

THE ALLSTON-BRIGHTON TAB

Rewind:
1998
IN ARTS



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The year in review

A look at the 10 stories that shaped life in Allston-Brighton in 1998

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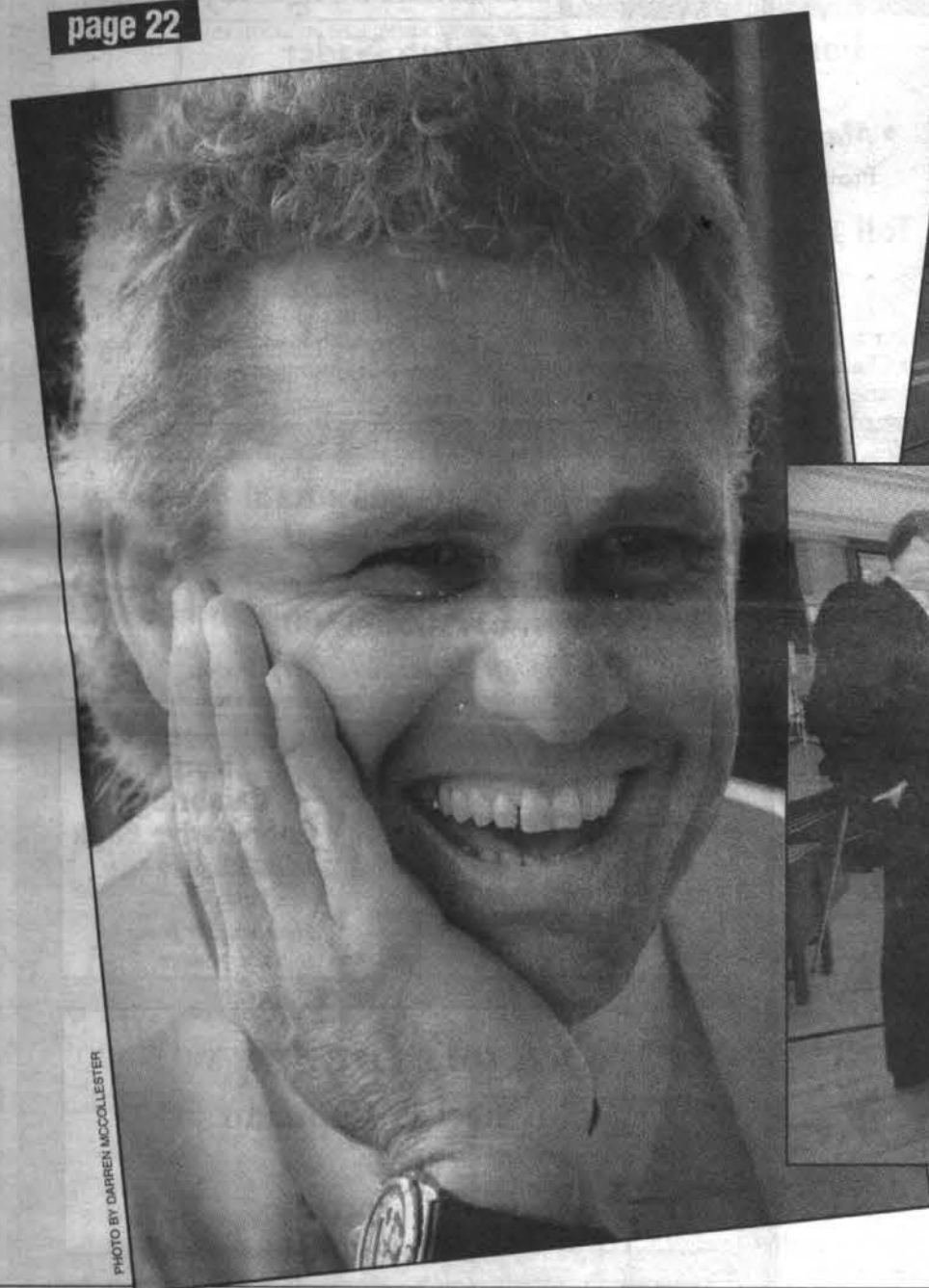


PHOTO BY DARREN MCCOLESTER



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Looking back on 1998: (Clockwise from top) The removal of the fallow A-line trolley tracks in Brighton was started. Mayor Thomas Menino announces plans to build a new branch library in Allston. Brighton's Joseph Kennedy opted not to return to Congress.

Activist steps back from the front lines

With retirement around the corner, Nicki Nichols Gamble reflects on 25-year career with Planned Parenthood

By Melissa Solomon
TAB Staff Writer

A hypertext link from the main page reveals the long list of names: Pax Beale (CA), Avron H. Maser (MD), Barnett Slepian (NY), Nicky Gamble (MA)...

While the official rationale behind the "Nuremberg Files" Web site is to gather information on the "blood laden people" involved in abortion so they can be prosecuted when

abortion is outlawed, many believe it is simply a hit-list of pro-choice workers and activists, complete with lines through the names of those already dead.

For Nicki Nichols Gamble, president and chief executive officer of the Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts, such threats are nothing new. For the past quarter century, she has been confronted with angry protesters, a death threat, even the murder of

two employees.

But as she prepares for her retirement next June — her 25th anniversary with the organization — Gamble doesn't pause for a moment as she says she has no regrets.

"What I went through, sort of the calculation I made, was I'm going to be as thoughtful and careful about security as I can be," Gamble said. "But I'm not going to give up this work."

Pushing on

Sitting in a conference room in the well-guarded Planned Parenthood facility at 1055 Commonwealth Ave., Gamble reflects on

what has kept her going over the years.

In 1974, a friend of Gamble's showed her a newspaper ad for a new executive director of the Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts. Gamble, who at the time was coordinating a drug-abuse treatment program at the Cambridge Community Center, decided to apply.

"I had been very, very interested in issues around teenage pregnancies, issues around women's rights ... It was very, very attractive to me," she said of the work done by PPLM.

When Gamble was hired, she expected to

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TRACK PROJECT
UPDATE

see page 3

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Keeping an eye on the track project

A progress report on construction along Brighton's A-line

By Ann Griffin
TAB Correspondent

As reported in last week's Allston-Brighton TAB, the removal of the old A-line trolley tracks has finally gotten under way in Brighton.

The track line goes right through the heart of the Brighton Main Streets District.

Brighton Main Streets and the Allston-Brighton TAB will provide weekly project progress reports to assist businesses, commuters and shoppers in and around the area. This weekly brief will be based in part on information received from the Massachusetts Highway Department and the Resident Engineer assigned to the project.

Steven Frick, vice president of McCourt Construction, reported that between 200 and 300 feet of track were removed at both the Union Square and Newton border ends of the project during the first week of work.

Temperatures permitting, McCourt planned to pave these sections of road before Dec. 25. Frick further anticipated that the crew would remove all construction equipment from Cambridge and Tremont Streets during both the Christmas and New Year holidays. Orange and white traffic barrels will be pushed into the gutter area, making it easier for cars to pass. McCourt Construction plans to work from Monday, Dec. 28, through Wednesday, Dec. 30.

While the Trolley Removal project has only just begun, Ron Ianocco of the Massachusetts Highway Department District Four office expressed optimism.

"We have a good contractor, and we hope to move in as effective a manner as possible," said Ianocco.

"We're hopeful that this goes as well as [the Packard Corner to Union Square project]," added Ianocco.

One factor that will certainly be a concern is weather. Extreme cold and snow will cause certain delays. □



A taste of the season

Café Kells invited community members to share in the holiday spirit at its annual Christmas party for children and the elderly. Above, Sandy Younge and her daughter, Takia, enjoy a holiday dinner. On the right, Bob Leverone, president of the Allston Brighton Improvement Association, helps out with the festivities as a volunteer waiter.



PHOTOS BY KAREN SPASACIO

Former local station fights for air

New federal regulations could allow Radio Free Allston to begin broadcasting legally

By Debra Goldstein
TAB Staff Writer

Local air waves could be filled with community news and foreign-language programming once again if the Federal Communications Commission approves several proposals on next month's agenda to legalize low-power radio broadcasting.

Local supporters of community broadcast-

ing have mounted a letter-writing campaign to pressure the FCC.

Radio Free Allston, a low-frequency community radio station, stopped broadcasting its multicultural programming when the FCC cracked down on nonlicensed broadcasting in 1996. The unlicensed station offered community-based shows hosted by local residents, and many consider it a sorely missed outlet for public expression.

Although FCC Chairman William Kennard is in favor of increasing diversity on the radio dial — such as that provided by small, community stations — there is tremendous pressure from stalwart members of the broadcasting industry to reject the idea, according to Steve Provizer from Citizens Media Corp, and

former RFA station operator.

It was once legal to operate low-power radio broadcasting stations, those that operate on fewer than 100 watts. But in 1978, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting filed a petition for rules changes to make more radio frequencies available to the larger stations. In response to that petition, the FCC stopped legally allowing low-power radio broadcasting.

Then, during the last five years, there was a spurt of growth in unlicensed stations. The stations, such as RFA, operated mostly undisturbed until the National Association of Broadcasters passed a resolution a year and a half ago asking the FCC to crack down on the licensed stations. Since then, the FCC has shut

"It's funny for us to be looking at the FCC as allies, but in this case we actually feel like they want to do something positive and they want to support us."

Steve Provizer, former Radio Free Allston operator

down more than 150 unlicensed stations across the country.

Now, with new petitions for rules changes
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WE WANT YOUR NEWS!

Welcome to the Allston-Brighton TAB! We are eager to serve as a forum for the community. Please send us calendar listings, social news and any other items of community interest. Please mail the information to Debra Goldstein, news editor, Allston-Brighton TAB, P.O. Box 9112, Needham, MA 02492. You may fax material to (781) 433-8202 or e-mail to dgoldstein@cnc.com. Our deadline for press releases is Wednesday, 5 pm prior to the next Tuesday's issue.

Residents are invited to call us with story ideas or reaction to our coverage. Please call Allston-Brighton news editor Debra Goldstein at (781) 433-8302 or reporter Linda Rosencrance (781) 433-8358 with your ideas and suggestions.

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COMMUNITY PROFILE

Performing is the norm for local artist



Brighton's George Seaman will perform the Saint-Saëns' Cello Concerto in A minor with the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra next month. Seaman lives in Oak Square.

Brighton cellist reflects on life as a musician

By Debra Goldstein
TAB Staff Writer

George Seaman chose a career as a musician after contemplating fields as disparate as history, foreign language, paleontology and journalism. He had started playing cello at the ripe old age of 10 — after five years of taking piano lessons, and going through a number of piano teachers — but he had a wide range of interests.

By the time he graduated from the High School of Music and Art in New York City though, he was gravitating toward pursuing music full time.

"It was the sound," said Seaman, in a simplistic explanation of his tie with the instrument he has devoted his life to. Although he doesn't consider himself famous, the Brighton resident's career as a cellist has carried him into the spotlight.

"I feel that music is a way of life," said Seaman. "Secondarily it is a career. People should only go into music if they feel that way. If one is fortunate enough to make a living at it, it is great. But anybody who goes into music for personal glory or to make a lot of money is probably barking up the wrong tree."

But Seaman, after 27 years of performing professionally in Boston, is — famous or not — a full time musician. He recently returned home after an international performance tour with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra. They performed in

Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, British Columbia in Canada, Ohio, and Illinois before returning home.

With resin on his bow and his strings tuned, Seaman will launch into a performance of a lifetime in January. He will be performing the famous French cello concerto, Saint-Saëns' Cello Concerto in A minor, under the baton of famed Conductor Laureate Gunther Schuller, and in the company of his colleagues in the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra.

"I feel very honored to play as a soloist with my colleagues and under the baton of a great conductor," said Seaman. He has been a member of Pro Arte for 14 years, and is principal cellist.

Pro Arte is one of the few cooperative chamber orchestras in the country. The members select their own board members, musicians, repertoire, conductors, and soloists.

"That gives the players a special sort of feeling of commitment and dedication to the orchestra," explained Seaman. The orchestra has frequently championed causes ranging from concert accessibility for handicapped citizens to garnering attention for local composers.

Seaman currently performs with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra, the Boston Ballet Orchestra and the Arriaga String Quartet. He is also principal cellist of the Boston Lyric Opera Company. In addition, he performs as a free-lance cellist with Chorus Pro Musica, and has performed with many other Boston groups.

Seaman moved to Bostonia Avenue in

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IN BRIEF

City releases school-cancellation policy

When a winter storm is in progress or predicted, parents of Boston Public School students are instructed to listen to a major radio or television station for information regarding school cancellation or delay, according to the Boston School Department, which recently released its 1999 school-cancellation policy.

The stations will read an announcement that will indicate either that "school is canceled" or that a "delayed school opening" has been scheduled. In the case of a delayed opening, the time of delay (i.e., one-hour delay or two-hour delay) will be announced. As a result, students should not report to their school or to their assigned bus stop at the regular time but should report either one or two hours later in accordance with the delay schedule. On days of delayed openings, all half-day kindergarten and half-day Early Childhood Programs will be canceled.

Principals have sent letters home to all parents alerting parents to these procedures. If a parent has any questions, he or she should call the principal or headmaster of the child's school.

Boston Public Schools advise parents to use their judgment concerning sending their child to school on "delayed opening days" or on days of severe inclement weather when school is in session. The judgment of the School Department is never intended to supersede that of parents concerning the safety and well-being of their children. Although they will be marked absent, students shall not be penalized in the event of excused absence on days of inclement weather.

YOUTHLINE extends hours

Mayor Thomas M. Menino announced special hours for his YOUTHLINE to provide Boston's young people and families with activities for the school break.

From now until Saturday, Jan. 2,

the YOUTHLINE is operating from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Calls to the YOUTHLINE (617) 635-2240 are answered by trained high school and college students who use a geographically based computer system that maintains a database of all youth programs and services in the city.

The Mayor's YOUTHLINE connects young people with resources in their community, provides an outlet for youth seeking a peer who can listen to their problems and lend resource information for support. Callers are able to find neighborhood and citywide services ranging from GED programs to sports, from job-training programs to drama classes.

The various programs are provided at area community centers, YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, Frog Pond Skating Rink, the Museum of Fine Arts and the many Boston Public Libraries.

The YOUTHLINE will return to its regular hours, 2 to 10 p.m., after Jan. 2.

Medical center organizes giving tree

For the past three years St. Elizabeth's Medical Center's employee outreach group, the Mission and Values Committee, has organized a unique holiday giving program known as "The Giving Tree." This year The Giving Tree presented gifts to the residents of three area organizations: St. Joseph's Nursing Home; the Stephen Hastings-Bennett School; and the Allston-Brighton YMCA.

The Giving Tree is a Christmas tree decorated with hand-made Christmas bulbs. The bulbs are inscribed with the names and gift requests of residents of the three organizations. St. Elizabeth's employees are then invited to pick a bulb off the tree, fill the gift order, and return it to the tree wrapped and labeled with the resident's name.

More than 300 residents of all faiths received gifts through this year's Giving Tree program.

Freeze frame

Former J. Geils Band frontman Peter Wolf (center) joins WZLX-FM morning disc jockey Charles Laquidara (right) on air during the day-long "Christmas is for Kids" Radio-thon, which raised \$130,000 for Franciscan Children's Hospital and Rehabilitation Center. The funds, generated by auctioning off unique items and selling song requests for up to \$1,000, will go toward the construction of a new gym and a therapeutic pool for children who suffer from serious injuries, illnesses and genetic disorders.

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Bringing back local radio**RADIO, from page 3**

filed with the FCC, there is some hope that certified nonprofit organizations would be able to return community-based programming to the airwaves. But a powerful lobbying force in Washington, D.C., is fighting the proposed change.

"It's a very fractious time in Washington," Provizer said.

"There are friends and enemies in Congress," said Provizer. Congressman Barney Frank and Minority Whip David Bonior have been outspoken in favor of the changes to allow low-power radio broadcasting, encouraging the growth of community stations.

"We are asking for the support of people and organizations who think that community radio is a good idea," said Provizer. "It's funny for us to be looking at the FCC as allies, but in this case, we actually feel like they want to do something positive and they want to support us."

If the changes are made, RFA would be well positioned to apply for one of the newly created licenses because it would most likely be designated as a certified nonprofit organization, said Provizer.

"I'm confident we will be able to rebuild the station," he said.

New FCC standards would accompany any new rules allowing low-frequency stations into the industry, and RFA would be required to purchase a license.

