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Our offices will be closed Monday, July 4

Advertising deadline is Friday at 12:00 noon

Wednesday, June 29, 2022

MURALS THAT TRANSFORM



Noted Colombian artists GRIS ONE painted murals that activated the walls of the Bradley School, including a 100-foot retaining wall of the school facing Faywood Avenue. The murals at the Bradley and the Mario Umana Academy are part of 'Harvest' a new public art and urban farming program with HarborArts and Eastie Farm. See Page 8 for more photos.

Madaro's comprehensive Mental Health bill passes in the House

By John Lynds

Since being named Chair of the House's Mental Health, Substance Use, and Recovery Committee, Rep Adrian Madaro has been of the opinion that every resident deserves access to quality mental health care when they need it. Yet, far too many people face unnecessary barriers to getting the help they need.

During this legislative season, Rep. Adrian Madaro and his colleagues got to work on a comprehensive mental health reform bill.



House passes comprehensive Mental Health bill spearheaded by Rep. Adrian Madaro.

The bill that Madaro helped craft addresses longstanding issues with the state's behavioral health care delivery system.

The bill, which unanimously passed the House last week, focuses on acute psychiatric care and crisis response, youth behavioral health initiatives, community-based behavioral health services, investments in the workforce, and enforcement of existing behavioral health parity laws.

"Everyone deserves access to quality mental health services, yet far too many people face unnecessary barriers to care," said Madaro. "This bill reaffirms the House's

commitment to increasing access to behavioral health care across Massachusetts."

chusetts."

Madaro said for too long, the healthcare system has not treated behavioral health as equal to physical health, creating obstacles in addressing the mental health crisis, which has on been exacerbated by the pandemic.

"That's why this timely piece of legislation makes critical steps toward prioritizing mental health services for people across the Commonwealth, includ-

See MADARO Page 2

In the running

Region 1 BPS Superintendent and Eastie resident Tommy Welch named finalist for Superintendent post

By John Lynds

Last week it was announced that Boston Public School's (BPS) Region 1 Superintendent and East Boston resident, Dr. Tommy Welch, is a finalist to serve as the next BPS Superintendent.

Welch, who has overseen schools in Eastie for several years now, has become a familiar face in the neighborhood at community and school events.

"Few words can describe my excitement after learning today that I am a finalist to serve as the next Superintendent of Boston Public Schools," said Welch this week. "For more than two decades, I have enjoyed a challenging and rewarding career in urban public education. I am proud to serve as the BPS Region 1 School Superintendent, supporting 15 schools and more than seven thousand students in East Boston, Charlestown, and the North End.

Welch and his wife, Karla, are BPS parents that live in East Boston. Welch said he and his



Region 1 Superintendent Dr. Tommy Welch is a finalist to serve as the next BPS Superintendent.

wife recognize the struggles their Eastie neighbors and Boston families have faced during the pandemic.

"As a leader in urban education for more than two decades and a BPS leader, my track record shows that I know how to deliver high-quality academics and enrichment opportunities," said Welch. "As a biracial, bilingual educator, equity has always been at the center of my work. I enter this next step in the process with great humility,

See WELCH Page 3

KIWANIS 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Governor Buddy Mangini (front) are New England and Bermuda District Governor Gayla Bartlett (left) and East Boston Kiwanis Club President Andrea DiBattista. See Page 5 for more photos.

NECAT program teams up with East Boston YMCA

D., T. b., T., J.

The New England Culinary Arts Training (NE-CAT) program recently teamed up with East Boston YMCA to bring the first bonafide chef training program to the neighborhood.

Three months ago a group of aspiring chefs embarked on a 12 week

See NECAT Page 3

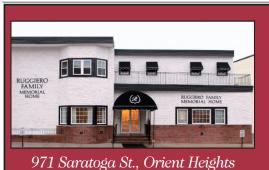
TRASH DELAY Due to the July 4th

Holiday on Monday, Trash will be delayed by one day next week.

Capitol Waste Services, Inc.



The New England Culinary Arts Training (NECAT) program recently teamed up with East Boston YMCA to bring a chef training program to the East Boston YMCA's Ashley Street site. Last week the first cohort of NECAT's East Boston program graduated with their certificates in culinary arts.



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Wu announces completed audit of city-owned land

By John Lynds

Mayor Michelle Wu recently announced the completion of the Public Land for Public Good: Citywide Land Audit report. Wu said the report is the culmination of an effort to comprehensively inventory all city-owned property, identify vacant and underutilized properties, and set in motion accelerated efforts to best utilize this property to serve Boston's communities, particularly through the development of affordable housing

At the press conference, Mayor Wu said there will be a priority to redevelop the soon to be vacant A-7 Police Station near Maverick Square.

While there are several current vacant or underutilized building sites that could serve as temporary supportive housing structures in the City portfolio, the audit report argues few exist that are ready for residents to occupy in the short term without major renovations than the A-7 Police Station located at 69 Paris Street in Eastie,

"Due to the construction of a new A-7 Police Station in East Boston, the soon to be vacated A-7

Police Station presents an opportunity for the City to continue using an otherwise unused public asset for supportive housing," the report states. "Additionally, there are other city owned buildings outlined below which could serve Boston residents navigating homelessness and substance use disorders with appropriate renovations."

Wu said in a city as dense and already developed as Boston, parcels identified in the land audit like the police station represent rare opportunities to utilize public space for the public good," "Parking lots and vacant spaces across our City have the potential to be transformed into providing crucially needed affordable housing, green space, and community services," said Wu. "I look forward to a robust engagement process to ensure our planning process reflects the needs of our residents."

The A-7 Police Station was among the 1,238 City parcels identified in the audit as vacant or underutilized, most of which are modestly sized.

The report identified the

police station as a "high opportunity site" and has been prioritized for community planning efforts.

"This audit presents us with real opportunities to address our city's housing needs and build affordable housing across Boston," said Chief of Housing Sheila Dillon. "With this information and transformative investments from American Rescue Plan, we look forward to significant, community focused affordable housing investments in Boston."

At the press conference Wu said in the coming months, the BPDA and the Mayor's Office of Housing will use both the report and the ongoing PLAN: East Boston neighborhood planning process to accelerate community visioning for A-7 Police Station. Wu said the process will analyze the opportunities to build transit-oriented affordable housing and meet other neighborhood needs identified by the neighborhood and stakeholders in PLAN: East Boston.

All sites located in active planning studies will have a separate dedicated public process as a follow-up to visioning com-



Mayor Michelle Wu recently announced the completion of Boston's audit of city-owned land At the press conference Wu said a priority will be placed on developing the soon to be vacant A-7 Police Station.

pleted through a neighborhood planning study.

Under city government guidelines all BPDA and City-owned parcels in Boston will include the process of sending out Request for Proposal (RFP). These RFPs released for public land will be required to respond to the BPDA's Diversity and Inclusion evaluation requirements, and outline commitments to include Minority and Women-owned business enterprises (M/WBEs) in all aspects of their development. The criteria is weighted at 25 percent of the total evaluation of each proposal.

"This work offers a great starting point to accelerate the use of underutilized public land for

public good," said Chief of Planning Arthur Jemison. "We look forward to a robust community process to ensure that the development of any of the sites identified is responsive to the neighborhood's needs, while creating new opportunities for mixed-income rental, homeownership, and open space in our communities."

• Services provided un-

· Mental health acute

communi-

der psychiatric collabora-

ty-based acute treatment,

and intensive communi-

ty-based acute treatment

without prior authoriza-

· Annual mental health

Workforce investments:

This proposal builds

Health Trust Fund by

carving out specific grant

programs for health care

providers, which would

Investments: a scholar-

ship program to support a

culturally, ethnically, and

linguistically diverse be-

havioral health workforce,

with a focus on clinicians

who commit to serving

grant program to expand

integrated care models

that enable providers to

expand their practices to

provide behavioral health

care in primary care set-

ers: a grant program to

promote the mental health

and wellbeing of provid-

Behavioral health pari-

• This legislation tack-

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· Requiring carriers to

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• Support for Provid-

Integrated Care: a

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• Workforce Pipeline

Behavioral

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treatment,

Madaro// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ing our youth who have been acutely affected, and those who face challenges in getting the care they need," said Madaro. "These policies reflect our strong belief that behavioral health care is essen-

Madaro thanked House Speaker Ron Mariano for allowing him the opportunity to lead the debate on this essential work as well as the rest of the Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use, and Recovery for their contributions and good ideas.

