

East Boston

TIMES - FREE PRESS

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

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CHILDREN'S WINTER FESTIVAL



Six-year-old Emilia Marotta of East Boston checks out samples of coyote and rabbit fur while her grandfather Skip Marcella looks on at the Mass Audubon Boston Nature Center table during the Children's Winter Festival hosted by Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department on Boston Common. The free festival offered music, giveaways, winter activities, treats, and crafts with attractions including inflatables such as the All-Star Challenge, Everest Climb 'N' Slide, and a Fun House Maze, train rides, slap shot hockey, snow throw, a LEGO build activity with a Master Model Builder, and more.



Eight-year-olds Colin Mueskes and Dominic Lorenzi of East Boston stopped by one of the face-painting tables at the February 22 Children's Winter Festival hosted by Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department on Boston Common. The annual event was presented in partnership with sponsors Highland Street Foundation, L.L. Bean, Dunkin', H.P. Hood, College Hunks Hauling Junk & Moving, and media sponsor The Boston Globe.

PHOTOS BY JON SEAMANS

135 Bremen Street approval met with disappointment

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

Amidst the frustration of many, it was revealed at the Gove Street Citizens Association's (GSCA) monthly meeting on Monday, February 27, that the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) has approved the proposed project at 135 Bremen Street.

The newly approved six-story residential building, which will contain 94 homeownership units and off-street parking, has undergone some changes since it was first approved in 2014 by the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA).

The most notable variation was a notice of project change in May of last year that reduced the off-street parking from two levels to one due to a potential lower level being too close to an MBTA tunnel. This change reduced the number of parking spaces from 110 to 47.

Other changes from the notice of project change in May included reducing the square footage of the retail space; a fitness room has been added, and the bike storage room was moved.

Neel Batra, a GSCA board member, explained that the board has been

working with City Councilor Gabriela Coletta's office and the BPDA to address community concerns about the project. The concerns regarding affordability, parking and the project's effects on the Greenway seemingly fell on deaf ears.

"It doesn't appear that any of the concessions that we were requesting were granted," said Batra.

"Unfortunately, it doesn't look like our advocacy on this netted anything for the community. This is just another example; I think of challenges that we're having engaging with the BPDA in terms of their listening to what the community says that it needs and wants."

In an email correspondence showcased during Monday's meeting, the project manager for the 135 Bremen Street Development, Daniel Polanco wrote, "Community feedback is advisory in nature but does help drive staff feedback that is shared with the proponents."

While Polanco said the feedback was considered, he indicated that the agency's transportation planners felt the parking changes were "justifiable."

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See KINDNESS Page 2

Wu announces day of volunteer service and acts of kindness to mark One Boston Day

Special to the Times-Free Press

Mayor Michelle Wu and the City of Boston put out a call to action for community-based organizations, businesses, and City of Boston employees and residents to come together for volunteer events and acts of kindness in recognition of our City's spirit of care for one another in response to the tragic events of April 15, 2013. One Boston Day, observed on April 15, honors the victims, survivors, and first responders of the 2013 Boston Marathon.

"One Boston Day honors those forever impacted on April 15, 2013 and recognizes the greatest strength of this City—our people," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "We will never forget the people whose lives were lost, the many injured and forever changed, and the spirit of humanity displayed that day and beyond for those most in need. One Boston Day is a living demonstration of our strength when we come together as one."

Ten years later, City of Boston departments and workers will continue to come together in honor of the day and will be hosting service projects for people to give back to their communities. Mayor Wu today announced that the City is launching a new One Boston Day website to help publicize events hosted by community groups and residents. A 2023 Acts of Kindness Checklist is available on boston.gov/one-boston to provide inspiration and ideas on how individuals can get involved.

"On One Boston Day, we hope residents, businesses and service organizations across the city will come together and find ways to give back in service to others and their communities," said Bill Richard Co-Founder of the Martin Richard Foundation.

As we mark this tenth year, the City of Boston and the Boston Athletic Association (B.A.A.) will honor the day with a remembrance event in the

Back Bay on Saturday, April 15, 2023. More details about the event will be announced in the coming weeks.

Organizations, businesses, and individuals who wish to publicize a One Boston Day event can submit information about their event here. The City will continue to add new service and other opportunities over the coming weeks and will be sharing the activities through all communications channels.

"On April 15, 2013, my

family and I were standing on Boylston Street and our lives changed in an instant," said Audrey Epstein Reny, founder of the Stepping Strong Center. "We experienced an awful tragedy, but also the strength that comes from receiving the best in human kindness. For the past decade, we have kept that special Boston Strong spirit alive at The Gillian Reny Stepping Strong Center for Trauma Inno-

Madaro reappointed Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery

Special to the Times-Free Press

House Speaker Ronald Mariano re-appointed Rep. Adrian Madaro as Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

This will be Rep. Madaro's second time serving in this role. Rep. Madaro was first appointed to lead this committee in 2021 at the beginning of the last legislative session.

The Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery considers all matters concerning behavioral health, mental health, and substance use disorder, including prevention and early intervention, treatment, and recovery services.

"I'm excited for the



Rep. Adrian Madaro.

opportunity to continue working on these critical issues that affect people's lives and wellbeing," said Madaro. "Mental health and behavioral health are just as important as physical health, and there's still

more work to do to provide everyone in Massachusetts access to affordable, compassionate and quality on-demand care."

Last session, Representative Madaro helmed the House's efforts to pass a comprehensive mental health bill in Massachusetts. The Mental Health ABC Act: Addressing Barriers to Care (ABC) produced the largest reforms to mental health care in decades. It was signed into law by former Governor Charlie Baker last August.

The comprehensive legislation continues the process of improving the way mental health care is delivered in the state. This legislation enforces existing mental health

parity laws, addresses the emergency department boarding crisis, strengthens school-based mental health programs, and invests in the behavioral health workforce.

"I am incredibly proud of the work we did on the Mental Health ABC bill last session, and the effect it will have on reducing barriers to resources, support, and treatment residents need for their overall wellbeing," said Rep. Madaro. "I look forward to continuing to build upon the work we did last session to ensure that we are addressing the most urgent needs of people and communities facing mental and behavioral health challenges across the Commonwealth".

Our Senior Life



Special Section

See Page 5

Life Planning Seminar!

Join us to learn more about pre-planning your funeral with us on
March 10, 2023 at 2pm at the
East Boston Senior Center, 7 Baywater Street.



Ruggiero Family Memorial Home
East Boston

Let's be honest- no one likes to have the tough conversations of what happens after they die but here at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, we are here to help navigate those difficult conversations. It's important to pre-plan not only so your wishes are met but so your loved ones have a sense of peace during an already difficult time. You can pre-plan and pre-pay any type of service you'd like, from full funeral to direct cremations and anything in between. This is why we have created a workshop for you to learn more about how, why and when to begin life planning. Joining us will be Attorney AJ Moscone, who will focus on estate planning. Pre-planning and estate planning should go hand and hand when starting life planning. Together we will ensure your wishes are met and your family is stress-free during an unbearable time.



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

Arroyo, Coletta file ordinance to make Boston first in the country to establish food recovery program

Special to the Times-Free Press

Boston City Councilors Ricardo Arroyo (District 5) and Gabriela Coletta (District 1) filed an ordinance for the city to formally establish an Office of Food Justice and a Food Recovery Program to address food insecurity and reduce waste.

The ordinance codifies the Office of Food Justice, formerly known as the Office of Food Access, and requires food generators to donate all edible food that they would otherwise throw away.

The ordinance will be introduced at Wednesday’s Council meeting. “Food insecurity has terrible debilitating effects on people and communities. It is entirely preventable, and this program should play a major role in ensuring no one in Boston suffers from food insecurity while also reducing unnecessary waste and its harmful environmental impacts,” Arroyo said. The ordinance would also make Boston the first municipality in the country to have its own donation requirement for excess ed-

ible food that would otherwise be thrown away. Similar programs exist in France, Poland, the Czech Republic, Belgium, California, and New York. Such a program would serve two primary purposes: increasing food security for Boston residents, reducing the waste of excess edible food, and reducing the resulting environmental harms of that waste. The donation requirement, as described in the ordinance under the Food Recovery Program, would benefit nonprofit organizations already working in

the food justice space and would be punishable by fines for those who fail to comply. Food generators in compliance would establish agreements with local nonprofits. Those nonprofits would be required to submit annual reporting to the city on the amount of edible food donated through these agreements per year. The ordinance would apply to over 500 entities in Boston that gener-

ate food waste, including supermarkets, wholesale food vendors, large restaurants, hotels, hospitals, colleges and universities. Smaller commercial edible food vendors would be mandated to donate excess food but would be given an extra year to adjust to the requirements of the ordinance. The Office of Food Justice and the Inspectional Services Department would be responsible for educating those who

the ordinance applies to and the nonprofits would provide all necessary information to the city to ensure the ordinance is being implemented. Creation of this ordinance was greatly assisted by the research and efforts of students and staff at the Food Law and Policy Clinic (FLPC) at Harvard Law School. Integral to their efforts was former Clinical Instructor, Molly Cohen.

