

- ALLSTON
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The Bulletin

A newspaper dedicated to the community

- JAMAICA PLAIN
- WEST ROXBURY
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August 7, 2025



White Stadium discussion a surprise late addition

Richard Heath
Staff Reporter

It was a classic “when the cat’s away the mice will play” event: choosing the week Mayor Wu was on vacation, The Emerald Necklace Conservancy (ENC) Franklin Park Defenders held a “Speak Out Day of Action” on July 24; first, at 10 a.m. at the in-person MBTA board meeting and then 3 p.m. at the virtual City Council Committee on Post Audit Accountability and Transparency.

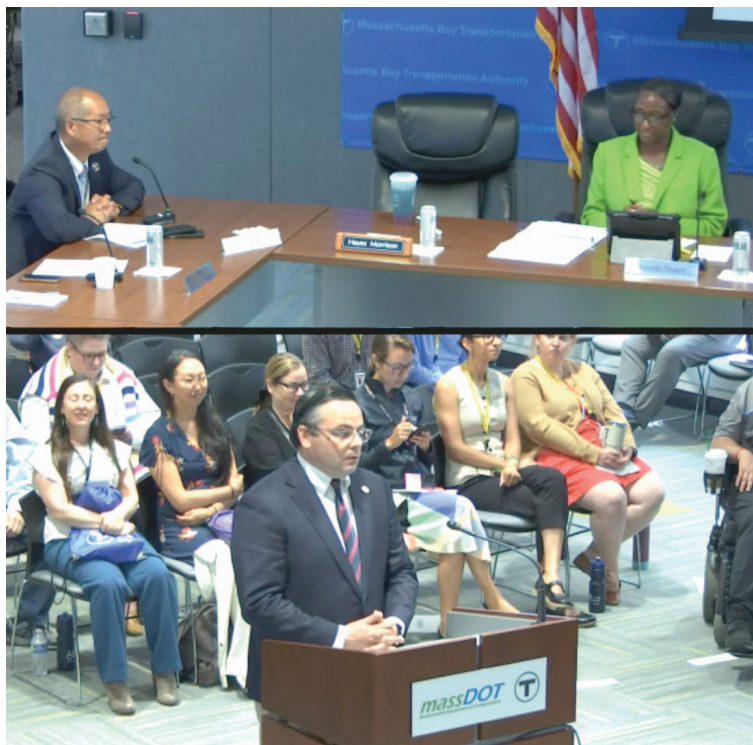
White Stadium was not on the regular July 24 MBTA board meeting agenda but, as a courtesy, MBTA Board Chair Thomas McGee gave Senator Nick Collins the floor out of order.

Senator Collins of South Boston is a new voice in the opposition to mayor Wu’s plans for White Stadium. He asked for time to bring up a matter “that requires urgent attention and engagement.”

He said Bus Route 16 goes through his district from Forest Hills to JFK station and “my concern and those of my constituents” is how White Stadium transportation will have “a significant impact on an environmental justice neighborhood.”

Bus 16 was established in 1974 to serve the recently opened UMass Boston to connect the Orange Line at Forest Hills down Columbia Road to JFK station and the shuttle to the college. Three stops in Franklin Park were added at the urging of the original Franklin Park Coalition in 1978.

Collins maintained that using MBTA resources – such as the #16 route – is using “MBTA assets



State senator Nick Collins speaks to the MBTA board regarding the White Stadium project and its associated transportation needs.

COURTESY PHOTO

to accommodate private uses without an environmental impact study.”

“One hundred private bus trips will use MBTA [bus lanes], property and stations for soccer games and concerts,” Collins said.

The stadium renovation project transportation plans call for the use of MBTA bus lanes, bus loading areas and stations.

Collins wanted “A public process to commence to resolve” what he maintained is a conflict of public/private uses.

Following Collins’ statement, MBTA board member Chandra Smart asked T General Manager Phillip Eng how he would respond.

“It’s a city project but we need

to stay engaged with the city,” Eng said. “We don’t want to get ahead of the city. We will reach out to our counterparts there.”

Eng assured Smart that the public would be notified of these meetings.

Following the three-hour board meeting, McGee turned to public testimony. Eight people from the ENC/Franklin Park Defenders spoke, opening with a tag team of Defenders Carla Lisa Caliga and Sarah Freeman who repeated their oft-stated opposition to the White Stadium/Legacy Soccer lease.

McGee then called on Bill

White Stadium

Continued on page 7



From left to right: City Council President Ruthzee Louijeune, BPD Detective Melvin Ruiz and Boston Mayor Michelle Wu.

PHOTO BY SUSAN KRYCZKA

PD detective honored for quick action in WR arrest

Susan Kryczka
Staff Reporter

More than 35 uniformed police officers, politicians and friends gathered on Monday, July 28 at the District E-5 (West Roxbury) police station to honor Boston Police Detective Melvin Ruiz for his work in a significant arrest, which host State Rep. Bill MacGregor said was due to Ruiz’s “quick thinking, exceptional vigilance and heroic actions ... that helped avert a potentially deadly situation in West Roxbury,” in early spring, 2025.

According to police reports, Ruiz was on patrol during the afternoon of March 25 when he noticed a man on a scooter run a red light at Spring and Lorette streets. The scooter driver, who was holding a duffel bag, proceeded to drive onto the sidewalk, crossed Temple Street and drove into the parking lot at 7 Spring St. Ruiz saw the scooter driver stop to talk to two masked individuals standing near an unoccupied van. Acting on instinct, Ruiz called for additional back-up, and with an on-foot beat officer, approached the group.

Ruiz saw a firearm inside the scooter driver’s waistband which Ruiz removed and determined was a less lethal CO2

Ruiz Honored

Continued on page 2

The hidden gem on the Charles

Matthew MacDonald
Staff Reporter

This past Saturday night, Aug. 2, the Friends of Herter Park held its annual Blues Extravaganza at Riverstage (formerly known as the Herter Park Amphitheater) in Allston.

The free show drew about 300 people, nearly half of whom (judging from the hands that went up in response to the question) were visiting the outdoor performance space for the first time.

Although the amphitheater is next to a large parking lot, it could easily be overlooked in the sprawling Christian Herter Park (1175 Soldiers Field Rd.) that it is part of: it’s on a small, round man-made island that is surrounded by an overgrown moat and

Allston Blues
Continued on page 6



The Love Dogs play as dancers dance at the Blues Extravaganza in Allston this past Saturday.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW MACDONALD

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The Boston City Council, the State House of Representatives and the State Senate all heaped citations and resolutions on Ruiz during the event.

PHOTO BY SUSAN KRYCZKA

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Mass General Brigham

Ruiz Honored continued from page 1

firearm. When the other back-up officers arrived, a search of the duffel bag revealed an AR-15 camouflage assault rifle with two magazines containing 30 rounds and 27 rounds each. A small package of fentanyl was also found. The suspect was arrested and charged with unlawful possession of firearms and ammunition.

A stream of speakers took turns praising Ruiz’s quick, instinctive and decisive action. In attendance were MacGregor, City Councilors Erin Murphy, Ben Weber, and Ruthzee Louijeune, Mayor Michelle Wu, Boston Police Commission Michel Cox and Ann Cushing from State Sen. Michael Rush’s office. E-5 Captain Michael Hegarty welcomed everyone to the station noting “It’s a great day today and I’m always proud as cap-

tain of the district. We operate on the principle of people helping people.”