"I'm proud of the legislation passed by the House today that builds on our long-standing efforts to advance important reforms and substantial investments that are aimed at improving our behav-

ioral health care delivery system," said Speaker Mariano (D-Quincy). "From addressing the behavioral health crisis that our young people are currently experiencing, to our efforts to alleviate emergency department boarding, to provisions that will bring us closer to treating mental and physical health equally, this legislation will benefit all residents in the Commonwealth when accessing critical health care. I would like to thank Chairman Adrian Madaro for his hard work, and for his commitment to producing a strong bill."

Highlights of the bill include creating online portals that provide access to real-time data on youth and adults seeking mental health and substance

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use services, including a function that allows health care providers to easily search and find open beds.

The bill requires the Health Policy Commission (HPC) to prepare and publish a report every three years on the status of pediatric behavioral

Madaro said his legislation codified an expedited psychiatric inpatient admissions (EPIA) advisory council to reduce hospital emergency department boarding. This includes a protocol to expedite placement into appropriate care settings for patients under the age of 18.

Madaro added the bill also seeks to increase behavioral health care access across the Commonwealth through the implementation of the nationwide 988 hotline to access 24/7 suicide prevention and behavioral health crisis ser-

"This legislation also expands 911 to bridge the gap until 988 is implemented by increasing training, funding, and capacity for regional emer-

gency responses to behavioral health crises," said

In the wake of the Uvalde School Shooting the bill will initiate a public awareness campaign on the Commonwealth's red flag laws and Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs), passed by the Legislature in 2018, that limit access to guns for people at risk of hurting themselves or others.

Madaro said the bill also tackles disparities in mental health and other forms of health care by giving the state additional tools to enforce existing parity laws by:

Requiring licensed mental health professionals to be available during all operating hours of an emergency department (including via telehealth)

Codifying hospital clinical competencies and operational standards and directing the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to establish a complaint process for alleged violations

Directing DMH to create a comprehensive plan to address access to continuing care beds, intensive residential treatment programs, and community-based programs for patients awaiting discharge from acute psychiatric hospital units

Implementing mental health watch reforms in correctional settings, including changes to the referral to mental health process for those who are incarcerated or detained, and establishing a process for a person on mental health watch for longer than 72 hours to petition to be transferred.

Other highlights of Rep. Madaro's mental health bill includes:

School-based behavioral health services and programming

- Limiting the use of suspension and expulsion in all licensed early education and care programs
- Requiring school districts to adopt a behavioral health crisis response plan which may be based on a cost-neutral model plan to be developed by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Creating a statewide program to help schools implement school-based behavioral health services

Access points for youth for effective behavioral health treatment: • Creating a complex

- care resolution panel to ensure children with complex behavioral health needs are assisted quickly and with cross-agency support and coordination Requiring behavioral
- health assessments and referrals for children entering the foster care system • Empowering the Of-
- fice of the Child Advocate (OCA) to receive complaints from children and families and to assist them in resolving issues with access to behavioral health services Expanded insurance

This legislation re-

quires insurance cover-

age of critical behavioral

health services, including:

Emergency service

coverage:

programs

- porting requirements • Directing the Division of Insurance (DOI) to re-
- view and ensure insurer compliance with parity Authorizing the Of-
- fice of Patient Protection (OPP) to identify and refer potential parity violations that arise during OPP grievance reviews to the DOI and the AG's office



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NECAT// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

culinary arts training program at the East Boston YMCA's Ashley Street

Last week the first cohort of NECAT's East Boston program, which was taught in both Spanish and English, graduated with their certificates in culinary arts. The group is now well on their way to launching careers in professional kitchens.

"The culinary industry is booming and people with professional culinary skills are in high-demand," said NECAT Executive Director Joey Cuzzi. Cuzzi also served as the East Boston Y's executive director from 2006 to 2014. "Language should not be a barrier to those who wish to participate in culinary job training. Through our partnership with the YMCA in East Boston, we are able to bring NECAT's program to the community and help graduates connect with well-paying jobs through our network of employer partners."

During her eight-year tenure at the East Boston Y, Cuzzi oversaw the opening of the Y's Ashley Street Teaching Kitchen. At the time Cuzzi said opening the kitchen was a personal passion of hers as it brought a robust culinary nutrition/ education center for our community. Despite the on-going

pandemic fluctuations affecting the food services industry, Cuzzi said the weekly number of prep cook and line cook vacancies in Eastie alone-including airline and airport food service companies, hotels, and local restaurants-continues to be an active market. The need for qualified cooks has become ever more urgent.

The 12- week, trauprogram ma-informed provided students with daily culinary arts training; case management focused on connecting students with wrap-around services and delivering social-emotional support and career services, including resume, cover letter, and interview assistance and job placement strategies. All these services are offered free of charge to students in the program.

As the prgram continues it will be funded by the YMCA of Greater Boston with special support from

Cargo Ventures in Eastie. "Programs like these are

beyond impactful," said



(NECAT) program posed with Chef David Spear (left), renowned Boston Chef Jose Duarte and Councilor Gabriela

East Boston YMCA Executive Director Joe Gaeta. "They are not just one and done but allow for participants to grow and achieve new heights. Creating equity and job security in an unstable economy is key to our community's survival."

President, and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Boston James Morton added, "We are very proud of the graduates who have worked so hard in this 12-week program. We are especially proud to partner, for the first time, with NECAT to provide students with a pathway to stable, long-term culinary employment, while supporting graduates on their path toward economic self-sufficiency."

The NECAT program at the Eastie Y empowers adults facing barriers to employment through training in culinary skills, social-emotional development and career readiness for success and long-term financial stability.

"I've always had a passion for cooking," said graduate of the Eastie program, Vanessa Salvana. "I spent a year in culinary school in Peru but was not able to complete the program. When I saw the ad for the NECAT program at the Y, I was so happy. The hospitality industry is growing fast, and this program taught us professional skills and techniques that will help open

doors."

Former NECAT graduate, Chef David Spear, teaches the classes in Eastie and brings a unique perspective as a NECAT graduate, a successful chef and a professional educator fluent in Spanish.

"After graduating from NECAT's culinary program in 2017, I worked my way up to an executive chef position," said Spear. "The relationships I built at NECAT are very important to me, and I've always stayed in contact with NECAT. After working as a Chef Instructor for the previous year at the Pine Street Inn, then joining NECAT as a Bilingual Chef Instructor. I'm so lucky to be a part of the team and have the chance to inspire students the way I was inspired. These students have been phenomenal to work with."

According to Cuzzi, historical, persistent, and overt discriminatory policies and institutions have created communities of color in Boston where people have been disempowered and destabilized through lack of access to opportunities and resourc-

Since 2013, the NECAT program has enrolled over 1,060 adults who were experiencing significant barriers to stable employment, including prior incarceration, lack of training, substance use recovery and homelessness.

ZUMIX annual Walk for Music set for July 10th

By John Lynds

At the height of the pandemic Zumix did not slow down one bit. Like many local organizations Zumix, East Boston's popular music and performing arts nonprofit, reinvented itself and hosted remote celebrations, online classes and virtual showcases.

Their work throughout the pandemic culminated last year with an in-person return of Zumix's annual Walk for Music fundraiser after the event was forced to go virtual in 2020.

There was much to celebrate at last year's Walk for Music as the annual event coincided with Zumix's 30th Anniversary celebration and a \$1 million gift from McKenzie Scott and Dan Jewett's foundation.

Madeleine Steczynski, co-founder and executive director of Zumix, said she was happy to announce that this year's Walk for Music will again be in-person as the neighborhood and city slowly crawls out from under the grips of COVID.

Steczynski said on Sunday, June 10 at 3 pm Zumix community members and other participants will walk through Eastie's parks to support the nonprofit's award-winning music and youth empow-

erment programs.

The event will begin at the Zumix Firehouse at 260 Sumner St. with registration at the firehouse beginning at 3 pm and the Walk for Music starting at

The daylong festivities will conclude with the kickoff of Zumix's Summer Concert Series in Piers Park, also a part of the annual Eastie Week celebration.

"We're so excited to welcome our community back to the Firehouse for the Walk for Music," said Steczynski. "It has been a challenging couple of years, and music and community have kept us going. We can't wait to celebrate with everyone."

The Walk for Music has become one of Zumix's signature events and something Steczynski, the Zumix staff and community looks forward to each

Over the years, the Walk for Music has become one of Zumix's largest annual events, raising well over \$50,000 each year.

