

# The Bay Village News

Volume 18, Issue 4 617-542-BVNA www.bayvillage.net Dec. 2008

## CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS IN BAY VILLAGE!

### WREATH HANGING

Saturday, December 6, 8:00 a.m.  
Bay Village Garden  
at the corner of  
Melrose and Church

Help make the neighborhood festive  
for this holiday season  
by hanging wreaths on the gaslights.

Bring a ladder if you have one.

Coffee and pastries provided  
by Mike & Patty's.

Mark your calendars for the  
2009 Winter Fundraiser  
at Fleming's Steakhouse,  
Sunday, February 8,  
4:30 to 7 p.m.

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### TREE LIGHTING AND CAROLING FOLLOWED BY HOLIDAY PARTY



Sunday, December 7

Meet at the Bay Village Garden at 6:00 p.m.  
to light the tree and start the caroling.  
Song sheets provided!



From there, it's on to  
the BVNA Holiday Party at 6:30.

M.J. O'Connor's Irish Pub,  
27 Columbus Avenue, will host the  
neighborhood from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Cocktails and *hors d'oeuvres* (cash bar).

Open to all Bay Villagers  
and free to BVNA members. Not yet a member?  
Join at the party: \$10. All guests: \$10.

Please bring food donations  
and/or a check payable to Project Place.





## PRESIDENT'S LETTER by Brian Boisvert.

It's hard to believe that the holidays are here and 2008 is almost over. Summer was far too short this year! As I complete my first year as BVNA president, I offer my thanks to everyone for their well wishes and -- most importantly! -- their assistance! It has been quite an adventure so far, and I've enjoyed learning the ins and outs of city processes and getting to know my neighbors better.

Special thanks to our BVNA Executive Committee and our band of regular neighborhood volunteers for their continued service and donation of their time and talents. Without dedicated individuals taking an active role in maintaining the neighborhood, Bay Village would not be the gem that it is.

Our fall social season got off to fantastic start with a HUGELY successful block party on Melrose Street in September, with food generously provided by Maggiano's. I met a lot of new residents at that event, many of whom volunteered to assist with the BVNA! It was a great event and really set the bar high for next year!

October brought welcome media attention to the disaster that is Silver Line Phase III, with stories, an op-ed piece, and letters to the editor in the *Boston Globe*, as well as coverage on Channels 4 and 5. The focus was very favorable to the position that BVNA has taken all along. This is a misguided project that wastes taxpayer money for no benefit, while simultaneously ignoring better (and more fiscally responsible) alternatives.

On October 21, the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority was invited to Bay Village for a multi-neighborhood meeting on the state of the Columbus Center project. As expected, we were told that recent economic realities have made an impact on the project as a whole, which was already complicated by a myriad of financial issues. I, like many of you, am increasingly frustrated by the condition of the site, shifting dates, and ongoing uncertainty with this project. This meeting did little to alter my perceptions. BVNA will continue to request a firm date for when the project will be determined to be viable and be allowed to continue or, if not viable, push to have the site fully restored so that residents in Bay Village, the South End, and Back Bay no longer pay the price for the financial miscalculations of developers.

On October 29, our BVNA annual meeting was held at the Radisson Hotel. We had a great turnout and elected a new slate of BVNA officers for the coming year, in addition to reviewing all of the (many!) accomplishments during the past 12 months. See Page 5 for the new officers. And, of course, October ended with an annual visit from Bay Village trick-or-treaters. It was great to see everyone out in costume. I learned that eyeball candy that squirts jelly is a big hit!

November 17 brought (yet another) MBTA technical meeting for the Silver Line. Thanks to everyone who took time out of their schedules to attend. While they are painful (and frustrating) to sit through, it is important to stay informed and make sure that the MBTA realizes this is a crucial issue for everyone in Bay Village.

I'm hoping to see even more people at the next presentation. Many have asked what they can do to help. The MBTA is required to complete a major environmental filing on the project, which will likely happen late this month or in early 2009. At that time, during the public comment period, we will be asking you to write letters to the T and other public officials stating your position. I'll send along more details as the schedule is clarified. As always, BVNA Vice President **Mark Slater** has been very active on this issue. Please see his report on Page 10 for more details. (A million thanks, Mark!)

Bitter cold and wind greeted Bay Villagers during our annual fall clean-up, but a turnout of nearly 50 residents allowed us to persevere and get the 'hood scrubbed up in record time. Thanks to everyone who helped out and a special thanks to Mike & Patty's for providing much-needed refreshments.

