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# East Boston

## TIMES - FREE PRESS

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

**"Drug Take Back" bags inside**

### EASTIE Coalition sponsors Drug Take Back event Saturday

By John Lynds

In Eastie last year there were 144 NRIs, or Narcotic Related Illnesses, with four referred to the Medical Examiner meaning the patient was dead by the time Boston EMS arrived on the scene. There was also one additional NRI where the patient was transported to an area hospital in cardiac arrest and died on arrival.

These numbers show that on average there are roughly three NRIs a week in the neighborhood and proves we are no way near the end of the opioid crisis.

Today, you will notice there are pharmacy bags in this week's East Boston Times but don't throw them away because they are part of a "Drug Take Back" effort by the EASTIE Coalition to remove dangerous unused prescription drugs from

your home that may end up in the hands of children, young adults or those struggling with substance abuse disorder.

The EASTIE Coalition (East Boston Alliance for Support, Treatment, Intervention and Education), an initiative of the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, with support from the Mass General Brigham Centers for Community Health Improvement office and the national Drug Free Communities support program, is sponsoring this safe medication disposal effort.

East Boston Times readers can use the bags to collect unused prescription medications and drop them off at one of two locations in Eastie on Saturday, April 30.

Residents can drop off unused medication to

See TAKE BACK Page 3

### East Boston Social Centers opens Barnes School infant and toddler program

By John Lynds

Over the past few years the East Boston Social Centers (EBSC) has been forced to do some reshuffling with its afterschool, pre-school and infant and toddler programs.

The construction to completely overhaul the Orient Heights Public Housing Development displaced two EBCC programs and its infant and toddler program in Chelsea was in limbo after the City of Chelsea demolished the public housing that housed the program as well.

Now, after three years

of planning and renovations—and delays caused by the pandemic—EBSC was excited to finally open its new space on the ground floor of the Barnes School Senior Housing development on Marion Street that will serve as a much needed infant and toddler daycare program.

The new EBSC daycare used to serve as one of East Boston Neighborhood Health Center's PACE program spaces according to EBSC Executive Director Justin Pasquariello.

"It really worked for

See EBSC Page 2

Eastie Times is Open for Your Convenience!  
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Eastie Farms Director Kannan Thiruvengadam (left) helps plant trees at the event.

### Temple Ohabei Shalom celebrates 180 years with tree planting

By John Lynds

Members of the oldest Jewish congregation in Massachusetts are gearing up to celebrate their 180th anniversary last week with the donation of nine magnolia trees to the Salesian Boys & Girls Club.

The Temple Ohabei Shalom congregation, which was founded in 1842, built its first synagogue in Brookline in

1844 and also established the Temple Ohabei Shalom Cemetery on Woodsworth Street in Eastie the same year with the support of the Boston City Council.

To mark 180 years since the congregation's founding, members are planting 18 trees in Eastie with the help of Tree Eastie, Speak for the Trees and the Harbor View Neighborhood Association (HVNA).

Temple Ohabei Shalom will plant 9 more in the fall within the Harbor View area to commemorate the Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah. Each tree will represent a decade of the congregation's existence.

The 18 trees is part of a wider effort led by Tree Eastie and Speak for the Trees to bring more street trees to Eastie. The two groups have been working for a few years now to in-

crease the neighborhood's tree canopy by working with the city and other stakeholders. The goal is to get hundreds of new trees planted throughout the neighborhood.

"Speak for the Trees has been intimately engaged with Tree Eastie in their work, supporting its projects both with finances, expertise, and technol-

See TREE PLANTING Page 6

### Tree Eastie volunteers help dig tree pits in honor of Earth Day

By John Lynds

For a couple of years now Tree Eastie, with the help of Speak for the Trees, has been trying to rekindle the neighborhood's grassroots effort to get more trees planted in East Boston.

Last week, in honor of Earth Day and upcoming Arbor Day, volunteers from the neighborhood spent the day digging tree pit holes around the neighborhood with a focus on Maverick Square, Day Square and Central Square.

Tree Eastie's Bill Masterson has been on a crusade to get the neighborhood's tree canopy closer to the average tree canopy in other Boston neighborhoods.

During the Earth Day and Arbor Day events, volunteers were paired in groups of two or three to dig 3'x3'x3' holes in exist-

ing tree pits.

The digging of these holes, said Masterson, is the first step in planting the 100 street trees Tree Eastie hopes to accomplish this spring.

After digging the holes, volunteers placed signs indicating the hole was the future site of a new Eastie street tree.

Masterson said Tree Eastie decided to focus on the highest urban heat island locations.

Tree Eastie will also focus its efforts on Maverick and Central Square and then Jeffries Point through a large grant from Delta Airlines. Masterson said that money will be used to plant 40 new street trees across these areas.

Tree Eastie has also identified spots in Orient Heights, as well as Harbor View, that need street

See TREE PITS Page 8



In observation of Earth Day and Arbor Day Eastie volunteers dig a hole for a future street tree just behind Day Square at the bottom of Eagle Hill.



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East Boston

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# Mayor Wu proposes \$106 million in investments in homeownership programs

Mayor Michelle Wu highlighted her proposal to invest \$106 million to expand opportunities for homeownership for Boston residents, including \$60 million through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and \$46 million in City funds over three years. This proposal builds on Mayor Wu's commitment to prioritize federal funds to address Boston's housing crisis and boosts the City's efforts to close the racial wealth gap by expanding affordable homeownership opportunities for BIPOC households and first-generation homebuyers.

"Homeownership is crucial to building generational wealth and long term stability for families," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "We have an opportunity to transform what homeownership looks like in Boston. These investments will support existing programs for first time homebuyers, build generational wealth for Boston families, and help bring Boston one step closer to becoming a Green New Deal city."

The new investments in affordable homeownership were part of Mayor Wu's first operating budget proposal and federal spending plan, which were formally filed with the Boston City Council earlier this month.

The proposal includes \$60 million in ARPA funds to:

Accelerate the production of affordable homeownership units supported by the Mayor's Office of

Housing (MOH)

Support down payment assistance programs, including for first-generation buyers

Expand the ONE+Boston Mortgage program, which lowers interest rates for income-eligible buyers

In addition, the proposed FY23 Operating Budget includes \$3.4 million for homebuyer assistance programs, for a total of \$10.2 million over the next three years. These investments are on top of \$36 million from other City sources to support MOH's homeownership development pipeline, which currently includes 312 new income-restricted units across 19 developments, all projected to break ground within the next three years. With additional support from ARPA funds, this pipeline of affordable homeownership units is expected to grow significantly. Together, these funds represent a significant increase in the City's investment in affordable homeownership programs and production compared to previous years.

The proposed investments in homeownership are part of an unprecedented commitment of \$380 million to address housing affordability and stability through the Operating budget, the Capital budget, and federal recovery funds to build and acquire new affordable units, upgrade public housing, and expand housing stability services and an expanded voucher program.

"This significant investment will both increase

the stock of affordable properties in Boston and assist families that want to purchase homes in a very competitive market," said Sheila Dillon, Chief of Housing and Director of Neighborhood Development. "In order to increase generational wealth, stabilize our residents and invest in neighborhoods, it is critical that we make additional resources available for homeownership development and programs."

"We are thrilled that Mayor Wu and our city councilors understand the needs of thousands of MAHA members and graduates," said Symone Crawford, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance. "And I'm proud of our MAHA community leaders who have worked so diligently to make this happen. This is an amazing accomplishment and a strong foundation for all of us to build on."

"Investment in affordable housing at all levels matters if we are to foster generational wealth," said Beverly Williams, Executive Team Leader with the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization. "GBIO is proud to celebrate this historic investment in affordable housing that does just that."

Two programs slated to receive funding from the proposal, the ONE+Boston program and the financial assistance program for first-time homebuyers (FAP), assisted more than 150 households buy homes in the last year. Of those households, 60%

were Black, Indigenous or People of Color (BIPOC).

"Dedicating these federal funds to first-generation and affordable homeownership will anchor our families in Boston and help close the racial wealth gap," said Councilor Kenzie Bok, Chair of the Committee on COVID-19 Recovery. "I'm thankful for the Mayor's partnership and for all the advocates who have pushed the City of Boston to make this enduring commitment."

"We know that the lack of financial capital for closing costs and down payments is one of the most significant barriers to homeownership for BIPOC and first-generation homeowners," said Councilor Kendra Lara, Chair of the Committee on Housing and Community Development. "This level of investment in the FAP and ONE+ program will ensure that we're removing those barriers and creating more opportunities for housing stability through homeownership for Boston residents."

Boston has an overall homeownership rate of 35 percent, considerably less than the statewide homeownership rate of 62 percent. Homeownership rates differ significantly by race and ethnicity, as 44 percent of Boston's white households are homeowners, compared to 31 percent of Black or African American households, 30 percent of Asian or Pacific Islander households, and 17 percent of Hispanic or Latinx households.

The Mayor's Office of

Housing works to expand access to homeownership by creating and preserving affordable homeownership units and providing financial assistance to aspiring homebuyers, particularly first-generation homebuyers.

The ONE+Boston program was designed to supplement one of the state's existing affordable mortgage programs (the ONE Mortgage) by providing qualified buyers, based on area median income (AMI), additional discounts on interest rates. With the ONE+Boston program, qualified Boston residents who earn between 80% and 100% AMI will receive a half percent (0.5%) discount rate off the reduced interest rate offered through the ONE Mortgage product (currently about 4.65%). Boston residents who earn below 80% AMI will receive up to one percent (1%) off of the current ONE Mortgage rate. Qualified buyers will also be eligible for downpayment and closing cost assistance through the Boston Home Center.

The ONE+Boston program and the First Generation Homebuyer Program are two of several City resources available to first-time homebuyers in Boston. Through the Boston Home Center, the City's one-stop-shop for homebuyers and homeowners, residents receive assistance in purchasing, improving, and keeping their home through a suite of resources including training, financial help and counseling to first-time and first-generation

homebuyers, guidance and funding for home improvements and efficiency upgrades, and counseling to help families avoid foreclosure. The Home Center also markets homes developed for income-eligible, first-time homebuyers.

These proposals build on Mayor Wu's initiatives to address Boston's housing affordability, including filing a Home Rule Petition relative to real estate transfer fees and senior property tax relief signing an Executive Order relative to affirmatively furthering fair housing, convening a Rent Stabilization Advisory Committee to inform future legislative proposals, and announcing the City's new Chief of Planning.