The money through the Walk for Music allows Zumix to keep its creative programs free and low-cost and serve more than 1,000 youth each year.

For over three decades Zumix has offered programs for young people ages 7-18 in songwriting and performance, creative media and technology, musical theater, private lesson instruction, and instrumental ensembles.

Created as a response to the need for high-quality music programming in Boston's schools and communities, the Walk for Music has historically been an afternoon of music, celebration, and community for local music organizations. This year's event will focus on the neighborhoods and green spaces of East Boston, including Piers Park, Bremen Street Park, and the Mary Ellen Welch Green-

Walkers can sign up in advance on the event page https://secure.frontstream.com/walk-for-music-2022.

Those wishing to donate can visit https://secure.frontstream.com/ walk-for-music-2022 or send a check made out to ZUMIX to 260 Sumner Street, East Boston, MA, 02128.

In the case of inclement weather, the concert and celebration after the walk will take place at the ZU-MIX Firehouse.

Eastie's weekly COVID positive test-rate drops

By John Lynds

East Boston's weekly COVID positive test rate continues its downward slide according to the latest data by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC).

As infection numbers continue to decrease the BPHC announced last week it is recommending that all Boston children and infants ages six-months and older get vaccinated against COVID-19 to keep this recent downward trend in positive cases going. BPHC's recommendation follows recent guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommending COVID-19 vaccines.

"Many parents and caregivers have been anxiously awaiting approval of COVID-19 vaccination for the under 5 age group after two very difficult years of worrying about the health and safety of their children," said Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the BPHC Dr. Bisola Ojikutu. "Some parents may be uncertain about getting their child vaccinated because there is so much information to consider. The vaccines are safe and protective against serious

illness in this age group. Parents with questions or concerns should talk to their child's pediatrician to get the facts about the vaccine."

Last week, 755 Eastie residents were tested for the virus last week and 7.6 percent were positive--this was a 21 percent decrease from the 9.6 percent that tested positive between June 13 and June 20.

Fifty seven additional Eastie residents contracted the virus between June 20 and June 27 there have now been 15,873 confirmed cases in the neighborhood since the start of the pandemic.

citywide Boston's weekly positive test rate decreased last week

According the BPHC, 12,787 Boston residents tested citywide and 7.3 percent were positive—a 5 percent decrease from the 7.7 percent that tested positive between June 13 and June 20.

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 0.67 percent last week

and went from 192,591 to 193,870 confirmed cases since the start of the pandemic.

There were seven additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total number of COVID deaths is now at 1,478.

Dr. Ojikutu said the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine, which consists of three pediatric doses, is available for children ages 6-months to 5-years old.

The Moderna mRNA

vaccine, consisting of two pediatric doses, is available for those ages 6-months to 5-years old. COVID-19 vaccines are already available to those ages 5 and up. Ensuring your child is up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations is the most effective way to keep them safe at summer camps, family outings, and other in person gatherings.

According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, parents will be able to find clinics and make appointments at the state's Vax Finder website. Parents who prefer to have their child vaccinated by their pediatrician should call their provider's office directly. The COVID-19 vaccine is free and no insurance or ID is required.

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Welch // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and look forward to sharing my experience and goals for the district with members of the public. If I am fortunate enough to be chosen, I am ready to lead on day one."

Welch said he looks forward to sharing his experience and goals for the district with members of the search committee, the larger BPS community and residents of the City of Boston, during a series of public interviews. "Experience matters as

a Superintendent candidate," he said. "So does their lived experience and passion, particularly to serve our most vulnerable students including English Language Learners and students with special needs. This is the work I am called to do, that is why I applied to lead BPS as its next Superinten-

As Region 1 Superintendent Welch has focused on inclusion, collaboration, and best practices in academics and social-emotional learning. Nine of the 15 schools in his Region have been recognized for the EdVestors citywide "School on

the Move" Prize. Their exceptional work in improving student outcomes for English Learners and students from low-income backgrounds has also been recognized citywide.

Welch said his service in urban education spans over two decades. His experience includes 12 years as a teacher of multilingual learners, four years launching and leading schools, and system-level leadership roles in BPS as well as in the 600,000-student Los Angeles Unified School District, the nation's second largest school district.

Welch said he is committed to creating inclusive and nurturing schools where students, families, educators and staff thrive.

In 2020, he earned his doctorate in Educational Leadership at Boston College where he wrote his dissertation on school district leadership practices

that foster equity.

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FOURTH OF JULY **MEMORIES**

This weekend brings the Fourth of July, the celebration of the birth of our nation and an opportunity for all of us to partake in summertime fun with friends and

The Fourth of July brings back fond recollections from our youth, when we celebrated the Fourth with cookouts at our grandmother's house at Yirrell Beach on Pt. Shirley in Winthrop.

Those happy summer memories of sparklers, smores, and bonfires on the beach with family members, many of whom are no longer with us, are etched indelibly in our mind's eye and always bring a smile to our face as if they were just yesterday, though they occurred decades

However, the Fourth of July also brings back a sad memory of a friend, an athletic young man in his 20s who was one of our basketball buddies, who became intoxicated at a backyard barbecue. He fell off a small porch when he missed a step and fractured some vertebrae, leaving him a paraplegic and wheelchair-bound for the rest of his life

That tragic event happened almost 30 years ago, but the shock of hearing of our friend's accident, and then seeing him for the first time in a wheelchair, is something we never will forget.

All of us should make it a priority to do what we can to ensure that our loved ones and others with whom we'll be spending the holiday do so in a safe and reasonable manner.

That is doubly true if any of our activities are water-related or if driving is involved. We should keep in mind that over-imbibing in alcohol always is an invitation for a tragic situation, even in our backyards.

In addition, the illegal use of dangerous fireworks will result in many trips to the emergency room by those who suffered eye injuries, severed fingers, and burns.

In the 1800s and early 1900s, the Fourth of July served as a convenient excuse for young men to go on a rampage throughout their communities, vandalizing public and private property. The term "a safe and sane Fourth" was introduced at the start of the last century to discourage such wanton acts of rowdyism.

Although we no longer celebrate the Fourth as recklessly as our ancestors did, nonetheless we all must do our part to make sure that we observe the Fourth's festivities safely and sanely, both for ourselves and our loved ones.

We wish all of our readers a happy, fun-filled, and safe Fourth of July.

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Forum



Local officials, business owners react to Roe v Wade being overturned

By John Lynds

At a time when the country needs to unify more than ever, the US Supreme Court's decision to strike down the landmark Roe v Wade decision has only divided the country even further.

Protesters supporting women's reproductive rights immediately took to the streets after the decision was handed down by the country's consevative leaning highest court.

Local elected officials immediately condemned the Supreme Court's ruling, which gave federal constitutional protection for women's reproductive rights for 50 years. "While protections still

exist here in Massachusetts, as an American, I am outraged by the recent rulings of the United States Supreme Court regarding guns and reproductive rights," said Rep. Adrian Madaro. "Our highest court has decided that weapons are more deserving of rights than women. The Court has stripped away freedoms, rather than protect them. We cannot let this rogue Court that is out of touch with the feelings of most Americans undo decades of progress. The last few days have already seen more than 10 states effectively ban abortion, with others ready to follow suit. In the meantime, my colleagues and I in Massachusetts are exploring all ways to ensure protections exist for residents in the Commonwealth and others who travel here for medical treatment."

Madaro said this position was affirmed at a rally last Friday in front of the State House. "We will continue this

work in the days and weeks ahead," he said. "While last week was discouraging, let us use this as motivation to fight for the protections and freedoms we deserve." Madaro said those who

want to help should consider making a donation to support abortion funds at https://secure.actblue.com/ donate/supportabortion-

In response to the Supreme Court ruling over-



East Boston's elected officials join Sen. Elizabeth Warren on the steps of the State House last week to protest the Supreme Court's ruling to overturn Roe v Wade.

turning Roe v Wade, Governor Charlie Baker signed an executive order to protect access to reproductive health care services in the

Commonwealth. "I am deeply disappointed in today's decision by the Supreme Court which will have major consequences for women across the country who live in states with limited access to reproductive health care services," said the Governor. "The Commonwealth has long been a leader in protecting a woman's right to choose and access to reproductive health services. while other states have criminalized or otherwise restricted access," Governor Charlie Baker. "This executive order will further preserve that right and protect reproductive health care providers who serve out of state residents. In light of the Supreme Court's ruling overturning Roe v Wade, it is especially important to ensure that Massachusetts providers can continue to provide reproductive health care services without concern that the laws of other states may be used to interfere

with those services or sanction them for providing services that are lawful in the Commonwealth." The order prohibits any

Executive Department agencies from assisting

another state's investiga-

tion into a person or enti-

ty for receiving or deliv-

ering reproductive health services that are legal in Massachusetts. The order also protects Massachusetts providers who deliver reproductive health care services from losing their professional licenses or receiving other professional discipline based on potential out-of -state charges.