Kindness // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vation at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, where our mission is to turn tragedy into hope for trauma survivors through innovation, collaboration and community outreach. On One Boston Day, we invite the public to continue this tradition by contributing much needed blood for trauma patients.” For details on the Stepping Strong Center’s blood drive, visit here. To honor the brave first responders who played a critical role in 2013, the Stepping Strong Center will be offering Stop the Bleed training to empower residents to take action in times of crisis. The City is also organizing a number of community events on April 15 and welcomes residents to take part. The Office of Civic Organizing, the

Mayor’s Youth Council, and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting a community clean up at Franklin Park starting at 10:00 a.m. People interested in taking part can sign up here. Details on other City-organized One Boston Day acts of service will be made available in the coming weeks. “On One Boston Day, we come together as a city and as a running community,” said Jack Fleming, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Boston Athletic Association. “While it has been ten years since the tragic events unfolded on Boylston Street at the Boston Marathon, we continue to honor and remember all of those whose lives were affected. The Boston Athletic Association is com-

mitted to remembering while also celebrating the spirit of strength that has marked one of the most meaningful decades in our city’s history.” Mayor Wu is encouraging Boston residents to take part in their own individual acts of kindness, including those on the 2023 One Boston Day Acts of Kindness Checklist. Examples from the checklist range from buying a cup of coffee for a stranger to donating blood. Like in years past, people are welcome to share their reflections and acts of service plans for One Boston Day on social media with the hashtag #OneBostonDay. More on One Boston Day, including the form to register a community event, are available on boston.gov/one-boston.

BPDA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Initially, there were discussions about getting together with other civic groups in East Boston to meet with the BPDA to discuss the Article 80 process. However, another GSCA Board Member, Carlos Muñoz, suggested it may be an “exercise in futility.” “It’s a little bit frustrating to engage in these sorts of discussions regarding the Article 80 process for then the BPDA to act completely in the opposite direction,” said Muñoz. “They supposedly say that the Article 80 process is so community voice can be heard in these matters,

but as Daniel Polanco’s email suggested – it really doesn’t have much weight.” Essentially the meeting turned into a referendum on the BPDA’s community feedback process that appears to leave residents frustrated. Although there is disappointment with the approval of this project, East Boston’s Liaison, Nathalia Benitez, indicated that there could be some hope on the horizon for those who are not fans of the BPDA process. Referencing Mayor Michelle Wu’s comments in her State of the City ad-

dress in January regarding the BPDA, Benitez said, “There are a lot of changes coming on the pipeline this year that will pertain to the BPDA and a lot of systemic changes that are being planned right now.” One of the changes she referenced dealt explicitly with improving the community feedback process, so it did not feel like essentially checking off a box. While these proposed changes to the BPDA, as indicated by Benitez, are in their early stages, she emphasized, “Big changes are coming.”

East Boston elected officials seek safe return of Reina Morales Rojas

State Senator Lydia Edwards, State Representative Adrian Madaro, and City Councilor Gabriela Coletta released the following joint statement regarding the disappearance of Ms. Reina Morales Rojas of East Boston: “Ms. Reina Morales Rojas was last seen on November 26, 2022 in Somerville and has yet to be found. She was a recent immigrant from El Salvador and a resident of East Boston, a neighborhood we represent in our capacity as elected officials.

We wish to reaffirm our consternation over Ms. Morales Rojas’ disappearance and our solidarity with the families and community members who have been impacted by her absence. We are saddened and disturbed to know that she is still missing, and we are praying for her safe return. Ms. Morales Rojas’ disappearance underscores the need for due diligence in pursuing justice for women of color and the importance of ongoing dialogue and engagement between immigrant communities and law enforcement.

Since we became aware of Ms. Morales Rojas’ disappearance, we have been in constant communication with our colleagues in government, law enforcement, and community partners to offer resources and support for the investigation and those impacted by her absence. The outpouring of love and support that our neighbors in East Boston have



Reina Morales Rojas.

shown to those affected by her disappearance is a testament to the strength of our community. We are grateful to Mayor Michelle Wu and her staff for their direct support of Ms. Morales Rojas’ family and their attention to this case. We will continue to advocate for a timely resolution of Ms. Morales Rojas’ case with law enforcement, and we remain dedicated to ensuring all residents feel safe and secure in East Boston and the Commonwealth regardless of their background. We firmly believe that everyone deserves to feel safe and protected regardless of their race, national origin, or gender identity. We understand this situation has been challenging for our community, so we wish to offer information about the following resources: Massachusetts Office of Victim Assistance MOVA provides assistance to crime victims and connects them with local providers available to assist them. If you are looking for local victim services or support, visit

www.mass.gov/askmov. The Massachusetts Behavioral Health Helpline The Behavioral Health Help Line (BHHL) connects individuals and families to the full range of treatment services for mental health and substance use offered in Massachusetts, including outpatient, urgent, and immediate crisis care. The Massachusetts Behavioral Health Helpline is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by phone call and text at 833-773-2445 (BHHL), and online chat at masshelpline.com. National Human Trafficking Hotline Have you ever exchanged sex for money, food, drugs or a place to stay? Has someone made money off of your body? You are not alone. There are a lot of people who care. Many of them have been through it, and they are here to help, whenever you’re ready. Call 1-888-373-7888 or text BeFree (233733) for help.

SafeLink SafeLink is a free, confidential and multilingual statewide domestic violence hotline that is open 24-hours a day every day. You can talk to someone and be connected with a local sexual assault or domestic violence program. Call or text 1-877-785-2020. Jane Doe, Inc. Find more support for victims and survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence at www.janedoe.org/find_help/.

