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NOVEMBER 22, 2019

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Proposal for 73 Sheridan St. garners mixed reviews

BY LAUREN BENNETT

It's been a while since the community has seen plans for a proposed project at 73 Sheridan St., but the project returned before the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council's (JPNC) Zoning Committee on Nov. 20 with a presentation from developer Lee Goodman of Watermark Development and Bill Mesinger of Embarc Studios. The Zoning Committee was hearing this proposal purely for design review purposes; there was no vote taken at this meeting.

The project has been a point of contention with abutting neighbors over the past year or two, as

many believe the project is too large in scale for the street, and others grappled with the definition of "as of right," which is what the developers are saying is the reason they can build a project of this scale. A house currently exists on the lot, which will be demolished to make room for the new units.

The proposal presented on Tuesday night consists of three townhouses with eight total units on the 20,000 square foot lot at 73 Sheridan St., which is currently owned by Jai Johnson and Scott Underhill. Mesinger said that there will be front yards and a

Continued on page 2

24TH ANNUAL TASTE OF JP ON NOV. 14



PHOTOS BY MIKE MEJIA
Morgan Oldham, an acrobatics performer, strikes a pose during the 24th annual Taste of JP on Thursday, Nov. 14, to benefit ESAC. Meanwhile, Movita Harrigan, Alena Horton, and Cassandre Titus enjoying their ice cream from FoMu.

VETERANS DAY CEREMONIES



PHOTO BY SETH DANIEL

Dep. Supt. Felipe Colon (right) was proud that the Puerto Rican Veterans Monument Square is now located across the street from his childhood home at Cathedral Development in the South End. On Monday, Nov. 11, he brought his father Francisco Colon, a Korean War veteran, to the Monument in the South End to celebrate Veterans Day with the large crowd that attended the annual ceremony there – a crowd with a very heavy JP presence, including Association President Tony Molina.

District E-13 police present October crime stats

BY LAURA PLUMMER

On Wednesday, November 6, Curtis Hall in Jamaica Plain hosted the monthly police and community relations meeting organized by District E-13 of the Boston Police Department (BPD).

Every month, Officer William Jones from the Community Service Office and Captain John Greland update the community about local crime statistics from the previous month. They also take the opportunity to provide common sense advice for how to

prevent crime in Jamaica Plain and to answer questions from community members. Also invited to these meetings are officials

from MBTA's Transit Police and Massachusetts State Police.

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Estadísticas de delincuencia de octubre

BY LAURA PLUMMER

El miércoles 6 de noviembre, Curtis Hall fue el sitio de la reunión mensual de policía y relaciones comunitarias organizada por el Distrito E-13 del Departamento de Policía de Boston (BPD en inglés). Cada mes,

representantes del Distrito E-13 reparten las estadísticas de la delincuencia del mes anterior.

Según el Oficial Jones, en el mes de octubre se denunciaron cuatro robos (11 en septiembre), 19 asaltos agravados (18 en sep-

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73 Sheridan St.

Continued from page 1

stepped front entry for each of the townhouses with one two-way driveway to the left of the units, which will be mostly two and three bedroom units. There will be 10 parking spots in the rear, with existing green space behind that, and each townhome will have a roof deck for the top unit. The townhomes would also have shared party walls, and are not three separate buildings.

“We’re trying to be contextual with the neighborhood,” Mesinger said, referencing the roof line pitches and scalloped and diamond shingle elements that are proposed. He also said they have met several times with design staff from the Boston Plan-

ning and Development Agency (BPDA) regarding this project and have received feedback.

“Jai and Scott bought this house in 1978,” Goodman said, adding that they came to him asking to turn their lot into condos—their plan is to live in one of the units. “We’ve been through multiple iterations,” Goodman continued. “Eight units is by right. It’s not really debatable; it’s already been approved.”

The question around the definition of “as of right” has left several abutters scratching their heads. David Baron of the JPNC Zoning Committee offered a definition. He said that as of right requires no zoning variances to be built, and that the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) decides whether or not this is the case. However, “they don’t always get it right,” he said,

saying that projects are sometimes flagged for violations they don’t have, and other times ISD misses violations that are clearly there. “We as a neighborhood council and as a neighborhood live with those determinations. I don’t know that there’s a way to revisit it within the zoning framework; ISD makes the call and if it’s as of right, it’s as of right.”

JP resident Andy King said that an earlier version of this project was cited for violations, and then was re-submitted. “We don’t have any information that it’s as of right,” he added, which has been the stance of several nearby neighbors throughout this process. He also said that he called ISD Wednesday morning, and said they told him that the current plan is still under review and that Watermark had not responded to a request for additional information.

Goodman said the reason the proposal was submitted, taken back, and re-submitted is because it was originally submitted as rowhouses. He said the city advised him to resubmit it with a townhouse designation instead. He said there is pending information with the city because it is currently pending design review. “The letter you all received states very clearly that it’s as of right and that’s why it’s moving to design review,” Goodman said.

The letter to which he is referring was a letter sent out to abutters by the BPDA dated Nov. 8, and states that “ISD has determined that this project conforms to all dimensional regulations of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood District Zoning Code, Article 55 of the Boston Zoning Code.” It continues on to say, “While the owner is allowed to receive building permits for the proposed project without any zoning variances, it does require a review of its exterior design details per the requirements of the zoning code for projects within the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Overlay District (NDOD).” The project does not require zoning relief and can be built as per zoning laws, the letter states, but must undergo design review by the BPDA. The letter states that “any questions regarding this interpretation of zoning code requirements should be directed to ISD at (617) 635-5300,” as there will be no public Board of Appeals hearing for this project.

Jai Johnson, who has lived at the property for 43 years, said

she thanks the community for all of their input but she does not think the project is “extremely large or monstrous,” as many neighbors had stated, adding that she believes the architects were “thoughtful” in their design of the buildings which will sit on a large lot.

Lisa Gonsalves, an abutter, along with several other abutters (including Andy King), prepared comments to present at the meeting about why they oppose the project. Gonsalves said that they believe the plan is “out of scale” with the neighborhood, there has not been an effective or fair community process surrounding the proposal, and they do not believe the project can be built as of right. “We feel it’s too big, too massive, and we want something that fits in better with the scale of the neighborhood,” Gonsalves said. “We feel the developers have not tried to work with us in good faith,” she continued. She said she considers herself a friend of Johnson and Underhill’s, and she’s not against them having some sort of project on this lot, but this design is not the answer.

Ellena Haile, who is also part of this group of abutters, said that she has lived in Jamaica Plain since 1982 and “I have never seen anything like this. I have never experienced such hostility,” she said. She said she’d like to see everyone sit down and work together on a plan that works for everyone. “This is the kind of project that is going to tear apart the neighborhood,” she said. “This building is humongous. It will bury my house.” She added that she does not like the modern design either.

David Baron attempted to focus the meeting on comments surrounding the design of the building and not whether or not people think it should be there.

One neighbor agreed that the scale of the design is much too large, but does appreciate that there is only one driveway for the three townhouses. She also suggested that there be some sort of ecological design added to the project, seeing that a chunk of the existing green space will be turned into an asphalt parking area.

“Jai’s garden is beautiful,” Goodman said. “But it’s Jai’s land that she takes care of,” and she can choose to do what she wants with her property, he said. He said they will be preserving around 7,000 feet of permeable green space with the project.

“These places look, much nicer than some other houses on Sheridan St.,” said JPNC member Max Glikman. “This is as of right and we’re here to talk about design rather than how many units, how big, how massive.”

Architect Kendra Halliwell said she thinks “these are very handsome buildings. There’s a nice reference to the historic character of JP neighborhoods,” and said they’d be a “beautiful addition to the street front.”

Another neighbor agreed, saying that they mesh well with the older houses on the street. She said they look large to her too, but she doesn’t mind the more modern take on the design.

Mesinger said that the bays will look nice with a warmed stained wood. “We don’t want to make it look old,” but rather pay homage to the older style with a more modern twist.

Another neighbor suggested the addition of more detail over the doors and tops of the windows to have a design “that’s not so plain,” and one that will not set it so harshly apart from the rest of the street. Mesinger said they did look at awnings or a portico element, but they “tried to keep a clean rhythm” with the design. The shed dormers at the top of the building are more traditional elements, he said. Additionally, they are proposing blue slate tones for the buildings, but each will be slightly off from the next so they are not all the exact same color.

After hearing from everyone in attendance, Baron said the comments that the JPNC Zoning Committee will provide to the BPDA will be: to consider more green space for the building closest to the driveway, encourage BPDA architects to examine how the design fits within the neighborhood to determine whether it’s too modern— including the shape of the bay windows—, one driveway is a good facet of the design, and the architect and the developer should consider details over the windows and doors that are more consistent with the rest of the street.

Again, no vote was taken on this project but it was a chance to have a discussion about the design of these buildings which has been a very long time in the making and has sparked discussion numerous times throughout its several iterations. The project will continue to undergo BPDA design review.




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City looking to significantly expand intergenerational home-share in 2020

BY SETH DANIEL

After a successful, but small, pilot program in 2017, the City has kicked off an effort to significantly expand the intergenerational home sharing program that pairs mostly graduate students with over-housed older adults throughout the city.

Earlier this month, a consortium of City agencies led by the Mayor's Housing Innovation Lab kicked off a new phase of the program, which follows a competitive Request for Proposals process that has just concluded. That process ended up choosing the Nesterly company, which was the company that also ran the 2017 pilot.



Taylor Cain, assistant director of the Mayor's Housing Innovation Lab (and a JP resident), kicked off the expanded Intergenerational Home Share program at the Boston Public Library earlier this month. The program looks to ease the housing crisis by utilizing empty rooms in the homes of older adults, pairing them up with graduate students using the Nesterly company. The company and the City ran a successful pilot of the program in 2017, with one of the major success stories coming from JP.

"We have had significant interest in expanding the program," said Taylor Cain, assistant director of the Housing Lab. "Our goal is to have 100 household matches in 2020. We had eight successful matches in the 2017 pilot, and Nesterly just won a competitive bid to run the expansion. We were really looking for someone to help us conduct the program. We wanted to make sure we could keep the host safe, and also match up the renter successfully, and that both would understand what it is to share a home with someone. We needed a vendor with the experience and we felt Nesterly provided that...Right now, we are making an even greater commitment to Intergenerational Home sharing in Boston."

The program came about via Noelle Marcus, founder of Nesterly, who saw the difficulties of graduate student housing options in Boston when she was at MIT. At the same time, she found that there were thousands of unoccupied rooms in Boston, and many of them were in the homes of older adults – particularly Baby Boomers whose families had shrunk as kids and extended family left the household.