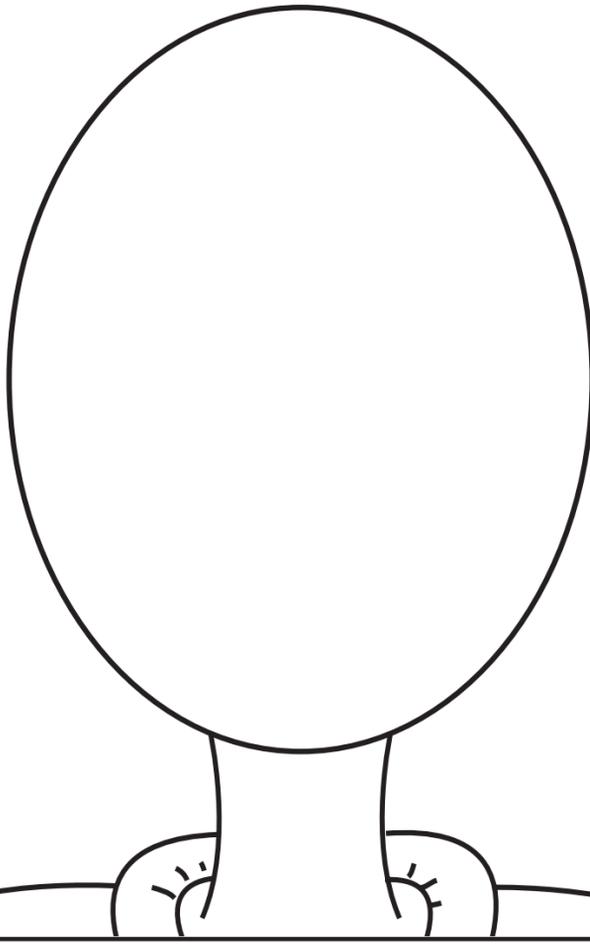
For more information about the proposed budget, visit [budget.boston.gov](http://budget.boston.gov). For more information about the proposed ARPA spending plan, visit [boston.gov/recover](http://boston.gov/recover).

The Mayor's Office of Housing is responsible for housing people experiencing homelessness, creating and preserving affordable housing, and ensuring that renters and homeowners can obtain, maintain, and remain in safe, stable housing. The department develops and implements the City of Boston's housing creation and homelessness prevention plans and collaborates with local and national partners to find new solutions and build more housing affordable to all, particularly those with lower incomes. For more information, please visit the MOH website.

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- Pens, pencils, markers or crayons, use colors

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Or mail to: The Independent Newspaper Group, 385 Broadway, Ste 105, Revere

**Deadline for entries will be Friday, April 29th.**

Entries will be published with winners selected in the May 5th, & 6th issues

## EBSC // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

us because it's a dedicated separate space on the first floor," said Pasquariello. "There are a few residents who live on the first floor and while we come through the same entrance as residents there's a hallway between us and the seniors that is locked and separate."

The \$1 million project to create the space was funded by state and other grants and the Barnes School infant and toddler program serves several purposes.

First, it accommodates 7 infants and 26 toddlers displaced from their early learning program at the Chelsea public housing facility, where they provided full-day childcare. It also doubles the number of infants EBSC serves—from 7 to 14 and adds one additional toddler spot to meet the childcare needs of working parents in the community.

"But most of all, it builds a foundation that prepares children for a lifetime of learning through high-quality, affordable programming," said Pasquariello.

Early Learning Program Director Michele D'Ambrosio, who, along with Director of Operations David Cali, helped spear-

head the effort to provide infant and toddler space in Eastie and worked closely with the East Boston CDC to bring the new program to fruition.

"Our high-quality infant toddler child care promotes brain development learning experiences, giving young children opportunities to develop important skills for future success" said D'Ambrosio.

Site Coordinator, Krysten Buccella, remarked that the staff was settling in perfectly.

"The team and I are very excited to finally be operating out of our new center," said Buccella. "We are all eager to make this space our own and welcoming. The children come in ready to learn and happy to see their teachers and friends."

As for the seniors already living at the Barnes School, Pasquariello said the new program has received a good welcome.

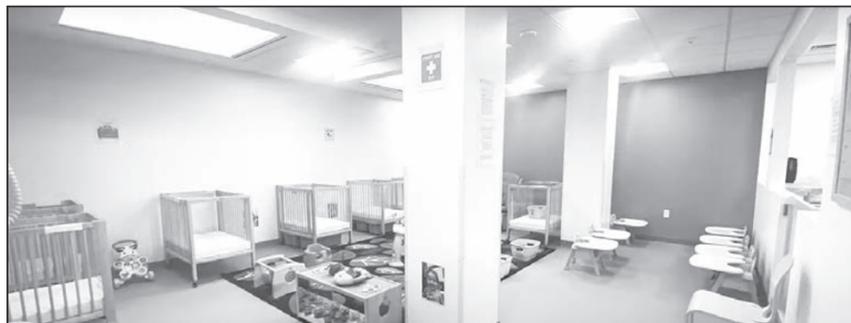
"We've had a good welcome and we've already got some seniors who have said they want to volunteer with the kids, which is something that will be exciting," said Pasquariello. "We're just still settling in so we're not doing that right away right away,

but it'll be nice. We'll be able to have some of the residents come down and read to the kids or there's a lot of research that shows there's a lot of benefits for both older adults and young kids from having that kind of intergenerational mingling."

EBSC is a multi-service nonprofit, founded in 1918, serving culturally diverse families and individuals of all ages in East Boston and throughout Greater Boston. The programs offered by the Social Centers are designed to meet people's educational, social, and recreational needs and to build community and strengthen families. As reflected in its motto, "When all give, all gain," the Social Centers seek to create a welcoming and supportive environment, characterized by a spirit of goodwill and caring, in which members of the community are empowered to lead productive and fulfilling lives.

Learn more at <https://www.ebsocialcenters.org/early-learners>

If you would like information on the Early Learners Program, please contact Enrollment Coordinator Carmen Oliva at [coliva@ebsoc.org](mailto:coliva@ebsoc.org).



One of the rooms in the new EBSC infant and toddler program that recently opened up at the Barnes School on Marion Street.

Visit [eastietimes.com](http://eastietimes.com)

# COVID positive test-rate continues to climb

By John Lynds

East Boston and the city are in the middle of another COVID surge as nearly 1 out of every 10 residents tested last week in the neighborhood were positive.

Health experts are saying the new subvariant of the omicron strain, known as BA.2, is now the dominant strain in the US and 30 percent more infectious than the BA.1 omicron strain responsible for the last surge.

Last week, 973 Eastie residents were tested for the virus last week and 8.4 percent were positive--this was an 18 percent increase from the 7.1 percent that

tested positive as reported by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) on April 18.

Eighty-two additional Eastie residents contracted the virus between April 18 and April 25 and there are now 14,935 confirmed cases in the neighborhood since the start of the pandemic.

Boston's citywide weekly positive test rate also increased last week and remains well above the 5 percent threshold.

According to the BPHC 15,808 residents were tested citywide last week and 6.9 percent were COVID positive--this was a 30 percent increase from the 5.3 percent that reported-

ly tested positive for the week ending on April 18.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 1.60 percent last week and went from 172,876 to 175,628 confirmed cases since the start of the pandemic.

There were two additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total number of COVID deaths is now at 1,454.

# EBNHC appoints Andreina Sanabria as the Assistant Vice President of Neighborhood PACE

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) announced that Andreina Sanabria has been appointed to the role of Assistant Vice President of Neighborhood PACE, a home care solution for seniors and part of the national Program of All-Inclusive Care for adults 55 and older. As Assistant Vice President, Sanabria will oversee strategy and operations for Neighborhood PACE including management of clinical operations, quality, health plan and enrollment. She will help further EBNHC's vision of providing high quality, comprehensive care to all and especially vulnerable populations such as seniors.

"The addition of Andreina comes at an important time as the communities we serve continue to grow," said Calay Ip, vice president of Neighborhood PACE at EBNHC. "She will play a key role in improving organizational efficiency of the Neighborhood PACE program. Her background and passion for healthcare equity make her a great fit in helping to serve our diverse patients as they age with dignity."

Sanabria has deep expertise in healthcare and a passion for ensuring equitable care for all. She

brings more than 20 years in the healthcare field to her new role. Prior to joining EBNHC, Sanabria founded Conmédica, the first medical call center in Venezuela. She also worked for Fundación Proyecto Maniapure in Caracas, a not-for-profit organization that delivers primary care to underserved communities in Venezuela, where she helped develop a successful telemedicine model. Sanabria also served as a volunteer and board member of America Developing Smiles, a non-profit organization based in Miami that delivers healthcare to underserved communities in Latin America.

"As a Latino woman and immigrant, I know firsthand the challenges the U.S. healthcare delivery system faces in health equity, and I've made it my personal mission to help underserved populations and most vulnerable communities," said Sanabria. "I am proud to join an organization that takes great pride in providing high-quality, affordable care to all without regard to age, race and ethnicity, insurance status or ability to pay. I look forward to helping to shape strategic planning efforts for Neighborhood PACE, which serves many

members of the Latino community."

Neighborhood PACE, a program of EBNHC, serves adults over 55 living in East Boston, Chelsea, Winthrop, Revere, Everett, Malden, Melrose, Medford, Stoneham, and Boston's North End. Offering highly personalized, home-based coordinated care, Neighborhood PACE allows seniors to maintain independence and thrive in the community, ultimately giving patients and caregivers peace of mind and community connection. The program is the ideal solution for those who want to age with dignity at home as it provides the right combination of medical, social, recreation, rehabilitation, homemaking, and other services. Neighborhood PACE is supported through a PACE program agreement with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, MassHealth, and the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center.

Sanabria holds a masters degree in Healthcare Administration from Boston College and a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Universidad Metropolitana in Caracas.

# Take Back // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

staff and volunteers on Saturday at the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center's 20 Maverick Square location from 10 am-12 pm, and at Recovery on the Harbor at 983 Bennington St., from 12:30 pm-2 pm.

EASTIE Coalition Coordinator Joanna Cataldo this is second time the coalition has run this event, which coincides with the DEA's National Drug Take Back Program. The first was during the DEA's National Drug Take Back Program back in October.

"We are doing this during the DEA's national event as part of our overall prevention strategy in Eastie," said Cataldo. "This event is to raise awareness on multiple fronts. We do a lot of in-school prevention work, mostly at the Mario Umaña, Donald McKay and Excel Academy Middle School. This event is to bring awareness to parents and guardians about the hazard within their own homes."

Cataldo said during the last drug take back event in the fall, the coalition had over 60 people drop off the bags that were placed in the Times.

