

OLP rezoning not an option

Strategies discussed to preserve school

Robin Kaminski

Bulletin Staff

The pending closing of the Our Lady of Presentation school (OLP) on June 10 has left parents, students, and supporters alike in the community wondering what will happen next to the beloved landmark.

Several requests made by activists in the neighborhood to discuss ways to save the school have repeatedly been denied by the Archdiocese of Boston; thus, representatives have vowed to oppose any requests for zoning changes

the Archdiocese may seek to alter or redevelop the existing structure.

At the June 2 meeting of the Brighton Allston Improvement Association (BAIA), Kevin Carragee, chairman of the Presentation School Foundation, is planning to discuss future strategies for the school.

"There will be three separate issues that I plan to discuss in the continuing struggle against the archdiocese. First, we plan on opposing the archdiocese's request for zoning relief so they can re-

OLP

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Residents review Urban Wilds

Robin Kaminski

Bulletin Staff

While a recent wave of development has jeopardized the already dense neighborhoods in Allston and Brighton, there are only eight remaining "urban wilds," which pay homage to the area's green meadows, wooded hills and superb trails from an earlier era.

The sites, which are a valuable asset to the community, have been waging a war against development threats to some of the locations, while others

have been named permanent open space zones.

An illustrated tour of the landscapes was presented by the Brighton-Allston Historical Society last Thursday, for residents to view sections of the neighborhood, such as the Crittenton woods and St. John's seminary.

Society board members Wilma Wetterstrom and Charlie Vasiliades guided viewers on the tour, beginning with several maps of the area dating

Urban

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Artist Debbie Villani poses with a portion of the mosaic mural at the Mary Lyon School in Brighton during last week's unveiling. For coverage of the event, please see our story on page 7.



A pile of garbage in an alleyway near the Honan Branch Library is an inviting source of food for rats and other animals.

Rats / Trash have neighbors on edge

Robin Kaminski

Bulletin Staff

Improper disposal of trash, condemned residences and displacement due to a recent wave of construction have all contributed to the increase of the rat population - a long standing issue which the city readdressed at an Allston Civic Association meeting last Tuesday with hope the problem can become contained.

A flood of complaints from North Allston residents to city officials regarding the problem prompted a visit from John Meaney of the city's Inspectional Services Department.

Meaney said although the Allston section of the city has always been plagued by rodents, the populace of them has increased because they are receiving the three things they need to survive: food, shelter and companionship.

"Everyone has to do their fair share to help to keep their homes, restaurants and the environment clean. Find their food source, fix porch areas where they

can live underneath and make sure all the garbage barrels have covers on them," Meaney said.

While most residents believed rodents only fed off of their unsecured garbage, Meaney said they will feast on just about everything from sewage, vegetation, and animal feces.

"Whether the rats are displaced, hungry, or even with the rainy weather we have been having, it can cause the rats to come up from the sewers or the pipes, so it is important to call us with as much information as you can get where you saw them go so we can take care of it," Meaney said.

An integrated pest management program, which takes a thorough inspection of the infested area, was said to alleviate the problem.

However, Meaney said the program wouldn't work unless residents first change the conditions and find the source of where the rats are coming from.

"You have to find the actual bur-

Rats

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OLP Strategies *continued from page 1*

locate the Metropolitan Tribunal, along with trying to get the school to be a historical landmark and the creation of a new group called Save Oak Square," Carragee said.

Following a meeting with Bishop Sean Lennon on March 1, and receiving a letter of denial for the organization's proposed purchase of the school for \$2.5 million dollars, Carragee was determined to meet with Archbishop O'Malley to discuss the property, since O'Malley has the final say.

However, Carragee was once again denied a meeting and he claims he was not given a proper reason as to why.

"The Archdiocese has repudiated every effort that we have made as a request to meet to find a common ground - they chose conflict instead and they are going to have it," Carragee said.

Refusing to sell the build-

ing to Carragee and his organization, the Archdiocese recently submitted a request for a zoning variance to relocate their judiciary tribunal over to the OLP school.

Carragee said the organization will obviously oppose the plan.

"They have prevented our hopes to buy the property for a competitive amount and our plans for the future of Oak Square, but they haven't prevented our hopes to not let them use the building the way in which they had hoped to," Carragee said.

While the Archdiocese has continually refused to meet with any members of the organization, they are contemplating having a representative attend the BAIA meeting tonight, to discuss their plans for the building.

"I really hope someone does attend the meeting, just so that I can hear their side of the story,

and I will listen to it carefully, but disagree with everything they will have to say," Carragee said.

Maria Rodrigues, a member of the new group, Save Oak Square, and a parent of a child at OLP, she said she is very concerned with the impending alterations to the community.

Organized by the Save Oak Square group, a rally for OLP on its final day of operation is scheduled for June 10, at 4:30 p.m. to show support for the structure and to demonstrate to the Archdiocese their lasting commitment to the neighborhood.

"We don't know what is going to happen to the building and really we can't imagine anything else in its place," Rodrigues said.

Rodrigues said it is really unfortunate that she had to relocate her children to a school in Brookline, rather than have them stay in the neighborhood.

"This has really polarized the entire community, and I think the Archdiocese has a high level of disrespect for the community - it is just so painful to think about," Rodrigues said.

While the Archdiocese appears to have a separate agenda for the school, Carragee said the organization is prepared to raise their offer to buy the property, saying they would "definitely offer the most competitive price possible."