Local air quality and health summit

On Thursday, March 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. at East Boston High School, 86 White St, East Boston an air quality and health Summitt is planned by Mothers Out Front. Research has shown that exposure to extreme air pollution – like in East Boston, Chelsea, and Winthrop – is linked to an extensive number of health conditions for kids and adults. Neighborhood of Affordable Housing Inc., Mothers Out Front East Boston and Winthrop, GreenRoots, East Boston Social Centers, and Airport Impact Relief Inc. have organized a community summit where residents can learn how to protect themselves and loved ones from these im-

pacts, what community groups and legislators are doing to address the problem, and what still needs to happen to see lasting change. “Environmental Justice is part of civil rights,” said Liliana Arteaga of Mothers Out Front East Boston, “We have the right to breathe safe [and clean] air.” Attendees will hear the latest findings in local air quality research from field leaders, including environmental scientists, as well as recent gains made by partner organizations in a fun and easily digestible way. The event is family-friendly and accessible. Spanish and English interpretation will be provided, as well as food, child care,

breakout groups with experts, and supplies to assemble your own home air purifier. The summit is free to the public. “The problem of pollution is daunting,” said Sonja Tengblad of Mothers Out Front East Boston. “But I am excited by all the data we now have that links pollution sources to many health impacts. This is what drives change. We also have proven strategies that can protect our kids. We just need to implement these on a systematic level and fast. This summit is a real opportunity for community members and major stakeholders to share our stories and information and change our communities for the better.”

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. We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to deb@reverejournal.com

APPRENTICE APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

THE HEAT & FROST INSULATORS UNION LOCAL 6, BOSTON, JOINT APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAREFULLY.

Applications will be accepted from March 1 to March 31st 2023. They will be available on our website, www.insulators6.org beginning March 1st. Print and complete an application. Mail the application to the address listed in the instructions. To apply you must meet the following requirements:

- Be 18 years of age or older by June 1, 2023. Be a high school graduate.
- Possess a current, valid driver’s license. Reside within the jurisdiction of Local 6. Own a reliable vehicle.

Copies of the following documents must be submitted with your application:

- Valid, current driver’s license (No photo ID’s)
- High school diploma, GED certificate or a certified, sealed transcript showing your graduation date.
- You must also submit a non-refundable aptitude testing fee of \$25.00. Only checks or money orders accepted, made payable to “Local 6, J.A.C.”

TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION/JOB SITES: Mass., Maine, New Hampshire & Rhode Island [Driver’s License and Reliable Vehicle Necessary & Required].

TERM OF APPRENTICESHIP: Four (4) years. 160 classroom hours and 1600 job site hours per year.

TESTS: General Aptitude Test and Interview; Mandatory Pre-employment Physical Exam and Drug Test.

The Heat and Frost Insulators Apprenticeship Program will not discriminate against apprenticeship applicants or apprentices based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), sexual orientation, genetic information, or because they are an individual with a disability or a person 40 years old or older. The Heat and Frost Insulators Apprenticeship Program will take affirmative action to provide equal opportunity in apprenticeship and will operate the apprenticeship program as required under Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 30,” 29 CFR § 30.3(c).

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Escazu Development LLC	Montemurro lrt	15 Moore St	\$650,000
Bragg, Angela	Morris St Property LLC	47 Morris St #2	\$632,500
Furlanetto, Andrea	Hutchinson, Zachary M	77 Byron St #3	\$530,000
Ochoa Remodeling LLC	Ochoa, Hector	316 Princeton St	\$550,000

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NEWS IN BRIEF

MARCH HARBOR VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING AGENDA

The next meeting of the Harbor View Neighborhood Association will be on March 6, 2023, at 6pm. The meeting is In Person only but will be streamed via Facebook for archival purposes. Attendance on Facebook does not qualify for voting. The meeting will be held in the Salesian Boys and Girls Club cafeteria, across from the Brooke Charter School on Byron Street. You can access the meeting from the front door on Byron Street or from the rear door on Wordsworth Street, which is the handicap entry, to avoid the stairs. Since we are indoors, masks are optional for those in attendance.

La proxima reunion de Harbor View Neighborhood Association esta en el seis de marzo a las 6pm. La reunion esta en perso-

na y via Facebook. La asistencia en Facebook no califica para vota. Llega a la cafeteria del Salesian Boys y Girls Club por la calle Byron al otro lado de Brooke Charter School. Pueda usar la entrada principal por la calle Byron o la entrada en calle de Wordsworth. La entrada de calle Wordsworth no tiene escaleras por personas con discapacidades. El cubre bocas sera opcional puesto que estaremos adentro.

Agenda
Welcome/Introduction (5min)

Announcements (5min)
East Boston Senior Center is open. Greenway Council membership. McLean Park Meeting on 3/1/23 at 6pm at Excel Charter School on Moore Street. All invited pizza to be served. Belle Isle Rotary and Parkway Rotary to host 2023 Polar Plunge 3/4/23 at EBYC 10am. ZBA hearing on 184 Cowper Street on 3/14/23 at 10:30am. 64 Homer Street parcel.