"It may not seem a lot but each bag had several bottles in them," said Cataldo. "So we collected about 200 pill bottles and if there were 10, or 20, or 30 or 40 pills in them that's a lot of dangerous drugs that got taken out of homes and out of circulation."

Cataldo said it is important to have events like this because it educates the public on the dangers of hanging onto unused medications.

"We are working to keep these prescription medications out of the hands of kids, grandkids, adults or individuals struggling with addiction," she said. "This is a way to clear out medicine cabinets of medications that some people might not even realize could lead a loved one to addiction."

A 2019 National Survey

on Drug Use and Health, 9.7 million people in the U.S. misused prescription pain relievers in 2019. The survey also showed that a majority of misused prescription drugs were obtained from family and friends, often from the home medicine cabinet.

Having Recovery on the Harbor as a drop off location will also give residents the opportunity to learn more about the new recovery support center in Orient Heights.

As a reminder, there is a prescription drop box at the District A-7 East Boston Police Station located at 69 Paris Street.

Cataldo reminded residents that no liquids or needles will be accepted at the drop off locations and those looking for treatment services for a loved one can visit the EASTIE Coalition website at [www.eastiecoalition.org](http://www.eastiecoalition.org). Residents can also reach out to Joanna Cataldo at 617-568-6492 or email [cataldoj@ebnhc.org](mailto:cataldoj@ebnhc.org) if there are any questions.

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## THE EAST BOSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMEMORATES THE OBSERVANCE OF PATRIOT'S DAY

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce placed a display of American flags to commemorate the Patriot's Day that was observed on Monday, April 18, at the Daniel H Solari Square outside the Chamber of Commerce office at 464 Bremen Street.

Patriot's Day commemorates the April anniversary of the very first Revolutionary War battles of Lexington and Concord. The battles of Lexington and Concord signaled the start of the American Revolutionary War where the British Army set out from Boston to capture rebel leaders Samuel Adams and John Hancock in Lexington as well as to destroy the American's store of weapons and ammunition in Concord.

Please note that the flags are for display purposes. If anyone wishes to obtain a flag, please feel free to contact the Chamber at [eastbostonchamber.com](http://eastbostonchamber.com). You can take a selfie of yourself or others with the flag display and post it on social media with the hashtag #eastbostonchamber to enter in a raffle for a free US flag like those found in the display.

We will announce the winner on the East Boston Chamber of Commerce Facebook Page.

## EAST BOSTON SOCIAL CENTERS OPENS NEW INFANT AND TODDLER CHILDCARE CENTER

East Boston Social Centers, Inc. proudly opened the doors to a new infant and toddler program at the Barnes School after three years of planning and renovations (and delays from the pandemic). Led by Justin Pasquariello, the Executive Director of the East Boston Social Centers; David Cali, the Director of Operations; Michele D'Ambrosio, the Director of Early Learning, and her wonderful staff of teachers, aides, and volunteers, their youngest participants and their families were welcomed into this beautiful state-of-the-art space.

The Barnes School infant and toddler program serves several purposes. First, it accommodates 7 infants and 26 toddlers displaced from their early learning program at a Chelsea public housing facility, where they provided full-day childcare, due to demolition and renovations. It also dou-

bles the number of infants they are serving—from 7 to 14 and adds one additional toddler spot to meet the childcare needs of working parents in the community. But most of all, it builds a foundation that prepares children for a lifetime of learning through high-quality, affordable programming.

"Our high-quality infant toddler child care promotes brain development learning experiences, giving young children opportunities to develop important skills for future success" said Michele D'Ambrosio, Early Learning Program Director. Site Coordinator, Krysten Buccella, remarked that the staff was settling in perfectly and, "The team and I are very excited to finally be operating out of our new center. We are all eager to make this space our own and welcoming. The children come in ready to learn and happy to see their teachers and friends."

East Boston Social Centers, Inc. is a 501 (C) (9) multi-service agency, founded in 1918, serving culturally diverse families and individuals of all ages in East Boston and throughout Greater Boston. The programs offered by the Social Centers are designed to meet people's educational, social, and recreational needs and to build community and strengthen families. As reflected in its motto, "When all give, all gain," the Social Centers seeks to create a welcoming and supportive environment, characterized by a spirit of goodwill and caring, in which members of the community are empowered to lead productive and fulfilling lives.

Learn more at <https://www.ebsocialcenters.org/early-learners>

If you would like information on the Early Learners Program, please contact Enrollment Coordinator Carmen Oliva at [coliva@ebsoc.org](mailto:coliva@ebsoc.org).

## HARBOR VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING AGENDA

The next meeting of the Harbor View Neighborhood Association will be on Monday, May 2, at 6pm. Please NOTE that the meeting will be In Person only. The meeting will be held in the Salesian Boys and Girls Club cafeteria, across from the Brooke Charter School on Byron Street. You can access the meeting from the front door on Byron Street or from the rear door on Wordsworth Street, which is the handicap entry to avoid the stairs. Since we will be indoors masks will be worn and the cafeteria is large enough for social

distancing.

Our interpreter, Ricardo will be present for our Spanish speaking members.

La proxima reunion de Harbor View Neighborhood Association esta en el 2 de Mayo 2022 a las 6pm. La reunion esta solamente en persona. No hay un opcion remoto. Llega a la cafeteria del Salesian Boys y Girls Club por la calle Byron al otro lado de Brooke Charter School. Puede usar la entrada principal por la calle Byron o la entrada en calle de Wordsworth. La entrada de la calle Wordsworth no tiene escaleras por personas con discapacidades. Por favor, usa una mascarilla y hay espacio por la distancia social. Todos de los prestaciones estan en persona y tenemos interpretacion en Espanol de nuestro interprete, Ricardo.

Esa reunion esta solamente en persona. Por favor traje mascarilla.

Agenda  
Welcome/Introduction (5min)

Announcements (5min)  
180th Anniversary of Ohabei Shalom Cemetery Tree planting, St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive May 21 and 22. HVNA Board elections at the June meeting.

Station 7 Police Report (15min) Sgt. Cintolo, Officer Domenico and Officer Mosley.

Piers Park 3 (15min) Gabriela Ramirez, Trustees, Design Update and next steps on this amazing project.

Nominations for the HVNA Board (20min) Members will nominate candidates for the Board. The Board is made up of 5 members: two Co-Chairs, Secretary, Treasurer and one At Large member. The term is 2 years. Nominations will close on Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 8pm.

490 Bennington Street (20min) Informational Presentation by Attorney Richard Lynds on this proposal to demolish existing home and erect a 4 story building with 7 Units and 5 parking spaces. This project was voted down by the neighborhood and by the ZBA. This project has been changed and has less units than previously presented. This is an informational presentation to let the neighborhood know what is planned to go before the ZBA for consideration and approval.

Reminder the meeting is In Person only, it will not be on Zoom. So plan accordingly

The next meeting of the HVNA will be on June 6, 2022

Visit us at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/harborviewna> or check out our website at [harborvieweastboston.com](http://harborvieweastboston.com).

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# East Boston

Times-Free Press

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**PUBLISHER EMERITUS:** John A. Torrione

## OUR DRIVING IS WORSE THAN EVER, SO THIS IS NO TIME TO REDUCE TRAFFIC STOPS

Pundits and some politicians recently have been calling for a reduction in the enforcement of minor traffic offenses by our police.

We respectfully, and strongly, disagree.

Thanks to a number of factors, our roadways are more dangerous than ever. In 2020, there were 38,680 deaths on U.S. roadways, the most since 2007, even though pandemic precautions had dramatically reduced driving because people were staying at home.

In 2021, overall traffic fatalities continued to rise at a record pace. Nearly 32,000 people were killed in vehicle crashes in the first nine months of 2021, a 12 percent increase from the same period in 2020, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

It was the highest number of fatalities during the first nine months of any year since 2006 and the highest percentage increase during the first nine months of a year in the reporting system's history.

Why are Americans driving more recklessly than ever?

We believe a number of factors are at play, including an increase in drug and alcohol use during the pandemic, the decline in the use of seat belts, a huge increase in distracted driving because of the use of electronic devices, and a general disdain for societal restrictions that have spilled-over into a disregard for speed limits, stop signs, etc. on our roadways.

The rise in motor vehicle deaths follows other pandemic-era trends: Alcohol sales have soared, drug overdoses have set new records, and homicides have seen their biggest year-over-year increase on record.

In light of these alarming trends and statistics, suggesting that our police should curtail traffic-law enforcement is nonsensical.

We realize that routine traffic stops often are fraught with peril, both for the officers and for members of the public, as happened once again with the recent tragic shooting of a Black man by a white officer in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

However, in an interview with 60 Minutes on Sunday, the new mayor of New York, Eric Adams, noted that we must do more to ensure that effective police enforcement is coupled with respectful, non-abusive police behavior. Those concepts are not inherently mutually-exclusive.

Moreover, said Adams, "If you don't have public safety, everything crumbles."

The ancient Romans put it this way, "Let the safety of the people be the highest law of the land."

That is as true today as it was 2100 years ago -- and that is especially true on our streets and highways.

## PUTIN'S UKRAINIAN GENOCIDE

If you listen to chatter of the pundits and politicians, there seems to be a debate about whether Russia is engaging in genocide in Ukraine.

Obviously, we aren't experts in international law. So we looked up the definition of genocide according to the Genocide Convention, which came together in the aftermath of WWII.

Genocide is defined as any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group:

- Killing members of the group;
- Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; or
- Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part.

Putin is perpetrating all of these acts upon the people of Ukraine. From the outset of the invasion, he said that Ukraine "is not even a country" and that Russia needed to "de-Nazify" it -- codewords for obliterating Ukraine and its people.

Russian forces are indiscriminately bombing, murdering, torturing, starving, and raping civilians. Russian forces have herded hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian citizens onto trains and forcibly transported them to central Russia, where they await an uncertain fate.

The ceaseless bombing campaign against non-military targets has the only goal of wiping Ukrainian cities and towns from the face of the earth. Russian soldiers even have been going into libraries and destroying any books written in the Ukrainian language.

In short, Vladimir Putin is the 21st century equivalent of Hitler and Stalin, both of whom were genocidal sociopaths.

We hope and pray that our government and the rest of the civilized world will do everything conceivable to stop Putin's barbarous genocide of the Ukrainian people.



# Forum

GUEST OP-ED

## Finding hope and life before death

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Most of us have wondered about life beyond the grave. Many today are in search of life before the grave. Given what many people traditionally believe about heaven, eternity and life beyond, it would certainly seem very valuable to think about a life beyond. However, what about life here?

The Ukrainian people wake up every day to fight, survive or hide another day. They fight for life and freedom. Why? Life and freedom are worth something.