He thanked Ruiz for his “exceptional work...it’s very special to me.” MacGregor presented a citation to Ruiz for “going above and beyond the call of duty” and reminded people that the incident occurred close to one of the area’s elementary schools, a church and a Boston Housing Authority public housing complex. “We can’t say what the intent was, but many lives were saved.” MacGregor said he was glad to host the event. “We often hear about the tragedies that take place, but not about all those that are avoided due to police action.”

Mayor Wu also expressed her thanks to Ruiz. “As a mom with kids, it’s terrifying to think about what’s out in the world. Every single day of tragedies that happen, horrible things and it’s often first responders and police officers to go and try to deal with those situations after they happen. In this situation, this happened and prevented something really wrong.” She said to Ruiz, “So thank you so much for following your instincts ... thank you for your 38 years of service to the City of Boston.”

Weber presented Ruiz with a citation from the City Council. “To think that someone was rolling through our streets with a military assault rifle and ammunition, what could come of that is just frightening. You were there to stop something from happening.” Commissioner Cox acknowledged Ruiz as an ex-

ample of what police do to keep the community safe.

“This is a perfect example of our officers. When we see something, we do something,” he said. “I’m deeply proud of Detective Ruiz. I’m proud of all of our officers.” Cox said while there are internal events that celebrate the police, he appreciated the “outside world” also celebrating the officers. “This is a tough job they do here.”

Amidst all the attention, Ruiz remained modest and unassuming. “I want to thank everybody for being here today. Thank you for coming, I appreciate it. It’s all I have to say.” MacGregor joked about how he contacted many people in the department, and no one had a bad thing to say about Ruiz. “It was all he’s a great guy.” Citations were also presented from the mayor and from the State House via Senator Rush’s office by Ann Cushing. A buffet of pizza and desserts encouraged those in attendance to keep celebrating after the formal program was over.

While munching on some pizza Ruiz remained humble about all the congratulations. He kiddingly said he was used to all the attention, but then added, “I don’t get too much attention. As a matter of fact, this is the first time.” Looking around, he mused, “To be honest, I didn’t think it was going to be this big.” He said he could have retired years ago but has no plans to do so. “I still enjoy the job. Maybe tomorrow, who knows? I was born and raised in the city. I was happy I could do this for the City of Boston.”



City of Boston
Planning
Department

Request for Proposals

WELCOME HOME, BOSTON PHASE 3

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AVAILABLE

Led by the Mayor’s Office of Housing and the City of Boston Planning Department, the Welcome Home, Boston initiative seeks to create new homes for first-time homebuyers on City-owned land. In this third phase, the City is offering 11 parcels in Dorchester, Hyde Park, and Roxbury representing approximately 47,838 square feet of vacant land for the development of homeownership units.

Developers are encouraged to utilize innovative and cost-effective construction methods, and preference will be given to proposals that showcase how innovation can help build a more inclusive, efficient, and resilient housing delivery ecosystem.

The RFP package is available on the BPDA Procurement Portal at:
bosplans.org/WHB3-RFP
To receive additional information about housing innovation resources and events, sign up at: bit.ly/InnoInterest

Mail to: **Yoon Cha**
Planning Department
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
Phone: 617.918.6234
Email: yoon.cha@boston.gov

Proposal due date:
10/15/2025



BostonPlans.org |  [@BostonPlans](https://twitter.com/BostonPlans)

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director / Secretary

Correction

In last week’s issue of The Bulletin, the story entitled “290 North Beacon represents mix of interests” on page 1 had two errors. First, the interim space is not provided by the City. It was secured by #ARTSTAYSHERE and is operated by The Record Co. Second, the city did not buy 290 N. Beacon Street. Developer IQHQ gifted it to the City of Boston to relocate musicians from the former Sound Museum to another nearby location. We apologize for the errors.

IAG discusses 449 Cambridge St.

Dilani Yogaratnam
Staff Reporter

On July 31, the Boston Planning Department held an IAG (impact advisory group) virtual meeting on a notice of project change for 449 Cambridge St. in Allston, which was once home to auto body shops and a parking lot.

The proposed multi-purpose building will include seven floors, IDP (inclusionary development policy) artist units, ground retail space as well as open amenity spaces and 63 garage parking spaces, according to the city’s website. It’s slated for 200 units on 449 and 445 respectively.

George Ledwith, representing ExCorde Capital, the development company for 449 and now 445 Cambridge St., gave a presentation, followed by comments by IAG members and then the public. The proposal at 449 Cambridge Street and 2 Emery Road were approved for development in 2022. The update covers adding 445 Cambridge for cohesion and more structural changes, like changes in apartment locations.

SCB (Solomon Cordwell and Buenz) was the original architect of the property since the acquisition in 2021, senior architect Ben Harrison said. The biggest change will be the corner lofts, adjacent to Cambridge and Rugg roads, which were acquired by ExCorde Capital and will be shifted around.

“The previous development was two structures located at 2 Emery Road and 449 Cambridge St.” Emery Road is a private way that separates the two sites. The parcel on the corner lot was 445 Cambridge St., previously not part of the development. Since 2021, much construction around the structures took place. The design team is looking to consolidate the two structures (445 and 449 Cambridge St.) for efficiency and to grow the number of apartment units.

Harrison then presented a slide showing a current rendering of the building compared to the proposed increases in the building, changing it from an L-shaped building to a C-shaped one, expanding it closer to Cambridge Street. All the zoning variances will remain relatively the same, which were granted in the previous proposal.

Elevation changes will occur on the south side at the corner of Emery and Rugg roads; a 15-foot grade change allows for parking and loading on the

north side, with a full level of underground parking with street access and no frontage along Cambridge St. to allow for urban streetscape, Harrison said. All the ground floor units will be elevated, none at sidewalk level. A lobby will be a rotating artists’ display as this is an artists’ community, Harrison said. An increased retail space will be at the corner of Cambridge St. and Rugg Road.

The total units and IDP units increased, with 17 percent for IDP units; these units will also be the largest. The majority of IDP units will be at 70 percent area median income (AMI). Only the parking was reduced.

IAG member Niki Kuchipudi asked the most questions which seemed to cover many of the IAG members’ as well as public’s concerns. She was specifically concerned with traffic at the corner of Emory and Rugg roads and suggested they tighten the space for pedestrians or add greenspace and, since no response was given, Kuchipudi asked about retail space and suggested the area be broken up into two spaces for affordability for small business owners. Ledwith said he was open to that but it is not something done on day one due to the uncertainty of business owner interest.

Regarding questions around disability access, Harrison said they did not have a set amount of units yet but will definitely comply with the requirements. “These newer developments are often the only opportunities for accessible housing in this area. There’s lots of multi-family homes and older buildings. I think that’s really important,” Kuchipudi said.

Doug Arcand, who lives nearby, called the project exciting but said his concern was the high volume of Uber Eats, Ubers and other deliveries. He hoped for a designated area for this. Ledwith said a cut-out will be on Emery Road for this purpose. Arcand then asked for a date of demolition to which Ledwith said, “If we could do this yesterday I’d be out there myself with a hammer and sledgehammer.”

Because of the addition of 445 Cambridge St. they must redo the drawings, Ledwith explained. Next May or June is the prediction for a start date, noting it will give current tenants at 445 Cambridge plenty of time to find new residences.

Barbara Parmenter asked if it was possible to “geo fence” Emery Road to act as the pick-up spot for Ubers and such. Parmenter said she wasn’t sure if “geo fence” was the right term but when the address is typed in on an app she hoped Emery Road



The proposed building at 449 Cambridge St. in Allston, which is one piece of a massive redevelopment of the whole block.

COURTESY PHOTO

would appear. Ledwith assured her that Emery Road would be the road popping up on delivery apps.

