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Wednesday, November 2, 2022



Above, Thaliana Abril, Alexa Merlod, and Isabel Mozo. Right, Diana Melgar and Melisa Lopez Martinez. See page 5 for more photos.

EL DIA DE LOS MUERTOS **PARADE**

The Veronica Robles Cultural Center (VROCC), led by well-known singer, musician, and Latin American folkloric dancer Veronica Robles, held the El Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) parade Sunday as a part of the week-long intergenerational arts and culture festival.

The parade, held on a beautiful fall day, consisted of parade floats with music and bands along the route that started at Central Square Park and ended at Shaw's in Liberty Plaza.

'MINI JUDGEMENT FREE ZONE' GYM OPENS AT SALESIAN BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB



The DeMartinis Franchise Group, owners of the Planet Fitness in East Boston, held a ribbon cutting event to open the "Mini Judgement Free Zone" gym they generously donated to the Salesian Boys and Girls Club. Attending was Massachusetts State Rep Adrian Madaro, Paul Travaglini, brothers and co-owners of the Planet Fitness franchise Sal (third from left) and Stan Jr. (3rd from right) DeMartinis, East Boston-raised New England Patriot Super Bowl Champ Jermaine Wiggins (center), former Senate President Robert Travaglini, and former City Councilor Sal LaMattina. See Page 6 for more photos.

Miscommunication on Maverick St. roof deck but it wasn't very clear as

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

During the monthly Gove Street Citizens Association (GSCA) meeting on Monday, Oct. 24, attendees were presented with a proposal to add a roof deck to a recently renovated three-family building at 229 Maverick Street – the catch? The roof deck has already been built.

Attorney Derric Small cited that the roof deck which was built without the proper permits – was built due to a miscommunication between the developer and contractor.

Small, who represents the developer, explained that during the development at 229 Maverick Street, the developer also had an ongoing project at 92 Bennington Street that involved roof decks.

"When the 92 Bennington Street project was approved with its roof decks, there was communication with the contractor that the roof deck was approved,

to which roof deck the developer was referring to," said Small.

"They ended up building a roof deck here at 229 [Maverick Street] on a conversation that was approved, but it was misunderstood that the developer was referring to the project at 92 Bennington This project was actual-

ly presented to the GSCA in the Spring of 2021 and was struck down by a vote of 7-6 to make matters more interesting. Furthermore, there were no updates to the project's design since it was voted on in the spring of 2021.

"The only difference is the buildings beside were not developed yet," said

When the presentation was opened to questions, some attendees were confused about how something like this could

See GSCA Page 2

Customers encouraged to enroll in payment assistance programs with National Grid

Special to the Times-Free Press

ing winter energy bills to consider company-offered programs that can spread bills across several months and explore payment assistance programs offered by state and federal agencies and regional non-profits.

The effort is part of National Grid's Winter Customer Savings Initiative, which was launched last month to help customers reduce their energy use and save money, manage their bills, and secure available energy assistance.

The initiative brings together and expands National Grid's many customer resources, including numerous payment assistance programs for income-eligible customers, extensive residential and business energy efficiency programs and incentives, low-cost and no-cost bill management solutions, and flexible payment programs.

One of the bill management programs offered by

National Grid includes the Budget Plan. The Budget National Grid is urg- Plan is designed to take ing customers facing ris- the guesswork out of the monthly billing process. The program takes the amount customers usually pay on their National Grid bills in a year and breaks that amount into twelve balanced monthly payments to help offset high seasonal bills. Customers will still pay only for the total amount of energy they use in a year, but the Budget Plan makes it easier to anticipate monthly energy costs and plan household budgets. For more information customers may view the Even Payments-Making Budgeting Easier brochure.

> Along with this, National Grid will refer income-eligible families and customers needing special assistance to meet their energy needs. Programs include but are not limited to:

> The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) also known as the Fuel Assistance Program, helps income- eligible house-

See ASSISTANCE Page 4



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News in Brief

AGES 65 & UP, EAST BOSTON YMCA CHORUS NEEDS YOU

The YMCA Chorus has re-formed under the able direction of Paul Racki, following a 2-year pandemic pause during which some voices have sadly been lost. We are in need of singers in all ranges. If you love to sing and can carry a tune, please join us for weekly practice on Tuesday afternoons between 2:30 - 3:30 PM.at the EBYMCA, 215 Bremen St., FREE No professional experience needed. All are welcome. For info call Paul 978-944-0971

HARBOR VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

MEETING The next meeting of the Harbor View Neighborhood Association will be on November 7, 2022 at 6pm. The meeting is In Person only but will be streamed via Facebook for archival purposes. Attendance on Facebook does not qualify for voting. 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 are indoors, masks are optional for those in attendance.

La proxima reunion de Harbor View Neighborhood Association esta en el 7 de noviembre a las 6pm. La reunion esta en persona y via Facebook. La asistencia en Facebook no califica para vota.

Llega a la cafeteria del Salesian Boys y Girls Club por la calle Byron al otro lado de Brooke Charter School. Pueda usar la entrada pricipal por la calle Byron o la entrada en calle de Wordsworth. La entrada de calle Wordsworth no tienne escaleras por personas con discapacidades.

El cubre bocas sera opcional puesto que estaremos adentro.

Agenda Welcome/Introduction

Announcements (5min) Salesian Pasta Dinner Nov. 18th, Election Day Nov. 8th, Brooke Addition Abutters Meeting 10/25, Italian Heritage Day Event by Steve Scire, Barbara Puopolo, Salesians Boys and Girls Club,

McLean Park Update, Survey, Tree Planting at Cheverus School Apts. on 10/23, JCAM Celebrate Diversity 11/6, Brooke Abutters Traffic Update 11/14. Christmas Party

Station 7 Police Report

and Welcome to Captain Dean Bickerton, Sgt. Cintolo, Officer Domenico and Officer Mosley (15min)

PLAN East Boston BPDA (20min) Jason Ruggiero to provide overview of Neighborhood Residential and what BPDA is suggesting as guidelines to update zon-

BPS Bus Issue (30min) Jackie Hayes, Assistant Director of Contract Operation and Fleet for the Boston Public Schools will present a brief overview of bus operations and then a Q&A.

Piers Park III (10min) Gabriela Ramirez, Trustees, to provide an update to us on the status and progress of the Piers Park III plans.

Representative Adrian Madaro (30min) Representative Madaro will briefly present his actions and activities on behalf of East Boston and then a

Halloween House Decorating Contest (10min) Prizes to be awarded to the First, Second and Third Place Winners.

New Business (5min) The next meeting of the

HVNA will be on December 5, 2022.

Visit us at http://www. facebook.com/groups/ harborviewna or check our website at harborvieweastboston.com

Suffolk County Sheriff Tompkins named 'Employer of the Year'

Suffolk County Sheriff Steven W. Tompkins was named "Employer of the Year" by the National Association of Government Employees (NAGE).

Reacting to the unexpected honor of becoming the first-ever recipient of the award, Sheriff Tompkins expressed his appreciation for both the designation and the work of the bestowing organization.

"I'm somewhat taken aback by this award, but I am deeply honored," said Sheriff Tompkins. "NAGE is an awesome organization that does great work in the service of working men and women across this country. I proudly stand with labor and support NAGE in all that they do to keep people safe and healthy at work, with fair wages and a just and equitable environment."

Speaking about the decision to select Sheriff Tompkins as the inaugural winner of the award, NAGE President David Holway explained that it was less about having to make a choice and more about recognizing the person who best embodied the ideals of the award.

"We represent and work with 350 employers," said President Holway. "Nobody is fairer to our members than Sheriff Tomp-



kins. He's responsive to their needs and he understands and appreciates what they do every day."

NAGE is an organization of members united by the belief in the dignity and worth of workers and the services they provide. They are dedicated to improving the lives of workers and their families and creating a more just and humane society.

Members are public and private workers – federal. state, county, and municipal employees -police officers, firefighters, correctional officers, health care workers - nurses, paramedics, and emergency medical technicians - office workers, and professional workers. NAGE seeks a stronger union to build power for the organization and to protect the people it serves.

NAGE is made up of women and men of every race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, physical ability and sexual orientation, who are the standard-bearers in the struggle for social and economic justice begun nearly half a century ago by shipyard workers who dared to dream beyond their daily hardships and to organize for economic security, dignity and respect.

Man charged with exposing himself to two 16-year-old students in East Boston

A Boston man was charged last week with allegedly exposing himself and committing lewd acts earlier this month in front of two 16-year-old girls who were walking back to school in East Boston after lunch, District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced.

HAMID ELALAMI. 37, was arraigned on October 21 in East Boston BMC on one count of open and gross lewdness and one count of indecent exposure. Assistant District Attorney Brianna Callahan requested \$750 bail, a stay away from the location, a stay away from the witnesses and a stay away from all children. Judge John McDonald did not impose bail and ordered Elalami to report to probation twice a week, continue to follow any prescribed medication and treatment, verify any treatment and submit to a mental health evaluation. Elalami will return to court November 21 for

Why have some communities not

been a part of health research?

treatments that benefit all of us.

sick or keeps them healthy.

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and urine samples, if asked.

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visit, participants must create an account, give consent, agree to share their electronic health records, decide whether they want information about their DNA, answer health surveys, have their physical measurements taken (height, weight, blood pressure, etc.), and give blood and uring example; if a kend

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All participants will receive a

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a pre-trial hearing. Callahan said that at

about 2:30 pm on October 5 Boston police responded to a school in East Boston where the students told them they were walking back to school after lunch and saw a man expose his penis. They then saw the man insert his penis into the opening of a pipe. The Attorney Kevin Hayden's girls walked quickly away, but the man followed them with his penis still exposed. While walking away the girls were able to take a cell phone photo of the man. Using the image and the description provided by the students, detectives identified Elalami and issued a warrant for

"These two girls deserve enormous credit for providing the information that helped police identify and arrest this suspect. It's unfortunate that they had to witness such things, but the responsible actions they took provide an excellent example of

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community members and law enforcement working together to address crime in our neighborhoods," Hayden said.

All charged individuals are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Suffolk County District office serves the communities of Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop, Mass. The office handles over 20,000 cases a year. More than 160 attorneys in the office practice in nine district and municipal courts, Suffolk Superior Court, the Massachusetts Appeals Court, the Supreme Judicial Court, and the Boston Juvenile Courts. The office employs some 300 people and offers a wide range of services and programs to serve anyone who comes in contact with the criminal justice system. This office is committed to educating the public about the services we provide, our commitment to crime prevention, and our dedication to keeping the residents of Suffolk County

Mammograms Save Lives.

All women over 40 should have a mammogram once a year. Breast cancer found early offers the best chance to be cured. Free or low cost For more information and

day or night.

mammograms are available. answers to any of your cancer questions, contact us any time, happen, considering the developer's experience. A member of the de-

 GSCA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

velopment team, Meggan Ayers, was present at the meeting and has been in development for about four years. She also works with her father, who has about 35 years of experience in development. Ayers stated that in the past, the developers had done work at places like 231 Maverick Street and 96 Cottage Street, among others.

The information regarding previous projects prompted GSCA Board Member Chen Cao to ponder, "Maybe it is just my naivety around this it seems like the developer has lots of experience kind of going through the process of, you know, requesting or developing in the neighborhood, so I was kind of curious how the deck was constructed or was it just purely a miscommunication."

Both Small and Ayers reiterated that it was a simple misunderstanding that caused the erection of the roof deck.

"I was trying to run these projects simultaneously - clearly made a rather large error in doing so, and so this was purely a miscommunication just saying in excitement, 'yep, we are all set the deck has been approved; go ahead' because in my mind I'm thinking about 92 Bennington not thinking about 229 [Maverick Street], so that was on me," said Ayers.

Although it may seem improbable that an error like this could happen, Ayers did emphasize that the roof deck was involved in the initial planning, and efforts were made to go through the proper process to build it legally before the accident.

As for the future of the roof deck, the proposal will have to go through the Zoning Board of Appeals for approval. "At the end of the day,

if the Zoning Board of Appeals says no, then Derric [Small] knows that the developer will have to bring this down," said East Boston Liaison Nathalia Beni-

Not only will the proposal have to go through the Zoning Board of Appeals, but it will also be put up for a GSCA vote. However, that vote did not occur at Monday's meeting due to a GSCA guideline that there must be at least two meetings on a subject before a vote takes place.

The delayed vote caused a civilized discussion to turn confrontational, as Small was confused as to why this meeting does not count as the second, as there was a short presentation about it in July.

"It was not clear to the community that this roof deck was already built. That was something you said kind of absent-minded – it just was not clear, and that's why we have been having these conversations over e-mail for a few months now," said GSCA Board Member Neelesh Batra to Small.

"You know the issues at hand. You already know

them, so don't come to me now and ask why this is happening; you know why it is happening," Batra added.

However, Small did mention that the roof deck was already built back in the July meeting - which Batra acknowledged. In July, Small also showed some of the same photographs he did at Monday's

meeting. Overall the situation has been sticky, to say the least, and none more sticky than for the unit owner Scott Von Stein who pleaded with attendees to think before they

eventually vote. "I'm a first-time home buyer. When I bought this place, I had no idea this was even an issue. I assumed that everything was right - my lawyer agreed to the sale and never brought this up as an is-

sue," said Von Stein. Von Stein indicated that if the roof deck is not approved, he will have to seek litigation to make sure the developer foots the bill if it were to be re-

"If this isn't approved, this is really going to financially damage me, so I am just kind of asking from a human perspective to kind of keep that in mind – an actual human being lives here that has no association with the developer whatsoever," said Von Stein.

"When people vote on this, I am just asking please keep that in mind."



Give now.

EAST BOSTON MUSEUM HOSTS 'TOMBSTONE TOUR' OF BENNINGTON STREET CEMETERY

The East Boston Museum and Historical Society hosted a walking tour of the historic Bennington Street Cemetery on Saturday, Oct. 29. Timed to coincide with neighborhood celebrations of Halloween and Dia de los Muertos. the tour was envisioned as a way to teach attendees about the history of the cemetery and the legacy of East Boston's early immigrants and industry as told through the stories of

those buried within. Saturday's tour attracted approx. 150 participants, mainly residents of East Boston. While some residents have had the opportunity to visit Bennington Street Cemetery in previous years, the majority were getting to visit the space for the first time, with the cemetery gates usually locked year-round, except on request. Visitors ranged from longtime residents to new arrivals, as well as several kids, many in costume. The tour was arranged and presented by Steven Gingras of the East Boston Museum, with board member Jeanne Belmonte contributing research on burials and their

backgrounds.