How much are life and freedom worth? What does it mean to you to hug your spouse or loved one? How much do you enjoy laughing with family, friends or at a funny tv show? How good does it feel to do something you enjoy? Cooking a meal, music, reading, your faith

assembly, grandkids or enjoying a sunny or rainy day. Life is living and enjoying our living.

God didn't make us to be miserable. We make ourselves miserable. Sickness makes us miserable. Addictions destroy us and others. Death of the people we love zaps us and creates major voids in our lives. Yet, life can only be lived forward and often this is where we get stuck. Too often we put our cars in park and start watching the world go by us. We look in the rear view mirror. Life is whizzing by and we can't seem to get our foot back on the accelerator to start moving again. This becomes a very stagnate and unhappy way to live. Actually, it's not a life at all.

Living before you die must have some routine. Go to work. Go someplace. Do something. It

doesn't have to be exotic or glorious. Often routine is the same thing every day. There is some peace in routine. When our routine and entire lives are shaken, like what is happening in Ukraine, then every minute is about surviving another day.

Survival mode for you may be doctor's visits. Making a plan for the next five years or year of your life. Reconnecting to some family or a friend or two. Making peace with the past and embracing today.

The key word for life is hope. Peace is another key word but peace doesn't exist without hope. If we have hope we can look forward to life. We hope we have enough health. We hope we have enough money. The people of Ukraine have hope they can overcome Russia. This keeps many of them

going. Many have fled the country in search of hope.

Find the hope you need to embrace the rest of your life. Hope in family, friends, hobbies and much more is good. Just be very aware, even they may disappoint you. Mainly, find hope in you. God didn't make junk. Too often, life, events, mistakes, and sometimes even people we are close to make it difficult for us to see our worth and it tarnishes our spirit.

Hope is an inside job that starts now.

*Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.*

## Long-time East Boston resident Carmela Favorito writes about life, loss, and the meaning of family

Special to the Times-Free Press

At a young 90 years of age, Carmela Maria Leone Favorito has seen it all. Born in San Nicola Italy in 1931, the third of eight children, a devastating earthquake caused her family to lose everything right before her birth. For the first year of her life, her family took shelter in a cave. Growing up, Carmela's life was clearly one of hardship, but through it all, Carmela never lost sight of what was important to her: hard work, loyalty, and family.

Carmela's Story, a memoir written painstakingly by Carmela with the help of family members, chronicles Carmela's life from when she was a young girl in Italy, her move to East Boston and her life until she was in her in her mid-70's. Today she is just as vibrant as ever and is a much-beloved resident at Cohen Florence Levine Estates Assisted Living in Chelsea.

Carmela met her husband Ciriaco (Jerry) when she was 19 and he was 30. It was an arranged marriage. He was living in the United States; Carmela in Italy. Corresponding only through letters, Jerry arrived in Italy in 1950, accompanied by his mother, to meet Carmela. Jerry and



Jen Fazekas, director of marketing BW Cohen Florence Levine Estates (left) and Carmela Favorito.

Carmela married and both returned to East Boston to start their life together.

When Carmela first arrived in this country, she was amazed at the running water and electricity. In Italy, she washed her clothes in the creek. Pursuing the "American Dream," the couple managed to buy a house in East Boston at 442 Saratoga Street, with \$900 down and a 20 year mortgage. This is the house that Carmela lived in for most of her adult

life, moving to 454 Saratoga Street in 2012. Being Italian, Carmela loved to cook for her family, making such specialties as spaghetti and meat-

balls, lasagna, and chicken cacciatore. Homemade meatball sub sandwiches, however, were her most popular entrée.

Although Carmela didn't speak any English when she moved to Boston, her husband insisted that no Italian be spoken in the house. As he put it, "We already know Italian, let's learn English." Carmela and Jerry had four children: Emilio, John and twins Gerald and Marie. Raising her family kept Carmela busy, but she also worked in a variety of waitressing and catering jobs. Although her marriage ultimately didn't work out and Carmela and Jerry divorced, Carmela still has warm feelings about their years together. After going to school at night to improve her English and to become an American citizen, Carmela ultimately landed an office job at John Hancock. She worked there for 13 years, often averaging 55-

See FAMILY Page 9

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**VOTE** **GABRIELA "Gigi" COLETTA** **MAY 3**  
for BOSTON CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

## DEAR EAST BOSTON,

My name is Gabriela Coletta and I'm running to be your next Boston City Councilor for district one to represent Charlestown, East Boston, and the North End.

I'm so proud of the broad and inclusive coalition I have built across the district. I've talked to thousands of individuals, and families, and it's been incredible to learn more about your priorities for this district and how you'd like to define your neighborhood for future generations.

I am a daughter of District One. I was born and raised in Eagle Hill and continue to live here with my incredible partner, Sebastian Zapata. I am a proud product of four Boston Public Schools, a graduate of Boston Latin Academy, and an alum of UMass Boston, where I earned my degree in Political Science and Human Rights.

East Boston has given me so much and shaped me into the person I am today. This beautiful and diverse community has been the start of the American dream for so many immigrant families, including my own almost four generations ago when they climbed the Golden Staircase and settled on Cottage Street in Jeffries Point. I am so proud to be an East Bostonian.

It was here that I learned the real meaning of community from my civically engaged parents, Ed Coletta and Nina Gaeta. They brought me along for the ride for neighborhood events, volunteer drives, and meetings centered on beautifying this community and pushing this neighborhood towards progress. Through their love, we learned what it meant to participate and give back in service.

I am forever grateful for that exposure because it ingrained in me the idea that it is our civic obligation – our responsibility – to lift each other up, to come together, and support one another to realize our collective power.

This is exactly why I made a career out of empowering whole communities, bringing people together from different backgrounds and in many languages – in order to accomplish great things. I was proud to serve as a community aide for State Rep. Adrian Madaro and Chief of Staff for then-Councilor now-Senator Lydia Edwards. I am proud to have their support in this race, along with dozens of thought leaders, advocates, working people, and other elected officials.

Over the last 7 years, I've attended hundreds of civic association meetings, which afforded me the opportunity to sit shoulder-to-shoulder with my neighbors. Particularly during my time serving East Boston, Charlestown, and the North End in City Hall, I lived and breathed the nuances and complexities of every single issue that emerged, from the macro to the nuts and bolts. I am so proud of what we accomplished together.

Together, we led the fight for affordable housing – particularly at Suffolk Downs, the largest land development in Boston's history. Together, we expanded paid parental leave for all City employees – for both, new moms and new dads – to move the needle on economic, social, and reproductive justice.

During the COVID-19 crisis, we mobilized quickly. Together, we worked with community-based organizations to disperse \$400,000 in direct rental relief to families who were struggling due to the pandemic. We helped many individuals stay in their homes and connected them to food, unemployment, and workers' rights resources during the height of the pandemic.

Now, I am ready to use my experience to move the needle where it counts.

I will use my platform to protect our coastline from the high risk of flooding due to climate change, to expand our parks and tree canopy, and to hold MassPort accountable —because everyone has a right to green space and to breathe clean air.

On Day One, I will fight for affordable and workforce housing, because I know what it's like to be priced out of our neighborhoods. I will fight for high-quality education for every student, while prioritizing closing the achievement gap and our children's physical and mental health as we navigate COVID-19. And I will fight for accessible and responsive government that works for the people, because I know that the nuts and bolts add up to make a big impact on our quality of life.

I will push for a facilities master plan for our public schools marked by investments in healthy learning environments. I will fight like hell to close opportunity and achievement gaps by directly supporting children with special needs and English language learners. I will ensure that our goals support students from early education and universal pre-K, all the way to college and career-readiness pathways by investing in dual enrollment programs and vocational training to open more opportunities.

I was proud to be in the trenches working in partnership with you all, helping to uplift your voices in City Hall. That is exactly what I will do as your next City Councilor. It's been an honor working in service for my neighbors, tackling everything from expanding affordable housing, climate resiliency of our coastline, and the day-to-day constituent services that matter so much.

I'm running because I'm ready to lead in service – but also in partnership – with all of you. You have my commitment: I am running to protect the vibrancy of our communities, to expand opportunities for our children, and to ensure that municipal government is accessible and efficient — and ultimately better the lives of its constituents.

I respectfully ask for your vote on Tuesday, May 3. Let's get to work.

With gratitude,



[WWW.GABRIELACOLETTA.COM](http://WWW.GABRIELACOLETTA.COM)



# Tree Planting // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ogy,” said Speak for the Trees Executive Director David Meshoulam. “The Delta Air Lines grant and the Ohabei Shalom partnership, for example, are two projects that we are bringing to East Boston in partnership with Tree Eastie.”

Because the cemetery is on the National Register of Historic Places the trees can not be planted inside the gates of the cemetery but members of the Temple worked with Tree Eastie, Speak for the Trees and HVNA to look for alternative sites around the cemetery.

The first site chosen to plant the first nine trees was on the Wordsworth Street side of the cemetery where the Salesians Boys and Girls Club rear entrance is.

For over a decade the Jewish Cemetery Association of Massachusetts (JCAM) Charitable Foundation has been raising money and restoring the historic Ohabei Shalom Chapel on Wordsworth Street with several projects in the works.

Built in 1903 the Ohabei Shalom Chapel served as a mortuary chapel for the adjacent Jewish Cemetery. The cemetery was established in 1844, and was the first Jewish Cemetery in the state that served

Boston and Mystic Valley’s Jewish population.

According to plans the JCAM will complete a historic restoration of not only the chapel to create the neighborhood’s first immigration center but also the cemetery’s perimeter.

JCAM’s Director of Development Lisa Berenson recently reported that the JCAM completely restored the exits to the cemetery and completely renovated the exterior of the chapel through funds from the Mass Historical Commission, private foundations and donations.

JCAM’s latest project is the fence at the back of the cemetery that borders Byron Street. For decades the chain link fence has rusted and has been an eyesore. The retaining wall on Byron Street also needs work to fix years of decay. JCAM has been writing grants and has been able to get some funding. These funds will be used for wall restoration and a replacement fence at the back of the cemetery.

The JCAM also received funds from Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding last year. Under Historic Preservation \$40,000 went towards helping restore the wall on Byron Street that Berenson said was crumbling.



Chair of Temple Ohabei Shalom 180th Anniversary Committee Larry Greene and Executive Director of Speak for the Trees David Meshoulam.



Volunteers helping to plant magnolia trees donated by Temple Ohabei Shalom to the Salesian Boys & Girls Club.



Volunteers plant the first nine of 18 magnolia trees behind the Salesian Boys & Girls Club.



Tree Eastie’s Bill Masterson with HVNA’s Skip and Dot Marcella.