Station 7 Police Re-

port (15min) Sgt. Cintolo, Officer Mosley. Officer Figueroa and Officer Alvarez.

555 Bennington Street (30min) 2nd Presentation and VOTE. Attorney Richard Lynds will present on behalf of owner Olsian Sasa. The project proposes to erect an addition and change of occupancy from a two-family dwelling to a four-family dwelling and erect a third floor deck.

74 Horace Street (30min) 2nd Presentation and VOTE. Attorney Richard Lynds will present on behalf of owner Hannah Quann. The project proposes to raze the existing 2 family and erect a 6-unit residential building with 6 parking spaces.

Nominations for vacant Board position. (5min)

The next meeting of the HVNA will be on April 3, 2023.

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

Madaro legislation ensures full benefits for injured police officers

Two Boston Police Officers injured in the line of duty have had their retirement and pension benefits guaranteed through legislation filed by Rep. Adrian Madaro and signed into law by the Governor in January.

On the night of October 12, 2016, officers responding to a 911 call at Gladstone Street in East Boston concerning a man with a gun were fired upon by the suspect. Two officers, Officer Richard Cintolo of East Boston and Officer Matthew Morris of Dorchester, were shot and rushed to Massachusetts General Hospital in critical condition after receiving

first aid from their fellow officers at the scene. The suspect was killed in the ensuing shootout.

Officer Cintolo and Officer Morris both thankfully recovered, but the injuries they sustained prevented them from returning to work with the Boston Police Department, and both retired from the force.

The bills filed by Representative Adrian Madaro, alongside Representative Dan Hunt of Dorchester, were originally approved as Home Rule Petitions by the City of Boston. The bills guarantee that each officer will receive the same full pension benefits

they would have received if they had not been forced into early retirement as a result of their injuries. Additionally, the bills indemnify the officers from the medical costs of any injuries received in the line of duty.

“These officers put their lives on the line to protect our community, and I thank them for their service,” said Representative Madaro. “I was proud to stand with them and help ensure that they and their families get the full benefits they deserve.”

The legislation has taken effect retroactive to the end of January 2022.

Wu, Immigrant Advancement award mini-grants to promote U.S. citizenship

Special to the Times-Free Press

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Mayor’s Office for Immigrant Advancement (MOIA) are awarding \$50,000 in mini-grants to five nonprofits for creative initiatives that help green card holders become U.S. citizens. The grants range from \$2,000 to \$12,000 for programs including citizenship classes, education, and outreach.

“Becoming a U.S. citizen is an important milestone yet we know for many in our communities that it can be an expensive, intimidating and never ending process,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “I’m grateful to MOIA and these organizations for their critical work in reducing barriers to citizenship with creative and community-driven initiatives.”

“Many immigrants want to become U.S. citizens but are deterred because of how much it can cost, questions about the process, and even anxiety about navigating the system,” said Monique Tú Nguyen, Executive Director of the Mayor’s Office for Immigrant Advancement. “By giving diverse nonprofits mini-grants, immigrants can get help through trusted sources in their communities.”

Five local organizations are selected to receive funding from the MOIA Promoting Access to Citizenship Mini-Grants.

They are:

Agencia ALPHA: Funding will increase capacity to provide citizenship classes.

Azerbaijani Society of New England: The organization will hold a citizenship awareness workshop and start test preparation classes for the Azerbaijani community.

Nigerian American Multi-Service Association: The mini-grant will help launch a new “Citizenship Pathway Program” that focuses on outreach and application help to green card holders in African communities.

Project Citizenship: Funding will support the creation of a free online self-navigated portal to guide people through the naturalization application process.

Vietnamese American Civic Association: The organization will help the Vietnamese community prepare for citizenship interviews through individual and group practice sessions.

There are several benefits to becoming a U.S. citizen including being more active in the community, having the right to vote, and living in the United

States without risk of deportation. About 30,000 Boston residents are eligible for U.S. citizenship.

“The fulfillment of being citizens of a country after living here for years is something that many in our community earnestly look forward to,” said Godwin Nnanna, President of the Nigerian American Multi-Service Association. “This grant will help make that a dream come true for a number of green card holders in our community.”

“We’re grateful for the City’s support on this critical issue,” said Thuan Tran, Executive Director of the Vietnamese American Civic Association. “This shows the City’s understanding and recognition of the public issues faced by immigrant communities today. This mini-grant will certainly support our continuing effort to assist Vietnamese green card holders in performing their citizenship interviews competently.”

These mini-grants will support programming from March through September 2023. Anyone interested in joining these programs can contact the organizations directly.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITY of BOSTON

The City of Boston Mayor’s Office of Housing (MOH) announces two public hearings seeking citizen input on the housing and community development priorities for the Program Year 2023 (7/1/22 - 6/30/23) Action Plan, in accordance with the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105(b).