At the kick-off, Cain and Marcus shared that 38 percent of Boston's older adults live alone. Also, 64 percent of homeowners are age 65 and over, and many have space in their homes.

"It's a great program for people who have a home big enough to raise kids and then the kids aren't there anymore," she said. "We estimate there are about 38,000 spare rooms right now in Boston. That is an incredible number. If we look at our housing needs, we think about the what those rooms could do to ease the housing burden we experience here. At the core, though, Intergenerational housing is really about the people and the experience they have together."



Nesterly founder Noelle Marcus said what Boston is doing is innovative, and has not been done in any other major city.



Cynthia Hymes-Bell successfully shared her Roxbury home with graduate students during the 2017 pilot, and encouraged others to try it.

Emily Shea, commissioner of the Age Strong Commission, said they have found there are great benefits to the health and well-being of older adults when they host students in such a situation.

"We know that as many as 90 percent of older adults want to stay in their house and their community as they age," she said. "Older residents, though, can experience barriers to that as their needs change. It could be paying property taxes, shoveling snow in the winter, homeowners insurance or even maintenance and repairs. It takes a

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JP OBSERVER

Lights, Projector, Action! Dynamic laser light show coming to Centre/South

By SANDRA STOREY / SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

In some countries, they pretty much skipped putting landlines in people's homes and went straight to using cell phones.

Similarly, Jamaica Plain's Centre/South business district has skipped the typical banners or lights on light poles along the corridor and is jumping ahead this year to sponsor a big laser light show for the holidays—called "Peace, Love, and Jamaica Plain."

The combined efforts that are leading to this high-tech solution to the district's decades of decoration struggles are a fabulous example of local community cooperation, leadership, creativity and persistence all coming together.

Thanks to a broad coalition of community organizations and individuals, led by JP Centre/South Main Streets (JPCSMS), with support from the Jamaica Plain Business and Professional Association (JPBAPA), a dynamic light show using what's called "projection mapping" will display a holiday spectacle every evening on the building at 670 Centre where City Feed is located. Plans call for the moving display to run from 4:30 to 9 p.m. starting, it's hoped, in time for the Holiday Stroll and Tree Lighting on Friday, Dec. 6.

Exactly what the moving design in light and color will look like is being determined by

MASARY Studios in the South End based on community input. According to its website, three people form a "team of artists awakening built and natural environments through live music performance and video projection mapping. By unlocking the hidden possibilities of an urban landscape or space, MASARY's works are at once a performance, a dissection of architecture, and an immersive visual spectacle."

A small group of business people, including some who have been working on business district decorations over the years, sat down late last month to come up with suggestions for designs that JPCSMS Executive Director Ginger Brown passed onto artist Sam Okerstrom-Lang from MASURY.

"We're making it about Jamaica Plain," Brown hinted this week. "We wanted to make sure it is inclusive and reflects the diversity of our community." Brown has persistently researched decorations possibilities since she became director in 2017.

"The holiday decorations in 2019 promise to be incredibly exciting," Michael Reiskind said in an email last week. Reiskind, president of the JPCSMS board and secretary of JPBAPA, has worked a lot on holiday decorations over the years.

"With a laser light show right in the middle of the business

district that celebrates the best of our Jamaica Plain neighborhood, everybody can be proud of our community and the businesses that anchor it," he added.

Initially, the cost sounds high—\$36,000. But there's good news in that number. It covers a 10,000+ lumen laser projector, protective casing, a computer, and design of a projection show. The projector can be used year after year, and new designs are relatively inexpensive to create for it. More standard decorations can cost twice as much, according to Brown, due to annual installation costs, and they have to be replaced often due to weather and wear.

Various sources have already contributed \$26,000 mostly through a crowd-funding campaign in early fall that allowed the project to get started. JPCSMS is actively seeking another \$10,000 in donations to make up the difference.

JPBAPA, which has overseen decorations for years, put money from dues for decorations in a special account over the past four years, and \$5,000 of that money is going to the light show.

JPBAPA will also continue to help defray costs of decorations on four non-profit member and city properties on Centre/South and hold the annual business decorating contest, with cash prizes awarded to 11 business

winners.

Boston Main Streets Foundation helped motivate the project by agreeing to match \$5,000 raised from a crowd-funding campaign, and that is included in the money on hand. Bank of America made an in-kind donation.

Many local businesses and individuals donated. See jpcen-tresouth.com for a list. But some people didn't have a chance to donate yet. Their contributions are still welcome.

"JP Centre/South Main Streets is so grateful to the entire community which has contributed, particularly the JP Business and Professional Association and their members," Brown said in an email. "Everyone's support thus far has shown us people want to see this. Personally, I think this can be the kind of thing that creates fond childhood memories of the holiday season. It's exciting to share that with the whole community."

The technological leap to a laser show was inspired in part by physical limitations on traditional decorations in the Centre/South business district that have prevented the traditional way of decorating here.

In Boston, unlike Brookline, for example, taxpayers don't pay for business district decorations and their installation. Here, local businesses and groups manage the decorations and raise the

funds to create and install them.

Making decorations difficult for years in JP is that the light poles along Centre/South Streets, unlike in many other neighborhoods, do not have electrical outlets on them. Despite efforts to get new light poles over the years, none seem to be coming soon.

Solar powered lights are expensive and bulky. And, it bears repeating, decorating light poles in traditional ways would be very expensive. Those types of decorations take up a lot of storage space, too.

Some experts say lights or banners along the streets get lost to viewers' eyes anyway, as they blend in with the "clutter" of signs, other poles, and buildings.

There's no chance a big light show won't get noticed at night!

The cooperative efforts to solve the decorations problem and bring fun and support to the business district are unrestricted. Everyone can still help. For more information about how to support the show, email Brown at directorjpcsms@gmail.com.

Sandra Storey is founder and former publisher and editor of the Jamaica Plain Gazette. She is on the board of the Jamaica Plain Business and Professional Association as a self-employed writer, teacher and poet and works on holiday decorations there.

Estadísticas

Continued from page 1

tiembre) y nueve atracos (ocho en septiembre). Según documentos públicos del BPD, también hubo dos robos de vehículos (seis en septiembre) y casos aislados de homicidio e incendio provocado. No se denunciaron incidentes de

secuestro o violación en octubre. Para mantener nuestras calles seguras, el BPD dependen de la voluntad de los ciudadanos a participar en los esfuerzos de vigilancia comunitaria. Esfuerzos incluyen la creación de una "red de teléfono", una manera de notificar a todos los residentes de la misma calle en caso de un delito en proceso.

Los residentes que marcan el 9-1-

1 para denunciar un delito deben saber que se les puede pedir que identifiquen a un sospechoso o que declaren en el tribunal.

Boston tiene una línea de denuncias anónimas donde los residentes pueden denunciar personas o actividades sospechosas y al mismo tiempo mantener su privacidad. La línea de denuncias anónimas no está afiliada al BPD. Las denuncias anónimas

tardan un rato en llegar a las personas correctas, y por eso la línea de denuncias anónimas sólo se debe utilizar para denunciar las actividades sospechosas recurrentes, como la venta de drogas, y no para las emergencias. Para los delitos en progreso, la mejor opción es llamar al 9-1-1.

Obtenga más información sobre cómo enviar una denuncia anónima en bpdnews.com/crime-stop

pers-text-a-tip-program.

El BPD publica noticias sobre delitos a través de su cuenta de Twitter @bostonpolice, una cuenta con más de 530 mil seguidores. Se realiza una versión español de esta reunión el segundo jueves de cada mes a las 6.30 pm en 155 Lamartine Street. Son abiertas al público y todos los residentes están invitados.



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TASTE OF JAMAICA PLAIN

PHOTOS BY MIKE MEJIA

Ecumenical Social Action Committee (ESAC) hosted the 24th Taste of Jamaica Plain on Thursday, Nov. 14, at Our Lady of the Annunciation Church. Attendees enjoyed tasty foods, desserts, and drinks from two

dozen local restaurants. The event also featured live music and several interactive performances throughout the evening. Proceeds from the event benefit ESAC, a nonprofit founded in 1965, which strives to improve the quality of life for residents in Greater Boston.



Judy Jose-Roddy, executive director of Sophia Snow Place, gives Noah Berkowitz, a second-year student at Northeastern University, a plate during Taste of Jamaica Plain.



Emily Litonjua, former executive director of ESAC, Peg Drisko, current executive director of ESAC, William Morales, special honoree and commissioner of BCYF, Paul Shoemaker, ESAC board president, and Paul Pulster, ESAC board member.



Lies and Leander Lahousse, 5, at the 24th Taste of Jamaica Plain.



Harry Pokaski and Joanne Pokaski of Jamaica Plain.



Front row: Sandi Robinson, Nicole Harrison, Brandi Derr. Back row: Pascale Salomon, Debbie Cawley, Islande Icart.

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TASTE OF JAMAICA PLAIN



Cedric Purcell performs close-up magic with matches for Regine Albin.



Robert Torres, William Morales, commissioner of BCYF, Angelina Morales, and Robert Santiago, commissioner of Veterans' Services.



State Rep. Liz Malia and William Morales, special honoree during the 24th Taste of Jamaica Plain.



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BPDA approves Washington Street Development

BY JOHN LYNDS

At its November board meeting, the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) board approved the project in Jamaica Plain that will help provide supportive housing to Pine Street Inn clients.

The BPDA approved \$89 million project at 3368 Washington St. calls for the construction of 202 income-restricted units, 140 of which will be designated as supportive housing for individuals served by the Pine Street Inn in the South End.

Once built, the building will become the city's largest supportive housing development to date.

The project will demolish the existing structure, owned by Pine Street Inn, that houses operations and administrative offices, but no shelter beds or

housing units. The offices will be temporarily relocated during construction.

The new five-story, mixed use building will contain approximately 202 income-restricted units. Of these, 140 units are designated as supportive housing for individuals receiving services from Pine Street Inn. The remaining 62 units will be available to low- and moderate-income households with a range of incomes.

The project will also create 51 permanent job opportunities, 43 of which will be Pine Street Inn jobs.

Mayor Martin J. Walsh called the newly-approved 100 percent affordable housing project progress towards his commitment to end chronic homelessness in Boston

"In Boston, we are committed to making sure that every

individual has a place to call home and build a better life," said Mayor Walsh. "This project is only possible because of the commitment of Pine Street Inn, The Community Builders, and many partners and stakeholders across the City who have joined our call to bring an end to chronic homelessness."