Rodrigues said the struggle will continue for the school despite the disregard from the Archdiocese.

"We are not going to disappear, we are residents of the community that care for Oak Square, and we want to be consulted or at the very least kept alert of the situation by the Archdiocese, because we just don't know what is going on," she said.

Its cheap chic at annual funky auction

It is that time of year again to do your Spring cleaning and clear out your basement and attic space to find items for the annual Friends of the Faneuil Branch Library funky auction on Tuesday, June 7 at 419 Faneuil St.

Now in its 17th year, the auction, along with a flea market, originally began as a way to raise money to save the library branch from closing its doors; today the funds are used to compensate for children's books, art programs and various supplies which are not covered by the libraries budget.

The flea market will be held outside from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.; the auction will take place inside the children's room at the library from 6:30-9 p.m.

Shelley Bialaka, President of the Friends of the Faneuil Branch, said a wide variety of objects, which literally included a kitchen sink, were donated for last year's event.

"Last year we had various items that people had drug out of the attic, like a kitchen sink, a case of toilet paper and various decorations," Bialaka said.

Bialaka said she begins receiving donations in February or March. They quickly begin to pile up.

Roughly 100 items are auctioned off which Bialaka is hopeful will raise nearly \$7,000. The flea market is expected to garner between \$300-\$500.

Along with the coveted toilet paper, which Bialaka said sold for a surprising \$25 last year, tickets for upcoming sporting events at Boston College and Boston University, which typically sell for \$100-per-pair, are also available.

"We always get numerous gift certificates from area restaurants like the Stockyard and Devlin's that usually sell for \$25-80, along with entertainment tickets to plays and cabarets," Bialaka said.

For those who feel they want to bid on something a bit more health related, a family membership at the YMCA, which sold for a little over a thousand dollars last year, is a popular item that will be offered again.

Costume jewelry and home accessories are also well-received items at both the flea market and the auction.

"One year we had a woman donate more than a 100 hundred candles that we sold for \$1 each — just dozens and dozens of funky candles," Bialaka said.

She added that items not sold at the event are typically held over for the next year or donated to local charities.

Robin Kaminski

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Legals

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Docket No. 05D0697

Summons by Publication
Tatiana Kovalenkno, Plaintiff
Keith Armes, Defendant

To the Above named Defendant(s):

A complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff **Tatiana Kovalenkno**, seeking Divorce Pursuant to Supplemental Probate Court Rule 41 1, an Automatic Restraining Order has been entered against the above named parties, and that the said defendant cannot be found within the Commonwealth and that his/her present whereabouts are unknown; that personal service on said defendant is therefore not practicable, and that said defendant has not voluntarily appeared in this action.

You are required to serve upon John D. Berte attorney for plaintiff whose address is 266 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02116 your answer on or before July 14, 2005. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of the Registrar of this Court at Boston, this 5th day of May 2005.

Richard Ianella
Registrar of Probate

Allston-Brighton Bulletin
May 26, 2005

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court Department

Suffolk Division

Docket No. 05D0748

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

ANASTASIA DOBROBORSKY, Plaintiff(s)
V.
JOSET DOBROBORSKY, Defendant(s)

To the above named Defendant(s):

A complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff (s), ANASTASIA DOBROBORSKY, seeking Divorce.

Pursuant to Supplemental Probate Court Rule 41 1, an Automatic Restraining Order has been entered against the above named parties, and that the said defendant cannot be found within the Commonwealth and that his/her present whereabouts are unknown, that personal service on said defendant is therefore not practicable, and that said defendant has not voluntarily appeared in this action.

You are required to serve upon Gregory Romanovsky, - attorney for plaintiff(s) - whose address is 251 Harvard Street, Suite 1, Brookline, MA 02446 your answer on or before July 14, 2005. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of the Registrar of this Court at Boston.

Witness, John M. Smoot, Esquire, First Justice of said Court at Boston, this 9th day of May, 2005.

Richard Ianella
Registrar of Probate Court

Allston-Brighton Bulletin
May 26, 2005

Rat Problem *continued from page 1*

row in which the rats are living in so that we can put the poison in to get to the source - do a little investigation, follow them and see where they are going," Meaney said.

District City Councilor Jerry McDermott said he has been getting flooded with phone calls regarding rats in the area.

"It's a scary thing to see rats everywhere and it is obviously a big enough issue to have people calling me at home when they are seeing them the size of raccoons," McDermott said.

Carol Antonelli, a resident of Holmes Street, said she is living in fear of seeing rats in her

neighborhood due to a neglected building at 72 Raymond Street. Residents believe the house became a source of rats in the neighborhood after the landlord died and it became vacant.

"I never want to see a rat again - I have seen one rat, then two rats, and I don't want to see a third," Antonelli said.

Antonelli said she was informed by a former resident of the building that there was a colony of rats living in the basement, which they were trying to contain by feeding them so they wouldn't go outside.

"I never even saw a rat here until this happened and I don't even want to sit in my backyard

now because they are everywhere," Antonelli said.

Meaney said while the site would be immediately looked into, residents should also be aware of the essentials for rodent control to prevent a further outbreak.

Sealing openings such as windows, doors and porch spaces, which rats like to burrow into, with wire mesh, along with starving them out by keeping garbage tightly covered, will help to reduce the problem.

Residents were urged to contact Inspectional Services at (617) 961-3340 if they notice a rat in the area so an inspector can come out to eradicate the problem.