The Action Plan is submitted annually to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and serves as the City’s application and plan for using an estimated \$28 million in HUD resources from these four programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs.

A **VIRTUAL HEARING** will be held on March 16, 2023 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. To access the hearing link, go to bit.ly/hearingandpubliccomment.

An **IN-PERSON HEARING** will be held on March 29, 2023 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm in the Commonwealth Salon at the Boston Public Library, Copley Square, 700 Boylston Street.

Interpretative services in Spanish, Cantonese, and Mandarin will be provided at both hearings. Closed captioning will be provided at the virtual hearing on March 16, 2023. American Sign Language interpretation has been requested for the March 29, 2023 in-person hearing, but is not confirmed.

To request another language at the hearings email to mohcomments@boston.gov at least seven days prior to the hearing date. Every effort will be made to accommodate your request.

Sheila Dillon, Chief of Housing, City of Boston

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East Boston

Times-Free Press

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THE PLANET IS SO MESSED UP

Our warm winter -- December was unseasonably warm and January was the warmest on record, while February had only a very, very brief cold snap, but also had many days of record-high warmth — is a classic good news/bad news situation.

The good news is that our heating bills, with oil prices near record-high levels because of the war in Ukraine, are much lower than they would have been. Europe similarly has had a record-warm winter, which has reduced its usage of natural gas, averting what could have been an economic disaster..

The mild winter also has been a boon for the budgets of cities and towns. The dearth of snow and ice has meant that relatively small amounts have been expended for snow removal (at least so far).

But the long-term effects of our mild winters are not good. The warm winter of 2023, coming on the heels of warm winters for the past few years, means that climate change has firmly taken root in New England. According to a recent analysis by the federal Environmental Protection Agency, winters in Massachusetts have warmed by 4.5 degrees since 1896, a rate that is faster than the national average.

Part of the explanation for this may lie in another study recently released by scientists. According to their report, ocean heat content reached a new record high for the fourth year in a row, based on measurements of ocean heat accumulating down to a depth of more than a mile.

But here’s the really depressing part: According to the scientists’ findings, published in the journal *Advances in Atmospheric Science*, the warmth keeps working its way deeper into the ocean because greenhouse gases have trapped so much heat that the oceans’ deeper waters will continue to warm for centuries even after humans stop using fossil energy.

So while it may be true that governments and industry are turning “greener,” the bottom line is that it may not make any difference, and that’s especially true because even under the best-case scenarios, the world will not be carbon-neutral for decades.

The effects of our warming planet have been visible for years with the onslaught of droughts, wildfires, devastating floods, and Category 5 storms that have left no part of Earth untouched, with implications that only now we are beginning to understand.

We don’t mean to be the bearer of bad news, but the reality is this: As bad as things are today for the environment, they’re only going to get worse before they get better.

THE ECONOMISTS ARE STILL JUST GUESSING

If you’re like us, then no doubt you’ve been frustrated with the lack of consensus by economists and other so-called experts about the future of our economy. In the morning, we’ll hear a prediction of a full recession in the coming months; in the afternoon, someone else will predict a mild recession with a “soft landing”: and in the evening, another talking head will say that everything is fine for the indefinite future.

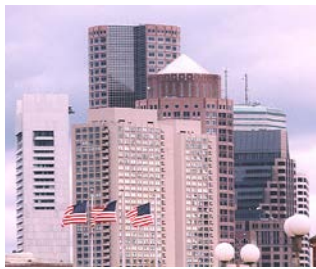
The combination of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ensuing supply-chain issues, and a land war in Europe for the first time since WWII has skewed everything for which there is no direct precedent in the modern era. Today’s economy is an amalgam of every economic era since WWII. We can draw some parallels to previous situations, but there are no direct analogies.

In addition, two factors are having a huge effect on the labor force, which in turn are affecting the overall economy.

The first is the retreat from the workforce of Baby Boomers, a trend that was accelerated by the pandemic. The Baby Boomer cohort has had an out-size effect on the economy and American life since they were born and they continue to do so today. In addition, Boomers are staying in their homes longer (which diminishes the supply of housing for Millennials) and, now that they have more leisure time, are traveling more (instead of buying stuff), and thus inflating the demand for service sector workers.

The other big factor accounting for the labor shortage is the trend of many younger workers both for remote work and to work fewer than 40 hours per week. These new realities are having ripple effects throughout the economy, particularly for the office real estate market and the small businesses in our major cities that depend on foot traffic from office workers.

The only thing that is clear to us is that none of the so-called experts have any idea what is going on with the economy and have even less of a clue about the future. To paraphrase Plato (quoting Socrates), the only thing they know is that they know nothing.



Forum

GUEST OP-ED

America’s wars, who are the winners?

lost over 15,000 active service members and contractors in Iraq and Afghanistan. Take a look at Iraq and Afghanistan today. What did we accomplish?

