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THE ENCHANTED TROLLEY TOUR

Mrs. Claus and Santa greet Mariana and Samantha Abad with Sophia Restepo. See Pages 6 and 7 for more photos.

The Enchanted Trolley Tour wrapped up its 2022 season with a stop in Maverick Square East Boston. Residents of the neighborhood flocked to greet Boston Mayor Michelle Wu and her esteemed guests including Massachusetts State Senator Lydia Edwards, State Rep Adrian Madaro and his family, City Councilors Gabriela “Gigi” Coletta, Erin Murphy, Ruthzee Louijeune, 104.1 DJ Fast Freddy, DJ Maverick, and of course Santa and Mrs Claus.

Monica Henao conducts the Veronica Robles Cultural Center Choir.

DEREK KOUYOUNJIAN PHOTOS

Slim majority opposes Brooke Charter School’s addition

Michael Coughlin Jr.

In a vote of 15 to 13, a slight majority of residents who attended and voted during the Harbor View Neighborhood Association (HVNA) meeting on Monday, Dec. 5, were not in favor of the proposed addition to the Brooke Charter School on Horace Street.

The Brooke Charter School is a public college preparatory school that serves underserved students in the community – low-income students, students of color, English language learners (ELL), and students with disabilities. Over time the school has done tremendous work

for its student body and was named the best-performing non-exam High School in the city just last year.

However, even as the school has succeeded, it is still looking to improve and better serve its students. Now the Brooke Charter School is looking to add an addition to its building that would span about 4,500 square feet.

“Our school next door – 94 Horace Street – has always been one of our smallest buildings which means it has kind of the smallest ability to provide programmatic space for our students, and we want

See HVNA Page 3

Rebaza named new Deputy Director of Boston Home Center

Special to the Times-Free Press

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Office of Housing announced that Karen Rebaza of East Boston has been appointed Deputy Director for the Boston Home Center. Ms. Rebaza is an experienced and respected community banking leader in Greater Boston. Most recently, she served as a Vice President, Residential Community Development Officer at Rockland Trust, where she specialized in working with first-time home buyers. Prior to working at Rockland Trust, she served as the Assistant Director of the Boston Home Center, helping to launch the discounted One+Boston mortgage

Karen Rebaza.

product. “We are pleased to welcome Karen Rebaza back to the Office of Housing to lead the Boston Home Center’s efforts in its work to increase homeownership among Boston residents and to assist those that are already homeowners,” said Sheila Dillon,

See REBAZA Page 5

Area residents hear from new BPDA director

By Stephen Quigley

Six months into the top job at the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA), Arthur Jemison

recently accepted an invitation to hear the concerns of residents at a joint meeting of the North End Waterfront Neighborhood Council and the North End Waterfront

Residents Association.

Jemison is no stranger to Boston. He worked at the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) in the early 1990s and most recent-

ly served as deputy assistant secretary at the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Jemison pointed out that the original mission of the BRA in the 1950s and 60s was to get rid of blighted, substandard housing -- also known as urban renewal -- but that is not the case today.

He told the audience that the two principal areas that need to be addressed now are increasing the number of affordable housing units and making the city more resilient to global warming, the latter of which is of particular concern to the North End.

With 70 percent of the city’s revenues coming from property taxes, Jemison said, “Growth of the tax base needs to happen and development is essential. The city must do planning and development at the same time that are ahead of the trends

See BPDA Page 3

EBCCS 30TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR


PHOTO BY MARIANNE SALZA

East Boston Central Catholic School (EBCCS) celebrated its 30th Annual Christmas Fair on December 3, which included a slew of raffle games and opportunities to win gift baskets and toys. Shown above, number 38 winning the Toy Soldier Raffle Basket game. See Page 2 for more photos.

A ROYAL VISIT

MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ROBINSON

Mayor Michelle Wu (second from right) and the Chief of Environment, Rev. Mariama White-Hammond (right) joined the Prince and Princess of Wales for a tour of Piers Park in East Boston. During the tour the royal couple had the opportunity to meet with local organizations that are helping in the fight against climate change.




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EAST BOSTON CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL’S 30TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA

East Boston Central Catholic School (EBCCS) celebrated its 30th Annual Christmas Fair on December 3, which included a slew of raffle games and opportunities to win gift

baskets and toys. Families had their pictures taken with Santa, purchased holiday decorations, and enjoyed homemade, Italian lunches.



Sophie, third grade, with her Barbie raffle basket, and Simon Galego, first grade.



Alayna Mangone, first grade, placing chances in raffle baskets.



Principal Emeritus Maryann Manfredonia, and Danae, Danielle, and Debbie Pieroni placing chances to win raffle baskets.



Danae, Danielle, and Debbie Pieroni.



Yolanda and Joelle Marfissi, alumna, Mrs. Casaletto, and Tiffany Herrera at the gift table.



Mackenzie Holden, 8th grade, Jade Baglio, and Kayla Gomes, 7th grade, working at the Toy Solder Raffle Basket table



The Dominguez and Rodriguez Families.



East Boston Central Catholic School held its 30th Annual Christmas Fair on December 3.



Nakita Turner, holding her handmade acrylic, green marble tray.



Anayah, Andrew, and Allen sitting with Santa.



Douglas, Katherine, and Aurora Placeres, 3-years-old, with Santa.

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Fourth grade student, Luciana Correa, having her face painted by seventh grader, Anayah Augustave, with friends, Kelsey O'Connor and Adriana Puerta.

NEWS IN BRIEF

EDWARDS RECEIVES GOLDEN BRIDGES AWARD

Senator Lydia Edwards was nominated by Donegal County Council, Derry City and Strabane District Council for Golden Bridges Award. The award is in recognition of the Senator’s ongoing support and drive to deepen the connection and promote partnership between peers in Boston, and Ireland. The Senator received this award along with Boston City Councilor At-Large Erin Murphy, Micheál Ó hÉanaigh, Gene O’Flaherty, Jane Bickford, Richard Gormley, Joe Gillespie, & Mike and Colette Quinin. The Senator and the other awardees were recognized in a ceremony at the Irish Consulate on Thursday November 17.

“I know when you look at me you’re thinking, that’s a proud Irishwoman. But truth is I’m not Irish and I am not originally from Boston. For many that should disqualify me from this award. But, I say to those people, you don’t really know Ireland, Boston, or me.” said Senator Lydia Edwards (D-Boston)

“I loved visiting Donegal, I went to church there, learned about the Troubles in a border town, met young men and women at a trades school and I can tell you they are not much different than the folks I represented in Charlestown or the rest of Boston.” said Senator Lydia Edwards (D-Boston)

“We want the same things, to learn from the pain of our past and make sure our children have a better future.” said Senator Lydia Edwards (D-Boston)

BOSTON WARD 1 REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE EAST BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

The East Boston Republican Ward Committee

is holding its bimonthly meeting Tuesday evening, December 13, 2022 starting at 6:30 p. m. The meeting will be at Kelley Square Pub, at 84 Bennington Street (at the corner of Marion Street) in East Boston.

Registered East Boston Republicans and unenrolled voters are welcome and encouraged to attend.

For more information please call the committee secretary at (617) 569-4075 or text (617) 755-7697. The committee e-mail addresses are ebrwc@yahoo.com and eastbostonrepublicanwardcomm@gmail.com.

ASSISTED LIVING LOCATORS URGES ADULT CHILDREN TO HAVE LONG TERM CARE PLAN

The holiday season is a time of giving and sharing special moments with your family. As you decorate the tree and bake those cookies, don’t forget about an important gift you can give to your aging parent – the gift of a long-term care plan.

Assisted Living Locators Boston, a local senior placement and referral service, is urging adult children to have a very merry ... long term care plan to make sure their parents have personalized care and support when they need it.

As parents get older, many will turn to their adult children to help them in the next steps of senior living. Many of these adult children live an average of 450 miles from their parents and are having to assume the role of a long-distance caregiver. According to the National Center on Caregiving, approximately 5 to 7 million adult children in the U.S. are long-distance caregivers.

Assisted Living Locators Boston Vice President of Placement and Aging Strategy John Moniz, a

Marshfield resident, stated that adult children, especially those who are long distance caregivers, should use the holiday season as an opportunity to assess the current lifestyle of aging parents and evaluate what can be improved to strengthen their loved one’s health and happiness. “No matter what stage of life your parents are in, talking about long term care and creating a plan now for the future can help them live their life on their own terms,” he explained.

“Assisted Living Locators is a free service that can help you explore and understand elder care options,” said Moniz. “Our senior care advisors meet with each family to learn about their loved one’s needs, living conditions, and personal preferences in order to build a care plan.”

He noted that Assisted Living Locators website also offers an easy-to-use Assessment Tool that can quickly give one insight if it’s time to find a new environment and appropriate senior housing for your aging parent.

Moniz advises adult children to set these long-term planning goals in 2023:

- 1) Prepare and gather essential medical and financial documents for their aging loved one
- 2) Make a plan for paying for long-term care
- 3) Connect with the right kind of support and resources.

“The challenge families with aging parents face today is finding a single source for reliable assistance for a long-term care plan,” he explained. “Assisted Living Locators has a full roster of services for seniors around there need for in-home care or senior living arrangements. From relocation to respite care to alternative solutions for paying for long-term care, our comprehensive resources can help you prepare for the future.”

One resident noted that developers are trying to get a 700-foot tower built in the Bulfinch Triangle where the zoning only allows for a 100- foot height limit.

This prompted another resident to ask, “Does zoning mean anything?”

“Development is not more important than the citizens of Boston,” said Jemison.

Another resident brought up the impact on the neighborhood with the growth of local colleges and the housing of students, which is squeezing out many long-time residents.

The meeting ended with Jemison promising that he would, “love to come back and touch base again with residents.”

Energy officials plow ahead with East Boston substation

The Massachusetts Energy Facility Siting Board (EFSB) has officially approved plans that allow a proposed electrical substation in East Boston to bypass critical environmental permits. The board obliterated public processes, and the project will proceed with construction following hours of community testimony in opposition.

Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) and GreenRoots released the following statements in response. “The fact is that the community overwhelmingly opposes the construction of this substation, and state laws regarding the siting of this facility have been ignored,” said Staci Rubin, Vice President of Environmental Justice at CLF. “The Siting Board’s decision contributes to the inequitable distribution of environmental burdens and benefits and disregards East Boston residents’ voices. We’ll continue to partner with the community to challenge this facility.”

“While disappointing it is not surprising,” said John Walkey, Director of Waterfront and Climate Justice Initiatives for GreenRoots and an East Boston resident. “After 8 years of this process, it is clear that the priorities that guide the decision-making of the EFSB are incompatible with the environmental justice principles codified by the Commonwealth in the Roadmap Law. Siting Board Chair Card has an obligation to protect the health and well-being of the environment and environmental justice populations. Yet again, we see

a Secretary that prioritizes industry over people and the environment”

“We are enraged that after 8 years of organizing on the #NoEasieSubstation the State energy siting board continues to bulldoze over community voice and opposition and has approved the construction of an Eversource electrical substation in the environmental justice community of East Boston,” said Roseann Bongiovanni, executive director of GreenRoots. “This certificate allows the EFSB to get a pass and skip permitting and public process yet again. We are appalled that the same systemic injustices we fight to dismantle, are the same systemic harms perpetuated by our state boards, but our work does not stop here. We are appealing this decision in partnership with Conservation Law Foundation and we call on Governor-elect Maura Healey on her steadfast support.”

“This was an unnecessary rushed decision that only benefits Eversource,” said State Senator Lydia Edwards. “Eversource created the data, manufactured the urgency and lied to the public. The EFSB never seriously considered any other data or location. The EFSB didn’t follow the environmental justice laws or acknowledge that so much has changed since this project was proposed in 2013. At this point the EFSB members that voted for this should be ashamed of themselves. You really can’t be angry at Eversource. I truly sad about what message this says to

community. You can bundle a process, exclude non english speakers, refuse to consider other data, and still win. You can make up a problem and get the people to pay for you, and only you, to supply the solution. This level of systemic corruption and corporate greed would make Bernie Madoff proud.”

CLF and GreenRoots have joined community groups in opposing this substation for years, but the state has allowed Eversource to bypass community input and critical environmental reviews. CLF and GreenRoots testified and pushed for a delay in the vote that took place today since the majority of the siting board members will be changing with the new administration in January and relevant regulations and policies will be changed in the coming months.

Only one board member had the fortitude to question the benefits and burdens of the facility, citing significant concerns for the adjacent environmental justice population. Board Member Johnson called on fellow members to move forward on three amendments that would look at cumulative impacts on environmental justice populations, the need for the site, and alternative locations including siting the substation on Massport land. The motions all failed with no board members willing to second the motion. Board Member Johnson was the one dissenting member of the siting board on the decision.

HVNA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to improve that with this addition,” said Brooke Charter School’s Chief Operating Officer Mark Loring.

The three-floor addition would add space to build science labs, a designated art room, and additional small pull-out spaces for special education and ELL students.

“There’s been new regulations that have been passed in the last several years which effects this in terms of number of kids within a group, number of minutes that we need to serve students, so it’s affecting how many spaces we need to be able to provide these services,” said Loring.

Loring indicated the school’s population has changed over time, saying, “As we tried to recruit more ELL and special needs students, we have gotten those students, and as we get those students, we have more need for

staff or spaces in order to provide the required services for those students.”

Since March, this project has been presented and debated; if the latest vote is any indicator, it has been polarizing.

One of the main issues with the project brought up in the past and even at Monday’s meeting is that the school would increase its enrollment, admitting more students and contributing to more traffic in the area.

However, Loring once again denied that notion saying, “There’s a common belief that we’re going to build this addition because we’re trying to add more students. We have stated clearly and continue to state clearly that is not true – we are not looking to expand our enrollment.”

Loring mentioned that the school has been willing to put the fact that the addition is not being built

to add students in writing with the board of the HVNA.

Debate raged on Monday, mainly about the school’s enrollment, as some residents were not convinced that the school would not add students even with it in writing.


Other concerns broached Monday about the project involved parking issues during construction as well as construction bringing rodents to the area.


While an HVNA majority opposed the project, the project is slated to go before the Zoning Board of Appeals Tuesday, Dec. 13.

“All I’m trying to do is build space as considerably as possible, knowing that there’s some disruption and trying to address those disruptions in order to give the space for the kids who deserve it – I’m not trying to build myself an office,” said Loring.

Real Estate Transfers

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Marroquin, Jose A	Flexible Methods LLC	72 Orient Ave	\$920,000
Mandelbaum, Benjamin J	161 Cottage Street EB LL	161 Cottage St #8	\$550,000
Rodriguez, Christopher A	Maverick Shipyard LLC	202 Maverick St #3	\$589,000
Newman, Matthew	Maverick Shipyard LLC	202 Maverick St #206	\$800,000
Tauras, Christine E	Maverick Shipyard LLC	202 Maverick St #303	\$755,000
El, Wadi E	Maverick Shipyard LLC	202 Maverick St #401	\$1,220,000
Wells, Kyle	Maverick Shipyard LLC	202 Maverick St #306	\$789,000
Sloyan, Patrick	Maverick Shipyard LLC	202 Maverick St #204	\$700,000
Chen, Weimin	Maverick Shipyard LLC	202 Maverick St #203	\$314,000
Liang, Felix	Maverick Shipyard LLC	202 Maverick St #304	\$240,800





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PUBLIC NOTICE

East Boston Cannabis Company is hosting a free virtual workshop on licensing and permitting marijuana establishments in Massachusetts. Individuals from disproportionately impacted areas, or Massachusetts residents who have past drug convictions, that are interested in the cannabis industry are encouraged to join.

The event will be held on Thursday, December 22, 2022 at 6:00pm, via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89296678719?pwd=d1o4WFdUdlRNeHZvYmoodTRPMTB1QT09>; Meeting ID: 892 9667 8719; Passcode: 799804. Email: info@eastbostoncannabis.com for more information.

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A DREAM PROJECT THAT WILL TRANSFORM EAST BOSTON

The firm Cargo Ventures is undertaking the redevelopment process for a project that eventually could entail the creation of 900,000 square feet of new office and industrial space, parking, and brand-new access to Logan Airport along McClellan Highway.

This phased development project would expand on the existing industrial space along McClellan Highway to make way for new offices, warehouse & distribution facilities, and state-of-the-art manufacturing spaces. The project would reduce traffic on the McClellan Highway by extending the Martin Coughlin Bypass to the city line, creating direct airport access for trucks and buses from the north while opening the Upper Chelsea Creek waterfront, which essentially has been closed-off for more than 100 years, to the community.

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is conducting a study to assess the potential uses of the MassDOT and MBTA rail parcels located between Route 1A and the Chelsea Creek, and evaluate the Route 1A corridor between Bell Circle in Revere and Day Square in East Boston. The study will identify opportunities to improve connections for people walking, biking, and taking transit, and address safety issues and potential impacts of climate change.

For those of us who have lived here all of our lives, it's easy to become accustomed to -- and just accept -- the landscape that we see each and every day. However, as anyone who has traveled pretty much anywhere else in the world can attest, when compared to the rest of the world, this area remains stuck in the past -- and not in a good way.

In short, the huge undertaking would reimagine the tired and outdated infrastructure adjacent to Chelsea Creek and the inner harbor, as well as the roadways that serve as a gateway to Logan Airport. It promises to transform this critical stretch of land from a backwater, hodge-podge development of the late 19th and early 20th century into a cohesive, workable, and livable urban industrial area that will catapult East Boston into the middle of the 21st century.

We urge all of our public officials and residents to help move forward on this project -- the future can't wait.

PEARL HARBOR WAS 81 YEARS AGO

It was 81 years ago this coming week that the nation of Japan launched its attack on the United States at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

The very next day, President Franklin D. Roosevelt convened a joint session of Congress in which he famously declared the attack as, "A day that will live in infamy," and asked Congress for a Declaration of War against Japan. Germany and Italy, allies of the Japanese who collectively were known as the Axis, then declared war on the U.S., setting the stage for what would become the largest conflagration in world history.

Hundreds of thousands of Americans would die in battlefronts stretching from the European continent to the jungle islands of the Pacific over the next three and one-half years before the German and Japanese war machines finally were subdued.

For more than two years prior to the attack, America had stayed out of the war that already had engulfed most of the rest of the world in the aftermath of the German invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939. By the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hitler's Nazis had conquered all of continental Europe and much of Africa, while the Japanese had invaded almost all of Asia, save for the U.S. outposts in the Philippines and other small islands in the Pacific.

Americans clung to the belief that our isolation, separated from the rest of the world by two oceans, would keep us out of the war. Americans had no appetite for re-engaging in another conflict just 23 years removed from the memories of World War I that still were fresh in our nation's psyche.

But after Pearl Harbor, we no longer could keep our heads buried in the sand. Although America had re-instituted the draft some months prior to Pearl Harbor and had ramped up our military production capabilities, the suddenness of the Japanese attack still came as a shock to every American.

Americans realized that thanks to the capabilities of modern armaments such as Japanese aircraft carriers and German U-boats, even the continental United States was not insulated from attack by a foreign enemy. Citizens on the West Coast braced for a Japanese invasion in the aftermath of Pearl Harbor and curfews were instituted on the Eastern Seaboard.

Thanks to the countless number of documentaries and movies over the past 20 years that have told the stories of the brave Americans who fought in WWII, we are fortunate to have a living history of the sacrifices made by The Greatest Generation.

The lessons of Pearl Harbor are many, but chief among them is that freedom isn't free -- and that we always must be vigilant to recognize the forces of evil that seek to destroy our way of life.