“Can you make it more colorful? It’s just so gray,” asked Sarah Iwany. Ledwith said he would take the consideration but the gray color allowed for the murals to pop.

In response to a question from the public on why so many studio apartments Ledwith said, “It is not a perfectly perpendicular or rectangular site. There’s some angles

and walls so it’s hard to get larger units in there.”

Ben Harrison, the principal architect of the design team for SCB, echoed Ledwith’s comment and added the strong need for housing in the area.


Cheryl asked for a reconsideration on AMI for the IDP. Seventy percent AMI “is still

quite a chunk of change. I’d like to see a bit more of a range so more folks could be included.” Ledwith said 70 percent is an average so there is a range.

A public meeting took place on August 4 regarding the notice of change for 449 Cambridge St., which now includes 445 Cambridge St.



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City of Boston
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Virtual Public Meeting

AUG 11
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

34-36 PRATT STREET

Register: bosplans.org/36PrattStreet-0811
Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
Meeting ID: 161 048 6133



DESCRIPTION: The Boston Planning Department is hosting a virtual public meeting for the proposed 34-36 Pratt Street project located in the Allston neighborhood of Boston. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Small Project Review Application (SPRA) that was filed and its potential impacts. The meeting will include a presentation followed by questions and comments from the public. The proposed development at 34-36 Pratt Street in Allston would replace two residential buildings with a six-story, approximately 39-unit multi-family residential building. The project includes seven affordable units, a parking garage with 11 parking spaces, and approximately 40 bike parking spaces.

How to participate:
Link to Register: bosplans.org/36PrattStreet-0811 Meeting ID: 161 048 6133

Mail to: **Dylan Norris**
Planning Department
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
617.918.4464
Email: Dylan.Norris@boston.gov

Close of Public Comment Period:
7/31/2025

BostonPlans.org |  **@BostonPlans**

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

German Centre receives Alzheimer’s grant

German Centre, a trusted name in senior care for over a century, is excited to announce the organization has been awarded \$117,221 from the Alzheimer’s Association Center for Dementia Respite Innovation (CDRI). This grant will enhance the quality and availability of dementia-specific respite care for individuals living with dementia and their caregivers in West Roxbury and neighboring communities.

German Centre is one of 41 recipients chosen to receive grant funding from more than 200 applicants across the country. The funds will support the launch of a dedicated Music Therapy Program at the Centre’s long-standing Adult Day Health Program, Senior Place. This new initiative will offer participants structured, evidence-based music therapy tailored to their individual care plans, enhancing quality of life, fostering self-expression, and providing meaningful engagement.

“German Centre is honored to be included in this select group of community-based service providers,” said Mary Beth Caruso, Executive Director of Senior Place. “Caring for someone with dementia can be both emotionally and physically overwhelming. This grant will significantly enhance the care we provide at Senior Place by introducing individualized music therapy that prioritizes personal choice, connection, and shared experiences. It will offer meaningful engagement for participants while also delivering much-needed respite and support for their caregivers.”

In conjunction with the grant, German Centre will also receive online training and ongoing technical assistance from the CDRI to ensure respite services are dementia-capable and to support sustainability. The CDRI will also collect data and evaluate the impact of these innovative projects from all grant recipients to inform public policy.

“We congratulate German Centre on its grant and look forward to working with its team to help enhance respite care services for local dementia caregivers,” said Sam Fazio, Ph.D., Vice President, Care and Support Programs and Research, Alzheimer’s Association. “We intend to gain insights from each respite program we fund, ultimately developing a catalog of programs, tools and resources that will be easily accessible to interested caregivers and care providers.”

The Alzheimer’s Association created the CDRI in 2024 after receiving a \$25 million grant from the Administration for Community Living (ACL), a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Over the next four years, the CDRI will provide \$25 million in grant funding to local respite providers and organizations to enhance the quality and availability of respite care nationwide.

Funding disclosure

This project is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$13,261,685 with 75 percent funded by ACL/HHS and \$3,285,728 amount with 25 percent funded by non-government source(s). The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

About German Centre Established in 1914, German Centre (formerly known as Deutsches Altenheim) was originally designed to serve as a retirement residence for elderly German immigrants. As German Centre expanded and flourished, the organization became a cornerstone of the Greater Boston community. Today, the nonprofit, which comprises German Centre Home for skilled nursing, Edelweiss Village for assisted living and memory care, Schrafft Pavilion Memory Support Neighborhood, and Senior Place Adult Day Health, consistently enjoys a 5-Star rating. The organization continues to offer superior care in a trusted, experienced environment. Its campus in West Roxbury provides long-term care, short-term rehabilitation, memory care, assisted living, and adult day health services to residents and clients of all ethnic, national, and religious backgrounds.

About Legacy Lifecare Legacy Lifecare Inc. is a nonprofit management resources collaborative that provides small-to-mid-sized organizations with the infrastructure needed to succeed in today’s complex senior care environment. In addition to JGS Lifecare, other affiliates include Chelsea Jewish Lifecare of Chelsea and Peabody, Armenian Nursing and Rehabilitation Center of Jamaica Plain, Elizabeth Seton Residence and Marillac Residence of Wellesley, Armenian Nursing and Rehabilitation Center of Jamaica Plain, Stone Rehabilitation & Senior Living of Newton and Saint Joseph Living Center of Windham, CT.

AUGUST 8, 1945



Don Reddick



What effect does war have on morality? When WWII began, President Franklin Roosevelt pled for all sides to refrain from “bombardment from the air of civilian populations or of unfortified cities.” The war ended shortly after President Harry Truman dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Father Siemes of Hiroshima, in his 1947 report to the Holy See in Rome, framed the moral dilemma. “Some of us consider the bomb in the same category as poison gas and were against its use on a civilian population. Others were of the opinion that in total war, as carried on in Japan, there was no difference between civilians and soldiers, and that the bomb itself was an effective force tending to end the bloodshed warning Japan to surrender and thus to avoid total destruction. It seems logical that he who supports total war in principle cannot complain of a war against civilians. The crux of the matter is whether total war in its present form is justifiable, even when it serves a just purpose. Does it not have material and spiritual evil as its consequences, which far exceed whatever good might result? When will our moralists give us a clear answer to this question?”

Hiroshima was very much a military target. It had been the embarkation point of men and material for the Sino-Japanese war, the Boxer Rebellion, and Manchurian conflict during the First World War, before waves of soldiers departed for the Second. The port’s sprawling military complex was home to the Japanese Army’s Fifth Division and was poised to receive the Central War Offices if Tokyo fell. Sealing its fate was that Hiroshima was the only city on the target list for the atom bombs that did not house allied prisoners of war.

Today, entering Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, you quickly realize that this is not a stroll for the faint of heart. A thirty-foot-long photograph of the ruined city greets upon entrance. Display cases contain torn clothing, twisted toys, and actual body parts of radiation victims. You see hideous photographs of burn victims. You read god-awful accounts, the most trying of a group of thirteen-year-old schoolgirls trapped in a fallen building, who, when realizing they were to die in the raging fires that swept the city after the bomb burst, broke into song in unison, awaiting their fate. You see a watch stopped at 8:15 A.M. You see a photograph of a woman whose legs are blurry in the primitive film used and hear the strained voice of the young woman interpreter explain that she is jumping up and down trying to wake the dead baby in her arms. You see Japanese citizens around you weeping as they read these firsthand accounts. Here is the human face of this story, this human tragedy at its most horrific, on walls and in display cases

for all to confront and contemplate.