Finally, I hope all of my neighbors will join in BVNA's holiday events: wreath hanging, tree lighting, and our annual holiday party (as described on Page 1). All are terrific opportunities to catch up with neighbors and have fun!

Best wishes to all of you for a happy, healthy holiday season and New Year. Thanks to everyone who helps make Bay Village the best neighborhood in Boston!

### 2008-2009 BVNA OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- President: **Brian Boisvert**
- Vice President: **Mark Slater**
- Treasurer: **Lena Chuyan**
- Registrar: **Doug Hill**
- Recorder: **Maria Guzman**
- Archives: **Jean Yee Quintal**
- Co-Beautification: **Jo Campbell**
- Traffic/City Services: **Jim McCormick, Sarah Herlihy**
- Communications: **Kathleen McDermott**
- Community Relations: **Jo Campbell**
- Social/Membership: **Rocque Dion, Nan Rubin**
- Crime: **Mary Teeven, Ken Ham**
- Licensing: **Len Phillips, Jehanne Bjernebye**
- Planning: **Dana Masterpolo**
- Web Master: **Chris Gorglione**
- At Large: **Doug Fiebelkorn, John Shope, Gaye Bok, Jim Hogue, Chris Goddu, Francine Pilgrim, Judy Komarow, Jeff Goodstein, Matt Thorensen**

# 2008 FALL CLEAN-UP IS BEST YET!

by City Services Committee Co-Chairs  
**Sarah Herlihy** (sbherlihy@yahoo.com),  
and **Jim McCormick**  
(jamesdmccormick@comcast.net).

Nearly fifty Bay Village residents turned out and made the 2008 Fall Clean-Up on November 22 a great success.

After fueling up with coffee and a doughnut or muffin (or both!) at Mike & Patty's, volunteers swept up leaves and debris to make way for winter. This year, we scheduled the Clean-Up later in November to make sure that all of the leaves had fallen and to accommodate work on the water mains. The cold and wind were challenging, but many hands made light work; by 10 a.m. the streets looked fabulous.

BVNA is grateful to the Mayor's Office and the Department of Public Works for providing equipment. Thanks also to the Radisson Hotel for providing free parking, and to Mike & Patty's for excellent refreshments.

A special thank you to our neighbors who moved their cars. We've never had the streets so car-free and it makes a big job a lot easier.

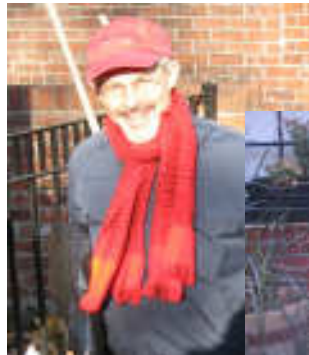
For a full list of Clean-Up volunteers, turn to Page 5.



**DeDe Clapp and Chris Koehler**, Fayette Street.



**Mark Slater and Keith Gnoza**, Melrose Street.



Above: **Bill Nigreen**, Fayette Street; at right: **Heidi Sifferlen**, also Fayette.



Above: **Tabitha Bennett**, Bay Village's Liaison to the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, and **Rocque Dion**, Church Street. Far left: **Billie Byrom**, Church Street; left: **Elizabeth Reluga**, Melrose Street.



**Ann Phillips**, Winchester Street, **Nancy and Ken Ham**, Church Street.



by Michael Fitzhenry (Mike!).

**WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS!****A MESSAGE FROM  
BRIAN BOISVERT, BVNA PRESIDENT**

Welcome to all new neighbors  
who have recently moved  
into Bay Village.

We hope that you will enjoy  
living in Bay Village and  
take pride in it the way we do.

Bay Village is an open  
and friendly place.

Come meet your neighbors  
at the Bay Village Holiday Party  
on December 7  
and join the BVNA.

**CALL 911  
WHENEVER YOU SEE  
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY**

Whenever you see any suspicious activity (that may be someone sitting on a front stoop engaging in drug consumption or someone walking up and down the street looking out of place), call 911 and report it. The police may not respond immediately, but they make careful note of incidents and that will mean more of a police presence in our neighborhood.

Police coverage in Boston is determined by the level of 911 calls, so don't hesitate to report any problems. The police cannot be in our neighborhood 24/7, but we are. We need to take responsibility for our neighborhood.