Forum

GUEST OP-ED

Christmas rest and peace

Christmas should be a relaxing time. If you believe Santa Claus is coming then let him take care of the work. Surely, he will show up. Just ask him to bring dinner when he comes. Make sure he comes in the front door. I don't know about bringing broccoli casserole down the chimney.

If you are putting up lights, now is the time to do so. You want to have time to enjoy the lights and the more you string together and cover your house the more electricity you are using. This is turn creates a big electric bill but you are keeping the paychecks going for the utility people.

The main thing is don't go crazy this Christmas. You don't have to buy everything. The stores love for you to max out your credit cards but you won't love it in February and March when you are paying it back. Use commonsense when it comes to the entire season. Eat

a piece of pie but don't eat the pie. Eat a slice of turkey but don't eat the turkey. Decorate if you wish but you don't have to spend a week putting up lights. They all have to come back down you know. Spend only what you can afford. If you can't afford much then don't press yourself to do what you cannot do.

Christmas is the birthday of Jesus but we often make it a day of bedlam. The birth of Jesus was in Bethlehem. His parents were poor. They had gone to an out of the way town to pay their taxes. There was no place for them to sleep. They slept in a barn and Jesus was born while they were there. Mary laid him in a cow's trough. They were poor, tired and life was not very easy for Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

Keep in mind that Jesus came to save us from our sins. He came to give us peace. The Bible calls him the Prince of Peace. Most people need some peace

and one way to have more peace is to focus on the baby of Christmas. Christ is comfort and peace.

You don't always find your peace at church. The church isn't Jesus. If your church is stressing you out, harping about money every Sunday, and pulling you in ten different directions then you might consider taking a step back and reevaluating.

The season of joy is here. Don't depend on others to create joy for you. Get alone with God every day and focus on him. You'll discover a peace and a rest that only He can provide.

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.

“Meet Me in the City,” holiday initiative announced

Mayor Michelle Wu this month announced the launch of “Meet Me in the City,” a new initiative designed to encourage local tourism through special events, performances, and holiday shopping in Boston's Downtown and neighborhoods. “Meet Me in the City” encourages residents and visitors to come into the city and support local businesses in Downtown and across every neighborhood.

"Our small businesses and cultural institutions are the foundation of our communities and drive our local economy," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "We all benefit from more tourism coming to Boston. As we enter this holiday weekend and approach the new year, I encourage everyone to come experience the vibrancy of our neighborhoods and shop locally here in Boston."

Boston's dynamic small businesses and arts and cultural institutions are critical to the local economy, especially during this year's holiday shopping and entertainment season. With holiday spending forecasted by the Massachusetts Retailers Association to increase 10 percent statewide compared to 2021 and an 8 percent inflation rate, the “Meet Me in the City” initiative encourages residents and visitors in

the greater Boston area to experience the city and invest in our communities.

Following a recent report by the City and Boston Consulting Group detailing some of the challenges facing Downtown Boston, Mayor Wu along with key City and business leaders have re-launched PLAN: Downtown. The plan, in conjunction with the Downtown Revitalization report, sets a roadmap for the City to reimagine Downtown Boston as a truly inclusive neighborhood filled with new homes, diverse businesses, world-class public spaces, vibrant nightlife, and a thriving arts and culture scene.

“This initiative is an important step to encourage residents and visitors alike to shop local and increase consumer spending during the holiday season,” said Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. “More than 50 percent of Americans shop small on Small Business Saturday, and this campaign will help drive activity to Boston's Downtown and neighborhood districts this weekend and into the new year to showcase thriving, vibrant, and inclusive spaces for all of our residents and visitors to spend the holidays once again, while supporting our local economy.”

“Meet Me In the City” leverages the City's award winning All Inclusive Boston campaign to focus on raising awareness and elevate the visibility of the Mayor's call to shop local this holiday season through a significant commitment to advertising with neighborhood newspapers and sites, along with local television partnerships and collaborative activations. Encouraging patrons, visitors and residents to use ‘the power of the purse with passion and purpose’, the initiative also aims to address the shift to remote work, which has significantly reshaped the central business core. For years, Downtown Boston was one of the busiest neighborhoods in the city, with heavy, daily foot traffic driven by thousands of office workers. However, foot traffic numbers have remained

down by 40 percent since the pandemic. The “Meet Me in the City” initiative is aligned with the Mayor's vision to address this shift and ensure that Downtown is a vibrant neighborhood where people from all backgrounds come together.

Beginning this month, holiday tree lightings kick off the season before and after Thanksgiving, along with beloved new and familiar holiday traditions like Boston Ballet's Nutcracker, Boston Pops, Urban Nutcracker, ‘Twas the Night Before Christmas, Black Nativity, ice skating on the Frog Pond and the annual New Year's Eve celebration, First Night. The City of Boston's holiday tree lighting in Boston Common takes place December 1, followed by local neighborhood tree lightings throughout the city.

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Your opinions, please

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Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@eastietimes.com.

Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

Rebaza // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Director, Mayor’s Office of Housing. “Homeownership provides a path to generational wealth and housing stability and is key to equitable growth in Boston. Karen has been a champion of this important work throughout her career, and I look forward to working with her to create new opportunities.”

Ms. Rebaza’s new role at the Boston Home Center merges her passion for community building with her background in the residential mortgage field. As Vice President for Residential and Community Development for Rockland Trust, she was responsible for growing Rockland Trust’s first-time home buyer efforts by providing educational workshops, working with community housing organizations, and exploring opportunities to expand its residential mortgage product and program offerings.

In her previous experience with the Office of Housing, she served as the Assistant Director for Homebuyer Services, during which time she helped launch the One+ Boston mortgage product, managed the Neighborhood Homes Initiative, which uses City-owned land to create affordable homeownership opportunities for Boston residents, and directed the Home Center’s foreclosure assistance and financial assistance programs. Prior to this role, Ms. Rebaza worked at Rockland Trust as a Vice President and Citizens Bank as a Senior Loan officer. Throughout her extensive career in the residential mortgage field, she specialized in CRA community lending, focusing on the first time

home buyer programs in an effort to increase home ownership among Black, Indigenous and People of Color in Massachusetts. Because of her passion and dedication to the community and efforts to narrow the home ownership gap, she has received multiple awards throughout her career recognizing her work in the mortgage field as well as her dedication to the community.

She has also served as a member of the Citizens’ Housing and Planning Association (CHAPA) Selection Committee, and the Advisory Board at the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce.

In her new position, Ms. Rebaza will oversee the Welcome Home, Boston initiative and the management and operations of the Boston Home Center.

The Welcome Home, Boston initiative will utilize \$60 million of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for the development of income-restricted homeownership opportunities on 150 parcels of City-owned land to be made available for eligible Boston residents. The funding will also enhance financial assistance programs to help residents in buying homes by providing grants that will deliver lower mortgage interest rates and up to \$50,000 in direct assistance, including down payment and closing cost assistance, to income-eligible first-time homebuyers. Funding will also be used to launch a homeownership program for qualified Boston Housing Authority residents

“I am very excited to return to city government to be of service to the people of Boston,” said Deputy

Director for the Boston Home Center, Karen Rebaza. “I look forward to working with the Wu Administration, Chief Dillon, and the staff of the Mayor’s Office of Housing to increase the opportunities for homeownership and help homeowners in the City of Boston. I look forward to helping Mayor Wu achieve her historic housing goals for our city.”

The Office of Housing’s Boston Home Center is charged with creating programs to help Boston homebuyers buy a home in Boston, and assisting existing homeowners with home maintenance issues. These programs include first-time homebuyer education; down payment and closing cost assistance to first-time homebuyers; lead paint abatement for housing units in Boston; and home repair programs for qualified residents and older Bostonians. The Boston Home Center also oversees City programs that assist homeowners with avoiding foreclosure and works to enhance the City’s relationships with banks, mortgage companies, and nonprofits to promote City programs and coordinate homeowner opportunities.

In this position, Karen will oversee a staff of 29 employees and manage an annual divisional budget of \$16.9 million.

Karen Rebaza lives in East Boston with her family and is deeply involved in advocating for the Boston community. She currently serves on the board of advisors for the East Boston YMCA, the advisory board for MAHA’s STASH Program, and board of advisors of Latina Center Maria.

Madaro Family Community Fund toy drive underway

The Madaro Family Community Fund is thrilled to announce that our 19th annual large-scale toy drive has officially begun! We are so thankful for all of our supporters for providing toys to kids in need throughout our community.

In the lead up to our in-person Eastie’s Elves Celebration, our toy collection drive is running from now until December 8th! We have over 25 drop-off locations throughout East Boston, Winthrop, and Revere to make giving back simpler than ever.

Below is a list of our drop-off sites broken down by town to help you find a location near you. We are giving back to kids ranging from toddlers to young adults. Please make sure when you drop off a toy that it is a new and unwrapped toy.



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 deb@reverejournal.com

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CONSULTATION SESSION

Massport will host a hybrid (in-person and virtual) consultation session on the *Boston Logan International Airport 2020/2021 Environmental Data Report (2020/2021 EDR)*. A representative from the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office will participate. This meeting will be streamed in English and Spanish.

The hybrid Consultation Session for the 2020/2021 Boston Logan EDR is scheduled for:

Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 6:00 PM
Cathy Leonard-McLean Community Room
Logan Airport’s Rental Car Center*
15 Transportation Way
East Boston, MA 02128

If you wish to attend the meeting virtually, please visit <https://www.massport.com/massport/about-massport/project-environmental-filings/logan-airport>

Requests for additional languages must be made a minimum of 72 hours before the December 15, 2022 meeting date and should be sent to community@massport.com.

Please note that an electronic copy of the 2020/2021 EDR is available on Massport’s website at <http://www.massport.com/massport/about-massport/project-environmental-filings/logan-airport>. Additional copies of the 2020/2021 EDR may be obtained by calling Brad Washburn at (617) 568-3546 or emailing bwashburn@massport.com during the public comment period.

Massport has requested an extension of the public comment period, which began on **November 23, 2022**, the publication date of the MEPA *Environmental Monitor*, and will end on **January 23, 2023**.