Also under the executive order, the Commonwealth will not cooperate with extradition requests from other states pursuing criminal charges against individuals who received, assisted with, or performed reproductive health services that are legal in Massachusetts.

Sen. Lydia Edwards said it is now time to 'divest' and 'boycott' and called on labor leaders to join the fight for reproductive rights.

"We need to learn from Divestment Movements in South Africa to today's fossil fuel movement," said Edwards. "We need to remember the Boycotts of the Civil Rights movement. I don't want our state or the City of Boston to contract with other states that take away a woman's right to abortion care."

Edwards called on labor

leaders to get on board. "Worker's Rights are Abortion Rights," she said. "I expect you (union leaders) to make sure all of your union members have

access to abortion care

where ever they are, this

includes health insurance,

travel money, or whatever is needed. I've fought for Union jobs—it's time you step up for gender health-

care." Edwards added any corporations with headquarters or franchises in anti-abortion states need to make sure labor workers have access to abortion

"If you don't, I will not buy your products," she said. "We need to support companies that will affirm the right to choose and divest from those that won't."

Over at the Quiet Few on Sumner Street in Eastie, owner Josh Weinstein donated 100 percent of proceeds last week from certain menu items to Planned Parenthood or an adjacent abortion fund.

The Quiet Few raised nearly \$8,000 to support Women's Reproductive Rights last week.

"We don't view this as a political stance, but one of kindness and human nature," he said. "To the inevitable emailers and phone callers and Yelp reviewers who will undoubtedly chastise us for standing in solidarity with other humans, there is a Chick-Fil-A in Copley Place that also sells a hot chicken sandwich. Today this is a reproductive rights issue, but it also opens the door for more discrimination and oppression down the

EAST BOSTON KIWANIS CLUB'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

East Boston Kiwanis Club's held its 75th Anniversary celebration last Tuesday night at Spinelli's in East Boston.



East Boston Kiwanis Club Present Andrea DiBattista (left), of Winthrop, is joined at the club's 75th Anniversary celebration in Spinelli's by members of her family.



Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta (second from left) presents a 75th Anniversary City Council Citation to East Boston Kiwanis Club members Ed Coletta (left), Nina Gaeta Coletta and President Andrea DiBattista (right) during the club's 75th Anniversary celebration in Spinelli's.



State Representative and Kiwanis Club member, Adrian Madaro (left), presents a 75th Anniversary House Citation to East Boston Kiwanis Club President Andrea DiBattista, and is joined by New England and Bermuda District Governor Gayla Bartlett.



East Boston Kiwanis Club President Andrea DiBattista (left) is joined at the club's 75th Anniversary celebration by long-time club member and East Boston resident George Gambale.



Showing off the Diamond Jubilee raffle prize, diamond earrings from the East Boston Diamond and Gold Exchange and Kiwanis Club member Walter Yourawski, are the winner Bill Chisholm (center), with Kiwanis members Deb White (left) and Andrea DiBattista.



Presenting East Boston Kiwanis Club President Andrea DiBattista (center) with flowers are 75th Anniversary celebration emcee Dr. Matt Mallen (left) and East Boston club board member Marisa DiPietro.



Shown at the East Boston Kiwanis Club's 75th Anniversary celebration are (I-r) Division 12 Lt. Governor Pattie Costas, East Boston Club President Andrea DiBattista and New England and Bermuda District Governor Gayla Bartlett.



Striking a pose at the East Boston Kiwanis Club's 75th Anniversary celebration are New England and Bermuda District President Gayla Bartlett (left) and East Boston Club President Andrea DiBattista.

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YOUR NEWS The Times encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed tvo 781-485-1403. We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases

and photos to deb@

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State Senator Lydia Edwards (center) presents a 75th Anniversary Senate Citation to East Boston Kiwanis Club President Andrea DiBattista (left) and New England and Bermuda District Governor Gayla Bartlett.

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PADRE PIO MASS AT MADONNA QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE

Last Thursday the Don Orione Fathers invited the community for a Thanksgiving Mass that was celebrated by his Eminence, East Boston. Cardinal Sean O'Malley, at the Madonna Queen rated the 150th anniversaof the Universe Shrine in ry of the birth of St. Lui-

The Mass commemo-

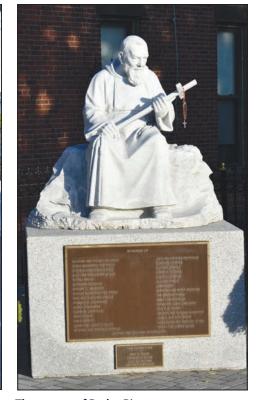
gi Orione, founder of the Congregation of the Sons of Divine Providence, or the Don Orione Fathers.

Cardinal O'Malley also blessed the Statue of St. Padre Pio that was recently relocated to the Shrine

as well as the Shrine's newly renovated plaza.



Blessing the statue.



The statue of Padre Pio.



Procession to the outdoor Mass.



Cardinal Sean O'Malley giving out Communion.



Padre Pio made an appearance at the end of the Mass.





Italian clergy with Cardinal Sean O'Malley after the Mass.



Attendees listen to the Mass at the Madonna Queen of the Universe Shrine.



Cardinal Sean O'Malley and Fr. Miroslaw Kowalczyk, pastor of St. Lazarus-St. Joseph parish.

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Happy Valley celebrates first anniversary as Eastie's largest cannabis shop

By John Lynds

There was a lot to celebrate last week at East Boston's largest adult use and medical cannabis dispensary that opened last year on McClellan Highway.

Last Friday, Happy Valley marked its one year anniversary in the neighborhood and hosted a daylong celebration that included customer appreciation promotions and pricing, raffles and other specials.

"We want to thank the community of East Boston for accepting us into their neighborhood," said Happy Valley General Manager Gilly Motta. "We have been able to service medical and recreational customers with amazing products, and a second to none-experience and we will continue to do so. Stay tuned for new products in July including Nano Stix, Nano Rapid Onset Gummies and new cultivars."

After a year of planning, Happy Valley opened up shop at 220 McClellan Highway--the former site of Enterprise Rental Car facility-last June.

Since opening Motta said Happy Valley has become a supporter of several local organizations and initiatives.

"Some of the community organizations we have worked with on the local level include Tree Eastie, Women's Lunch Place which is a women's shelter in Boston, Trans Resistance MA which advocates for the safety, joy, and liberation of TQBI-POC, Backyard Growers and the Freedom Fighters," said Motta. "We have also worked closely with organizations such as Best Buddies Program, Ellie Fund and The

Last Prisoners Project." Most recently the team at Happy Valley donated to the Salesian Boys & Girls Club's summer camp scholarship fundraising efforts.

Since opening last year, Happy Valley has set itself apart in the neighborhood by providing an experience that Motta says is like no other.

The sleek showroom has several display cases featuring Happy Valley's flower, edible and concentrated cannabis products complete with descriptions.

Customers can peruse the display cases or use one of the interactive touchscreen displays to find the product they are in search for.

Motta said what also makes Happy Valley a different player in the cannabis dispensary game is that the business is a vertically integrated dispensary that offers its own Happy Valley cannabis product. Happy Valley cultivates and manufactures all its products in Gloucester. All of Happy Valley's flowers, edibles, tinctures, oil solvents are done in Gloucester and shipped down to Eastie. The company also sells wholesale to other dispensaries across the state.

"The store is really a showcase for our own product, our own brand. We are really building a premium brand here on the East Coast," said Mot-

Happy Valley can be compared more to an Apple Store than a run of the mill dispensary. With its cool vibe of artwork, screen displays and high tech software, Motta said Happy Valley has really stood out in the dispensary industry.

For more information on hours, products, online ordering and other info www.happyvalley.



Happy Valley's General Manager Gilly Motta and Happy Valley's cannabis grower Dan Nelson during last week's one year anniversary celebration.