One of our local officers is  
**Ramadani Abdul-Aziz** --  
say hello when you see him and offer him a cup of coffee. It's nice to let him know we appreciate his presence. As always, please e-mail BVNA Crime Committee co-chairs  
**Mary Teeven** and **Ken Ham** with any questions and concerns:  
crime@bayvillage.net.

Mike & Patty's has been open for nearly two months now, and we'd like to thank the people who live or work in Bay Village for their generous support in our early days.

Our new home is treating us well, response has been fantastic (including positive reviews in the *Boston Phoenix* and the *Globe*), and we are very proud of our offerings and our developing role in the community.

As you may have learned by now, we chose to revert to the hours traditional for the space. It can get quite crowded in our little storefront, and the same is true for the space behind the counter, so for now we're concentrating on delivering consistent, unique, and innovative sandwiches, soups, and salads made from quality ingredients, at a fair price.



But for the those still **Heather, Mike, and Patty.** holding out hope for take-away dinner, fear not! Now that we've got our feet under us, we are beginning to explore the idea of extended hours, perhaps one or two nights a week to start, with a limited menu of dinner options. Also keep your eye out for our catering menu and Mike & Patty's gift certificates - perfect for holiday parties and stocking stuffers. Thank you for all your support and we'll keep you posted!

**ONE NEIGHBOR'S ENTHUSIASTIC REVIEW**by **Marcia Wetherbee**, Fayette Street.

Speaking of Mike & Patty's, I had their French toast and it was wonderful. On Saturday morning, they have buckwheat pancakes. Yummy!

We're lucky to have the corner shop since it's not only a good place to eat but also a great place to meet and get to know your neighbors. They're doing a superb job since they opened. So, if you have not been there, I highly recommend that you go, since everything on the menu, as well as their specials, is just fabulous.

# BVNA ANNUAL MEETING

This year's BVNA Annual Meeting took place on October 29 at the Radisson Hotel. Lots of neighbors showed up because anyone who lives in Bay Village may attend, as well as anyone who is a non-voting, non-resident BVNA member.

Each committee presented a short summary of recent accomplishments and current plans. BVNA members also voted in the new Executive Committee for the coming year (see box on Page 2).

Thanks to Radisson's general manager **Julie Povall** for hosting the event, and a special thank you to director of catering **Paul Landry** and his staff for the wonderful food and pastries served at the meeting.

We have a strong core of dedicated volunteers covering all aspects of the neighborhood, including Beautification, Crime, Licensing, Planning, Traffic and City Services, Community Relations, and Social Events. These individuals are working improve life for all residents of Bay Village. Thank you to all who help out!

Speaking of volunteers: if you'd like to assist in any way to make Bay Village a better place to live – speak up! Contact any Executive Committee member to volunteer. Everyone would be happy to see some new faces! Remember: we are the smallest neighborhood in Boston, yet we are right in the middle of downtown. Bay Village is a great place to live, but it's up to all of us to preserve and enhance our neighborhood.

If you are not a member of the BVNA – join! Go to <http://www.bayvillage.net/join/> or call 617-542-BVNA for details. or fill out the form on Page 12 of this newsletter.

Top, left to right: **Maria and Bernardo Guzman**, Melrose Street, **Sue Buta**, Knox Street, and **Bernice Brojde**, Church Street.



At right: **Jo Campbell**, Church Street, and **Mary Teeven**, Fayette. Below: **Sarah Buta**, Knox Street.



**Sarah Herlihy**, Piedmont.

**Jim McCormick**, Melrose Street.



Above: **James Hogue**, Melrose Street, and **Rocque Dion**, Church Street. At left: **Nan Rubin**, Melrose Street, and **Len Phillips**, Winchester Street.



At right: **Chris Goddu**, Fayette Street, and BVNA President **Brian Boisvert**, Piedmont Street. Below, **George Moccia** and **Doug Hill**, Fayette Street.



From left: **George and Prilla Brackett**, Church Street, and **Steve Dunwell**, Winchester Street.

Thank you to ace photographer Rocque Dion for his great photos on this page and on page 3.