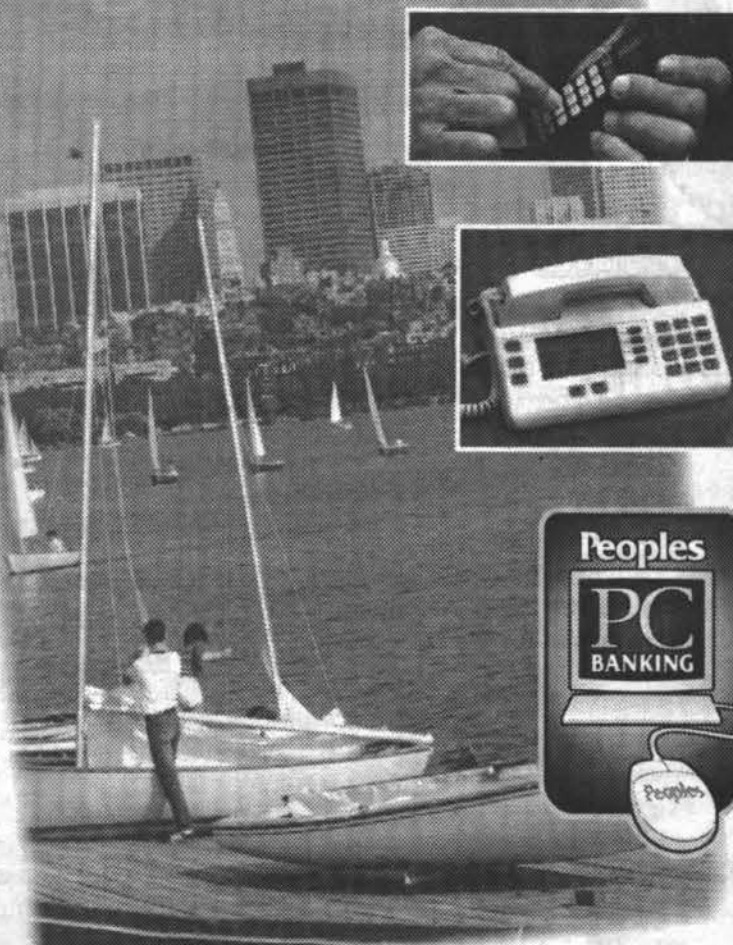
"There is no doubt we will be following stricter codes in order to put up an antenna," said Provizer.

Although a new station could operate out of the 107 Brighton Ave. facility that was once RFA's home, it is more likely that they would move to another site where the station could install an antenna capable of carrying the broadcasts to a larger circle of people, said Provizer.

New costs would come with all the new regulations too.

"We won't be able to do it as cheaply as we did it before," said Provizer, who spent about \$1,000 a year to operate RFA. "But being able to do it legally, we will be able to get financial support from granting institutions and businesses." □

To comment on the "Petitions for Rulemaking" which have been submitted to the FCC regarding low-power radio broadcast service, write to: Chairman William Kennard, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission; The Portals; 445 12th St., SW; Washington, D.C. 20554



Member FDIC

Councilor hammers at the city truancy policy

By Linda Rosencrance
TAB Staff Writer

Saying that the Boston School Department remains delinquent in dealing with ongoing truancy problems, At-large City Councilor Stephen J. Murphy has once again called on officials to establish a city truancy center.

Murphy, who last spring led the public hearing and review process which recognized truancy as a widespread problem in the Boston Public Schools, acknowledged that school officials have taken steps — such as adding more truant, or attendance officers — to combat the truancy problem.

However, he said, even though these efforts have taken students off the streets, there is no place to put the students after they are taken in. The students are either taken back to school or counted and left on the street, Murphy said.

"Right now the students are put back into their classrooms and the teachers aren't equipped to deal with them," said Murphy, who is the chairman of the City Council's Public Safety Committee. "The key component in my public safety actions over the past year is to have a place to bring students who are dangerously at risk. Identifying and detaining students who are clearly both truant and delinquent by their behavior is but

one positive step. But the dangerous student's safety problem that continues to exist is that there is no central place to bring rounded up truants."

Joseph Smith, head of the school department's attendance office, said a pilot "attendance center" for middle school students will be opening in January. Smith agreed with Murphy that the best way to deal with habitu-

we're calling the center a good attendance center, not a truancy center."

Smith said the center, which will be located at the Mo Vaughn Youth Activity Center on the Dorchester-Mattapan line, will be a short-term solution to the problem of truancy. Initially, the center will be able to accommodate 20 students.

During the last two weeks, attendance officers have rounded up three middle school students each week in the Dorchester-Mattapan area, he said.

"We'll help a kid shore up his skills, as well as help him deal with his emotional and home issues. We'll also help him build up his self esteem so he can reenter school with some dignity," Smith said.

Smith said the school department had been looking at setting up two centers — at the middle and high school levels — but the \$3 million cost for creating the centers is too prohibitive. He said thanks to a \$116,000 grant from the state, school officials were able to establish the pilot center.

Following Murphy's lead, in September the school department initiated a new strategy to deal with truancy, including increasing the number of truant officers from eight to 12 and coordinated truancy sweeps by truancy officers, school and Boston police and Boston Community Centers youth workers. □

"Identifying and detaining students who are clearly both truant and delinquent by their behavior is but one positive step."

City Councilor Stephen Murphy

ally truant students is not to send them straight back to the classroom.

"Some kids are out for 30 days or more, and when a kid gets back to school it's hard for him to reorient himself to school," Smith said.

The answer is to provide an alternative setting for truants, he said.

"But we need it to be a positive, not a negative experience," he said. "So

Allston woman faces drug-trafficking charge

By Ken Maguire
TAB Staff Writer

An Allston woman was one of two people who allegedly received more than \$50,000 worth of marijuana through the mail at a Kendall Square address earlier this month, according to Cambridge police.

Police say the pair tried to retrieve two packages, with a combined weight of 50 pounds, which were sent to a Kendall Square business from an address in Texas. It was sent via courier. The business was just the drop point and had no knowledge of the package's contents, police said.

Undercover officers, acting on a tip, waited for the pair to pick up the packages and then made the arrests.

"Any time 50 pounds of marijuana is involved, it's a major thing," Cambridge Police Det. Sgt. Paul Ames said. "We're still trying to figure out where the marijuana was destined for, whether it was Cambridge or another city."

Ames said Cambridge police are checking with Boston police to see if they are known across

"Anytime 50 pounds of marijuana is involved, it's a major thing."

Cambridge Police Det. Sgt. Paul Ames

the river.

"There's a lot of marijuana and other drugs coming through the various package delivery services," Ames said. "Usually, it come from the western part of the country — California, Texas, New Mexico. Sometimes you stop a ring of people using the mail."

Cambridge Police arrested Zak M. Gotay, 28, 81 Dakota St., Dorchester, and Rama A. Carty, 28, 119 Glenville Ave., Allston, charged them with trafficking a class D substance and conspiracy to violate 94C drug laws in connection with the incident. □



This year, give a gift that matters.

Donate your non-perishable food to those who are less fortunate this holiday season. Join the TAB, The American Red Cross, Project Bread, UPS, and Trader Joe's in our 9th annual food drive.

The TAB Community Food Drive will start on Wednesday, November 25th and will last through Friday, January 1st. This year's goal is to collect 7,000 pounds of food to be distributed to local food pantries. Drop your food off at any of the locations listed below and embrace the wonderful feeling of giving.

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HOURS: 9:00 - 5:00 M-F

Brookline Town Hall

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Allston-Brighton YMCA

470 Washington Street, Brighton
HOURS: 6:00 - 10:00 M-F

Community Newspaper Company

254 Second Ave, Needham
HOURS: 9:00 - 5:00 M-F

American Red Cross

21 Foster Street, Newtonville
HOURS: 8:30 - 4:30 M-F

Newton City Hall

1000 Commonwealth Ave, Newton
HOURS: 9:00 - 5:00 M-F

Newton Free Library

Homer Street, Newton
HOURS: 9:00 - 5:00 M-F

Newton Fire Stations

195 Craft Street (Station 4)
144 Elliot Street (Station 7)
HOURS: 9:00 - 5:00 M-F

Dover Town Hall

5 Springdale Street, Dover
HOURS: 9:00 - 5:00 M-F

Sherborn Town Hall

19 Washington Street, Sherborn
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Wayland Town Hall

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Sudbury Fire Department

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Ashland Town Hall

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Weston Town Hall

Town House Road, Weston
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Framingham Town Hall Selectman's Office

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Kennedy Senior Center, Natick

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POLICE LOG

Women's wrestling comes to town

1 On Dec. 16 at 1:15 p.m., police responded to a report of an altercation in front of the Cellular One store at 1686 Commonwealth Ave. When they arrived, they spoke with two women who had been involved in an altercation over a parking space. According to the police report, a 20-year-old Newton woman was sitting in her car parked in front of the Cellular One store when a Natick woman in her early 20s pulled up in her car and wanted the space the other woman was in. However, the Newton woman was not ready to leave. Words and gestures were allegedly exchanged by both parties, according to police. The Newton woman reportedly tried to get out of her car, but the Natick woman allegedly held the car door closed with her leg. The Newton woman allegedly pushed the door open and the two began fighting on the sidewalk. According to the report, both women admitted hitting one another. They began wrestling, and the Newton woman managed to pin the Natick woman to the ground with her knee. A witness reported that as the Newton woman released her, the Natick woman kicked her. Police told both parties that if they want to pursue the matter, they must take out complaints in Brighton District Court.

From a 'disorderly house' to the Big House

2 On Dec. 19 at 1:13 a.m., police responded to complaints from neighbors about a loud party at 39 Strathmore Road, Apt. 2, in Brighton. Upon arriving at the address, police could hear loud music and conversation coming from the second-floor apartment. Upstairs, officers found a large

group of people having a party. They reportedly spoke with the two residents of the apartment and informed them that there had been several complaints about the noise and that the stereo could be heard from the street. The officers explained that because of these facts, they had to request that the residents turn off the stereo, empty the apartment of nonresidents and have the guests leave their alcoholic beverages behind.

According to the report, one resident began to argue with police when they told him that it was his responsibility to clear the apartment under penalty of arrest. About four guests left the apartment at this time, but the rest allegedly remained with the stereo on, windows open and the conversation unabated. Officers once again asked the resident to assist in the removal of his guests and warned him that he was facing arrest if he did not comply. He allegedly refused and other guests began arguing with officers as well. Andrew Koellmer, 24, of the above address, was placed under arrest and charged with keeping a disorderly house.

As he was led down the stairs, the guests allegedly turned on the officers and unleashed a loud barrage of insults and threats. The crowd of approximately 25 partygoers followed down the stairs. Additional police units had to be called in as the crowd's mood turned uglier, according to the police report. Only after additional officers arrived did the crowd begin to disperse.

Jason M. Theberge, 26, of 152 Washington St. in Brighton, was also placed under arrested and charged with disturbing.

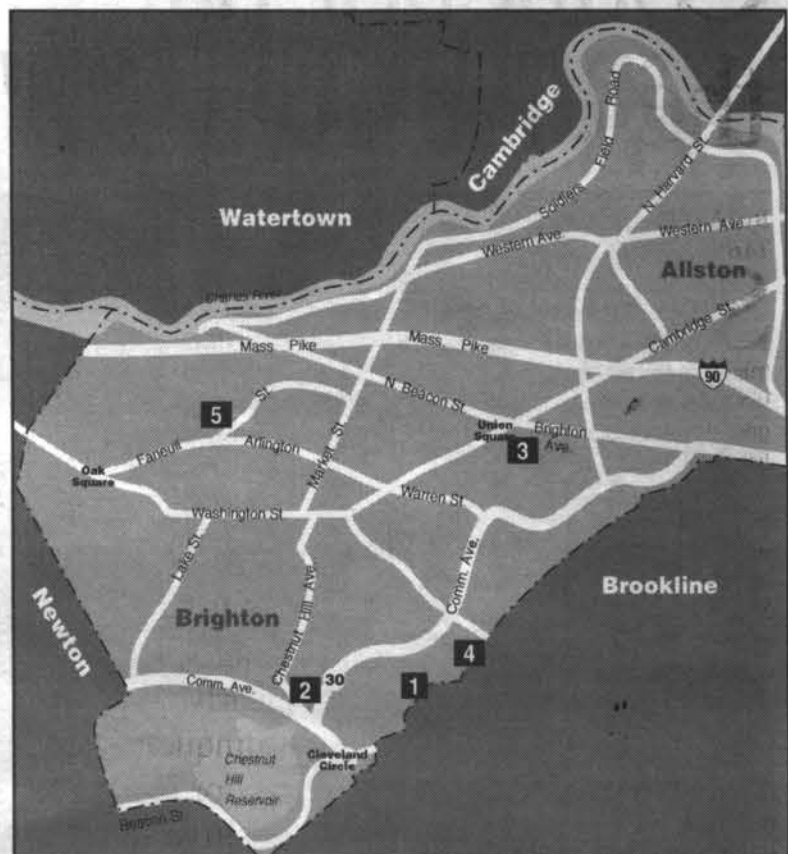
Drinking in public is the charge

3 On Dec. 19 at 2:10 a.m., officers reportedly witnessed a man standing on the sidewalk in front of 157 Brighton Ave. drinking out of a long-necked beer bottle. The police approached the man, who allegedly told them he had taken the beer out of the Kells Bar at 161 Brighton Ave. Officers arrested Peter James Cleary, 23, of 1025 Hancock St., Apt. 5J, in Quincy, and charged him with drinking in public.

N.H. man charged with knife assault

4 On Dec. 19 at 3:41 a.m., police arrived at 42 Orchard Road in Brighton to interview a man about an alleged assault. According to the police report, the man told them that Eric Sysyn, 26, of 400 Paquette Ave. in Manchester, N.H., threatened him from close range with a knife. The accuser said Sysyn put the knife to his head and yelled at him that he could use it. A witness corroborated this story, but another witness said he did not see this knife incident, but had seen another one when Sysyn grabbed a knife to defend himself when he was assaulted by a group of several males.

Based on witness accounts, police determined that the accuser



was not involved in an altercation but was trying to get everyone to leave his girlfriend's house when Sysyn allegedly grabbed a knife from the kitchen counter and threatened him. Police later found Sysyn and charged him with assault by means of a dangerous weapon.

Party host is busted

5 On Dec. 20 at 1:35 a.m., police responded to a complaint about yelling and screaming at a party at 42 Newcastle Road, Apt. 2,

in Brighton. Officers reported that when they arrived, they could hear loud music and people engaged in conversation in a second-floor apartment. Once in the apartment, officers spoke with the apartment's three residents about the noise. Two of the apartment's occupants were cooperative, but the third one allegedly refused to put down his drink or ask his guests to leave.

Police arrested David P. Perrine, 25, of the above address, and charged him with disturbing the peace and keeping a disorderly house.

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BRASCO ON REAL ESTATE

In the mid-1940s, just after the end of World War II, the median price of houses (the point at which half the houses sold for more and half for less) was \$7,500, and their typical size was 1,200 square feet. Television was making family rooms popular. Homes had three bedrooms and one and one-half baths. Living rooms and kitchens were small, and few houses had garages.

In the mid-1950s, the median price was \$13,400 for about 1,400 square feet of floor space. Family rooms were common, and most homes had patios in

50 years of major housing changes

Kate Brasco



the back.

By the mid-1960s, the median price was \$20,000, although floor space remained at about 1,400 square feet. Family rooms were standard, and dens had become popular. Most houses had two baths.

In the mid-1970s the median price was up to about \$39,000 and floor space had risen to around 1,600 square feet. More homes had fireplaces and air conditioning. Homes had larger kitchens and two and one-half baths.

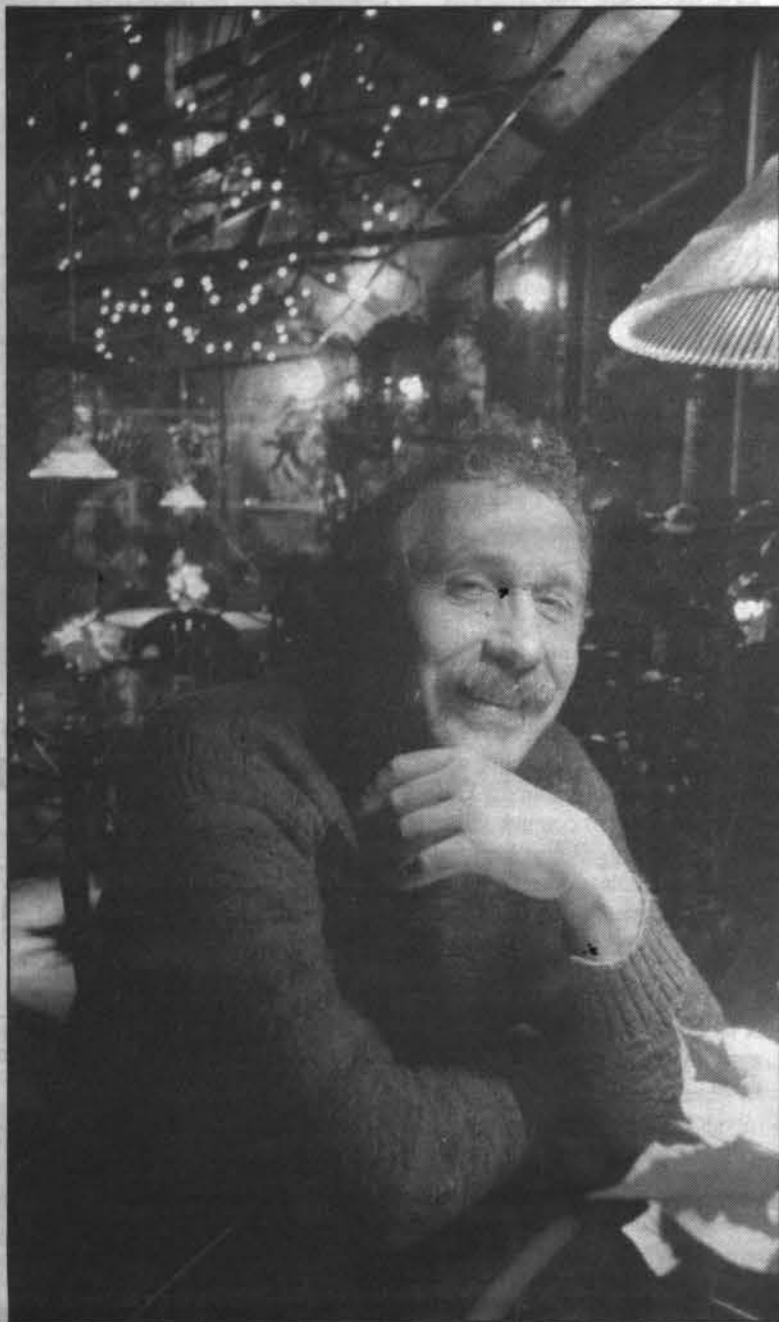
In the mid-1980s the median price rose to \$84,300. Homes had 1,700 square feet, and fireplaces were common, as were walk-in closets, sky lights, and more luxurious bathrooms.