The services will be funded by Boston's Way Home Fund. Launched by Mayor Walsh in January 2018, Boston's Way Home Fund has a set goal of raising \$10 million over four years, to be used to create supportive, sustainable, long-term housing for chronically homeless individuals. The \$10 million raised from the fund will allow the City to leverage a significant public and private investment.

Walsh said the project is also consistent with the community

goals outlined in the BPDA's PLAN: JP/Rox, approved in 2017, to enhance livability, honor the existing diversity of the neighborhood, use creative design that celebrates the character of the district, and facilitate the creation of more income-restricted housing along the Washington Street corridor.

"This project represents a major step forward in our efforts

to solve homelessness in Boston," said Pine Street President Lyndia Downie. "The number of units in this building will allow us to scale up our housing to a new level, bringing us close to 1,000 units of supportive housing throughout Boston and in Brookline. With the average age of our tenants at 55, this will provide a safe, secure community as they grow older."



An artist rendering of the BPDA approved Washington Street project in Jamaica Plain.

2019 Enchanted Trolley Tour schedule announced

Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced the schedule for the 2019 Enchanted Trolley Tour, a

Boston holiday tradition of lighting holiday trees throughout the City. This year, the Mayor's En-

chanted Trolley Tour will start on Friday, December 6 and end on Sunday, December 8, in neigh-

borhoods throughout Boston.

"I love the holiday season around Boston. It's a great way to gather together as Bostonians and celebrate our neighbors, the City and our many neighborhoods," said Mayor Walsh. "I'm excited to start the season by making stops throughout the City for the annual trolley tour and tree lightings. This weekend-long celebration is a great family tradition for all Bostonians to come out and enjoy."

For the 24th year, the Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour will continue the festive tradition

of lighting holiday trees while bringing holiday spirit to children across Boston. The event is sponsored by Bank of America, and includes visits with Santa, holiday performances, tree lightings, and more.

The 2019 Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour and Tree Lightings Schedule is as follows:

- Saturday, December 7, 2019
- 1:45 p.m. Hyde Square, Jamaica Plain
- 2:30 p.m. J.P. Monument, Jamaica Plain
- 3:30 p.m. Brigham Circle, Mission Hill

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Age Strong Commissioner Emily Shea said home share can help older adults pay the bills, and also combat social isolation.



The group of City officials, university representatives, and potential home share participants at the kickoff of the program in the Boston Public Library this month.

Intergenerational

Continued from page 3

lot to maintain a house. Social isolation is a factor also when you're living by yourself and not being connected to other people. Some seniors have a tremendous cost burden on housing, spending more than 30 percent on housing. Home Share can alleviate some of these challenges."

Marcus, of Nesterly, said the program is very cutting edge, and could be one major piece of the solution to getting more units on the market for families and working adults.

"This is incredibly innovative," she said. "There is no other city that has done anything like this in the country."

Marcus indicated that Nesterly can help those volunteering for home share to be matched up with the right student. That is done through extensive interviews, and also home visits to make sure the space is right. They also help with the agreement between the two, noting that payments (which average around \$750 per month) aren't the only way to structure an agreement. In addition to payments, hosts can require things like snow shoveling, taking out the trash, or even cooking. It can get quite creative, she said.

During the pilot program in 2017, one of the best success stories came in Jamaica Plain, where Harvard graduate student Brownyn Mattis was paired with a JP empty-nester couple.

That match is going to be the model as the program expands

out to the goal of 100 matches in 2020.

Badis Bousseta, of Suffolk University's Office of Campus Housing, said Suffolk and other institutions see home share as a very viable solution for their graduate students. His job, he said, is to find housing for Suffolk students, and this might be another tool to get that job done.

"I just didn't know there were so many empty rooms in Boston and so many people living alone," he said. "It makes sense because children grow up and move out,

and you're still left with a big house. Boston is a student city so this would probably be a good idea here. It is harder for students here to find housing. It's Boston. A lot of students are here and there aren't many options. The prices are higher in Boston, so people need choices."

The City and Nesterly are currently looking for potential volunteers throughout the city that might be interested can find out more information on how to host or rent at www.nesterly.io, or by calling (781) 205-9607.



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- LEGAL NOTICE -
CITY OF BOSTON/COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
BOSTON CENTERS FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES (BCYF)
INVITATION FOR SEALED BIDS FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF
THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:
Snow Clearing Services for the BCYF Central Office and its
Community Center Sites and Pool Sites

The City of Boston, Boston Centers for Youth & Families (the City), acting by its Commissioner, hereinafter referred to as the Official, invites sealed bids for the performance of the work generally described above, and particularly set forth in the Invitation for Bids. The bid documents will be accessible online from Monday, November 25, 2019 through Wednesday, December 11, 2019 by visiting the City of Boston Public Procurement website at the following link: <http://www.cityofboston.gov/procurement/> and access EV00007480 or call Varnie Jules, Finance Unit Manager @ 617-635-4920 x 2149.

All sealed bids shall be filed electronically no later than Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 4:00 PM by login onto the City of Boston Procurement website as listed and accessing the above listed event number. The attention of all bidders is directed to the provisions of the Invitation For Bids and contract documents, specifically to the requirements for bid deposits, insurance and performance bonds as may be applicable.

All bidders are hereby notified that they shall provide a unit price for each category of service to be procured under this contract, subject to the following terms that will govern price adjustments. Bidders are further notified that they shall submit a unit price for plowing & salting of all selected locations after occurrence of snowfall of 5" (Five Inches) or more, and a unit price for salting only of all of the selected locations for snowfall occurrence of less than 5". The bid prices shall be compared on the basis of the unit price for each category of service.

Sealed bids shall be opened electronically by the Official on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 4:00 PM. The contract awarded pursuant to this invitation to bid will commence on or about Monday, December 16, 2019 and will end on June 30, 2020.

The City of Boston affirmatively ensures that Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE), Small Local Business Enterprise (SLBE), Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Women Business Enterprise (WBE), and Veteran Owned Small Business Enterprise (VOSBE) firms shall be afforded full opportunity to submit qualifications in response to this and will not be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, gender, transgender status, political affiliation, age, sexual orientation or religion in any consideration leading to the award of contract. No qualified disabled person shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participating in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination in any consideration leading to the award of a contract.

The award of any contract shall be subject to the approval of the Mayor of Boston and the Awarding Authority. The maximum time for bid acceptance by the City after the opening of bids shall be ninety days (90 days). The City/County and the Official reserve the right to reject any or all bids, or any item or items thereof if found to be not in the best interest of the public.

William Morales, Commissioner
Boston Centers for Youth & Families

Sights & Sounds

The deadline for listings is noon, December 3 for the December 6 issue. Send listings to reporter@jamaicaplainingazette.com. Note: 617 should be dialed before numbers below, unless another area code is given.

Special events

On Saturday, November 23, Mayor Martin Walsh and officials from the Boston Parks and Recreation will be unveiling the city's \$4M investment in the Jamaica Pond Pathways. The event will include activities with Park Rangers, a dedication of the boathouse to community activist Christine Cooper, and some special surprises. The project's upgrades are a huge win for walkers, bikers, dog owners, and neighbors with mobility needs. The event will start at 12:00 p.m. and will be held at 507 Jamaica Way, Jamaica Plain.

The Jamaica Plain Historical Society will present Moxie Book Talk. The phrase "She's got a lot of moxie!" is taken to mean that one has nerve, vigor, and grit. And unless born and raised in New England, Americans are generally quite unaware that the root of this expression is a bittersweet patent medicine turned soda pop originally called Moxie Nerve Food,

which was guaranteed to cure nervous exhaustion and a host of associated ailments. First bottled in 1885, today it is the official soft drink of the state of Maine and still enjoyed by many. This book chronicles Moxie's rich history and brilliant marketing breakthroughs as well as some corporate misfortunes and rebounds along the way. Moxie's World Headquarters (Moxieland) was located in Jamaica Plain from 1928 to 1953. Let authors Dennis Sasseville and Merrill Lewis fill you in! Sunday, December 8, 2:00 p.m. at the Farnsworth House, 90 South St, Jamaica Plain. The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments, including Moxie, will be served.

The annual Holiday Trolley Tour and Tree Lighting at the Soldier's Monument will start at 2:30pm on Saturday, December 7. Also the trolley tour will be in Hyde Square at 1:45 p.m.

JP Toastmasters meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at The Footlight Club in Jamaica Plain. The meeting will feature free food and drinks, introductions, and opportunities to practice speaking. As always, meetings are free for guests. JP Toastmasters is known for providing a warm, welcoming

environment where members help each other improve their public speaking and leadership skills **ELLIOT SCHOOL will have the following events:**

Holiday Ornament-Making, family fun, all ages welcome. December 15, 10am-12:30pm, Eliot School, 24 Eliot St.

Arts, music, and culture

BalletRox class registration is now open: <https://balletrox.info/dance-with-us/register>. Classes for kids, ages 4 to 18, at Spontaneous Celebrations. info@balletrox.info for more information.

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 interest-

ing acts.

Midway Café, All shows 21+ - Doors at 8:00 PM unless otherwise noted

EVERY THURSDAY 9:30 PM - 2:00 AM: QUEERAOKE (Drink - Sing - Dance - Repeat!)

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EVERY FRIDAY 6:00 - 8:30 PM (FREE!): HIPPIE HOUR with Mystical Misfits and Uncle Johnny's Band (alternating weeks) and their friends playing the music of The Grateful Dead, Bob Dylan and more!

EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT 8:00 PM - 2:00 AM (FREE!): OPEN MIC AT THE MIDWAY Hosted by Angela Sawyer and Gabe Stoddard. Come one, come all! More info: <http://midwayonthehighway.com/> November 2019:

Saturday 11/23 (Day Show) 3pm (\$6.00): Cactus Island, Ok Goodnight, Noah Kesselman, Jason Ji

Sunday 11/24 (Day Show) 3pm (\$8.00): Johnny Cab, Kermit's Finger, The Negans, Baabes, Bernie's Garage

Monday 11/25 (\$5.00): Doug Linse, Scott of Somerset, Daniel J. Turnbull, Kyle Flynn

Tuesday 11/26 (\$5.00): Alex Kane, John Hanson Project, Zack Bolles, Ken Carter

Wednesday 11/27 (\$5.00): We Are Space Horses, Gull Boy, handsome, Bravo Sierra

Friday 11/29 (after Hippy Hour) 8:30pm (\$8.00): Hard Drug, Bone Church, False Gods, Grovel

Saturday 11/30 (Night Show)

\$10.00: Sueños Rotos, Avante, El Terco

Saturday 11/30 (Day Show) 3pm (\$5.00): Larseny, The Salted Herings, The Instamatics, Smudge

COMING TO THE MIDWAY IN DECEMBER AND BEYOND:

Sunday 12/1 (Day Show): Shotgun Waltz, the Deep State, Church & Puppets, Blood Simple

Monday 12/2: Squash, West of Neptune, Programmed Cell Death Reboot, Life After Parties

Tuesday 12/3: Eli Roberts and Company, Charlie Dollard's Rocky Point Revue, Eric Baylies, The Blues Dream Box

Wednesday 12/4: The Duchess Elizabeth von Teig, Conor Ryan Hennessy, Rocky Ludden, Peaceful Sorrow

Thursday 12/5 (before Queeraoke): Hollow Turtle

Friday 12/6 (after Hippy Hour): Daniel Miller and the High Life, Christa Joy and the Honeybees, Bill Dwyer Band

Jeanie Johnston Pub, 144 South St. Open Mic hosted by Tony Bluze, Sundays at 8 pm. More events at jeaniejohnstonpub.com.

Bella Luna & The Milky Way Weekly events include: Radio Mamba's Family Rumba, every Sunday 5pm-8pm, live Latin music. Every Monday Stump Trivia from 8 - 10 p.m., Teacher Tuesdays and Dirty Water Saloon line dancing for queer folks and allies at 7PM. Every Wednesday live music from 6:30 - 9:30 PM. Throwback Thursday from 6-8pm with rotating DJ's barside. Visit www.milkywayjp.com for more late night events.

Crime stats

Continued from page 1

As usual, Officer Jones provided statistics on Part One crimes in October. Part One crimes are the most serious in nature, and don't include lesser offenses such as vandalism, drug dealing or possession of firearms.

According to Officer Jones, the month of October saw nine robberies (up from eight in September), 19 aggravated assaults (up from 18 in September), and four burglaries (down from 11 in September). Additional public documents provided by district E-13 shows that there were two auto thefts (down from six in September), single incidents of arson and murder (up from zero in September), and zero incidents of rape or kidnapping. There were no reported incidents of rape or kidnapping in October.

In order to keep our streets safe, the Boston Police Department depends on the willingness of everyday citizens to participate in community policing efforts. Successful community policing initiatives have included the use of "phone trees", a way to alert all residents of the same street at the same time in the event of a crime in process.

Residents who dial 9-1-1 to report a crime should know that they may be asked to identify a suspect or to testify in court. Failing that, the suspect would likely go free. While residents have expressed concern about possible retaliation, incidents of this nature are rare and would bring a charge of "intimidating a witness" on top of the original charge.

Boston does have an anonymous tip line where residents can report suspicious persons or activities while also maintaining their privacy. The tip line is not affiliated with the BPD and no

identifying information is stored. Tips can be submitted via call or text. Because tips take awhile to get to the right individuals, the tip line should only be used to report recurrent criminal activity such as drug dealing at a certain locale, and not be used for emergent situations. For crimes in progress, 9-1-1 is always the best choice.

Learn more about how to submit an anonymous tip at bpd-news.com/crime-stoppers-text-a-tip-program.

The BPD puts out real-time crime updates via its Twitter account @bostonpolice. Roughly 530,000 people follow this Twitter account. The police and community relations meeting is on the first Thursday of every month at 6:30pm at Curtis Hall at 20 South Street. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 5. This meeting is open to the public and all interested residents are encouraged to attend.



ZBA approves patio for Brendan Behan Pub; stipulates no live music

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) on Tuesday approved a proposal for a patio for the Brendan Behan Pub at 378-380 Centre St.

Attorney Marc LaCasse said that the proposal is to add 23 seats to an outdoor patio area behind the existing restaurant space, which has been there for over 30 years. Owner Michel Soltani wants to upgrade the patio

with new pavers and fencing, as well as clean up the area so the patio can be used seasonally. Above the restaurant is four residential units, making the building a mixed-use one. The project was cited for variances of insufficient parking and insufficient usable open space for the residential units.

Soltani said that the patio would close at 10 p.m., and there would “never” be music played outside. He said that the trash

receptacle has been designed by an architect, and will allow the trash to be self-contained. Soltani said the patio area is “going to be a relaxed place like the bar itself.”

Access to the patio will be granted through the bar, and the patio area will be handicapped accessible. There will also be “very dim lighting” provided due to the close proximity to the street light, according to Soltani.

Faisa Sharif from the Mayor’s

Office of Neighborhood Services said the office is in support, as her former colleague Enrique Pepen led a community process related to this proposal. She said that the “vast majority” of neighbors are in support of the project, as they feel Soltani has a “good track record” in the neighborhood. Sharif said the potential issue around live music was brought up at the community meeting, but the project team assured the neighbors that no live music would be played on

the patio. City Councilor Matt O’Malley is also in support of the project.

A resident from North Attleboro also expressed her support, saying she has been a patron of the pub and that it is clear that Soltani is a “very responsible business owner.”

Nobody came to the hearing to oppose this proposal, and the ZBA voted to approve the project with the proviso that there not be live music added.

City celebrates completion of Jamaica Pond pathways project

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and Boston Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods will join Jamaica Plain residents along with park advocates and users at 12 noon on Saturday, November 23, to celebrate the completion of renovations to the pathways encircling Jamaica Pond and the renaming of the boathouse in honor of Christine Cooper, longtime supporter of efforts to restore and revitalize the park.

The \$4,770,000 project, funded by Mayor Walsh’s Capital Improvement Program, was done in two phases. The first focused on the area around Pinebank and the ball field and included new paving of pathways, repairs to entrances, a new bottle filler, new rules and bike signage, new benches, and new trees.

The second phase involved all pathways surrounding the pond and the DCR multi-use path along the Jamaicaway and included the same scope of improvements along with bottle

fillers, new exercise equipment, and a new accessible fishing platform. Additional upgrades included accessibility upgrades to the boat house plaza, addition of a runner’s path, and drainage improvements to help pond water quality.

The pathways project has produced major accessibility upgrades including: 100% of the entrances now meet ADA guidelines; an increase from one to three drinking fountain/bottle fillers that are ADA compliant; an increase in pathways that are ADA compliant from 60% to 95%; the boathouse plaza is now 100% ADA compliant including the pavement to the door of the boathouse and bandstand; and now over 50% of benches have an adjacent companion seat.

This project also has been designed to help water quality through drainage improvements. Swales were added on the uphill side of the pathway to retain and infiltrate storm water before

crossing over the path into the pond. Sediment catchment has been added to the top of each cobble swale to allow sediment to settle prior to water flowing over the swale into the pond. The runner’s path was designed to funnel water to the cobble swales in order to avoid erosion along the pond edges.

Given the heavy usage by pedestrians and cyclists, signage around the pond is very important. The pathways improvement project upgraded signage in the park, added place identification signage, rules signage including new “no swimming/no skating” signs, “no feeding the wildlife” signs, and also bike rules signs and pavement markings.

The November 23 celebration will include refreshments provided by HP Hood LLC, the official dairy sponsor for the Boston Parks and Recreation Department’s 2019 park openings.

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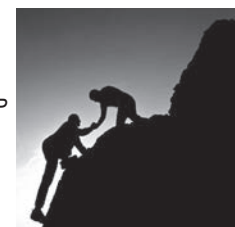
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FCT CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY AWARDS DINNER

Families Creating Together – Jamaica Plain’s award-winning expressive arts program for children of all abilities and their families – celebrated its 10th anniversary with a gala awards dinner at 1st Baptist Church in Jamaica Plain on Nov. 9.

More than 100 guests from ages 9 to 90 crowded the venue to honor the outstanding inter-generational arts program and enjoy music, awards, a gourmet dinner, raffle prizes and more!

State Representative Nika Elugardo emceed the event in masterful style and awards were presented to Reverend June Cooper, Executive Director, City Mission Society and Jude Goldman, Executive Director, The Lenny Zakim Fund, for their tireless work for children and families.

FCT Director Edward Pazzanese was honored for his creativity and perseverance in pursuing the FCT mission of providing opportunities in the arts for children of all abilities and their families and strengthening community supports for them.

“We thank all of you for your support in making this program possible,” said Pazzanese. “At FCT we believe that the power of the arts can be life-changing. We believe that creating art in an inclusive community



State Representative Nika Elugardo, FCT’s awesome emcee.

environment empowers children and families to move forward in their lives with pride, strength and joy.”

Cape Verdean musician Bino Barros and folksinger Dean Stephens entertained the group.

FCT provides free expressive arts workshops led by talented teaching artists in puppetry, drumming, painting, diorama creation and more along with museum trips and theater experiences. This year families from seven Boston neighborhoods participated. Thirty-three percent of the children served are living with disabilities.

For more information and to support FCT, please go to www.familiescreatingtogether.org.



ALL PHOTOS BY CARLA OSBERG PHOTOGRAPHY

June Goldman, Executive Director, The Lenny Zakim Fund, and Reverend June Cooper, Executive Director, City Mission Society, were honored by Families Creating Together for their tireless support of children and families who face the challenges of living with disability as well as poverty, homelessness and other difficulties. (l-r) State Rep. Nika Elugardo; Edward Pazzanese, Director, Families Creating Together; Jude Goldman; Reverend June Cooper; Gerry Wright, Director, Community Service Care who reinvented himself as PT Barnum for the event.

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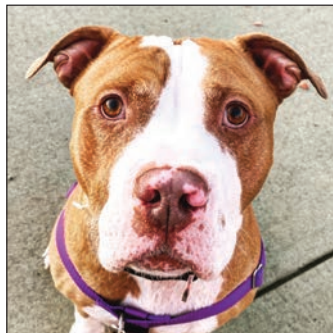
Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll



DIESEL

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“Gazette Pet of the Week” is a biweekly submission sponsored by Sarah Carroll, Sales Associate of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage 1375 Beacon St., Brookline, MA 02446 • 617-731-2447

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Kathleen Gaskin, State Rep. Nika Elugardo (wearing Gerry Wright’s PT Barnum hat) and JP resident and award recipient Reverend June Cooper, Executive Director, City Mission Society, who won the beautiful pillow created by Gaskin in her JP upholstery shop, Decorator’s Workroom.

FCT CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY



JP resident Irene Glassman, Joel Light and Rachel Greenberg enjoy the celebration.



