

JAMAICA HILLS ASSOCIATION Community News Oct 07

Arborway Master Plan and Traffic Analysis Report

Crime Watch: More Volunteers

Springhouse Needs Us!

JP – Egleston Sq Adult Ed

Please Drive Cautiously on Side Streets

Support Our Newsletter: Become a JHA Member

Manning School Wish List

Plus on our website

- Full Arborway Traffic Analysis Report
- Safety Resources from BPD
- JHA Membership Form

www.jamaicahills.org

november

6 Election Day
Manning School 7 a – 8 p

14 JHA Social/Meeting
Springhouse 7 p

december

8 Skating Party (free)
Larz Anderson 5.30 – 6.30 p

12 JHA Social/Meeting
Springhouse 7 p

january

9 JHA Social/Meeting
Springhouse 7 p

february

13 JHA Social/Meeting
Springhouse 7 p

16 Skating Party (free)
Larz Anderson 6:45 – 7:45 p

■ **What kinds of programs do you want? Tell us. We want to hear from you!**

Arborway Master Plan, Traffic Analysis Report Next Steps: Community Education and Input

In July 2006 DCR consultants, Rizzo Associates, drafted the Arborway Master Plan, a proposed redesign of this roadway. This past summer, a Traffic Analysis was commissioned from Stantec Consultants. The Analysis was conducted in response to neighborhood activists' proposal to restrict traffic to the Arborway's two center lanes, inbound and outbound. The plan advocated by the Arborway Coalition would reserve the outer two lanes, inbound and outbound, for use by Arborway residents and bicyclists.

Despite our shared concern for traffic safety, the JHA has long been on record as opposing any plan that would limit the use of the Arborway between Murray and Kelley Circles. (For more on the JHA's position, visit **Community Action > Traffic** on our website: www.jamaicahills.org.)

State Representative Jeffrey Sánchez is negotiating with the Department of Conservation and Recreation for funding that will have consultants prepare for the general public a document that explains in lay terms the recommendation considered in the Traffic Analysis Report.

When funding is approved, Rep. Sanchez hopes to host a public meeting for affected neighborhoods with traffic engineers available to explain the current proposal and hear residents' concerns. (To download an overview of the proposed Master Plan and the unabridged Traffic Analysis Report, visit the **Traffic** page on the JHA website.)

Representative Sánchez emphasizes that he does not have a position on what the outcome of the study should be. His objective is to have a fair process that allows all residents to receive information and express their opinions. ■ advocate@jamaicahills.org

What Programs Do You Want to Participate in?

We're interested to know what kinds of JHA programs---lectures, info sessions, workshops, social activities---you want to participate in or volunteer to work on.

For years, the JHA has kept up the tradition of hosting events like the Winter Skating Parties and the Holiday Gala. However, expensive events like the holiday party require us to increase the price of tickets every year---something we can no longer justify. So this year, we're looking to you, the people we serve, for new ideas, suggestions, and participation.

To shore up funds and gather suggestions, we won't host our traditional holiday party in December. We do look forward to hosting other events this year to help neighbors, especially those new to the neighborhood, get to know one another better. So, tell us what you think! We have plenty of ways for you to communicate with your advocacy group and other interested neighbors. To start, we encourage you to attend our next JHA social and meeting!

TellUsWhatYouThink

To contact the JHA Board:

1. Email the JHA Advocate
advocate@jamaicahills.org
2. Send the JHA a letter
PO box 300392, JP 02130

To contact the Board *and* talk with other neighbors:

3. Join the JHA Discussion Forum
www.jamaicahills.org
4. Attend JHA meetings

Neighborhood Crime Watch

Almost 80 residents attended our September 12 meeting with BPD Crime Watch Unit's Judi Wright and Joseph Porcelli. For years, neighbors throughout Moss Hill have organized their own crime watches to alert one another of break-ins and suspicious activity. The Crime Watch for the entire Moss Hill community coordinates these efforts for better communication and provides more support and resources to deter crime.

Over 20 street captains attended the October 1 kick-off meeting with Joseph Porcelli. These volunteers are organized, motivated, and enthusiastic. And we need more like them for these streets: Allandale, Arborway, Avon, Bowditch, Brownson, Cedarwood, Elwell, Centre Street (Faulkner side), Hillcroft, Moss Hill Road, Parkside, Westchester, and Winchester.

Email us at crimewatch@jamaicahills.org and visit **Community Action > Crime Watch** on our website. Learn useful tips for creating a safer home and community plus meet some wonderful people in your own neighborhood!

Drive Cautiously

Speeding and traffic accidents on high-volume streets like Pond and Centre Streets and the Arborway is a long-standing problem that the JHA Traffic Committee in collaboration with concerned neighbors and Boston Police Officer Mike Santry tirelessly monitor. But, neighbors, we all need to be reminded to do our part and reduce speed on side streets.

The JHA Advocate has received reports of cars speeding while children are playing in front of their homes. Because side streets are used mostly by local residents, we have a chance to remind ourselves to look out for one another, especially children, when we're driving.

Lewis-Dawson Farmhouse Granted Landmark Status

Not long after Harvard proposed demolishing the Lewis-Dawson Farmhouse in the Arnold Arboretum to build a maintenance garage, local activists led by Board member Dr. Stephen Lerman were galvanized to save this historic treasure. A major milestone was reached when the Boston Landmark Commission granted the farmhouse Landmark status this past summer.