When we reached the mid-1990s, the median price for a new home was \$133,000 for 2,000 square feet. More homes now have three baths, more windows, and kitchens are larger.

Kate Brasco is a Principal Realtor at CENTURY 21 Shawmut Properties in Brighton. If you have a question on a Real Estate related matter or need assistance, call Kate at 787-2121.

BUSINESS NEWS

Spend the New Year in a new café



Victor Bono, owner of the Bean House Café in Brighton Center.

New Year's Eve often brings the question of where to go, what to do.

Victor Bono, owner of the Bean House Café at 425 Washington St., Brighton (behind Minihane's



By Rosie Hanlon

Flower and Garden Shop), has cooked up a creative alternative to the wild reveling, crowded restaurants and clubs that characterize New Year's Eve.

The New Year's Eve special, for which reservations are required, is planned as an enchanting evening of romantic dining from 5 to 9. Dinner is \$50 per person and includes a selection of appetizers, main course meals and a vast array of tempting desserts.

The café, which Bono recently purchased, also serves dinner as well as breakfast, lunch and Sunday brunch in the greenhouse.

The restaurant's romantic atmosphere creates a perfect setting to thoroughly enjoy a relaxing gourmet dinner. Tropical plants surround you, the caged birds chirp and soft jazz is played throughout the evening. There is also entertainment by Bono himself and his assistant, Karen Caruso, as they banter back and forth with constant humor.

"We have been establishing some great ties to this neighborhood,"

said Bono. "Most of the customers were delighted to see us extend our hours and serve dinner. This is a very special place. To dine at the Bean House is not only a delightful culinary experience, but it also is like a little getaway."

Dinner specials include oriental seafood stew, which is a combination of lobster bodies, poached jumbo shrimp, salmon and jumbo sea scallops in a specially prepared stock. Another special is cassoulet, a traditional French bistro dish, and Karen's special recipe, "pizza for one," which is an ample serving of ricotta, spinach and grilled chicken pizza.

Luncheon specials include homemade soups such as chicken vegetable and rice, garlic spinach and potato, and cream of mushroom made with porcine mushrooms. Lunch also includes an assortment of salads and sandwiches.

Breakfast specials include omelets, bagels, muffins and croissants, as well as anise biscotti homemade by Victor's 92-year-old grandmother, Maria DiCristoforo.

Sunday brunch is served from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Private parties of up to 30 people can also be accommodated.

To make reservations for the New Year's special, call 562-0850.

Bon appétit!

Get ready to achieve

Each year, like millions of people all over the world, I ponder, reflect, review the past year, and imagine where I will be the following New Year's Eve.

In order to project that image, setting goals is essential. That's the easy part; reaching them is another story.

This year seems to be somewhat different, though. We are entering the last year of not only a decade, but a millennium. We are encroaching fast upon a new dawning. To me, this means some serious goal-making.

What is a goal and how do you achieve it? By definition, a goal

is "the purpose toward which an endeavor is directed."

"Direction" is the key word. In order to achieve your goal you must have direction. Focus on your vision, create boundaries, create timelines, create possibilities — make your vision real, be specific, be ready for a challenge and make it happen.

In today's workplace, the "tools for success" are plenty. With a thriving economy, opportunity is everywhere. As you create your vision, look at what you have to work with — starting with yourself. You are the key to your own success.

Mental and physical strength are a must. Next, look into your key interests. What do you like to do? Nothing could be worse than spending the majority of your time doing what you hate. Microsoft genius Bill Gates was totally immersed in his love for computers. His vision took him far beyond his wildest dreams — and you know the rest of the story.

Along with developing inner strength, you must know your product and your marketplace. Also, utilize all your contacts. In many instances, it is not only what you know, it is who you know.

And be sure to get familiar with all business resources. In the past 10 years, business technology has bloomed. The Internet has opened paths for business trade and information worldwide. So become computer literate. Become Internet literate. The wide world of commerce is waiting for you.

Creating your vision requires thought, reflection of past accomplishments and failures (by the way, I believe that there are no failures in business, only lessons that lead us to success), and realistic timelines. Set a time goal and write it down in your calendar. This guides you toward your accomplishments.

Get ready to achieve, and GO! Happy New Year!

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30 Richardson St	270,000	11/12/98	Chet Chan	Mr. Amaro L Pires
313+ Summit Ave U-9	100,000	11/13/98	Rocco J Salvatore Jr	Mr. & Mrs. Jing Q Chen
48 Donnybrook Rd	171,000	12/01/98	Marion S Cutler	Mr. Hanz H Hong
51 Colborne Rd U-4	115,000	11/12/98	Robert N Nace	Ms. Andrea Strauss

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SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS

Stroll down memory lane



Ruth Bader in front of a "Thin Man" feature.

Coolidge movie classics series brings seniors back in time

By Jeremy Pawloski
TAB Staff Writer

Back when movies cost a dime, and burlesque strip shows preceded screenings in some of Boston's seedier neighborhoods, going to see a film was a special occasion — a chance to experience a hint of the unusual or exotic.

And with lavish, single-screen theaters like the Astor, the Paramount and the Metropolitan (now the Wang Center) scattered throughout the city back in the '40s and '50s, movies used to offer something more than a \$7.75 ticket to a shoe-box theater at the local multiplex.

In the '20s and '30s, orchestras performed at many of Boston's old moviehouses. And before television, newsreels that preceded screenings brought to life the important issues of the day. Serials featuring Buck Rogers or a damsel in distress gave youngsters a reason to come back to the movies, week after week.

The nearby Coolidge Corner Theatre — the last surviving art-deco movie house in the Boston area — will celebrate its 65th anniversary with an ongoing film series for seniors featuring the "Thin Man" pictures of the '30s and '40s, and, starting in January, classic screwball comedies.

The series is sure to evoke memories of a bygone era, of childhoods spent waiting for the next installment of "Dick Tracy" or "Tarzan," and of first dates which later blossomed into true love.

For some, thinking about movies of the past brings back vivid and colorful memories.

"We used to pray for rain on Saturdays," said Jean Kramer, a movie buff who remembers eagerly awaiting the arrival of classics like "The Wizard of Oz" and "Brief Encounter" while growing up in Minneapolis. "If it was too lovely out, our mother wanted us to play outside and wouldn't let us go."

"I remember 'Casablanca,' and I remember a movie that featured Gary Cooper; he was a good romantic fig-

ure," said Ruth Cowin. "We had an Egyptian theater that I went to, and we had the Capital Theater in Brighton ... We would always go with boys, but we didn't go steady back in those days."

A visit to the Coolidge

The once-popular "Thin Man" series — chronicling the adventures of Nick and Nora Charles, an ultra-sophisticated, cocktail-imbibing couple who trade bon mots while solving crimes — seems downright anachronistic by today's standards.

Minorities are played as stereotypes, the American upper-classes speak with a curious-sounding British accent. Most notably, Nick and Nora's latent alcoholism is treated lightly in the movie, as evidenced by Nick's humorous reply to Nora when she describes how she got rid of the newspaper reporters who were waiting in the hall — by telling them they were all out of Scotch.

"A gruesome thought," deadpans Nick.

They're so unflappable that even the birth of their child doesn't stop them from catching a murderer in the most recent of their pictures at the Coolidge, "Another Thin Man."

Over coffee after the movie, Donald and Betsy Crawford say watching the film left them feeling nostalgic for the past.

"They were quite sophisticated for their time, but I'm afraid they're a bit corny now," said Donald, who recalls attending star-studded screenings of "The Poseidon Adventure" and "Midnight Cowboy" in New York among his most memorable movie experiences.

"We were on a lot of lists at the time," recalled Donald, who was then an Obie-award-winning set designer.

For Betsy, seeing "The Thin Man" again reminded her of a movie-going experience she still cherishes — her first visit to the Paramount Theater in New York City. The film she saw, titled "Star Spangled Rhythm," was forgettable. But the pre-movie concert featuring Benny Goodman and a dashing young man named Frank Sinatra was anything but.

"I went all by myself and I wasn't even a teenager," she recalled.

Peggy Harris, who also saw

MOVIES, page 13

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OPINION

Another chance for community radio

The Federal Communications Commission has a chance to help Allston-Brighton and other communities protect the right to free speech on the airwaves next month when it discusses a proposal that would make it easier for low-power community radio programming to get on the air.

Right now, radio airwaves are anything but free. The only way for programmers to get on the air is to have the money necessary to pay for a federal license.

This setup hurts small-budget community programmers such as Allston's Steve Provizer, who had his station — Radio Free Allston — shut down by the FCC in 1996 because it broadcasted without a license.

By all accounts, Provizer's pirate station was not a haven for those who wanted to hit the airwaves without meeting the FCC's standards for public decency. Instead, it was a medium for community groups to spread news about their activities, for Allston-Brighton's immigrant population to get foreign-language programming and for music lovers to try their hand at radio. Radio Free Allston's programs even had appearances by local elected officials and Boston Police Department officers.

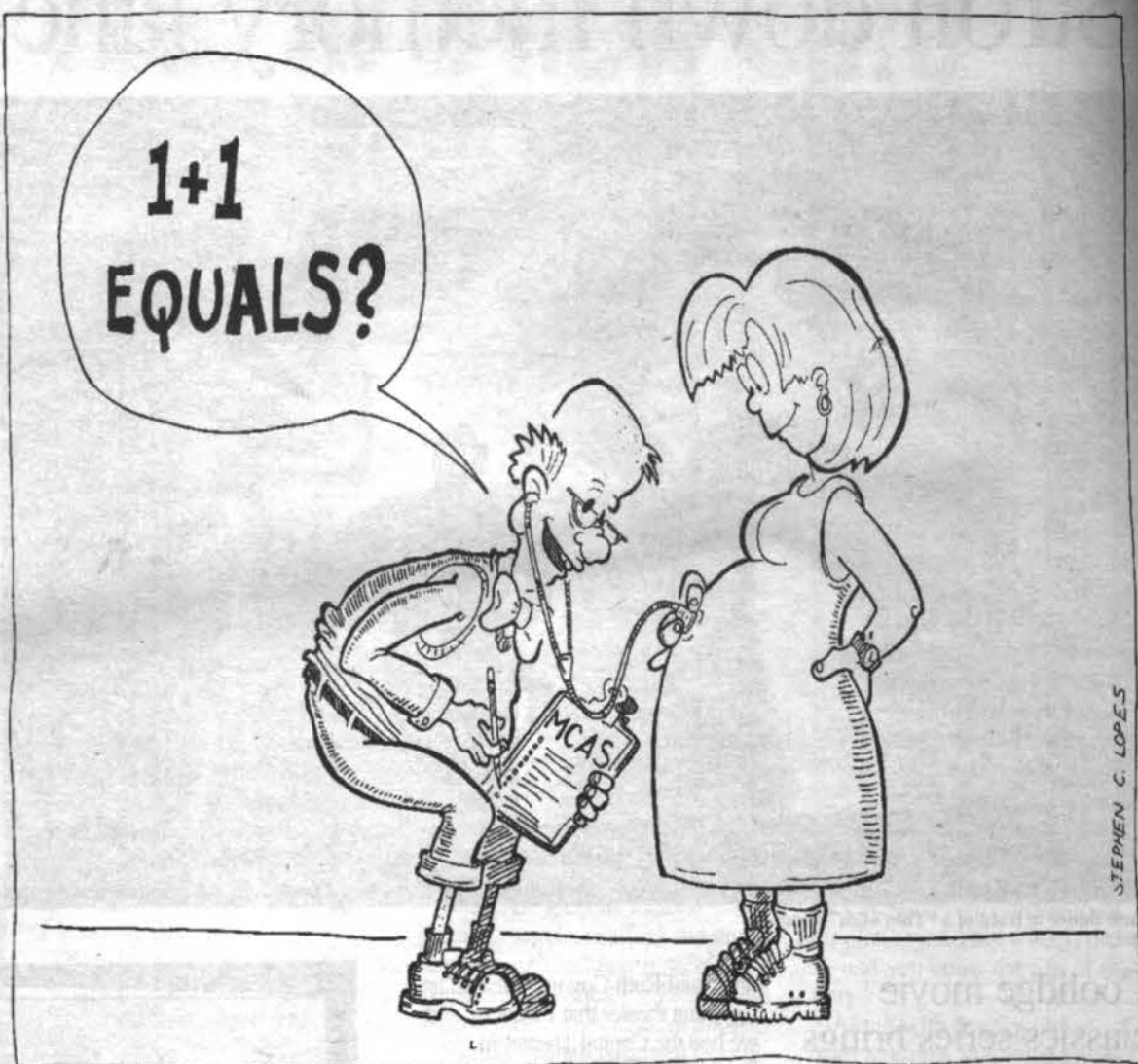
The departure of Radio Free Allston has left a void in our community. Even though Allston-Brighton residents have access to community news, information and debate through this newspaper, they deserve to have access to more immediate mediums. What's more, residents who cannot read or speak English deserve the opportunity to get community information through a free source.

Provizer's station provided that. And there is nothing else to fill its place.

There are indications that the FCC is open to changing its policy on low-power stations. FCC Chairman William Kennard has gone on record saying he is in favor of making radio more diverse. And until 1978, the FCC had allowed stations which operated with fewer than 100 watts to operate. But there is no guarantee that the agency will change its rules.

For this reason, Provizer and other community radio activists are encouraging residents to send letters to Kennard in support of low-power community radio. We also encourage those who are in favor of this programming to make their opinions known.

Residents can send letters to Chairman William Kennard, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, The Portals, 445 12 St. SW, Washington, D.C. 20554.



LETTERS

Know the warning signs

According to a study conducted by the American Heart Association, the largest voluntary health organization fighting cardiovascular diseases and stroke, four out of every five people don't know any of the five warning signs of stroke.

Every 53 seconds, someone in the United States experiences a stroke, and every 3.3 minutes, someone dies of a stroke. Also known as "brain attack," stroke is the third leading cause of death (behind diseases of the heart and cancer) and is the leading cause of serious, long-term disability.

The American Heart Association is now calling attention to its "Stroke Is a Medical Emergency — Call 911!" campaign through its popular, workplace flower-selling program called "Hearts In Bloom," which just kicked off. For as little as \$7, employees can receive bouquets of tulips along with lifesaving information, including the early warning signs for stroke.

This season, for the seventh consecutive year, AHA is teaming up with Eastern Connection express parcel service, which will provide pro bono deliveries to hundreds of companies in eastern Massachusetts. Together, we hope to affect thousands of employees by raising their awareness about the risk factors and warning signs of stroke and what to do when a stroke occurs.

Both AHA and Eastern Connection urge citizens to join in the fight against stroke. Get your company involved, today; become a Hearts In Bloom Company Coordinator.

For more information, call the AHA office at 1-800-662-1701. This call may ultimately save your life, or the life of someone you love.

Deborah O'Hara, American Heart Association, New England

Affiliate; Jim Berluti,
President/CEO, Eastern
Connection

MCAS making us cynical

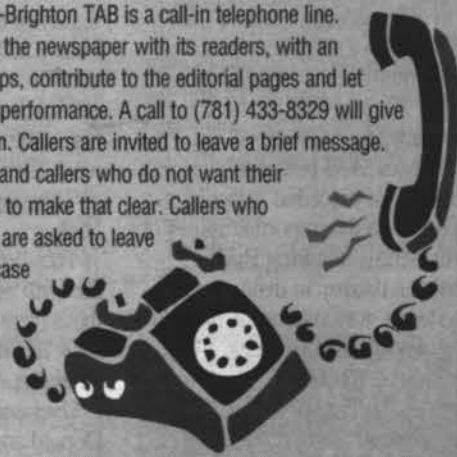
Our severely disabled son is in a wonderful inclusion program in a Cambridge public school. Because

wide average. Consequently, his school was penalized for its inclusionary philosophy!

Our son works to the very best of his abilities and has made amazing progress. His school is good for him, and he is good for the school. He would never want to make his

Speak-Out!

A special feature of The Allston-Brighton TAB is a call-in telephone line. The line is designed to connect the newspaper with its readers, with an easy way to pass along news tips, contribute to the editorial pages and let us know what you think of our performance. A call to (781) 433-8329 will give access to our voice mail system. Callers are invited to leave a brief message. Messages can be anonymous, and callers who do not want their comments published are asked to make that clear. Callers who leave messages for publication are asked to leave a name and phone number in case we have a question about the comment. All items that are published in the next week's edition will be edited for length and clarity.



he can neither speak nor write, he did not take the MCAS test; instead, a sample of his schoolwork was submitted for alternative assessment.