Written comments may be submitted by **January 23, 2023** to the following address:

The Honorable Bethany A. Card,
Secretary Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Attn: MEPA Office EEA #3247
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

Comments may also be submitted electronically on the MEPA Public Comment Portal at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/EEA/PublicComment/Landing>

*The Cathy Leonard-McLean Community Room is located on the lower level of the Rental Car Center (RCC) Facility at Boston Logan International Airport. The RCC is accessible by the MBTA via Airport Station or the Silver Line and then by a Massport Shuttle Bus. Please allow additional travel time if using the MBTA. Parking for the RCC is available at the loading dock area on Porter Street and in the visitor spaces in front of the RCC.



2022 ENCHANTED TROLLEY TOUR

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

The Enchanted Trolley Tour wrapped up its 2022 season with a stop in Maverick Square East Boston. Residents of the neighborhood flocked to greet Boston Mayor Michelle Wu and her esteemed guests including Massachusetts State Senator Lydia Edwards, State Rep Adrian Madaro and his family, City Councilors Gabriela Coletta, Erin Murphy, Ruthzee Louijeune, 104.1 DJ Fast Freddy, DJ Maverick, and of course Santa and Mrs. Claus. It was an event to truly welcome a season of Happy Holidays for all.



Sammy and Antonella Rojas.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu invites Massachusetts State Rep Adrian Madaro to the stage.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu with City Hall Liaison to East Boston Nathalia Benitez-Perez and Gladys Oliveros.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu invites City Councilor Ruthzee Louijeune to the stage.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu invites City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta to the stage.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu invites Massachusetts State Senator Lydia Edwards to the stage.



East Boston Main Streets Executive Director Miguel Vargas with Boston Mayor Michelle Wu.



Boston City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta (left) with Community Outreach Coordinator for Trustees Of Reservations (building Piers Park 3) Gabriela Ramirez and Ana Alonzo.



Tenor David Rivera Bozon sings "Ave Maria" and "Joy To The World."



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu holds Brandon Sanchez.



Carlos, Elias, and Abby Peraza representing their business R&G Designs, laser printing home decor.



And the crowd responds to Grupo Consentidos' music.



Confetti shoots out and rains on the crowd.



Maverick Square was filled with people excited to greet Mayor Michelle Wu and her special guests, Santa and Mrs Claus.



The audience eagerly awaits the arrival of Santa and Mrs Claus.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu thanks the residents of East Boston for packing Maverick Square with Holiday energy and festivity.

2022 ENCHANTED TROLLEY TOUR

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



Grupo Consentidos takes to the stage to provide some dancing music.



Massachusetts State Rep Adrian Madaro (left) with his son, Matteo, and his wife, Ariel, (right) and Boston Mayor Michelle Wu.



Shirley Fabbo of the East Boston Chamber Of Commerce was present with a variety of vendors throughout the neighborhood.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu with East Boston Neighborhood Health Center President and CEO Greg Wilmot.



Mended of the Veronica Robles Cultural Center Choir Gerry a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus.



East Boston Main Streets Executive Director Miguel Vargas with volunteers Nury Renzi, Gloria Vargas, Cristian Uribe, and Angelica Castro of the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center.



Mix 104.1 DJ Fast Freddy, Massachusetts State Rep Adrian Madaro with his son Matteo, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, and Santa flip the lever to light up the Holiday Tree in Maverick Square.



Congratulations to the staff of the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center for helping us to win The Boston Globe's *Top Places to Work* for an eighth time. We are proud to be a team that delivers compassionate, high-quality care to our community.



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1982 SUPER BOWL CHAMPION DOM SAVIO FOOTBALL TEAM CELEBRATES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

The 1982 Dom Savio High School football team celebrated its Division 4 Super Bowl championship season at a 40th anniversary luncheon Sunday at Anthony’s, Malden.

Led by co-coaches Bill Maradei and Reg Lanciani, the Spartans were undefeated and nearly unscored upon during the regular season, allowing only one touchdown versus St. Mary’s in an 18-6 victory. The Spartans also edged Don Bosco, 2-0, with a safety on the last play of the second game of that season at East Boston Stadium.

“Paul McGunigle sacked the Bosco quarterback for a safety and we won, 2-0, recalled Maradei, who was in his fourth season as coach.

The Spartans went on to defeat Rockland, 14-12, in the Super Bowl at Boston University’s Nickerson Field.

“Angelo Fantasia knocked down the two-point conversion,” said Maradei, who served as Savio football coach for 14 seasons, and went on to coach at Austin Prep, winning three Super Bowls there.

Savio finished one of the greatest seasons in state football history with an 11-0 record.

“It’s unbelievable to see all these guys,” said Maradei, who was also a science teacher at the school which closed in 1993. “All I know is that I was 29 years old when we won the Super Bowl,

and I’m sitting here now and I’m 69 years old, so it’s just great to be here. It really is wonderful. Savio always was a special spirit in everything we did in all the sports and in the classroom as well.”

Said Reg Lanciani, “Bill Maradei is one of great guys and great high school football coaches of all time. It’s wonderful being back after 40 years. A lot of these guys were tremendous players and good students, and they’ve done well in life, and I’m happy to see them. There were a lot of good players and coaches on that 1982 team, and we have a lot of good memories.”

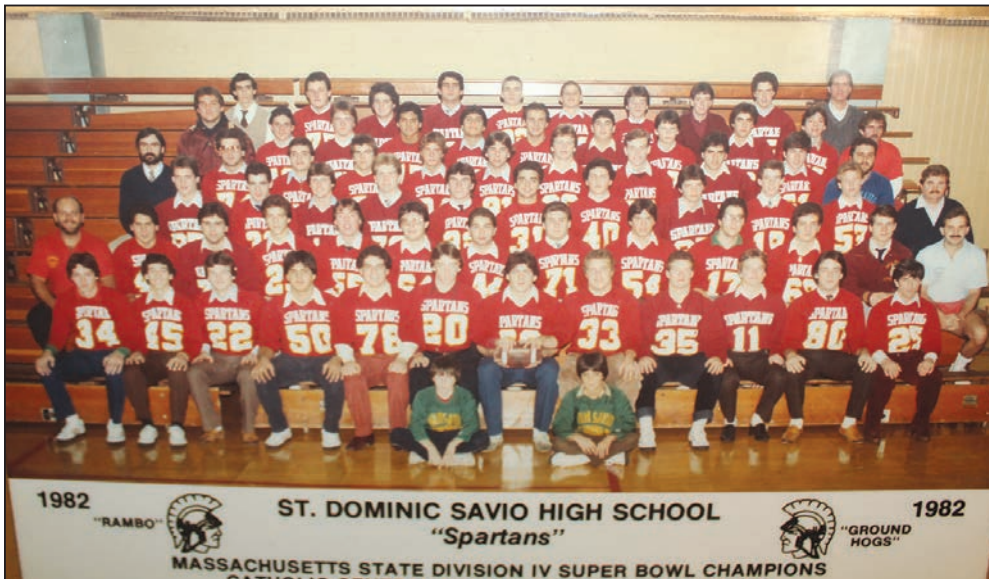
All-Scholastic defen-

sive end Joe Gaff, who is the current Malden Catholic head coach and an Everett Police officer, said the defense was “incredible” throughout the season. “Just to give up six points in the regular season and 12 to a great Rockland team is pretty impressive. It was a great year. Our senior class was a very tight group, and we get together every five years. We knew this was our 40th anniversary, and we got a great response from everybody.”

The coaches and players thanked starting full-back Sean O’Toole, who was instrumental in organizing the 40th reunion luncheon.



Dom Savio High School coaches and captains of the 1982 Super Bowl championship team, from left, Robert DiGirolamo, captain Ron Torgersen, captain Tom Giuliotti, co-head coaches Bill Maradei and Reg Lanciani, captain Joe Gaff, Bill Powers, and Bob DeBonis.



A photo of the undefeated 1982 Dom Savio High School football team.



Offensive stars on Dom Savio’s 1982 Super Bowl championship team, Sean O’Toole, Brian McCarthy, Peter Milano, Louis Milano, and Bobby Gallotto.



Legendary football coach Bill Maradei holds the championship trophy in the company of the Dom Savio players and coaches who were part of the 1982 Division 4 Super Bowl championship team.



The Spartans’ 1982 Division 4 Super Bowl championship plaque.



Four juniors on the 1982 Dom Savio High School football team, Paul McGunigle, Mike Borzillo, Michael Holden, and Peter Caggiano.



Members of Dom Savio’s 1982 Division 4 Super Bowl championship team, from left, Frank D’Agostino, Paul McGunigle, Mike Borzillo, Peter Caggiano, and Mike Holden.



Brothers and teammates, Peter Caggiano and Mark Caggiano, pictured at the 40-year reunion of the 1982 Super Bowl champions.

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(ex: thick & fluffy)

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(ex: cracker cuts)

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FRESH AND LOCAL

Canned Tuna: 101

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Canned tuna options have changed over the past few years, so we’ve decided to review some of your choices in the canned fish aisle. Many of us keep cans or jars of tuna on hand. This pantry-stable product is an excellent source of protein and can add essential nutrients like omega-3 fatty acids to your diet.

What’s in the Can or Jar?

There are several factors you should consider when choosing tuna. Start with a bit of label scrutiny. First, read the ingredients. We always like any processed food to have as few ingredients as possible. Our favorite canned tuna has just two ingredients: Skipjack tuna and salt. Other ingredients that might be in a can of tuna are olive oil, water, vegetable broth, vegetable oil, and soy.

Two ingredients may signify that the tuna was

only cooked once and should contain all the original omega-3 fatty acids. The government requires pressure cooking in the container for safe preservation. Some brands cook the tuna twice, and you lose some nutrition in the liquid left behind in the first round. Our choice puts raw tuna in the can and cooks it once. The fat and liquid in our can are all from the tuna.