Founded in 1838, Ben-

nington Street Cemetery was the first cemetery created for the newly established neighborhood of East Boston, as well as the second-most modern cemetery in the city's Historic Burying Grounds Initiative. Active from 1838 through the late 1940s, the cemetery is the final resting place of thousands of Bostonians, and residents of the East Boston community particularly. Notably buried in the cemetery are many of the early immigrants who arrived in East Boston in the mid- to late-19th century, hailing from places such as Ireland, Britain, Germany, Scandinavia, and Maritime Canada, and working as laborers in the neighborhood's burgeoning manufacturing and maritime industries. The cemetery and the headstones within record these origins, for instance with 11 of the currently legible headstones being written

The tour also touched upon several notable events at the cemetery itself, such as its use as a

in German.

park, ghostly sightings, and its use as a criminal hideout during the Great Depression.

The East Boston Museum and Historical Society seeks to honor and preserve the rich and diverse history of East Boston for current and future generations. A volunteer-run initiative, the Museum holds regular events educating members of the public on East Boston history. The Museum is also in the process of updating its virtual presence, and organizing physical exhibitions for the public to visit.

Online, the tour has attracted significant attention from residents, including from those who weren't able to attend. The East Boston Museum is thrilled at the huge turnout, and high levels of interest from the public in the cemetery's history. While no firm plans have been decided, residents can be assured that the East Boston Museum is looking into organizing more events and resources connecting residents with Bennington Street Cemetery in the near future.



Saturday's tour attracted around 150 participants.



The tour was arranged and presented by Steven Gingras of the East Boston Museum.



The tour also touched upon several notable events at the cemetery.

DOM SAVIO HIGH 50TH REUNION



The 1970 Class at St. Dominic Savio High School in East Boston finally got a chance to celebrate their 50th reunion at the Winthrop Arms Restaurant. The class of 1970 has always been considered the most successful class in the College Prep's history. The class called this reunion 50+2 reunion as '70 turns 70. Our class has had a run of 5 year reunions every year since graduation and this one topped them all.



Members is the reunion committee (left to right) are: Robert Travaglini, Steve Gianaccaro, John Smith,a.k.a Bob Higdon and Chairman of the committee Frank Scarpa.

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AN IMPORTANT ELECTION WITH BIG BALLOT **QUESTIONS**

This Tuesday, November 8, is state election day in Massachusetts.

With two-term incumbent Governor Charlie Baker having chosen not to seek re-election, voters will be choosing a new governor for the first time in eight years.

The contest between Democrat Maura Healey and Republican Geoff Diehl represents the starkest contrast between two candidates for the governorship in our state in almost 100 years. Healey and Diehl espouse polar-opposite views on

almost every topic, most notably regarding former President Donald Trump (Diehl is an unabashed supporter, Healey is not). It is not an overstatement to say that the future direc-

tion of our state is dependent on Tuesday's outcome, and for that reason alone, everyone should get out to There also are four ballot questions for voters to con-

sider. The two that have garnered the most attention are Question 1 and Question 4. Question 1 would impose an additional four percent

state tax on the income of residents that exceeds \$1 million. Net income up to \$1 million would still be taxed at the five percent rate, with only the amount exceeding \$1 million taxed at the higher rate.

It should be noted that the state legislature cannot enact a graduated income tax. The Mass. Constitution does not allow the legislature to do so, and thus voters essentially will be determining whether to amend our state constitution to permit a higher tax rate on high-income individuals.

The question is being supported by the citizens group Mass. Fair Share and is being opposed primarily by a number of ultra-wealthy individuals who have contributed millions of dollars to the Vote No campaign.

Question 4 on the state ballot essentially does this: It allows any resident of Massachusetts, regardless of immigration status, to obtain a Mass. driver's license, provided they meet all of the usual requirements of obtaining a license. In addition, the new law specifically states that such persons will not be eligible to become registered voters and will not be able to obtain a REAL ID driver's license

The Mass. legislature already has approved a law to do this. That law is set to go into effect on July 1, 2023. However, those who oppose the law gathered enough signatures to place the question on the ballot. A "Yes" vote on Question 4 will allow the law to go into effect on July 1, 2023.

We would note that a wide array of various groups, including police chiefs, district attorneys, and other law enforcement agencies, strongly support a "Yes" vote on Question 4. In addition, similar laws have been enacted in many other states.

As a final reminder to our readers, early voting is now underway in every city and town hall across the state. However, early voting ends this Friday -- there is no early voting this weekend -- so if you do not vote before Friday at your local city or town hall, you will have to go to the polls on Tuesday.

With so much at stake, we urge all of our readers to get out and vote.

SEND US 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 to 781-485-1403. We also encourage

readers to e-mail news releases and photos to

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Forum

GUEST OP-ED

John Fetterman, President Roosevelt

and disability in public office

By Glenn Mollette

One of the greatest Presidents of all time was Franklin D. Roosevelt. He served from 1933 to 1945. He led this country and saw us through some of our toughest years. Many say he stands as the greatest President of all time. Ironically, he had a difficult time standing.

Photographs of Roosevelt in a wheelchair are rare but you can find one on the Internet.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, was our 32nd President but he began experiencing symptoms of a paralytic illness in 1921 when he was 39 years old. His main symptoms were fever; symmetric, ascending paralysis; facial paralysis; bowel and bladder dysfunction; numbness and hyperesthesia; and a descending pattern of recovery. He was diagnosed with poliomyelitis and underwent years of therapy, including hydrotherapy at Warm Springs, Georgia. Roosevelt remained paralyzed from the waist down and relied on a wheelchair and leg braces for mobility, which he took efforts to conceal in public. In 1938, he founded the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, leading to the development of polio vacaccounts continue to refer ble of holding down the to Roosevelt's case as polio, the diagnosis has been questioned in the context of current medical science, with a competing diagnosis of Guillain-Barré syndrome proposed by some authors.

We could talk and write about Franklin D. Roosevelt all day. However here are a few of his noted accomplishments from his 12 years of service - longer than anyone. Creation of the emergency banking act to counteract the Great Depression. Establishment of FDIC. Unemployment rate reduction. Setup many institutions to support the New Deal. Created institutions as part of the New Deal. Created the U.S. Social Security System. Established the minimum wage and 40hour work week. He took action to prohibit discrimination in employment, led America to victory in World War II, and, took part in the creation of the United Nations. He also aided water pollution con-

trol and more. (Wikipedia) However, would Roosevelt even have a chance today? Can you imagine him trying to conceal his wheelchair or his leg braces? Not in this age. Would The Press and the opposition tear him to sheds as being physically incapajob?

Disabled Americans and people worldwide can point to Roosevelt as someone who dealt with tremendous physical obstacles to accomplish much for our country and the world.

Americans with disabilities should not be excluded from running for public office. We vote for who we want to vote for but in a free country all citizens should be able to try.

John Fetterman Pennsylvania is trying. He has had a stroke, but he's trying. It has been amazing to witness the amount of support Pennsylvania has given Fetterman. He is in a dead heat race with national celebrity Dr. Mehmet Oz whose star power as a long time TV doctor star has surely greatly boosted him in his race with Fetterman for

the United States Senate. Tragically, Fetterman's health apparently prevents him from articulating clearly. His mental ability to quickly process what he is hearing is obviously impaired. This has to make it tough for him. Roosevelt did not have this problem. His mind appeared to be sharp and his speech clear and convincing during his years as President. This is where Roosevelt's situation and Fetterman's is different.

Fetterman needs and deserves time to heal. He obviously needs continuing medical treatment and therapy to recuperate from his stroke. He is still a young man. In a year, or two he may be fully recovered and more able to serve. This is unfortunate for Fetterman and his supporters but only makes sense for his personal health. The fact that he is running for such a demanding job in his current state demonstrates that his mental clarity is somewhat impaired. It also demonstrates that people close to him are mentally impaired to have encouraged him to continue in this political contest. He needs time to get well so that if elected he can serve effectively.

The bottom line is that voters will decide who represents them. This is one right we must continue to cherish, protect and be mentally clear about.

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.

Council President Ed Flynn calls for halt to redistricting process

from public housing advocates and residents across the city about transparency, City Council President Ed Flynn has called for a halt of the Redistricting Process.

cines. Although historical

"I appreciate the efforts of my colleagues, however this process has unfortunately become tainted and flawed. Many neighbors and community organizations have expressed concerns about a lack of transparency, potential violations of the Open Meeting Law, as well as the perceived influence of outside organizations to disregard the core of prior districts and communities of interest in an attempt to potentially gerrymander districts based on future

ignore the wishes of public housing neighbors and remove them from representation within the communities they reside. I fail to see how dividing neighborhoods, public housing developments and communities of color is in the best interest of the City of Boston."

In a statement last week, Councilor President Flynn called for a delay to the process indicating that there is no need to rush, and that the deadlines were self-imposed. According to the City of Boston Corporation Counsel, there is no legal requirement that redistricting be completed until 2026. There is also an opinion from Jeffrey Wice, Se-

With the circulation of races," said Council Pres- nior Fellow of the New together. This Commisadditional redistricting ident Flynn. "It feels clas- York Census & Redistrict- sion can comprise of apmaps, as well as concerns sist to me that we would ing Institute at New York pointments made by the Law School, that there is no risk of a voting rights violation with the current council maps enacted in 2012.

> Flynn said "I am calling for the establishment of a Blue-Ribbon Mapping Commission to carefully study this issue and create maps that will not tear neighborhoods apart and keep local communities

City Council, the Mayor's Office, Secretary of State, and the City of Boston Election Department."

Flynn said, "We have a chance to do this the right way- so let's take a step back and protect the city from any potential lawsuits. The people of Boston deserve our best, so let's roll up our sleeves and get it done."

Assistance // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

holds pay their heating bills with federally funded grants.

- Discount Rates where qualifying income-eligible customers may receive a discounted rate on electric and gas service, as well as no-cost energy efficiency upgrades. • The Massachusetts
- Good Neighbor Energy Fund is available to any Massachusetts residents who, because of temporary financial difficulty, cannot meet a month's energy expense and is not eligible for state or federal energy assistance

Last week, National Grid announced the company is committing \$17

million in philanthropic

funding to local community and philanthropic support organizations. The funds will be distributed through National Grid and the National Grid Foundation to existing networks and community partners across Massachusetts and New York that are set up to help individuals, families and communities who need it most. As part of this philanthropic funding, earlier this week National Grid in New England announced that the first \$1 million of those funds would be distributed to three Massachusetts brands of the United Way

and the Good Neighbor

Energy Fund.

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EL DIA DE LOS MUERTOS PARADE

Veronica Ro-Cultural Center bles (VROCC), led by wellknown singer, musician, and Latin American folkloric dancer Veronica Robles, held the El Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) parade Sunday as a part of the week-long intergenerational arts and culture festival.



Boston Police officers Tom Domenico, Derek Russo, and Dean Bickerton provided safety for all the participants and spectators at the parade.





Veronica Robles, leader of the Veronica Robles Cultural Center, with Priya Gulrajani.



Estrellas Tropicales of Boston participated in the parade Sunday in East Boston.



Catherine Hernandez, Carmen Romero, Brianna Flores, Andrea Rodrguez, and Sofia Aqui-

THE BELLE ISLE ROTARY CLUB HOLDS FALL FAIR

The Belle Isle Rotary Club held a Fall Fair at Salesian Boys & Girls Club in East Boston on

Saturday, Oct 1. Their aim was to be able to provide a smaller yet enriched "Topsfield Fair" experience for children and families in the area that cannot logistically go to the Topsfield Fair due to transportation/finances. This is the third year doing this and it is growing with more fun experiences like pumpkin painting, face painting, witch hat ring toss, delicious food (all free of charge) and

live animals. The event is

growing in attendance every year. Tickets are sold for "Goat Pebble Bingo" (\$20 a square and the winner wins \$1000 depending upon where the goat leaves his/her "pebbles' the minute they are let

The event has been assisted by local businesses listed as follows:

First Priority Credit Union, Rockland Trust, Capital Waste, Sammy Carlos Sub Shop, Spinelli's, Championship Physical Therapy, Joe Mario -Century 21 Realty, Robert DeLeo and family, Woodside Hardware.







Mariana Gomez does not want to let go.



Emily Sacco found a new friend.





Cider donuts and BBQ are always popular with event goers.



Oliviana Gravely all smiles

at the petting zoo.



Campaign finance laws limit contributions to \$1,000 per person per calendar year. Campaign finance laws protiibit corporations and limit contributions from registered lobbyists to \$200 per year. Campaign contributions are not



ings. Must have or open a Share Account with FPCU and maintain a minimum balance of \$5.00. Funds are Federally Insured by NCUA. Funds in excess of federal limits are fully insured by

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

Planet Fitness officials Ste-

ven Lombardi and Edward

Salesian Boys And Girls

Club Director of Religious

ActivitiesFather Bill Bucciferro offers a blessing for

the new gun before the

Planet Fitness COO Bill

makes a difference".

Bode and Stan DeMartinis

'MINI JUDGEMENT FREE ZONE' GYM OPENS AT SALESIAN BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

The DeMartinis Franchise Group, owners of the Planet Fitness in East Boston, held a ribbon cutting event to open the "Mini Judgement Free gym they generously donated to the Salesian Boys And Girls Club. With state of the art exercise equipment, the Salesian Boys And Girls

Alder Partners Company

speaks, announcing a chol-

the Salesian Boys And Girls

Club in honor of his father,

CEO Stan DeMartinis Jr

arship/partnership with

Stan DeMartinis Sr.

Baldassari.

Club now offers a wider array of resources to the East Boston community. The ceremony has a star appearance from Super Bowl Champion, retired New England Patriot, East Boston raised, and Alumn of the Salesian Boys And Girls Club, Jermaine Wig-



COO of the Alder Partners Company Stella Giangregorio and East Boston raised **New England Patriot Super Bowl Champ Jermaine**



Wiggins.



Executive Director of Salesian Boys And Girls Club Mi-



chael Triant welcomes everyone to the ribbon cutting.



Jeliel Jiminian tries out one



East Boston raised New

England Patriot Super Bowl

Champ Jermaine Wiggins

with former Senate President Robert Travolini.

Alder Partners Company CEO Stanley DeMartinis Jr and Danielle Damelio hold a giant, ceremonial check for \$100,000 to inaugurate the Stanlet DeMartinis Sr Scholarship for Seniors at the Salesian Boys And Girls



of the machines.



New England Patriot Super Bowl Champ Jermaine Wiggins

speaks noting the importance of the Salesian Boys And Girls Club growing up in East Boston. "I just want to thank everybody that is doing this for these kids because it

Members of the DeMartinis Family



Salesian Boys And Girls Club youth get to try out the new equipment.