We just learned that our son was given an MCAS score for a test he didn't take, using the standard grading scale. Of course, he failed everything. This is devastating for him, us, and the school, as the failing scores of special needs students were incorporated into the school-

school look "bad" — yet the Board of Education, in its rush to judge, has cast him in this role.

In many ways, our son is a lot smarter than Dr. Silber. He understands differences, he knows that there is a lot more to learning than being able to take a test, he appreciates his teachers, and he is humble.

Unfortunately, MCAS is making cynics out of the rest of us.
Mary and Drew Parkin,
Cambridge

THE ALLSTON-BRIGHTON TAB

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COMMENTARY

Clinton's punishment should fit the crime

By Joan Menard
Guest Columnist

Given all the words spoken on the House floor by members of Congress in opposition to the impeachment of the President, it may seem to some there is little left to say.

Nothing could be farther from the truth. Now that the Articles of Impeachment have been delivered to the U.S. Senate for consideration, the time to be heard is more important than ever.

President William Jefferson Clinton does not deserve to be convicted of the partisan accusations leveled against him by a lame duck legislature, many of whom were repudiated at the polls by their constituents six weeks earlier.

President William Jefferson Clinton should not resign either. For him to do so would be to hand those who most revile him a victory they could not fairly attain at the ballot box.

As both the Chair of the Massachusetts Democratic party, as well as the President of the National Association of Democratic Chairs, I have had the unique experience of working with, and campaigning for William Jefferson Clinton.

His success in leading our nation out of its fiscal lethargy, his commitment to fairness and equity in the workplace, his Herculean efforts to lower the national deficit; his personal battle to preserve and protect Medicare and Social Security; and his tireless campaign to bring lasting peace to the Middle East, make me proud to call him the leader of my party.

His personal and private actions, which led to his effort to hide his behavior from family, friends and the nation is regrettable, but human.

Byron once wrote, "Ah but for human nature."

To remove a man from public office due to actions disconnected but for the tiniest threads of convoluted logic from his duties as a public servant is unfair, unwise and outrageous.

This is a slippery slope, indeed, for the Republican majority to attempt to climb, for it is inevitable that the rhetoric of these Republican haters will one day lead to the slaughter of one of their own.

I have never understood the deep personal disdain and hatred so many of President Clinton's enemies in the House feel for him.

Some, like Rep. Bob Barr, were calling for

his impeachment before anyone ever heard of Monica Lewinsky.

It is as though his continued electoral success and popularity with the American people was a direct assault on their political and psychic beings.

Yet fairer minds understand that just as we do not allow the death penalty for traffic violations, we should not allow a political death sentence to be imposed for action that does not merit that response.

Two final points: first, in these last tumultuous weeks, the performance and actions of the entire Massachusetts Congressional Delegation, with special plaudits to the three members of the Judiciary Committee, Rep. Barney Frank, Rep. Marty Meehan and Rep. William Delahunt, have brought great honor to our state.

Articulate, forceful, intelligent and impressive are just some of the adjectives journalists have used to describe our delegation. They have distinguished themselves and by doing so reflect great pride on Massachusetts. We are truly fortunate to have elected such great representatives. All our Congressmen, the dean of our delegation, Joe Moakley, Edward Markey, Richard Neal, John Olver, Joseph Kennedy, John Tierney and James McGovern spoke eloquently and forcefully on behalf of their constituents, their President and the Constitution of the United States.

Second, the time is right for so-called moderate Republicans like Governor Paul Cellucci to emerge from their silence and be heard on this issue. Their voices, in bipartisan concert with democratic and independent voters, could have a profound affect on their Republican brethren deciding this issue in the United States Senate.

The truth is, the voters get it. The punishment of conviction and removal from office does not fit the crime.

It's time to let the President get on with the job we elected him to perform. It's time to end the partisan madness in Washington. It's time for the people's voice and wisdom to be heeded by those we elected. Progress, not punishment.

To do otherwise could damage our nation for decades to come. So let your voice be heard. You can make a difference.

Joan Menard is the state representative from Somerset, chair of the Massachusetts Democratic Party and President of the Association of State Democratic Chairs.

Money talks to voters

By Steve LeBlanc
TAB Columnist

It was the David and Goliath of political clashes — and David lost.

When a coalition of nonprofit consumer groups banded together last year to force a referendum on the state's new electricity deregulation law, they knew their battle would be all uphill.

First, they had to get the public to focus on an important, but stunningly complex, plan to deregulate the electric industry.

Second, they had to convince voters the plan was the "biggest consumer rip-off in the state's history" — despite the fact that ratepayers would get an initial 10 percent cut in their monthly bills.

Third, and most daunting, was the prospect of going head-to-head with an industry that could — and did — spend millions of dollars on television ads trying to squelch any criticism of the deregulation law.

Now we know just how many millions.

According to a report released last week by the state's Office of Campaign and Political Finance, supporters of the deregulation law — primarily the electric industry itself — dropped a whopping \$8.4 million to convince voters not to overturn the law.

Much of that money went toward the ads that wallpapered television screens in the weeks leading up to the November election. Toward the end of October, you couldn't turn on your set without an apologist for the industry explaining the wonders of the new law: lower rates, greater choices of electricity providers, a cleaner environment, etc.

To fend off that onslaught, the opponents of the law — including the consumer group MassPIRG — raised and spent a mere \$285,000.

To put it kindly, they were swamped come election day. Voters overwhelmingly backed the new law, which — in addition to cutting rates at least temporarily — forces ratepayers to pick up 100 percent of the cost of the industry's bad investments.

Without debating the merits of the law itself, the fact that an industry can spend essentially unlimited amounts of money on a ballot question it sees as a boon to its business raises troubling questions.

The fact that the industry is a public utility is even more troubling. It's not like most homeowners can opt not to purchase electricity.

Attempts to limit the amount of money that can be spent on ballot questions have been frustrated over the years by a U.S.

Supreme Court ruling equating money with free speech. Under that ruling, any limit on spending amounts to a violation of the First Amendment.

Although it's the most dramatic example, the electricity deregulation battle was only one of four ballot questions put before voters in November.

One question — linking legislators' pay raises to increases in the median household income in Massachusetts — generated no spending on either side.

But two other questions — one to cut the income tax on investment income and a second to increase public funding of campaigns — did generate significant spending.

In each case, the side that spent the most money won.

Take the so-called "Clean Elections Law."

Backers of the ballot question, intended to limit spending and level the playing field in state elections, spent nearly \$1.2 million pushing the measure, enough to put ads on television. Ironically, opponents of the question could muster only \$61,000.

Supporters of Question 3, which lowered the state tax on unearned income from 12 percent to 5.95 percent, spent \$335,000 pushing their message. There was no organized opposition to the rate cut, in part because the state Legislature had already approved the tax cut earlier in the year.

As much as was spent on the electricity deregulation question, it did not break the state record. That was set back in 1988 when more than \$9.1 million was spent on a question to ban power plants that produce nuclear waste. The question was defeated.

However, the "Yes on 4 Committee" — a coalition composed nearly exclusively of industry groups — did set the record for single committee spending on a question — \$8.2 million. In 1988, a single committee spent \$7.5 million opposing the nuclear power plant question.

Total spending on all four questions this year? Nearly \$10 million.

Just how much money is \$8.2 million in the scheme of things on Beacon Hill? To put things in perspective, Gov. Paul Cellucci, running for the top political office in the state, spent a little more than \$7 million.

How much influence does money have? Certainly voters are smart enough not to be swayed into supporting a blatantly heinous proposal, no matter how much money is thrown at it.

But for intricate legislation like the energy deregulation law, money talks. □

The battle of the decades hits home

By Larry Overlan
TAB Columnist

Three strikes and you're out! Clinton has two. He's one of three presidents who has been recommended for impeachment by the House Judiciary Committee (strike one!). He's now one of two presidents who has been impeached (strike two!). The third strike could put W. J. Clinton on the sidelines for good — conviction by the Senate in 1999.

Meanwhile back on Wall Street, the market continues to rise. Where's the calamity that those sanctimonious, partisan Democrats were predicting only a few days or weeks ago? The modern day chicken-littles in the House have gone home to their districts still predicting (hoping?) that the economy will begin crumbling.

Hey fellas, wake up and smell the imported coffee. You're forgetting the Federal Reserve Act of 1913 when your predecessors gave away the control of the economy. Alan Greenspan's wink of the eye affects the economy more than the huffing and puffing of a bunch of sore losers in Congress. Pass what bills you may, cut taxes, raise taxes, whatever, Greenspan has control, not you or W. J. Clinton.

Thus, it doesn't matter, from an economic perspective, whether the president is removed. What does matter is the vicious attacks being served up by Democrats on the legally elected majority of Congress. Republicans control Congress because people who agreed with their philosophy of government and society elected them in their districts. By attacking them, the Dems are attacking the

majority of the voters. Of course liberal elitists never did like democracy.

But let's get to the point. The partisan Democrats are not defending Clinton because they like him or because they're worried about the change that might occur if Gore becomes president. The real story is they're defending the sixties and all the baggage that goes with it. For example, the sixties marked the end of the TV show "Father Knows Best" and replaced it with a show about a dumb racist Dad called "All in the Family." The sixties, which are actually on-going since the baby-boomers are now in charge, replaced "Leave It to Beaver" and "Lassie" with "Beavis and Butthead," and "90210." Ed Sullivan was replaced by Jenny Jones. You get the picture.

The list goes on. The traditional

family was replaced by the nuclear family or the village family or the Village People for that matter. Dinah Shore was replaced by Madonna. Elvis was replaced by Michael Jackson. Universal values were replaced by feel-good, temporal values.

Well, the sixties haven't completely won yet. Witness the interest in fifties' theater and movies across the country. Even the baby-boomers are wistful when they see the beauty that was destroyed by the sixties' generation. Bill Clinton represents the sixties. His Yale law school linguistic nit-picking reminds me of discussions about the word "the" in the sixties. Remember the discussion about "relevance" and "plastic" and "what's happening?" Those sixties were heavy-duty man. And then with perfect timing in 1969, the

New York Times asked whether God was dead. The Clinton crowd obviously answered in the affirmative.

With the election of Ronald Reagan in 1980, the Republicans began the counter revolution with themes such as "family values," "God" and "beliefs." Now the two decades, at roughly even strength politically, are locked in mortal combat. Whoever wins can lay claim to the next millennium.

Will it be bobby-soxers or Beastie Boys? Will it be marriages of convenience or marriages forever? Will it be more Alice Coopers or more Tony Bennetts?

Disregard all those lawyers talking about the Constitution and precedents and opinion polls. Those issues are secondary. It's really Peggy Sue v. Snoopy Doggy Dog. □

SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS

Remembering the experiences of women in war

Constance Tree and Joan Keenan say they thoroughly enjoyed their experience in World War II and they look back on it with warm feelings.

They took pride in belonging to



GROWING OLDER

By Richard Griffin

the U.S. Navy as members of the WAVES (Women Appointed for Voluntary Emergency Service) and consider it one of the peak experiences in their lives. Their service during World War II played a vital part in their education and enabled them to be open toward a larger world than they had known before.

In enlisting in the WAVES, Tree, of Boston, was carrying on a family tradition. Ancestors of her family had been Maine seafarers. Her father had enlisted in the submarine service during the first World War and was badly injured by a depth-charge explosion. Also, her two older sisters entered the WAVES before she did.

"It was an education for me that there was a larger world out there; I learned a lot about people. No matter

what their background, everyone has something to offer," Tree said.

Her work in Washington, D. C., was highly sensitive requiring top security clearance.

"All of my work was related to the war in the Pacific," she said. "I knew where the next engagements were going to be."

Not surprisingly, this experience strengthened her feelings of patriotism.

"It builds a tremendous sense of loyalty," she told me. "It was the only place to be in a war situation. It was worth everything you gave up."

Though following battles from afar, Connie sometimes saw their effects on the home front. She will never forget one such sign of war's fall-out. One beautiful spring day while walking near Washington's Reflection Pool, she heard shots ring out and felt a bullet whiz by. A Marine guard nearby had shot himself fatally in the head.

Returning to complete her education at Simmons College after the war, Connie found opportunities she had not known when younger. The two years spent as a WAVE had helped her to become more self-directed and to seek out her own future.

The second woman, Keenan of Cambridge, became a WAVE after graduation from Radcliffe College.

Unlike Connie Tree, she stayed a member of the Reserves for 22 years after the war, retiring as a lieutenant. She remains a Navy person at heart.

"I follow naval affairs very closely," she says. "Anything pertaining to security agencies interests me very much."

She, too, had a highly responsible job in Washington, a job which required top secret clearance. The whole experience boosted her feelings about her country so much so that she now says, "Yes, I'm a flag-waving patriot."

WAVES were not allowed to work in war zones and stayed mostly in the continental United States.

"I went canoeing on the Potomac — that was the extent of my sea-going duty," Joan confides lightly.

As with Tree, Keenan stays impressed with the educational value of serving with the WAVES.

"For me, it was a marvelous transit from the Ivy world here to the real world," Keenan said. "I learned how to get along with all sorts of people. It was another whole dimension of my life."

She was even attracted by the trappings of the position.

"I always liked the WAVE uniform very much," she admits. Now, however, she finds it a bit embarrassing when she goes to the PX in Bedford

and finds herself getting saluted.

By the year 2000, there are projected to be close to 10,000 women older than 60 years of age who are veterans living in Massachusetts. Some 200 of them have been interviewed by a team from UMass-Boston as part of a study to be published probably by next spring.

This project was headed by Nina Silverstein, Ph.D., assisted by doctoral student Jennifer Moorhead. With funding from the Joiner Center for War and Its Social Consequences, they have investigated the extent to which women veterans are aware of the federal and state benefits for which they may be eligible.

It has emerged, for instance, that only three percent of those eligible for free care through the Veterans Administration actually take advantage of it. The study also takes an

interest in the attitudes of female veterans about their military experience.

Silverstein quoted to me one woman who said, "The service colored my life and I learned how to function."

This sentiment obviously jibes closely with the views of the two women whom I interviewed for this column. However, the study also will reveal the feelings of some veterans that the military is not for women today because of sexual harassment.

In a few months, interested readers will be able to get this report from the Gerontology Center at UMass-Boston. For more information, call (617) 287-7330. □

Richard Griffin shares his unique perspectives with readers in his "Growing Older" column. To offer column ideas, e-mail at rbgriff180@aol.com, or call (781) 433-8328.

SENIOR CALENDAR

Programs and classes by the Veronica B. Smith Multi-Service Center, 20 Chestnut Ave., for the week of Dec. 29-Jan. 1. The senior center is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Lunch is served Monday-Thursday at noon. Telephone: 635-6120.

Tuesday, Dec. 29
9 a.m. — English as a Second Language classes
9 a.m. — Exercise Class. No cost
9:30 a.m. — Crochet
10 a.m. — Bowling.
Noon — Lunch. Suggested donation, \$1.50
1 p.m. — Bingo

Wednesday, Dec. 30
9 a.m. — English as a Second Language classes
10 a.m. — Weight Watchers
Noon — Lunch. Suggested donation, \$1.50
1-2 p.m. — Senior swim at the Allston-Brighton YMCA

Thursday, Dec. 31
New Year's Eve-Closed

Friday, Jan. 1
New Year's Day-Closed

Summer Programs at The Park School

Creative Arts at Park, ages 8-15
Adventures in Science at Park, coed ages 9-12
Summer Soccer Camp, coed ages 5-17
Park Enrichment Program (PEP), coed ages 5-8
Summer Community Service Program, coed ages 11-15
Wilderness Exploration Program, coed ages 11-15
Basketball Camps, boys' and girls' weeks, ages 8-15
Lacrosse Camp, coed ages 8-17

Contact: Dana Brown
Director of External Programs
The Park School
171 Goddard Ave.
Brookline, MA 02445
(617) 277-2456 ext. 302

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Hoyts Cinemas Corporation — With purchase of a Hoyts Cinema movie ticket, present your Community Card and this coupon at any Hoyts Cinema concession area and receive one medium popcorn for FREE. Cannot be combined with any other offer.

Kaplan Educational Centers — Save \$50 on tuition to any Kaplan Test Prep program when you present your Community Card. PLUS get one Kaplan publication FREE upon enrollment.

FleetCenter — An exclusive offer for Community Card holders at select FleetCenter events. December 26-29 at Anastasia on Ice, present your Community Card and this coupon at the box office and when you buy one preferred price ticket, you'll get the second one FREE. Anastasia on Ice: \$17.50 and \$12.50 value.

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SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS



Ruth Bader promotes an upcoming film series at the Coolidge Corner Theatre.

MOVIES, from page 9

"Another Thin Man" with a friend last week, said that during the past 30 years, she has seen a bevy of films at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. But back when she first started going, the long lines out the doors of the theater were a far more common sight than today, when a wide variety of entertainment options include television, videos and computers, she said.

"It was much more of a center of people's lives in the neighborhood than it is now," she said.

The times they are a changin'

Attitudes toward movies also change with the passage of time. As a youngster growing up in Osceola, Iowa, films like "The Thin Man" presented a romanticized version of life which contrasts sharply with how it is truly lived, said Harris.