Temple Ohabei Shalom Rabbi Daniel Schaefer.



Rep. Adrian Madaro with his wife, Ariel, and son, Matteo.

## Gabriela Coletta:

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- ✓ Our Right to Green Space and Clean Air
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**VOTE** Gabriela Coletta  
for Boston City Council, District 1

Don’t Forget to **VOTE** in the Special Election on **Tuesday, MAY 3**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Gabriela Coletta

**The Massachusetts Department of Transportation**

invites you to attend a

**Virtual Public Information Meeting**

for the

**Sumner Tunnel Centennial Project**

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022 and Wednesday, May 4, 2022**  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Register: [virtualmeeting.link/Sumner100-may2022](https://virtualmeeting.link/Sumner100-may2022)

These meetings will provide an opportunity for the public to hear an overview of the Sumner Tunnel Centennial Project including project overview, schedule, and traffic impacts beginning in June 2022. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and offer comments. Spanish and Arabic interpretation will be available at both virtual meetings.

All residents, abutters, local business owners, and interested commuters are invited to attend. All attendees who sign into the meeting and provide an email address will be entered into the project’s email database to receive project updates. Prior to the meetings, if you have specific questions or concerns for the project team, please email us: [sumner100@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:sumner100@dot.state.ma.us).

Note: This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (e.g interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, live captioning, videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats), as appropriate. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT’s Chief Diversity & Civil Rights Officer by phone at (857) 368-8580, Relay Service at 7-1-1, fax (857) 368-0602 or by email to [MASSDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:MASSDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us). Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten business days before the meeting.

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# Sports

## EAST BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL IN SOFTBALL ACTION AGAINST O'BRYANT

PHOTOS BY BOB MARRA

The Jets improved their record to 3-3 with a convincing 13-1 win over O'Bryant on Thursday, April 21 at American Legion Playground.



**STAYING SAFE:** Ashley Jimenez looks back at a wide throw after stealing second base.



**IN CONTROL:** East Boston pitcher Brittany Elliott was dominant as she led the Jets to a 13-1 win over O'Bryant Thursday, April 21 at the American Legion Playground.



**UH-OH:** Second baseman Gianna Troville reacts as a pop fly she fielded slips out of her glove.



**A SENSE OF HUMOR:** East Boston catcher Julianna Troville got a laugh from her attempt at fielding a foul pop behind home plate. Julianna had plenty to smile about when she clouted a home run to contribute to Eastie's 13-1 win over O'Bryant Thursday, April 21 at American Legion Playground.



**STAYING LOOSE:** Gianna Troville stretches between pitches.



**THERE IT IS:** East Boston's Jaden Pacitta watches as the ball she hit clears the infield into right field for a single.



**CLOSE PLAY:** Third baseman Ashley Jimenez puts the tag on an O'Bryant runner but a split second too late to get the out.



**GOT IT:** Left fielder Naria Arevalo gloves a fly ball for an out.

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# Eastie's first-ever geothermal greenhouse officially opens

By John Lynds

After years of planning East Boston's first self-sustaining, zero-emission, geothermal greenhouse officially opened last week at 6 Chelsea Terrace.

Run by Eastie Farm, the new greenhouse will provide year-round growing of nutritious foods for the community through Eastie Farm's Community Supported Agriculture Program.

"It's a zero emissions greenhouse," said Eastie Farm Founder and Director Kannan Thiruvengadam. "What that means is in the operations of the greenhouse, there will not be any carbon emitted. All greenhouses require some heating in the winter because our winters get harsh. However, greenhouses leak, and even the idea behind a greenhouse is that it traps heat as the sunlight gets through the glass but because the winter is so harsh, it loses a lot of the heat. So you really have to heat greenhouses in the winter."

The solution for Eastie's first greenhouse is the use of geothermal energy.

"We drilled three wells 55 feet, reaching down to a temperature of 48 degrees and that temperature will be exchanged with the air temperature in the greenhouse and that's what will keep the greenhouse warm in the winter and cool in the summer," said Thiruvengadam. "This will allow us to be able to grow fresh food all year because the soil will not freeze and the plants can continue to take nutrients from the soil. That also means that we are not restricted to annuals. We

can grow perennials, we can grow little trees."

Thiruvengadam said the community has already expressed interest in some programming at the greenhouse.

"It seems to me that the community wants to use the space for some activities as well so we will accommodate that," he said. "There have been some requests for growing tree saplings so it can serve as a tree nursery, so we can allocate some space to do that."

The original idea for an Eastie greenhouse percolated up from Boston Public School students that were taking part in educational activities at Eastie Farm's original location on Sumner Street.

"There is a BPS-owned school lot right next to us and we're very excited about collaborating with them," said Thiruvengadam. "The school hasn't been built yet but there will be a middle school there soon enough so that will be one of the schools we collaborate with as well as continuing our collaborations with the Donald McKay School, who has been a partner with us for more than four years in our education programming, as well as the Dante Alighieri School and Samuel Adams School. The original idea for the greenhouse came from the kids that we work with at the Donald McKay School. They were saying they were having fun in the spring and fall coming to the farm space on Sumner Street but were disappointed there were no farm activities in the winter."

The materials used to build the greenhouse came



At-Large City Councilor Ruthzie Louijeune with Tanya Hardel, Gail Miller and Jane O'Reilly.



Rep. Adrian Madaro with his son, Matteo, and Sen. Lydia Edwards during the opening ceremony.

from a company based in the Netherlands known for providing top quality greenhouses around the globe.

"Every drop of water that falls on the greenhouse will be collected and will be stored in a rain barrel and whatever excess will send it to the ground," said Thiruvengadam. "The greenhouse sort of lends itself well to the stormwater collection because we don't believe in sending stormwater into the city's drains and into the harbor."

The greenhouse was made possible through federal funding, state funding earmarked by Rep. Adrian Madaro and the former Sen. Joseph Boncore, as well as grants from the East Boston Foundation and the city's Grassroots and Community Preservation Act.

However, Thiruvengadam said Eastie Farm is still fundraising for the greenhouse to add landscaping, rain gardens as well as other programming.

At the grand opening last week, Rep. Madaro said, "There's no better way to celebrate Earth Day than in community with neighbors and Eastie Farm at their geothermal greenhouse. I'm excited to see this site bring us closer to a greener and more sustainable future for all of us."

At-Large City Councilor Ruthzie Louijeune, who was at the event, added, "My office and I had a great time at Eastie Farm's Earth Day event. They are really charting the course with their zero-emissions greenhouse which was wonderful to see. The Farm empowers so many community members to grow their own food, teach others about composting, and steward land is a way that centers climate justice. It was just a beautiful community-centered day."



Eastie Farm Founder and Director Kannan Thiruvengadam addresses the crowd.



Eastie Farm Founder and Director Kannan Thiruvengadam joins Eastie Farm board members, volunteers as well as Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley and At-Large City Councilor Ruthzie Louijeune to officially open Eastie's first self-sustaining, zero-emission, geothermal greenhouse.

Sen. Lydia Edwards, who planted a tree at the new greenhouse with the help of Rep. Madaro said she was honored to spend Earth Day in community with friends and neighbors at Eastie Farm's new greenhouse.

"Thanks Kannan Thi-

ruvengadam, Eastie Farm, Plumbers and Gasfitters Local 12, Building and Construction Trades Council, Insulators Union, and the Greater Boston Labor Council for coming together to bring green jobs and infrastructure to our neighborhood," she

said. Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley went on to say, "With so many great community and climate benefits, Eastie Farm's geothermal greenhouse is a blueprint for future development."

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## RICHARD "RICHIE" SCANNELLI



FROM YOUR FRIENDS  
AT THE EAST BOSTON  
TIMES

# Mayor Wu to tackle extreme heat during summer months in East Boston

By John Lynds

In 2017 a late summer thunderstorm sat over the North Shore, and dumped four inches of rain on the Orient Heights section of East Boston, Lynn, and Winthrop. The slow moving system overwhelmed storm drains and flooded streets, backyards and basements across the area. When the flash flood waters receded, residents were left with the reality that they would have to deal with thousands of dollars worth of damage and most, if not all, that damage would not be covered by insurance.

On Thurston Street one resident lost a hot water heater, a gas furnace and all her valuables that were stored in the basement as floodwaters reached nearly three feet. On Bennington Street, several homes across from Orient Heights MBTA station were flooded and similar stories of

total losses of everything in those basements were reported. When all was said and done, many of the working class residents of Eastie were forced to shell out tens of thousands of dollars to replace heating and water systems, electrical units and clean and dry their basements. Again, insurance agencies came back time and time again rejecting claims because the storm event was considered a 'flood' and floods are typically not covered under traditional homeowners insurance policies.

This was a storm that lasted just over an hour but many scientists agree that as the planet continues to heat, more moisture will evaporate from the seas and storms like the one in 2017 that devastated Eastie will be commonplace.

Last week, just in time for Earth Day, Mayor Michelle Wu announced the city will launch an

Extreme Temperatures Response Task Force and expand cooling strategies in Eastie and four other Environmental Justice Communities. The cooling strategies announced include a new Cool Roof Grant Program, pop-up cooling support for 30 community organizations, and a community design challenge for a 'cool bus stop'.

Wu said the city's "Heat Plan" will present 26 strategies that will help build a more just, equitable, and resilient Boston.

In addition to citywide strategies, the Heat Plan focuses on five environmental justice communities that are hotspots in Boston and experience greater burdens as temperatures increase.

Aside from Eastie the neighborhoods include Chinatown, Dorchester, Mattapan, and Roxbury.

"Extreme heat in Boston is more than an in-

convenience or discomfort—it's an urgent risk for our health, our neighborhoods, and our infrastructure," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Our Heat Resilience Solutions report presents Boston's roadmap for navigating extreme heat, particularly for our environmental justice communities. This study centers people and reinforces our commitment to a Boston Green New Deal."

Wu said the Heat Plan is a critical component of Climate Ready Boston, the City's initiative to prepare for the near- and long-term effects of climate change, like sea level rise, coastal storms, extreme precipitation, and extreme heat. The report builds on heat preparedness work to date and outlines infrastructure and programmatic strategies that will help address the growing risks of hotter summers and extreme heat in Boston. The strategies identified in the Heat Plan will work

together with the Urban Forest Plan to improve tree protection, stewardship, and new plantings for nature-based cooling solutions. The consultant team supporting the project included Sasaki, Klimaat, All Aces, and WSP.

According to studies, Boston is already experiencing the effects of climate change. Over the last decade, Boston experienced more hot days and nights than any decade in the previous 50 years.