The city was aware of the danger. In the months preceding the strike, over 20,000 children were removed because of potential attacks. Military authorities had commandeered hundreds of private homes that were demolished to provide fire lanes to contain the inevitable fires aerial bombing produced. I learned that early in the war, Imperial Headquarters instructed its soldiers to die rather than surrender to allied forces. I learned that early in 1945, when the Japanese understood that war reversals portended a homeland invasion, Imperial Headquarters issued a proclamation for “100 million deaths with honor.” I learned that Operation Downfall, the allied plan for the invasion of Japan, estimated casualties at a million allied and potentially twenty million Japanese soldiers and civilians.

Moralists may never determine a clear answer to Father Siemes’ question. Societies tend to judge history within their own cultural parameters and may not entirely appreciate the context in which an estimated eighty-five million deaths worldwide had already occurred during the war. I called my family from Japan and when I spoke to my father—he who had rushed in 1945 to enlist right out of high school—I told him of my Hiroshima visit. He listened silently as I expressed a truncated version of these thoughts and emotions. When I finally paused, he voiced his entire generation’s take on the great moral dilemma: “Yup, yup Dons, and we can invite them to visit Pearl Harbor, too.”

Don Reddick is a writer from Norwood.

He can be reached at donreddick@norwoodlight.com



Dozens of residents came out for the start of West Roxbury Main Streets' series of events on Centre this month.

PHOTO BY ARIANE KOMYATI

Circus Comes to Centre St.

Ariane Komyati
Staff Reporter

More than 100 community members and residents attended West Roxbury Main Streets' (WRMS) "Circus on Centre." The event included face painting, glitter tattoos, a DJ, belly dancing, a stilt walker, balloon animals, local business sidewalk sales/promotions, giveaways and more. The "circus" took place on Aug. 2 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The belly dancing show, which was on the patio in front of Bread Thyme, was arguably

the most popular event. Dozens of families gathered around the belly dancer, Celia, who danced in a red bedlah (belly dancing attire) adorned with sequins and jewels. Celia hypnotized the audience with her mesmerizing moves. She danced to classic Middle Eastern music and incorporated fan veils and a (fake) sword to her routine. At one point, Tony Saroufim, West Roxbury Neighborhood Council Board Member and Parkway Youth Soccer League Chairman, danced with Celia while the audience clapped and cheered. Multiple children

wanted photos with her after the belly dancing performance.

Bread Thyme is an authentic Lebanese restaurant located at 1866 Centre St. After her performance, Celia enjoyed a hot mug of Lebanese spiced tea at Bread Thyme. She said she learned how to belly dance at Moody Street Circus in Waltham and has been dancing for 20 years.

"I'm so honored to be a part of this beautiful event for the community that includes great food, lively music and dancing,"

Circus

Continued on page 7

HANDY HANDS

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Plaintiff

v.

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

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Defendants

ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: the Defendants, any persons claiming under United California Systems International, Inc., and/or GMAC Mortgage Corporation who may claim an interest in the certain property located at 14 Bowdoin Avenue, Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts (the "Premises") by purchase, descent or otherwise.

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Suffolk County Courthouse, 12th Floor

Three Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

Date Issued: 07/28/2025

Associate Justice: Hon. Ira Grant

Assistant Clerk: Anh T Bungcayao

Witness: Wilson, J.

Attest: John Powers, Clerk, Suffolk County Superior Court.

Boston Bulletin: 08/07/25



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I'm Turning 70.
When Should I Apply for
Social Security?

Dear Rusty:


I have a very simple question: I will turn 70 on September 20th and want to start my Social Security benefits in September. What month should I file my claim? Have there been delays with the reductions in SSA staff? Thank you for your help.

Signed: Ready to Claim

Dear Ready to Claim:

Social Security (SS) allows you to submit your application for benefits up to four months prior to the month you wish benefits to start (you will specify your desired benefit-start-month on the application). Thus, to have your benefits begin in September (the month you turn 70), you can submit your application as early as May 2025. That will give SS plenty of time to get your benefits started on time. Remember, though, that SS pays benefits in the month following the month earned, so if you start benefits in September, you will receive your first SS payment in October (on the 3rd Wednesday). And, since you will be turning 70 in September you are entitled to full benefits effective from the first of that month. Congratulations on choosing a strategy which maximizes your monthly payment. By claiming at age 70, your monthly SS benefit will be about 31% more than it would have been at your full retirement age, and you will get that higher monthly amount for the rest of your life.

Re your question about possible delays, Social Security staff reductions have not included "front line" agents (those who handle applications), so the SS recent staff adjustments should not likely delay processing your application.



Russell Gloor

AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

cation. Although some back-office staffing turmoil currently exists at SSA, they have been moving more people to front-line positions to try to improve their service. Just be aware, however, that it normally takes the SSA about two-to-three months to process new applications, which is why they allow applications up to four months in advance. You will specify the month you wish benefits to start on your application. In any case, although your application should be fine if you submit it this month, rest assured that they will pay you starting with the month you requested, even if they must do so retroactively.

FYI, you can apply for Social Security in person by making a telephone appointment to do so at 1.800.772.1213, or you can apply online at www.ssa.gov/apply. To apply online, you need to have first created your "my Social Security" online account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Here is a video which explains the online application process: www.ssa.gov/hlp/video/iclaim_r01.htm.

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

The Boston Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) met last week and voted unanimously to approve the proposals at 586 Canterbury St. on the Roslindale and Jamaica Plain line and 263 N. Beacon in Brighton.

On Canterbury, attorney John Pulgini cited the need for housing throughout Boston and this 46-unit rental project would need zoning relief for several violations. Those include multi-family use is con-

ditional, not enough parking, building alignment (the entrance does not face the street the parcel is fronted on), height is excessive in feet and floor area ratio is excessive.

Pulgini said the unit mix would be 10 studios, 26 one-bedrooms, seven two-bedrooms and three three-bedroom units. Pulgini said the project has already been approved by the Boston Planning Department and the Boston Conservation Commission.

"The proposal is to provide much needed housing on an extremely large and underutilized lot," he said. "In addition, we're providing many public realm improvements, including providing a pedestrian easement to the city to allow for nine-foot sidewalks and the installation of street trees in coordination with the Public Improvements Commission and the Parks Department. Also, we've worked with the MBTA on a bus shelter at the intersection of Canterbury and American Legion Highway. Finally, this proposal will have

Jeff Sullivan

Staff Reporter

ZBA

Continued on page 10

Allston Blues

continued from page 1

fenced in by enough trees that – if not walking directly toward its clearly marked bridge – one could walk past completely unaware.

Once on the island, however, visitors are instantly removed from all that is around it: the larger park, the river (a literal stone's throw away), the noise of the road traffic, and the city in general.

The Blues Extravaganza was the most recent performance in the 2025 Riverstage season.

The Love Dogs – a stalwart on the New England blues scene since the 1990s – headlined, as they do every year, and played two sets of horn driven jump style blues that had many in the audience up and dancing in the plaza behind the seating section and in front of the large wooden stage.

They were joined by two special guests: trumpeter/singer Johnny Blue Horn and singer Toni Lynn Washington – Boston's 87-year-old "Queen of Soul and Blues." They both sat in for a portion of both sets and it all made for a good time that was made even better by the familiar friendliness of the performers and by the musical comfort food they were expertly serving up.

Love Dogs bandleader Ed Scheer estimated that they've been playing the venue for about 10 years and – from that first time playing it as part of a larger revue – he and his band were drawn to it. "It sounds good, it looks nice, it's very pastoral," he said after they had all finished packing up in the quiet, wooded stillness after the show. "It's very relaxing. You know what I mean?"