"I thought they were wonderful, they were so clever and sophisticated," said Harris of the Charles couple that Myrna Loy and William Powell made famous. "Certainly the romantic movies of the times presented a false picture of what marriage and love is really like."

During the Great Depression, Harris and millions of other Americans kept their minds off economic hardship by frequenting light musicals such as "Flying Down to Rio" with Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. Later on, after Harris married a Harvard philosophy professor, she graduated to more serious fare.

Crawford and Harris also both echo a common complaint among many elderly filmgoers — the pictures out today are too violent, too risqué and too disturbing when compared to those of their childhood. Crawford recalled the scandal that ensued after the 1946 release of the Rita Hayworth picture "Gilda," which shocked many because of a then-racy glove-removal scene featuring the starlet.

The Coolidge Corner Theatre has also been rocked by controversy during its long and storied history, according to longtime Boston-area film booker George Mansour. In 1958, the Coolidge caused a sensation as the only area theater that dared screen Louis Malle's controversial "Les Amants," or "The Lovers."

"Nobody else in the city would be caught dead screening it," he said. "It was condemned by the Catholic Church and it was dirty."

For many seniors, however, it is the violence of today's films which is truly shocking.

Ruth Abrams, who has been instrumental in bringing the senior series to the Coolidge, said she shies away from fare that might give her nightmares.

"I don't want to go to the movies when I feel it's a very intense drama that's going to make me very upset," she said. "At 74, I guess I'm entitled to that."

In addition to the films offered to seniors at the Coolidge Corner Theatre, every Thursday at 1 p.m. the

Coolidge Corner branch library's free-movie series screens classics such as "Born Yesterday" — starring a young William Holden — and "Meet Me In St. Louis," the movie that sparked a love affair between starlet Judy Garland and director Vincente Minnelli. □

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SCHOOL NEWS

Of pupils, presentations and portfolios

'Citizen' students talk about their course work in hands-on after-school learning program

By Judy Wasserman
TAB Correspondent

Outside, the mid-December afternoon was gloomy, but inside Garfield Elementary School the climate was cheerful.

Thirty-five students enrolled in Citizen Schools, an after-school program held at Garfield, made oral presentations and turned in portfolios of their work completed during the fall term. The students had participated in several special projects and were eager to describe them. This included work with Boston Urban Garden and visits with residents of Oakwood Care Center in Brighton.

The portfolios and presentations are something new this year for Citizen Schools, according to Garfield's site director, Kevin Fleming. Citizen students usually enroll in several courses, called "explorations," but this year students chose only one "exploration."

"In a sense, our students gained ownership of the project," said

Fleming. "There was a sense of consistency, and very comprehensive learning."

By focusing on one exploration, Citizen Schools also hopes to reinforce what students learn in school. It is Citizen Schools' goal to make "an authentic connection with Boston's citywide curriculum standards," said Fleming.

For example, in the gardening project, students learned how to collect data, graph information, and write about what they discovered in the garden. Noting that "the kids can do adult-quality work," Fleming said that, through all of the special projects, students learned how to articulate information.

In fact, during oral presentations at Garfield, some students were nervous or shy as they entered the classroom to face a panel of mostly educators. But after a round of handshakes, each student settled down, made his or her presentation, and answered the panelists' questions.

Fifth-grader Shantell Jeter's jitters disappeared once she started to describe her exploration work and refer to pages in her portfolio. She told how she learned to measure the garden and use mapping skills to design it. Shantell also talked about student visits to Oakwood Care Center. During that program,

called "Old Friends are Best Friends," the students helped the residents exercise and do art projects.

"We used energy and imagination to motivate them to move," she said.

When asked by one panelist if there were any difficulties during those visits, Shantell said that sometimes it was hard to talk with or understand some of the residents.

"We learned to overcome those problems and develop our communication skills," she said.

The fifth-grader also discovered that those skills can be used in other situations and gave an example of using them with someone from Somalia.

Another Garfield student, third-grader Stacey Leonard, told the panelists about Oakwood.

"We did activities which normally would have been done with [the residents'] grandchildren, who can't visit."

Like Shantell, Stacey also described exercising with the elderly residents. "We would pretend to be picking flowers or rocking a baby," she said. "We wanted to get them moving and stretching."

For Stacey, the trip to Oakwood was fun.

"I expected it to be boring, just standing around and shaking

hands, but the activities were fun," she said.

Two other Garfield students, fourth-grader Leland Ward and third-grader Ahmed Faisal, described what they learned in the garden exploration. Leland showed in detail how students designed and built a cold frame. Ahmed explained the processes of mapping out the garden and learning how to compost. The garden project was a good opportunity to "get city kids out to learn about the country, and to have an appreciation of where food comes from," he said.

Once a week, the students traveled to a Boston Urban Garden site and learned how to design a garden, compost, fertilize, make apple cider, and plant crops. They also got the opportunity to design their own dream gardens. The project enhanced their math and science skills, said Fleming.

Garfield faculty members who listened to the oral presentations were: Principal Victoria Megias-Batista, art teacher Debbie Manley, reading specialist Ellen Mays, librarian Susan Leonard, and teachers Connie Scandone, Carol Slilaty and Liz McDonald.

The other panelists were: Garfield parent Amy McCloskey, Taft Middle School Principal Irene McCarthy, Boston College Neighborhood Center representa-

tives Maria DiChiappari and Moe Malony, Faneuil Branch library director Cate Shier, Newton elementary school teacher Barbara Kuprat, and Citizen Schools representatives Tulaine Montgomery, Jeanne Frey and Mike Morris.

In addition to explorations, Citizen Schools' after-school program at Garfield includes team-building activities, homework and study skills time, and participation in apprenticeships with local artisans, tradespeople and professionals.

The nonprofit organization, which was founded in 1995, was designed as "an adventure in learning" that challenges students to become apprentices and receive hands-on experience. Learning-by-doing activities include writing a book, designing a web home page, starting a business, and running a mock trial.

Students in the Garfield program meet Monday through Thursday, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. They come from several Allston-Brighton schools, including Edison and Taft middle schools, Garfield, Hamilton Elementary, Our Lady of the Presentation, and St. Columbkille's.

Citizen Schools' spring session at Garfield Elementary School begins in February. For more information, call Kevin Fleming at (617) 695-2300, ext. 116.

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SEAMAN, from page 4

Brighton from Newton in September 1997, in preparation for his wedding last August. Although few of his performances are in his neighborhood, Seaman relishes his Oak Square home's expansive views of the city skyline and nearby gardens.

"I love it," said Seaman. "It's very peaceful. It's hard to believe we're so close to Boston."

He added that the proximity to Boston is very important to both him and his wife.

"If I'm playing the Boston Ballet or the Boston Pops its very convenient," said Seaman.

As he searched for a place to settle down, he was looking for a place with a sense of energy — and he found it in Brighton.

"Some of the bedroom communities didn't have as much appeal for us," said Seaman. "There's a certain feeling of renewal and vitality in the Oak Square and Brighton Center area."

Seaman has two grown children: Anne Marie, a graduate of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts School; and Andrew, a junior at Wheaton College. His wife, Evelyn McFadden, is director of training at Health Management Resources and an avid amateur chamber violinist.

Seaman received his bachelor of music degree from Oberlin Conservatory in Oberlin, Ohio, and a master's degree from Peabody Institute in Baltimore, Md. While living in the area, he performed as a member of the Baltimore Symphony and Washington National Symphony.

He also pursued graduate studies at the University of Texas at Austin, where he studied with a cellist named George Neikrug. When John Silber left the UT to become Chancellor of Boston University, he brought several faculty members with him, and one of them was Neikrug, who is now a professor emeritus at the BU School of Arts and Music. That was 27 years ago. That turn of events brought Seaman to Boston too, to serve as Neikrug's teaching assistant.

Now, along with his busy performing schedule, Seaman teaches cello at the Longy School of Music, Phillips Academy in Andover, and privately. □

George Seaman will perform Saint-Saëns's Cello Concerto in A minor with the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra on Sunday, Jan. 10, at 3 p.m. in the Sanders Theatre, on the campus of Harvard University. The concert will be conducted by Conductor Laureate Gunther Schuller. There will be a pre-concert Apertif chamber music performance open to all ticket holders beginning at 2 p.m., and then a post-concert Ask the Artists session with Schuller and Seaman immediately following the main concert. Tickets are available in advance through the Pro Arte office at 661-7067, and cost \$9, \$17, \$27, and \$35, with discounts for seniors and students. The day of the concert, call the Sanders Theatre box office at 496-2222.

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LOOKING BACKWARD

Constructing the story of Chandler Pond

By William P. Marchione
TAB Correspondent

In the late 19th century, more than 20 ponds dotted the landscape of Allston-Brighton.

Today, only one remains, Chandler Pond. This 12-acre sheet of water, part of the Alice Gallagher Park, is one of the community's most attractive visual and recreational amenities.

Chandler Pond lies in the Nonantum Valley, which is enclosed by Nonantum Hill to the north and Waban Hill to the south. The pond was excavated for ice-making purposes by local horticulturalist and landowner William C. Strong in 1855.

Chandler Pond is fed by Dana Brook, which flows out of Newton. After leaving the Nonantum Valley, this watercourse meanders more than a mile in a northeasterly direction before emptying into the Charles River in the vicinity of the Soldiers Field Road Extension. The portion of the waterway lying below the pond is now completely submerged in conduits.

The Nonantum Valley itself has a fascinating history. In October 1646, the Rev. John Eliot, minister of Roxbury — known to history as "The Apostle to the Indians" — performed his first conversions of Native Americans to Christianity at the western end of this valley. The leader of the natives was Waban, the man after whom the hill was afterwards named. A "Praying Indian" community was immediately established on the site by Eliot, and given the name "Nonantum," which meant "rejoicing" in the Algonquian language. A monument, off Eliot Memorial Road in Newton, marks the site of Nonantum, the oldest Christian Indian community in British North America.

The land on which Chandler Pond is now situated was first owned by Richard Dana, the American founder of a family that would later produce many notable statesmen, writers and reformers. The Dana family owned this acreage more or less continuously until the early 19th century. The Dana homestead, which stood in Brighton's Oak Square at the corner of Nonantum and Washington streets, was destroyed by fire in the 1870s.

In 1837, the southern part of the Dana property had passed into the hands of Horace Gray, an influential Boston businessman and horticulturalist who played a key role in the foundation of the Boston Public Garden. Gray's imposing country residence stood at the crest of Nonantum Hill, overlooking the valley in which Chandler Pond would later be created.

According to one account, Gray "erected on the grounds the largest grape houses known in the United States, in which were grown extensively numerous varieties of foreign grapes. For the testing of these under glass in cold houses, [he] erected a large curvilinear-roof house, 200-feet long and 24 wide. This was such a success that he built two more of the same dimension."

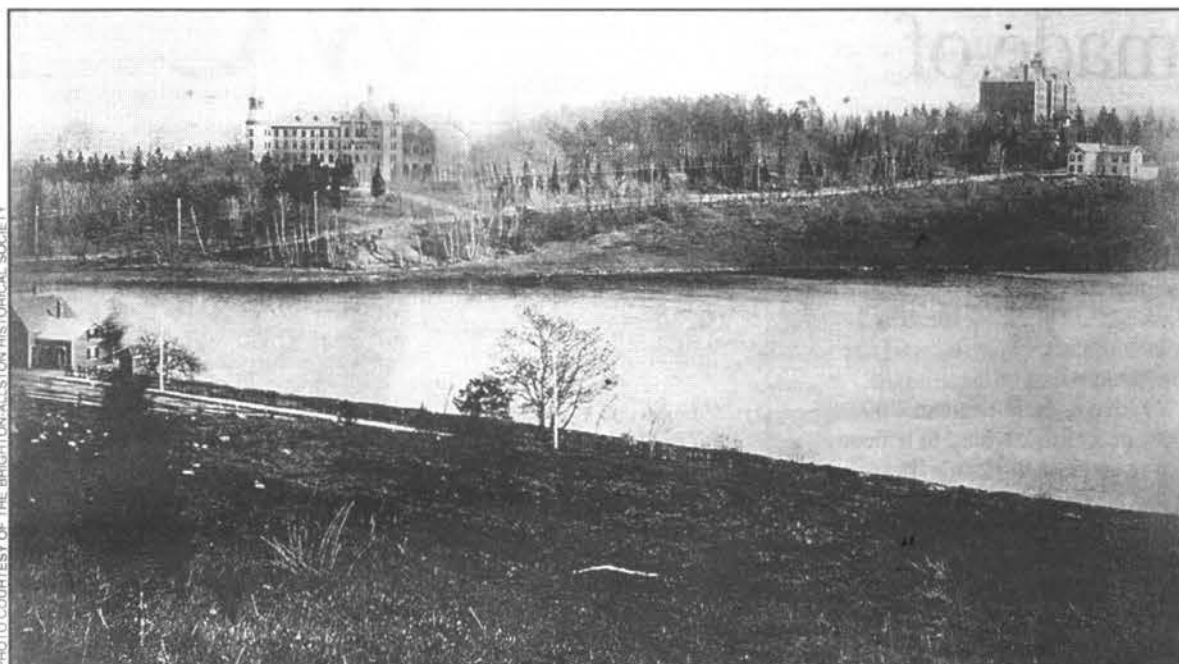
In 1848, however, financial losses forced Gray to sell his Brighton property. The purchaser was William C. Strong, who soon expanded the horticultural business there by laying out additional vines and adding other plants. Strong also built an immense greenhouse for his Nonantum Valley Nurseries. A much-acclaimed horticulturalist, Strong served as president of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society from 1871 to 1874.

As previously noted, it was Strong who excavated Chandler Pond in 1855 for ice-cutting. In 1865 he created a second pond, also for ice-cutting, just west of Chandler, called Strong's Pond, which has since disappeared.

Kenrick Street was built in 1856 on the northern margin of Chandler Pond. The oldest house on the street, number 54, almost certainly belonged to an early employee of the ice-cutting operation.

Two ice houses were built adjacent to these bodies of water. One stood at the corner of Lake and Kenrick streets; the other between the two ponds (on the site occupied by the Chandler Pond Apartments).

Strong first leased and then, in 1858, sold the more easterly of the ponds to Malcolm Chandler, an experienced ice merchant who had previously operated an ice-cutting establishment on Hammond Pond in Newton. Soon after this purchase, Chandler built an imposing Greek Revival-style mansion for himself at



Chandler Pond before the construction of Lakeshore Road in 1895. The residence at the extreme right is the Malcolm Chandler Mansion at 70 Lake St. The house at the lower left of the photo, 54 Kenrick St., was the first residence constructed on the margin of the pond, believed to date from the time of its excavation in 1855.

70 Lake St., overlooking the valley. The building still exists.

Strong continued ice-cutting at the more westerly pond until 1880. Once refrigeration was introduced in the early 1870s, however, a fierce competition developed between the two ice-cutters for the remaining business in natural ice. Following a destructive fire at Strong's ice house in 1872, Chandler (who was already experiencing serious financial difficulties) was arrested and charged with arson. However, he was eventually found innocent of the crime.

In 1880 Strong sold his Brighton ice-cutting interests to Jeremiah Downing. Long interested in real estate development, Strong had moved to Beacon Street in Newton's Auburndale section in 1875, where he was in the process of developing a new suburb, called Waban, after the local Indian leader. Downing continued cutting ice on Strong's Pond into the early years of the present century. In 1895, however, he sold much of his acreage to the organizers of the Chestnut Hill Country Club. These handsome grounds would be redesigned in the 1920s by the nation's leading golf course architect, Donald Ross.

By the 1920s, the former Strong ice house and its outbuildings had been converted into horse auction stables, owned first by the Pickens family, and later by J. C. Keith. One

commentator has described Brighton's Keith Stables as "the Mecca" of the New England horse trade in the 1930s and '40s: "The barn had accommodations for 500 horses and feed during the 1940s.... Five carloads of horses arrived weekly by rail from the Midwest for all-day Wednesday auctions at Keith's." In the late 1940s, the Keith Stables and many of its horses were destroyed in a spectacular fire.

Meanwhile, in 1883, Chandler Pond had been acquired by Phineas B. Smith, the owner of the Jamaica Pond Ice Company in Jamaica Plain. Smith had held a mortgage on the Chandler property since 1871. When the Chandler heirs (Malcolm having died in the mid-1870s) failed to meet the mortgage payments, Smith seized the property. Ice-cutting on Chandler Pond did not outlast the century, however. In 1897, the large ice house at the corner of Lake and Kenrick streets was destroyed by fire.

In 1913, Chandler Pond passed into the hands of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston. The pond had long since become a popular place of resort for skaters. Students at neighboring St. John's Seminary also made good use of the frozen surface in the winter season. As Brighton native, George G. Ryan, reminisced of skating at Chandler Pond in a recent Boston Pilot article:

"Ever since the hey-day of ice-

harvesting, Chandler Pond has been in constant winter use as an outdoor skating rink, a place of recreation for the easterly Newtons, the whole of Allston-Brighton, and even Chestnut Hill.... Because it was so still, Chandler Pond was better for skating than the Charles River, which flowed seaward just fast enough to ripple the surface and discourage the quick freeze so characteristic of Chandler. Moreover, the tiny pond lacked the river's depth, a definite plus should the ice thin, thaw and crack, thereby threatening skaters with an unscheduled dip."