Cape Verdean musician Bino Barros entertains the crowd.



Singer/Songwriter Dean Stephens performs.



Malachi Carter shouts with joy as he and his grandmother Catherine Brown win not one but TWO raffle prize gift certificates donated by JP toy store Boing! and bookstore Papercuts JP. Catherine is a grandmother raising her grandchildren and has attended FCT workshops with Malachi for many years.

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INVITACIÓN

Plazo para la sección de eventos: martes, 3 dic para la edición 6 dic. Mande eventos a reporter@jamaicaplaingazette.com. Los números telefónicos que siguen empiezan con 617.

Reuniones

JPNC, Reunión mensual, martes, 26 nov, 7pm, Farnsworth House; Comité de zonificación, 4 dic, Farnsworth House; Comité de servicio público, 3 dic, 7pm, Curtis Hall;

Comité de casas abandonadas en JP, primer jueves del mes, 10.30, Egleston Library, 2044 Columbus Ave. 722-2060.

JP Problem Properties Committee, primer jueves del mes, 10.30am, comisaría E-13, 3347 Washington St. 722-2060.

Asociación de Jamaica Pond, lunes, 2 dic, Jamaicaaway Tower, 111 Perkins Street, 7pm.

ESNA, lunes, 2 dic, 6.30-8.30pm, YMCA.

Policía y Comunidad, jueves, 5 dic, 6.30pm, Curtis Hall, 20 South Street.

Asociación de Vecinos Stonybrook, olla común, fecha a publicar.

Noticias publicas

Programa de comida comunitaria, comidas gratuitas, con opciones veganas. Comida casera sana. Cena cada miércoles, 6.30pm. Almuerzo, Crossroads Café cada sábado, 12pm. 524-3992, Churchoffice@firstbaptistjp.org

Just Cookin' Kitchen es una colaboración entre servicios de

catering que necesitan acceso a una cocina. Ofrecemos una cocina económica, para pequeñas empresas de catering, preparación de comida para camiones de comida, y experiencias culinarias educativas. Kennia: 524-3992, Churchoffice@firstbaptistjp.org.

Buscamos a pequeños empresarios para nuevo programa 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 6 am to 6 pm. 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 #spotholes en twitter.

Niños/familias

Séptimo Paseo de Pavo Anual, 28 nov, carrera de 5 kilómetros. Franklin Park.

Servicio de adoración, día de acción, 10am, 351 Centre Street.

Clases de baile para niños, introducción al movimiento para niños y padres, los domingos 10-11am; básicos de baile, los domingos 11a.m.-12pm. Spontaneous Celebrations. Registración: jpdancecoop@gmail.com.

Noches de Perros Calientes, todos los miércoles, 4.30-6.30pm, 42 Horan Way. Con música y comida.

Clases de música y movimiento para niños edades 2-5, con Helder Tsinine, los lunes, 11 – 11.45 am; los sábados, 10-10.45 am. \$17/clase o \$90/seis semanas, EglestonYMCA, 3134 Washington St. htsinine@gmail.com.

Clase de arte para la familia, accesible a las sillas de ruedas, los martes, 10.30 – 11.30 am, edades 3-5. Los martes, 3.30 – 4.30 pm, 5+. Family Resource Center, 1542 Columbus Ave. 522-1018.

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

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@jfcbsoston.org.

Intercambio de idiomas in-

glés-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.

Niños en ruedas, cada domingo, seguridad de bicicleta 3-5pm, en las canchas de tenis en South y Carolina.

Paseos en bici, martes y jueves, 7am, Ferris Wheels, 66 South Street.

Salud/Bienestar físico

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

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 Allandale St. Meredith Griffiths: 522-0043, mgriffiths@springhouseboston.org.

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

Adultos Mayores

Medicare, ¿cómo funciona?, miércoles, 4 dic, 10.15-11.15am. 522-9270. Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 30 South Street.

Café mensual de la memoria, 25 nov, 30 dic, 27 ene, 24 feb. 10.30am-12pm. Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 30 South Street.

Café mensual de la memoria, para la gente que sufre de la pérdida de la memoria y los que les cuiden, Amory Street Housing Development, 125 Amory St., El último jueves de cada mes de 1.30 – 3pm. Gratuito para todos. 440-1615 / bmclaren@uphams.org.

Programa de música para los ancianos, Curtis Hall, 20 South St., los viernes, 10.30-12. 983-3638.

La Vida Buena Club para la Vida Sana de ABCD, sesiones mensuales del bienestar, para los adultos con más de 50 años, los miércoles, 10am. Mi Vida, Mi Salud, clase para adultos 50+ con condiciones de salud crónicas, clases semanales, jueves, 2pm. Clases de computadora para adultos 50+, los lunes, 3pm. 30 Bickford St. 522-4251.

Talleres de Ethos para el envejecimiento sano, el mantenimiento de las enfermedades crónicas los martes, 10am, SJPHC, 640 Centre St., herramientas poderosas los miércoles, 4.30pm, 555 Amory St. ethoscare.org.

Programa de auto-mantenimiento de diabetes, 1179 River St., los miércoles, 9.30am-12. Ann Glora, 477-6616.

Crossroads Café, almuerzo gratis y evento social para ancianos y sus invitados, con música en vivo y presentaciones educativas. Comida de ingredientes locales. Pan, vegetales, leche y comida para llevar disponibles. Los sábados, 633 Centre St., 12.00-2pm. 524-3992, firstbaptistjp.org.

Trabajo Voluntario

Programa de aprendizaje para adultos, se busca voluntarios para enseñar inglés a adultos, orientación gratuita. jpcctutor@gmail.com o 635-5201.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Division
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT
Docket No. SU16P0969PM
Estate of: Grace Brown
A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Elizabeth Goldman of Needham, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including

the allowance of a final account & 2nd and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 12/17/2019.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 05, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate
11/22/19
JP

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, s 5-304
Docket No. SU19P2512GD

In the matter of: Joan Evers RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person
Of: Jamaica Plain, MA
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department of Mental Health (Boston of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Joan Evers is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Department of Mental Health (Boston of Westborough, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The

petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 12/05/2019. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding

may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 06, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate
11/22/19
JP

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT

PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Division
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT
Docket No. SU14P0827PM
Estate of: Mary Galvin
A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Paul Joseph Brown of Jamaica Plain, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the

Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 12/05/2019.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 05, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate
11/22/19
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JP Agenda

The deadline for listings is noon, Tues. December 3 for the December 6 issue. Send listings to reporter@jamaicaplaingazette.com. Note: 617 should be dialed before numbers below, unless another area code is given.

Meetings

Stonybrook Neighborhood Association. Next meeting is a Holiday Potluck. Date/location TBD. More/latest info: www.sna-jp.org

The Jamaica Pond Association will meet from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. on Monday, December 2, in the community room at the Jamaicaway Tower, 111 Perkins Street, Jamaica Plain. This is an open public meeting; Pondsiders residents who would like to take an active role in this neighborhood organization are encouraged to attend and consider joining the association. There is limited guest parking to the right of the main entrance; the site is a five-minute walk from the #39 bus stop at South Huntington Ave. and Perkins Street.

Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council Zoning Committee's next regularly-scheduled meeting will be December 4 at Farnsworth House. The agenda for that meeting will include 79 Moss Hill Road (add second story to existing single-family residence on existing footprint) and the return of 12 Rock Hill Road (combine three existing lots into one 10,138 square foot lot and erect a new, four-story building with fourteen (14) residential units and twenty-six (26) off-street parking spaces). After December 4th, the Committee's next upcoming meetings will be December 18th and January 8th. Please note that January 8th is the second Wednesday of the month, as the first Wednesday is New Year's Day. The Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 26 at 7:00pm at Farnsworth House, 90 South Street. On the agenda will be reports from the Working Committees. All interested residents are invited to attend.

The Public Service Committee of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 3 at 7:00pm at Curtis Hall, 20 South Street. On the agenda will be a request of City Feed and Supply, Inc., doing business as

"City Feed and Supply" at 672 Centre Street in Jamaica Plain for a transfer of their Beer & Wine Package Store License to Equal Exchange, Inc., doing business as "Equal Exchange" at the same location. All interested residents are invited to attend.

Police Community Relations Meeting will take place on Thursday, December 5 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.

Vacancy on the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council People who are interested in the available seats on the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council can contact Kevin Rainsford, chair of the Council at (617) 866-7672 or kprainsford@gmail.com or come to the monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 26 at 7:00pm at Farnsworth House, 90 South Street.

There is one vacancy At-large. The area map is available at <http://www.jpnc.org/jpnc-map/>.

The Egleston Square Neighborhood Association will meet on Monday, December 2 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The meeting is in the YMCA Building at 3134 Washington St. Agenda to be determined.

JP Problem Properties Committee, first Thursday of the month, 10:30am, Egleston Library, 2044 Columbus Ave. Info: Office of Rep. Malia, 617-722-2380

Youth/Families

7th Annual Franklin Park Turkey Trot - Nov. 28 The Franklin Park Turkey Trot is a Boston family tradition! The scenic 3.1

mile (5k) route includes the park's most beautiful and historic views and includes great prizes for age-group finishers and best costumes. Whether you're a veteran runner or signing up for your first 5k, you can be sure you'll receive a hearty welcome at Franklin Park on Thanksgiving morning!

- All ages and paces welcome
- Strollers and race-ready leashed dogs are welcome
- Great prizes for fast finishers and costumes
- Event is chip timed
- All registered runners will receive a custom neck warmer

Runner registrations support the Franklin Park Coalition's programs and events including; conservation & stewardship, arts & health, and advocacy that happen year-round. The three pillars of the Franklin Park Coalition are: Work, Play and Engage! Our signature fundraising and fitness event, the 7th Annual Turkey Trot 5K brings each of these elements to life in the park.

Register for the Franklin Park Turkey Trot 2019: <https://www.racemenu.com/events/171038-Franklin-Park-Turkey-Trot-5K-2019>

Community Thanksgiving Worship Service — Thanksgiving Bible Lesson and a chance to give thanks. 10 am Thanksgiving Day 351 Centre Street sponsored by JP-Church, Third Church of Christ, Scientist, and Second Church of Christ, Scientist

Children Dance Classes: JP Dance Co-op is hosting two new classes this Fall: Parent & Child: Intro to Movement for ages ~3-4 on Sundays, 10-11 a.m., to Dec. 8 (Full course: \$100 / Drop in: \$15); and Pre-Ballet & Modern: Dance Basics for ages ~5-6 on Sundays, 11am-12pm, 10/6-12/8 (Full course: \$100). Classes held at Spontaneous Celebrations (FYI: no classes December 1 for holidays). Email Caitlin Fisher to register: JPDanceCoop@gmail.com.