After that first time, Scheer and the Friends of Herter Park came up with the Blues Extravaganza, which became an annual event featuring the Love Dogs and their guests – a format that the bandleader attributed to the tight-knit nature

of the New England blues community. "We are like a big family, and it's just great," he explained. "The more people onstage, the better for me."

It is the Friends of Herter Park who manage the seasonal programming and scheduling for Riverstage, as well as everything else – landscaping, maintenance, infrastructure, expenses – having to do with the site. In fact, the 501(c)(3) is in a five-year lease with the Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) and wants to extend it to 15 years to attract more funding.

The amphitheater itself has a history that goes back to the late 1950s. It was built to serve as the centerpiece of the Metropolitan Boston Arts Center, where – as Friends of Herter Park Chair Tim McHale remarked to the audience between sets – opera would be performed.

For assorted reasons, the opera never took hold and, after a 1964 fire, the amphitheater fell into disuse. Then, in 1971, the Publick Theatre took over to run its summertime performance program but eventually discontinued operations there. In 2010 the site again fell into disuse and disrepair.

It was in around 2016 that Friends of Herter Park – a small group of Allston-Brighton volunteers – took up the task of restoring the amphitheater and the site to performance venue standard. This was done in partnership with the DCR, as well as other entities, and was funded through private donations, sponsorships, and grants. Riverstage continues to operate in this same fashion.

McHale commented in more detail as the second set got going, noting that Friends of Herter Park aims to have about 30 shows per season, from early June through late October. He added that, currently, each show costs ap-

proximately \$3,000 to stage, making for about a \$90,000 budget.

Related to that, the non-profit has hired its first executive director – Ciyadh Wells – who took the helm a month-and-a-half ago, and one of whose major job responsibilities is to bring in money.

"Once that fundraising gets going, there's no stopping us," McHale said. As for more imminent plans for Riverstage, he announced to the audience that a new canopy will be installed over the stage for next season, and that the DCR intends to repave the seating area sometime this year.

Wells – a classical guitarist – also commented on the programming plan for 2026. "We're already starting to think about next year and what we'll do," she said. "We'll have some repeating events and some new stuff, too." Speaking further on this, the new executive director said that the focus is on concerts, but that plays – in keeping with the amphitheater's past – are also a possibility.

On this comfortable summer night, however, it was all about the blues, and the Love Dogs, Johnny Blue Horn, and Toni Lynn Washington all brought to mind – in their own ways – what an East Coast center for the music Boston had served as for so many years.

Friends of Herter Park board member Peggy Iafrate alluded to this as she worked concessions while the Love Dogs tuned up. "Our goal for next season would be to have a blues show every month, all season long because it's so popular, and it's fantastic, of course. We all know that."

The next Riverstage show will be on Saturday, Aug. 9 at 7 p.m. and will feature The Nightflies playing the music of Steely Dan. For more information, visit www.friendsofherterpark.org.

White Stadium *continued from page 1*

Lyons of Fort Hill Companies.

Lyons took the floor and explained he was a consultant with the ENC and a licensed traffic engineer. Lyons was first introduced by the ENC at a July 1 press conference outside the stadium.

“My review of the White Stadium transportation plans,” Lyons said then “is they are unworkable based on flawed assumptions and wishful thinking.”

Picking up on Collins' argument, Lyons said that the transportation plan uses shuttles “from MBTA stations, Forest Hills, Ruggles and JFK. Over 100 shuttles buses.

“They intend to use your property without any permits that I’m aware of,” he said.

Lyons called for the MBTA to review the transportation shuttle bus plans. “They will have a significant impact on T service,” Lyons said.

Representative Chyna Tyler testified next and said she wanted more “communication about White Stadium.”

“What is the value to the city?” she asked, adding she wanted “a balanced perspective.”

Speaker Jamile Graham compared the Casey Arborway with White Stadium: “Broken promises.

“We have more traffic, more gridlock [at Forest Hills] than ever before,” she said. “White Stadium will transform the park irreversibly with increased traffic.”

At-Large City Councilor Julia Mejia chairs the Post Audit Government Accountability and Transparency Committee and urged the mayor “to take a pause...there’s a counter proposal about White Stadium.”

She tried the first time at a similar committee hearing requested by the ENC on Jan. 22.

“It’s not like you have demolished the whole place,” she said

on July 24.

Nothing remains of White Stadium except a hollowed out west wing wall supported by a web of iron scaffolding.

The agenda for the hearing was about questions of the way in which the first procurement contract for White Stadium had been awarded; this was awarded to the Ed Davis security consulting for detail personnel during soccer games and concerts.

But the hearing quickly came down to White Stadium itself.

“There’s a desire for a different proposal without so much opposition,” Mejia said, repeating what was said on January 22. “There’s a different proposal [by the ENC] that is overwhelmingly endorsed. It costs a fraction of the cost and it would be 100 percent public.

“I’m concerned about this, why not take a pause?” said Mejia. “There’s a discrepancy here. We budget \$50 million, then there’s another budget. It’s like an IOU. How can we approve a project without fully funding [it]? It might sound crazy to pause; it’s not like you haven’t demolished the whole place. I am curious. Why not? Black and brown people deserve the best of the best.”

Segun Idowu, chief of economic opportunity, presumably thought he was called about a procurement contract and seemed taken aback.

“Rebid it? An RFP has been awarded. The city has spent \$7.5 million [on demolition],” he said. “I’m not sure what’s being asked. The city has awarded a contract. I don’t have any answer as to why it can’t be paused.”

Like a bus, White Stadium gets new passengers at every stop and the most recent one to get on is the Boston NAACP.

Ed Burley, chair of the Boston NAACP legal committee

came on the call.

“More than one bid would have been ideal,” he said from his car, “but we’re stuck with one option. The reality here is a contract has been signed. The challenge is the transportation plan. If the traffic piece doesn’t work then this project won’t work. That’s the question.”

“There’s lot of enthusiasm [for women’s soccer] and landing a soccer team in Boston; let’s be honest, that’s a good thing,” Burley said.

Public testimony was called and ENC/Defender Melissa Hammel said she had done some fact checking.

“The RFP was issued before November, 2022. It was awarded in April 2023 but the public was not made aware until [July] 2023. There’s too many problems with this; time for a reset.”

Mejia closed out the hearing with a personal testimony.

“We don’t want to cause unintended harm,” she said. “I’m carrying the voices of many people. People are frustrated with White Stadium. There’s a lot of discrepancies.”

Meanwhile, all construction and demolition activity has stopped for the last month and the stadium area is a dusty, fenced-off vacant lot with two marooned basketball nets standing unable to be used. These were bought and erected by the original Franklin Park Coalition in 1986.

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Circus *continued from page 5*

remarked Celia.

Saroufim also enjoyed some tea and zaatar after the performance. “My best friend Gabi owns this restaurant [Bread Thyme],” explained Saroufim, who was one of the first board members of WRMS. “This culture is what we want to present. The dancing and food is the culture of Lebanon. We say that food is liberation.”

Between the 1880s and 1930s, thousands of Syrian and Lebanese immigrants settled in Boston’s South End and Chinatown, creating a neighborhood known as “Little Syria.” Saroufim discussed Boston’s Lebanese community, including the Boston Chapter of the World Lebanese Cultural Union and noted that there are over 300 Lebanese doctors in Boston.

The energetic and charismatic DJ Kelly Maher brought music and energy to the event at the corner of Centre and Corey Streets. In addition to being a DJ and children’s entertainer, Maher spreads positivity through her fitness classes to “motivate and inspire.”