In 1925, the archdiocese sold the pond and the surrounding acreage to developer George W. Robertson, who proceeded to subdivide the land into lots for residential development. There was even some talk at this juncture of filling the pond. Lake Shore Road on the southern rim was put through in the mid-1920s. By the early 1930s, the margin of the pond was largely developed.

The city of Boston acquired the Chandler Pond acreage from various owners in the late 1930s, some of it apparently in lieu of unpaid real estate taxes. In 1941, at the urging of Boston City Councilor Maurice Sullivan, the city established the Alice Gallagher Park on the southern and western rim of the pond. The wife of longtime Boston City Councilor Edward Gallagher, Alice Gallagher had long been active in charitable work in the Allston-Brighton community. □
William P. Marchione, Curator of the Brighton-Allston Historical Society, is an Associate Professor of History at the Art Institute of Boston, and the author of several books on Boston-area history.



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SPORTS

Pee Wees continue to pack a punch

Allston-Brighton runs league unbeaten streak to seven

By Chad Konecky
TAB Correspondent

Dorchester came into last week's (Dec. 19) game against the Allston-Brighton Pee Wee travel team with a gaudy record and a defense that was supposed to rival that of stingy A-B.

But the best competition the locals have faced yet this season left the ice with their heads drooping after a 6-2 loss.

"I'm really proud of these kids because they keep working hard and getting results in spite of our numbers problem," Allston-Brighton head coach Gordy Joyce said. "We have four defensemen who are all second-year players. Those guys set the tone."

Joyce, who is assisted by Gary Peach and Kenny Luke, has guided the Allston-Brighton Pee Wees to a 10-2-1 (6-0-1 Greater Boston League) start this season. Allston-Brighton's 11-player roster began the season on a roll and seems to be gaining momentum as the season wears on.

Allston-Brighton broke open a game that was scoreless after one period with four second-period tallies, including one each by left wing John Bruno, center Matt Peach, defenseman Joey Joyce and defenseman Greg O'Brien. The Pee Wees took a 4-1 lead into the third period and coasted behind insurance goals by fill-in Squirt promotion and winger Danny Gomez along with Bruno's second score of the game.

The balanced attack was representative of how lethal the team has become from just about any position on the ice. Joyce, a defenseman, remained the team leader in

scoring with 16 points in league play, thanks to his goal and pair of assists (4 goals, 12 assists on the season). Another defenseman, O'Brien (5-7), is second, but boasts a team-high five goals after collecting a goal and two assists against Dorchester. Meanwhile, forwards Ryan Bradbury (3-4), Bruno (2-1) and Patrick Fitzgerald (3-1) have proven to be nearly as dangerous.

Bruno netted the most spectacular goal of the game in the rout of Dorchester, wading through two defensemen in the slot and lifting the puck into the top of the net past the goalie on his glove side. Single assists were credited to Bradbury, defenseman Thomas Bletzer and Fitzgerald, while defenseman Matt Galvin collected a pair of assists.

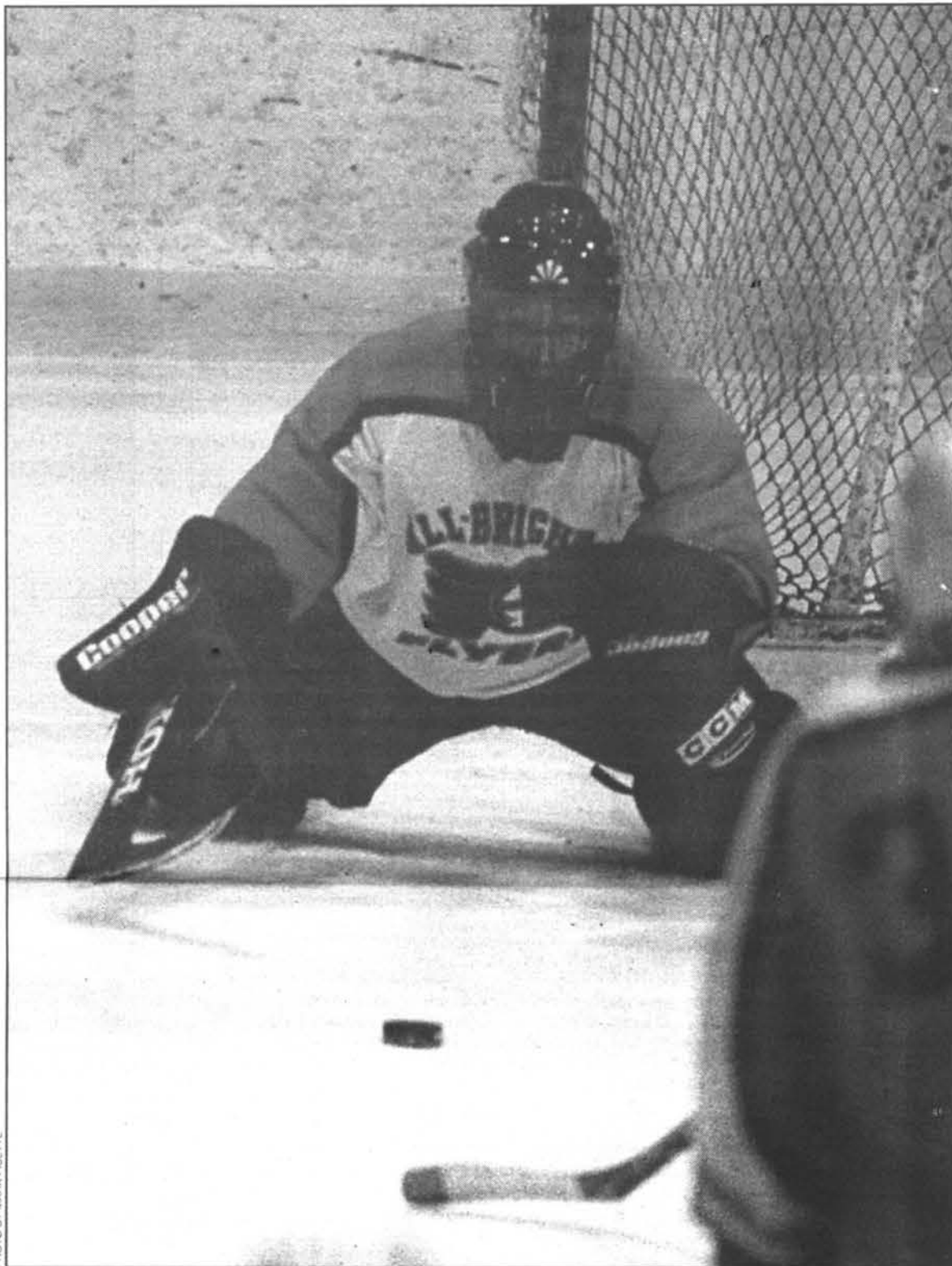
According to coach Joyce, the secret of the Pee Wees early season success has been every player's willingness to take on a certain role for the team and pursue it with vigor.

Bletzer, for example, is the enforcer, leading the team in penalty minutes and unafraid to grind it out in the corners or throw his body into the thick of things. Bradbury is simply "the most hard-nosed kid on this team," according to coach Joyce. And diminutive forward Kenny Luke is physical enough to play on the Pee Wees' penalty-killing unit and forechecks more aggressively than players almost twice his size.

All the while, goalie Michael Bonnet remains a steady presence in net and has maintained a 2.0 goals-against average through seven league games against sure-shooting competition.

The positive chemistry is so abundant that even a newcomer like Squirt promotion Danny Gomez can step in and contribute right away.

The Pee Wees' holiday break commenced after the Dorchester game. A-B will resume play after the first of the year. □



Goaltender Michael Bonnet has been a steady force in net for the Allston-Brighton Pee Wee travel team. Bonnet has maintained a 2.0 goals-against average through seven league games.



Allston-Brighton Youth Hockey defenseman Joey Joyce gets pulled down while taking a shot on goal against Dorchester last week. Joyce has scored a team-high 16 points for the team this season.

Joyce the voice

For Brighton blueliner, points speak louder than words

By Chad Konecky
TAB Correspondent

Joey Joyce is a natural at a PlayStation video game called "Doom." That's pretty appropriate for this soft-spoken Allston-Brighton Youth Hockey defenseman, who leads a blueline quartet that ranks among the best in the Greater Boston League.

"We're just a good defensive team and that usually makes the difference for us," said Joyce, who anchors the defensive zone for Allston-Brighton's Pee Wee traveling squad. "I feel like I just know when to hit a guy."

If that phrase isn't in the "game tips" section of the "Doom" instruction book, the technical writers down at PlayStation headquarters have missed the boat. To be sure, knowing just when to hit a guy is at the top of a short list of job responsibilities for hockey defensemen. Allston-Brighton is physical and the 5-foot-4, 139-pound Joyce has no trouble getting with the program.

Of course, it's an immeasurable bonus if a defenseman can score and Joyce has already done plenty of

HOCKEY, page 18

SPORTS

Youth hockey defenseman shines

HOCKEY, from page 17

that. Through seven league games, Joyce scored a team-high 16 points (four goals, 12 assists) — a whopping nine points more than the most productive forward on the Allston-Brighton roster. It's comes as little surprise, then, that a team with an intimidating defense and goal-scoring talent along the blue line is, well, good.

The Pee Wees hit the GBL holiday break at 6-0-1 and 10-2-1 overall. Joyce, a 12-year-old Coolidge Road resident, has been a force at both ends of the ice in that span.

"He has an excellent wrist shot," said teammate Patrick Fitzgerald, an 11-year-old forward with the Pee Wees. "When you've got speed like Joey, you can come up [from the defense] and blow by everyone."

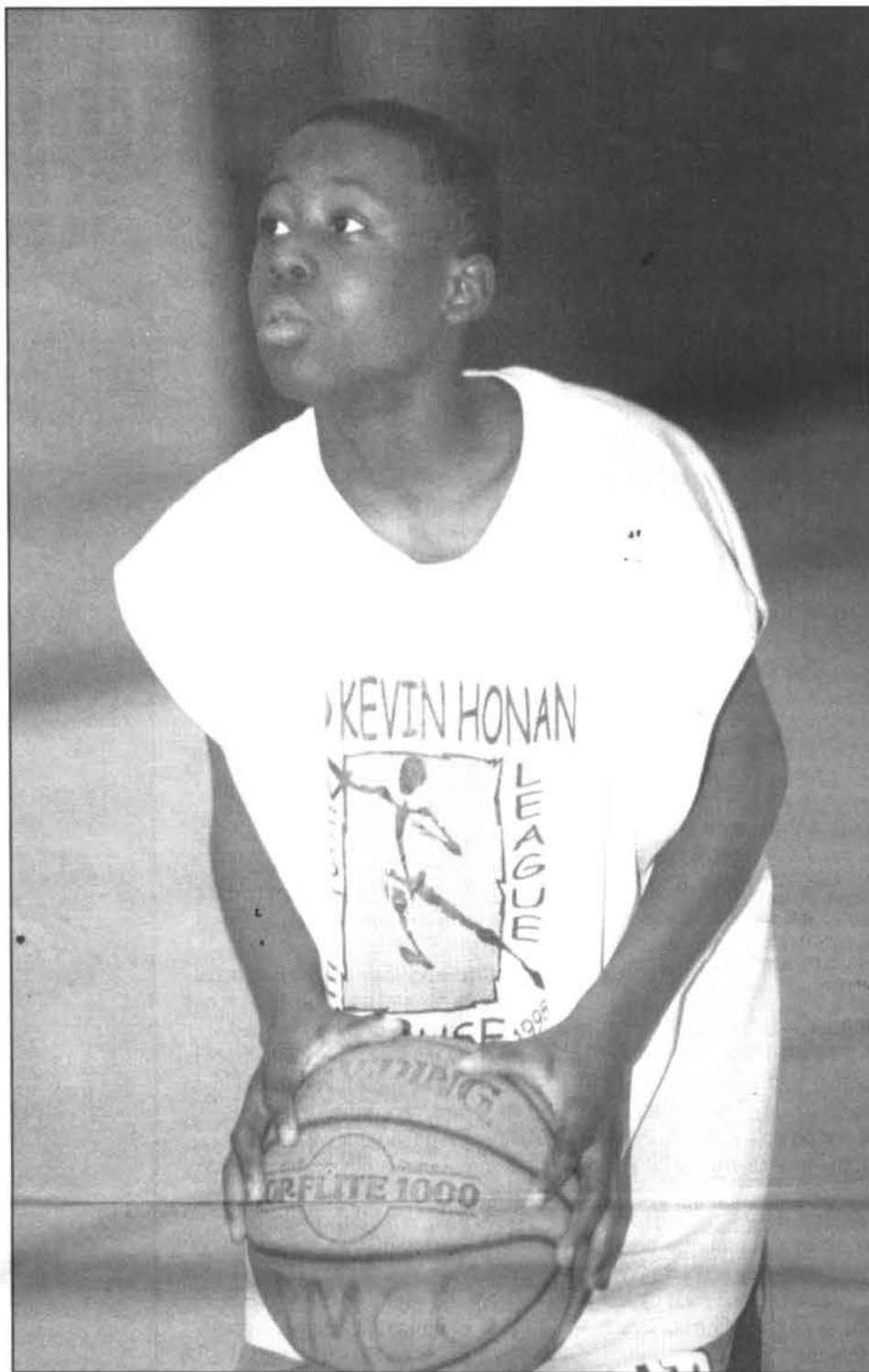
Naturally, Joyce has a few more hobbies than just "Dopm." He is a genuine student of the game and gets to as many Boston

College and Boston University, as well as Providence and Boston Bruins, games as time and money permit. He's already fired up about attending BC's Jan. 8 showdown with Merrimack (he won the tickets at a Taft Middle School raffle) and he may be the most appreciative kid in Allston-Brighton when BU community relations head honcho Joe Walsh hands out free tickets to Terriers' games.

Joyce's favorite subject in school is social studies, but his heart and soul clearly lie with athletics. He is a Little League outfielder in spring and summer and is a regular at Jackson Mann Community Center hoop gatherings all year round.

Nonetheless, if push came to shove, Joyce would likely list the diamond and the hardwood and, yes, even "Doom" as his side salad to the meat and potatoes business of ice hockey. □

Toeing the line



Jackson Guerrier won the free throw competition in the 12-13 year-old age group at the 27th annual Brighton Elks Hoop Shoot Competition. The event was sponsored by state Rep. Kevin Honan.

PEOPLE

A hometown ambassador



Brighton resident Aparna Majumdar (right) was recently welcomed as a Teen Ambassador to the 1998-99 Mellon/CityACCESS program by Lucy Nguyen, CityACCESS outreach liaison. Mellon/CityACCESS sponsors high school students who serve as liaisons between cultural institutions and community agencies. Majumdar, a senior at Boston Latin School, will serve as a Teen Ambassador at the Wang Center.

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- **ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL.** St. Elizabeth's Medical Center, 736 Cambridge St., Brighton. Educational/administrative meetings are held on the **2nd Monday** of each month from 6-7:30 p.m. Family support groups are held on the **3rd Monday** of each month from 6-7:30 p.m., led by Barbara Courtney. Consumer support groups for individuals living with a brain illness are held on the **4th Monday** of each month from 6-7:30 p.m., led by Jane Kwalick. Call: Ben Adams, 783-1722.
- **FREE HEALTH PROGRAMS FOR THE ELDERLY** are offered by the City of Boston's Commission on Affairs of the Elderly, including free screenings and education programs for residents age 60 and older. Call: 635-4366.

EVENTS

- **CITIZENSHIP DRIVE.** The goal of the event is to help offer eligible immigrants living space in the area. Call: 782-3886.
- **FANEUIL BRANCH LIBRARY.** 419 Faneuil St., Brighton. **Ongoing:** Tuesdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m. Toddler storytime. Wednesdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m. Preschool storytime. Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Bedtime stories. Fridays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Mystery stories. Call: 782-6705.
- **INTROVERSION.** 88 Room, 107 Brighton Ave., Allston. **Thursdays and Fridays**, 5 p.m.-9 p.m., **Saturdays**, 12 p.m.-5 p.m. Become completely involved in this very unique artistic process. Call: 562-0840.

CLASSES

- **ALLSTON BRIGHTON YOUTH HOCKEY.** Cleveland Circle MDC Skating Rink. **Ongoing:** Basic skate and hockey skills are taught for boys and girls ages 4 and up. Call: 787-2947.
- **DANCE AND HEALING.** Allston/Brighton YMCA, 470 Washington St., Brighton. **Ongoing:** This program is for women with cancer, to improve strength, range of motion and self-esteem. Call: 782-3535.
- **ALLSTON/BRIGHTON FAMILY YMCA** is sponsoring a morning program for children ages 3-5 years old emphasizing creative movement and arts and crafts. The Y also offers the following classes: **Thursdays**, 7-9 p.m. Drawing classes for adults using pencil and charcoal. \$80. **Tuesdays and Thursdays**, 4:30 p.m. Youth karate. 8:30 p.m. Adult karate. \$80. A variety of other classes also available. Call: 782-3535.
- **DOG TRAINING CLASS.** Jackson Mann Community Center, 500 Cambridge St., Allston. Learn a non-force, positive training method with a 5-week session of classes. \$80. Call: 789-3647.
- **DROP-IN PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUPS.** 470 Washington St., Brighton. **Ongoing:** Sponsored by the Allston-Brighton Action Network. Call: Randi, 783-8834, ext. 222.
- **MIKE BOTTICELLI'S FUNDAMENTALS SKATING CLASS** is for competitive skaters and all levels. **Saturdays**, 6:30 p.m. and **Sundays**, 5 p.m. Call: 899-1796.
- **LEARN TO SKATE AT MDC RINKS.** Cleveland Circle and Brighton/Newton MDC Rinks. **Ongoing:** Group lessons for children and adults, all levels, use figure or hockey skates. Afternoon, evening and weekend classes. 7-week series \$75/child. Call: 781-890-8480.

