ELDERLY HOUSING

BRA officials say politics stalled project;
Port Authority offers to take over

by Dorothy Brickman

Funds for the Maverick Square elderly housing project are being held up in Washington.

Local federal officials say they can't move until the money is released.

Explanations of the situation vary. Officials in the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) suspect that President Nixon is sitting on the funds for political reasons.

In any case, the Maverick Square elderly housing project is no longer done all I can to push it

money from Washington to work with.

As of now, the application for the housing is pending with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Officials at the Boston office say that they cannot approve projects until they have money from Washington to work with.

Also, HUD has been re-organized locally and there are new faces in the Boston office. Fred Salvucci, director of the Boston City Hall program, explained that there were verbal agreements and commitments made between HUD and BRA officials. But now there are new people in HUD and these agreements, though informal, are ignored.

Archdiocese planners propose closing one school here

by Marie Di Flumeri

The Planning Office for Urban Affairs of the Boston Archdiocese has started moves toward partial consolida-

tion of East Boston parochial schools, East Boston parents were told this week.

Fr. Michael Groden of the Planning Office told over 200 parents at Mt. Carmel School Monday night that closing of one school was "possible." He ruled out Mt. Carmel.

According to the Planning Office, partial consolidation means all schools working together sharing staff and ideas on new curricula and not physical merging of schools.

East Boston Collaborative

During the last year, a new group called the East Boston Collaborative was formed by the Planning Office to consider consolidation and other "long range" planning. The group is made up of the major superiors, clergy and faculty of the six East Boston Catho-

lic schools.

Fr. Groden said the major superiors "would commit themselves to work

PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS cont. p. 8)

Jerome Sadow of the Boston office of HUD said he would "not speak for the administration" but indicated that problems of inflation in the country may be the reason money is being held up in Washington.

1.3 billion is being held up by the Bureau of the Budget in Wash-

ington. Very little of this will be for new programs. Most of it is planned for continuing programs," he said.

Some residents favor, others protest

MPA considers buying in Revere, Winthrop

by Dorothy Brickman

The Port Authority board of directors Wednesday considered the question of extending their home-

buying into Revere and Winthrop. The board meeting drew an anxious audi-

ence of over 60 persons.

A decision on the purchase should come in 30 days, the board agreed. Several members of the board questioned the legality of the home-

buying, and a legal opinion will be sought.

The board is considering a re-

recommendation of MPA director Edward J. King to buy homes to "relieve" people in high noise areas. The MPA is presently buying homes on this ba-

sis in East Boston.

At Thursday's meeting, more than half of those in attendance were in favor of the authority buying their homes. Most of those received let-

ters of invitation from the MPA board to attend the meeting.

Although most at the meeting pleaded with the board to buy their homes, several speakers, including State Rep. Ralph Siriani, strongly criticized the MPA for homebuying.

Spring is here!

SPEARING FEVER - Kids shed their coats for the warm weather early this week. More photos page 7.

(Photo by Tom Casaubon)

Impact asks U.S. for $1.5 million grant

by Eileen Kuzeja

East Boston's Impact program has sent to the federal government a request for a $1.5 million grant to start business projects here.

Impact's stated goals for the CDC are to start projects that will provide "services" and create jobs.

The program also hopes the CDC will train people in East Boston in man-

agement, housing, and construction.

On Monday, Impact researcher, Jim Baecker, flew to Washington with the 350-page document that will be the basis for the federal government's decision on whether to give money to the projects.

The government has already pledged $200,000 for the CDC, and an additional $200,000 will be raised by local investors to complete the $1.5 million needed for the total package.

Hockey rink project dropped

The civic center-hockey rink pro-

ject has been discarded as a possibil-

ity on the basis of a report by Har-

bridge House Consultants. The report stated that it would be unfeasible to build the proposed skating rink, which was to be a new, multi-use building with a capacity for seating 350. It suggested instead that the CDC find a

($1.5 MILLION cont. p. 5)
Liquor License decision pending

A decision will be made about granting a liquor license to a Trenton Street function hall within the next thirty days.

City Hall and the Alcohol Beverage Control Commission (ABCC), heard the pleas of 10 residents who oppose the license from the Trenton Street area at a public hearing on March 9.

This was the second hearing on the issue. The license was approved last month by the licensing board of the City of Boston, after a group of 25 residents voiced opposition at a

King denies resisting fire inspections

Edward King, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Port Authority, denied this week the accusations of Fire Chief George Paul that the Port refuses to allow fire inspections of its facilities.

"We offered to pay them to do it," said King. "We are willing to pay them a flat amount for inspection and for service."

King was responding to charges made before the City Council by Chief Paul and Fire Commissioner James H. Kelly.

Kelly had said, "Following a move to make it mandatory for the Authority to pay the city for fire protection, they have refused on inspections, and in many cases will not allow them."

The city cannot force the MPA to allow inspections because it is an autonomous state authority created by the legislature. The MPA has the power to offer its own rules and regulations. Although the Port can deny the city access to inspect, it does have the power to demand that the Fire Department come into the airport or the piers in the event of a fire.