Happy Valley's cannabis grower Dan Nelson talks with customers during last week's celebration.



Staff was on hand last week to host raffles as well as special customer appreciation promotions to celebrate Happy Valley's one year anniversary.



The East Boston Happy Valley dispensary team during last week's celebration.



Customers take advantage of some of the customer appreciation promotions during last week's celebration.







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"Meat Cut Fresh Every Day"

HarborArts, Eastie Farm help international artists create murals that transform school walls

By John Lynds

At the Bradley Elementary School last Thursday, and last Friday at the Mario Umana Academy, students and teachers celebrated the completion of several murals by international artists that transformed the walls of the two schools into works of

HarborArts, the local premiere public art initiative dedicated to bringing local, national and international artists to the East Boston region, recently teamed up with Eastie Farm to launch the new public art project, "Harvest".

The new program brought renowned international and local artists to paint a series of largescale murals around urban farming and food justice at both the Bradley and

Umana. "In a world where our future is uncertain due to the increased threat of climate change, food insecurity, and environmental injustice, it's easy to feel powerless," said Matt Pollock, Director of HarborArts, "Together, we are painting a new series of educational murals that inspire people to take action with local climate initiatives. In coastal communities like East Boston, the preservation of open space is paramount to building a resilient community. Eastie Farm is doing so by transforming unused and abused spaces into urban farms that grow food, build community, and foster environmental stewardship."

Noted Colombian artists, Gleo and GRIS ONE, alongside emerging Boston muralist YennyCreate worked on the murals at the two schools over the course of the past month.

Gleo painted a largescale mural on the Border Street facade of the Umana, while GRIS ONE and YennyCreate painted murals that activated the walls of the Bradley School, including a 100foot retaining wall of the school facing Faywood Avenue.

"This has been one of the most organic and empowering applications of academic concepts applied to real world issues," said Tommy Simmons, Grade-Level Leader and ELA/Math Dual Language Teacher at Umana. "Our students are starting to take ownership and pride for our school and our community garden, bringing a greater sense of joy to the classroom."

After the first series of murals commissioned by HarborArts through a partnership with Boston Public Schools in 2021, Pollock said HarborArts was engaged by BPS to continue to bring more large-scale murals to campuses in Eastie.

Pollock said throughout the spring of 2022, HarborArts and Eastie Farm worked diligently to engage the Eastie community in this year's mural effort.

The program began in Eastie earlier this spring, with students at the Umana and Bradley School participating in hands-on urban farming programming and art workshops.

Over at Eastie Farm students at the schools engaged weekly in outdoor activities with educators, activists and artists covering a wide range of farming and creative exercises. The first class took place in early May, where students planted seedlings of the "Three Sisters" — Corn, Squash, and Beans - a method of planting a triplet of biodiverse crops with a symbiotic

relationship, originally used by First Nations people of what is now North America. In the following weeks, students explored differences between processed and organic food using drawing, discovered the importance of pollinators and open space through storytelling and performance, and ideated on mural concepts with painting and watercolor.

The three artists then

began painting three monumental public artworks inspired by student input during the workshops.

The goal of the project is to empower students to become active environmental stewards, as well as communicate critical issues and express ideas creatively and emotionally, using the universal language of public art.



Matt Pollock, Director of HarborArts.



Over at Eastie Farm students at the schools engaged weekly in outdoor activities with educators, activists and artists covering a wide range of farming and creative exercises. The murals were the result of student input.



Emerging Boston muralist YennyCreate at the Bradley School.







Muralist YennyCreate, Bradley Principal Claire Carney, Rep. Adrian Madaro, Eastie Farm's Heather O'Brien, Director of HarborArts Matt Pollock, BPS Region 1 Superintendent Tom-





Noted Colombian artist GRIS ONE works on his mural on the Bradley School's 100-foot retaining wall facing Faywood Avenue.





Students that help lead the Harvest program at the Bradley School are recognized.

Eastie Farm's Heather O'Brien checks out the mural at the Bradley School with students.

By John Lynds

On Saturday, for a \$30 donation to the Nantucket Lightship's U.S. Lightship Museum (USLM) in East Boston, residents can have a front seat to the Inner Harbor Fireworks in Boston Harbor aboard Nantucket/LV-112 as the city kicks off 4th of July Weekend.

Since 2009, Eastie has

played host to this national treasure and now the giant red lightship and the ship returned back to the Boston Harbor Shipyard and Marina last year after months of restoration work at a drydock in Chelsea.

According to USLM leader Robert Mannino, Jr. the program for the fireworks will begin at 7 p.m.

"Anyone who wants to reserve a spot and join us on Nantucket/LV-112's weather deck, with friends and family, to watch a spectacular fireworks display in Boston's inner harbor," said Mannino. "Nantucket/LV-112's berth has one of the best views of Boston's vibrant city skyline from the East Boston waterfront."

Mannino said guests

can bring a picnic supper, their favorite beverages, and a beach or lawn chairs to sit on the decks of Nantucket/LV-112, which will remain at the dock.

"We'll supply the ship, panoramic views and lively music," said Mannino. "The ship's powerful rotating light beacon will be activated just before the fireworks begin."

While the USLM will

provide the views Mannino said the evening will also give the museum a chance to show off its restoration progress.

"Plus, this is a fundraising event for LV-112, for which we still have much work to do," he said. "The ship's restoration solely depends on the generous contributions of corporations, private foundations, federal, state and munic-

ipal grants, maritime enthusiasts and individuals such as you."

Mannino said tickets are \$30 per person and can be purchased at ttps://www.eventbrite.com/e/cele-brate-boston-harbor-fire-works-from-nantuck-et-lightship-lv-112-tick-ets-347958351797.

Wu announced the results of the 42nd annual homeless census

On the night of February 23, Mayor Wu led a group of volunteers, including City and federal officials, homeless service providers, and public health and safety first responders in conducting the City of Boston's 42nd annual homeless census. During the annual census, the City of Boston collects data on individuals spending the night unsheltered on the street, and individuals and families staying in emergency shelter, transitional housing, or domestic violence shelter programs. This point-in-time count is a national requirement for cities who are receiving funds from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"This year's census data helps us better shape Boston's work to support our unhoused residents, coordinate effectively with our state and federal partners, and move closer to ensuring everyone has a safe, healthy home," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "As we continue our work to tackle housing across all of our neighborhoods, these results will guide our efforts to serve all of our residents and end homelessness in our city."

Overall, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness in Boston on the night of the census decreased by 2.4 percent, from 1,659 individuals in 2021 to 1,545 individuals in 2022. This reduction builds on a decrease of 24.7 percent from 2020 to 2021 which was due in part to a coordinated effort by city agencies and homeless service providers to create alternative housing, shelter and healthcare options that de-concentrated shelters during the first wave of the pandemic. It also reflects sustained and successful efforts in housing individuals experiencing homelessness and at-risk individuals and diverting individuals from emergency shelter to safe alternatives when possible.

The number of unsheltered persons staying on the street on the night of the census decreased by 30 percent, or 51 individuals, from 170 individuals in 2021 to 119 individuals in 2022. There were no unsheltered families on the streets of Boston on the night of the census, as has been true for more than the past decade. After two years of increased unsheltered homelessness, this year's street count is slightly lower than the total of 121 in 2019. The number of veterans experiencing homelessness decreased by 15.5%, from 213 veterans in 2021 to 180 veterans in 2022.

"The homeless census is an important tool in understanding the status of unsheltered veterans," said Andrew McCawley, president of the New England Center and Home for Veterans. "As an organization deeply engaged in efforts to end homelessness among veterans, this data provides us with a further understanding of the trends in our community so that we can plan for and deliver services. Even with this decrease, ONE unsheltered veteran is too many. We appreciate the City's work to conduct this census and its collaboration with our organization to move forward a coordinated strategy to end veteran homelessness in the City of Boston."