East Boston raised New England Patriot Super Bowl Champ Jermaine Wiggins (center) with Salesian Boys And Girls Club program staff members Dwayne Simmons and Justin

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Andrew Faretra gets some advice on exercising proudly from Executive Director of Salesian Boys And Girls Club



The ribbon is cut, officially opening the new gymnasium at the Salesian Boys And Girls



Members of the Planet Fitness Franchise Team hold a giant, ceremonial check for \$100,000 to inaugurate the Stanlet DeMartinis Sr Scholarship for Seniors at the Salesian Boys And Girls Club.

Insured by NCUA | Member MSIC *Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 09.26.2022 and subject to change at any time without notice. \$500.00 minimum to open; \$0.01 minimum to earn the APY. A penalty will be imposed for early withdrawals. Fees may reduce earnings. Account requires new money; to satisfy this requirement, an additional \$5,000 in external funds must be added to transfers from existing Metro Credit Union accounts. For online account opening only: Maximum funding amount is \$25,000. Visit MetroCU.org for current rates, terms and account requirements

Sports

EAST BOSTON LITTLE LEAGUE FALL SEASON A SUCCESS

Boston Little East League's Minor and Major Divisions concluded another successful fall season.

Instruction of younger players is the priority in the minor division, which played two games during the six-week schedule.

The Major Division concluded with a thrilling final series between EB Red and EB Blue. Coach Nick Free's regular season champs EB Red took Game 1 behind the pitching of Giacomo Courtney and the bats of Tyler Rodriguez and Leudys Suriel.

Game 2 saw EB blue come back from an early deficit to draw even in the series with a one-run victory. Deanna Nee pitched well for EB Blue and Dennis Hutchinson provided timely hits.

The deciding Game 3

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Tuesday, November 22, 2022

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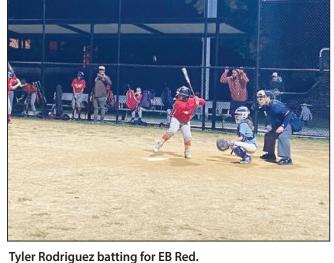
Spinelli's East Boston

282 Bennington Street, East Boston, MA 02128 Telephone 617-567-1992 Fax 617-567-5150

was a back-and-forth affair which saw coach Brandon O'Brien's EB Blue team score late to secure the championship. Ryan Nee was effective as the starting pitcher for the EB Blue team, with Thomas Toponarski turning in an excellent relief-pitching appearance to lock down the victory for his team.

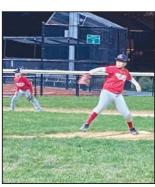
EBLL has scheduled a fall season the last few years to resounding success and recognizes all the coaches and volunteers who have made it happen.

A special 'thank you' to EBLL President Chucky Cassaro and longtime EBLL officer and coach Dr. Robert Gilbride for making youth baseball in East Boston such a positive experience for all the players in the league during the summer and fall seasons.

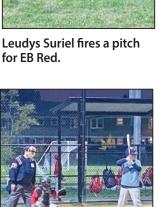




Tyler Rodriguez slides in under the tag for EB Red.



for EB Red.



Dennis Hutchinson in the batters box for EB Blue.

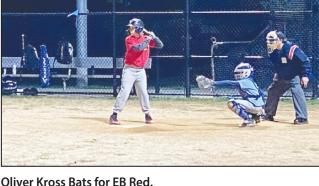


CENTURY 21 North East

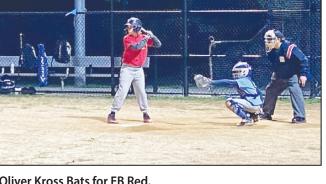
Meat

EB Blue celebrates after winning fall league title.





Oliver Kross Bats for EB Red.



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Pillsbury Quick Bread 2/\$4.00 Best Yet Cranberry Sauce 4/\$5.00 Progresso Bread Crumbs 15 oz 2/\$3.00 Sara Lee Pound Cake \$4.99 Kellogg's Eggo Thick & Fluffy Waffles 2/\$6.00 Mama Rosie's Raviolis 2/\$5.00 Chobani Greek Style Yogurt 4/\$5.00 Tropicana Orange Juice 52 oz \$3.99 Best Yet Pie Crust 15 oz 2/\$5.00	**Tolor Own In Store Antipasto Salad
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EAST BOSTON'S SALESIAN BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB HOSTS TRUNK OR TREAT

It's been a while since large group gatherings encouraged and sponsored, but that was then, this is Halloween 2022. The Salesian Boys and Girls Club decided to treat the tricksters to a trunk or treat before the Halloween night festivities.

Thursday eve-Last

ning was perfect night for ghosts and goblins to ascend upon 150 Byron Street, the home of the Salesian organization.

Treats of all sizes and tastes were given out to the swarm of masked treaters, as well as electronic sound effects and a host of their favorite monsters to greet them at the event.



Fr. Jack Janko with Domenic Conte and Joe Steffano.



The Griswolds, Ryker, Chloe, Chris, Zephyr and Dana.



Meet Judu Benanides, Lucianna Giraldo and Jeronimo Giraldo.



The Rinaldi's as G2 Drinks, Sal, Vinny, Andrew and Talia.



Jr Firefighter Fernanda Mendoza.



Riding the trail, Veronica Berrios.



lien with Camila Mejia.



Moth Man complete with axe is shown with Aaron Robert-



Jane Roberts poses for a photo.



I ain't afraid of no ghosts, Emilio Diaz as the lion.



Hanging out by the haunting tree, James Brownell.





Ghosts and goblins with Maria and Henry Forbes.



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Witch's Brew, Felicia Puopolo(center) Branch Manager Rockland Trust, Asst. Manager Mary Longo(right) passing out candy to the many children at the Salesian Trunk or Treat Night last Thursday night.

OBITUARIES

Marion Costigan

Lifelong East Boston resident

Marion (DeCristoforo) Costigan, a life-long resident of East Boston, passed away after a brief illness at her home on October 30 at the age of 89.

The beloved wife of the late George Costigan, she was the devoted mother of George Costigan and his wife, Marylou, James Costigan and his wife, Sharon, William Costigan and his wife, Danielle and Christopher Costigan and his long-time partner, Mary Riley; dear sister of the late Robert De-Cristoforo and cherished grandmother of Amanda, Richard, Derek, Matthew, Rachel, Patrick and Ella. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will honor Marion's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga St., East Boston on Thursday November 3 from 4 to 7 p.m. and again on Friday morn-



ing in funeral procession to Sacred Heart Church, Brooks Street, East Boston for a 10 a.m. Funeral Mass in celebration of Marion's life. Services will conclude with Marion being laid to rest with her beloved husband at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association.

Vazza T "Beechwood" **Funeral Home** 262 Beach St., Revere (781) 284-1127

Louis R. Vazza ~ Funeral www.vazzafunerals.com

To place a memoriam in the Times Free Press, please call

781-485-0588

North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra performs music of Strauss, Lalo, and Sibelius November 13

The North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra will begin its 74th season when Music Director Robert Lehmann conducts a program featuring the music of Johann Strauss, Edouard Lalo, and Jean Sibelius on Sunday, November 13, 3 p.m. at Swampscott High School.

Grammy Award-winning violinist Charles Dimmick highlights the program as the featured soloist in Edouard Lalo's "Symphonie Espagnole." Dimmick, concertmaster of the Portland Symphony Orchestra and the Rhode Island Philharmonic, has earned praise for his solo performances throughout New England.

The program also includes the Symphony No. 3 of Jean Sibelius. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance online at www.nspo.org.

"Extravagant orchestral colors and sweeping musical gestures are on display for our Fall concert," said Music Director Robert Lehmann. "Each composer on this program was a master musical illustrator. Johann Strauss, Jr., who is known as 'the 'Waltz' king,' vividly depicts the elegance and sophistication of 19th century Vienna, as well as the exotic and gypsy Hungarian flavors that feature prominently in his 'Gypsy' Baron Overture."

Dr. Lehmann commented about the featured solo-

ist and the program selection. "Charles Dimmick is an extraordinary violinist perfectly-suited to bring to life Lalo's colorful and virtuosic display of his impressions of Spain and its most famous violin virtuoso, Pablo de Sarasate," said Lehmann. "All the moods and character of the Iberian peninsula find their way into this work."

The Sibelius symphony portrays the composer's deep affection for the wonders and beauty of his native Finland. "The Third Symphony displays everything from wistful, melancholy tunes to a radiant concluding 'hymn' of majestic grandeur and sweeping power," said Lehmann.

The Orchestra missed out on its entire 2020-21 season due to the Covid 19 pandemic but made a triumphant return last year. This year marks the Orchestra's 75thbirthday and its 74th concert season. For full concert information, visit www.nspo.org or contact info@nspo.org.

The NSPO is committed to the health and safety of our patrons and musicians. While the NSPO will not require Covid vaccination proof or other measures, patrons who are at high risk for infection are encouraged and wear a mask and always maintain 'social distancing' inside Swampscott High School.



Grammy Award-winning violinist Charles Dimmick is the featured soloist in Edouard Lalo's "Symphonie Espagnole" with the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra Sunday, November 13, 3 p.m. at Swampscott High School.



Music Director Robert Lehmann will lead the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra in concert Sunday, November 13, 3 p.m. at Swampscott High School.

New waste disposal ban regulations take effect

The Baker-Polito Administration on November 1 announced that new waste ban regulations that promote recycling and reuse, reduce trash disposal, and foster recycling business growth take effect starting today, November 1, 2022. The new regulations will ban the disposal of mattresses and textiles in the trash, as well as decrease food waste from businesses and institutions. Massachusetts currently has a food waste ban on businesses disposing one ton or more per week, and these regulations lower that threshold to a half-ton

per week.

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (Mass-DEP) established a ban on disposal of food waste from businesses and institutions disposing of one ton or more per week in 2014, which increased food waste diversion from 100,000 tons per year to more than 300,000 tons per year, while also creating hundreds of new jobs and increasing the gross state product by \$77 million. Despite this progress, food waste still represents more than one-fifth of the trash we dispose of. Lowering the threshold from one ton to a half-ton per week aims to continue Massachusetts' progress in this area. An estimated 4,000

businesses will be subject to the new threshold. Fortunately, Massachusetts businesses are well on their way to compliance as more than 3,500 businesses already participated in a food waste collection program

"In order to meet the important goals outlined in the 2030 Solid Waste Master Plan, the Baker-Polito Administration has focused on reducing waste disposal, while also increasing recycling, diversion, reuse, and composting measures," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Beth Card. "These regulations and the supporting strategies that are being implemented today will continue our nation-leading efforts and jump-start waste diversion work that is occurring across the Commonwealth."

MassDEP has supported the food waste ban by providing grants to businesses establishing or expanding capacity to manage food waste, including anaerobic digestion and composting operations. MassDEP also recently announced a new grant offering to invest in expanding the infrastructure for collecting food waste, mattresses, and textiles. Additionally, Mass-DEP supports business waste reduction, recycling, and composting initiatives through the Recycling-

Works in Massachusetts program. This program, which is fully funded by MassDEP, is run under contract by the Center for Eco Technology. Through RecyclingWorks, Massachusetts businesses receive free assistance to manage any waste they generate, including the new banned materials.

Textiles represent another important opportunity for Massachusetts to reduce the waste stream and capture valuable resources. Each year, the Commonwealth throws out more than 200,000 tons of textiles in the trash. This includes old clothing, as well as other things like towels, linens, and even bags, belts, and shoes. For-Massachusetts tunately, has an extensive collection infrastructure of both non-profit and for-profit textile recovery organizations that can find a new use for these materials. either through selling or donating for reuse, or recycling into products such as carpet padding, insulation, or wiping rags. "Recovering textiles is

an excellent opportunity for our cities and towns to reduce trash disposal from their residents at the same time as they get paid for the valuable textiles that they recover," said MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg. "We are pleased to partner with this burgeoning industry to remove these valuable materials from the waste stream and put them back to work."

Mattresses are a difficult material to manage at solid waste facilities and take up a large amount of space in landfills. More than 75 precent of mattresses can be effectively separated and recycled, including metal, wood, fabric, and padding. Massachusetts has established a statewide mattress recycling contract that includes five recycling companies that can serve Massachusetts municipalities that establish mattress recycling programs to serve their residents. MassDEP has provided grants to several of those companies, as well as other Massachusetts-based mattress recyclers, to increase the capacity to manage mattresses, as well as to create new job opportunities. Massachusetts generates approximately 600,000 unwanted mattresses per year, about 200,000 of them from residents, with the rest coming from businesses and institutions. MassDEP has provided grants to help establish mattress recycling programs in 137 municipalities.

More information on the waste disposal bans is available on MassDEP's

My daughter

Gia DiGiacomo It's been five years already!

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OBITUARIES

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and some days it feels like eternity. Even though I have felt your presence over and over my heart is unrepairable. To lose a child is the most horrific life experience. I often wonder what you would be doing if you were still here. I will be always stuck on that horrible day. I have learned so many things Gia. Grief is not just five stages as people say. Grief carries on forever every day. I remember your laugh, kindness and beautiful things you said to me. In my dreams you are still alive. Even though 19 years was such a short time I will keep your soul alive until I meet you in heaven. We all miss you, my love! Gia, when you come for me, I

Love Mum, Dad, John, Sophia, Ava and Dee

blessing! Always a Triplet!

November 2, 2022

NOTICE LEGAL

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND

LEGAL NOTICE

FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR

TO G.L. c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405 Docket No. SU22P2376PM In the matter of: Michael Romero Of:East Boston, MA To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Rosa

and requesting that Rosa Soto of East Boston, MA and Luz Romero of East Boston, 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 disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the

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 A.M. on the return date of 11/21/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file

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

ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the abovenamed 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 Date: October 24, 2022 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

will be ready! Thank you, God for this wonderful Soto of East Boston, MA the written appearance if completely take away the above-named person's and Luz Romero of East you object to the petition. Boston, MA in the above If you fail to file the writright to make decisions 11/02/22 EB captioned matter alleging ten appearance by the about personal affairs return date, action may or financial affairs or that Michael Romero is proposed conservator is OTHER PROTECTIVE in need of a Conservator appropriate. The petition be taken in this matter both. The above-named ORDER PURSUANT or other protective order is on file with this court. without further notice to person has the right to

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

COUNCIL CONSIDERING **PARK IMPROVEMENTS**

CHELSEA - More park

improvements are on the way for the city of Chel-

At its next meeting, the City Council is expected to take up funding for a major renovation project at Bosson Playground at 50 Bellingham Street. In addition, the council is also expected to accept grants to help with the development of a public park at 88 Clinton Street.

"Recently, the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), notified the city that the Department of Housing and Community Development has secured a PARC grant for Bosson Playground, pending execution of the state grant contract and fulfillment of all pre-award program requirements," said City Manager Thomas Ambrosino. "For this grant, the proposed renovations of Bosson Playground include replacement of the playground's rubber surfacing, introduction of new playground equipment, installation of a new water feature and splash pad, installation of a multi-sport goal, installation of new site furniture and passive recreation areas, and lighting and reconstruction of all site utilities."

Once completed, the playground will better serve the community's youth and improve the quality of life in the city.

The city will complete the design of the renovations by the end of June next year, a process that will involve input from many stakeholders in the

neighborhood and the city, according to Ambrosino. The goal is to complete work on the playground by the end of June, 2024.

The state PARC grant will reimburse up to \$400,000 of the cost of the project, however, Ambrosino said the current estimate for the renovations stands at \$1,800,000.

To help cover the additional costs, Ambrosino is requesting the City Council appropriate \$1,450,000 from the city's stabilization funds.

The EEA also recently informed the city that it had recently secured a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant of just under \$350,000 for the creation of a new riverfront park at 88 Clinton

"Proposed elements include seating areas, walking paths, a rain garden and other plantings, a water feature for children, a shade structure, and potentially a boat launch if this is found to be feasible, as well as lighting and utility construction,' said Ambrosino. "Once completed, the park will offer a space for residents of all ages and abilities to encounter Chelsea's natural resources along Mill Creek, create better recreation and transportation connections between Mill Creek Riverwalk and the Mill Hill neighborhood, and offer opportunities for flood resilience and a respite from rising tempera-

The city is expected to complete its design and construction of the park by the end of 2024, according to the city manager. As with the Bosson Playground project, there will continue to be community input about the final shape

tures."

of the park.

Ambrosino said he expects the total cost of the project to come in at \$875,000, which he is asking the City Council to appropriate from the city's general stabilization fund. Once the project is completed, the LWCF grant will reimburse the city for nearly \$350,000 of the

EARLY VOTING **UNDERWAY**

EVERETT - Everett Election Department Director Danielle Pietrantonio said that early voting has begun in the city and will continue through Thursday, Nov. 3.

Registered voters can cast their ballots at City Hall in the Keverian Room located on the third floor.

Pietrantonio said interest has been picking up in the election that features races for the state's constitutional offices, including the governor and lieutenant governor's race with Maura Healey and Kim Driscoll on the Democratic side and Geoff Diehl and Leah Allen on the Republican side.

In an election that is drawing significant local interest, State Rep. Joseph McGonagle is being challenged Councilor-at-Large Mike Marchese for the seat. Two candidates, Chelsea City Councillors Judith Garcia and Todd Taylor, are running for the state representative seat in the new district that includes all of Chelsea and a few neighborhoods in Everett. Ballot questions 1 and 4 are also generating interest among the Everett electorate that has 22,000 registered voters.

Pietrantino reports that

GIRL SCOUTS LEND A HAND TO DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION CLEAN-UP



Hazel Viens, 8, and Ella Ryan, 8, placing freshly-raked leaves into a bag during the clean-up of Metcalf Square on October 23.

the Election Department received 3,000 requests for mail-in ballots. More than 1,000 ballots have been returned to the office.

Election drive at EHS a success

City Clerk and Election Commission Chair Sergio Cornelio and Jeanne Marie Gibbons from the Elections Office conducted a voter registration drive at Everett High School Tuesday, with several students registering for the Nov. 8 election and future elec-

Everett High students will also be assisting inside the polling locations on Election Day.

"The students been a great addition to our election day team," said Pietrantonio. "Their government teacher [Carolyn MacWilliam] is amazing. She reviews the ballot questions with her students. And we've been able to recruit Everett students to work at the polls."

HONORED FOR HELPING

LYNN - The Glitter and Gold Gala fundraiser for the Lynn Boys and Girls Club was held at Danversport on October 19.

Four outstanding individuals were honored at the Annual Celebration. Executive Director Brian Theirrien said, "These four honorees have given their time, talents, and resources for the betterment of youth and to the community of Lynn."

Receiving recognition for their continuous work helping and developing Lynn's city youth were Sarah Bates, Lisa Nerich, Dr. Christina Colella, and Attorney Brendan Ward of Cherry Tree Legal Firm.

Former New England Patriot and Super Bowl Champion Ty Law was the guest speaker. Master of Ceremonies, State Representative Daniel Cahill, was entertaining and kept the program moving smoothly. Michael Chambers and Nicole Pirro of Chambers Auction Service provided an exciting bidding auction for the audience. Lynn English High School JR-ROTC served as Honor Guards and the Boys & Girls Club Dance Team delightfully performed to the audience's pleasure.

The evening was a success as guests and friends contributed to raise funds for the Boys & Girls Club of Lynn.

COUNCIL APPROVES

SCHOOL FUNDING REVERE - The cheers you may have heard in

for voting by an 8-2 mar-

gin to approve a loan order in the amount of \$29.5 million for the acquisition of the Wonderland Park property.

nated by the Revere High

Wonderland was desig-

School Building Committee as its No. 1 choice for the site of the new high school. If everything goes according to plan, the new high school will open its doors in 2027. Councillors Antho-

Cogliandro, Patrick Keefe, Joanne McKenna, Steven Morabito, Ira Novoselsky, John Powers, Marc Silvestri, and Gerry Visconti voted in favor of the loan order for \$29.5 million. Councillors Dan Rizzo and Anthony Zambuto voted against the loan order to acquire the property.

The Council discussed the issue at length during a Ways and Means subcommittee meeting chaired by

Ward 4 Councillor John Powers asked Mayor Brian Arrigo whether flooding and traffic issues at the Wonderland site would be addressed, and infrastructure improvements would continue to be made there.

"I think you probably more than most understand the commitment that we've made in terms of infrastructure and improving that," Arrigo told Powers. "I think it's really important for people to understand that when we build a high school at Wonderland, we're not going to say there's no more money to do anything. Obviously, our commitment to quality-of-life improvements and infrastructure, especially close to low-lying areas like the lower end of Revere Street is critically important and we know that those are investments that need to be made. You have my commitment that those investments will continue, that work will continue, and it will continue with the great team that I have around me."

Zambuto has been steadfast in his opposition to Wonderland being the site for the new high school throughout the pro-

"I'm going back on the record again tonight that this is the biggest fiscal mistake in the history of the City," said Zambuto. "It's taken a piece of property at Wonderland off the tax rolls.'

Zambuto estimated that the city will lose an estimated \$1 billion in tax revenue over the expected 50-year life of the new high school at the Wonderland site.

Rizzo, who led the construction of the new

said, "I come down on the same side as my colleague Councillor Zambuto and I have the same concerns as Council President Visconti about the unknowns."

acknowledged Rizzo that the city does need a new high school. "But I think the primary function of this City Council is to provide fiscal oversight. That's why we're here, to represent the taxpayers. This is the largest single appropriation to the tax levy in the city's history. I think it deserves a little bit of conversation," said Rizzo, who suggested that another meeting be held to

consider the issue. But Supt. of Schools Dr. Dianne Kelly ook the podium and spoke about the importance of the timeline in the MSBA new school

building process. "We have a strict deadline that we have to have paperwork to them [MSBA] in December, which means we need to be getting on that land in the next week," Kelly told the Council. "If we're beyond another week of getting access to the land - our hope iss that this will be voted tonight – that we could file the notice of taking with the state, and that they would approve it, and that we could get on the land next week and start doing soil samples and pieces. The bottom line is we can't wait until another meeting unless we want to push the whole project

out." In the end, the Council heeded Kelly's key advice and voted during its regular meeting to approve the loan order for the acquisition of the Wonderland property.

WINTHROP LEADS THE WAY WITH **CLEAR PROGRAM**

WINTHROP - Nearly a decade ago, Winthrop's public health and public safety programs began working together to provide better mental health and substance abuse resources for the town's residents.

The program, known as CLEAR (Community and Law Enforcement Assistance Recovery) program, has become a model for communities throughout the state and the country.

At last week's community fall forum, Meredith Hurley, the town's Public Health Nurse, updated the community on the history and goals of the program. "Back in 2014, I per-

sonally had never heard the phrase 'police reform' at that point, but that is really when public health aligned with public safe-

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Revere were those of parents of schoolchildren applauding the City Council

Hill Elementary School and the new Harry Della Russo Stadium during his mayoral administration,

See REGION Page 11

CITY PAWS

Winter dog walking tips

Safe walks with your dog in icy, snowy, and cold conditions require preparation for both of you. First, you need winter gear to keep you warm and upright while you give your pup the exercise she needs.

We once asked a professional dog walker to share his tips on keeping warm. He stressed the importance of layering and having different layers for our changing winter weather. Some days call for a base layer and jeans. On wet or freezing days, he would add rain pants. Not only did these keep him dry, but they also provided good insulation.

Like you, your dog may need a layer of clothing to keep warm and dry. We put insulated, water-proof jackets on our Poppy for cold, wet days. We also use t-shirts to keep her clean and free of hanging snowballs her fur collects on other walks.

Boots for Winter Walking

When you choose your footwear for a walk on a wet winter day, think about how important it is to your dog that you do not fall. A fall could mean letting go of the leash or hurting your pup. Choose shoes designed to keep your feet warm on long walks and help you stay upright.

While some aspects of winter can be fun, salt on roads and sidewalks is bad news for dogs. If you've ever had salt in a cut, you know how that stings. imagine walking on salt with raw, irritated paws. Consider washing your dog's feet after each walk to remove salty residue. Poppy wears dog



T-shirts help keep Poppy clean and free of the hanging snowballs her fur collects, even on mild days.

boots when needed.

Winter Weight Gain

A few years ago, we researched why Poppy gained a bit of weight every winter despite our best efforts to control her food and exercise ratio. We learned about the "Thrifty Gene."

Tudor, DVM, on the Pet MD website, wrote, "Shorter days signal to the dog brain that winter is coming. This sets off hormonal changes to slow metabolism and conserve calorie expenditure." He says, "These changes also promote the deposition of fat. This phenomenon is a result of a genetic adaptation called the 'thrifty gene.' The thrifty gene prepares the dog for the harsh winter and allows for normal performance in harsh conditions."

Knowing this, we check her weight regularly, give her fewer treats, and cut back on how much food we provide during the winter months. When we can add exercise to her life on a nice day, we'll do it, but in winter, controlling calories is often easier than burning them.

How Cold Is Too Cold?

You have to think about a particular dog to decide

safely in cold weather. Jennifer Coates, DVM writing for PetMD.com, offered the following, "In general, cold temperatures should not become a problem for most dogs until they fall below 45°F, at which point some coldaverse dogs might begin to feel uncomfortable. When temperatures fall below 32°F, owners of small breed dogs, dogs with thin coats, and/or very young, old, or sick dogs should pay close attention to their pet's well-being. Once temperatures drop under 20°F, all owners need to be aware that their dogs could potentially develop cold-associated health problems like hypothermia and frostbite."

how long it can be outside

If you're a person taking care of a dog for the first time or are new to our winter weather, we advise reading articles on the topic and asking friends and neighbors to share their best winter weather tips for dog walks.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@ BostonZest.com with your request.

Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

ty," said Hurley. "As a result of the opioid epidemic, we were seeing a lot of loss in the community and we were concerned about that."

Hurley began conversations with the police and fire chiefs at the time to try to determine different strategies to deal with the epidemic.

"We started with looking at the high rates of fatal and nonfatal opioid overdoses, and public health and public safety came together and formed our collaboration," said Hurley.

At that early stage, she said the collaboration allowed for a police officer to knock on doors along with a peer recovery coach at homes following overdoses.

"The peer recovery coach is somebody with lived experience who works (with someone with substance abuse issues) to take them down the path of recovery," said Hurley. "It can look many different ways, it can be harm reduction, it can be giving Narcan so they or a family member can have it in the

house for safety." As the partnership progressed, the public health department received a grant to hire a part-time social worker who worked with public safety on a jail diversion program.

"What we really want to do is keep people out of the emergency system," said Hurley. "We don't want to see people in jail and we don't want to see people in emergency rooms. That's what it really boils down to."

Recent good news for the CLEAR program has included a licensed clinician trained in de-escalation working with the police department, and nearly all police officers having been trained in the crisis intervention team model. Hurley said the goal is to also train the town's firefighters on the model.

Hurley said the program has also been able to pivot from the earlier opioid-intensive model to address other mental health and substance issues in

the town. "In Winthrop, alcohol was a bigger issue and continues to be a bigger issue, a bigger substance that we are concerned about, so it felt funny for (us) to tell somebody we would love to work with you, but you are not a

because of our funding," said Hurley.

The CLEAR program was able to address its funding in order to serve a wider variety of issues in the town, she said.

The program continued to grow and grow, and when the Covid-19 pandemic hit in 2020, Hurley said the town had many resources in place to help deal with the pandemic itself, as well as the many mental health challenges associated with it.

"The CLEAR team has been pivoting and pivoting and pivoting with the needs of the community, and that is really where the success has been with this program," Hurley said.

The latest highlights of the program include a police lieutenant assigned to the health department and increased resources to deal with domestic violence.

"CLEAR is on the cutting edge because we have been doing things that are now emerging as best practices," said Hurley. With that increased visibility has come more opportunities for grant funding to expand the program even more, including a partnership with the Boston University School of Public Health.





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PATRICK J. KENNEDY SCHOOL HOLDS FALL FESTIVAL

Photos & Story by Marianne Salza

Families gathered on October 21 for the Patrick J. Kennedy School Fall Festival, featuring a bouncy house slide, spooky temporary tattoos, and bowling. Parents and children snacked on caramel-drizzled apple slices, hot dogs, and empanadas. Little ones played spider ring toss, colored fall leaves, and created pumpkins, bats, and monsters to decorate cardboard haunted houses.



Diego Calles, 5-years-old, sticking his green monster onto a haunted house.



Fifth graders: Rebecca, Caitlin, Cecilia, and Marleny.



Angel, 5th grade, and Alex, 6th grade.



Maritza with Isac Tejada, eating caramel-drizzled apples.







Stephanie Miranda, Sara Villanueva, 3th grade, and Jayson



Kari Portillo, 4th grade, playing spider ring toss.

BPS Region 1 Superintendent Tommy Welsh with his children, Emi, 3rd grade, and Sam, 1st grade.



Third graders, Andrew and Austin, with their fall leaf crafts.



Principal Kristen Goncalves dancing with students to the Cha Cha Slide.



Former student, Andy Cartagena, going down the



Flor Torro, Sofia Lopez, K-1, and Christopher Cardona, 4th

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Morena and Johamy Reyes, 4th Grade.

Bob Bolognese

Owner



Families enjoying a game of bowling.



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