Kids on Wheels: Play and learn, every Sunday, 3 to 5 pm – Ferris Wheels Bike Shop

helps kids learn and practice safe riding skills while having lots of fun at the South Street Mall and tennis courts! Free helmet adjustments and free bike adjustments available. Heavy rain cancels. At the tennis courts at South Street and Carolina Avenue. 617-524-2453.

Tuesday & Thursday a.m. bike training rides: Paceline ride, great for training for charity rides or general conditioning. Leaves from Ferris Wheels Bike Shop, 66 South St. (1/2 mile from Forest Hills) at 7:00 a.m. sharp. Rain cancels. Call 617-524-2453.

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.

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@jfc-boston.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, 3:30-4:30 p.m., 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, 3:30-5:30 p.m., 2044 Columbus Ave, Roxbury.

Health/Fitness

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 8:45 a.m. 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 MindBody Center (SJPHC-HPC) @ 10 Green Street. Low cost or free, in English and Spanish. For more information call 983-4226.

Fitness Walk, Saturdays, 8-9 a.m., Franklin Park Golf Clubhouse 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, 6:30-7:30 p.m. 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

Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 30 South Street, Jamaica Plain (617) 524-2053

Monthly Memory Cafe. November 25. 10:30-noon. Please join us for conversations that allow time to share memories, laughter and concerns. Participants experiencing memory lapses are welcome to attend –and anyone requiring special assistance should be accompanied by a caretaker. We will be working with collages. Refreshments will be provided by Laurel Ridge Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center. The Memory Cafe is held the last Monday of every month so plan on December 30, January 27 and February 24.

MEDICARE: How does it work? Wednesday, December 4, 10:15-11:15 a.m. If you are approaching Medicare and have questions, please RSVP to 617-522-9270 and mention this event, along with your name and phone number. Get your questions answered at this Ethos SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) program. Program will be repeated in January.

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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. More information: 617-524-2626

SNA discusses updates for ongoing projects

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Stonybrook Neighborhood Association (SNA) met for its monthly meeting at The English High School on Nov. 18, where they discussed several issues that have been brought up at previous meetings.

The project at 35 Brookley

Road has been renamed 10 Stonley Road by the Boston Planning and Development Agency, because the entrance to the building will be on Stonley Road. The project consists of constructing a four story residential building with 45 residential units. The area is zoned for industrial use, and the project would require

variances for height, use, and setbacks.

A member of the subcommittee for this project said that the subcommittee met with the developers last week, and learned that they have altered the plan by stepping back the fourth floor and adding a mural. She said that they communicated to the development team that they are "still not super happy" with the scale of the building, as it seems to dwarf the surrounding buildings. They asked the team to reduce the overall massiveness of the building, but said that some of the other compromises made were acceptable.

SNA member Jennifer Uhrhane said that five of the units will be artist live/work units, up from an originally proposed three. She said the mural will tie in well with these units. Uhrhane also said that the developers have not changed the footprint, unit count, or height since May. "They've made the design more appealing and changed things inside but the project is still the same volume," she said.

SNA member Jonathan McCurdy said he's concerned about the precedent this project would set in the neighborhood. "I think it's important for us to try and negotiate with them a project that works well for them and for our neighborhood," he said.

3502 Washington St.

At the October SNA meeting, a presentation was heard for a proposal for the Doyle's auxiliary parking lot at 3502 Washington St. The proposal is to build eight residential units with one com-

mercial space on the lot, presumably a locally owned coffee shop. A subcommittee was formed, but has not officially gotten off the ground yet. At the November meeting, neighbors discussed possibly asking for affordable commercial space. Several neighbors were also concerned with the fact that all eight units were proposed to be market rate, so they wondered what was really being given back to the community.

Flanagan & Seaton Garden Discussion

As part of the community agreement for the project at the former Flanagan & Seaton Motor Car Co., a community garden will be created on the site.

Community member Fred Vetterlein has taken the reigns on the garden, which has been quite a long process. He reported at Monday's meeting that they received a third plan from the landscape designer about two weeks ago. Last week, they met and created a drawing of the plan to scale. "We think we have a pretty good design now," Vetterlein said. He said he hopes to have 24 raised beds in the garden of varying sizes, and the garden plot sizes have increased by 50 percent since the process began. Two of the plots will be ADA compliant as well.

There will be a shed that is about eight feet by eight feet, a compost area, and a mulch area where trucks will deposit mulch in the spring. When all the mulch is transported to the gardens, the mulch area can be used for a picnic table. Vetterlein said the area has "pretty good sunlight," and there will be a wooden fence around at least two or three sides, but some sort of fencing will enclose the entire garden. It was suggested the black chain-link fence would be the best for letting light in for the plans.

"We have a good plan so we hope it moves forward," he said,

adding that they hope to have a final plan this month.

34-36 Rossmore

On behalf of SNA member Sue Cibulsky, Jonathan McCurdy said that the developer has come back with some revisions to the plans for the two buildings proposed on the lot at 34-36 Rossmore Road, which is on the corner of Stedman Street and Rossmore Road. Right now, there is a single family home on the lot, and developer Liam Lydon's plan is to demolish that house and build two triple deckers side by side. The developer has said the existing home is in poor condition.

McCurdy said that they are still waiting for a tree plan, as there are some existing trees on the property that some neighbors were interested in saving. He added that the subcommittee is still working with the developer on this project.

Letter for Shattuck

Lastly, the SNA discussed their views on the Shattuck Campus, and have drafted a letter to send to elected officials with their stance. Although the letter has not been voted on yet, SNA Steering Committee member Wyley Proctor led the discussion, saying that she believes the services provided at the campus are "important and necessary," but once the hospital services move to the South End, they should not be rebuilt in Franklin Park. "They belong in other places," Proctor said, adding that she has no problem with them being in Jamaica Plain but she really would like to see the land returned to Franklin Park. "The park is so important," she said.

Several neighbors shared her sentiment, and agreed to be on board with arguing against putting services in Franklin Park. The draft letter was not yet voted upon by the SNA, and discussion will be ongoing.

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VETERANS DAY CEREMONIES AT PUERTO RICAN VETS MONUMENT SQUARE

PHOTOS BY SETH DANIEL

The Puerto Rican Veterans Monument Square Association

held its annual Veterans Day ceremonies on Monday, Nov. 11, in the South End. A host of people gathered to honor the service of

veterans to the country – particularly of the service of Puerto Rican men and woman over the years. Standing under a statue depicting a Puerto Rican man and woman in military dress, numerous City, state and federal officials were there, including Mayor Martin Walsh, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley and Congressman Joe Kennedy III.

State Rep. Jon Santiago and Association President Tony Molina both called upon the government to grant full benefits to Puerto Rican veterans, who are often forgotten and/or shortchanged.



Standing at attention were City Councilor Ed Flynn, DA Rachael Rollins, State Rep. Jon Santiago, and Deputy Supt. Luis Cruz.



State Veterans Secretary Francisco Urena, Monument President Tony Molina (a JP resident), Purple Heart Recipient (and Transit Police detective) Kurt Power, and Angelina Gonzalez-Molina in front of the Purple Heart Memorial.



As the flags were lowered, Taps was played.



Shown above: Mayor Martin Walsh and Veterans Commissioner Roberto Santiago, along with several other officials, lay the Veterans wreath at the foot of the monument.



Mayor Martin Walsh pledged his continued support to the Puerto Rican Veterans Monument in the South End.



Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley spoke about the sacrifice made by men and women from Puerto Rico throughout the history of the country.



Congressman Joe Kennedy III spoke in fluent Spanish to the audience about the bravery of Puerto Rican veterans.



Above: Police Commissioner William Gross drew attention to the fact that, for the first time, there are two Latino deputy superintendents on the Boston Police. Standing next to him are Dep. Supt. Luis Cruz and Felipe Colon. Right: State Rep. Nika Elugardo said she came from a family of veterans, and saluted their efforts.



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MULCHCAPADE



Shown above is the volunteer group for the October 26 Mulchcapade where 25 volunteers spread mulch on 90 street trees, planted 450 daffodil bulbs and perennial plants, picked up litter, and beautified spaces at Welcome Mural at Jackson Square, Mozart Park, Municipal Parking Lot, and along Centre Street.

JP's Wendy Polanco named ABCD Community Hero

BY JOHN LYNDS

Wendy Polanco was recently honored at ABCD's (Action for Boston Community Development) annual Community Heroes Celebration.

Polanco and others from all of Boston's neighborhoods were honored for their work in their respective communities at the annual gala that was held on November 8 at Boston Marriott Copley Place. The event also features six-time Tony, Grammy and Emmy award winning singer and actress Audra McDonald.

Polanco serves as the President of the Mildred Hailey Apartments Tenant Organization. With her office located just upstairs from the ABCD Jamaica Plain space, she works daily to unify the Jamaica Plain community and inform individuals and families of the services ABCD offers.

As a parent of two children, Polanco found herself needing help when she moved to Boston and through the services she received she became heavily involved in the community. Since 2014 she has been volunteering in the Jamaica Plain community and is a daily resource for both ABCD and residents of the community.

"Volunteer because it's not only a good thing you're doing,



Wendy Polanco was honored as an ABCD Community Hero this month.

but you feel great about it when you're helping someone," said Polanco. "You just feel like it made your day at the end of the day, knowing that you helped someone get better in life... I couldn't do this work without all the women who came before me and helped me."

As the President of the Tenant Organization, she hosts monthly meetings during which different community organizations meet to exchange resources, brainstorm ideas, and discuss important issues in Jamaica Plain.

ABCD maintains a close relationship with the Tenant Organization and Polanco is among one of the first partners ABCD Jamaica Plain calls when recruiting for programming, especially ABCD youth programming. She aids ABCD in maintaining its presence in the community by

continuously promoting services and referring children and families to the ABCD site.

"Extraordinary volunteers are at the heart of ABCD's 2019 Community Heroes Celebration on November 8th," said ABCD President and CEO John Drew. "Polanco fosters an environment that brings people together and we look forward to continuing our partnership."

Drew said the annual gala is about acknowledging those who inspire others by selflessly giving of themselves.