We approved \$113 billion in aid to Ukraine in 2022 alone. Most Americans do not want Russia to succeed in conquering Ukraine. Efforts to help Ukraine have been supported by most Americans. How far do we go? How much can we afford? How long are we able to keep this up? Does this become another Afghanistan? American troops are not there, yet. When will this happen?

When do we start fighting in Taiwan? China wants to control Taiwan. Taiwan is rich in resources and technology. Like Russia wanting Ukraine because of its proximity and resources, China figures it just makes sense for them to control neighboring Taiwan.

China is reportedly on the verge, if not already sending military arms to

Russia. As America depletes our own defense stockpile of missiles, tanks and more, China knows we will have less to send to Taiwan. We have recently sent 200 soldiers to Taiwan and more will be going. It is scary to ponder how many more will be going in the next year or two.

In the middle of all this, who is really profiting from America’s forever wars? The Military Industrial Complex will continue to make hundreds of millions of dollars with no end in sight. Manufacturers of mass weapons used in war have no end to their financial gains. Politicians who own stock in these massive companies only stand to get richer and richer. How many thousands of shares of stock in these companies do our long-term Senators and Representatives own? Stopping or slowing our military aggressions around the globe would mean their stock would go down and their massive financial fortunes

would be diminished.

Politicians should not be allowed to buy stock while in office. Before running for a political office they should be required to cash their stock out so they are not financially persuaded to promote the success of certain industries.

We don’t want Ukraine to fall to Russia or Taiwan to China. However, what will our country have left to fight with after we have spent billions of dollars defending them? If your livelihood comes from investments in the massive military weapon sales industries, then you are probably spending most of your time counting your money.

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.

Dr. Glenn Mollette

America was involved in Vietnam for 20 years. Our presence started small but by 1965 had significantly escalated. 3.1 million troops saw combat and at least 58,300 were killed. We spent over \$120 billion from 1965 to 1973 which led to an oil crisis and rampant inflation. Are you better off today because America fought in Vietnam? Are you safer?

America spent over \$2 trillion fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. Then, we hurried and pulled out of Afghanistan leaving hundreds of millions of dollars in vehicles, buildings, bases, and weapons to be used by the Taliban. The country is now in shambles. Girls are not allowed to go to school beyond the sixth grade. Women are treated horribly by the Taliban. What did we do to help Afghanistan? Are they better off now? Are we better off for our 13 years in that country?

We invaded Iraq. We

EBNHC appoints Dr. Ryan Boxill Chief Operations Officer

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC), the largest community-focused health system in Massachusetts and among the largest in the country, is pleased to announce that Dr. Ryan Boxill, PhD MBA, has been appointed executive vice president and chief operations officer (COO). Bringing more than 20 years of experience in the healthcare industry, Dr. Boxill’s clinical training, business expertise, and strategic vision will strengthen EBNHC’s ability to provide accessible, compassionate, high-quality care across their health system.

“As we grow to meet the needs of our community, we are thrilled to have a COO with a proven track record of expanding access to care and advancing clinical quality in a community setting. Dr. Boxill’s unique combination of behavioral health training and operational leadership will add valuable expertise to our organization’s diverse executive team, helping us to meet the complex demands of community health post pandemic,” said Greg Wilmot, president and chief executive officer of EBNHC. “We believe in care that goes beyond the clinic to address wellness where it starts: in the deeply interconnected lives of the people we serve. Dr. Boxill is the leader we need to advance this mission.”

Prior to joining EBNHC, Dr. Boxill served as the chief behavioral health officer for Boston Medical Center (BMC) Health System where he was responsible for leading behavioral health strategy and operations across the health system, including BMC Hospital, BMC’s WellSense Health Plan, and BMC’s Boston Accountable Care Organization (BACO). Notably, Dr. Boxill led the strategic planning, design, and implementation of BMC’s recently launched



Dr. Ryan Boxill, PhD MBA.

Brockton-area Behavioral Health Center, regarded as one the most innovative, state-of-the art, and patient-centered behavioral health facilities in the country. His previous work as system vice president at Steward Health-Care drastically improved the overall performance of acute inpatient psychiatric and detox beds in his service line.

Dr. Boxill is a licensed clinical psychologist in New York and Massachusetts and holds a PhD in Cross Cultural Clinical Psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology in Fresno, CA. He completed his pre-doctoral training at the Hudson River Regional Psychology Internship Program at the New York State Office of Mental Health and his Harvard Medical School Postdoctoral Fellowship training at the MGH-OCD Institute at McLean Hospital. Dr. Boxill has an MBA from the University of Massachusetts with a specialization in Finance, and is a certified trainer in Diversity and Intercultural Sensitivity.

“Healthcare is a basic human right and East Boston Neighborhood Health Center is taking actionable steps towards improving

patient care, committing to the wellbeing of its patients and workforce, and providing equitable healthcare opportunities to those who need it,” said Dr. Ryan Boxill, executive vice president and chief operations officer of EBNHC. “I am thrilled to join an institution with the compassion and drive to

make impactful changes in fostering a healthier community in East Boston and beyond.”