The Heat Resilience Solutions report focuses on community-driven solutions to prepare and protect our neighborhoods for the effects of extreme heat. Climate Ready Boston completed a redlining analysis to explore neighborhood histories and systemic inequalities in Boston that resulted in certain communities facing greater burdens from climate change. The analysis showed that redlined areas are 7.5°F hotter in the day, 3.6°F hotter at night, and have 20% less parkland

and 40% less tree canopy than areas designated as "A: Best". By taking a people-centered approach to heat resilience, the City of Boston can prepare our residents and communities for extreme heat in a way that addresses systemic inequities to support a thriving, Green New Deal city.

"As the climate changes, Boston will experience increasingly higher average temperatures over time and heat waves will become more common, last longer, and be hotter," said Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. "Past decisions made by the public and private sector have led to increased heat risk in our environmental justice communities. This report is about doing the work to protect the entire city beginning with those communities that are bearing the biggest heat burdens."

## Family // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

60 hours a week. Her efforts did not go unnoticed; Carmela was promoted and received numerous awards, raises and recognition from her supervisors and co-workers.

Carmela's children's education was of paramount importance to her. Emilio received a full scholarship from Harvard and then attended Suffolk Law School; John received a full scholarship from University of Massachusetts Amherst; Jerry and Marie received full scholarships to University of Massachusetts Boston. Carmela was, and still is, so incredibly proud of her children. Tragically, Gerry passed away when he was only 36.

In 2004 Carmela decided, after much deliberation, to finally go back to Italy. Notably, her desire to make the trip was prompted by Lorenzo Teri, who was her first love growing up. Their relationship was rekindled when the two exchanged letters and phone calls in 2000. However, their meeting was not meant to be as Lorenzo passed

away in his sleep days prior to Carmela's visit. Still, Carmela was determined to make the trip and traveled with seven family members to the place where it all began. Her visit to San Nicola was emotional yet valuable. Incredibly, she recognized people she had not seen in 50 years. For Carmela, experiencing this sense of closure gives her story a "happy ending."

When asked what she enjoyed the most about life at the Chelsea assisted living, Carmela was quick to respond: "I like that I always have friends to talk to, whether it be the residents or the staff. Everyone here is so friendly," remarked Carmela. "I wanted to live independently, but still have a bit of support." Carmela added with a laugh, "It's a pleasure to have people cook for me now!"

"Carmela is such a wonderful addition to our assisted living family," stated Jennifer Fazekas, Director of Marketing for Cohen Florence Levine Estates. "She is so gregarious, always telling stories

and making the residents and staff smile. People just light up when they see Carmela."

As far as the secret to her longevity, Carmela believes exercise is an important reason why she remains in such good health. "I enjoy walking and exercising. I love to keep busy." She maintains that she eats right and does not overindulge. "But I'm Italian," she added. "I love food!"

It took Carmela four years to write Carmela's Story, which John's wife Robin helped transcribe sentence by sentence. It was a labor of love — a chronicle of one woman's remarkable journey into the land of opportunity and her abiding her love of family. In the book, Carmela's granddaughter Julia Favorito summed up what makes her grandmother so special. "My Nona is my hero because she is kind, strong, caring, popular, loving, and friendly. She always makes the best of things. I love her with all my heart."

## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Neiswander, Brian	Walley 19 LLC	11-19 Walley St #310	\$750,000
Isaza, Fabio	A E Sulprizio T	18-20 Gladstone St	\$1,335,000
Kaur, Jarnail	Claire P Kenney RET 2	25 Teragram St	\$876,000
Crombie, Jonathan	Trichilo Development LLC	37 Horace St #101	\$430,000
Barnett, Jared	Guerossov, Serge	70 Bremen St #506	\$585,000
Brink, Steven R	Div Summer Street LLC	99 Sumner St #421	\$1,411,900
Stratmann, Rebecca	101-105 Condor Street LL	101 Condor St #201	\$625,000
160 Webster Street LLC	KTA Construction LLC	160 Webster St	\$1,210,000
Kuglemass, Aaron	Barrett, Dylan	186-188 Paris St #5	\$582,000
Stavros LLC	Speranza Mary C Est	247 Chelsea St	\$825,000
Lizotte, Brooke	287 Maverick	287 Maverick St #309	\$269,200
Bunning, Loretta	287 Maverick	287 Maverick St #208	\$240,800

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## LEGAL NOTICE

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Division INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE  
Docket No. SU21P2548EA  
Estate of: Ellen J Grato  
Also known as: Ellen Grato  
Date of Death: June 10, 2021  
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner Patricia A. Grato of Boston, MA and Anthony Grato of East Falmouth, MA. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the

Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
4/27/22 EB

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT  
Suffolk Probate  
And Family Court  
24 New Chardon St.  
Boston, MA 02114  
(617)788-8300  
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME  
Docket No. SU22C0128CA  
In the matter of: Aurora Marie Rimel  
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Aurora Marie Rimel of East Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Aurora Marie Simonton  
IMPORTANT NOTICE  
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 04/11/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.  
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: April 12, 2022  
Felix D. Arroyo,

Register of Probate  
4/27/22 EB  
is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM on the return date of 05/26/2022. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.  
IMPORTANT NOTICE  
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.  
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: April 14, 2022  
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate  
4/27/22 EB

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR GUARDIANSHIP FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, Section 5-304 Docket No. SU22P0740PM Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Suffolk Probate and Family Court  
24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114  
In the matter of: Maria Moscato Of: East Boston, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Maria Moscato is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Carol Pollastrone of Everett, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve without surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition

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## East Boston TIMES-FREE PRESS

Wednesday, April 20, 2022

**East Boston community leader Guarnaccia, dies at 85**  
Joseph John Guarnaccia, a lifelong resident of East Boston and one of the original members of the East Boston Athletic Board, died April 16, 2022. He was 85 years old. Mr. Guarnaccia served for 50 years on the East Boston Athletic Board, maintaining a loyal commitment to the youth of East Boston that also included his volunteer work as president of the East Boston North Little League and in coaching positions in the East Boston Pop Warner Football and youth baseball organizations. Mr. Guarnaccia was also the proud father of three outstanding children, Roscoe Guarnaccia, Pat Penney, and Dr. Joseph Guarnaccia. Longtime David Artibella said that Mr. Guarnaccia "treasured every new member of the Board, including myself, with the utmost respect." "He was an old-school gentleman of the first order." See GUARNACCIA Page 12

**Trustees of Reservation update community on Piers Park Phase III**  
Feedback we got last year in our design survey and in the fall in our programming survey, we're excited for the evolution of the project. We think we're heading in a direction that allows for more programming and improving the quality of the marine and green lawn with stunning views of the Boston skyline, a kayak launch, and all pools, and marine and upland habitats. The park will offer unique and exceptional public access to the water, something frequently requested during public outreach. These new design elements gathered through public feedback courtesy of Eastie residents includes less open water in favor of larger and more accessible landscapes. The new design maintains unique and exceptional public access to the water with an additional access point to the uplands area of the park while preserving the site's maritime history. The new design also adds more areas for habitats and robust ecological zones within the park such as a tidal pool and salt marsh. Guarnaccia said the Trustees of Reservation is still working on tweaking the design and will work with the community on a final design this summer. "Construction is going to start in spring of 2023," said Ramirez. "Then we're hoping for an opening sometime in spring 2025. So until then we will continue our robust community dialogue during the ongoing design process." Ramirez said the Trustees of Reservation launched an interactive site through its website that allows residents to interact via a comment wall. "You can text us your feedback, you can respond to some questions, and it's in multiple languages so it's very accessible for community members across East Boston," said Ramirez. "We hope you'll join us on this site to continue to join the conversation and share your feedback with the team." The project recently secured \$2 million in Congressional Directed Spending (CDS) federal funding thanks to the efforts of U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, U.S.

**BPDA approves Day Square project**  
for building residents. The retail housing project includes 82 parking spaces and the 7,000 square foot retail space. The site, which currently houses a single-story commercial business on a paved lot, is bounded by Bremen Street, Bennington Street, the Martin A. Coughlin Byways Road and Excel Academy Charter School. Redgate plans to demolish the existing building and construct the new six-story building. See BPDA Page 3

**Edwards runs Boston Marathon to raise money for Maverick Street Mothers Scholarship fund**  
Mothers Scholarship named in honor of the group of Eastie mothers that protested Logan Airport expansion in the 1960s and provides scholarships to working mothers and their children. Many parents involved in community activities. See EDWARDS Page 9

**4th Annual Legacy Gala at Spinelli's East Boston, April 28th to honor:**  
John Teixeira Sharon Rozzi Manny Lopes  
Call 617-567-7456 to request tickets or click on the QR code to order.

**For the latest news in East Boston that you need to know, check eastietimes.com**

## OBITUARIES

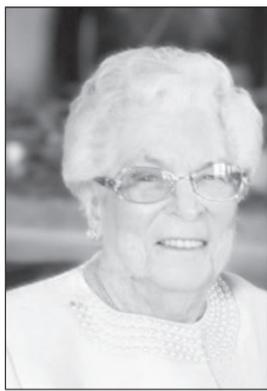
### Agnes Kennedy

Retired Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital telecommunications operator

Agnes N. "Girlie" Kennedy of East Boston passed away at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston on April 22. She was 95 years old.

Born in East Boston, the beloved daughter of the late Agnes (Ryan) and John Costa, she was a life-long resident of East Boston. She worked as a telecommunications operator for the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital prior to her retirement.

She was the devoted wife for over 60 years to the late Arthur Kennedy and the loving mother of Nancy Shea of Peabody, Carol Kennedy-Merrill and her husband, Paul of East Boston, John Kennedy and his wife, Janice of Berlin, New Hampshire and the late Janet Sampson and David Kennedy; dear sister of the late John, Vincent, Francis and Richard Costa; Cherished Mum of Julian, Erica, Kathryn, Lauren, Christine, Bridget



and Courtney and Great Mum of Anthony, Ronin, Kennedy, Dash, Skye and Farrah.

The Funeral Mass was conducted from the St. Joseph-St. Lazarus Church, East Boston on Tuesday, April 26. Services concluded with the interment in Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden.

To sign the online guest-book, go to [www.caggianoofuneralhome.com](http://www.caggianoofuneralhome.com).

Arrangements were under the direction of the Caggiano-O'Maley-Frazier Funeral Home.

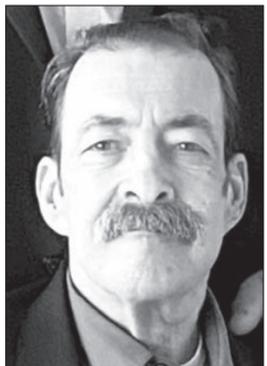
### Gerard Gosselin

Chef

Gerard P. "Jerry" Gosselin died in East Boston on April 19.