Community member Liam Hoey said his favorite part of the WRMS event was the free cotton candy handed out by the Boston Ale House. He also liked that the event was “business and family oriented.”

Boston mayoral candidate Josh Kraft attended the circus on Centre Street and remarked that Boston is a city of unique neighborhoods.

The “circus” is the first of WRMS’ “Summer on Centre” series, which will take place every Saturday in August. “Come on down to Centre Street each Saturday in August - special programming, sidewalk sales, support our businesses and have fun!” WRMS stated on their social media. The Aug. 9 event is called “Sweets on Centre.” Aug. 16 event is “Snouts on Centre.” “Sinatra on Centre” will take place on Aug. 23. The last summer event is called “Summerthing” – which, as chronicled in Robert Moses’ WR book, ‘Beyond the Grove,’ is a revival of a city tradition – and will take place on Aug. 30.

The “Summer on Centre” series is funded by a grant from the Boston Main Streets Foundation. “We want to bring as many people as we can to Centre Street. A lot of businesses are putting out tables. We want people to spend the day down here while supporting as many local businesses as they can while having a lot of fun,” explained WRMS Executive Director Lindsey Chase.

WRMS is a nonprofit that “promotes a vibrant, dynamic, and resilient commercial district along Centre and Spring Streets as a welcoming destination for residents and visitors.” Stay connected by following WRMS on Instagram (@westroxburymainstreets) or Facebook (facebook.com/westroxburymainstreets). Learn more on their website at wrms.org.

Learn more about the “Summer on Centre” series here: bit.ly/40QAxhN

WRMS will share more details about each Saturday event through their social media.

Miracle Prayer

Dear Sacred Heart of Jesus, I have asked You for many favours. But I plead for this one. (mention favour). Take it, place it in your open broken Heart. And when the eternal Father sees it, covered with the mantel of his most precious Blood, He cannot refuse it. For then it is your prayer, not mine. Dear Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place my trust in thee. Amen.

Say three times for three days, promise publication and favour will be granted.

—A.C.

Miracle Prayer

Dear Sacred Heart of Jesus, I have asked You for many favours. But I plead for this one. (mention favour). Take it, place it in your open broken Heart. And when the eternal Father sees it, covered with the mantel of his most precious Blood, He cannot refuse it. For then it is your prayer, not mine. Dear Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place my trust in thee. Amen.

Say three times for three days, promise publication and favour will be granted.

—J.M.

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

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

—V.C.

Novena to St. Clare

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

—V.C.



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Mary B. Mary Bland Adams was born in 1945 to Joseph Norman Adams and (Helen) Mary Merz Adams of Garnet Rd in West Roxbury. The youngest of three children, she never married, and remained in the house on Garnet Rd to provide loving care for her aging parents and the family dogs. After her parents passed on, Mary moved to an apartment in Quincy and then to 1000 Southern Artery Senior Center. She joined her beloved parents and her older brothers Barry and Joe in God’s kingdom at the age of 80, following an extended stay at Royal Braintree Nursing and Rehab. Mary was employed by Lord & Taylor as a switchboard operator for 19 years. She was a frequent visitor to Old Sturbridge Village and enjoyed decorating her living spaces with country crafts, dolls, and furniture. A regular churchgoer until her health confined her to bed, she took comfort in her faith and was always happy to lend a listening ear. Mary is survived by her nieces and nephews: Emily Adams (Paulus Dominicus) of Ithaca NY, Katie Adams of Seattle WA, Jennifer Byrnes of Scituate, Nick Adams & Trisha,

Chris Adams of Boston, and Zachary Adams of Dedham, by her sister-in-law Mary (Maeve) Adams of Dedham and by the children of her nieces and nephews. Funeral from The Robert J. Lawler & Crosby Funeral Home, 1803 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY. Interment Milton Cemetery. Lawler & Crosby Funeral Home, 617-323-5600.

CASEY



Thomas J., 70, of North Attleboro, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, July 21, 2025 at home. Born in Milton, MA, on November 3, 1954, he was a loving son of the late Michael E. Casey, Sr. and Elizabeth (Kelly) Casey. Tom grew up in Roslindale and West Roxbury, attended Saint Mary’s High School in Brookline, and was a graduate of Roslindale High School. He worked for many years as a correctional officer for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Corrections until his retirement. Outside of work, Tom had a true love for music, especially playing the guitar, and he enjoyed a good game of basketball. Known for his quick wit and boundless sense of humor, he was a born comedian and the life of every gathering, always making those around him laugh. He is survived by his

DEATHS

devoted lifetime partner, Anne Theresa “Nancy” Payne of North Attleboro, and his brother, Michael E. Casey, Jr. and his companion, Pam Eisenberg, of East Walpole. He was predeceased by his brothers Barry Casey, Paul Casey, and Brian Casey. Funeral from the P.E. Murray-F.J. Higgins-George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 2000 Centre Street, West Roxbury. Interment will be held privately at a later date. For online guestbook pemurrayfuneral.com.

FERN



Thomas E. “Tom” of West Roxbury, formerly of New York, passed away on July 29, 2025. Beloved husband of Ellen M. (Kearns) Fern. Devoted son of Caroline “Carol” (Lippert) Fern of RI and the late Edward Fern. Dear brother of Laura Higginson and her husband, Brian of NJ, Joe Fern and his partner, Anna Redwine of SC. Brother-in-law of Regina Beaudry and her husband, Wayne of AZ, Louise Cataldo and her husband, Chris of Walpole, Theresa Leonelli and her late husband, Paul of Waltham. Nephew of the late Lucille Lippert. Uncle of Trevor Higginson, Kate Wisialko, Mary Fern, CeCe Fern, Gayle Cataldo, Meghan Beaudry, Mary and Paul Leonelli. Tom was a member of the Knights of Columbus in Needham. He was self-employed for many years and was the owner of Alpha Bookkeeping Services. Funeral from the William J. Gormley Funeral Home, 2055 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY. Interment St. Mary’s Cemetery, Needham. In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Tom may be made to New England Donor Ser-

vices, 60 First Avenue, Waltham, MA 02451 or <https://neds.org/> For guest book, please visit www.gormleyfuneral.com William J. Gormley Funeral Service 617-323-8600.

FOLEY



Edward (Eddie) Philip, of Jamaica Plain, passed away peacefully July 23, 2025. He was predeceased by his loving brother Martin Foley, sister Julia (Foley) Marshall and leaves behind nephews Kevin, Steven, Thomas, James, Robert and niece Donna. Born on November 21, 1943, Eddie graduated from Roslindale High School and held a job for nearly 40 years working for Boston Public Works. He was an animal lover, country music aficionado, and an avid sports fan. He never missed attending Red Sox opening day and was a season ticket holder to the Bruins and Celtics. Eddie never missed a Patriots game or a wrestling match and attended many games and local circuit wrestling matches throughout the years. In addition to sports, Eddie also enjoyed travelling to Nashville to see the Grand Ole Opry as well as countless trips to Ireland with his brother Marty to see extended family in County Cork. He would also travel with Marty down to Cape Cod to visit his sister Judy and her family. Above all else, Eddie was a lover of family and a devout Catholic who regularly attended Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas in Jamaica Plain and St. John’s in Pocasset on Cape Cod. Always up for a game of poker, Chinese food, a good cigar, or a round of bowling - Eddie will always be remembered for his calm, kind demeanor and generosity. Private burial. For online guestbook pemurrayfuneral.com. Arrangements by P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, West Roxbury.