We choose Skipjack for lower levels of mercury. The Environmental Defense Fund explains, “There are two main kinds of canned tuna: chunk light and solid or chunk white (albacore). All canned white tuna is albacore. Its mercury levels are almost three times higher than the smaller skipjack tuna, used in most canned light tuna products.”

Finally, other words indicate that the tuna in the can is more sustainable and better for the environment. These are “pole or line caught,” and “dolphin and turtle safe,” “No Nets

and No Long lines.” You may see certification from the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) or choose a brand on the Monterey Bay Aquarium’s Seafood watch list.

Quick Meal Starters

Many tuna brands have added packets, cans, or jars of tuna with seasoning or vegetables to their line-ups. These can turn a salad or a grain bowl into a meal in minutes. Since these are often single-serving sizes, you can try a few and add your favorites to your pantry.

At the end of a long day, you might reflect on what you ate and decide you didn’t get enough protein. When this happens, we grab a can of Freshé Sicilian Caponata or Provence Niçoise. You can have it with good bread, on top of a salad, or mixed with grains, legumes, or beans. We’ve added a few cans of these products to our emergency meal stash since canned tuna usually has an extended best-by



For a quick lunch, it took minutes to pull the tab on a can of Sicilian Caponata with tuna and arrange it on a bowl of arugula.

date. Our current supply has a date in 2026.

Zippy Ingredients

Flavored tunas can add zip to favorite comfort foods like tuna salads, tuna noodle casseroles, tuna melts, tuna patties, pasta al tonno, and salade Niçoise. As with any processed food, read the nutrition and ingredient information to decide if the

calorie count, sodium level, and percentage of saturated fat in these mixes are compatible with your family’s dietary needs and limitations.

As we all learn more to take better control of the food we eat, decisions require a bit more research. However, once you find a few products with flavor, nutrition, and sustainability standards that meet

your own, you can keep buying them. And, when you see something new, you’ll have a product that any new item will have to top to win a spot on your shopping list.

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

Public program honors Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day at Charlestown Navy Yard

National Parks of Boston hosted a commemorative service and a wreath-laying ceremony at the USS Constitution Museum and on the World War II-era destroyer USS Cassin Young to remember and honor those who perished in the attack on the U.S. Naval Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The free three-part public program on Wednesday, December 7, was held in Charlestown Navy Yard, followed by an outdoor ceremony beside USS Cassin Young, and a return to the Museum for refreshments, generously sponsored by the Mayor’s Office of Veterans’ Services.

Participating in the ceremony was National Parks of Boston Superintendent Michael Creasey, USS Constitution Museum President & CEO Anne Grimes Rand, USS Constitution Commander Billie J. Farrell, USN, Massachusetts Secretary of Veterans Affairs Cheryl Poppe, Boston Commissioner of Veterans’ Services Robert Santiago, and other special

guests including Kay Van Valkenburgh, great grandson of Captain Franklin Van Valkenburgh of USS Arizona. The program will include the USN Color Guard and rifle and cannon salutes from both Cassin Young and Constitution. The public will also be invited to participate in the Museum’s “50,000 Letters of Gratitude” initiative to send letters of appreciation to veterans, active service members, and their families.

USS Cassin Young was named for U.S. Navy Commander Cassin Young, recipient of the Medal of Honor for his distinguished and heroic actions during the attack on Pearl Harbor, which initiated the United States’ entry into World War II. As commanding officer of USS Vestal, which was moored to USS Arizona, Comdr. Young took personal command of his ship’s three-inch anti-aircraft gun at the beginning of the attack. When the forward magazine of Arizona was hit, Cmdr. Young was thrown overboard and incredibly swam back to

his ship amidst burning oil on the water between the two ships. Despite the subsequent bombing of Vestral, Comdr. Young moved his ship away from Arizona to save the ship and countless lives.

Cassin Young has similarly served the country with distinction. It was built in San Pedro, California, typical of the many Fletcher-class destroyers constructed in the Charlestown Navy Yard during World War II. The ship was commissioned at the end of 1943 and first saw action in the Pacific Theatre in 1944. It took part in the landings in the Philippines, rescued survivors from the stricken carrier USS Princeton, screened the American force that sank four Japanese carriers in the battle of Cape Engano, and survived two separate kamikaze hits, one of which killed 21 crew members. No stranger to Charlestown, the ship was recalled to service in 1951 and underwent modernization at the shipyard on several occasions during the next decade before finally hauling down

her commissioning pennant in 1960. “It is fitting that we remember this day aside Cassin Young at Charlestown Navy Yard, one of the first of six Navy Yards in the country,” said National Parks of Boston Superintendent Michael Creasey. “The National Park Service protects the Cassin Young and provides a home base for USS Constitution, to honor the service people of the United States Navy past and present, and provide current and future generations the opportunity to forge meaningful connections to these national treasures and iconic cornerstones of the American story.”

The National Parks of Boston is a collection of three National Park Service sites – Boston National Historical Park, Boston African American National Historic Site, and Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park. Established by individual legislation and for designated purposes, the three units have come together under a unified organizational umbrella to collabo-

rate in ways that celebrate our cultural heritage, reconnect people to history and nature, and provide outdoor recreation opportunities on land and on the water. For more information, visit: nps.gov/bost, nps.gov/boaf, and boston-harborislands.org.

The USS Constitution Museum serves as the memory and educational voice of USS Constitution by offering award-winning exhibits where all ages can have fun while learning and exploring history together. The Museum’s mission is to engage visitors in the story of Constitution to spark excitement about maritime heritage, naval service, and the American experience. The Museum is open seven days a week with a pay-what-you-wish admission policy, and the Virtual Museum is open 24/7. The USS Constitution Museum is a 2022 winner in USA Today’s 10Best Readers’ Choice in the “Best History Museum” category and Boston Parents Paper’s Family Favorites in the “Historic Sites & Tours” and “Mu-

seums & Attractions” categories. For more information, visit usscm.org.

USS Constitution, America’s Ship of State, is the world’s oldest commissioned warship afloat and played a crucial role in the Barbary Wars and the War of 1812, actively defending sea lanes from 1797 to 1855. USS Constitution was undefeated in battle and destroyed or captured 33 opponents. The ship earned the nickname of Old Ironsides during the War of 1812 when British cannonballs were seen bouncing off the ship’s wooden hull. The active-duty Sailors stationed aboard USS Constitution provide free tours and offer public visitation as they support the ship’s mission of promoting the Navy’s history and maritime heritage and raising awareness of the importance of a sustained naval presence. For information, visit www.navy.mil/uss-constitution/.

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Suffolk Probate
And Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
ORDER FOR SERVICE
BY PUBLICATION
AND MAILING
Docket No.
SU22W1669WD
Saisha Cruz
vs.
Francisco J.
Del Cid Diaz
Upon motion of plain-
tiff(s) for an order di-
recting the defendant(s),
to appear, plead, or
answer, in accordance
with Mass.R.Civ.P./
Mass.R.Dom.Rel.P. Rule
4, it appearing to the
court that this is an
action for Custody/
Support/Parenting Time
filed on November 08,
2022.
Defendant(s)/Re-
spondent(s) cannot be

found within the Com-
monwealth and defen-
dant(s)/respondent(s)
present whereabouts are
unknown. P personal
service on defendant is
therefore not practical,
and defendant(s)/
respondent(s) has/have
not voluntarily appeared
in this action.
It is Ordered that de-
fendant is directed to
appear, plead, answer,
or otherwise move with
respect to the complaint
herein on or before
January 05, 2023.
If you fail to do so this
Court will proceed to a
hearing and adjudication
of this matter.
Date: 11/15/22
Hon. Brian. J. Dunn
Justice of Probate and
Family Court

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COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND

FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate
And Family Court
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Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
CHANGE OF NAME
Docket No.
SU22C0065CA
In the matter of:
Franklin Gustavo
Gutierrez
A Petition to Change
Name of Adult has been
filed by Franklin Gustavo
Gutierrez of East Boston,
MA requesting that the
court enter a Decree
changing their name to:
Franklin Gustavo Castillo
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear
for purposes of objecting
to the petition by filing
an appearance at: Suffolk
Probate and Family
Court before 10:00
a.m. on the return day
of 12/29/2022. This
is NOT a hearing date,
but a deadline by which
you must file a written
appearance if you object
to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J.
Dunn, First Justice of this
Court.
Date: November 29,
2022
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Division
Docket No.
SU20P2221
CITATION
William Kenney

To all interested persons:
A petition has been
filed by:
Public Guardian Services
LLC 16 River Street,
Braintree, MA 02184
requesting WHEREFORE
petitioner respectfully
requests that this Honor-
able Court:
1. Scheduled a hearing
for all interested persons
to be heard;

2. Give notice of said
hearing to all interested
persons, allowing for
ample time for each
the interested person to
clearly state their interest
in disposing of the
Premises;
3. Order all interested
parties wishing to be
heard at the hearing to
submit to the Court at
least fourteen (14) days
prior to the hearing a
written memorandum
stating their position on
the disposition of the
Premises, clearly setting
forth the reasons there-
fore and to serve each
interested party with a
copy of said written
Memorandum.
4. Prior to the hearing
appoint a Guardian Ad
Litem to further investi-
gate the matters set forth
in this Petition and to
submit a written report
with recommendations
to the Court at least
fourteen (14) prior to the
scheduled hearing. The
GAL shall provide a copy
of the GAL’s report to
each of the interested

persons at least fourteen
(14) days prior to the
scheduled hearing.
You have the right to
obtain a copy of the Pe-
tition from the Petitioner
or at the Court. You have
a right to object to this
proceeding. To do so, you
or your attorney must file
a written appearance and
objection at this Court
before 10:00 a.m. on
December 22, 2022.
This is NOT a hearing
date, but a deadline by
which you must file a
written appearance and
objection if you object
to this proceeding. If
you fail to file a timely
written appearance and
objection followed by an
Affidavit of Objections
within thirty (30) days
of the return date, action
may be taken without
further notice to you.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J.
Dunn, First Justice of this
Court.
Date: November 21, 2022
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate

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A SHORT STORY ABOUT
GROWING UP WITH AN
UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

POLIO.