"These community heroes are exceptionally committed to taking action to impact those around them," said Drew. "By serving those in need and providing them with tools and means, these heroes turn a flicker of hope into a flame of opportunity and fulfillment for years to come. By sharing their light, they illuminate the Path for others. With a mission to help underserved people and communities transition from poverty to stability to success — through advocacy and collaboration with local leaders, politicians, businesses, and of course the humble heroes among us — ABCD provides a ladder upward to overcome seemingly insurmountable barriers and to seize opportunity."

Frank Guerra honored by the Harvard Club

On Wednesday, October 2, Frank Guerra, headmaster at Boston Trinity Academy, was honored by the Harvard Club of Boston Foundation with their annual Friends of Education Award.

According to the foundation, this award is given "to individuals who have made significant contributions towards the education of secondary students." Past recipients of this award include Mayor Tom Menino, Governor Charlie Baker, and Boston Public Schools Superintendents Tom Payzant and Mike Contompasis.

In their accommodation, the Harvard Club mentioned that Mr. Guerra was chosen for this award based on the tremendous accomplishments the school has made in 17 years. Boston Trinity Academy was founded in 2002 with only 54 students. Today, the school has over 240 students of diverse backgrounds. This year marks Mr. Guerra's 10-year anniversary as Boston Trinity's headmaster.

During the school's recent accreditation process, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges remarked, "In a

relatively brief span of its institutional life, Boston Trinity has grown and continues to prosper...its hundreds of graduates give testimony to the value it has brought into the world." Boston Trinity Academy is a unique, mission-driven school. It is the only non-denominational Christian secondary school in the city of Boston, and it is ranked the most diverse private high school in Massachusetts by Niche.com. Last year, the school gave \$1.8 million in scholarships to 60% of its students. The school promotes academic excellence, which is reflected in the students' 99% college acceptance rate. At the same time, it promotes educational opportunities to low income and minority students.

The Harvard Club awards ceremony took place at their annual breakfast. In addition to Mr. Guerra's award, Lucy Fulco, chair of BTA's Math department, received the Harvard Club's Teaching Excellence Award. BTA senior Phoebe Linnell was awarded the Harvard Club Book Prize in May, and she was also recognized at the breakfast.



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LETTERS

Thank you, District 6

I am once again humbled and honored to have been elected as your Councilor. For the sixth time, you have bestowed upon me the greatest honor of my professional life: being your voice on the Boston City Council. As your Councilor, I work for you every day -- on issues big and small -- to push Boston to be the best for all of us.

Many challenges confront us as a City: from development to public safety to climate resilience to strengthening public education, but I know that we can work collectively to tackle these issues

and build a Better Boston.

My excitement for the job and tackling the work that lays ahead of us has only grown in my 9 years on the body. Thank you again for the support and I look forward to working with you and for you in the term ahead.

As always, if I can be of any assistance to you, please don't hesitate to call me directly at 617-635-4220 (office) or 617-935-9752.

All my best,

COUNCILOR MATT O'MALLEY

Black Lives Matter

On a cold night in December 2015, a group of engaged residents and friends gathered in the center of JP on the lawn of the First Baptist Church for what became the first of now 48 consecutive monthly Vigils in Support of Black Lives Matter. They listened to a speaker, then stood silently along Centre Street holding signs supporting racial justice and the Black Lives Matter movement. Trayvon Martin had been killed in February 2012 and his killer exonerated a year and a half later, launching demonstrations across the country. Michael Brown was killed in Ferguson, Missouri in 2014, triggering similar demonstrations and protests. Cell phone videos and news reports of unarmed people of color being shot and killed circulated on social media, waking many white people to a reality of life much too familiar to black and brown communities. The Black Lives Matter movement was founded in this time period to draw attention to the unequal treatment of people of color in our society, too often resulting in their deaths.

Four years after that first Vigil, the acute threat of racist violence directed against black and brown people has only increased in the shadow of the newly emboldened white supremacy movement, and support for communities of color is more important than ever. We invite everyone in JP and beyond to join us for the December 5 Vigil in Support of Black Lives Matter at 5:30 pm on the

lawn of the First Baptist Church in Jamaica Plain (633 Centre Street) as we begin the fifth year of these monthly standouts for racial justice. Held from 5:30-6:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month, the Vigil includes: a message from a speaker representing an organization working on the issues promoted by the Black Lives Matter Movement; a call and response reading of the names of some of the people lost to racist violence; and a 20 minute silent standout along Centre Street. The non-denominational vigils are organized by a small planning group and are open to all. Through the vigils each month, we hope to create:

- a regular presence to show support for and solidarity with Black Lives Matter
- a space to come together in community to take a stand for racial justice and against white supremacy and white nationalism
- an opportunity to denounce the racist murders of black and brown lives

We invite any and all to join us.

Vigil in Support of Black Lives Matter Planning Group
Julie Boss, Mary Lenihan, Bonnie McBride, Penny Wells

On Facebook: Vigil in Support of Black Lives Matter

To be added to our notifications email list (names will not be shared), please email:

Mary Lenihan at maryfranny@gmail.com

We have signs and posters for the standout at the Vigil...or bring your own!

Dogs Are More Important Than People?

Recently, while I was sitting in front of Caffe Nero, a young man came and tied his medium-sized dog to a post near the door. People entering or exiting the café had to step over or around the dog. When the owner emerged ten minutes later, I suggested that in the future he might tie his dog somewhere else because some people are afraid of dogs. His reply, "They ought to get over it."

Not every dog owner is that arrogant and unconcerned with others' feelings and fears, and most pet owners love and take care of their animals, but too many act as if their dog has a right to annoy others.

Many people have good rea-

sons for fearing dogs. Forty people a year (mostly toddlers) are killed by pet dogs. Thousands more are bitten. I've been a dog owner and I love them, but I've been bitten twice, and I still bear a scar on my arm 65 years after one attack.

In front of the café, people allow their dogs to pee against the tree a few feet from where I eat. When I ask them to not allow that, they generally get defensive. "My dog has every right to pee on public property." No concern for my disgust at this behavior. One man let his dog pee on the corner of the building two feet from where I was sitting. He became indignant and ranted at me when I complained. These

are not isolated examples. How many signs have you seen that ask owners not to let dogs pee on their plants?

In Hong Kong, a densely populated city, owners must carry water to wash down the pee. Large fines await violators. It took pooper scooper laws to bring the many irresponsible dog owners around here in line, and now it's rare to see dog shit smearing sidewalks and lawns. Maybe we need laws like they have in Hong Kong to civilize dog owners. Or are dogs really more important than people?

GUSTAF BERGER

More on 701 Centre Street....

We are writing to give an update to our efforts with regard to 701 Centre Street/ Chase Bank storefront alterations, and to bring greater awareness to this issue so that a required design review and proper remedy can occur.

We are extremely grateful to those who have come forward with expressions of support and encouragement. To date, this includes the following organizations and/ or members within such groups or organizations: Councilor Matt O'Malley, JP Neighborhood Council (JPNC), JP Centre South Main Streets (JPCSMS), Jamaica Pond Association (JPA), Jamaica Plain Business and Professional Association (JPBAPA), JP Historical Society, Boston Preservation Alliance, Boston Landmarks Commission, and many other individual residents of the JP community.

Over the past two weeks we have met with the building owner, and with officials at the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) and the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA). We have reached out to the Mayor's Office, other elected officials and Chase Bank as well, and we are awaiting responses.

We were able to view drawings and documents originally submitted for permit and see changes were made to the scope of work during construction, and without review or approval of ISD. Upon recognizing this, ISD has suspended work on the proj-

ect pending receipt of required permit amendment documents.

After review of details of the work in place, the BDPA has confirmed that the work performed meets the threshold for a required design review under specific language and criteria in Article 80 of the zoning code, and has given guidance to ISD to make the necessary determination for a review.

Moreover, the intent of the code is clear. The purpose of a 'Design Overlay District' is to safeguard historically significant buildings that may not otherwise have protection in the zoning code, or be protected through other means. The authors of the zoning map in Jamaica Plain understood that 701 Centre is a historically significant building in the district, one of the few remaining (once intact) mid-nineteenth century commercial structures that once and still do define the urban streetscape in this neighborhood. They were right to include it in the design overlay.

Design guidelines in the code are clear with regard to treatment of such buildings undergoing alterations, specifically:

Article 55, 55-36(2); (g): "...deteriorated architectural features should be repaired rather than replaced...repair or replacement of missing architectural features should be based...on accurate duplication of original features..."

These are the relevant guideposts for a design review that should form the basis of a remedy to what has happened at 701

Centre Street.

It is now up to ISD to initiate a design review once they receive permit amendment documents from the applicant. This review, to be conducted by the BPDA, should include participation of the community.

The code recognizes community participation not only in development of the zoning article itself, but in its continued success (Article 55-6). Accordingly, we have asked that the community be invited to participate in the design review process for 701 Centre Street. We would like to hear from those out there who would not only be interested in participating in this review, but who might be interested in the establishment of a community forum for architectural design review for future projects requiring review in JP.

To these ends, we look forward to assisting the BPDA going forward. 701 Centre Street represents an opportunity for the city to demonstrate to the community that its input remains critical to the success of land use regulations and to insure clarity and confidence in future zoning and permitting processes not only in JP, but throughout the city.

MICHAEL EPP, FAIA
EPPM@COMCAST.NET

EDWARD P. FORTE
AIA, NCARB, LEED AP
EFORTE@FORTEARCH.COM

GERT D. THORN,
AIA, NCARB, LEED AP
GERTDTHORN@GMAIL.COM

EDITORIAL

Food for thought

For decades public health officials and the medical profession have warned Americans that our unhealthy eating habits have contributed to an epidemic of obesity, heart disease, diabetes, and cancer, among other ill-effects, in our country.

The irony of 21st century America is that our wealth does not equal good health. We eat foods that are more expensive to produce, but that are bad for us.

By contrast, the so-called Mediterranean diet, which consists of natural, unprocessed foods, and relies less on meat as a source of protein, has been shown to provide longer and healthier lives for those, regardless of their nationality, who adhere to it, even in the poorest countries of the world.

The hamburger, more than any other single food item, has come to epitomize the American diet. The opening of McDonald's restaurants in foreign countries have been a cause celebre, even in France, the supposed capital of haute cuisine.

So it was with quite a degree of shock to Americans when Burger King launched its Impossible Burger, a plant-based "burger," a few months ago.

However, the seeming absurdity of a hamburger-oriented, fast-food chain offering its customers a plant-based "burger" has given way to a new reality with the announcement this past week by the head of Burger King that the Impossible Burger has become the chain's most successful new product launch in many years.