MILLETT



Diane (Wilson), age 69, passed away peacefully on July 19, 2025, in Millis, Massachusetts. Born on June 20, 1956, in Boston, Massachusetts, Diane lived a life defined by compassion, generosity, and unwavering devotion to her family and those around her. Diane was the beloved wife of Paul Millett and a devoted mother to her son Shaun Millett, daughter Amie Millett and bonus son Paul Millett. Her greatest joy came from being a grandmother to Ariana Mills, Seth Millett, Cairo Millett, Elsie Millett and Brayden Scott. She cherished every moment spent with them and found deep fulfillment in watching them grow. She was the loving daughter of Rosalyn Wilson and the late Herbert Wilson. Diane shared a close bond with her siblings—her sister Deborah Wilson and brother Robert Wilson—and held dear the memory of her late brother Steven Wilson. She also leaves behind numerous cousins, nieces and nephews who were touched by her warmth and generosity. Those who knew Diane will remember her as someone whose kindness knew no bounds. Whether offering a listening ear or lending a helping hand, she had an innate ability to make others feel seen, supported, and loved. Her selflessness was evident in every aspect of her life; if you knew Diane, you never had to worry—she would always do everything in her power to help. Her legacy is one of love: love for her family, love for her friends, and love for life itself. Diane’s presence brought comfort and light to all who crossed her path. Her ability to care deeply for others was unmatched, leaving an indelible mark on everyone fortunate enough to know her. May Diane’s memory bring peace and strength to those she held dear. Her spirit will live on in the hearts of all who loved her. Funeral from the P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 2000 Centre St., West Roxbury. Interment St. Mary’s Cemetery, West Roxbury. For online guestbook pemurrayfuneral.com. Arrangements by P.E. Murray - F.J. Higgins, George.

OHMSTEDE

Michael A. of Pocasset, formerly of West Roxbury, passed peacefully in his home on July 28, 2025 at the age of 64. Be-

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Around the Neighborhood

BOSTON PRESENTS 3RD ANNUAL FASHION IN THE PARK

Save Our Streets-Boston (SOS), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit committed to community empowerment through the arts, is thrilled to announce its 3rd Annual Fashion In the Park, taking place at Adams Park, 4225 Washington Street, Roslindale, MA on September 7, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This vibrant outdoor fashion event will serve as a creative platform for local designers and models, offering them the opportunity to showcase their talent and passion on a community stage. From original fashion collections to live performances and visual arts, Fashion In the Park is a celebration of Boston’s rich and rising artistic culture. Event Highlights: Runway shows featuring local designers and models - Live performers and visual art installations - Local vendors and community engagement - Family-friendly atmosphere in a beautiful outdoor setting.

This event reflects SOS’s mission to create programs that uplift and unify communities through the shared experience of art. As an extension of this vision, the success of this event will support efforts to host an indoor winter fashion showcase, continuing to provide opportunities for emerging artists year-round.

MENINO ARTS CENTER ANNOUNCES “36TH HPAА MEMBERS AT SCOLLAY SQUARE”

The Menino Arts Center proudly announces “36th Annual HPAА Members at Scollay Square”, a juried exhibition which runs from August 4 to October 24, 2025. The exhibition will be viewable both in person at the Scollay Square Gallery, Boston City Hall and in a virtual 3D gallery that you can stroll through at <http://www.hpaа-mac.org/exhibits/>. There will be an in-person reception on Thursday, Sept. 4, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. with awards presented by Mayor Wu, State Representative Rob Consalvo, and Hyde Park Councilor Enrique Pepen.

This exhibition will be installed at the Menino Arts Center, 26 Central Ave, Hyde Park, MA. from Nov. 10, 2025 to Jan. 9, 2026. The reception is TBA. Gallery hours at Scollay Square are during regular business hours, Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Gallery hours at the MAC are Wednesdays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The exhibition features 47 Hyde Park Art Association Members’ artworks and is curated by Mariana Rey of Boston City Hall Galleries and Sasja Lucas of the Menino Arts Center (<https://www.sasjalucas.com>).

FISHERMAN’S FEAST RETURNS

Boston’s Fisherman’s Feast is back for the 115th anniversary, bringing the one-of-a-kind festival back to Boston. Boston’s longest-running Italian festival will be celebrated from Thursday, August 14 through Sunday, August 17.

Dating all the way back to 1910, this hugely popular annual Italian festival is held throughout the streets of Boston’s North End district to celebrate the devotion of immigrant Sicilian fishermen to the Madonna del Soccorso di Sciacca (Our Lady of Help). This year will see the usual enticing selection of entertainment, food (including samples from premiere sponsor, Pastene), cooking demonstrations, and traditional parades, including a religious procession through the district’s narrow streets carrying a statue of the Madonna, street vendors, a beer garden sponsored by Samuel Adams and Sun Cruiser, and the 7th Annual Meatball Competition.

Boston’s most beloved festival will once again perform the ‘Flight of the Angel.’ Called a “spectacle not to be missed” by National Geographic, this year’s Flight of the Angel will close out the 115th Fisherman’s Feast at 9 p.m. on Sunday, August 17th.

The festival is free to enter for all. A full schedule of events can be found at fishermansfeast.com.

LESBIANS & FRIENDS LGBTQIA+ DANCE OCTOBER 25TH

Please join us and help to spread the word about our 28th Annual Lesbians & Friends LGBTQIA+ Dance – Halloween Bash for a Cause on Saturday, Oct. 25 at Club Café in Boston. Help Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition (MBCC) raise the funds needed to continue and expand our programs to prevent breast cancer.

Tickets are available now at mbcc.org/dance We rely on our friends and generous supporters to help us to promote this event. Our calendar listing is attached. Will you kindly assist by sharing this information with your colleagues and contacts, and by posting the attached graphic? Other graphic sizes are available if you need them.

Funds raised support MBCC’s mission to prevent environmental causes of breast cancer through community education, research advocacy, and changes to public policy.

Deaths continued from page 8

loved son of the late Harry and Mary (Rizzacasa) Ohmstede. Cherished brother of Harry M. Ohmstede of Providence, Rhode Island and Anne Potts of Walpole. Loving uncle of Jillian and Olivia Potts and also survived by many loving relatives and friends. Funeral was held on August 1st Mass of Christian Burial at St John Chrysostom Church West Roxbury. Interment at the Gardens of Gethsemane Cemetery in West Roxbury relatives and friends invited. Michael had a strong passion for the ocean. He loved fishing off his boat especially when friends and family were there. His greatest love is for his two nieces Jillian and Olivia and he loved spending time with them and watching them grow. He will be greatly missed.