As one of the last American children to
contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a
world of iron lungs and body casts, alone
with his imagination. His story would be
dramatic enough if it was just about his
battle with this dreaded disease.

But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive
polio. He went on to a list of achievements
in medical research—including being the
principal investigator in applying the first
gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Galpin actually credits his own
incurable condition for giving him the focus
that made him so passionate in his research.
His story leaves us with two of the most
contagious messages we know. Don't give
up, and remember to give back. If
Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more
person to make a difference, then its telling
here has been well worth while.



aaos.org/75years

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Goldberg receives the Freda Johnson Award

Northeast Women in
Public Finance (NEWPF)
along with the Bond Buyer
will present State Treasur-
er Deborah B. Goldberg
with the Freda Johnson
Award at the Bond Buy-
er's Annual Deal of the
Year Awards ceremony in
New York City on Decem-
ber 6, 2022.

The Freda Johnson
Award has been created in
honor of NEWPF Found-
ing Board Member Freda
Johnson, whose highly
successful career in pub-
lic finance has been an in-
spiration to many people,
particularly women in the
industry.

The award recognizes
a woman serving or who
has served in a position
for a public or non-prof-
it issuer who exemplifies
the qualities that Johnson
brought to the financial
industry as a trailblazer,
leader, innovator, and
mentor.

“Treasurer Deborah
Goldberg is dedicated to
improving the lives of the
citizens of Massachusetts
through both her public
position and her non-prof-
it work,” said Freda John-
son. “She is a dynamo, a
role model, and an out-
standing mentor to wom-
en.”

Since taking office in
2015, Treasurer Goldberg
has brought an innovative
leadership style, and an
unwavering commitment
to create opportunities for
every Massachusetts res-
ident. Her initiatives and
programs have supported
and advocated for poli-
cies that advance effective
strategies and foster long-
term, sustained growth

and stability for everyone.

“The Treasurer has
demonstrated a commit-
ment not only to public
finance, but also to the
women within it,” said
Vivian Altman, Manag-
ing Director of Northeast
Women in Public Finance.
“For her pioneering work
and a highly accomplished
career in public finance,
for her unwavering ded-
ication to diversity and
supporting, promoting
and developing women in
the industry, Massachu-
setts Treasurer Deborah
Goldberg embodies all
the qualities of the Freda
Johnson Award. It is with
the greatest esteem that
we award her the 2022
Freda Johnson Public Sec-
tor Award.”

In 2016, the Treasur-
er started the Women +
Finance Fellowship, the
first fellowship of its kind
sponsored by a govern-
ment organization. Under-
standing the importance
of building a network
and pipeline, the Treasur-
er wanted to identify and
foster diverse talent for the
financial industry, and ad-
vocate for the placement
of women and non-binary
people in leadership roles.

“To receive an award
named after someone
who was a tremendous
trailblazer and overcame
incredible barriers is an
unbelievable honor,” said
State Treasurer Debo-
rah B. Goldberg. “Freda
exemplifies everything
about staying the course,
persevering, hanging in
there, and then succeed-
ing. So being awarded the
Freda Johnson award is
thrilling.”

Edwards secures state funding money for community projects

In her first year in of-
fice, Senator Lydia Ed-
wards worked with her
colleagues in the House,
and with Senate leader-
ship to secure over \$2 mil-
lion of funding for hous-
ing support programs,
open space, homelessness
response and prevention,
public safety, and legal
services. “This year I
was proud to secure over
\$2 Million for import-
ant community projects
across the First Suffolk &
Middlesex District. This
year the Commonwealth
has a massive infusion of
federal funds from ARPA
& COVID relief, and in-
creased tax revenue. We
must take full advantage
of this surplus and rein-
vest in our communities”
said Senator Lydia Ed-
wards (D-Boston).

This session Sen. Ed-
wards has secured over \$1
Million in direct funding
for water transportation.
\$1 Million to fund regional
a ferry service connecting
Winthrop, Lynn, Quincy,
East Boston and Boston as
mitigation resulting from
the renovation of the Bos-
ton Harbor Tunnels.

“This session I have
worked with a bipartisan
group of my Senate col-
leagues, and Senate lead-
ership to secure millions
of dollars of funding for
ferry programs across our
district. A robust ferry
system is more important
than ever, as we recover
from the pandemic, with
Sumner Tunnel construc-
tion, the housing crunch,
and issues with the MBTA.
Moreover, rising housing
costs in Boston are push-
ing people and families to
look for housing further

from the urban hub, we
must have effective transit
options for people moving
to the North and South
shores.” said Senator Lyd-
ia Edwards (D-Boston).

In the budget, Sena-
tor Edwards also secured
\$50,000 for the Brazilian
Worker Center, which
works to protect the rights
of Brazilian immigrants,
and domestic workers, and
\$50,000 for the Friends of
the Belle Isle Marsh, and
\$200,000 for the Possible
Zone which offers pro-
gramming to youth that
builds entrepreneurial
skills.

In the Economic Devel-
opment bill Senator Ed-
wards secured \$100,000
for Citizens' Housing and
Planning Association, Inc.
to support programming
which combats racial dis-
crimination in housing
in the Commonwealth.
The Senator also secured
\$200,000 for Massachu-
setts Association of Com-
munity Development
Corporations for outreach,
resource creation and pi-
lot programs to encourage
fiscally sound, innovative
methods to stop the dis-
placement of small busi-
nesses and tenants.

Sen. Edwards also
secured an additional
\$200,000 for the Hugh
O'Donnell Elementary
School for a playground,
and outdoor space im-
provements, space for free
concerts in the Economic
Development Bill.

In the FY23 Budget the
Senator secured \$50,000
for East Boston High
School's implementation
of their BAM Youth Guid-
ance Program.

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3 months
(\$10/wk)

National Grid recommends home preparations ahead of winter

With colder weather and storm season approaching, including the likelihood of rain and strong winds later today, National Grid is encouraging customers to proactively prepare their homes and businesses for the weeks and months ahead.

Every day, National Grid works to ensure that customers receive the safest and most reliable energy service possible. National Grid has secured sufficient natural gas supplies to keep customers warm this winter, and is continuously inspecting, investing in, and upgrading critical infrastructure, performing vegetation management services to keep power lines clear of obstructions, and preparing our crews to respond to major weather events.

In 2021, National Grid made more than \$800 million in infrastructure and related investments across Massachusetts, including work that upgraded and secured critical facilities that help power and heat homes and businesses. These investments along with other efforts have resulted in National Grid having strong system performance so far in 2022,

with our electric network operating at 99.995 availability -- a nearly 7 percent improvement over 2021 -- providing customers with reliable electric service day-in and day-out.

“As we head into the late fall and begin winter, the chance for inclement weather to potentially impact our customers in Massachusetts is greatly increased,” said Tanya Moniz-Witten, Vice President of New England Electric Operations. “Ahead of storm season, we recommend all our customers make sure they are prepared in case of outages in their area. National Grid takes steps throughout the year to make our system more resilient, but major storms can cause significant damage. In the event of a power outage, our crews and support teams will be ready and working for as long as needed to safely restore service as quickly as possible.”

Winter will also mean higher electric and gas bills. National Grid recognizes increased bills will pose challenges for many customers. In September, the company launched its Winter Customer Savings Initiative, which is de-

signed to help customers reduce their energy use and lower energy costs, manage their energy bills and payments, and help them secure available energy assistance if they need it. More information about the initiative can be found at ngrid.com/here-tohelp.

Before inclement weather brings challenges to the region, National Grid is offering customers the following tips and reminders:

Stay Safe:

- People who depend on electric-powered life support equipment, such as a respirator, should let National Grid know. To register as a life support customer, call the company’s Customer Service Center at 1-800-322-3223. News Release
- National Grid Recommends Home Preparations Ahead of Winter
- National Grid is offering customers tips to make sure they are prepared for storm season
- Prepare your home:
- Customers with generators are encouraged to conduct regular maintenance checks to ensure the generator is operating safely.

- If applicable, schedule a home’s furnace tune-up to ensure it is in proper working order, and ensure it and any water heaters are properly vented.
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and change the batteries every year.
- Remove dead or rotting branches on trees.
- Schedule a free Mass Save home energy assessment to learn ways to reduce winter energy use. Call 888-774-3167 to schedule an appointment.
- Prepare a winter emergency kit in the event of a major storm with the following items:
 - Water – the American Red Cross recommends one gallon of water per person per day.
 - Food – at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food, plus a can opener.
 - Battery-powered or hand crank radio.
 - Flashlight and extra batteries.
 - First-aid kit.
 - Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation.
 - Personal hygiene supplies.
 - Extra cash.
 - Cell phone with charg-

gers.

- Emergency contact numbers.

Other items to consider may be found on the National Grid website here.

Customers Should Stay Connected:

- Report power outages at www.nationalgridus.com or call 1-800-465-1212.
- Use a mobile device to track outage information and storm-related safety tips through National Grid’s mobile site accessible at www.ngrid.com/mobile.
- Like National Grid on Facebook and follow on Twitter and Instagram; National Grid posts all the latest storm and restoration updates.
- Track outages and estimated restoration times at www.nationalgridus.com/outage-central.
- Make sure National Grid has updated email addresses and phone numbers on file. Update contact information at ngrid.com. Click on sign in/register.
- To stay connected during storms and outages, text to 64743 using any of the below commands.
 - o REG to sign up for text alerts

- o OUT to report an outage
- o SUM followed by your town, county, or state to get a summary of outages in your area
- o HELP for the full list of commands

Additional safety information may be found at <https://www.nationalgridus.com/MA-Home/Storm-Safety/>

About National Grid About National Grid: National Grid (NYSE: NRG) is an electricity, natural gas, and clean energy delivery company serving more than 20 million people through our networks in New York and Massachusetts. National Grid is focused on building a path to a more affordable, reliable clean energy future through our fossil-free vision. National Grid is transforming our electricity and natural gas networks with smarter, cleaner, and more resilient energy solutions to meet the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

For more information, please visit our website, follow us on Twitter, watch us on YouTube, like us on Facebook and find our photos on Instagram

Postal Service changes delivery times for holiday season

The Postal Service is keeping up the pace as the hustle and bustle of the holiday season gains momentum. To ensure customers get their holiday packages on time, our letter carriers will be delivering as early as 6:00 a.m. in many major metro locations across the country. So, if you hear the sounds of an early morning package delivery, please know it’s our way of helping Santa get an early start.

