visit www.littlebrothersboston.org.

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ON THE POLICE BEAT

Incident	Address	Reported On	Primary	Occurred On
			Offense Code	
I182105033	48 DANFORTH ST	12/31/2018 1:09	ASSAULT - AGGRAVATED - BATTERY (00413)	12/31/2018 1:09
I192000552	8 BEETHOVEN ST	1/2/2019 22:18	ASSAULT - AGGRAVATED (00423)	1/2/2019 22:18
I192000762	TOWER ST / WASHINGTON ST	1/3/2019 16:58	ASSAULT - AGGRAVATED - BATTERY (00413)	1/3/2019 16:58
I192000678	88 DAY ST	1/3/2019 13:49	TRESPASSING (02610)	1/3/2019 12:23
I192001115	148 MINDEN ST	1/4/2019 19:26	BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL - NO FORCE (00522)	1/4/2019 19:26
I192001134	56 GREEN ST	1/4/2019 20:04	BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL - FORCE (00520)	1/4/2019 20:04
I192001187	12 SCHOOL ST	1/5/2019 2:41	BURGLARY - COMMERICAL - FORCE (00540)	1/5/2019 2:41
I192001268	6 ALFRED ST	1/5/2019 12:27	BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL - ATTEMPT (00521)	1/4/2019 17:00
I192001577	9 EASTLAND RD	1/6/2019 16:14	BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL - NO FORCE (00522)	1/6/2019 16:14
I192000310	3690 WASHINGTON ST	1/2/2019 1:17	LARCENY THEFT FROM BUILDING (00617)	1/2/2019 1:17
I192000533	241 WACHUSETT ST	1/2/2019 20:45	LARCENY THEFT FROM BUILDING (00617)	1/2/2019 20:45
I192000583	CENTRE ST / S HUNTINGTON AVE	1/3/2019 2:25	LARCENY PURSE SNATCH - NO FORCE (00612)	1/3/2019 2:25
I192000706	12 WESTMINSTER AVE	1/3/2019 14:36	LARCENY ALL OTHERS (00619)	12/14/2018 12:59
I192000757	27 CHESTNUT AVE	1/3/2019 17:31	LARCENY THEFT OF BICYCLE (00616)	12/19/2018 10:00
I192000776	36 FORBES ST	1/3/2019 17:32	LARCENY ALL OTHERS (00619)	1/3/2019 17:32
I192000813	326 CENTRE ST	1/3/2019 20:12	LARCENY ALL OTHERS (00619)	1/3/2019 16:34
I192000904	70 PETER PARLEY RD	1/4/2019 7:13	LARCENY THEFT FROM MV - NON-ACCESSORY	1/4/2019 7:13
I192000983	265 CENTRE ST	1/4/2019 13:49	LARCENY ALL OTHERS (00619)	12/23/2018 15:00
I192001135	91 BYNNER ST	1/4/2019 20:52	LARCENY THEFT FROM BUILDING (00617)	1/3/2019 17:00
I192001498	1 WARREN SQ	1/6/2019 10:45	LARCENY THEFT FROM MV - NON-ACCESSORY	1/5/2019 16:00
I192000221	21 SAINT ROSE ST	1/1/2019 16:05	ASSAULT SIMPLE - BATTERY (00802)	1/1/2019 16:05
I192000313	125 AMORY ST	1/2/2019 0:50	ASSAULT SIMPLE - BATTERY (00802)	1/2/2019 0:50
I192000776	36 FORBES ST	1/3/2019 17:32	LARCENY ALL OTHERS (00619)	1/3/2019 17:32
I192000809	36 FORBES ST	1/3/2019 20:01	ASSAULT SIMPLE - BATTERY (00802)	1/3/2019 18:30
I192001039	21 SAINT ROSE ST	1/4/2019 16:27	ASSAULT SIMPLE - BATTERY (00802)	1/1/2019 15:30
I192001109	79 GLEN RD	1/4/2019 19:04	ASSAULT SIMPLE - BATTERY (00802)	1/4/2019 17:50
I192001580	155 WILLIAMS ST	1/6/2019 16:20	ASSAULT SIMPLE - BATTERY (00802)	1/6/2019 16:20
I192001614	1890 COLUMBUS AVE	1/6/2019 17:56	ASSAULT SIMPLE - BATTERY (00802)	1/6/2019 17:56
I192001662	300 CENTRE ST	1/6/2019 22:29	ASSAULT SIMPLE - BATTERY (00802)	1/6/2019 22:29
I182105094	SOUTH ST & WASHINGTON ST	12/31/2018 11:25	DRUGS - POSS CLASS B - COCAINE, ETC. (01849)	12/31/2018 11:25
I192000057	177 WACHUSETT ST	1/1/2019 3:02	WEAPON - FIREARM - CARRYING / POSSESSING,	1/1/2019 3:02
I192001212	41 MOZART ST	1/5/2019 6:14	VANDALISM (01402)	1/5/2019 6:14
I192001500	3708 WASHINGTON ST	1/6/2019 10:49	VANDALISM (01402)	1/6/2019 7:00
I192001624	108 PERKINS ST	1/6/2019 19:38	VANDALISM (01402)	1/6/2019 12:38