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) is one of the nation’s largest Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and the largest community health center in Massachusetts, serving over 100,000 patients and recognized by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as a Health Center Quality Leader. For more than 50 years, EBNHC has offered access to comprehensive care for the underserved populations of Chelsea, East Boston, Revere, Winthrop, Everett and Boston’s South End. EBNHC is dedicated to promoting and sustaining healthy communities, families, and individuals by providing accessible, person-centered, compassionate, and high-quality health care services to all who live and work in our service area. For more information, please visit www.ebnhc.org.

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Our Senior Life

How to Spend Wisely at the Grocery Store

(StatePoint) Whether you are packing school lunches or hosting a dinner party, you want your fridge and pantry to be stocked with the highest-quality foods for the best value. Thankfully, there's a better way to navigate store aisles than just picking products at random and hoping for the best, one which doesn't involve hours of product research.

Product of the Year USA, the largest consumer-voted awards program centered around product innovation, recently announced the winners of the 2023 Product of the Year Awards across 36 trending categories. Determined through a national study of 40,000 American shoppers in partnership with Kantar, a global leader in consumer research, the winners represent the best new products when it comes to thoughtful design, quality and innovation.

"It's easier than ever for today's con-

sumers to be overwhelmed by choice. Far beyond retail aisles, they now have direct-to-consumer options, grocery delivery in the palm of their hands, and a never-ending stream of their favorite influencers reviewing products," says Mike Nolan, global CEO of Product of the Year Management. "It's important to us to help consumers and their families cut through the noise."

To make your visits to the supermarket a breeze, consider this year's 20 food and beverage winners, listed by category:

- Bread | ALDI-exclusive Specially Selected French Baguette – ALDI
- Breakfast | Quaker Puffed Granola – PepsiCo
- Cheese | ALDI-exclusive Emporium Selection Feta Block Assortment – ALDI
- Coffee Creamer | Lactose-Free Flavored Creamer in French Vanilla and Sweet Cream

- Organic Valley
- Condiment | ALDI-exclusive Burman's Dipping Sauces – ALDI
- Convenience Meals | Hot Pockets Delish – Nestlé USA
- Entrée | Pasta-Roni Heat & Eat – PepsiCo
- Frozen Dessert | ALDI-exclusive Sundae Shoppe Gelato – ALDI
- Keto | ALDI-exclusive Benton's Keto Cookies – ALDI
- Meal Replacement | Complete Nutrition Shakes – Soylent
- Meal Solution | Bob Evans Mashed Cauliflower – Bob Evans Farms
- Non-Chocolate | HARIBO Berry Clouds – HARIBO of America, Inc.
- Non-Dairy | ALDI-exclusive Friendly Farms Non-Dairy Whipped Toppings – ALDI
- On-The-Go Snack | ALDI-exclusive Park Street Deli Sweet Snack Selects – ALDI

- Premixed Drink | ALDI-exclusive Zarita Margaritas – ALDI
- Salty Snack | Takis Hot Nuts Fuego – Barcel USA
- Smoothie | DOLE BOOSTED BLENDS Berry Spark Smoothie – Dole Packaged Foods
- Snack & Appetizer | El Monterey Chili Cheese Chimichanga – Ruiz Foods
- Soft Drink | Nitro Pepsi – PepsiCo
- Wine | ALDI-exclusive Don't Mind If I Do Sauvignon Blanc – ALDI

For more information about this year's winners, visit productoftheyearusa.com.

Want to feed your family the foods that other shoppers have already tried and loved? Whether you're filling your virtual or physical cart, be sure to lean on consumers tools that can help you make better choices.

3 Ways to Protect Your Finances and Your Family

(StatePoint) To protect your finances and family in the long term, it's important to not only reevaluate your saving and spending, but also commit to creating a more holistic financial plan.

Consumers are seeking stability and preparedness in today's uncertain economic environment, according to a recent Consumer Sentiment Tracker study by Lincoln Financial Group. With ongoing inflation and market volatility, 56% of respondents cited protection from risk as being most important to them. When it comes to thinking about their finances, people said they have the greatest interest in protecting their family (39%) followed by their income (26%).

"Our research reinforced the importance of financial solutions that can help consumers navigate through market cycles and protect their loved ones," said David Berkowitz, president, Lincoln Financial Network, Lincoln Financial's wealth management business. "People are not only concerned about having enough to pay their bills, but also saving for retirement and preparing for the unexpected. It's important to have a well-rounded financial plan that can address those risks, protect assets and create positive outcomes for today's families."

To achieve a stronger financial future, don't neglect your finances — instead, add a little TLC (Talk, Learn, Commit). Create a robust financial plan using these three tips from Lincoln Financial:

1. Talk about it. Financial conversations play a crucial role. Be transparent with your loved ones about financial priorities so you can set expectations and work toward your shared financial goals. