



# TELSTAR

ROXBURY TENANTS OF HARVARD PUBLICATION

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## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Karen T. Gately



Dear RTH Residents,

**Get involved in your community and feel the difference in your life!** You'll discover energy you never thought you had. You'll discover new friendships, new interests, and new skills. You'll discover ways in which residents and staff embody the RTH mission and core values. You'll discover your neighbor. Whether you're looking for a place to get fit or relieve stress, get help with a housing issue, a cool dip in the pool, a caring afterschool or summer enrichment experience, a fun area to play with your family, a place to hang out with friends and learn a new skill or hobby, support to find a job, or a volunteer experience to give something back to the community, you'll find it here at RTH.

Please consider joining your neighbors at one of our many upcoming programs and/or events. Also, let us know if you have any suggestions for new program offerings. The RTH staff and volunteers are committed to offering the best possible programs and events. I encourage you to take the time to meet and share your ideas with our new staff. See brief bios of our new staff on *page 2*. They are excited to be here and are looking forward to working with you.

In case you haven't heard, we are on schedule to open the new RTH Community Center this summer. The building will allow us to expand Health and Wellness programs and activities for all ages and abilities as well as provide space for us to better meet the needs of youth and families. We are particularly pleased and excited about the new gymnasium, active indoor recreation and exercise facilities, youth center, and community gathering spaces. We can see the potential for programs to be enhanced and improved by this excellent setting. We will be sharing more details on this exciting addition as we get closer to completion of the building.

Lastly, I encourage you to be on the lookout and spend some time reviewing our "What's Up" summer list of programs and events. It will include many exciting options for you and the whole family. Remember to check out our swimming program. While swimming is an ideal activity for families, providing fun and quality time spent together, it is also an important tool in the ongoing fight against rising levels of obesity. Improving levels of wellness for children and families has become increasingly important in our community. Learning how to swim is not only fun, it can be a lifesaving skill and prepare kids for a lifetime commitment to physical fitness. Swimming is an ideal form of exercise because it tones the entire body while providing an excellent cardiovascular workout.

Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help you enjoy your "RTH experience" even more. Feel free to contact me anytime with your questions, concerns or suggestions. I look forward to working with you. **Together, we can make this an even better community!**

Sincerely,

Karen T. Gately

RTH Executive Director

617-232-4306

kgately@roxburytenants.org

...*"A community has the power to motivate its members to exceptional performance. It can set standards of expectation for the individual and provide the climate in which great things happen..."* John Gardner

*Candidates Night*  
Saturday, May 31, 2014  
4 p.m.  
see page 3

*Potluck Supper*  
Saturday, June 7, 2014  
6 p.m.  
see page 8

*RTH Annual Meeting*  
Sunday, June 8, 2014  
check-in 1 p.m.  
meeting starts 2 p.m.  
see page 3

*Pool Opens*  
Saturday, June 28  
see page 5

*RTH Block Festival*  
Saturday, August 23, 2014  
see backcover

**ROXBURY  
TENANTS OF  
HARVARD  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE**  
11 New Whitney Street  
Boston, MA 02115

## WELCOME TO NEW STAFF



*Igor Gustol*

I am excited to join Roxbury Tenants of Harvard as the new Assistant Controller.

Prior to coming here, I was an accounting supervisor at New England Institute of Art for seven years. I was born in Ukraine and immigrated with my family over twenty years ago. While in the United

States I took classes to earn my MBA. In my spare time I enjoy photography and traveling. I have traveled throughout Europe including Spain, England and France. I am always looking forward to my next adventure.



*Jen Lewis*

Jen Lewis, Afterschool and Youth Programs Coordinator, is a resident of RTH (Francis St.) of 15 years and a mom of 2 kids born and being raised in the community. She joins the RTH staff with 20 years of experience working with children and youth in the city of Boston, most recently in Egleston Square. Jen helped to

found the Mission Hill Artists Collective and is a self-taught photographer. She loves walking, writing haiku, and all kinds of music.

Jen sees the potential of our children and youth in developing their passions into careers and their dreams into action and will work hard to support them in their journeys. In her role at RTH, she will be supporting the Afterschool Program as well as the Teen Center, and ensuring that there is a clear path for children as they grow older and move through the different aspects of our youth programs. She welcomes any suggestions or feedback you may have about what kinds of programming for young people you would like to have here at RTH.



*May Vaughn*

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is May Vaughn. I am the new RTH Director of Youth and Family Programs. I was born and raised in Roxbury and currently live in Brookline. I am a graduate of UMASS Boston with a concentration in Child Psychology. I have over twenty years working in the

Youth and Community Development field. I'm excited to be working in such a vibrant diverse community. During the few weeks that I have been here, I have met so many residents that have made me feel welcome.

As the new RTH Director of Youth and Family Programs I plan on improving on the programs that exist, adding programs that prepare our youth for the future, developing a menu of summer programs for all youth to have an opportunity, increasing swimming lessons for all residents - making our community drown proof, and increasing family programming that promotes healthy habits in a family.

The Youth Department will be out and about in the community to get the word out on some new and upcoming opportunities. I look forward to meeting more of you in the upcoming months.

## RESIDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT



*Jennifer "Jenni" Diaz*

Jenni has been a resident of RTH at Mission Park for ten years. She is a single mother with two children: Matthew, age 8, and her daughter Janiya, age 12, who attend a charter school in Cambridge MA.

Jenni was born and raised in Boston, and attended Boston Public and Catholic schools. She is of Puerto Rican descent and speaks fluent Spanish.

She grew up in the Mission Hill area now known as Mission Main. She worked as a youth worker for Mission Safe for ten years and served on the Mission Hill Youth Collaborative Committee. Jenni has also worked with kids in the court systems as a Youth Advocate.

Jenni is presently working as a facilitator with the RTH Family Nurturing Program working with our teen population. "I find that the kids want to come back each week and it makes me feel that I am doing something positive when working with them. We do a lot of talking and sharing, skits, and role-playing revolving around nurturing, self-

*continued on page 4*

### YOUTH BUILDING COMMUNITY (YBC) YOUTH 12 - 14

7-week program focusing on community service, work readiness and team building

**JULY 7 - AUGUST 22**

\$25 weekly stipend

Applications are available in the Teen Center.

## RTH SENIOR ARTS AND CRAFTS CLASS



The Arts and Crafts class meets every Wednesday from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. on the 7th floor of the Flynn Bldg. Everyone is welcome to join us!

### UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

- ▶ Jewelry Making
- ▶ Flower Arranging
- ▶ Air Dry Clay

### CANDIDATES NIGHT 4 p.m.

**Saturday, May 31, 2014**  
Parks Community Building  
2 New Whitney Street

Come find out who is running for the RTH Board. This is a great opportunity for residents to ask questions to help you decide who you feel will best represent you on the RTH Board. Eligible RTH residents interested in running for a seat on the RTH Board of Directors will introduce themselves, present their qualifications and their positions on RTH community issues.

## RTH ANNUAL MEETING

**Sunday, June 8, 2014**

CHECK-IN 1 P.M.

MEETING STARTS 2 P.M.

The RTH Board is made up of eleven directors who are elected by RTH residents at our annual meeting. There will be five seats open at this year's election scheduled for June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

The Board of Directors oversees RTH financial resources, ensures there is sufficient funding for sustainability and desired growth, and ensures accountability to the RTH community. It engages in strategic planning and oversees implementation, ensures effective program development and evaluation, hires, supports and evaluates the executive director, ensures the legal and ethical integrity of the RTH organization, and works to enhance RTH's public image. It is hard work. Each year, the RTH organization's business becomes more complex; it takes much study and preparation to conscientiously and responsibly address.

In addition to a monthly Board meeting - there may be more frequent meetings if necessary - Board members chair or serve on various committees such as the Audit, Budget & Finance, Governance, Strategic Planning, Accessibility, Social Events, and other ad hoc committees.

Although it can be time consuming, it is also immensely gratifying to make a commitment and be of service to your community; it is worth every bit of the hard work and time invested. If family, work, school, or other commitments don't allow you time to serve on the Board of Directors, please do come to community meetings and to the annual meeting to help elect Directors who you believe will work in the best interests of the whole RTH community.

### Eligibility

To vote at the annual election (or on any RTH matters put before the community at a special meeting) you must be an RTH Member. You must be 18 years of age or older and a legal resident of RTH property. *A legal resident is one whose name appears on the lease and who is domiciled at that address.*

To be eligible to serve as a director (Board of Directors) a person must be (1) a legal resident of an RTH property; and (2) have been an active voting member for at least six months; and (3) may not be an employee of the corporation.

### To vote

An eligible member may become a voting member by signing his/her name on the membership list. This can be done at the check-in table on the day of the Annual Meeting.

## RTH SUMMER ENRICHMENT AND SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT



*Learning about shellfish from Aquarium staff*

With so many demands on today's families, parents need all the support they can get. That's why the RTH After School Program and Summer Enrichment Program are about more than looking after kids. They're about nurturing the children's development by providing a safe place to learn skills and develop relationships that lead to positive behavior, better health, and educational achievement. In the Summer Enrichment Program we also focus on role-modeling and teaching kids the RTH values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. We welcome families to all of our RTH programs and encourage you to visit. The After School and Summer Enrichment Programs serve children ages 5 - 12.

**RESIDENT IN THE SPOTLIGHT** ..... *continued from page 2*  
nurturing, and nurturing from families and outside environments”.

She writes poetry, designs jewelry, and is an excellent cook. “I’m always looking for healthy and affordable recipes”.

Jenni loves to read and really appreciates a *good* book. “I refuse to buy books for my iPad or telephone because I like the feel of a good book in my hands. True stories, mysteries, urban literature, and children’s books are some of my favorites”, Jenni says. She is very interested in current events has worked on and for several political campaigns for our local politicians.

“I like living in Mission Park at RTH because it is a safe place to raise my children; its very convenient, has good transportation access, is close to hospitals and the connecting neighborhoods like Jamaica Plain, Mission Main, Alice Taylor, etc., and the culturally enriched environment (schools, universities, museums).” Jenni participates and supports the MS Walk and the Brain Injury Walk each year. She has volunteered in the Library/Computer Center and taken several computer classes there. Jenni is one of the new members of the Community Events Committee.

[www.roxburytenants.org](http://www.roxburytenants.org)

## RTH SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

RTH offers seven weeks (July 7th- August 22nd) of full-day summer enrichment programming for school aged children, 5 - 12 years of age, during July and August. The program runs from 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Key program elements include literacy from Read Boston and summer learning, partnership with the Museum of Fine Arts Artful Adventure Program, field trips to the New England Aquarium, Davis Farmland, Spectacle Island, Franklin Park Zoo, sports, teambuilding games, aquatics with swim lessons, and an end of year summer trip to Canobie Lake Amusement Park. We have recently collaborated with the Elliot School to provide children Fiber Arts and Wood Working activities in the summer programming. The program builds positive relationships, enhances social interactions and strengthens self-esteem and confidence, as well as builds leadership skills. Children have fun and grow as life-long learners in a positive, caring and safe environment.



*Enjoying visit from Aquarium*

## RTH SUMMER ENRICHMENT STAFF

Our Summer Enrichment Program staff are trained and experienced working with children. They are trained and certified in First Aid and CPR, as well as emergency procedures. In addition, their qualifications meet or exceed state standards set and enforced by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. Staff members are chosen for their experience, education, energy, enthusiasm, and sensitivity to the needs of children.

Are you interested in working as a Group Leader in the Summer Enrichment Program? Call Stephanie Ellis at 617-232-9222.

## ISEE CLASS

The Independent School Entrance Examination (ISEE) is an entrance exam used by many independent schools and for the City of Boston's Exam Schools and has two levels for entrance in grades 7 and 9. All levels consist of five sections: Verbal Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, Reading Comprehension, Mathematics Achievement, and a 30-minute essay. Entry is based on a combination of ISEE test score (50%) and GPA (50%). In the past two years, the RTH ISEE Test Prep Class has prepared 33 students and 19 have been accepted to Boston's exam schools! This is a great testament to the hard work and dedication of our students and to the effectiveness of our ISEE test preparation class.



*Tyler Mingalone (Class Instructor), Dora Hui, (Class Instructor), Eric Lin, Calvin Mei, Samantha Mei, Ellen Gebreselassie, Vicky Kwan, Helen Hui (Education Specialist); (Missing from photo: Pei Ling Li and Kenny Weng)*

Congratulations to the following students for a job well done:

Ellen Gebreselassie	Boston Latin School
Vicky Kwan	Boston Latin School
Pei Ling Li	John D. O'Bryant School
Eric Lin	Boston Latin Academy
Samantha Mei	Boston Latin Academy
Calvin Mei	Boston Latin School
Kenny Weng	Boston Latin Academy

## 2014 POOL ANNOUNCEMENT

We are beginning to prepare for our 2014 pool season, scheduled to open on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Frank Blue will be returning as our Pool Manager this year. He is well known in the aquatics community for his expertise in water safety and swim instruction services. Besides providing expert swim instruction, Frank has some exciting surprises lined up for the RTH community this summer (think 'swim-in' theater).

Starting June 2nd, residents can come to the 2nd floor office at the Community Building to purchase their pool ID's for \$1. If you still have your ID from last year, then you're all set. Also, please feel welcome to stop by and sign up for swim lessons while you're there. We offer classes to residents of all ages; no one is too old or too young to learn how to swim!

**Lastly**, a few reminders: only residents with a pool ID or approved guest form will be allowed to enter the pool area. Residents under the age of 12 years old will NOT be permitted in the pool area without direct supervision from a parent/guardian who is 18 years or older. We require this to ensure your children's safety.

## DID YOU KNOW.....

- ▶ **The Boston Public Library** recently launched a Netflix-like service which allows you to view streaming movies and tv shows from the comforts of your home. All you need is a library card.
- ▶ **You can help end hunger** by playing a game. Build your vocabulary while donating through the UN World Food Program. For each answer you get right, 10 grains of rice is donated to help end hunger around the world. Go to [www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com)
- ▶ **It is a violation of your lease** if you, a member of your household, or a guest are found to be using recreational drugs, including marijuana in your apartment or anywhere on the property. Although some states, including Massachusetts, have changed the laws regarding the use of medical marijuana and decriminalized small amounts of marijuana, these laws do not apply to residents of federally subsidized housing.
- ▶ **The heating season runs** from September 15 thru June 15. The decision to turn on the air conditioning is primarily based on the long term forecast starting early June.
- ▶ **Financing has been approved** and work to the RTH Community Apartments (FFH) units will begin in the next 6 weeks.
- ▶ **Mission Park Outdoor Site Plan** work will begin in the New Whitney Street Loop area in late May
- ▶ **RTH will host a series** of workshops to help residents learn to create household budgets, repair credit, establish bank accounts and save money.

## TEEN CENTER

Cyrus Alexander  
Youth Coordinator

We've had great success in programs and activities such as Job Readiness, Music Production, and off-Site field trips.

### FIELD TRIPS

During February vacation, we brought our youth to Harvard Medical School for a special screening of the film "Gifted Hands", starring Cuban Gooding Jr. Following the screening, we had a Q&A style discussion with some of the university's medical students. Our youth learned a lot, and we hope to visit again.

Another trip during our February Vacation was our trip to the campus of Northeastern University. There we enjoyed a great men's basketball game between Northeastern's Huskies and Towson University. Our youth also got a chance to meet with Northeastern's mascot. We had a ball. No pun intended.

Another basketball field trip that we attended, was the Boston Celtics game against the New York Knicks. This was the ultimate trip, as each kid who attended, earned their spot via good attendance and participation during our educational workshops and field trips.

### WORKSHOPS

Our educational workshop was a Music Production Workshop, facilitated at The Record Company, a high-end recording studio on Massachusetts Ave. The four week workshop curriculum, designed in-house, taught our youth the basics of music production and using computer software. They learned how to build drum racks, synth patches and sample palettes, as well as sequence their own beats. At first, most of our youth had to adjust to the learning curve; however, they got the hang of it after a couple of workshops. We plan to revisit this workshop again during the summer, as we will offer it as one of the electives for our yearly Youth Building Communities Summer Program which starts the second week of July of this year.

To help supplement our job placement reservoir, we've held Work Readiness workshops, in conjunction with Brigham and Women's Hospital. Workforce development coordinators, Etai Belinki and Wendy Lam facilitated a workshop, which prepped our youth on all the parameters of workforce literacy. They learned about resume building, interview preparation and decorum etiquette, all valuable assets for a youth searching for summer and long term employment.

For the spring, we will have more workshops and expos, including our weekly Girl Talk workshop, geared toward our female youth, ages 12-18. In collaboration with Fenway our Youth Development Counselor, Yazmine Navarro, will facilitate an empowering and positive discussion circle. Topics such as healthy rela-



*Music Production Workshop*

tionships, hygiene and social awareness will be covered. The RTH Teen Center will have plenty of creative activities in the months to come.

### GRADUATES OF EXCEL BASICS CLASS



*Helen Hui, Xing Yi Zhou, Beverly Moss (Instructor), Carmen Torres, and Renee Sherrod completed an intensive 6-week Excel class at the Betty Powers Library/Computer Center.*

*Congratulations for a job well done!*

### HEALTH NOTES

"Many people believe heart attacks and strokes only affect the elderly", according to BWH expert, Aileen Sauris, MS, ANP. "But research shows more than one-third of American adults have common conditions putting them at increased risk for heart disease. Find out how you can greatly reduce your risk by knowing your numbers, eating healthy, and staying active," says Aileen Sauris, a nurse practitioner at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

### HEART HEALTHY LIVING

A cardiovascular risk reduction program for women - on going. Current series is in English. Upcoming series will be in Spanish and Russian.

## HARRIET TUBMAN

*Roxanne Haecker, Director of Program Development*



*Jade Guerra as Harriet Tubman*

RTH children, their parents, and teachers enjoyed a visit from Harriet Tubman, Conductor of the Underground Railroad, as part of RTH's celebration of Black History Month. The children discovered how Harriet learned about nature and surviving in the woods from her wise father and how she used that knowledge to escape from slavery through the dense forests to freedom in the North. She bravely returned over 19 times to rescue her family and over 300 others from slavery. Her commitment to "doing what I believe is the right thing to do" makes her an inspiring role model for all of us.

Jade Guerra, the actress who portrays Harriet Tubman, says that "...this is not just Black History, it is American History. You have to understand that people who are different from you have the same rights as you and that it is important for everyone to have their freedom."

Harriet Tubman, Conductor of the Underground Railroad, is part of the Historical Perspectives program of Young Audiences of Massachusetts and was made possible through our partnership with Brigham and Women's Hospital. We look forward to more visits from noteworthy historical figures as we continue to learn about American history and our part in it.



*Left to right: Levar Thomas (Legislative Aid to Rep. Jeffrey Sanchez), Beverly Moss (Technology Director), Jade Guerra (portrayed Harriet Tubman), Roxanne Haecker (Director of Program Development), Rebecca Hill (RTH Board Member)*

## TRANSLATION

Cantonese - Russian  
Spanish

Tuesdays 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.  
Flynn Kitchen  
805 Huntington Avenue

*For more information call 617-232-0204*

## BINGO

Join your neighbors every

Tuesday & Thursday  
at 2 p.m.  
7<sup>th</sup> floor Flynn House

805 Huntington Ave.

## TAXI COUPONS

On sale on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month (10:30 a.m.). Purchase \$10 worth of tickets for \$5.00.

*For more information call  
Theresa Parks at 617-739-7433 or  
Laura Adams at 617-566-4025*

## LUNCH FOR \$1.00

Enjoy lunch at the Brigham & Women's Cafeteria on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. Each coupon is worth \$7.00. Coupons are available the last week of the preceding month. *Call Theresa Parks at 617-739-7433 or Laura Adams at 617-566-4025*

*One ticket per Senior per month*

## SENIOR DROP-IN

Monday- Friday

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Flynn House 7<sup>th</sup> floor  
805 Huntington Avenue

Stop by and enjoy a cup of coffee with your neighbors, and enjoy some lively conversation

*For more information call  
617-566-4025*

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Beverly Moss



*RTH Inferno Hip-Hop Dance Troupe*

RTH celebrated Black History month to provide education and entertainment for all our residents. The teens saw a documentary from the *Eyes on the Prize*, adults watched *The Butler*, and the festivities concluded with a family night celebration. We were honored to have Dr. Mel King, who was very inspirational, and Tom Cornu as guest speakers. We saw performances from “Inferno”, the RTH Hip Hop dance troupe, recitations from Latoya Cromartie (*Still I Rise*) and Kamen Hau (*Sojourner Truth*). We were treated to a delicious southern style catered dinner.



*Dr. Mel King*

## LET'S START AN ADULT BOOK CLUB

Interested in joining our Adult Book Club? If so, call Beverly Moss at 617-738-8220 or email her at [bmoss@roxburytenants.org](mailto:bmoss@roxburytenants.org).

## LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE

Want to learn to speak Mandarin? If so, call Helen Hui at 617-232-0400 or email her at [hhui@roxburytenants.org](mailto:hhui@roxburytenants.org) to sign up.



*Celestine Cox lends her beautiful voice to a gospel song in celebration of Black History*



*Kamen Hau recites a poem about Sojourner Truth during the Black History Family Night celebration*



*ABOVE: Families celebrate  
LEFT: Kamen Hau, Julia Chu, and Sharon Zhou sing the Negro National Anthem in celebration of Black History  
RIGHT: Latoya Cromartie recites from the poem “Still I Rise” by Maya Anjelou during the Black History Family Night celebration*







*RTH Chinese Folk Dance Group*

## 2014 RTH CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

*Helen Hui*

I would like to thank the Community Events committee, the staff, all of the volunteers who helped plan or who participated in this special event. I would also like to thank, most of all, the residents, including the 50 children who volunteered to perform for this event. They practiced for weeks

to make this celebration successful. Thank you RTH for supporting this event.

We were honored to have State Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz, City Councilor Michelle Wu and, City Councilor Josh Zakim in attendance. The singing and dancing performances were beautiful, the music was great, and the decorations were stellar. People of all ages enjoyed the event. Everyone enjoyed the performances, including the perform-



*Chen Qiu Chan and Zhi Peng Li (Ballroom Dance Instructor) dance the Foxtrot*

ers. It was amazing how the efforts of many can come together to create such an amazing event.

Performances by Children's Choir, Lion Dance, Ballroom Dance class, Golden Choir, Phoenix Sun Rising, and Chinese Folk Dance class helped residents to celebrate.

## YEAR OF THE HORSE



*Helen Hui (Education Specialist), Karen Gately (RTH Executive Director), Zhen Bao Lin (RTH Board Member), Beverly Moss (Technology Director), Chen Qiu Chan (resident), Zhi Peng Li (Ballroom Dance Instructor)*



*Zhi Peng Li (Ballroom Dance Instructor,) and Beverly Moss dance the Rhumba*



*Susana Zhou, Xing Yi Zhou, Sharon Lin*



*RTH Families celebrating the Year of the Horse*

## RTH ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION

Laura Adams

On Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, RTH celebrated St. Patrick's Day. The event started with a warm welcome from Karen Gately, RTH Executive Director. Karen reminded all that "everyone is Irish on Saint Patrick's Day." Dancers from the Hansen Keohane School of Irish Dance entertained us with Irish step dancing. The band, the Moonpies, played music for hours, and invited everyone to sing along to the Irish tunes. One of the highlights of the night was hearing Mark Coyle sing God Bless America. A delicious meal of corned beef and cabbage, with all the works was served. After dinner, residents enjoyed a scrumptious cake, donated by Tom Cornu and delectable cupcakes, donated by Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Thank you to the Saint Patrick's Day planning committee for all their hard work. It was great to see everyone's Irish eyes smiling and having a grand old time.

**RIGHT:** Louie Lisa, Ping Zhen Chen, and Ying Yu Zhu enjoying the St. Patrick's Day celebration



John Clune, Seth Burns, Mark Coyle celebrating St. Patrick's Day



## RESIDENT SERVICES

Scott Amaral

### TRANSLATION SERVICES

We have been receiving a lot of traffic through our Tuesday Translation Services with many residents using this great service. If you have not been in a while the translation service is now located on the ground floor of the Flynn House in the Flynn Kitchen. We have translation service every Tuesday in the Flynn Kitchen from 9:00 am to 11:00am. The translation service is staffed with two resident service coordinators and we can provide interpreters in Chinese, Russian and Spanish.

We can also provide other languages like Somali, Amharic/Tigrina with some advance notice. If you would like to discuss something of a more personal nature and would like a more private setting, you can ask one of the staff to schedule an appointment with an interpreter in the Resident Services Office located in the Duggan Building.

Resident Services has been planning a traveling road show coffee hour in each one of the building lobbies. We will be having small coffee hours in the lobbies

with a table with some of our resources. It will be a great way for you to meet our staff and for us to meet you. You can stay and have some coffee and get some information or just say hi.

### COFFEE HOURS

Because it has been such a terrible winter with all the snow and bitter cold, we have delayed starting our coffee hours and have been waiting for a little warmer weather so residents can come down to the lobbies when it will not be so cold. Please look for the upcoming flyers announcing where we will be.

### CITIZENSHIP CLASS

The U.S Citizenship test does not have to be complicated and stressful. RTH provides citizenship classes to make it easy to understand and you will be prepared to pass the new U.S Citizenship Test and Interview.

Tuesdays & Thursdays  
2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
2 New Whitney Street 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

If you are interested in enrolling in either class, please contact Helen Hui at 617-232-0400 or visit her at 2 New Whitney St. 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS



*Cathy Gately has the Luck of the Irish*

### IVY LEAF BAND

*Roxanne Haecker Burns*

Lovely Gaelic airs and toe tapping fairy reels, many loaves of Irish soda bread and cups of Barry's tea, the comfort of good company- everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day!

### ESOL CLASSES

*Helen Hui, Education Specialist*

Do you want to learn English to help advance employment opportunities, career potential and enable you to have a better quality of life?

**Beginner Class:** Mondays & Fridays  
7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Workplace Class:** Tuesdays and  
Thursdays 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Advanced Class:** Fridays  
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
Saturdays 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Location:** Levinson Multipurpose  
Room, 835 Huntington Ave. (rear)

### RTH HOMEWORK CENTER

The Homework Center is a free tutoring service for elementary school children located on the first floor of 2 New Whitney St. The tutors work closely with the students, ensuring that they understand their homework and work to develop their reading and math skills. The center is open from 4 p.m to 6 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

[www.roxburytenants.org](http://www.roxburytenants.org)



*Young stalwarts of traditional Irish music, the Ivy Leaf band, and RTH residents celebrate St Patrick's Day.*

*Lindsay Straw, bouzouki, guitar and vocals, Dan Accardi, fiddle and concertina, Caroline O'Shea, flute, whistles and vocals, Karen Gately, Carol Menton, and Roxanne Haecker Burns*



*Dancers from the Hansen Keohane Irish Dance School*

## FLAGPOLE CEREMONY



*Left to right: Rebecca Hill, RTH Board member; Betsy Nabel, MD, President of Brigham and Women's Hospital; Carol Menton, RTH Board President; Karen Gately, RTH Executive Director; Dorothy Hurley, RTH Board Clerk; and Jack Anderson, RTH Board member*

On March 18, Brigham and Women's Hospital, in collaboration with the Roxbury Tenants of Harvard, celebrated the newly erected neighborhood flagpole, mounted on the Mission Park Garage. The top section of the flagpole was saved when it was taken down from its original location at 15 Francis St. for construction of the Stoneman Centennial Park and Brigham Parking Garage, and its history is being kept alive as it has been refurbished and donated to the Roxbury Tenants of Harvard for use in this new location. A team comprised of BWH staff and contractors and construction personnel from all of the current projects in the neighborhood pitched in to save, re-furbish and mount the pole.

### HANDY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

After School Program	617-232-9222
Community Building	617-232-0400
Community Events	617-566-4025
Facilities Department	617-566-1534
Flynn Kitchen	617-739-7433
Flynn 7th Floor	617-739-7433
Library/Computer Center	617-738-8220
Mission Park Garage	617-732-6334
ONRA Management	617-232-1399
Resident Services	617-232-0204
RTH Executive Office	617-232-4306
S-C Management	617-232-5910
Security	617-731-6972
Trinity Management	617-566-0707
Youth Department	617-232-0400

## SAVE THE DATE!

### RTH BLOCK FESTIVAL

**Saturday  
August 23, 2014**

The Block Festival is our biggest event of the year. Every year, our goal is to make the Block Festival better than it was the year before. We are looking for enthusiastic and energetic volunteers to be on the Block Festival planning committee. If you have ideas, talents, time, or want to be involved in the community, please give Laura Adams, Community Events Coordinator, a call at (617) 566-4025 to sign up for the committee.

### RTH Annual Potluck

Saturday, June 7, 2014  
6 p.m.

Parks Community Bldg  
2 New Whitney St

Everyone brings food to share with their friends and neighbors

Must be 21 and older

### HEALTH AND SAFETY MEETINGS

Held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

### Parks Community Building 2 New Whitney Street

The next two meetings are

**May 14, 2014**

**June 11, 2014**

All residents are encouraged to attend!

Do you have an idea or suggestion for an article for the newsletter?

Contact Beverly Moss at  
bmoss@roxburytenants.org  
or call 617-738-8220

### VICTORY DAY

Tues. May 13th 6:30pm

### POTLUCK DINNER

Sat. June 7th 6:00pm

### RTH ANNUAL MEETING

Sun. June 8th 1:00pm

### MUSIC ON THE PLAZA

Wed. June 18th 6:30pm

Wed. July 16th 6:30 pm

### RTH Board of Directors

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Carol Menton

#### Vice President

William Sullivan

#### Clerk

Dorothy Hurley

#### Treasurer

Israil Tselnik

John (Jack) Anderson

Jacqueline Boston

Donghui 'Sophia' Deng

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Zhen Bao Lin

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