In 2021, the Mayor's Office of Housing, Mayor's Office of Recovery Services, Boston Housing Authority and a collaborative of homeless services and housing providers

launched the Street-to-Home (S2H) Initiative focused on placing persons experiencing long-term unsheltered homelessness in permanent housing with wrap-around services. Participants were identified from a city-wide list of unsheltered individuals with a particular focus on the area centered at Massachusetts Ave. and Melnea Cass Blvd. By the night of the unsheltered count in late February, 150 individuals had been housed. The Street-to-Home Initiative is an ongoing part of a larger effort by the Mayor's Office of Housing to invest Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV) funding from the CARES Act to provide housing assistance and stabilization services. As a result of this funding, an additional 215 adult individuals experiencing homelessness were housed through ESG-CV rapid rehousing (RRH) programs over the 12 months prior to the 2022

In November 2021, Mayor Wu brought in a special advisor, Dr. Monica Bharel, M.D. to accelerate efforts to mitigate the growing encampment crisis in the Newmarket triangle area at Mass Ave. and Melnea Cass Blvd. The Boston Public Health Commission, Mayor's Office of Recovery Services, numerous public health, behavioral health and health care agencies worked with the Mayor's Office of Housing to support six low-threshold sites providing interim housing, access to much needed medical and substance-use disorder care ongoing housing and navigation. This effort resulted in placement opportunities for more than 150 individuals who had been living in unsafe and

dangerous encampments in the depth of winter. By focusing on public health, substance-use and trauma-informed approaches, persons suffering from substance use disorder and other challenging life struggles were able to transition to safety and begin to navigate treatment, safe shelter, family reunification and housing pathways. Both the Boston Street-to-Home initiative and the low-threshold housing sites continue to work to assist and stabilize clients as they transition to treatment and supportive housing, helping break the cycle of homelessness for vulnerable unsheltered individuals.

"This census data is a valuable tool in devising strategies to solve homelessness in Boston," said Lyndia Downie, president and executive director of Pine Street Inn. "We are pleased to see a decrease in Boston's numbers, especially given the national picture, where street homelessness is at 39%. We know we still have work to do, and we look forward to continuing our partnership with Mayor Wu and the Mayor's Office of Housing to scale up permanent supportive housing. Moving individuals off the street and out of shelter into the safety and stability of housing is the solution and will benefit not only those experiencing homelessness, but all residents and business-

es in the city."

With insights gained from addressing the intersecting crises of unsheltered homelessness and the substance use epidemic during the last two pandemic years, the Wu administration will invest new resources and strengthen partnerships to address low-threshold

shelter access, substance use treatment access and supportive permanent housing strategies to improve unmet needs for outreach, engagement, and intervention. In the coming year, the Mayor's Office of Housing, the Mayor's Office of Recovery Services, Boston Police Street Outreach Unit, Boston EMS, Fire and Public Works and Parks will work with a newly appointed Coordinated Response Director, Tania Del Rio, and her team to ensure a continued coordinated response to street homelessness and the successful implementation of the plan developed over the last six months by former Senior Adviser Dr. Monica Bharel. The Mayor's Office of Housing will invest up to \$1 million in funding to work with Pine Street Inn, Eliot Community Health Services and other street outreach providers to strengthen diversion and housing navigation for unsheltered individuals, and to enhance housing stabilization for individuals who transition into permanent supportive housing. Additional funds will be dedicated to ensure ongoing client engagement, behavioral health and substance use treatment access, housing navigation and rehousing for participants in the six low-threshold sites set up to mitigate last year's en-

campment crisis.

The number of homeless families increased slightly this year, from 843 to 929, and Mayor Wu, the Boston City Council and a number of dedicated family homelessness providers, people with lived experience of family homelessness, and advocacy agencies have joined a Commission on

Ending Family Homelessness to explore strategies and develop a plan to address the housing, childcare, education and family support needs of homeless children and adults in families.

The census helps inform the City of Boston's policy development and allocation of resources. The information gained through the census is shared with other homeless service providers to aid in the coordination among the Continuum of Care members. Boston has one of the lowest percentages of unsheltered people living on the street of any major city conducting a census, with under 4 percent of Boston's homeless population sleeping on the street in 2021, the most recent year for which HUD has published national data. HUD did not publish national data for the total number of homeless persons who were unsheltered in 2021, because many Continua of Care waived their unsheltered count due to COVID-19. In 2020, 39 percent of all

homeless persons were unsheltered nationwide. The Mayor's Office of Housing is responsible for housing people expehomelessness, riencing 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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ParkARTS neighborhood concerts begin July 11

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department's 2022 ParkARTS Citywide Neighborhood Concert Series offers top-notch musical entertainment in local parks from July 11 through August 10. The ParkARTS outdoor

neighborhood summer concerts are presented in City of Boston parks and made possible by presenting sponsor Bank of America with additional support provided by Berklee College of Music. All shows begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

The series kicks off on

Monday, July 11, with Bon Jovi tribute Living on a Bad Name at Hemenway Playground, 540 Adams Street, Dorchester, and continues Wednesday, July 13, at 6:30 p.m. with Swingin' in the Fens featuring Lydia Harrell at

Ramler Park, 130 Peterborough Street, Fenway (rain date July 20); Monday, July 18, with the Soul City Band at Medal of Honor Park, East Broadway and N Streets, South Boston; Tuesday, July 19, with The Dope Lotus at Smith Playground, 235 Western Avenue, Allston-Brighton; Monday, July 25, with Conscious Reggae at Horatio Harris Park, 85 Harold Street, Roxbury; and Wednesday, July 27, with Conscious Reggae at Fallon Field, 50 Firth Road, Roslindale.

The August schedule begins Wednesday, August 3, with Angelena & the Unit at Hunt/Almont Park, 40 Almont Street, Mattapan, and continues Sunday, August 7, at 5 p.m.

with Jazz at the Fort fea-

turing Jacques Schwarz-

Bart at Highland Park, 58
Beech Glen Street, Roxbury; and Monday, August
8, with Divas with a Twist
at Blackstone Square,
1530 Washington Street,
South End. The series
ends on Wednesday, August 10, with the Rebels
Tom Petty tribute at Billings Field, 369 LaGrange
Street, West Roxbury.

All ParkARTS neighperformances are free of charge. For more information, please call (617) 635-4505 or boston.gov/parkarts. Stay up to date with news, events, and design and construction work in Boston parks by signing up for our email list at bit. ly/Get-Parks-Emails and following our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and InExtend your Business's reach with Online Advertising!

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

SUBCOMMITTEE LOOKS AT RULES **CHANGES**

CHELSEA - The City Council's rules and regulations subcommittee met last week to discuss several proposed rule changes aimed at improving civility and the level of discourse in the council chambers.

District 1 Councilor Todd Taylor proposed several additions to rules governing speaking among the councilors as well as the public speaking portion of the council meetings.

His first proposal adds language to rule number 8, which states how long and how many times a councilor can speak on a given topic. Taylor is seeking to add language stating that "no councilor shall use language that is profane or is used to offend or defame another councilor."

Furthermore, "if a councilor breaks this rule and there is subsequent objection, the offending

councilor must apologize and have the comments taken down or the offending councilor will be prevented from speaking for the remainder of the meeting as much as possible."

Taylor also asks in the proposed change that the councilors refer to each other not by name, but as the councilor from a specific district or the councilor at large.

In addition, if a councilor does mention another councilor by name, Taylor proposed that the councilor who was mentioned by name would have an opportunity to respond, even if they have already spoken.

District 8 Councilor Calvin Brown said he didn't necessarily see the need to add the language to the council rules, adding that it would only add to potential back and forth between councilors distracting from the issue at hand.

"This is taken from Robert's Rules of Orders," said Taylor. "These are basic rules of decorum that are pretty much universally recognized."

As for letting councilors respond when their names are mentioned, Taylor said it is a matter of fairness and adherence to the rules.

During the meeting, several councilors brought up an executive session meeting that was held last term to address issues of decorum in the council chambers.

"The reason we had that meeting was because a lot of the rules were being violated and we stated there needed to be some responsibility and those rules needed to be enforced, not that we needed to change the rules," said Brown. Brown added that he

wanted Taylor to produce a copy of the language from Robert's Rules of Order that Taylor said he used for the addition to the council rule.

Taylor said the request was irrelevant.

"I am proposing a change, so nobody needs to have a copy," said Taylor. "If you want to get Robert's Rules of Order and look it up, you can ... or any of the other parliamentarian books out there, or look at the U.S. House of Representatives or other deliberative bodies. A number of these are readily accessible on the internet."

additional rule An change proposal by Taylor governing public speaking generated a healthy amount of debate by the subcommittee members and Council President Roy Avellaneda.

Taylor asked that new language be added stating that "no person shall use language that is profane, insulting, or threatens violence. Furthermore, defamatory or slanderous language may not be used during public speaking."