Black

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN Docket No. SU09P1709GD In the interests of: Richard Dorian of Jamaica Plain, MA RESPONDENT Incapacitated Person/Protected Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition

has been filed by: Department of Mental Health of Boston, 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 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 a 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 10:00 a.m. on 02/07/2019 This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you must 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, Brian J. Dunn Date: January 15, 2019 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

1_25 JP

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME Docket No. SU18C0440CA In the matter of: Geylis Gonzalez To all persons interested in petition

described: A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Geylis Gonzalez of Jamaica Plain, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Eileen Elizabeth Gonzalez Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/21/2019. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 02, 2019 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

1/25/19 JP

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME Docket No. SU18C0361CA In the matter of: Gregory Martin Moynihan To all persons interested in petition described:

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Gregory Martin Moynihan of Jamaica Plain, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Gabrielle Miranda Morgan 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 01/31/2019. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 09, 2019 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

1/25/19 JP

Still no consensus from Stonybrook Neighborhood Assoc. on 50 Stedman

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Stonybrook Neighborhood Association (SNA) met for its monthly meeting on January 14, and though they still have not come to a complete agreement, the 50 Stedman St. project was a major talking point for the group.

As previously reported by the Gazette, the project at 50 Stedman Street includes the demolition of the existing one-story commercial structure at the address and the construction of a three-story, 24,000 square foot building that will have 21 residential units.

In November, the SNA took a vote on whether or not they were going to not oppose the proposal as it currently existed.

“We had a lot of participation from the neighborhood, and ultimately that vote did not pass,” said Danielle Cerny, a member of the steering committee. “We communicated that to the BPDA but we as a steering committee really want to see this project move forward. There’s been a lot of really hard work done by the neighborhood to make this proposal incredibly strong compared to what it was when it started. And I know that there are a lot of different opinions and the vote was a no last time that we took it,” Cerny added.

Cerny said that the BPDA wanted to move forward with the proposal this month, but SNA negotiated with them to get one more month to “try to come to a consensus as a

neighborhood.”

At the meeting in November, the big topic of discussion was surrounding the setbacks on direct abutter Mary Rigo’s property on Brookley St., as well as concerns for Bill Miceli’s Wentworth Service Station, which currently sits at the property and will have to be relocated if the project moves forward. Miceli was invited to the January SNA meeting, but did not show up—most likely because he was working—an SNA member said. However, they will try again in February to give him “an opportunity to express in his own voice what he feels about the proposal,” Cerny said.

When the group last spoke, Cerny said there were concerns about whether the Rigos (Mary and her son Andy) had been given enough time to engage in negotiations. She also said that at the time the vote went live, there was no updated proposal. “And our understanding is that, very understandably, gave folks pause and people wanted more time to see progress on that,” Cerny said.

Since that meeting in November, the developers have come back with an updated plan that moves the setbacks for the Rigos’ property from eight feet to ten feet. “That is still not the twelve feet that they’ve been looking for, but it is progress and it brings those setbacks down in compliance of what they should be for a multi-family unit,” Cerny said. SNA member Andy Rigo spoke about his opinions on

the progress, as well as what his mother thinks about the whole thing.

“From the setback standpoint, I feel like it’s a bit refreshing that we’ve gotten some progress from the developer and the most refreshing part about it is that all of a sudden everyone seems to understand what the requirements are,” Rigo said. He said he was pleased that everyone understands that a ten foot setback is compliant, and that they should have started with that.

However, Rigo does believe that the setbacks on the other side of the building are a “bit concerning still,” and said that his mother thinks it’s “still not fair.”

“I’m trying to work with her and I can’t legitimately come up with a good reason why one neighbor should get more of a setback than another,” Rigo said. “My mother is a little bit less upset about this granted that they’re actually following the rules when it comes to this particular setback but that is her feeling: why should I be treated differently than anyone else?”

