Boston, Watertown erupt with cheers, relief after capture of terror suspect - Metro - The Boston Globe

David Belluck brought his 12-year-old daughter, Zoe, and 10-year-old son, Aaron, from Back Bay to witness the festivities in the heart of the city.

"This kind of spontaneous outburst of pride in the city and unity, it's just unprecedented," said Belluck, a 25-year Boston resident.

Zoe beamed by his side, absorbing the joy. "Unforgettable. It's amazing to be out here and just feeling the same way as everyone else does," she said. "I don't know, I'm just so happy."

In Watertown, where Tsarnaev was captured Friday night, the arrest triggered an outpouring of seemingly pent-up emotions among residents who took to cheering and clapping as the long blue line of police and state troopers left the town.

At 10:30 p.m. in Watertown Square, a crowd of some 40 people waved American flags and chanted "USA! USA! USA!" The celebrants exchanged mutual salutes with drivers who blew their horns as they rode past and spontaneously sang, "God Bless America."

The crowd grew especially rowdy when a long line of State Police cruisers rolled past. "Way to go, boys!" one man yelled at the caravan.

Throughout the city, impromptu celebrations sprang up, beginning with the group of some 100 people who listened to accounts on a radio as police closed in, and finally captured him on Franklin Street. Police found Tsarnaev covered with his own blood in a boat underneath a tarp.

"They got him, he's in custody," an unidentified state trooper told a cluster of reporters.

SWAT teams used the back porch of Emmanuel Der Torossian's house as a perch to see into the yard where Tsarnaev had been found hiding in the boat parked in his neighbor's backyard. "I'm happy it didn't end with bloodshed because information is more valuable for the safety of the country," he said.

Shane Windstorm, who lives in Watertown, said he was also happy the suspect was caught without further blood being spilled. "Enough people have already died," he said.

The capture, he said, "doesn't give me complete closure, but it gives me hope."

Not everything was cheers and wild applause Friday night, however. Blocks away from the Common, dozens of people gathered at the makeshift memorial to the bombing victims at Boylston and Berkeley