If any councilor objects to any such comments in violation of the rule, Taylor proposed that the speaker must retract the comments or lose the right to publicly comment for that meeting.

"This is going in the same vein as the previous addition, we are trying to bring a basic level of decorum to this chamber," said Taylor. "These are basic rules that almost every deliberative body has as far as public speaking goes. It's not a very high bar."

District 5 Councilor Judith Garcia, the chair of the rules and regulations subcommittee, said she was concerned the rule changes would limit public speaking and about who would police the comments made by the public.

"It's giving way too much power to the council to allow public comment to be in their favor," said Garcia. "I think public speakers should be able to say whatever they want because it is their first amendment right."

Garcia said public speaking gives citizens an opportunity to hold the council accountable and that she would not want to put limits on public speaking. Brown agreed.

"To try to put in lan-

guage and try to put in proposals to silence the public is unconstitutional," said Brown.

residents should also have

OBITUARIES

Mary Olivolo

Of East Boston

Mary (Vieira) Olivolo of East Boston passed away peacefully on Tuesday, June 14 at 90 years of age. The loving daughter of the late Matthew and Mary (McGowan) Vieira, she was the beloved wife of the late Thomas Olivolo, dear sister of the late Jane A. Vieira and Matthew Vieira and is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

A private celebration will be held to honor Mary's life. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made



in Mary's name to the Alzheimer's Association, 309 Waverly Oaks Rd, Waltham MA 02452. To leave an online condolence, please visit www. ruggieromh.com.

Peter Millerick

Loving and dedicated father, Boston City Hall retiree and former tugboat captain



Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend Visiting

Hours today, Wednesday, June 29 from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Vertuccio & Smith, Home for Funerals, 773 Broadway, Revere for Peter W. Millerick, 74, who died on Tuesday, June 21, at the Massachusetts General Hospital following a brief illness. A Funeral Service will be conducted in the Funeral Home at 11:15 a.m. Interment and Military Honors will be in the Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne.

Peter was a lifelong resident of Jeffries Point in East Boston. He was educated in the Assumption Church Parochial School and was a graduate of Boston English High School, Class of 1965.

Peter possessed a deep passion for being on the harbor along with his brothers and the Islands. Shortly after graduation, Peter enlisted in the United States Coast Guard during Vietnam War. He proudly served his country from 1967 until 1971. When he returned home, Peter began his working career for Bethlehem Steel Corporation as a Tugboat operator aboard the "Bethlehem One.. Peter thoroughly enjoyed this job especially, being on Boston Harbor. He worked there for approximately 10 years, until the closing of the Boston Shipyard. Peter then worked at Boston Fuel Pier for several years, before taking a position at the M.W.R.A., pump station in East Boston, for over 10 years, before his final position at Boston City Hall as a First-Class Steam Engineer.

Peter was first and foremost a loving and dedicated father to his two children. He helped instill the value of education to his children and the idea of being happy in what you do. Peter was also a man who was fiercely independent, highly intelligent and had an appreciation for art. He was often spotted riding his bicycle around East Boston as well as in Boston. He was very innovative in many ways,



perhaps it was Peter who came up with the bicycle concept in the city, by having a second bicycle that he would leave in the city and when he would take the train into Boston, he would get his bicycle at the particular T Station and go about his business.

Peter enjoyed traveling, learning new things and appreciating the natural beauty of the city and city living. His charismatic nature, and witty sense of humor are just a couple of things that made him unique. The loving and proud

father of Thea Perez and her husband Michael of Newton and Peter D. Millerick of East Boston, he was the cherished grandfather of Maverick Perez and Tallulah Perez, both of Newton; the dear brother of Gerard E. Millerick and his wife, Deborah of East Boston and the late Martin J. Millerick, Lorraine T. Nazzaro, Edward A. Millerick and Richard J. Millerick. He was the son of the late Edward C. Millerick and Imelda (Almond) Millerick and is survived by his former wife, Dorothea G. "Gerry" (Saulnier) Millerick of Plymouth. He is also lovingly survived by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, cousins and lifelong friends. In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, P.O. Box 5014 Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014. To send online condo-

lences, please visit www. vertuccioandsmith.com Funeral Arrangements

entrusted to the care and direction of the Vertuccio & Smith, Home for Funerals of Revere.

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



H. Elaine Halkopoulos, Ed.D. "HP"

July 3, 1935 -November 25, 2016

Happy Birthday! May your spirit shine forever. Time slips by & life goes on, But from our hearts you're never gone. On your birthday we reminisce With smiles & frequent tears, As we think about all the memories And wish you were still here. I think of you in silence, I often speak your name. Though life goes on without you, it will never be the same.

> Remembering Elaine, dearly missed...never forgotten... Lovingly remembered, always, With love,

Tony

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Magrath

FUNERAL HOME from the building because Avellaneda said he agreed with some of what Includes photo. No word Limit. Taylor was proposing. Please send to "We should have a 336 Chelsea St., East Boston obits@reverejournal.com sense of decorum," said Avellaneda, adding that 617-567-0910 | www.magrathfuneralhome.com See REGION Page 11

Avellaneda said he agreed with adding lan-

guage that prevents someone from using profanity, defamatory language, or racist comments during public speaking.

the opportunity to criticize

the council.

However, he said he did have concerns about policing what language would be considered slanderous or libelous. "I'm a Libertarian, so

I take civil liberties very seriously, especially free speech, because I think that free speech has been under assault recently," said Taylor. "That being said, the councilor mentioned that this is unconstitutional, it is not unconstitutional. There are limits to free speech and there has clearly been a precedent by the Supreme Court for years and years."

As for defamatory and slanderous language, Taylor said it would be up to the council as a whole to decide that. "(If) somebody gets up

and says something that's blatantly untrue and meant to hurt somebody and meant with malice, that should not be allowed," said Taylor. "I don't care about prattling on about free speech rights, there are slander laws and there are libel laws. This is where the government has restricted speech, and rightly so. "For this body to bring

up free speech issues, this is the furthest thing from restricting free speech, this is restricting inflammatory speech."

The proposed council rule changes will be brought before the full council at a future meet-

FIRE ON REVERE BEACH

REVERE - The Revere Fire Department rescued two people last week from a balcony adjacent to Unit 1107 – where a blaze had engulfed a large exterior wooden deck -- at a highrise building at 370 Ocean

The firefighters were able to reach the two individuals who were trapped on the Unit 1102 balcony that had become enveloped in smoke. The firefighters were able to assist the individuals out of the life-threatening situation and escort them safely to the ground level.

Fire Chief Christopher Bright said the department received its first notification of the blaze at 1:59 p.m. All of Revere's fire apparatus raced to the scene of the fire that necessitated a third alarm. Firefighters from Ev-

erett, Chelsea, Malden, Winthrop, Massport, and Boston assisted the Revere department. The firefighting opera-

tion was a labor-intensive effort, with firefighters having to carry all equipment and interior lines up the stairwells to the standpipes on the ninth floor before dragging lines up to the eleventh floor, 110 feet above the ground. Bright said there were

stances that prevented the blaze from escalating into a multi-floor conflagra-"We're lucky that the wind was blowing away

some fortuitous circum-

we would have had several floors on fire," said Bright. "There was a lot of heat damage to the skin of

Op-Ed // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

the building, and it broke a couple of windows and damaged the fire doors right outside the fire area.

"We had a lot of things go in our favor - the time of day, the fire was discovered early, we have a fire watch in the building, which was very helpful in the initials stages of the fire," added Bright.

Bright said an investigation will be conducted to determine the cause of nology the fire.

WINTHROP SCHOOLS TO **UPGRADE TECHNOLOGY**

WINTHROP The Winthrop School Committee met on June 22, where it announced its plan to upgrade the tech-

infrastructure throughout the district. Tech Updates

This summer, with a grant from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund, technology infrastructure will be reconfigured to support the increased use

puters daily for testing

of Chromebooks in Winthrop schools. Students use these personal com-

and learning.

"We are working with [providers] to ensure that our infrastructure and our on-site technology are reliable and that our students have access to the technology required for learning," said Supt. Lisa Howard.

Schools will also upgrade their Raptor systems, a security technology used to scan the licenses of professionals entering the buildings.