## THANK YOU FALL CLEAN-UP VOLUNTEERS!

**Alex Bok, James Hogue, Mark Slater,  
Chris Goddu, Jim McCormick,  
Sarah Herlihy, and Brian Boisvert,  
Mary Teeven, Francine Pilgrim,  
Kathleen Flahaven, Tim Kacich,  
Bob Childers, Elizabeth Reluga,  
Java Amory, George Klauber,  
Jo-Ann Ross, Heidi and Eric Sifferlen,  
Susan Buta, Gerald Garrett,  
Jean Quintal, Mark Slater, Keith Gnoza,  
George Brackett, Rocque Dion,  
Bill Nigreen, Tabitha Bennett,  
Brett Terrien, Robert Buttafusca,  
Brian Callaghan, Jo Campbell,  
Nancy and Ken Ham,  
Jack and Emily Kemp, David Wright,  
Walt Precourt, Billie Byrom, Ann Phillips,  
Leslie Colburn, Judy Komarow,  
Nan Rubin, Sharon Reynolds,  
Rocque Dion, Elizabeth Reluga,  
Chris Koehler and DeDe Clapp.**

### **Note from your Editor, Kathleen McDermott**

I hope you enjoy this Newsletter. Thanks to everyone who contributed articles, photos, information, and advice, including



**Mark Slater, Jo Campbell, China Altman,  
Bill Nigreen, Carol Carlson, Ken Ham,  
Sarah Herlihy, Rocque Dion, Brian Boisvert,  
Nan Rubin, Lisey Good, Daniel Krulewitch,  
Michael Fitzhenry, Bernice Broyde, Dana  
Masterpolo, Ty Shen, Barbara Warren,  
Marcia Wetherbee, Jean Yee Quintal, Eli  
Akerstein, Prilla Smith Brackett, Richard  
Junghans, Mary Teeven, June McCourt,  
Mary Darmstaetter, Steve Dunwell, Marty  
Foster, Becca Connors, Sue Buta.**

I invite you to use this Newsletter as a forum to tell your Bay Village story. Photos are welcome, or email me and I'll come by and take a snap. [kathleenmcd@att.net](mailto:kathleenmcd@att.net)

## CITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

by Co-Chairs

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**Sarah Herlihy** ([sbherlihy@yahoo.com](mailto:sbherlihy@yahoo.com)),  
and **Jim McCormick** ([jamesdmccormick@comcast.net](mailto:jamesdmccormick@comcast.net)).

1. Water Main Project. As many of you have noticed over the past several months, Boston Water and Sewer has been working to refurbish our water main line. They will return in the spring to finish the work. At that time the temporary patches on our streets will be replaced with permanent patches.

Please call Boston Water and Sewer directly to report any issues arising from this work.

2. New Trash Barrel. Many Bay Village residents have lamented the loss of the small trash receptacles in the neighborhood (often referred to as the dog trash bins). These small receptacles were not maintained by the City or BVNA. In order to accommodate numerous requests for some replacement for these receptacles, the City has provided a new, city-maintained, trash barrel at the corner of Piedmont and Church.

Please use this new trash barrel for your dog waste! Thank you to **Frank O'Brien** and **Tabitha Bennett** for our new barrel.

3. Bicycle Rack. We are applying to the City to have a bicycle rack added to Bay Village and welcome your thoughts on potential rack locations.

4. Winter Weather. We know you don't want to think of snow and ice yet, but the cold temperatures confirm that winter is on its way. Remember that it is YOUR responsibility to ensure that the sidewalk in front of your home is free of snow and ice within three hours after a storm ends. If the storm ends at night, you have until three hours after sunrise to remove the snow and ice.

While you're at it, why not be a nice neighbor? Shovel out your elderly neighbors and any fire hydrants in the vicinity of your home. Shoveling snow burns about 400 calories per hour -- so you can count it as your cardio for the day (or month!).

The City of Boston Storm Center can be reached at (617) 635-3050.

**Kris Foster** of Broadway passed the Massachusetts bar exam and has been appointed by District Attorney **Daniel Conley** as an Assistant District Attorney for Suffolk County. She has been assigned to the Appeals Division. Kris is a 2008 graduate of New England School of Law. **Mary Darmstaetter**, also Broadway, reports that **Dick Cross** of Melrose Street retired from Bentley College this year. To honor his forty years of outstanding service, the college created "The Richard L. Cross Fund for Excellence in Accountancy Education." Mary encourages Dick's friends here in Bay Village to say "thank you" in a very meaningful (and tax-deductible) way to someone who has done so much for BVNA and for so many individuals. Donate online gifts at [www.bentley.edu/giving](http://www.bentley.edu/giving), or contact Mary at 617-423-7708 or [darmme96@aol.com](mailto:darmme96@aol.com).

