

HIGHLIGHT

The Newsletter of the High Street Hill Association

December 2003

Join your neighbors

CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLING ON THE GREEN

LED BY
CORNELIA MCMURTRIE



DECEMBER 24 AT 5:45PM

BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND A WIND-
PROTECTED CANDLE TO THE UPLAND ROAD GREEN

Comprehensive Plan Update

After being on the back burner for several months, a preliminary *Brookline Comprehensive Plan 2005-2015* and a proposed public review process will be the talk of the town in the coming weeks. In January copies of the Plan will be available at the Town hall and online. Sometime in the next three months the High Street Hill Association is expecting to host a community forum to gather the neighborhood's comments. Stay tuned.

'Tis the Pothole Season

Ever want to give the Department of Public Works officials a pat on the back or a piece of your mind? The Brookline Neighborhood Alliance, of which the HSHA is a member, will be hosting a face to face forum with DPW Commissioner Tom DeMaio and his aides either January 21 or February 4. Call Rob at 566-7334 in a week or so for further info.

Passages

We are sorry to share the news of the death of Bill Hertzmark of Milton Road, husband of Precinct 5 Town Meeting Member Joan Hertzmark. He was very active in town affairs for many years and will be sorely missed.

Happy Birthday to longtime resident Josh Drooker of Edgehill Road.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- December 21 **PALS FAMILY CONCERT** Sunday, 4pm, First Parish Church. Tickets \$5 at the door.
- December 24 **CAROLING ON THE GREEN** Upland Road Green, 5:45PM.
- December 24th **JAY O'CALLAHAN, STORYTELLER** will be featured on WCVB-TV's "Chronicle", Channel 5, Wednesday at 7:30PM. The program will feature the home where Jay grew up in Brookline. Tune in to watch Jay tell one of his newest stories, "Electra," inside that home. He will also tell a brief version of "Father Joe" and a children's story called "Raisins."
- Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 8 **HSHA BOARD MEETING** As usual, all neighbors invited to discuss issues.
- January 24 **BROOKLINE MUSIC SCHOOL'S 80TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION** Saturday, 8:00PM. A stirring mix of jazz and classical music featuring a world premiere by faculty composer Heather Gilligan. Call 617-277-4593.
- January 25 **PALS 6TH ANNUAL VOICES CONCERT** Sunday, 3-4:30pm. American premiere: "Song of Extinct Birds", composed by Heikki Sarmanto, featuring Mr. Sarmanto and his jazz trio at NEC's Jordan Hall, Boston. Call 617-585-1260.
- March 14 **HSHA ANNUAL MUSICALE** First Parish Church. Contact Lucy Aptekar at 731-8005 if you would like to perform or if your can recommend local talent.
- April 26 **HSHA ANNUAL MEETING** and potluck dinner.
- June 20 **HSHA ANNUAL PICNIC ON THE GREEN**

2 Brookline Place Update

On October 21 the High Street Hill Association hosted a presentation by the developers of a proposed 145-foot office or lab building at 2 Brookline Place (home of Skipjack's and Bertucci's). Concerns raised by community members at our forum and others like it subsequently led the town Selectmen to refer zoning amendments proposed for the November Town Meeting back to the Project Review Team (PRT). Although many feel the development will contribute significantly to Brookline's tax base, critics cite excessive building height, reduced parking requirements and lab safety, as well as the development's fit with a vision of the "Gateway to Brookline." Undeterred, the developers, town officials and the PRT have been meeting to evaluate alternatives. Various parking strategies in combination with changes in building height and massing are being considered and a legal strategy to insure future tax revenue to the town has been developed. The PRT will be presenting a report of its findings to the Selectmen in the coming weeks and it is anticipated that a special Town Meeting will be called in mid-February to consider a revised set of proposed zoning changes. Check the Town website and ask your Town Meeting Member about his or her views concerning this important, precedent-setting project.

Snow Shoveling Anyone?

1: Having trouble finding someone to shovel your walk?

Or 2: Are you a student who would like to shovel walks to make some extra money?

Call Rob Daves (*Highlight Editor*) at 566-7334. He's willing to help put 1 and 2 together.