This month, our carriers will be out delivering in the early mornings in many communities. To help keep your letter carrier safe, we ask you to keep your porch light on, especially if you notice mail has not yet been delivered.

We have prepared all year to deliver certainty and continuity this holiday, and that means starting early in the morning.

Tips for a successful holiday mailing and shipping season:

- Use free Priority Mail Flat Rate boxes. They are available at Post Office lo-

cations or online at usps.com/freeboxes.

- Make it easy with the Click-N-Ship feature. You can create shipping labels and pay for postage online at usps.com/ship.
- Schedule a free Package Pickup when the carrier delivers your mail. It’s free, regardless of the number of packages. Pickups can be scheduled at usps.com/pickup.
- Mail and packages that weigh more than 10 ounces or are more than a half-inch thick and use stamps as postage cannot be dropped into a collection box or left for a carrier to pick up. Instead, take them to a local Post Office.
- Sign up for Informed Delivery. Keep an eye on your deliveries by registering at informeddelivery.usps.com to see what packages are enroute and to receive daily emails showing what mail will be delivered.
- Monitor your front door. If you have a home security camera system,

ensure it captures and saves activity at your front door and mailbox. If you catch any mail thieves in the act, save the video and alert your local Postal Inspectors. Video surveillance goes a long way in preventing crimes and catching the bad guys. You can reach the U.S. Postal Inspection Service at 877-876-2455.

- Don’t leave delivered mail and packages unattended. Just as wallets and purses shouldn’t be left on the front seat of an unlocked car overnight, mail and packages shouldn’t be left uncollected in mailboxes or on front porches for any length of time.

2022 Holiday Shipping Deadlines

The Postal Service recommends the following mailing and shipping deadlines for expected delivery by Dec. 25 to domestic addresses and Air/Army Post Office/Fleet Post Office/Diplomatic Post Office (APO/FPO/DPO) addresses*:

- Dec. 9 — APO/FPO/

DPO (all ZIP Codes) Priority Mail and First-Class Mail

- Dec. 16 — APO/FPO/DPO (except ZIP Code 093) USPS Priority Mail Express Military service
- Dec. 17 — USPS Retail Ground service
- Dec. 17 — First-Class Mail service (including greeting cards)
- Dec. 17 — First-Class packages (up to 15.99 ounces)
- Dec. 19 — Priority Mail service
- Dec. 23 — Priority Mail Express® service

Additional news and information, including all domestic, international and military mailing and shipping deadlines, and tips to keep mail safe can be found on the Postal Service Holiday Newsroom at usps.com/holidaynews.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

OBITUARIES

Barbara Walsh Retiree of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and past president of the Mottolo Post

Barbara B. DeFranco Walsh of East Boston passed away on December 4.

Barbara was a past member of the Ladies Annex VFW, past president of the Mottolo Post and 35 year employee of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for over 35 years. Barbara was an avid animal lover, she enjoyed being around all her pets over the years.

The beloved wife for over 55 years of the late Edward “Buddy” Walsh, she was the dear sister of the late Celeste Mei,

Louis, Gerard and Rocco DeFranzo and is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will honor Barbara’s life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street, Orient Heights, East Boston on Sunday, December 11 from 12 to 2 p.m. A prayer service will be held at 2 p.m. in our serenity chapel celebrating Barbara’s life. All other services are private.

To leave an online condolence, visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Girl Scouts in eastern Mass. are now selling Girl Scout Cookies

Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts kicks-off the 2023 Girl Scout Cookie season as Girl Scouts and their troops rally the community to support the world’s largest entrepreneurial program for girls. The annual cookie program will run through Friday, March 10th.

Consumers can support their local Girl Scouts by purchasing their favorite varieties including Thin Mints®, Caramel deLites®, Peanut Butter Patties®, Adventure-fuls™, Peanut Butter Sandwich, Lemonades™, Trefoil®, Caramel Chocolate Chip Cookie (gluten-free and peanut-free) and Toast-Yay!™.

In addition to everyone’s quintessential favorites, Girl Scouts has a new, online exclusive cookie, Raspberry Rally, which is a thin crispy cookie infused with raspberry flavor and dipped in the same delicious chocolate coating as the beloved Thin Mints cookies. This new cook-

ie will be the first in the Girl Scout Cookie lineup to be exclusively offered for online sale and direct shipment only, enhancing girls’ e-commerce sales and entrepreneurial skills.

“The Girl Scouts Cookie Program is iconic in developing future women entrepreneurs. I have heard many times from women that their first experience in sales was through Girl Scouts,” stated Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts CEO Barbara Fortier. “As we enter what I think is the greatest time of year, I encourage people to remember that when you are purchasing a box of cookies, they are not only delicious but you are supporting a future entrepreneur.”

The Girl Scout Cookie Program is the world’s largest entrepreneurial program for girls. Girl Scouts’ newly updated Financial Literacy badges offer entrepreneurial playbooks for every age level. From the Cookie Goal Setter badge earned

as a Daisy to the Entrepreneur Accelerator for girls in high school, the Girl Scout Cookie Program teaches girls financial literacy, planning, budgeting, teamwork, innovative thinking, and confident decision making.

Girl Scout Cookies are \$5 per package. There are many ways to support the Girl Scout Cookie program this season:

- If you don’t know a Girl Scout, visit gsema.org/buycookies to find a cookie booth (pop-up shop) near you to purchase cookies from a local Girl Scout troop, or to connect with a local troop’s online cookie shop to purchase cookies for a donation or shipment.
- If you know a registered Girl Scout, reach out to them to find out how they’re selling cookies.
- Customers can make a purchase in-person or online and designate their purchase for donation to Cookies for a Cause to benefit first responders and

healthcare professionals, the military and veterans’ services organizations, local food pantries, and more.

- Visit www.gsema.org to have Girl Scout cookies shipped directly to your door. GSEMA will cover 50% of customers’ shipping costs for all online Direct Ship orders of nine packages or more from February 1 – March 10.

Girls in grades K–12 can join Girl Scouts any time during the year to begin their Girl Scout journey. As girls grow with Girl Scouts, they learn hands-on leadership skills they’ll use to make their mark through the Gold Award and beyond. To join or volunteer, visit www.gsema.org.

For more information on Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts, please visit www.gsema.org, or follow their social media channels, Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn, for the latest updates on the organization.



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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

FAIR HOUSING PLAN BEGINS

CHELSEA - A new fair housing plan in the city aims to address housing discrimination and help identify needs and barriers to fair and affordable housing, and establish goals and strategies to break down those barriers. The city’s Department of Housing and Community Development is spearheading the effort, with funding from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development’s Community Development Block Grant Program and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council. The community development department will work in collaboration with residents, housing agencies, and community based organizations to make the plan a reality.

Housing discrimination and affordability has been a major priority for many city departments and organizations over the past several years, and an equitable fair housing plan was set as a major priority of the Chelsea Young Adult Alliance and Chelsea Black Community. “We are pleased to announce the Fair Housing Plan, the results of an invaluable partnership with the Chelsea Young Adult Alliance and Chelsea Black Community,” said Alex Train, Director of Housing and Community Development. “Against a backdrop of a housing crisis affecting residents across the community, the city is committed to ardently defending against discrimination of protected classes, to ensure all Chelsea residents have access to affordable and safe

housing.” Train added that the plan will encompass substantial community input and help guide investments in affordable housing, community development, housing stability, and social services. An advisory committee of residents, local housing specialists, and community based organizations held its first meeting earlier this month and will meet again in December. Additional focus groups, interviews, events, and meetings will be part of the community process. “Community engagement is fundamental in this project,” said Housing and Community Development Manager Erica McCarthy. “New and long-standing residents experience various housing realities. Folks with disabilities, seniors, children, teens, and families have unique housing needs.” Once complete the Fair Housing Plan will offer a roadmap for the city and partner agencies to tackle entrenched barriers to fair housing. “While we as a society have collectively navigated our way through a pandemic, one of the emerging impacts has been an even wider economic disparity in our communities,” said Candace Perez, the city’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion officer. “The insecurity of our economy is felt in all levels of our society, and this disparity is even more apparent in the space of housing and equitable opportunities for a safe, affordable place to live. The City’s Fair Housing Plan Initiative is focused on not only identifying the mitigating factors of housing inequality,

but also advocating for the substantial allotment of quality housing developments in Chelsea and in our communities beyond.” She added that the Department of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is a collaborator and partner in this endeavor, ensuring that all residents - regardless of their socioeconomic status - have access to obtaining equitable, affordable housing. It’s anticipated that the plan will be completed by next summer. Anyone with input or questions can contact McCarthy at (617) 466-4197.

COUNCIL REMEMBERS RICHARD SASSO

EVERETT - The Everett City Council honored the late Richard Sasso with a moment of silence at Monday’s Council meeting. Mr. Sasso, who owned and operated the 8/10 Bar and Grille on Norwood Street for the past 16 years, died on Nov. 25. He was 62 years old. “He was a wonderful man,” said Councilor Wayne Matewsky. “Everybody knows what a great restaurant it is, with great food and great employees. And he was one nice guy.” Matewsky said that Mr. Sasso worked hard to build a successful business in Everett. “He opened a business here. He bought the building after opening the restaurant. His father, Attorney Joseph Sasso, is a former alderman in this city.” Councilor Al Lattanzi recalled his strong friendship with Richard Sasso. “Richie and I were great

FEEDING THE HOMETOWN CROWD



Winthrop fans and players celebrate the return of the Kiwanis International Trophy signifying the winner of the Thanksgiving Day game with rival Revere.

friends – the last couple of years we got even closer when he had some issues with his health,” said Lattanzi. “I used to call him all the time and check on him. My wife told me on Saturday morning that he had passed. I was in shock. Tears came to my eyes. He was such a nice guy. I’m going to miss him a lot. His dad and his mother are great people. I’ve been to their house.