**Nancy Ham** had a visit from niece **Lucy Jordan** of Santa Monica; they carved the Halloween pumpkins on display in the Ham's Church Street windows. **David, Reese, and Becca Connors** moved to Marlborough Street in November. "We are very sad to have left the neighborhood, but very happy to be expecting our second child in early January." **Lisey Good** of Arlington Street had a recent interior design project at the College Club on Commonwealth Avenue featured in *New England Home*, *Design New England*, *The Boston Globe's Sunday Magazine* and *SOCO Magazine*. **Ty and Linda Shen** have moved to South Boston but still maintain their status as long-time Melrose Street property owners. Visit Church Street artist **Prilla Smith Brackett's** website for information about her current work and gallery exhibitions: <http://prillasmithbrackett.com>. **Marcia Wetherbee** of Fayette Street reports that **Bill Doherty**, a 30-plus year resident of Bay Village, moved to Salem in November. "He will be missed." Lyndeboro Place's Dr. **Richard Junghans**, Chief of Surgical Research at Roger Williams Medical Center in Providence, has received notification of a \$6 million IMPACT award from the U.S. Army/Department of Defense. The research aims to redirect the immune systems of breast cancer patients to fight their cancers and has the potential for an unprecedented impact in contributing to the eradication of breast cancer.



**Betsi Akerstein** of Cortes Street recently formed a contemporary dance group in Boston called Urbanity Dance Project. Go to [www.urbanitydance.org](http://www.urbanitydance.org) and join the mailing list! (Photo by **Eli Akerstein**.)



**Barbara Warren** of Broadway visited Japan in October; above, she enjoys a sumptuous Japanese Sunday brunch of local specialties in a private room at "Asahikan," a classic ryokan or Japanese inn which sits right at the water's edge in Ise, Mie Prefecture, on the island of Honshu. Asahikan was founded 270 years ago and it has always been loved by poets and singers. In the Showa Period (1926–1989), it received glory as a place where the Emperor and other members of the Imperial family stayed.



Photo by **Bill Brett**, *Boston Globe*.

**Jean Yee** and **John Quintal** of Winchester Street were among the one thousand guests attending the 15th Annual Silk Road Gala to benefit ATASK, the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence, at the Marriott in Copley Place. Jean has volunteered for ATASK for the past two years.



**Carl-Isaak Krulewitsch** of Fayette Street ran with the Hill House cross-country team in the Boston Athletic Association's Mayor's Cup race in October.

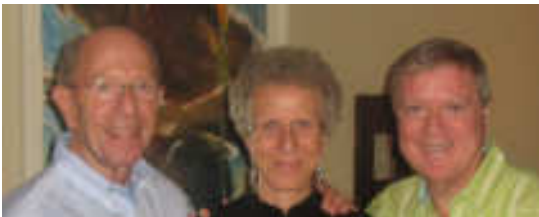
## MORE TASTY TIDBITS!



**Bernice Broyde**, Church Street, sent in this picture of her son, **Xander**, born and raised in Bay Village and now living in San Francisco, and her grandson **Jacob**.



**Sarah Buta** holding **Squirt** and **Sue Buta** with **Angel**. The Butas, of Church Street, adopted the kittens from the Animal Rescue League table at the Bay Village Block Party in September.



In November, **David Wright** and **Rocque Dion** of Church Street travelled to their vacation place in Fort Lauderdale. During their stay, they visited with former Columbia neighbors **Stan Sharenson** and **Linda Taylor**, who now live in Miami and Vermont. Above: Stan, Linda, and David.



**June McCourt's** British niece and family visited her home on Piedmont Street and were delighted to part of an American Halloween. In particular, the children enjoyed joining Bay Village kids in "Trick or Treating" around the neighborhood and Beacon Hill. **Jessica** and **Sam Roberts**, who had packed their costumes for the trip, were amazed at how much "loot" they got, but planned to share their bounty with their friends on their return to England.

**Carol Carlson** of Fayette Street sent in this story "of our new kitty who I found as a stray in Beacon Hill. His name is **Beacon Hilton** ;-).

When I saw him cowering under a parked car on Joy Street, he came right out, meowed, and ran across the street to me. After checking with neighbors, I determined that he had been abandoned and had been meowing in the neighborhood for a week or so. I picked him up along with my grocery bags from Whole Foods, and carried him home as he snuggled in my arms.



I noticed Beacon limped when walking, but he jumped and ran like a normal kitten. When we had him in for his neutering at Animal Rescue League, the vet x-rayed him and discovered that he had a completely fractured leg. It required surgery the next day to remove the top of the femur and clean out the fragments of bone.

Beacon is now leaping and annoying the other kitties with his surprise pouncing!

We are a happy family back to four humans and four felines."

### **THREE GREAT WAYS TO GET INVOLVED AND HELP OUR NEIGHBORHOOD**

1. **Join BVNA** - Your dues help in many ways, such as dealing with crime, improving our quality of life, beautification, social activities (membership form is on Page 12 or [www.bayvillage.net/join](http://www.bayvillage.net/join)).

2. **Volunteer** - Throughout the year we ask neighbors to help with clean-up days, wreath hangings, and caring for our parks. There are also many things that can be done from home so you won't need to attend meetings or come to events.

3. **Write** to the Mayor and City Councilors and attend public meetings of the Historic District Commission, the Licensing Board, the Zoning Board of Appeal, to ensure that our neighborhood is represented.

To get involved, call the BVNA hotline at 617-542-BVNA and leave a message for your area of interest.

Together we make things better!

## **DOG PARK UPDATE**

by **Marcia Wetherbee**, Fayette Street.

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We're planning to have a fall clean-up in the Dog Park at the corner of Warrenton and South Charles Streets. We'll post a notice on the fence.

In the meantime, please pick up after your pet, not only in the park but on the sidewalks as well.

Many people have worked hard to create a good space for our four-legged friends and we are lucky to have it. We'll lose it if people are not more considerate and do not pitch in with the upkeep. When the barrel is full, please change the bag; bags are kept in the plastic container on the side. Please tie the bag and put it on the street on Sunday, Tuesday or Thursday nights or on the morning on the day trash is picked up. A big thank you to all who help with trash.

The other day, two dogs severely bit another dog in an unwarranted attack and the dog almost died. If you take more than one dog into the park, you need to have control of all your dogs. If you have an aggressive pet, please let others know; either leave the park or put the pet on a leash.

Most people are very considerate and we thank you for your thoughtfulness.

A special thank you to **Anne Kilguss** of Fayette Street from all the Bay Village dogs who play ball in the dog park. She supplies all those wonderful tennis balls.



### **MONTHLY BVNA CRIME COMMITTEE MEETINGS OPEN TO ALL**

BVNA Crime Committee meetings take place on the third Monday of every month at the South Cove Apartments, 230 Stuart Street at the corner of Church. This is an opportunity to meet directly with the police, hear their updates, and express any concerns about issues you may be seeing around your homes. Turnout at these meetings has been low lately, and it's in everyone's best interest to reverse that trend.

Not only will increased attendance help to send a message that we take crime seriously, but proactive attendance can also help to prevent issues before they occur. If you can spare less than an hour on Monday evenings, please make every effort to attend.

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEES

by **Jo Campbell.**

My plea for "volunteers needed!" at the BVNA Annual Meeting brought four neighbors ready, willing, and able:

**Christina Thoresen, James Hogue, Jr, Prilla Smith Brackett,** and **Nancy Ham.** Prilla and Nancy have signed up to help with Beautification.

The Bay Village Garden and the Isabella Street Park would not be as lovely without the work of volunteers **Rocque Dion, David Wright, Richard Cross, Mark Bocash, Keith Gnoza, Brian Callaghan, Robin Cheung,** as well as Captain **Quinlan** and the firemen of the Ladder 17 fire station who water and help keep Isabella Street Park looking so inviting.

## GIRL SCOUT COOKIES!

Starting January 1,  
it's Girl Scout cookie time!

Cookies ordered by January 13 will be delivered around February 20. That's a full month earlier than usual!

We have Thin Mints, Caramel Delites (Samoas), Peanut Butter Patties (Tag-a-longs), Peanut Butter Sandwiches (Do-see-dos), Shortbreads, and Daisies.

Last year, we used our cookie money for a Museum of Science overnight, and a Mom and Me weekend at the Cape.

Contact **Sarah Buta** at [sue@buta.org](mailto:sue@buta.org) or 617-482-2482.

## SILVER LINE UPDATE, NOVEMBER 2008

by **Mark Slater.**

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As those of you who are BVNA members know from receiving our President's emails, the Silver Line Phase III continues to receive a steady drumbeat of negative attention in the news.