Deputy Chief James Finn said in an interview with the News, "We don't like it. We are very concerned about sending men into structures in case of a fire when we know nothing about the structure of these buildings."

Some of the possible fire hazards at the airport are flammable fluids and chemicals, unsafe housekeeping in the hotels and restaurants and the possibility that fire lanes are not kept open, according to Finn.

Deputy Chief Finn said, "The MPA does have excellent equipment and crew to handle fires caused by planes, but the buildings at the airport still represent a serious fire hazard to the airport and surrounding communities." Councillor Frederick C. Langone said that he is looking into filling an order making it mandatory that the MPA open its facilities for fire inspection.

Less smoke predicted for Logan by 1973

The bulk of all aircraft at Logan will be retrofitted by the end of 1973 according to Port Authority Director Edward King.

Retrofitting, a special anti-smoke device, reduces the pollution given off by aircraft engines by one-third, King said.

Eastern Airlines, said Roger Flynn of the Air Transport Association, in a report in the Boston Globe, Flynn said that retrofitting will apply to all American-registered jetliners in use in this country. These include Boeing 727's and 737's and DC-9's, comprise 70 per cent of all flight operations in the U.S.

Bishop Sheen visits here

On Saturday, March 6, St. Fran­

Thus the city access to inspect, it does

Trinity House offers

The school is licensed for 24 children and is divided into two groups. Their approach is geared to the emotional, physical, social and intel­lectual aspects of the children's de­

The mornings' structure involves an hour of free play, reading and talking time, snacks, motor coordination, and crafts. According to Mrs. Haynes, the structure is flexible. If the teacher senses that the group wants to continue with something, they do so.

The school social worker interviewing both child and parents, ac­

Bishop Sheen, who thrilled the audience with a magnificent talk on love and its importance in our

There is one other teacher and Edith

Bondholder list requested

MPA board member Rev. Albert Sallese of East Boston asked Chair­

Poem, "A Man Called Logic"

A man he is coming. I think maybe this way. Ah, yes he is. He's coming my way. At last someone shall know me as I should be known. Some­

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Eastern Airlines gave a demonstra­tion of its low-smoke jetliner last week before some members of the legislature and other representatives from East Boston and Winthrop.

Eastern's retrofitting of jets is part of a $20 million program being carried out by all U.S. airlines, said Roger Flynn of the Air Transport Association. In a report in the Boston Globe, Flynn said that retrofitting will apply to all American-registered jetliners in use in this country. These include Boeing 727's and 737's and DC-9's, comprise 70 per cent of all flight operations in the U.S.
Drug Action Council opens community center

by Donna Ozog

The Drug Action Council has opened a new multi-purpose community center.

While many of its programs and workshops at the center focus on drug education and rehabilitation, many others are open to the community in general. It is not intended solely for drug users.

The council asks that those users who come to the center be interested in learning about or conscientiously willing to stop using drugs.

The telephone number is 569-5390 or 569-5391.

The council has been granted $27,000 from the Department of Mental Health for the first six months, with refunding depending on the success of the program.

The staff includes the following individuals, all of whom are East Boston residents and ex-addicts: Louis Tontodonato (director), Michael Vitale (community coordinator), Richard DeNeo, Doug Knox, Anthony Schepici, Jack Rampon, Louis Russo, Charlie Zuffanti, and Anita Viscella.

The council, which began by sponsored meetings at Sacred Heart Hall on Paris Street, has now grown to a multi-purpose center involved in all phases of drug education and rehabilitation.

Numerous programs have been initiated by the staff in order to reach every individual in the community, whether it be a young teen, a parent concerned about drugs, or an individual willing to get off drugs.

After turn-off

One of the main functions of the center is to provide a follow-up program to the Turn-Off rehabilitation program. Day care has been started for those individuals who are "on withdrawal" from drugs but desire to drop the habit completely and those referred to the program by the courts.

Very often the court refers a drug offender to attend the program in place of serving time in prison or receiving a suspended sentence. Members of this program do physical work at the center, attend meetings and hold discussions relating to drugs and other topics.

No one is allowed to enter the center without signing the following statement: "I do not have any drugs, chemicals, prescriptions, or apparatus on me of any sort. I am not under the influence of drugs or alcohol at this time." A urine test is administered to any individual believed to be drugged.

Unlike Turn-Off, which provides Methadone for those withdrawing from drug use, the Drug Action Council does not administer any form of medical therapy for its members.

"Encounter group"

A regular feature of the center is the Marathon, a twenty-four hour encounter group for any one in the community. The philosophy behind the encounter group is that by honestly relating to other people, one can gain a better understanding of oneself and others. Since the program continues for twenty-four hours, any inhibitions or defenses a person may have are expected to be broken down, thereby enabling him to communicate more openly with others within his group and with those outside the center.

Other programs include a creative arts program for twelve year olds which meets daily from 3 to 5 p.m., a writers' workshop and a public speaking class taught by Father Paul Scribner from Sacred Heart Church.

"Outreach workers," who are staff members, go outside the center to talk with those who have drug problems.

"Return Patient Offender" is a program designed to aid individuals returning from prison to readjust to society by helping them to obtain jobs, find apartments, etc. The Drug Action Council is closely affiliated with the Deer Island House of Correction.

Community group programs are set up for individuals of all age groups. Films and tapes on drug education are shown regularly, a newsletter is written and distributed weekly.

Louis Tontodonato, the Drug Council's director, says the ultimate goal of the council is to establish a twenty-four hour therapeutic community, where both the staff members and those individuals who need help live together.

Rep. Pitaro pushes for liberalization of marijuana laws

from Rep. Pitaro's office

Rep. Minde B. Pitaro has placed a bill before this year's legislature which would legalize the current marijuana laws. He has not asked for legalization of marijuana.

Rep. Pitaro's bill, H3921, would repeal the section of the general laws which makes it a crime to be present where marijuana is found. The bill would also reduce the status of the crime of possessing marijuana from a felony to a misdemeanor.

The repeal of the penalty on being present where marijuana is found is long overdue. Although many users of marijuana also take other drugs, the use of marijuana has spread far beyond "drug culture."

Hundreds of thousands of Americans who are neither "drop-outs" nor "pushers" use marijuana and still function in our society day to day. Many of these users have non-user friends who could be unjustly punished under the present law, merely for visiting a person whose habit they neither approve of nor take part in.

"No conclusive evidence" on bad effects

Several factors indicate that the stigma of felony status should be removed from the crime of possessing marijuana. The first is the nature of the drug itself. So far, no conclusive evidence has been found to prove that marijuana either induces dangerous criminal behavior or leads to the use of more dangerous drugs.

Moreover, so many marijuana users are young people - high school and college students and young professionals. It seems foolish to consign these people - many of them first offenders - to a state prison for up to three and one-half years.

To make possession of marijuana a misdemeanor would reduce the maximum sentence to two and one-half years and provide for imprisonment of marijuana offenders in a house of correction safely away from the influence of the convicted felons at state prisons.

The liberalization of the law would also, protect the marijuana users from the permanent criminal record and severe career restrictions (ineligibility to become a doctor, lawyer, etc.) that a felony conviction entails. The imposition of such restrictions on potentially productive young people would be excessive punishment for possessing a drug whose serious harmful effects, if any, have yet to be established.

Pitaro and King on TV

On Tuesday morning, March 16, Representative Pitaro appeared on Channel 7's Paul Benzaquin show to argue against the SST. Speaking as a proponent of the SST was Edward King, executive director of the Massachusetts Port Authority.
• ELDERLY HOUSING continued

According to Drought there is $800 million available for use nationally by the HUD office. "The question is how to blast it out of the White House," he said. "Congress can't force the president to spend money if he doesn't want to."

The project, which was approved by the city council last fall, is planned for 9.6 acres of land near the waterfront on Sumner Street. Most of the units will be for elderly persons, but some would be for "low-income" families. There would be 300 units in all. The cost of buying and clearing the land comes to approximately $4 million.

But Speliotis of the BRA says, "I wouldn't be overly optimistic about East Boston." He said, "Washington just doesn't want to fund it. A decision has been made that this type of project is not high priority."

When pressed for a reason, Speliotis admitted that it could be politics.

Speliotis described a similar project planned for St. Botolph Street in Boston that has been pending for over a year. The developers of this project are associated with the Democratic Party.

Would MPA build?

He also indicated that pressure from the MPA should not be ruled out. It's public knowledge that the MPA strongly opposed the site chosen for the project. "I think they're opposed to this for their own selfish reasons," said Speliotis. He said that there is cause to believe that the MPA is interested in buying land in the area.

MPA director Edward J. King affirms that the authority is interested in the same property. King claims, however, that the MPA has the same motives as the BRA. That is, it wants to build elderly housing.

In response to questioning, King said this has been proposed to the BRA, Gov. Sargent, and the MPA board. King says there is no specific plan of the number of units that the MPA would build, or where the financing would come from. He said he would "rather not" use federal funds.

(The board voted at the end of Thursday's meeting to withdraw the bill before the legislature which would give them the power to develop low-income housing. Board member Rev. Albert Sallese made the recommendation.)

The elderly of East Boston have been waiting for adequate housing for years. The last attempt to acquire housing was made 10 years ago. The area wanted at that time was in the vicinity of Boardman Street near Noyes Park. The state had money for the project but it never got started due to strong neighborhood opposition.

3000 waiting

There are 5,000 elderly in East Boston. According to Anna De Fronzo, a member of the board of the Area Planning Action Council (APAC) 3,000 of these people have an urgent need for housing. The project planned for Maverick Square would only begin to fill the need. Yet, it is stalled.

O'Neill should act

by Dorothy Brickman

The elderly of East Boston are waiting for adequate housing. The need appears to be not only urgent but in many cases morally imperative.

There have been a number of deaths over the years, two in the past few months, that could have been avoided had better facilities been available.

In the meantime many elderly in East Boston are living in cold water flats, walk-ups, furnished rooms with poor heat and in some cases, exposed wiring. They live alone afraid to go out in the winter and sometimes afraid to let strangers in. The only other facilities available to them in East Boston are three nursing homes, staffed with medical personnel.

News commentary

But not all of the elderly need the medical care offered in the nursing homes. They need what elderly housing can provide - the low rent, elevators, and safe and sanitary conditions to live in, and the company of people in their age group. They need to stay in East Boston because it is their home.

The congressman from East Boston, Thomas F. O'Neill, is now majority whip of the House of Representatives. Nixon may need him to get some votes from the democratically controlled House of Representatives. O'Neill should be pressured to get elderly housing for East Boston from President Nixon.

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One million eight hundred ninety-five thousand four hundred sixty-six dollars may be in the hands of the East Boston community.

An important meeting will be held soon to choose most of the directors of a new corporation that could spend this money on your community.

On Wednesday, March 31 at 8 p.m. the East Boston Neighborhood Council will hold an open meeting at the Sacred Heart Hall to elect its eight representatives to the 15-member board of the proposed East Boston Community Development Corporation (CDC).

ALL MEMBERS OF THE EAST BOSTON NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ARE ASKED TO SUBMIT WRITTEN NOMINATIONS FOR THE CDC DIRECTORS TO EDWARD O'GART, DIRECTOR, IMPACT PROGRAM, 144 MERIDIAN STREET, EAST BOSTON. ALL PERSONS PRESENT AT THE MEETING MAY VOTE.

(Impact has submitted an application for a $1,895,466 grant plus matching funds to the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity.)

Wednesday, March 31 8 p.m. Sacred Heart Hall 35 Brooks Street
Meeting planned to elect CDC representatives

- $1.5 MILLION cont.

The board heard testimony for almost three hours centering on the barely tolerable living conditions many of the residents are forced to accept as a result of living close to the airport.

Time and again, Chairman John Thompson would ask the homeowner: "Have you tried to sell your house privately?" In most cases the owner replied by describing how difficult it is to sell property near the airport. Thompson would ask the home-owner, "Why haven't you tried to sell your house at all?" Board member Edward Perrier, 52 Crest Ave. in Revere, said, "After 15 years I can't take it anymore. I have grabbed my baby and run to the back of the house because I thought a plane was coming through the window."

"If you have to have the airport and you're going to put your own house on the market in the midst of it, you're not going to get a price from the MPA," stated Thompson.

Residents describe noise conditions

Maxine Ciampi of 251 Endicott Ave. in Revere said, "After 15 years I can't take it anymore. I have grabbed my baby and run to the back of the house because I thought a plane was coming through the window." Mrs. Ciampi added, "They come directly over our house. We've lived on the ocean to enjoy the sea breeze now it's impossible to talk. People will not buy our house under these conditions."

Sirianni to MPA: "You will eventually destroy the whole area"

Sirianni calls it blockbusting

Representative Sirianni from Winthrop spoke against the homebuying.

"I oppose any taking of individual pieces of property as suggested here today. If you start taking individual pieces you will eventually destroy the whole area. I see it happening in East Boston. Everyone will panic. As I've previously suggested, these become blockbusting techniques." The representative continued, "If you purchase property in a particular area eventually all the property will be downgraded."

"We're trying to identify the bad areas," said board member Anthony DeFalco. "Sirianni expressed frustration about not knowing exactly what future airport plans were."

"I'm realistic," he said. "If we have to have the airport, then we have to have it. But then every home owner should have an equal chance to get a price from the MPA."

Sirianni expressed frustration about not knowing exactly what future airport plans were. He stressed to Chairman Thompson, "You've got to inform these people about what they can expect four or five years hence."

Thompson would buy all Pt. Shirley property. After you've purchased the ten homes in question in the Point Shirley area, can you guarantee that you would purchase all in that area?"

"Speaking for myself and not for the board, I think we should be prepared to participate for the entire area," said Thompson.

Board member Edward Maher near the end of the afternoon showed some concern about the MPA's interest in home-buying as help for aggrieved property owners. "If we buy real estate for the reasons indicated, we admit that we have hurt people in the neighborhood. We leave ourselves open to criticism of damage...we open the floodgate to all sorts of litigation."

Residents describe noise conditions

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"I try to sleep - planes light up the bedroom. A plane flew one foot over my roof - the whole house shook," said Mrs. Kenneth Bruno, 109 Bellingham Avenue, Revere.

Robert Perrier, 52 Crest Ave., in Revere said, "I just want to have scrap tiretracks off the roof."

Mrs. Dorothy Sicurella of 891 Shirley St. related how one of her granddaughters covers her ears when she comes to visit until she's inside the house. Her other granddaughter lives upstairs in the same house and has been diagnosed as hyperactive by a doctor. "The child hasn't slept a night in two years," said Mrs. Sicurella.

Among those who came to the meeting to argue against the purchasing of houses by the MPA was Mary Ellen Welch from East Boston.
Legislature studies 10 bills to reform Logan and MPA

by Barbara Rouse

Does the noise from Logan Air­
port keep you up at night, inter­
rupt your classes, your conver­
sation? Does it worry you that an air­
plane might crash on your property or that airport expansion might
"squash" you out of your block?

There is something which can be
done about this - something which you can do.

Under the auspices of MAPAC, Mass­achusetts Air Pollution and Noise
Abatement Committee, the Legislative
Council of East Boston, and repre­
sentatives and senators from the area,
ten bills were filed with the General
Court.

The subject of these bills in­
clude noise abatement, standards to
establish minimum clearance for air­
craft over land, the development of
recreational areas as replacement facili­
ties at little or no cost, a
limited right to eminent domain, that
paid for services
the MPA to adopt a noise abatement pro­
gram for park purposes to replace
Wood Island. The bill (House 2130)
will be heard along with House 2133.

This bill (House 2133) will be heard March before the State
Administration Committee.

A similar bill provides that
Piers 3 and 6 of the East Boston
waterfront and lands adjoining Constitu­
tion Beach be turned over to the
M.D.C. for park purposes to replace
Wood Island. The bill (House 2130)
will be heard along with House 2133.

By Barbara Rouse

Anyone who lives within a ten
mile radius of Logan International
Airport is constantly reminded of
its presence. Twenty-four hours a
day, aircraft land and take off -

disturbing sleep, classes, conversa­
tion, peace of mind.

One of the most important bills
submitted to the General Court this
year is designed to authorize the
MPA to develop a noise abatement pro­
gram for the airport facilities.

The bill (Senate 1193) outlines a program to curb airport noise in
three ways. First, flight patterns
would be designed to lessen the ex­
posure of homes to airport noise.

Secondly, maximum noise levels
will be set for all aircraft in ac­
cordance with the noise standards a­
dopted by the Federal Aviation Admin­
istration. Aircraft noise will not
be allowed to exceed a certain num­
ber of decibels.

Finally, noise standards will be applied to the operation of aircraft on
the ground as well as in the air.

The bill will be heard Thursday, March 25 before the Transportation
Committee.

European SST in trouble

by Marie Di Flumeri

Brian Trubshaw, chief British
test pilot for the Anglo-French Con­
corde supersonic jet airliner, said
two weeks ago that all planes have
been grounded since mid-March because
during a test flight, an engine part
fell off and went into the Atlantic.

The French prototype 001 will
resume test flights in March and is
presently grounded as a result of a
faulty air intake modulator.

The British airline BOAC sees
no economical way they can operate
the Concorde which will probably af­
fect the government's decision on the
$2.6 billion project, cancella­
tion of which would put Britain in
an industrial crisis more serious than
the Rolls-Royce collapse.

According to Air France, their
evaluation of the Concorde is even
worse than BOAC's.

Both airlines figure it will cost
twice as much to operate per
seat mile as the subsonic Boeing 747.

Sec. of Transportation Volpe said
in reference to Britain, France and
Russia, "Are we going to say that
we are not going to let them into our
country because of noise levels?"

Congress has approved approbia­
tions for the SST until March 3.

The FAA has banned the SST over
the United States for the time being.

Sonic boom has been the major
drawback of the SST. Sideline noise
on the runway is a screeching problem.

General Electric is trying to devise
something to lessen it.

The biggest opponent to the SST
is Sen. William Proxmire of Wisconsin.

He says the SST creates tremendous
economic pressure. "I do know the
SST will pollute by sonic boom. We
want no compromise, only to kill it.

Construction groups are lending their
help to fight it," he said.

According to aviation officials,
the SST is quieter on take off and
landing, but is much noisier at the
airport before take off.

Because the SST burns ozone, it
may be a cause of radiation. It
emits large amounts of water vapor.
Further studies will show if this is
harmful or not to the atmosphere, but
officials feel it will affect the air
temperature.

Studies have been conducted to
evaluate the effect of noise pollu­
tion on people physically and psy­
chologically. Prolonged exposure to
noise increases tension, irritability,
hospitality to other people, even crime.

It reduces patience, attention spans.

Would fine MPA violations

Noise has become such an integral part of urban life that many people
believe nothing can be done to reduce it. But with the adoption and en­
forcement of these standards, the noise level in East Boston and other
communities would be significantly reduced.

Plans will be imposed for the
violation of these standards and fail­
ure by the Authority to enforce these
regulations will make the MPA vul­
nerable to suit by any citizen or
municipality.

Public opinion will be invited
in preparing and adopting the program so that interested groups of citi­
zens will have an opportunity to
voice their ideas about achieving a
quieter Boston.

Hearing to be held Mar. 25 on noise abatement bill

by Barbara Rouse

Many of the other bills will be
discussed in public hearings March 22
before the Transportation and State
Administration Committees.
Rep. Serra takes mini-polls on issues

by Joel Eisenberg

Emanuel Serra, East Boston's newly elected state representative, says he has spent his first months in office attempting to give his community "a voice in their government."

He receives approximately 15 calls a day, 50 per cent of which are from East Boston residents seeking his help in solving their problems. In turn, he says he has tried to contact directly the people involved with problems in the community.

One means of determining community sentiment he has used is sending letters to residents directly affected by a specific problem. It is a method he feels can help him make a decision along with those he represents.

In this manner, opinions were sought on the Trenton Street liquor license question and whether a traffic light should be installed on Saratoga Street near the First National store.

Of the 200 letters Serra sent to Saratoga Street residents, he received close to 100 responses, all in favor of the light. He presented this evidence of community sentiment to Boston's Traffic Commissioner March 9.

In other community action, Serra worked with the Neighborhood Council, "making sure" that First Realty's construction permit was pulled. He worked with Rep. Pietro and Sen. Umanna in restoring the MBTA cutback of the Lexington Street busline.

Bills filed on churches, assessors, jail.

At the State House, he has filed legislation which would prevent any authority taking a church or school by purchase or eminent domain. Under Serra's proposed legislation, the consent to those directly involved with the church or school would be necessary prior to purchase or eminent domain action.

He has also filed a bill which seeks to have assessors trained throughout the commonwealth, utilizing a state training program to insure uniform standards. At the present time, assessors are appointed by mayors, with no training necessary.

A third bill Serra has filed would require that all correctional officers be trained by the state. Objectives of Serra's bill are: Insuring that all county and state correctional officers have training prior to working with prisoners. Secondly, taking the judgment as to who is qualified to be a correctional officer out of the hands of politicians.

Serra spoke recently before the Transportation Committee in support of a bill which would prohibit the landing of the SST in Boston.

Serra intends to bring his 52 fellow freshman legislators to East Boston, to show them the problems of the community.

"Politics in East Boston is a unique experience," he said. "My duties have been not only trying to solve problems, but trying to have people become aware of the fact that they do have a voice in government."

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Seaviewers

Remembrances of childhood in Orient Heights

by Carol Bianco O'Connell

There was a convent on a high hill in my home town when I was a child, and the music of its bells calling the good nuns to early Mass on a soft summer morning, will always be a part of the remembered enchantment of childhood.

To reach the convent you climbed a flight of 88 stairs that left you on a street on the midway tier of the hill. From there on you climbed the steep grassy hillside as well as you could with the help of an occasional step cut into a rock.

If it happened to be Springtime (and I seem to remember many spring excursions) your grassy way was bordered extravagantly with violets and other lovely wild flowers.

It was a fairy tale adventure and to the eyes of children the peaceful rustic beauty of the convent grounds glimpsed between the slats of the high enclosing wooden fence, was the beauty of another world. There were flowers and vegetable gardens where nuns were always quietly at work collecting vegetables under shade trees where others sat pouring meditatively over their prayer books.

I can even remember a dignified cat walking soberly as would become a convent cat-along the garden paths and who would be stopped to look in our direction as we children whispered to each other excitedly on the other side of the fence.

It was something out of a page of Elizabeth Goudge's "Green Dolphin Street." There was even the occasional mew of a sea gull as it winged its sure way homeward to the sea that stretched like an endless bolt of blue satin far below.

The convent is still there, I know, but I shall never go back to see it. It would be too much of a disappointment, I'm afraid, for it must have changed greatly as so many other dear secure things have changed. I want to remember it with delight.

From Joe's side

"OKAY, IT'S YOUR MOVE!"

Spring is a time...

... to play in mud

... or laugh with friends

Poem, "The Sea"

Its waves are like hands invading the shore
Each ripple of water pounding the door
Of a beach that is useless, unless it can
Welcome the tide of water on its land

The color is sky that melted one day
And the blue fell down in the water to stay
The life beneath its glistening caps
The routes man travel from their maps
We owe to this amazing watery grave
That gets deeper and deeper from the rain drops it saves
From the beginning of time its unchanging force
Has cut through the land an identical course
Take all the wonder's on earth and explain their beginning
You're left with one of which there is one meaning
Beauty, beauty is its precious gift
This wonder that God created the day of the fifth.

by Frank Contrada
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of Sumner Tunnel
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Eddie Dee
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MONDAY &
TUESDAY
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SERVICES

Parents will still decide
on school closings
• PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS cont.
together to help staff schools," and
the Planning Office was "committed
to find money to see a bright future for
the schools of East Boston."

Parents to Make Final Decision
Groden said Archbishop Medeiros
has emphasized that the final decision
on school consolidation will be left
up to the parents.

The Mt. Carmel meeting of the
Parent Teachers Guild, was the first
of a series between Fr. Groden and
East Boston parents.

Fr. Groden promised that the
students at Mt. Carmel would not be
taken out to attend other schools,
but that there would be others attend-
ing Mt. Carmel.

"This school is not closing and
has a future," he said. "It has a
lot of potential, and committed and
dedicated parents."

During a question and answer
period, parents seemed concerned
about taking "our sisters" out of the
school to teach elsewhere. Fr. Groden
explained that the proportion of re-
ligious and lay teachers would remain
the same.

When asked the fate of the plan
if Mt. Carmel were to refuse to be
part of it, he answered, "If a table
has six legs and one leg was taken
off, it would be weak, but it would
not fall."

Some of the parents and faculty
were questioned after the meeting.
It was quite evident that the parents
were either still confused on the
whole matter or just didn't like it
at all, while the faculty seemed com-
pletely sold that this proposal was
in the best interests of furthering
education for parochial schools.