O’KEEFE



Helen M. (Sorensen), of West Roxbury, formerly of Malden passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by her loving children on July 30, 2025. Beloved wife of the late Ronald Paul “Ronnie” O’Keefe with whom she shared 54 years of marriage. Loving mother of Brian P. O’Keefe and his wife Christine of Westborough, William T. O’Keefe of West Roxbury, Ann Marie O’Keefe of West Roxbury, Robert J. O’Keefe of Mansfield, Maureen F. Cullen and her husband Kevin of West Roxbury, R. Paul O’Keefe, Jr. and his wife Katina Tsongas of Sharon and Kevin P. O’Keefe and his wife Laura Owen of Cambridge. Cherished and devoted “Nani” to 18 grandchildren. Dear sister of James Sorensen and the late Ann Coleman, both of PA. She is loved and will be missed by many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Helen’s family was her world. She demonstrated how to be kind, compassionate and faith filled to all she knew and leaves that legacy to all who loved her. Helen graduated from Malden Catholic High School and Emmanuel College. She received a master’s degree from Boston College. Helen was a scientist and taught chemistry for many years in Swampscott, Newton, Lasell Jr College and Natick High School. Helen instilled a love of science in her students and used her wisdom and patience to get many through tough subjects. Helen met the love of her life Ronnie in Malden while he was serving his funeral apprenticeship with Helen’s cousins at Norton Funeral Home. They later settled in West Roxbury where they raised their children. They filled the house with love and family. No one was ever turned away, everyone was always welcome and treated like family. Helen was a kind, generous soul and friend to all. She lived a life of service -

teaching and volunteering. She was a constant in the senior community participating in book clubs, knitting groups and classes at the senior center. She was very active in St. Theresa’s Church where she taught CCD and baptism classes but most important was her beloved choir. Helen spent decades singing in the choir where she built life long friendships and shared the gift of music with the parish. Helen filled her life with music. She loved hearing the Boston Pops especially on the 4th of July and enjoyed attending the symphony with her friends. Burial in Mt. Benedict Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Helen’s memory to St. Theresa of Avila Church, 2078 Centre St., West Roxbury, MA 02132 or to a charity of your choice. To leave a condolence message for Helen’s family, please visit: bellodeafuneralhome.com

STEWART-O’LEARY

Geraldine T. “Geri” (Coughlin), formerly of Jamaica Plain and Stoughton, passed away on July 31, 2025. Beloved

wife of the late Francis A. O’Leary and former wife and longtime friend of the late Ronald D. Stewart. Devoted mother of Kathleen Ambrosio and her husband Luis of Stoughton, Karyn Stewart of Jamaica Plain, Ronald Stewart Jr. and his partner Jennifer Ratcliffe of Stoughton and Maureen Karageanis and her husband William of Norwood. Proud Nana of Brittany Gay, Shalyn Hiltz, Thomas and Joseph Stewart and the late John Fox. Great-grandmother of Aidan, Emma, and Liam. Sister of the late Jean McDougall . Funeral from the P.E. Murray-F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 2000 Centre St., West Roxbury. Interment in St. Joseph Cemetery, West Roxbury. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, www.dana-farber.org or to Hebrew SeniorLife Hospice Care, 80 Newbridge Way, Dedham, MA 02026. For online [guestbook](http://www.pemurrayfuneral.com), [pemurrayfuneral.com](http://www.pemurrayfuneral.com). Funeral arrangements by P.E. Murray-F.J. Higgins, George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, West Roxbury.

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Legals

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department

Docket No. SU25C0349CA

CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

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

In the matter of: Marilyn Regina Saba

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Marilyn Regina Saba of Brighton, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Marilyn Regina Saba-Greenberg

Any person may appear for purposes objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m on the return day of 08/25/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Janine D. Rivers, First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 25, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin: 08/07/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court

DOCKET No. SU25P1699EA

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of: Kathryn N. Peters
Date of Death: 10/24/2024

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

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by: Eliot M. Peters of Southbridge, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The petitioner requests that:
Eliot M. Peters of Southbridge, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/05/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. Janine D. Rivers, First Justice of this Court
Date: August 1, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 08/07/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court

DOCKET No. SU20P2324GD

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

RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/Protected Person

In the Interests of: Andrew Johnson of: Roslindale, MA

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

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

Hebrew Rehabilitation Center of Roslindale, MA
in the above captioned matter requesting that the court:

Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.

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

You have the right to object to this proceeding.

If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court before: 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 08/21/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to this 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 a 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. Janine D. Rivers, First Justice of this Court
Date: July 25, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 08/07/2025

The Bulletin

ZBA

continued from page 6

eight affordable units with a three-bed family style unit with absolutely no displacement.” Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services representative Conor Newman said the neighborhood outreach process generated a number of negative comments, many surrounding the lack of homeownership units in the neighborhood. Mount Hope Canterbury Co-

Classifieds

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Education Service Manager (American Education and Thinking Academy, Burlington, MA 01803) Full-time; Duties: dvlp, implmnt, eval edu prgrms + pvd cnsltng srvs. Reqs = Bach. in Bus. Admin., Mgmt, or related + 6 mo exp at an edu srvc prvdr. Full job desc. & reqs at https://jobquest.dcs.eol.mass.gov/JobQuest/NewJobDetails.aspx?jo=22788210. To apply, send resume to info@aethink.org.

Educational Counselor II (American International Student Service Center LLC, Melrose, MA 02176) Full-time; Duties: offr acdmc counslng. Reqs=Master’s in Edu, Counslng, or related+6 mo exp in pvdng edu sprt srvs for int stdnts+cordntng host fam pgrms. Full job desc. & reqs at https://jobquest.dcs.eol.mass.gov/JobQuest/NewJobDetails.aspx?jo=22805080. To apply, send resume to info@useduaissc.org.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court

Docket No. SU25C0376CA

CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

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

In the matter of: Latanga FaShaun Williams
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Latanga FaShaun Williams of Hyde Park, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Latanya FaShaun Williams

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m on the return day of 08/18/2025.This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Janine D. Rivers, First Justice of this Court
Date: July 15, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate

Hyde Park Bulletin: 08/07/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

CITATION
G.L. c. 210, §6

DOCKET No. SU25A0631AD

In the matter of:
Prynce Josiah Young-Ryder

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

To: Kendra Young-Edwards, a.k.a. Latonia Ryder
any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.

A Petition has been presented to said court by:

Ryder Toney R. of Hyde Park, MA
requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to:

If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are an indigent person.
An indigent person is defined by SJC Rule 3:10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran’s benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT: Boston ON OR BEFORE TEN O’CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) on: 09/01/2025.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 01, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate

Hyde Park Bulletin: 7/24/2025,07/31/25, 08/07/25

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August 7 2025

Chairs Lisa Beatman and Rick Yoder said in previous meetings that they and other residents wanted this project to be a condo project. At the time, Pulgini said the financing just wasn’t there.

“Residents expressed concerns, wanting to see more affordability in the proposal as well as some homeownership,” Newman. “There were also several letters in support of the proposal, citing increased density and also appreciating the design of the building itself.”

District 4 City Councilor Brian Worrell’s representative Timothy Guimon said the councilor wants more three-family bedrooms and homeownership.

“We are excited that this is going to bring more density to the neighborhood, however we do want to continue to push for more family units and homeownership in the city and with that, we are going to take a stand of non-opposition,” he said.

The Board approved the proposal unanimously.

In Brighton, Attorney Curt Bletzer represented the owners of 263-265 N. Beacon St., Tony Nardelli and Tony Nardelli Jr., and said the proposal is to erect a six-unit building on the site where a two-family currently exists. He said the new building would basically fit in the footprint of where the two-family is now.

The project needs zoning relief for insufficient lot area, maximum height exceed (both in stories and feet), insufficient open space per unit, insufficient parking and insufficient rear and side yard setbacks.

Bletzer said they would be including a new fence and trees to help screen the building from its nearest abutter. “The Nardelli’s are proposing to build an all-electric building to comply with the Energy Efficient Green Living regulations, and the building is built to be solar-ready in the event that solar panels are required,” he said.

The only issue came from ZBA member Hansy Better Barraza who said that the ground-floor units have steps to access the building and are not accessible per the Americans with Disabilities Act. There were also some issues around the side yard that Bletzer said would be resolved because they are planning to combine the lots of this parcel and the adjacent one that the Nardelli family owns.

The Board approved the application with the proviso that the Boston Planning Department issue a design review to ensure the building complies with accessibility and any issues with the parcel lot lines.

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