While many people in the neighborhood have expressed outrage at this transportation fraud and its possible effects on our neighborhood, a miniscule handful have been attending the widely publicized MBTA presentations on construction and traffic planning for this (as yet unfunded and unapproved) project. This low attendance is allowing the MBTA to publicize Bay Village residents' support of this project by virtue of their lack of involvement. If the MBTA's chain of logic doesn't seem entirely clear to you (lack of attendance somehow equating to support), welcome to the wonderful of government monopolies and their strange ways with truth.

As for letter writing and active protests of this project, we are waiting for the next required environmental filing from the MBTA. While we (all the myriad groups opposed to this project) have had some success in getting media coverage of Representative **Capuano's** "bus tunnel to nowhere," we have not been able to achieve widespread coverage in the absence of an obvious decision point or progress in filings. The MBTA's environmental filing was expected in September, but has been delayed for two reasons: first, the MBTA has screwed up their preparation for this mandated filing; second, they are trying to delay the filing to pre-clear more regulatory hurdles at the FTA (without any publicity) in order to strengthen the appearance of a *fait accompli* when they do file.

We will shortly be distributing a summary of bullet points which you can use in drafting your letters of protest for when the filing occurs and the public comment period opens. In the meantime, start thinking of who outside this neighborhood you can ask to join in our protest and write a letter when the time comes. While we naturally focus on the harm that could come to our neighborhood, everyone in Massachusetts should be outraged at the sheer scale of this fraud, which will increase the MBTA's staggering debt by almost a billion dollars and will perpetually increase its operating deficit by \$30 to \$50 million per year, all the while saddling Roxbury residents with a bus route to town rather than the rail solution they were promised in writing by the Massachusetts Legislature more than 25 years ago.

## TRASH RULES AND VIOLATIONS

Regular Trash Pick-Up for Fayette, Melrose, Jefferson, Church, Winchester, South Cedar Way, Piedmont, Shawmut, and Broadway: Monday, Wednesday, Friday; Recycling Day is Friday.

Trash Pick-Up for Arlington, Cortes, and Isabella: Monday and Thursday;  
Recycling Day is Monday.

City regulations prohibit putting out trash before 5 p.m. the day before trash day. Use large, tightly-tied 2-mil plastic bags rather than open paper bags. It's best to put trash out the morning of pick-up to reduce the potential for garbage to spill out on the sidewalk and for rats to have a picnic.

If a neighbor puts out trash too early or on the wrong day, or if there is an unsanitary situation, drop a line to our City Services Committee co-chairs **Sarah Herlihy** (sbherlihy@yahoo.com) or **Jim McCormick** (jamesdmccormick@comcast.net), or call ISD Code Enforcement at 617-635-4896. They will send an inspector and issue a violation. The fines for overflowing residential trash is \$50 and residential trash put out too early, or on the wrong day, will result in a \$25 fine.

### CRIME COMMITTEE REPORT

If you see suspicious activity, please do not hesitate to call 911.

While a call to 911 won't always receive an immediate response from the police, the calls are recorded and reviewed. The volume and frequency of calls is important to help the police allocate resources across the different neighborhoods throughout Boston.

Car break-ins are still the most prevalent criminal activity going on within Bay Village. As a reminder, never leave valuables in your car, especially in plain sight. And if you have a portable GPS device be sure to take it with you when leaving your car and use glass cleaner to remove the tell-tale suction cup mark.

Crime meetings are every third Monday of the month. We meet with Captain **O'Rourke** and Sergeant **Lema** at the South Cove apartments at 7 p.m.

This meeting is an excellent forum to express concerns regarding crime and overall quality of life within the neighborhood. The greater our presence at this meeting, the greater our ability to influence decisions regarding police department resources.

Please e-mail BVNA Crime Committee Chairs **Mary Teeven** and **Ken Ham** with any questions and concerns: [crime@bayvillage.net](mailto:crime@bayvillage.net).

### PLANNING COMMITTEE NOTES

by **Dana Masterpolo**, Chair, Planning Committee.

- 212 Stuart Street. Architect **Gary Hendren** made a final presentation to the Planning Committee in October. We reviewed the final design that had been previously approved by the BRA, the Bay Village Historic District Commission, and the Boston Civic Design Commission. A final review hurdle remains, which involves an on-site presentation of proposed building materials. The Planning Committee was told that construction was scheduled to begin in December with caisson drilling. The initial heavy construction is expect to last at least three months. All construction deliveries and staging shall take place on Stuart Street with no impact to Shawmut Street, except when underground utility work is conducted. Overall construction is expected to take twenty to twenty-four months to complete. Hera Development is planning to provide regular updates to the neighborhood via flyer or website with a 24/7 contact available for issues.
- 108-110 Arlington Street. Architect Gary Hendren notified the Planning Committee that this project has been terminated following a Bay Village Historic District Commission decision denying a requested variance that would have lowered the existing third-floor window sill height.
- Mike & Patty's - Church Street. The BVNA agreement was accepted in July and the establishment opened for business in mid-October.