VOLUNTEERS

- **SINGLE PARENT SUPPORT** offered for parents of newborns and children up to 5 years old. **Sundays**, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Allston-Brighton YMCA, 470 Washington St. Brighton. Call: 617-558-1278.
- **WBZ'S CALL FOR ACTION** needs good listeners and problem solvers for a non profit, information/referral and ombudsman service. Must commit to one day a week for at least a year. Call: 617-787-7070 for an application.
- **BC NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER.** 425 Washington St., Brighton. Free tutoring in various subjects for local children and young adults through April. Call: 552-0445.
- **ALLSTON VILLAGE MAIN STREETS** seeks volunteers for its Design, Promotion and Economic Development committees. Call: 254-7564.
- **FREE AND LOW-COST FOOD SERVICES** for families in need available through Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline. Information and a confidential food stamp eligibility screening are available. Hotline open **Monday-Friday**, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Call: 1-800-645-8333.
- **ALLSTON-BRIGHTON TEEN MENTORING PROGRAM** seeks mentors ages 22 and older to offer friendship and guidance to local teens. Call: Valerie, 787-4044.
- **AMERICORPS POSITIONS OPEN** for Massachusetts residents age K-25 to engage in year-long service in Allston-Brighton in the areas of public safety, education, the environment and human needs. Call: 542-2544, ext. 233.
- **MASSACHUSETTS EYE AND EAR INFIRMARY** seeks volunteers to assist patient family members in the waiting room and to work in the gift shop. Must be at least 16 years of age. Meal vouchers and validated parking available. Call: Ruth Doyle, 573-3163.

Off the shelf

A listing of upcoming events at Allston-Brighton's public library branches.

Brighton Branch Library

Programs for children

- Films & Stories for Children, 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 5
- Creative Drama with Arlene, 4 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 5
- Numbers Count: Bridge Instruction, 4 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 6
- Chess with Don Lubin, 3:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 7
- Homework Assistance Program for Grades 3-8, 3:30 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays starting Monday, Jan. 4

Programs for young adults

- Young Adult Book Discussion Group, "The Caine Mutiny," by Herman Wouk, 7p.m., Monday, Jan. 25
- Film: "The Caine Mutiny," with Humphrey Bogart, 2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 23

Programs for adults

- Adult Book Discussion Group, "A Frolic of His Own," by William Gaddis, 6:30p.m., Thursday, Jan. 14
- Financial Aid for College Workshop with Dana Cole, 10a.m., Saturday, Jan. 16
- English as a Second Language Conversation Group meetings, Mondays at 6 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10a.m.

Brighton Branch Library is located at 40 Academy Hill Road, Brighton Center. For more information, call 782-6032.

Faneuil Branch Library

New arrivals

- Dr. Lynne Walker's "The Alternative Pharmacy"
- "The Complete Book of Old House Repair and Renovation"
- "The Face," by Daniel McNeill

Programs for children

- Toddler Time for ages 2-3, 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 29
- Reading Readiness for ages 3-5, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 30 @ 10:30 a.m.
- School Break for ages 6 & up, 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 30
- New Year's Eve celebration, 12:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 31

Programs for adults

- Teen Café, 7 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 7
- Web Workshop, 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 14

Faneuil Branch Library will close early on Thursday, Dec. 31 at 5 p.m. and will be closed all day on Friday, Jan. 1. The library is located at 419 Faneuil St., Oak Square. For more information, call 782-6705.



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LEGAL NOTICES

BEASLEY ESTATE
LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY
COURT DEPARTMENT
SUFFOLK DIVISION
DOCKET NO. 98P-2832

NOTICE

In the ESTATE OF Alice I. Beasley

To all persons interested in the estate of Alice I. Beasley late of the County of Suffolk Date of Death October 18, 1998

A petition has been presented in the above captioned matter praying that the will be proved and allowed and that John R. Marshall, Jr., of Wayland, in the County of Middlesex be appointed executor, without sureties on his bond.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERE-TO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT Boston Suffolk Probate Court, Old Courthouse room 120 BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORE-NOON (10:00 A.M.) ON January 7, 1999.

Wills only: In addition you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition, stating the specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within thirty (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

Witness Elaine M. Moriarty Esquire, First Justice of said Court.

Date 12/15/98

Richard Ianella
Register of Probate Court

#742174
Allston-Brighton Tab, 12/29/98

GOVAN GUARDIANSHIP
LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
PROBATE COURT
SUFFOLK, SS.
CASE NO. 98P-2787

To Noreen Govan of Boston in said County of Suffolk, and to his heirs apparent or presumptive

A petition has been presented to said Court alleging that said Noreen Govan is a mentally ill person and praying that John Joyce of Quincy in the County of Norfolk or some other suitable person be appointed her guardian.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Boston before ten o'clock

in the forenoon on the 15th day of January 1999 the return day of this citation.

WITNESS, Elaine M. Moriarty, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 8th day of December 1998.

Richard Ianella, Register

#742176
Allston-Brighton Tab, 12/29/98

LEVINE ESTATE
LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
PROBATE COURT
SUFFOLK, SS.
CASE NO. 98P-2693

To all persons interested in the estate of Nancy Levine late of Long Beach, in the County of Nassau and State of New York, deceased.

A petition has been presented to said Court, with certain papers purporting to be copies of the last will of said deceased, and of the probate thereof in said State of New York, praying that the copy of said will may be filed and recorded in the Registry of Probate in said County of Suffolk, and that they be appointed executrix thereunder.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Boston before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the 11th day of February 1999, the return day of this citation.

WITNESS ELAINE M. MORIARTY, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 1st day of December, 1998.

Richard Ianella
Register

AD#739520
Allston Brighton Tab 12/29/98

SHEIKH GUARDIANSHIP
LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
PROBATE COURT
SUFFOLK, SS.
CASE NO. 98P-2785

To Abul Sheikh of Boston in said County of Suffolk, and to his heirs apparent or presumptive

A petition has been presented to said Court alleging that said Abul Sheikh is a mentally ill person and praying that Mikail Sheikh of Cambridge in the County of Middlesex or some other suitable person be appointed his guardian.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Boston before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the 18th day of February 1999 the return day of this citation.

WITNESS, Elaine M. Moriarty, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 8th day of December 1998.

Richard Ianella, Register

#742172
Allston-Brighton Tab, 12/29/98

To place your legal notice call

1-800-624-7355 or fax to

781-453-6650.

FROM PAGE ONE

Back from the front lines



Nicki Nichols Gamble is retiring as president of the Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts.

GAMBLE, from page 1

lead the small organization for about five or so years before moving on. At the time, PPLM, which was located in Newton Centre, had an annual budget of about \$200,000 and a staff of eight.

But when she saw the work being done, she decided "there's no reason we can't be a whole lot stronger."

Building on what they saw as the strengths of the organization — counseling, referral, political advocacy for birth-control laws — Gamble and her staff pushed PPLM to its present-day budget of \$7.5 million, with a staff of close to 160 full- and part-time employees, according to Gamble.

The organization's first major growth spurt came in 1982, when it raised \$800,000 to open its new Worcester clinic — the first of its kind in that city.

"It was really unconscionable that community didn't have outpatient reproductive health services," said Gamble.

Since then, PPLM has opened an office at 1031 Beacon St. in Brookline (1987), purchased a new facility in Worcester (1993), merged with Preterm Health Services (1996) and finally, in 1996, opened a new 42,000-square-foot headquarters on Commonwealth Avenue in Allston, complete with bullet-resistant glass, security cameras, guards and sound-proof walls.

But it's the work being done inside the buildings that Gamble takes particular pride in — the sexuality education curricula being taught in high schools throughout the state, the gynecological medical services provided to thousands of women each year, the lobbying and information efforts to influence pro-choice legislation.

"I just feel unbelievably blessed to have had this opportunity," said Gamble. "It's always been interesting. It's always been exciting."

The daily struggle

Along with the accomplishments come the struggles.

A major obstacle for Planned Parenthood came with the opening of the first Worcester facility in 1982.

Just as the clinic was opening, Problem Pregnancy Inc., a pro-life organization, set up shop in the very same building — on the same floor.

With the initials "PP" on the door of the office, many women looking for Planned Parenthood wound up in Problem Pregnancy's office, where members of the organization worked to persuade them that abortion is wrong.

"They were a very rabid, harassing group of people," said Gamble.

While Problem Pregnancy was a challenge, the real war began in 1988, said Gamble, when Operation Rescue was formed. The outright mission of this new pro-life group was to block access to clinics.

Before state and federal laws in the early '90s outlawed clinic blockades, a series of injunctions resulted in jail terms for the protesters, according to Gamble.

"That really changed the nature of the protests," she said.

How much is too much?

Problem Pregnancy and Operation Rescue were obstacles, said Gamble, and there were times when she questioned how long she can stand up to "those thugs."

But, she added, "I've always loved a good fight. It is often not just what you stand for, but to whom you stand against."

But her conviction was shaken in December 1994, when John Salvi entered the Brookline Planned Parenthood and Preterm clinics, killing Shannon Lowney and Lee Ann Nichols.

For a while, all that went through her head was "too much, too hard." She truly questioned whether she had what it takes to lead an organization that had been so traumatized.

But it was the emotional and financial support Planned Parenthood received that convinced her to keep going.

"It was in addressing the trauma and finding ways of crawling out of the abyss" that gave them the strength they needed, she said.

Shortly after the Salvi shootings, Gamble received a telephone call at her home: "I'm gonna kill you," said the person on the other end of

the line.

"It was anxiety provoking," she said.

But rather than give up, she made a decision to be extra careful about security — a state trooper tailed her for weeks after the death threat — and to push on.

"For me, it's a pretty easy call," she said. "I wouldn't trade being involved in this movement."

Never having young children of her own helped a great deal, she said, because she didn't have to worry about their safety; her stepchildren were already grown when she became involved in Planned Parenthood.

Another factor that fueled her decision to continue was the Oklahoma City bombing.

"I started understanding that the world isn't as safe as it was when I was growing up," she said.

Now what?

Come June, Gamble plans to spend more time with her step-grandchildren, her parents and her husband, Richard, whom she met through Planned Parenthood; he was on the search committee that hired her for the job in June 1974. Two years later, they were married.

She plans to travel to Australia and New Zealand, and, hopefully, China and Japan.

But, she added, she also hopes to continue her involvement with Planned Parenthood and the pro-choice movement.

PPLM board members expect to begin interviewing search firms in January, said Gamble, and they hope to have a replacement by the time she leaves.

With 25 years behind her, what does Gamble see in the next 25?

Facilities in every major city in the state, a diverse staff, full integration with the major health insurance companies, updated birth control laws, more aggressive sexuality education...

"I hope that we're at a stage that you can't run for elected office unless you're pro-choice and have any expectation of winning," she said.

"So there's a lot of work to be done." □

RELIGION NEWS

Holiday services at St. Luke's and St. Margaret's Episcopal Church

St. Luke's and St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, at 5 St. Luke's Road in Allston, celebrates the holidays with services of Holy Eucharist including the special Scriptures and music of this sacred season.

- Jan. 3, Service of Holy Eucharist with Lessons and Carols and Christmas Tableau by the children of the parish, 11 a.m.
- Jan. 6, The Feast of the Epiphany, Service of Holy Eucharist, 7 p.m.

St. Luke's and St. Margaret's is a small inclusive parish, warmly welcoming families, singles, couples — all ages, races and sexual orientations. Please join us. Call The Rev. Karen Bettacchi, 782-2029, for more information.

Kehillath Israel offers day care

Kehillath Israel Nursery School offers three programs for young children: toddler, preschool and transitional kindergarten. Caring professionals create a warm social environment with a strong developmentally appropriate Judaically integrated curriculum. Specialists in dance and music join the program weekly.

Parents are welcome to visit the classrooms.

For information or to schedule a school visit, call **Carol Killian**, director, at (617) 731-9006. Kehillath Israel Nursery School is at 384 Harvard St., Brookline.

Holiday services at Community United Methodist Church

The Community United Methodist Church invites all community members to attend their upcoming holiday services.

- The New Year's Eve service will begin at 11 p.m. on Dec. 31, and the congregation will be invited to join in singing to celebrate the holiday.
- New Year's Day service will be held the following morning at 10 a.m. on Jan. 1, and include a Eucharist.

For more information, call the church at 787-1868.

Assumption Center offers Masses

The Assumption Center, 330 Market St., Brighton, has Mass enrollments for many occasions: weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, births, sickness, and deaths. It also offers perpetual, five-year, annual, and individual Masses.

The center, which is the home of the Augustinians of the Assumption, is associated

with Assumption College in Worcester. It is open Monday-Wednesday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, call 783-0495.

Food pantry is open twice a month

Hill Memorial Baptist Church's food pantry is open every second and last Saturday, from 10 a.m. until noon. The pantry, located in the church at 279 North Harvard St. in Brighton, serves Allston and Brighton residents.

Contributions of food or cash are welcome.

For more information, call the church at (617) 782-4524.

Photo documentary presented at JCC

The Starr Gallery at Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahanton St., Newton presents "Farewell Samarkand: The Exodus of Jews From Central Asia," a photo-documentary by Rabbi **Joshua Plaut**, Jan. 14 through April 4, with an artist's reception Thursday, Jan. 14, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. During the reception, Plaut will present a lecture to further explore the subject of his work.

Plaut is an accomplished photographer having exhibited several photo-documentaries, including projects on the Jews of rural Greece, the Jews of the American South and on tradi-

tional Jewish life in modern Turkey. He is locally known as the Hillel rabbi at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and as rabbi of the Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center.

The Starr Gallery's upcoming exhibition turns toward Bukharan-Jewish communities which take their name from the ancient Silk Road city of Bukhara, situated in Central Asia. This exhibition includes 45 color photographs of a community at a crossroads in its history. The documentary focuses on a Jewish community in the city of Samarkand. This isolated community, like others in the region, is caught amid a constricting reality which encroaches from the outside. The documentary enters this environment examining its unique people, rituals, customs and culture. Plaut captures the community's response to both internal and external change and follows the preparation for Aliyah to Israel.

Gallery Hours: Monday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, from 6 to 9 p.m. All works are for sale.

Send your religion announcements to TAB news editor **Debra Goldstein**. The mailing address is Allston-Brighton TAB, P.O. Box 9112, Needham, MA. 02192-9112. Our fax number is (781) 433-8202. The e-mail address is dgoldstein@cnc.com.

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FROM PAGE ONE

The year in review

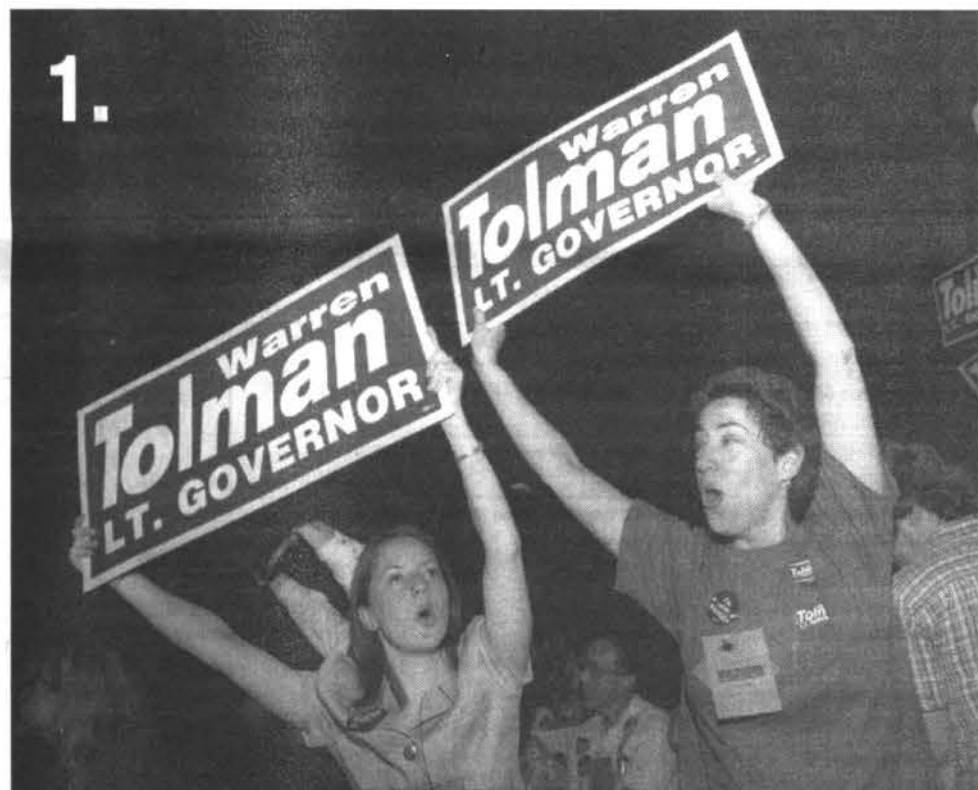
By Debra Goldstein and Peter Panepento
TAB Staff Writers

It was the year of the surprise. Even the most tuned-in psychic would have had a hard time predicting some of the events that shaped life in Allston-Brighton in 1998. A man from Somerville — not Brighton's own Joseph Kennedy — will head to Washington next month to become Allston-Brighton's newest representative. Instead of backing down on his promise to build a library in Allston, Mayor Thomas Menino did the unexpected — he doubled the size of the proposed building. After months of rumors about a possible move, the New Balance Shoe company decided to build its new worldwide headquarters building on one of Allston-Brighton's most prominent vacant parcels.