Jerry was born and raised in East Boston and attended Northeastern University for Culinary Arts. He began his career as a chef at Spinelli's and Morelli's in East Boston and then for many years at Antonio's Restaurant in Boston.

The beloved husband of Darlene M. (Burke), he was the father of Gerard "Jerry" Gosselin and his wife, Katie Gosselin of Peabody and Christine "Chrissy" Trindade of East Boston, son of Carmella (Passariello) of East Boston and the late Gilles "Gil" Gosselin, grandfather of Arianna Orlandino and Daniella Trindade and brother of Gary Gosselin and his wife, Carole Gosselin of East Boston and is also survived by several



nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated in Sacred Heart Church, 45 Brooks St. East Boston on Friday morning, April 29 at 10 o'clock. Relatives and friends are invited.

In lieu of flowers donations in his memory to the American Cancer Society would be appreciated.

Please leave messages of condolence for the family on Jerry's Tribute Page at [MagrathFuneralHome.com](http://MagrathFuneralHome.com).

### George Buttiglieri

He was a product of one of the greatest youth organizations ever assembled, the East Boston Youth Hockey

George M. Buttiglieri of East Boston, 67, passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 24 surrounded by his loving family.

George was a product of one of the greatest youth organizations ever assembled, East Boston Youth Hockey. He continued his brief career on the ice, playing for Charlestown High School and later on, East Boston High in an outstanding, Division I, Boston City League.

The loving son of the late Constantino (Sonny) and Margaret (Burke) Buttiglieri, he was the dear brother of Jack and his wife, Christine and Jim and his wife, Karen, all of East Boston, Bob and his wife, Chris of Stoneham and Tom and his wife, Carla of Peabody. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will honor George's life by gathering at St. Anthony of Padua Church, Revere,



on Friday, April 29 for a Funeral Mass celebrating his life at 10 a.m. Services will conclude with George being laid to rest with his beloved parents, Constantino and Margaret, at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.

In accordance with the Buttiglieri family's wishes and in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in George's name to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, 10 Brookline Place, W 6th floor, Brookline, MA 02445. To leave an online condolence, please visit [www.ruggieromh.com](http://www.ruggieromh.com).

### Frank Pellegrino

Of Revere

Frank Pellegrino of Revere died on April 20 at the age of 49.

Born in Boston on June 6, 1972, Frank graduated from Revere High School and attended the Burdett School of Accounting and studied networking at Lincoln Technical Institute.

He is survived by his loving mother, Rose (Speranza) Pellegrino and the beloved son of the late Angelo Pellegrino; cherished father of Sean and the dear brother of Tanya Pellegrino of Revere; loving nephew of Michele Corso and her late husband, Joseph, Benny and Diane Pellegrino, Rosemarie and her late husband, Al Rams and the late Mario Speranza and his surviving wife, Janice. He is also survived by



many caring cousins and friends.

A Visitation will be held at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere St, Revere, today, Wednesday, April 27 from 4 to 7 p.m. followed by a 7 p.m. Prayer Service in the funeral home. Relatives and friends are kindly invited. Private Interment. For guest book please visit: [www.buonfiglio.com](http://www.buonfiglio.com).

## OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper. Includes photo.No word Limit. Please send to [obits@reverejournal.com](mailto:obits@reverejournal.com) or call 781-485-0588

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**William Joseph Gleeson, III**  
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*God Called Your Name  
We knew little that morning  
God was going to call your name  
In life we loved you dearly  
in death we do the same.  
It broke our hearts to lose you  
you did not go alone  
for part of us went with you  
the day God called you home.  
You left us beautiful memories*

*your love is still our guide  
and although we cannot see you  
you are always by our side.  
Our family chain is broken  
and nothing seems the same  
but as God calls us one by one  
the chain will link again.  
May you rest in peace.  
Miss You Always  
Your Loving Family*



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20 Year Memoriam

**Michael Ruggiero**

April 28, 2002 - April 28, 2022



*Michael,  
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Our love for you  
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We are always with  
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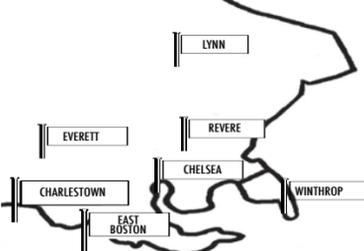


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# NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

## LOOKING AT PROGRESS BEING MADE

**CHELSEA** - Chelsea Black Community/Chelsea Young Adult Alliance held the first of its virtual community conversations recently to discuss the progress made within major city departments since the Black Lives Matter movement of 2020.

The meetings will allow each department to publicly discuss its efforts to address disparities, highlight progress made in the last two years, and share plans of action and goals to reduce community and systemic inequalities over the next three months.

The Tuesday, April 12 meeting focused on education, with a presentation from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta and district Director of Equity, Diversity, and Excellence Dr. Aaron Jennings.

Abeyta and Jennings highlighted the equity and diversity efforts the schools have undertaken under the past two years, including increasing staff diversity, creating affinity groups for students and staff, hiring a coordinator for culturally responsible teaching, and creating a pipeline program to help both students and parents become teachers in the district.

Jennings spoke about the district equity audit he undertook soon after coming to the Chelsea schools in October of 2020, as well as the establishment of the Black Students Unite and the Latinx Students Unite groups within the schools.

"It's been a real delight to see their leadership and hear their voices in that space," Jennings said of the student groups.

Jennings also stressed the importance of working together with HR director Christine Lee to make sure the district increases the diversity of its teachers and leadership. He also played videos from several Chelsea High School students who spoke about the importance of having

teachers of color within the schools.

"They teach us how to empower ourselves and how to look out for ourselves, and they know the kinds of situations that we are in, especially as students of color," said Javin Diaz, a sophomore at the high school.

Many of the CBC/CYAA and community members who took part in the forum praised the educational leaders for the progress the district has made in racial equity and diversity over the past several years.

"I'm seeing things like the addition of the coordinator for culturally responsible learning and that's amazing, that's something that I've not even heard of before," said Jayde Umemba, who also praised the school's efforts to increase diversity across all levels and create affinity groups for students and staff.

Long-time Chelsea resident and educator Sharon Caulfield likewise praised the school district for the dynamic changes it has undertaken in the past several years.

While Jennings and Abeyta took the praise in stride, they both said there is still much work to do in the schools and in the city.

"I feel like this work is just beginning," said Abeyta. "Aaron is an office of one, and while we are proud to have the best equity officer, he can't do it all himself. We all own this work; this is the tip of the iceberg and there is still so much work to do."

Additional CBC/CYAA community conversations in April include virtual meetings on city management, public safety, public health, and housing.

## HEARING ABOUT CIP

**EVERETT** - With the Everett School Committee ready to discuss and possibly vote on the upcoming budget that will total more than \$108 million at its meeting on April 25,

the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) will certainly be a major topic of discussion.

At the meeting on April 11, School Committee members heard from Assistant Superintendent Charles Obremski about the many projects that are being planned for the budgets covering Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 through FY2027.

With overcrowding occurring in almost every school in the city, Obremski was seeking to earmark more than \$2M for modular classrooms at the Keverian School. Currently, the Keverian, which was built to hold 650 students, already is more than 300 students over its capacity.

Committeeman Michael McLaughlin seemed to echo his colleagues regarding the CIP presentation by Obremski.

"This is a great plan," he said. "However, there is an immediate need for handicapped accessibility at the Parlin Junior High School."

Obremski had earmarked between \$2M-\$3.5M to make Parlin handicapped-accessible in the FY25 budget. However, the unofficial consensus among the committee was to move this Parlin project up on the time list and to be accomplished this year.

The FY23 CIP of more than \$6.7M includes many regularly-scheduled maintenance projects through the district, such as repairing the leaking roof over the gymnasium at Everett High School, updating the phone system, repairing the Webster School roof, replacing the gym floor at the Whittier School, and repairing the kitchen area appliances at the Lafayette School.

Obremski noted that all of these maintenance projects are sorely needed and that many of the items on the list, such as the gym floor at the Whittier School (which is 44 years old), already have exceeded their projected useful life.

## ANNUAL WINTHROP POLICE AND FIRE HOCKEY GAME FOR AUTISM AWARENESS



Kinsley Pitts who will be dropping the ceremonial puck is shown with her family, Albia Bondar, Brian Pitts, Jim and Karen Bennington, Kath Pitts and Al DeRico. Although the FY23 CIP population, has had a long deeply held



Adrianna Castronova drops the ceremonial puck between Mike Connolly and her dad, Steven Castronova. Also shown are Winthrop Fire Chief Scott Wiley, Deputy Police Chief John Goodman and State Representative Jeff Turco.

will see the largest expenditures of CIP monies, in FY24 the request will be for more than \$2.6M; in FY25, the figure will be more than \$5M; in FY26, more than \$2.2M; and in FY27, more than \$700,000.

Another area in which School Committee members expressed concern was whether there is a plan to maintain student learning after the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds come to an end in the near future.

Like many communities, some Everett students find themselves behind academically because of the pandemic. Presently, school officials have availed themselves of the ESSER funds that pay for more teachers to help students who are academically behind.

In this school year, the Everett Public Schools will receive more than \$10M to fund the extra teachers that focus on having students catch up on the learning loss.

"ESSER will end and these services will have to be subtracted, or we will have to subtract another service," said Superintendent of Schools Priya Tahliani.

"Tough budget cuts are ahead," Tahliani added. "We need to advocate for the students. We need to lobby the City Council."

"We should not look to cut, but advocate for more money," said committee member Marcony Barros, referring to when the School Department appears before the City Council at budget time.

Committee member Samatha Lambert reminded her colleagues, "Students are not impacted equally. There are many disparities."

"We need to create better opportunities," committee member Michael Mangan added. "There is so much new tax revenue from developments that will increase our school

In other matters, the committee voted against giving Malden Transportation (MT) a five percent fuel surcharge that the company had requested. It was pointed out the present contract does not provide for a fuel surcharge, and so the committee would have to reword the present contract in order to accommodate this extra expense.

McLaughlin noted that Malden Transportation are "good partners," but Barrios pointed out that the city paid the company when COVID hit, even though there was no service being provided.

"MT does a great job," said Barrios, but suggested that inasmuch as "the higher prices are affecting their profit, we should not agree."

Lambert wanted more figures and urged her colleagues to wait until the information is provided. The motion then failed by a vote of 6-3.