Summer

Programming Winthrop

Public Schools will be offering a number of in-person programs for the summer. Academic enrichment

will be available to grades one to three at the Banks School, grades four to six at the Cummings School, and grades seven to nine at the Winthrop Middle School. Winthrop High School

students needing ELA and math credits can complete 50 hours of course time in each subject. Students entering

the For Kids Only after-school program can take summer courses there in STEM, drama, ELA, math and Social and Emotional Learning

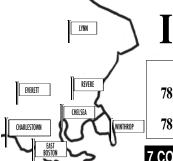
All four schools will offer summer special education programming for students with Individual Education Plans (IEP.)

Eighth Grade Award Winners

Several eighth-grade students received special awards for their achievements over this past year: Adam Aitouahmane, Noah Bayersdorfer, Iman Belghiti, Christopher Beshere, Jillian Buonaparte, Avalina Coffey, Mikaelly DeSouza, Joseph Disney, Bailey Ferguson, Elaina Freeman, Giada Gergerian, Annabelle Giardano, Jenna Hincman, Mackenzie Lynch, Morgan Morgado, Nicole Pinheiro, Zoe Rey, Brady Rockefeller, Gianna Sorrentino, James Stangle and Brian Sweeney.

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Personal Representative

LEGAL NOTICES

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.

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HAPPY FOURTH of JULY

AMERICA'S LARGEST FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION MARKS ITS 40TH EDITION

With events stretching from Downtown Crossing to the North End and from the Boston Common to Boston Harbor, the 40th edition of Boston Harborfest runs July 1-4, 2022 and remains the country's largest - and Boston's most expansive - Fourth of July celebration. Local and international leaders will oversee military music and pageantry during kick-off events in Downtown Crossing July 1. Harborfest highlights include a spectacular concert and fireworks display July 2 at Christopher Columbus Park, a turn-around sail of the USS Constitution in Boston Harbor and family-friendly events daily schedule below). Boston Harborfest ends July 4 with a 1 PM reading of an historic Frederick Douglass speech and a free ice cream social in Downtown Crossing.

"The City of Boston is known as the Cradle of Liberty for our role in the Revolution, and so it's fitting that we are home to one of the largest Fourth of July celebrations in the country," says Mayor Michelle Wu. "Harborfest is an opportunity to reflect on and celebrate our journey toward independence."

Boston Harborfest is a collaboration between the Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau (GBCVB), the Downtown Boston Business Improvement District (Downtown Boston BID) and Conventures, Inc. Partners include the City of Boston Mayor's Office of Tourism, Sports & Entertainment, the Boston Parks and Department, Recreation Friends of Christopher Columbus Park, as well as the Freedom Trail Foundation and many sites along it.

Events happen each day; an updated schedule can be found at boston-harborfest.com/schedule. The current schedule includes:

JULY 1 HIGHLIGHTS:

12 Noon – Harborfest Opening Ceremony with City of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, city and state elected officials, the British Consul General, travel and tourism industry leaders, and presence of military and historical groups. Includes a ceremonial cake-cutting, Colonial "living historians" and more.

ALL-DAY PROGRAMMING:

11 AM thru 6 PM – Family-friendly music, fashion and entertainment events in Downtown Crossing:

11 am-5 pm – DTX Arts and Crafts Market (Summer St. Plaza)

11:30 am-1 pm – 215th Army Band (Downtown Crossing Steps)

12 n-2 pm – Through Me To You Puppetry (near Downtown Crossing Steps)

12 n-2 pm and 4:30-6:30 pm – Downtown Boston Brass (roaming)

12 n-2 pm and 5-7pm

– Mediterranean Band (roaming)

1-4 pm – Middlesex County Volunteers Fifes and Drums (Downtown Crossing Steps)

2-4 pm – Macy's "Red White & Blue Fashion Show" (Summer St. @ Washington St.)

JULY 2 HIGHLIGHTS:

12 Noon – Chowderfest. Visitors can sample a local restaurants, as a panel of judges visit each vendor and declare a chowder winner. (Summer Street Plaza, Downtown Cross-

variety of chowders from

ing)

6-9 PM – Harborfest Pre-Fireworks Concert featuring Sweet Harmony and local talent performing Broadway standards and iconic patriotic songs, with children's activities throughout. (Christopher Columbus Park, North End)

9:15 PM – Boston Harborfest Fireworks (Inner Harbor @ Long Wharf/Columbus Park) Presented by M&T Bank, a spectacular display lights up the city sky above Boston's Inner Harbor at approximately 9:15 PM.

ALL-DAY PROGRAMMING:

11 AM-6 PM – music, auto, craft and family friendly events in Downtown Crossing including:

11 am-2 pm – Classic Car Showcase (Summer St. Plaza)

11 am-5 pm – DTX Arts and Crafts Market (Summer St. Plaza)

12-2 pm – Through Me
To You Puppetry (near
Downtown Crossing
Steps)

Unlikely Strummers
Ukulele Band (12:00
– 2:00 p.m. – Franklin
Steps)

pm— Downtown Boston Brass (roaming)

12-2 pm and 5-7 pm

– Mediterranean Band (roaming)

2-6 pm – Fife and Drums Showcase (Downtown Crossing Steps)

The William Diamond Junior Fife & Drum Corps

(from Lexington, Mass.)
The Sudbury Ancient
Fyfe & Drum Company

(Sudbury, Mass.)
The Middlesex County
4-H Fife & Drum Corps
(regional)

3-6 pm – Dancing with

DJ Bruno

JULY 3 HIGHLIGHTS:

12 Noon-2 PM – Patriotic Pooch Parade (Summer St. Plaza). A beloved annual event for our four-legged loved ones with a guest panel awarding great prizes for Best in Show, Best Team, Most Creative and Most Patriotic. Registration required here to enter.

12 Noon-6 PM – Revolutionary War Re-enactors (Downtown Crossing)

ALL-DAY PROGRAMMING:

12 Noon-7 PM – A variety of music and family friendly events in Downtown Crossing including:

12-2 pm – Through Me

To You Puppetry (Downtown Crossing Steps)

12-2 pm and 4:30-6:30 pm— Downtown Boston Brass (roaming)

12-2 pm and 5-7 pm

– Mediterranean Band
(roaming)

1-4 pm – Middlesex County Volunteers Fife and Drums (Downtown Crossing Steps)

4-6 pm – Opera Man and Friends (Downtown Crossing Steps)

JULY 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY HIGHLIGHTS:

HIGHLIGHTS:

9 AM – City of Boston's 246th Independence
Day Celebration. A short
parade steps off from City
Hall Plaza and passes
Granary Burying Ground,
where wreaths will be
laid on the graves of patriots. The parade continues through Downtown
Crossing to the Old State

House.

10 AM – Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company carries on its tradition of reading the Declaration of Independence from the balcony of the Old State House.

11:30 AM – USS Con-

stitution sails through Boston Harbor (viewing shoreside and around Boston Harbor)

1:00 PM — "What to the Slave, is the Fourth of July?," the famous speech by scholar and abolitionist Frederick Douglass gets a public reading by citizens including youth and community leaders organized by the New Democracy Coalition, with performances from gospel singers and dancers. (Downtown Crossing Steps)

1:30 PM – Ice Cream Social (Downtown Crossing Steps)

TBD – Middlesex County Volunteers Fife and Drums Concert (Washington Mall)

"We are thrilled to be a partner in this iconic festival," says Martha Sheridan, President and CEO of the Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau. "Harborfest brings together so many Boston neighborhoods to celebrate our rich culture, unique history, maritime heritage, and diverse offerings. We welcome visitors from our region and beyond to Boston this Fourth of July for the 40th rendition of Harborfest!"

"Downtown Crossing is at the crossroads of history and commerce in Boston, making it a perfect central hub for Harborfest activities," says George Comeau, Marketing and Brand Activation Manager for the Downtown Boston Business Improvement District. "The daily events here are designed for both residents and visitors, and the activities on the harbor are a short walk or ride from the heart of Downtown."

SPONSORS

Boston Harborfest sponsors include the Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Downtown Boston Business Improvement District, Conventures Inc.,

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Full information (schedule, directions and more) is available at bostonharborfest.com.

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economy of Boston, Cambridge and the metropolitan area.

The Downtown Boston Business Improvement District (BID) was created by property owners committed to achieving the district's full potential as a premier and vibrant destination. Our mission is to significantly improve the experience of all who live. work, visit, go to school or shop in the Downtown Boston BID by: providing supplemental services to keep the streets and sidewalks clean, upgrade the aesthetic appearance of the district, and make people feel welcomed and safe; promoting and fostering an energetic and thriving business climate in the area; and serving as the voice and advocate for the district.





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