The challenge to have the neglected farmhouse, an eyesore and safety hazard, preserved is far from over, however. In an open letter to Harvard president Drew Gilpin Faust, Dr. Lerman cites Harvard's current plan to board up the structure. The letter was signed by 43 community leaders who advocate forming a committee to devise practical uses for the farmhouse. Mayor Menino wrote a separate letter to show his support. Visit **Community Action > Projects** to download these letters. Email farmhouse@jamaicahills.org to help support this worthy effort.

Springhouse Needs Us!

The JHA warmly welcomes Nadine Krasnow, the new Executive Director of Springhouse retirement community. For years, our friends and neighbors at Springhouse have graciously offered meeting rooms and refreshments at their beautiful facility at 44 Allandale Road for our monthly community meetings. We are fortunate to have an opportunity to reciprocate: Get to know the wonderful staff and residents by becoming a much-needed volunteer.

Nonprofit Springhouse needs volunteers to:

- Meet with residents once a week to discuss current events, books, magazine articles
- Create an email newsletter and mailing list
- Offer gardening services
- And more!

To offer your help, please contact Nadine Krasnow at nkrasnow@springhouseinfo.org or see Highlights: www.jamaicahills.org.

Free Skating for Moss Hill Residents

Thanks to Board member Polly Selkoe's coordination, the JHA continues a long-time winter tradition, Skating Parties at Larz Anderson Rink in Brookline.

Enjoy free skating, refreshments, music, and an open sky at Larz Anderson's outdoor rink. Even skates are available!

Sat. Dec. 8 from 5:30 p to 6:30 p

Sat. Feb. 16 from 6:45 p to 7:45 p

Neighbor Virginia Marcotte Jamaica Plain - Egleston Square Adult Ed Network

Neighbor, educator, and committed volunteer Virginia Marcotte spoke at our October 10 community meeting to discuss the inspiring work of the various organizations within the JP – Egleston Square Adult Ed Network.

The Network is actively seeking volunteer literacy and ESL tutors. The organization provides training and curriculum guidelines. According to Ginnie, the need for volunteers is great.

To learn about becoming a literacy or ESL tutor at one of several groups within the network, contact Ginnie at virginia_marcotte@hotmail.com or visit **Community Action > Projects** on our website.

Support Our Monthly Newsletter: Become a JHA Member

The JHA is a neighborhood advocacy group created by residents of Moss Hill to serve Moss Hill. A nonpartisan group, we depend on active participation of our members to represent the wide range of needs and perspectives in our community.

Communication is our top priority: We want to strengthen the connection between you and our advocacy group, facilitate interaction among neighbors, inform you about the issues that affect Moss Hill and JP, and provide you with several communication tools to make your concerns heard.

The JHA Community News is created by volunteer Moss Hill residents and depends solely on membership dues from Moss Hill residents for distribution. If you value this kind of connection with the community, **become a JHA member**. For just \$25 per year per household (\$10 for senior citizens), you can help us sustain an independent newsletter that provides you with the news and resources that will enable you to make informed decisions about key issues in our community.

Visit **Become a Member** at www.jamaicahills.org, use the enclosed form, or stop by the JHA table on Election Day, November 6, at the Manning School. Please send your check to the JHA, PO BOX 300392, JP 02130.

Subscribe to our eMail List For additional online news with links to JHA website updates plus reminders and alerts, email subscribe@jamaicahills.org.

Manning School Wish List

The Jamaica Hills Association warmly welcomes new Manning School principal, Sara Stone, to the community. Ms. Stone, who hails from the RISE Community School in Oakland, California, has been very responsive to neighborhood concerns and continues to express her desire to collaborate with Moss Hill neighbors.

In turn, many generous residents have asked Ms. Stone how we can assist the Manning School. Thanks to Board member Anne Connolly's coordination, we are sponsoring a drive for much-needed supplies and resources.

Please drop off donations at the Manning School, 130 Louder's Lane. Consider bringing your donation to the Manning when you vote on Election Day, November 6!

Your contribution is greatly appreciated!

Resources

- * Shelving units designed for young children
- * CD player
- * Lap top computers
- * LCD Projector
- * Magazine subscriptions (Zoo books, Ranger Rick, National Geographic)

Classroom Supplies and Materials

- * White Board Dry Erase Markers
- * 3 hole punch paper
- * Colored markers
- * Copy paper (white, lavender, blue, yellow)
- * Finger guide pencils with no erasers
 - * Card stock in all colors
 - * Book binder combs all sizes
 - * Oak tag chart paper
 - * Money sets (coins and bills)
 - * Practice Clock
- * States/World maps/posters/globes
- * Indoor/Outdoor thermometer
- * Electric pencil sharpeners (13)
 - * Stress Balls

Other Supplies

- * Clorox Wipes
- * Baby Wipes
- * Hand sanitizer
- * Paper towels
- * Kleenex

Jamaica Hills Association Membership Form

Thank you for supporting the Jamaica Hills Association.

Annual dues are \$25 per household (\$10 for senior citizens) and are good for one calendar year (January through December). Membership is available to residents of Jamaica Hills.

Complete this form and mail it with your check to

Jamaica Hills Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 300392
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Owner 1 _____

Owner 2 _____

Street Address _____

Unit Number _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Check the following:

I would like a copy of the 2006 *Jamaica Hills Directory*. (This printed directory of members' names, addresses, and telephone numbers is free and available only to Jamaica Hills residents. It is not available online.)

I would like to advertise in the online Business Directory. Please give me more information.

Your input is important to us. Please use a separate sheet of paper, if necessary. Thank you.

What issues do you feel strongly about?

What suggestions do you have for the JHA?

How would you like to participate in the JHA?