“Richie had that wonderful restaurant on Norwood Street,” continued Lattanzi. “It was a gathering place for most of the Council. His dad was a councilor in 1963-1964. Richie will be sorely missed. He was a great friend and I’m just broken hearted.”

REV. SIMPSON RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE

LYNN - On November 10, 2022 the Reverend Bill Simpson, a member of the Lynn Rotary Club, was recognized as a Community Hero at a ceremony held at the Danversport Yacht Club. Several other Rotarians were also recognized at the ceremony attended by approximately 250.

Reverend Bill Simpson, soon to be 98 years old, was a Pastor of Bethany United Church of Christ of Lynn for 40 years. After officially retiring from active ministering, he was a volunteer pastor at the First Church Congregational in Swampscott. He was an ordained minister for over 60 years. He has been married for 39 years to Margaret, better known as Peg. He was born in Maryland in the mid 1920’s and raised on a farm. He has a son Timothy as well as three grandchildren.

In 1995, the Rotary Club of Lynn honored one of their own members, the Reverend William Simpson, for his contributions to the community and for his support for Rotary causes over many years. Reverend Simpson was an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Edinburgh, Scotland in 1952-53, and joined the Lynn Rotary Club in 1983. In his nearly 40 years of membership, Reverend Simpson was known as a true Rotarian who lived the principle of “Service Above Self”. He was the Program Committee Chairman, and participated in many Rotary activities over the years. He has been a strong supporter of Camp Rotary, a member of its Board, and helped

each year in helping to identify local youths as camp participants in need of scholarship help. He was a youth counsellor in public schools in Lynn and Lynnfield for several years.

Reverend Bill consistently volunteered to serve at My Brother’s Table well into his 90’s. He worked shoulder to shoulder with members 30 and 40 years younger than him. Bill was a regular volunteer at the monthly Catholic Charities food distribution. Unfortunately, Covid put a temporary stop to both of those activities. During the period when My Brother’s Table could not have volunteers inside, Bill and Peg made hundreds of PB&J’s at home for delivery to the “Table” numerous times.

In September 2022, he reached out to a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society to assist a woman with an urgent food need and in need of emergency funds for a dental procedure. In the summer of 2021 he provided personal funds to a woman so she could have an old RV towed from NH to Lynn for a place to call home for several months.

Those are only a couple examples of people reaching out to the “Reverend” for assistance. They knew that he was a person one could reach out to for help.

He is truly a Hero of the Community! The photo shows Bill at My Brother’s Table shortly before Covid shut things down.

TAX BILLS TO REMAIN FLAT

REVERE - Revere homeowners will see their property tax bills stay fairly even in the next fiscal year.

The City Council approved the minimum residential tax factor, a vote that shifts the burden of property taxes to commercial property owners.

“That allows us to shift the tax rate 175 percent onto the commercial (property),” said Chief Assessor Dana Brangiforte. “Doing so allows us to adopt the lowest residential tax rate possible.”

With the tax shift approved, the state’s Department of Revenue still has to approve the project tax rate.

It’s expected that the residential tax rate for FY23 will be \$9.51 per \$1,000 of valuation, while the commercial rate would be set at \$18.98.

Also taken into account in the amount residents will pay on their tax bill is

the valuation of the properties.

“Single family homes, value wise, were up around 10 percent,” said Brangiforte.

With the proposed tax rate, the average single-family homeowner in Revere will see an increase on their tax bill of \$33 for FY23. The average single-family home value in the city is about \$473,000.

“Some will pay more and some less, but on average, it is not a substantial increase,” Brangiforte said.

Condominium owners can expect to see a decrease in their bills of about \$40 on average, and owners of two-family homes a decrease of about \$20. The average tax bill on three-family homes will increase by about \$90, according to Brangiforte.

On the commercial side, he said property owners can expect to see a 14 percent increase in the tax bill, although he said that increase is more dependent on the size of the property, with owners of smaller businesses and properties likely not seeing as large of a hike.

Brangiforte also touched on the total amount of money the city can raise through property taxes in FY23, noting there was about \$3 million of new growth, raising the levy limit from about \$102 million last year to \$107,656,000 in FY23. Under state law, the city can increase the levy limit by 21/2 percent per year, and then add in the new growth.

Growth is anything that is subject to new taxation for the first time, from new building to renovations.

There was about \$1 million in residential new growth for FY23, with the main drivers being development at 656 Ocean Ave., the old G&J towing site on Whitin Avenue, 257 Washington Ave., and the planned residential development at the Suffolk Downs property.

Commercial new growth nearly doubled the residential growth at about \$2 million, with the the major parcels being the commercial development at Suffolk Downs, the new Amazon facility on Squire Road, and a new hotel at 400 Ocean Ave.

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The Art of the Brick

Story & photos by Marianne Salza

Nathan Sawaya shapes rigid, plastic LEGO blocks into intricate and dynamic figures in his exhibition, The Art of the Brick, on display in the Back Bay through Sunday, April 23. The contemporary artist is returning to Boston following sold-out shows in Faneuil Hall in 2014. Twice as large, this installation features over 90 of his newest sculptures assembled from nearly one million LEGOs that are individually glued together.

“I think the role of an artist is to inspire. I hope that by sharing this work with the community, they are inspired. I have found over time that art is not optional,” a message Sawaya emphasizes throughout the exhibition. “If you have a little art in your life, you’re going to be smarter.”

Visitors can explore three floors of original artwork and re-imagined masterpieces. The collection includes a description and the number of LEGOs used in each design.

On the first floor, one can view a version of Van Gogh’s “Starry Night” (3,493 pieces), and a three-dimensional, full-scale, mosaic-like replica of Gustav Klimt’s oil and

gold leaf painting, “The Kiss” (18,893 pieces), of a couple embracing on a bed of grass and flowers.

Stand beside “Dinosaur Skeleton,” (80,020 pieces), a 20-foot-long Tyrannosaurus rex, which took Sawaya an entire summer to construct; or peer into “Pop-Up Book” (19,822 pieces), in which a castle appears from the middle of an open story book.

The third floor is an interactive area. In “Pink Dreams” (102,938 pieces), sit on a pastel, wingback armchair that is surrounded by whimsical accoutrements like a heart-shaped pillow and giant soft serve ice cream cone. Families can design cars to race on a track in the creative LEGO brick play stations.

Sawaya grew up in a small, Oregon town. He has loved playing with LEGOs since he was 5-years-old; even bringing the nostalgic toys to college and storing them beneath his bed as a source of comfort.

Later in life, Sawaya discovered LEGOs as an art medium. He still enjoys receiving sets as gifts, as he finds building according to instructions to be relaxing. The 1x2 jumper -- with one stud in the middle of a plate -- is Sawaya’s favorite LEGO

brick to use because it provides him options for details.

“I don’t feel the passage of time when I’m building. I go into a trance; and I am building away. I’ll do 10-12 hours with no problem. Office work for 10 hours was mind-numbing and draining,” groaned the former New York City corporate lawyer. “This is a different type of work that I really enjoy. I found my passion.”

Sawaya’s skills in contract negotiations have helped him as a businessman. His LEGO sculptures have been on display in over 100 cities in 24 countries.

“The role depression played resulted in certain works,” revealed Sawaya, whose sculptures reflect the construction of identity. “There are themes of emerging, transition, and metamorphosis that come out of the time I was a lawyer.”

When Sawaya initially began approaching galleries to feature his LEGO creations, he received opposition; once he began using movement in human form, the art world began to open. He was approached by Warner Brothers Pictures to create a 1:1 scale replica of the Central Perk coffee shop



Nathan Sawaya sitting in his interactive sculpture, “Pink Dreams” (102,938 pieces).

in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Friends sitcom.

“I was trying to showcase how you could put emotion into the art,” explained Sawaya. “It had to be life-size for it to work.”

In The Art of the Brick, Sawaya collaborated with photographer, Dean West, to produce brick-infused images. He imitated the flow of fabric in “Red

Dress” (62,750 pieces), an asymmetrical cocktail dress with a sweetheart neckline that is worn by a model in one of West’s photographs.

“In this gallery, called ‘In Pieces,’ we see the integration of the work into photography. That was pure joy because I got to take LEGO in a new direction. It wasn’t just putting art on a pedestal,”

said Sawaya. “That was an amazing time for me.”

View the Art of the Brick in the newly-renovated museum space located at 343 Newbury Street (previously Forever 21) Sunday-Thursday 10am-6pm, and Friday-Saturday 10am-8pm. Tickets cost \$24 for children and \$28 for adults. Visit www.ArtofTheBrickExhibit.com for more information.



“Red Dress,” 62,750 pieces, part of Sawaya’s collaboration with photographer, Dean West.



“Little Dancer of Fourteen” (7,100 pieces), “The Scream” (3,991 pieces), and “The Thinker” (4,332 pieces).



Contemporary artist, Nathan Sawaya, standing beside his 20-foot-long “Dinosaur Skeleton,” made of 80,020 bricks.



The first floor of The Art of the Brick exhibition features art replicas such as, “The Kiss” (18,893 pieces), and full body statues like, “Venus de Milo” (18,483 pieces), “Augustus of Prima Porta” (22,300 pieces), and “David” (16,349 pieces).



Sawaya’s original designs on the first floor: “Pop-Up Book,” “Baseball Player,” Ball and Jacks, “Pointing,” and “Crayons.”

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