Other Schools Plan Meetings
Meetings will be held in other
local schools on the following dates:
St. Lazarus - Monday, March 22,
7:00 p.m.
Assumption & Fitton - Tuesday,
March 23, 7:30 p.m.
Sacred Heart - Wednesday, March
24, 7:45 p.m.
St. Mary's - Monday, March 29,
8:00 p.m.

Parents will still decide
on school closings

• PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS cont.
All about wrestling

World champ Pedro Morales to wrestle

by Romaina Morganella

Friday night, March 26 at 8:30 p.m. Abe Ford is presenting a sensational wrestling program. Making his first Boston Garden debut since becoming the New World Champion is Pedro Morales. This new champion has appeal and warmth that reaches out to the fans. A very popular champion, he will be wrestling the one man riot squad, Bulldog Brower. Brower has been after the champ on many occasions and has caused trouble far too often for Morales. Now the champ is anxious to meet Brower inside the ring. This is one bout that will have the fans sitting on the edge of their seats.

Also on the program, Black Jack Mulligan, the 6 ft. 7 in. cowboy from Eagle Ford, Texas is also managed by the Grand Wizard. Mulligan uses the dreaded "Iron Claw Hold" to destroy his opponents. The Grand Wizard claims a stable of two spectacular wrestlers, Mulligan and Beautiful Bobby. Wonder who'll be next?

Don't forget now the New World Heavyweight Champion Pedro Morales will be in Boston March 26. He is a great champion so let's all give him our support.

Little League tryouts

by Carmen Faretra

Little League tryouts for Jeffries Point area will be held for two weeks only. Starting dates are Saturday, April 3, and Sunday, April 4, 1971 and continuing on the following Saturday, April 10 and Sunday, April 11, 1971.

All boys between the ages of 9 years to 12 years old must report on these dates at East Boston Stadium Little League Field at 9:00 a.m.

All boys must be living in this area, of Central Square Park along Porter Street, right hand side of the street looking toward Jeffries Point from Central Square for the Housing Project at Maverick Square to Jeffries Point.

All managers and coaches will be on hand at the field to supervise all activities. We again remind parents and the adult public that we need your help. Please come along with the boys and take part in this program. All are welcome!

Easter...time to give

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East Boston

Community News, March 19, 1971 Page 9
Fred Stone, art teacher 15 hours a day

by Dom Amara

Fred Stone, a Charlestown native, counts seven years as an East Bostonian. With thirteen children — eight boys, five girls — he lives in an eleven room apartment at 1 Maverick Street.

Fred is quick to add, "But I don't just have thirteen. I have thousands from all over the place, from Revere, Chelsea, and all parts of Boston."

"The idea is to get kids off the street corners," he remarked. "Sisters Marie David and Margaret Pierce got their heads together to start the modeling program. The Area Planning Action Council (APAC) supported the idea and the Boston Housing Authority made space available. As for me, I intended to teach these kids arts and crafts and anything else I know how to do."

Fred is more than generous with his talents and time. A retired commercial artist of 31 years, he admits to spending in excess of 15 hours a day, 7 days a week with people, young or old and of every background.

"We're going great guns now," he said with a certain pride, "and everyone gets along fine. There's no dope allowed here. There's no liquor. There's no prejudice here, black, white, yellow...." He documented this. "Once we had thirteen Chinese boys with us and none of them could speak English. But, everyone got along."

Teacher and Counselor

Arts and crafts is not the only activity at 1 Maverick Street. Bill Sotherland, 18 years old and recently arrived from California, suggests that Fred has taken on the role of counselor as well as teacher. "Fred's helped me in lots of ways," he said. "I was a bit mixed up for a while and he gave me good advice. I took it. Mr. Stone even helped me get a job." Bill, who admits that he doesn't particularly care for East Boston, added, "some of the people I like. The only people I come to see here are the Stone family and relatives."

A girl from East Boston High School explained that Fred "right off the bat will know if something is wrong with us. We can talk to him about family problems. If he can help he will, if not he'll be quiet."

Fred's formal education began at the age of thirteen, never going beyond the eighth grade. Yet he's been able to accomplish a great deal with young people, more than many with almost twice his education. The key? They respect him. With the insight often given to the young, they look beyond his stocky feet and T-shirt into a man who understands the way they are today. His success with young people has won him the respect of school authorities as well. He tells of an instance where a teenager became such a problem that the boy was referred to him instead of to the school. "I've never had one that came here and run out," he said. Fred expressed a healthy respect for education. "Anybody over 14 years of age can stay here as long as they want. But I want to know that their school work is done. That's important. I don't want this to interfere. It's no school."

The following letter written by a fifteen year old boy expresses the spirit of this man. "Dear Mr. Stone, It has been a great pleasure and everlasting experience working with you. It has been one of the most rewarding things I have ever done. I pray God will bless you and give you the grace to continue your work, for your act is the most loving deed you can offer up to God. I'm sure God has a very pleasant and rewarding gift to repay you."

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Lge. 28 Oz. Bottle

5/$1.00
Brandwyne recreation center opens

by Sally Vetstein

Last Sunday, March 11, the East Boston APAC held a demonstration on the uses of surplus food at the Neighborhood Center in the Orient Heights project.

Mrs. Lillian Boone, ARCD nutritionist, and Mrs. Helen Scarpa, surplus food supervisor for the East Boston APAC, conducted the demonstration. Its purpose was to show ways in which surplus food may be used to make well-balanced meals.

Several East Boston residents have complained that they are unfamiliar with surplus food and are unsure of how to prepare it, according to Mrs. Scarpa.

The sample menu included the following items made with surplus food: orange juice, milk, barbecue pork, turkey-noodle casserole, meat sauce (with non-surplus spaghetti), candied sweet potatoes, baked rice custard, and stewed prunes.

Nutritionists show how to use surplus food

by Eileen Kuzoja

Last Thursday, March 11, the recreation center, formerly a laundry and storage facility, is now a full contingent of sixteen to eighteen items, Mrs. Scarpa said. In the past few months, there have been difficulties in getting the food to the stores, and food orders were not always honored, according to Bob Canavan.

Community pressure on the economic and executive department of ARCD, which funds APAC, thirteen months ago to supplement welfare service in the area of surplus foods. Because of this change, five thousand additional households, not being assisted by welfare, were able to get surplus food.

Supersonic jokes

by Joe Dioguardi

With all the fuss and commotion about the noise that will be produced by the SST, the aircraft people are thinking about changing the SST to SSH. And then there was the boy who told his friend that noise pollution was just a figment of his decibels.

Students plan courses

from Headmaster Thomas O'Keeffe

East Boston High School students will be given the opportunity this spring to plan their courses for next year.

This was one of the actions taken by the Boston School Committee in its March 2 meeting.

East Boston students, like others in the city, will choose their courses in the week prior to the April vacation, and bring their choices home for approval by parents.

The committee also ordered that students "be accorded every reasonable opportunity to present their problems to the headmaster and principals in their respective schools.

Headmaster O'Keeffe commented on the vote of the board, "At East Boston High School the Student Council through its representative is encouraged to communicate with the Headmaster on problems of general interest and the door is always open to the individual student for a discussion of his personal problems.

In other School Committee business, the school department business manager has been asked to install more public phones at the high school. Also, headmasters were ordered to "use the facilities of the attendance department" to deal with truants.

Arts and crafts for youngsters

If you are 7 to 9 years old, live in Brandwyne Village, and like "make things" then you can join an Arts and Crafts Club at Brandwyne Village Recreation Center.

Classes will begin sometime in April. They will be held one evening a week from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. for 10 weeks at a time.

Cost for the classes will be 50 cents each week ($5.00 for the 10 weeks) to cover expenses for materials and supplies.

To register call 569-3565 evenings.

Community News, March 19, 1971
Nuovo progetto per la comunità di East Boston

L'Impact di East Boston ha inoltrato al governo federale una richiesta di un milione e mezzo per iniziare attività industriali nella comunità. I due progetti maggiori che sono stati proposti da Impact sono di nuove costruzioni sul lungomare e la riabilitazione delle case in condizioni deplorevoli.

L'Impact, un'agenzia sovvenzionata da fondi federali, ha proposto inoltre che i fondi governativi vengano controllati da una cooperativa formata da residenti e da gruppi di persone della comunità stessa. Agli inizi, il gruppo principale coinvolto in tale operazione sarà il East Boston Neighborhood Council.

Se il governo concede tale richiesta di denaro, una società chiamata "Community Development Corporation" (CDC) acquisterà dei complessi di appartamenti gestiti da una società controllata da una cooperativa, e sarà avviato un piano organico che può dare un nuovo sviluppo e vitalità alla zona. Una buona parte delle case sono vecchie e per il progetto proposto per la casa dei vecchi sarà necessario stabilire quale sia il locale per il supermercato. Questo è un piano organico, ma la maggior parte delle case sono di proprietà privata e non sono in grado di dire quando e come la loro zona sarà sostenuta da possibili doni. Il centro sociale deve essere il locale per il supermercato, ma non c'è niente che possa essere fatto prima di aprile. Il progetto è programmatore in primavera e per il prossimo anno è previsto di avviare una nuova attività per sistematizzare la zona e introdurne nuove attività. Il progetto è stato avviato con l'aiuto di molti residenti e desidera essere attrezzatura agli studenti delle scuole elementari e secondarie.

Una cooperativa di generi alimentari ad Heights

Una cooperativa di generi alimentari sta per fornire un servizio di generi alimentari ad Heights Housing Project di East Boston. Secondo la descrizione del progetto, la cooperativa di generi alimentari sarà gestita dai residenti della comunità e sarà attrezzata con materiali provenienti da un progetto di riciclo di generi alimentari. La cooperativa ha inoltre un piano organico che può dare un nuovo sviluppo e vitalità alla zona. I residenti che desiderano far parte di questo progetto possono partecipare alla riunione dell'IMPACT nel prossimo mese.

La città pianterà degli alberi

La East Boston Recreation Advisory Council ha deciso di piantare degli alberi nel parco di Briody Park. I lavori di piantaggio saranno effettuati nei prossimi giorni, e le persone interessate possono partecipare alla riunione del comitato.