He thinks her feelings are derived from the fact that she wasn’t involved from the very beginning, but now that is trying to get resolved. “I think we still have a little bit of bargaining power before this gets stamped by the BPDA,” he said.

Rigo added that his mother is also concerned about the increase of traffic and the safety of children in the neighborhood. He said that there is heavy traffic on Brookley

Street now, but when 50 Stedman becomes residential, it will only get worse.

“It is tough for her to handle all of this and she gets very upset about it,” Rigo said. “We would still like to see the 12 and we would definitely like to see something more reasonable on the other side.”

Cerny said that they’ve been talking to the BPDA “quite a bit about this property and trying to understand their rationale.” She said that the SNA has been told that the BPDA takes into consideration the current use of lots, and that they consider the 50 Stedman lot empty compared to other lots that have residents.

“The BPDA considers this proposal to be fair,” Cerny said. She added that they are weighing this against the other abutters who are in favor of going forward with the project, and that someone from the BPDA could attend the February SNA meeting to answer any leftover questions so the group can come to an agreement and move forward with the proposal.

Cerny said that it was a “valid concern in November that Mary had been late to the negotiations,” and that “everyone agrees that fairness is important.”

Though Bill Miceli was not at the meeting, the group also discussed mitigation for him, which led to a discussion of community benefits vs. helping out one individual. Jennifer Uhrhane said that any community benefits that would come out of this project should be different than help-

ing Bill, since he is one person.

Others in the group disagreed, saying that keeping a good mechanic in the community is a benefit to the whole community, but it is not the same as a more traditional community benefit. They hope there is room to negotiate for both helping Miceli and having other community benefits. Uhrhane said that she would like to see sidewalks in the area surrounding 50 Stedman as an example of a community benefit.

Uhrhane said that relocation assistance can take different forms: financial versus providing a new place for his business. Several members said they would like to put in writing how much notice he will have to be given to relocate and get set up.

“I think the neighborhood can do a lot better,” Jonathan McCurdy said. He said that there needs to continue to be pushback, and he feels like the process was rushed. “The communication hasn’t been clear,” he said, and said these things should be pushed for because it sets precedent.

The SNA ultimately boiled their discussion down to looking into the possibility of adjusting the setback on both sides to 11 feet, wanting to get in writing certain commitments to Miceli including money for relocation and length of notice to move, as well as pushing for more community benefits.

The SNA hopes to come to a consensus and vote on this proposal at its Feb. 11 meeting.

School Committee: Boston superintendent position will be desirable job

BY SETH DANIEL

The superintendent of schools in Boston will be a desirable job across the country, School Committee Chair Michael Loconto said this month as the process began to choose a new school leader.

“Boston is a place people want to be and always has been,” he said. “It’s big enough in some ways that you can achieve noteworthy results, but a specific size where you can also innovate. You get a lot of support from higher education, business leaders and philanthropy here...There’s been a lot of chatter at about the opening in Boston. People have been suggesting candi-

dates throughout the fall. We believe we’ll see a good crop of viable candidates.”

The Committee has approved its job description for the position already late last year, and brought on the search firm of Isaacson Miller.

The firm has an agreement in principal now, he said, and they are getting to work with the Search Committee.

“We’re on track to have public interviews this spring and have someone chosen on or before the start of the next school year,” he said. “It’s important for us to get someone on board for the start of the next school year. It will be important to bring them on as far

in advance as we can...There’s a lot that goes into that.”

Right now, Boston does face some competition among major cities, with Dallas and Houston having vacancies. Those are much bigger cities though, and Loconto said some of the real competitors are the likes of Columbus, Ohio and Denver – who also have vacancies and are searching.

Some of those larger districts are ahead of Boston, as their last superintendents gave notice long before former Supt. Tommy Chang did at the end of the last school year. Nonetheless, Loconto said the desirability of the city will likely play in Boston’s favor.

“They’ll probably make their hires prior to us,” he said. “Nonetheless, I know it’s competitive in terms of like districts and in terms of size, but Boston is a place that has no peer in support for innovation. That tells us we’ll be a good location regardless of the others.”

One very important aspect for this incoming superintendent, he said, would be knowing how to see through a building project. With BuildBPS just getting started, and a remaining \$800 million in school funding pledged to that process, any new superintendent is going to have to know how to collaborate and coordinate, Loconto said.

“It’s going to have to be an

important characteristic,” he said, noting that they would look for someone who has experience re-organizing a district and even raising money for school building projects. That will only come, though, if the candidate shows that they can building coalitions in a political environment and collaborate with other effectively.

Within the month, the search firm and the Search Committee will begin receiving applications, and they hope to have the private, soft interviews by late February. That would usher in the public interviews sometime in the spring, just like was done with Supt. Chang several years ago.

EDITORIALS

Thank you, Jay Ash

When Governor Charlie Baker was elected to his first term of office four years ago, his first major announcement was the appointment of Jay Ash to the post of Secretary of Housing and Economic Development.

The announcement by Gov. Baker, a Republican, came as a surprise to many political insiders because Ash was a lifelong Democrat and at the time was serving as the City Manager for the City of Chelsea, a post he had held for almost 15 years. Moreover, the Secretary of Housing and Economic Development is among the most important members of a governor's cabinet, and typically goes to a person who is among those most trusted by the governor to implement his broad policy objectives.

However, Ash's appointment by Gov.-elect Baker signaled two things about the incoming administration: First, that Baker was going to "reach across the aisle" to Democrats and second, that he was seeking the most-qualified persons he could find to serve in his administration.

During the past four years, Charlie Baker's appointment of Jay Ash, who officially stepped down from his cabinet post in December to become the new president of a nonprofit business group known as the Massachusetts Competitive Partnership, has proven to be a win-win for Gov. Baker -- and the people of Massachusetts -- on both scores.

Ash, who had served for many years as the chief of staff to former House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Richard Voke, not only knew the ins-and-outs of the legislative process, but also was on a first-name basis with many legislators, most notably House Speaker Bob DeLeo, who played a key role in working with Jay in implementing the many initiatives put forth by the Baker administration.

In addition, Jay Ash brought to the table his experience as the City Manager of Chelsea, a small city that is the prototype for both the potential and pitfalls of economic development of urban areas throughout the state.

During his tenure, Jay Ash brought to fruition many projects that will bring economic benefits for future generations of our state's residents. Among Ash's signature accomplishments, he played a key role in bringing the Pawtucket Red Sox to Worcester, which included the redevelopment of the city's Canal District with \$35 million in infrastructure and affordable housing funds; he brought \$12.5 million in state funds to the Berkshire Innovation Center, which will focus on life sciences in Pittsfield; he played an integral role in persuading General Electric to locate its world headquarters in Boston's Seaport District; and he was instrumental in bringing about a significant reduction in the number of homeless families living in motels.

All in all, Jay Ash's tenure as Secretary of Housing and Economic Development has been among the most successful and remarkable of any Cabinet member of any administration in the state's history.

We know we speak not only for the residents of his native Chelsea, but also for citizens throughout the state, in thanking Jay Ash for his years of public service and wishing him well in his future endeavors.

LETTERS

On plastic bag regulation

Dear Editor,

In reply to Hal Shurtleff's letter about the City of Boston plastic bag regulation it is necessary to correct miss-information he provided. Most important is that the problem the regulation addresses is the waste and detrimental effects of using hidden-cost single-use plastic bags. Requiring use of heavier reusable plastic or other types of bags that require a direct payment the shopper sees results in less throw away pollution. Single

use bags, with the cost buried in the store overhead, resulted in businesses going to the lowest common denominator of giving away "free" bags. In order to afford that practice businesses purchased the flimsiest bags with the result that too many people simply threw them away. The result was waste and pollution like bags stuck in trees or passing through the storm drains into the ocean. Hal posted a link to the Heartland Institute, a conservative organization that is funded by fossil fuel

companies. The arguments there against plastic bag bans may have some truth about issues with various solutions but one can find lots of arguments and facts on line with both opinions. What really matters is changing the market dynamics so that we all are incentivized to not waste.

Please let the Boston businesses you shop at know that you support the bag regulation.

Alan Wright

Community Servings offering complimentary meal to federal workers

Dear Editor

Community Servings' clients and job trainees have certainly felt the effect of the government shutdown, as many of them depend on SNAP and DTA benefits.

We believe that food is community - and it's been our privilege to provide nutritious,

comforting meals to our clients and trainees during this time of uncertainty.

We'd like to do the same for our neighbors. We would like to invite federal workers who reside in Jamaica Plain or Roxbury to join us for a complimentary meal on Tuesday, January 29,

2019. Attendees must RSVP, but just need to bring their federal ID and join us anytime between 4:00-6:00pm. Federal employees are welcomed to bring a partner/significant other and any dependent children.

Please RSVP, as space is limited.

Community Servings Staff

Does this really go?

Dear Editor,

I was driving down Burroughs Street towards Centre from Jamaica Pond and was enjoying looking at the Mansards, Italianates, and Queen Annes that make that avenue so stunning, when I was flabbergasted by the new grey, four-story box that looms over these 19th Century architectural beauties. And a completely unadorned box it is, completely lacking in any

kind of architectural detail or respect for the context of the rest of the street. It is nearly double the height of the nearby homes, and there is no space for landscaping despite the rest of the street being on gorgeous, old, large lots.

What has happened to Boston's planning and zoning functions when city officials cannot recognize the most obvious of neighborhood treasures and just enforce the

existing law. We are in boom times economically... for the wealthy. Must we cower to every suspect pleading by a developer to grant wanton variances so that they can build contemporary style, out-of-touch condos for the excessive profit of private, undisclosed investors. This building is an affront to the essence of Jamaica Plain.

Tony LaCasse



The building in question pictured on the right stands in stark contrast to the Victorian-era homes it neighbors.

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OP-EDS

Fun in the Parks...in the Winter!

BY LIZ VIZZA

As we head into the heart of winter, many Bostonians tend to stay inside, choosing to stay warm and dry rather than bundle up and face the cold. Yet even while our public green spaces are blanketed in white, winter still brings us opportunities to enjoy the outdoors.

While the other three seasons call for longer walks filled with colorful blooms, rides in the Swan Boats, and pick-up softball games, the winter weather provides us distinctive pleasures. From a beautifully lit Commonwealth Avenue Mall perfect for showing off snowmen to those passing by on foot or by car, to ice skating with family and friends on the Frog Pond followed by a soul-warming cup of hot chocolate, to the many fun events on the Boston Common from the tree and menorah lightings to fireworks on First Night, winters in our parks are something special.

As the advocacy organization and steward of the Boston Common, Public Garden, and Commonwealth Avenue Mall, the Friends of the Public Garden (the Friends) works to preserve and enhance these public, open spaces no matter the season. We strive to keep these natural havens in our city in great shape for all to enjoy. From planting trees and maintaining lawns, to restoring sculptures and fountains, to enlivening Brewer Fountain Plaza by Park Street, to inviting Boston Public School students for an annual Boston Common history immersion experience and lobbying for more funding so all can

benefit from beautiful green space, the Friends works to bring these beloved public spaces to life for the millions of people who visit them every year.

For cities filled with tall buildings, thousands of cars, and acres of concrete, green spaces are invaluable. Here in Boston, 98% of residents live within a ten minute walk to a park—something worth celebrating! In partnership with the City of Boston's Parks and Recreation Department for over 48 years, the Friends raises and invests over \$1 million in private contributions annually on parks care and capital improvements for the Common, Garden, and Mall. Our goal is to ensure these remain healthy spaces that all of Boston can take pride in and enjoy. Our public spaces age, renew, and change with the times, but always provide countless benefits, serving as an important refuge in urban areas. Every neighborhood and community is strengthened by the protection and enhancement of their green spaces.

As we venture into 2019, we invite Bostonians to look at all of our parks holistically—yes, as green spaces filled with trees and flowers, but also places of community-building and gathering, recreation, historic importance, art and reflection, as well as critical contributors to larger objectives like public health, economic development, tourism, and climate resilience.

So when you're looking out the window longing for spring, remember that New England winters are meant

to be enjoyed. The fun and beauty in Boston's parks is something that exists year-round—and something definitely worth bundling up for.

Locally, Mayor Martin J. Walsh and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department invite families to the Franklin Park Golf Course Clubhouse for the Children's Winter Festival on Saturday, February 2, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The festival includes a New England Aquarium tadpole exhibit; Science on the Street tabletop experiments; an artifact display hosted by the Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology; a Boston Nature Center scavenger hunt and nature hike; and taxidermy, wildlife and live horse demonstrations with the Boston Park Rangers.

The festival will also feature Rosalita's Puppets, winter arts and crafts, balloon animals, and refreshments provided by New England Coffee.

Snowshoes will be provided along with sleds for sledding. Participants should wear weather-appropriate clothing and winter or hiking boots.

Free parking is available at the clubhouse parking lot located at One Circuit Drive in Franklin Park. For more information, please call the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at (617) 635-4505, visit www.cityofboston.gov/parks or go to www.facebook.com/bostonparksdepartment.

We hope to see you in the parks this winter!

Liz Vazza is the Executive Director of the Friends of the Public Garden.

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