## O'SHEA HOLDS CAMPAIGN KICKOFF

**LYNN** - Lynn native James O'Shea, candidate for Essex County district attorney, held a campaign kickoff reception April 13 at Kowloon in Saugus.

A very enthusiastic, standing-room-only crowd of supporters packed the upstairs function hall for the event.

Attorney Kevin Foley introduced attorney O'Shea for his remarks.

"It's great to see all of you here and to have so many people interested in the O'Shea for DA campaign," began Foley. "I've known Jim for more than 15 years and feel very strongly about his candidacy. The idea of running for district attorney wasn't just something that developed in the last couple of months when Jon Blodgett announced he was not seeking re-election. James

desire to serve. He felt like with his experience and background, he could make a real difference as district attorney."

Foley also highlighted O'Shea's 24 years of experience as a criminal defense attorney in Massachusetts.

"He has had cases in every court in Essex County and he knows every assistant district attorney in Essex County on a first-name basis, and they know him," said Foley.

O'Shea, who was joined at the event by his wife Tara, and their daughters, Bella and Jamison, and his siblings, delivered an inspiring address that garnered applause at certain points for his remarks. He stressed unity and praised first responders "who have the courage to put their lives on the line every day."

O'Shea also offered, "You know that I have a strong feeling for fairness, that I'm passionate about these issues, representing my clients, representing immigrants, and I've worked with the police for 24 years. This campaign is going to be more about uniting people than dividing people."

In concluding, O'Shea said, "I want to thank my brothers and sisters, my family who has been a support to me. My entire life I've stood on their shoulders. I am the youngest of Bill and Bev's six children and from birth they have doted on me and protected me and taken care of me and I think they're getting kind of sick of it. Thank you for coming here and enjoy the rest of the night."

## ZONING CHANGE DISCUSSIONS CONTINUE

**REVERE** - A tie goes to the runner in baseball, but a tie vote by a Council

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FRESH & LOCAL

First Bite, Perfect Bite, Last Bite

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Think about the last time a server placed a favorite meal in front of you. What did you take as your first bite? What did you combine to make a perfect bite? And, did you save some portion of that meal for your last bite?

For example, we love the fish and chips at Cornwall's in Kenmore Square. For years we've realized that if there are fries on a plate, one of those will be our first bite. However, we differ in what we would add to that fry to make it a perfect bite. Ed will always dip it in ketchup, and Penny will opt for vinegar or brown gravy if that's available.

We've recognized that our choice is partly because the fries are piping hot and at their best, and the fish is probably too hot to eat right away. We enjoy explor-

ing this question with any meal. As for saving something for the last bite, neither of us does that, but we know that others do. So, if you have someone who shares food with you, you should ask before you scoff the last bite off their plate!

The Perfect Bite

Chefs put a lot of thought into their effort to create a plate of food where each element enhances the rest. You can gather forkfuls of food that recognize the potential flavor combinations in your search for a perfect bite. You might want to taste each element by itself first to know what you'll be combining. Only you can decide what will be the ideal combination for you!

You can even have perfect bites of meals like sandwiches or pizza. Most of us customize these items as we or-

der them. However, you might prefer to bite the middle of a sandwich to have more filling and less crust. A crust-lover might not start a slice of pizza at the pointy end as most of us do.

Different Perfect Bites!

Many cultures give eaters the ability to have many great bites during meals. Korean barbecue is a great example. The banchan served around the center grill are not appetizers. The dishes of kimchis, vegetables, and pickles let diners create one-bite lettuce wraps with the meat. They also serve as palate cleansers between bites.

An Indian meal will have chutneys, riatias, and pickles for the same purpose. A traditional Indian dinner is served from a communal table and eaten with your clean, right hand. Diners break off pieces of bread



First Bite? We admit we'd both grab a French fry. However, Ed would dip it in ketchup for a perfect bite, and Penny would sprinkle it with vinegar!

and use them to pick up food and carry it to their mouths. Another option is to put some dal or curry on your serving of rice and use your fingers to gather a bite. While few of us follow this system when dining out in this country, we can prepare each forkful in the same spirit.

In the Middle East, the mezze table allows

for the personalization of your meal. Sometimes mezze is served as a tray of appetizers to enjoy while waiting for a more substantial course. Or, it may be the entire meal if it includes heartier meat and vegetable dishes. Flatbreads served with these meals allow you to prepare different bites of food from the offerings.

Our final reason for

creating different flavor combos with the food in front of us is slower and more mindful eating. We'll derive more pleasure from the food we eat, feel full sooner, and prevent overeating.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

cil subcommittee was not all that advantageous for the Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company of Boston who is hoping to open a rental-car business on Squire Road at the former site of the Verizon store.

However, the 3-3 vote by the Council's Zoning Subcommittee - which despite the deadlock, is considered "not a favorable recommendation" - doesn't preclude the matter from advancing to the full Council for a vote.

In fact, Council President Gerry Visconti expects the matter, which was tabled at the last meeting, to make its way to the full Council, possibly at this Monday night's meeting.

Attorney Nick Zazula and Enterprise Group Operations Manager Doug Valeri appeared at the April 11 subcommittee meeting chaired by Councillor Patrick Keefe.

Zazula told the subcommittee that the Planning Board voted unanimously March 1 to favorably rec-

ommend Enterprise's bid for a zoning amendment.

Zazula also stated that Enterprise would commit to register 350 of its rental fleet vehicles in the City of Revere, "along with the accompanying excise taxes to the city in relation to a new location at Squire Road if the zoning amendment was approved."

Zazula added that Enterprise would also continue to pay the Massachusetts surcharge for rental transactions and "also continue to pay the City of Revere surcharge of \$10 per rental transaction."

Ward 6 Councillor Richard Serino voiced his support of the request by Enterprise, which has a sterling reputation in the car rental industry.

"With regard to Enterprise coming to Squire Road, first of all, it's already in the city and second of all, we as new councillors have these grandiose visions of Squire Road, and we think a lot of stuff is going to be developed and is coming

down the road.

"Unfortunately, you look at Squire Road and the old Mobil Gas station has been vacant since 2012 or 2013, so nine years - you have the Honey Dew [store] which soon could become a Popeye's, but that's been vacant for two years. The hotel way down Squire Road might or might not materialize. My point being is that we have had a lot of vacant lots on Squire Road for at least the past decade."

Addressing Zazula and Valeri, Councillor Serino said, "You guys have really worked to make this a better proposal than when it first came before us. And for those reasons and because I'd rather see something go there that's going to produce money for the city than have that Verizon site sit vacant for another God knows how long. I will be supporting this."

Councillors Richard Serino, Al Fiore, and Ira Novoselsky voted for the zoning amendment while

Councillor Joanne McKenna, Gerry Visconti, and Patrick Keefe voted against the zoning amendment.

"This will still go in front of the full City Council," Keefe told the applicants.

"Understood. Thank you," responded Attorney Zazula.

TOWN MANGER GETS CONTRACT

WINTHROP - The Winthrop Town Council has given a three-year contract to the new town manager, Anthony Marino.

Council President James Letterie said the Council and Marino agreed to the contract during an executive session. The Council then voted unanimously to approve the contract in open session before Letterie and Marino officially signed it.

Marino, 51, will begin as Winthrop town manager on May 23. He has been

the Ipswich town manager for the past four years.

Letterie said Marino will receive a salary of \$205,000 per year for the length of the contract.

"I'm looking forward to being the town manager of Winthrop," said Marino. "I was excited to apply for the position, and I had a great interview process with the Council, and I'm excited to get started on May 23."

Marino has begun collaborating with Interim Town Manager Terence Delehanty on job descriptions for the vacant Winthrop positions of chief financial officer, treasurer, and assessor.

Marino has met with several Winthrop department heads, including Supt. of Schools Lisa Howard.

Marino grew up on the South Shore in the town of Pembroke. "My father [Leo Marino] was a Boston firefighter and moved us down there from Dorchester when I was 3 years old," said Marino.

Marino served in the United States Navy for four years and received his college degree from Bridgewater University. He resides in Lynnfield and is married with two children ages 28 and 11.

Letterie said he is pleased to bring Marino aboard and happy with the contract.

"A great deal is when both sides get what they want and this agreement is absolutely that," said Letterie. "Tony gets to come work for a town that he already has a passion for and has been on his radar for a while, and Winthrop gets a town manager that has all the attributes we have been looking for."

"Tony has a great skill set, personality, and that blue-collar work ethic that will be able to lead us out of stagnation," Letterie added. "I am incredibly excited to get started working with Tony."

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# Tree Pits // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

trees and the group will be planting 30 new street trees in those two neighborhoods.

Tree Eastie also plans to plant more fruit trees at the Rockies in Jeffries Point across from Piers Park through a new relationship with Eastie Farm. Eastie Farm will be able to take the harvest from those trees, which include apple trees, peach trees, pear trees, cherry trees and mulberry, and put those fruits back into the community. This program will distrib-

ute the food to folks that need it as well as putting it into the Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) program that Eastie Farm has established.

There's a lot of benefits trees have, unfortunately Eastie suffers from the lowest tree canopy in the city. The neighborhood's tree canopy is at 7% while the city average is 27%.

Tree Eastie recently forged some alliances and some benefactors who are asking the group to help them site tree plantings.



Volunteers included the head of Eastie's Chapter of Mother Out Front Sonja Tengblad (left), who has been working on curbing greenhouse gasses in the neighborhood.



Volunteers dig tree pit holes on Chelsea Street just outside Maverick Square.



Volunteers working on a new street tree pit just behind Maverick Square.

## DA Hayden announces grant funding opportunity for nonprofits

District Attorney Kevin Hayden invited Suffolk County nonprofits to apply for grant funding to support violence and substance use prevention and treatment programming.

"I have had the privilege of serving on the board of several nonprofits, and I know the impact that my office's Community Reinvestment Grants can have on these nonprofits and the young people they serve," said Hayden, who is currently on the boards of YOU Boston and the Greater Boston YMCA. "The pandemic has placed added stress and demand on

service providers as they responded increased need and adapted to new ways of delivering services. I'm grateful to the organizations that continue to do exceptional work every day supporting our young people and communities."

The Community Reinvestment Grant (CRG) program will provide funding of up to \$10,000 to 501(c)3 nonprofits that provide programming designed to prevent youth violence or substance use disorder or substance use treatment in Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop. State law allows prosecutors to dis-

tribute up to 10 percent of assets seized in narcotics prosecutions to community-based organizations for crime prevention and substance use treatment.

"Prevention and treatment programs are key to

public safety and building a more equitable society. Our community partners are among our most valuable institutions, and I'm proud to be able to offer this funding opportunity," Hayden said.

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