The Impossible Burger is not your hippy-dippy grandparents' veggie burger. In our home we did a blind taste test, serving real burgers and the Impossible Burger (which we had bought in a grocery store) side-by-side without telling the unwitting participants that one-half (we cut the burgers in two) of what they were eating was not meat.

Not only could they not tell the difference between them (they were unaware that they were eating two different products), but they actually preferred the half that was the Impossible Burger.

Millennials are leading the way in this dietary revolution, but so too are the Baby Boomers, whose decades of bad eating have caught up with us and who must make the shift away from red meat as a staple of our diet to preserve what health we have left.

Not only are plant-based burgers good for us on an individual basis, but by reducing the production of meat, we are benefiting the environment. The Green New Deal put forward by Senator Ed Markey and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez recognizes that animal agricultural production is a huge contributor to climate change.

Just as Americans reduced their consumption of cigarettes in the decades that followed the Surgeon General's warning in 1964 about the ill-effects of smoking, so too, a new generation of Americans is forwarding a healthier lifestyle in terms of our food choices.

If it is true that we are what we eat, this is a change that has been a long time coming.

The opinions expressed on these pages are not necessarily those of this newspaper.

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OP-ED

This Holiday Season, Let's Start the Family Conversation about Health and Health Planning

DR. TALIA LEWIS

At this time of year, many of us travel long distances to reunite with parents, siblings and extended family. In addition to the meals and celebrations, the annual holiday visit can be a good opportunity to open up conversations about changes we may notice in our loved ones' health status, and overall, how their days are going.

One place to start is with your loved one's mobility. Are they able walk or move around as well or as confidently as when you last saw them? Are they becoming increasingly short of breath, fatigued with their activities? Are they noticeably more anxious or stressed? Also, ask about how frequently your loved one leaves their home to run errands or to meet friends. If there are obvious changes since your last visit, you may be uniquely positioned to notice them and bring them up with your loved one.

The family visit also presents an opportunity to have conversations that are best done in person. For example, ask about what a good day is like for them or, if they are struggling with health issues, what constitutes a bad day.

Talking about Advance Care Planning

If your loved one has a chronic illness such as cardiac or respiratory disease, and they have yet to start talking about advanced care planning, this may be just the right time to do so.

It can be hard to know where to begin in these conversations, but starting with what your loved one is experiencing on a day-to-day basis and then asking about their values and wishes can be just the right spot. In

my daily palliative care consultations, when we pose that values question, each patient has an individual response.

Families may opt to open the advance care planning conversation by asking about a loved one's worries and hopes: I'm worried about you and worried about the future. I'm wondering if you're worried, too?

By acknowledging your individual and shared worries, you express care and concern while keeping the conversation open.

The truth is that your aging loved one may already be worrying about these issues and is relieved when you open the dialog. In one survey, 53% of respondents want their families to address advance care planning, but 63% of families report that they do not have that conversation.

Next, ask about their hopes for the future. Rather than focusing on the time left, focus on their preferences for how they want to spend that time and what, for them, constitutes a good quality of life.

For many of us, the holidays are often busy and stressful, and these conversations may sound like a family downer or an added burden. However, the bigger burden or risk is when we don't know our family members' preferences, and, as their health deteriorates or changes, we are having these conversations during a medical crisis when we are guessing how to honor our loved one's wishes.

Talking about Advance Care Planning at Any Age

Advance care planning is something that we should talk about at any age—while we are healthy and before a health crisis or emergency. Everyone over age 18 should have a designated

health care proxy and share their wishes for medical treatment at end of life. In many families, advance care planning is not a one-time conversation, but one that you may need to re-visit again and again.

For families who feel uncomfortable initiating these dialogues about wishes and preferences for health care, I often recommend resources such as The Conversation Project (TheConversationProject.org), a public-engagement campaign that advocates "kitchen table" conversations with family and friends. The Project offers a Conversation Starter Kit in multiple languages. You may also visit our Care Dimensions website and The Learning Institute to access our educational resources, including instructional booklets, videos, community presentations, a webinar and podcast.

In my daily work as a hospice and palliative care doctor, I witness how the end of life holds much potential to be a love-filled and sacred time. I believe the best way to actualize that potential is to open this conversation and ask the big questions. Then, we will have the best chance of honoring what matters most to our loved ones while they are living.

Dr. Talia Lewis is a full-time hospice and palliative care physician with Care Dimensions, the largest provider of hospice and palliative care in Massachusetts.

Dr. Lewis provides hospital-based palliative care consultations in greater Boston.

She also works with an interdisciplinary team and manages the care of hospice patients who live at home. Dr. Lewis is a resident of Jamaica Plain.

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. More information: 617-524-2626

OP-ED

Encouraging lifelong learning by eliminating late fees for youth at our public libraries

BY MAYOR MARTIN J. WALSH

In the City of Boston, we believe every child deserves an equal opportunity to succeed. We're investing more than ever in our public schools, building out universal pre-kindergarten, providing free community college, helping students experiencing homelessness, and giving free T passes to all Boston students in grades 7-12. We are dedicated to breaking down any barriers that exist between our students and the quality education they deserve.

Over the past five years, we've also made historic investments in another educational asset: our public library system. Our 26 library locations are precious

neighborhood resources. They often serve as an extension of our schools, and they encourage learning after school and all year long.

We recently announced a new policy that will help make sure all our young people have access to the services our libraries provide. On November 1, all Boston Public Library locations eliminated overdue balances for those under the age of 18 who have a Boston Public Library card. While youth cardholders will still be required to return any overdue books in order to check out additional materials, they will no longer face fines for late returns. We believe this will encourage more young people to take advantage of the educational resources our libraries provide.

Many young people might struggle to pay off their overdue balance and feel ashamed returning to the library. I remember worrying about that when I got an overdue notice when I was a kid. I felt like I had committed a crime and I was afraid to go back. I don't want any kid or teenager to feel that way, because a library is a public institution that is meant to serve as a resource for everyone. If a child is seeking out more ways to learn, or a safe place to spend time after school, we don't want them to avoid libraries because of fear over late fees.

Eliminating late fees isn't the only way we're encouraging young people to visit our libraries. We're also renovating our library buildings to make them

more modern, welcoming, and supportive of the kinds of programming people in our neighborhoods want. Our new capital plan includes a \$127 million investment in our libraries, including \$10 million to renovate the Roslindale branch, \$18.3 million to renovate the Adams Street branch in Dorchester, and several other improvement projects throughout our neighborhoods. We're installing new technologies, public artwork, and creating more spaces where communities can gather.

The Boston Public Library is the oldest free city library in the United States. Our city has a long legacy of investing in cultural resources and public education. The BPL's motto is "Free to all." That means that our 26 library

locations belong to the people of Boston. They exist to serve all people, of all backgrounds and income levels. Eliminating late fees for youth under 18 is our next step toward that goal. With more than 150,000 youth library cardholders in the City of Boston, I believe this change will make a significant positive impact. We hope there will be additional benefits, too: some other American cities that have eliminated library fines have seen significant increases in return rates.

This is one of the ways we're investing in our neighborhoods and inspiring the next generation to follow their interests, seek out knowledge, and become engaged in their communities.

Martin Walsh is the Mayor of Boston.

OP-ED

Hands Free At Last

BY SEN. WILLIAM BROWSBERGER

On Monday, House and Senate conferees filed their report on the hands-free cell phone safety bill. The bill is virtually certain to be approved by both branches and to become law shortly.

The new hands-free rules will take effect in late February 2020, but violations will be handled with warnings through March 31, 2020.

Under the new law, you can talk to your cell phone, but you cannot touch or even look at it while driving, except in true emergency. You can touch it once to activate hands free mode. You cannot look at material on your phone, except at navigation maps, but then only on a mounted phone without touching it. You can hold and touch your phone if you are fully off the public travel path.

The law will mean behavior changes for most of us, but I believe that most of us are ready to make the changes. It is time

we all start driving more safely by renouncing cell phone contact.

Here are the exact new rules specified in Section 9 of the report:

- No operator of a motor vehicle shall hold a mobile electronic device.

- No operator of a motor vehicle shall use a mobile electronic device unless the device is being used in hands-free mode.

- No operator of a motor vehicle shall read or view text, images or video displayed on a mobile electronic device; provided, however, that an operator may view a map generated by a navigation system or application on a mobile electronic device that is mounted on or affixed to a vehicle's windshield, dashboard or center console in a manner that does not impede the operation of the motor vehicle.

- . . . an operator shall not be considered to be operating a motor vehicle if the vehicle is stationary and not located in a part of the public way intended for travel by a motor vehicle or

bicycle.

Hands-free mode is defined in Section 1 of the report as "operation of a mobile electronic device by which a user engages in a voice communication or receives audio without touching or holding the device; provided, however, that a mobile electronic device may require a single tap or swipe to activate, deactivate or initiate the hands-free mode feature."

The new rules apply to all mobile electronic devices, including not only phones, but also laptops, personal digital assistants, pagers, etc.

The emergency exceptions are narrowly drawn and include only use to report that

- the vehicle was disabled;
- medical attention or assistance was required;
- police intervention, fire department or other emergency services were necessary for the personal safety of the operator or a passenger or to otherwise ensure the safety of the public; or
- a disabled vehicle or an acci-

dent was present on a roadway.

First violations draw a \$100 fine; second, \$250; third or subsequent, \$500. Second and subsequent offenders will have to attend a distracted driving education program. First and second violations, whether by adults or by junior operators, will not affect insurance, but a third offense will be a "surchargeable incident" which will raise insurance rates for the driver. Special limitations and penalties apply to school bus drivers and transit operators.

There has been broad consensus in the legislature for some time about these new rules. Our existing laws against distraction through mobile devices were unenforceable and all of us recognize the dangers of cell phone use.

What held up final approval of the bill for several months were concerns that the new rules would be used in a discriminatory way against people of color. To address these concerns, the bill strengthens data collection

requirements. Records of motor vehicle citations will be collected by the secretary of public safety and security and analyzed by a qualified institution (selected by the secretary). The results of the analysis will be published and if a policy agency appears to be engaging in racial profiling, the agency will need to collect additional data and to have its officers undergo bias training.

Additionally, the secretary will release aggregate numbers in machine readable format. I understand the term "aggregate numbers" to include detailed cross-tabulations that can be the basis of independent analysis as to each law enforcement agency.

The disclosure and analysis of bias-related data will evolve over time in response to public comment and to support that evolution, the secretary is required to conduct public hearings annually. The secretary is also required to make initial improvement suggestions by April 1, 2020.

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