And in the shocker of all shockers, work finally began on the removal of the old A-line tracks in Brighton.

Nineteen ninety eight did follow some predictable story lines, though. Residents and city officials continued to squabble with the neighborhood's student population over noise and alcohol, another big supermarket opened and environmental activists continued their efforts to clean up Chandler Pond.

In an effort to bring closure to a busy 1998, The Allston-Brighton TAB has compiled its list of the top 10 news stories of the year. Surprises or not, these 10 events defined our neighborhood this year and will have a lasting impact on this community in 1999.



1. The mad scramble

After several placid years on the local political front, Allston-Brighton saw a major shakeup this fall.

Gone are Congressman Joe Kennedy and state Sen. Warren Tolman, two of the neighborhood's most powerful political figures. They are replaced by outgoing Somerville Mayor Michael Capuano and state Rep. Steven Tolman.

What's more, Steven Tolman's departure from the legislature opened the door for Brighton's Brian Golden to become the newest face in local politics.

The races that led to the election of Capuano and Golden provided some of the year's most interesting stories. For a final look at Election '98 see the accompanying sidebar.

2. Hit the road, tracks

Nearly three decades after the final trolley traversed the former A-Line, workers this month began digging out the unused A-line tracks along Cambridge, Washington, and Tremont streets.

The start of the project marked the end of nearly a decade of work for activists who were pushing for the removal of the troublesome trolley tracks. Residents and local officials, frustrated with years of delay, had threatened to march on the State House if the work did not begin by this winter.

The Massachusetts Highway Department's Board of Commissioners voted in favor of approving the project in October. The vote was considered by many to be the final hurdle in getting the project started. All that remained was an official Notice to Proceed from the state to begin work. At the time, local leaders thought the project would begin by late October.

But then there was yet another snag. For six weeks, the Notice to Proceed laid untouched in the Massachusetts Office of Administration and Finance, the governor's central clearinghouse for the state budget.

Massachusetts Office of Administration and Finance Secretary Fred Laskey finally signed the document during the second week of December. The following week, on Wednesday, Dec. 16, Mayor Thomas Menino joined local officials and activists to herald the removal of the first tier.

Construction began at both ends of the tracks, and workers are progressing inward toward Brighton Center. One set of workers began digging the rails out on Cambridge Street near Union Square. The other workers began construction at the Newton border, at Tremont Street.

Weather permitting, all the tracks could be removed as early as March. At that point, work will begin to refurbish the roads and adjacent landscaping.

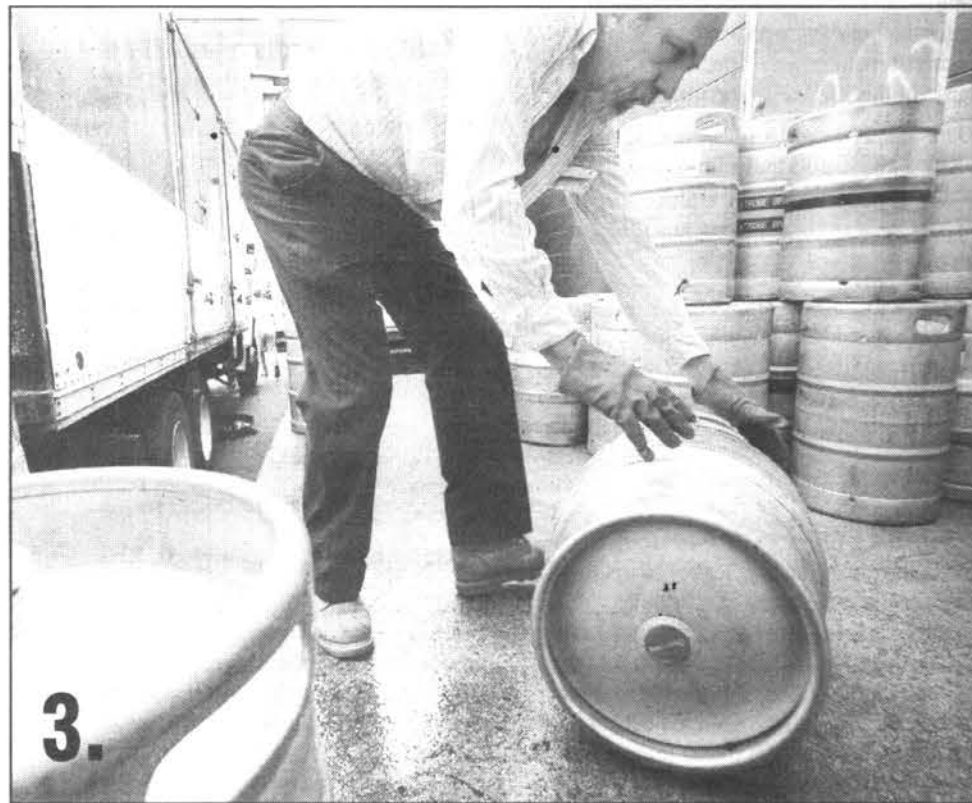
3. The war on alcohol

Next to the trolley tracks, underage drinking was public enemy number one in Allston-Brighton in 1998.

After several public hearings in which residents complained that the off-campus student population was wreaking havoc in the neighborhood, the City Council passed legislation that would require residents to obtain permits from the Boston Licensing Board before they purchase beer kegs.

"We believe it's a small hurdle, but it will go a long way toward solving the problem of keg bashes in the neighborhood," said Councilor Brian Honan. "We're not trying to ban kegs. We want the police to know where these kegs are going to be and have a heads up before they're called at three in the morning."

While the city was tightening the rules off campus, local colleges were working to keep order on campus. Twenty-four area



colleges and universities banded together in the fight against underage and binge drinking by signing a comprehensive agreement which set universal standards for disciplining students and promoting an increase in alcohol-free programs for students who are too young to drink legally.

The agreement is considered the most comprehensive effort of its kind in the country.

Boston College was one of the institutions that signed the agreement. But Boston University officials decided not to add their names to the initiative.

BU spokesman Colin Riley said university officials declined to sign the agreement, because the university already had even more stringent measures in place to discourage underage and binge drinking.

4. Crime makes a comeback

And then there was crime.

At mid-year the Boston Police Department reported that serious crimes had increased in Allston-Brighton by 9 percent during the first half of 1998 versus 1997. That bucked the overall trend in Boston, which showed that serious crime had decreased in the city by 11 percent over the same time period in 1997.

The biggest increases were in larcenies and attempted larcenies, including car-breaks, according to Allston-Brighton Police Capt. William Evans. There were three murders in 1998. All three are still unsolved, and are under investigation by the Boston Police Homicide Department. The most recent murder, that of transsexual Rita Hester in her Parkvale Avenue apartment on Nov. 28, prompted vigils, benefits and rallies in her memory.

Despite the crime log from police, 77.4 percent of Allston-Brighton residents reported feeling somewhat safe or very safe when they went out alone at night, following the first half of 1998.

5. Striking a New Balance

At this time last year, the New Balance Shoe Company, which had been looking to replace its corporate headquarters building on North Beacon Street with a larger, more modern facility, was thought to be on its way out of Allston-Brighton.

But the company came forward with plans to build a new headquarters building at the former

Honeywell Bull site on Life Street. And for the most part residents have been thrilled that the company — which distributes athletic shoes worldwide — plans to build its headquarters down the street from its existing offices.

"We're very happy that they want to stay here," said Allston Civic Association president Paul Berkeley.

The site used to be the Brighton cattle yard at the center of an industrial area. The development could provide new jobs and be the beginning of reshaping the character of the entire area, said Berkeley.

New Balance designers this year sketched out plans to construct three buildings at the site which is located between the new Stop & Shop supermarket and Brighton Center. The three buildings would include a manufacturing facility, a seven-story office building and a 10-story office building. New Balance plans to occupy 40 percent of the development and rent out the remaining 60 percent.

During the past year, New Balance presented a local task force with a traffic study and a draft project impact report and has welcomed comments from residents on its plans. The company intends to present its Project Notification Form with the Boston Redevelopment Authority in February.

The plan is still far from being a done deal. Because of the height of the proposed buildings, New Balance needs a variance to get around the 35-foot height limit that exists for buildings in the area.

6. A new library

There is another much smaller development that has been watched very closely during 1998: a new library for Allston.

Last spring, after many delays, Mayor Thomas Menino unveiled plans to build the Allston library branch at 308 North Harvard St.



FROM PAGE ONE



8.

Politics '98: A year of surprises

By Peter Panepento
TAB Staff Writer

One year ago, Brian Golden and Michael Capuano were unknown names to most Allston-Brighton residents.

But after an abnormally active 12 months of political jockeying, Golden and Capuano are now two of the community's highest-profile public servants.

Golden, of Brighton, stunned many political observers by topping four challengers to win the 18th District state Representative seat. Somerville's Capuano, meanwhile, emerged from a sometimes surreal 13-person sprint for the Eighth Congressional District seat to succeed Brighton's Joe Kennedy in Washington.

The stories of Golden and Capuano highlight Allston-Brighton's busiest political year in recent memory.

Kennedy created the avalanche of activity when he announced last spring that he would not seek reelection in the 8th District. Kennedy, who has held the high-profile Congressional spot since 1986, opted to exit politics to take over Citizens Energy Corporation, a nonprofit company that he founded in 1979 to sell low-cost home heating oil to poor people.

Kennedy's decision to leave his seat was accompanied by state Sen. Warren Tolman's (D-Watertown) decision to run for the Democratic nomination for lieutenant governor.

Tolman had been rumored as a possible successor to Kennedy, but his decision to stay out of the Congressional race left the door open for a slew of candidates to run for the position. Ten Democrats — including Capuano, former Boston Mayor Ray Flynn and former Brighton state Rep. Susan Tracy — entered the race and stayed through until the Sept. 15 primary.

The 10 candidates — all of whom had impressive resumes either in politics or in business — waged a bare-knuckled fight for voters' attention. Although Tracy had an advantage in her home base in Allston-Brighton, she was unable to break into the top tier of challengers for the seat.

That top tier was headed, initially, by Flynn, who was the only candidate with the district-wide name recognition to stand out in the campaign's early weeks. But as the primary drew closer, Capuano was able

to establish himself as the most visible alternative to Flynn.

Capuano built on his strong political machine in Somerville for a significant base of support, while drawing support in the district's other communities. He posted strong showings here in Boston as well as in Belmont, Cambridge and Chelsea.

"The result was different from what a lot of people anticipated," said Eugene Blume, a former Somerville mayor and political observer. "He was the only candidate out of all of them with a base and when it came primary day, they were raring to go."

But the biggest stunner of the year may have been Golden's victory in the 18th District state Representative race.

The 18th District seat opened up when Steven Tolman — Warren's older brother — decided to make a bid to take over Warren's seat in the state Senate. Steven Tolman, incidentally, easily won his race against Republican Guy Carbone.

But the race to succeed Steven Tolman was anything but a cakewalk.

Many political observers were predicting on primary day that Michael Moran of Oak Square had the seat sewn up. Moran had the backing of Mayor Thomas Menino and had saturated the district with signs and personal appearances.

Golden, meanwhile, was winning support from the district's more conservative voters. He was able to win considerable votes in Oak Square, which was considered Moran's strongest area.

"[Golden's] army developed in the last few weeks," said City Councilor Brian Honan following the primary. "He put his organization together and it really gelled at the end."

It gelled to the point that Golden was able to top Moran by 100 votes to win the highly-contested primary. They were followed by Brookline's Gil Hoy, Brighton's Nadene Stein and Brighton's Neil Duffy.

When he is sworn in next month, Golden will join Brighton incumbent Kevin Honan in the State House. Honan, a Democrat, was the only Allston-Brighton candidate to run unopposed this year.

Warren Tolman, meanwhile, fell short in his quest for the state's number two job, as the Republican ticket of Paul Cellucci and Jane Swift carried the commonwealth. □

Design plans are now moving forward. An advisory committee that is working on the building's design has spent countless hours over the past year looking at libraries throughout the city and suburban communities, to help evaluate designs for the Allston branch. Rosemary Cleaves of the city's Construction and Repair Division said there are plans to hold a public meeting at the end of January to present the design to the community at large.

If all goes as planned, the design documents will be completed by the end of May. That would mean construction bids could be advertised in June, 1999 and received in July. Once a contractor is chosen, construction is expected to take about 12-15 months.

Without any more delays, the Allston Library could open its doors with a ribbon cutting ceremony during the last quarter of the year 2000, according to Cleaves.

7. Making history

Preservationists approached the Boston Landmarks Commission with a flurry of proposals to create historic districts in Brighton's Aberdeen neighborhood and in the Allston and Brighton business districts.

The idea behind each of the proposals has been to gain recognition for some of the grand, old architecture that has been developed in Allston-Brighton, in an effort preserve it and promote pride in the areas' historic character. The first step for each of these areas would be to get on the National Register of Historic Places, basically putting Allston-Brighton properties on National Park Services list of historic places.

Proponents for the Aberdeen neighborhood have said they want to pursue an Architectural Conservation District designation as well, which would be much more difficult to obtain but would provide more legal protection for preserving the neighborhood's historic character.

8. Pond progress

The effort to clean up Brighton's Chandler Pond received a tremendous boost in 1998, as city, state and federal officials worked with local activists to secure money and approve plans to dredge the pond this winter.

Without intervention, the hidden oasis in Brighton would dry up and become a meadow due to sediment which is carried in through Dana Brook, the tributary feeding the pond. Although environmental experts say the pond should be dredged every 30 years, the last dredging at Chandler Pond took place in the 1930s.

In November, the state's Secretary of Environmental Affairs, Trudy Cox, signed off on the project.

A landfill project in West Roxbury made the 1999 dredging project much more palat-

able for city and state officials. Because sediments from Chandler Pond can be trucked immediately to the Gardner Street Landfill in West Roxbury — which needs the fill this winter — both projects can be completed less expensively.

9. YMCA plan builds support

Talk of building a new facility for the Allston-Brighton YMCA on Washington Street in Oak Square has continued. In April, more than 100 people turned out to hear plans for the potential move to the site of a former MBTA trolley plant in the heart of the square. At that point, residents were nearly unanimous in saying the YMCA's plan would benefit Allston-Brighton.

Although a date for the building groundbreaking is not yet in sight, plans are moving ahead. An environmental assessment of the Oak Square site was completed in May, and the YMCA received the results in late summer. Allston-Brighton YMCA director Tim Garvin said the results were better than expected.

Most recently, the YMCA hired a project manager, and is looking to contract with an architect to create blueprints for the new facility. Garvin said he is continuing fundraising efforts for the project, and plans to host community meetings regarding the development in 1999.

The building, as envisioned by Garvin, would be accessible to people of all abilities and disabilities, and contain expanded gym, child care and locker facilities — making it a community hub serving everybody from toddlers to seniors. He estimates the project will cost \$5-6 million to complete.

"This is going to happen no matter what," said Garvin.

10. Supermarket swap

Allston-Brighton's retail landscape saw another major shift this spring, as a longtime neighborhood grocery store went out of business and a major supermarket opened its doors.

The Harvest Cooperative Supermarket, which had been a neighborhood institution on Cambridge Street in Allston for many years, closed down, citing increased competition in the neighborhood. The store had been slowly losing business and its managers claimed that it could no longer turn a profit in an increasingly competitive market. The decision came less than a year after another small neighborhood store, Flanagan's market in Brighton, went out of business.

Meanwhile, Stop & Shop, which had torn down the former Ryerson Steel plant and built a new store just south of the Massachusetts Turnpike in Allston, opened to customers this spring. Stop & Shop is the third large-scale market to open in Allston-Brighton in the past three years. □



10.

The Brookline team of Hunneman—Coldwell Banker thanks you for an exceptional year and wishes you a wonderful 1999.



Susan Adams



Patty Arpin



Patty Bakst



Judy Ballantine



Lee Ballantyne



Sam Blumstein



Janice Boomazian



Jeannie Caryn



Ellie Casler



Ronni Casty



Patrice Clunan



Alan Cohen



Jean Paul (J.P.) Cole

Jeanne Cosgrove
Rental Agent

Honey Deutsch



Trudy Ditch



Herb Dobrein



Midge Effenson



Pam Ellis



Tony Evangelista



Noah Fasten



Paul Feldman



Debra Fineberg Finn



Norma Frank

David Friedberg
ManagerJayne Bennett
Friedberg

Marika Gaurenszky



Tanya German



Todd Glaskin



Joshua Goldman



Deborah Gordon



Gerry Korchmar



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