**THE BAY VILLAGE  
NEWS  
AVAILABLE ON  
LINE**

*The Bay Village News* is published four times a year by BVNA.

Full-color versions of the newsletter (past issues go back to 1998) are available at the BVNA website, [www.bayvillage.net](http://www.bayvillage.net).

**PLEASE REPORT ILLEGALLY  
PARKED, NON-RESIDENT CARS**

The Traffic and Parking Department has a special "enforcement line" to report illegally parked, non-resident cars. If a resident reports an illegally parked car, and can describe the exact location and make of the vehicle, the Department will call a nearby Parking Enforcement Officer on a cell phone to ticket the illegal car--ASAP! The "enforcement line" is 617-635-3125.

**CHECK OUR  
COMMUNITY BULLETIN  
BOARD!**

Notices regarding all important community issues and meetings are always posted on the bulletin board at the Bay Village Garden (corner of Melrose and Church Streets).

**IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO JOIN OR RENEW!**

by **Doug Hill**, BVNA membership ([dhillbv@aol.com](mailto:dhillbv@aol.com)).

It's never too late to join or renew your Bay Village Neighborhood Association membership. Memberships run from July 1 through June 30 but don't let that stop you! We would like to get everyone living in Bay Village to be a member. Membership in the organization gives our small-sized neighborhood a big voice within the city of Boston. Politicians, the Mayor, the BRA, MBTA, and the Boston Licensing Board, to name a few, all care about how many residents are BVNA members in determining whether to pay attention to our neighborhood needs. Membership also gives you access to email updates of ongoing neighborhood issues, and free or reduced ticket prices to neighborhood parties and events (always a great way to meet and get to know your neighbors). So renew today and ask your neighbor to join as well!

It is easy and inexpensive to join: just fill out the application below or go to [www.bayvillage.net](http://www.bayvillage.net) and download an application. Applications can be mailed to BVNA Registrar, PO Box 1296, Back Bay Annex, Boston, MA 02117.

For new members of the BVNA – WELCOME, for returning members THANK YOU for your continued support and interest in our wonderful neighborhood.

**Bay Village Neighborhood Association Membership Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit/Apartment#: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership runs from July 1 through June 30. Members will be asked to renew every July 1.

**Type of Membership:**

Individual \$ 10.00  
Family \$ 15.00  
Business \$ 50.00  
Senior \$ 5.00  
Student \$ 5.00  
Donations \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Interests:**

Beautification  City Services  
 Fundraising  Archives  
 Social Activities  Membership  
 Communications  Planning/Zoning  
 Public Relations  Licensing  
 Crime Prevention  Website

If you chose Family membership, please list individual family members below:

\* Mail membership form to Registrar P.O. Box 1296, Back Bay Annex, Boston, MA 02117.

The By-laws of the Association limit VOTING membership to residents and/or owners of property within Bay Village. Anyone can join as a non-voting member!

## WHAT TO DO ABOUT GRAFFITI

When large, ugly graffiti tags appear in Bay Village, you can take quick and easy action to make them disappear. Call the City's "Graffiti Busters" unit at 617-635-3284.

They can, on their own, clean graffiti on "public" items such as stop signs, mailboxes, and light poles.

If you report graffiti on private property, Graffiti Busters will need the owner's consent.

The owner consent form is on the City's Graffiti Buster's website at:  
[www.cityofboston.gov/propertymanagement/graffitibusters.asp](http://www.cityofboston.gov/propertymanagement/graffitibusters.asp).

It is a simple matter of completing the form and sending an email.  
The City is very responsive.

## BVNA

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### PLANNING AND LICENSING COMMITTEES MEET EACH MONTH

The Licensing Committee works on all licensing issues which may affect the neighborhood, including service of alcohol, beer and wine, and food.

The Planning Committee works on zoning and building issues that may affect the neighborhood.

All neighbors are welcome to attend and BVNA members are invited to join the committee.

The Licensing and Planning Committees meet jointly on the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the South Cove apartments (230 Stuart Street).

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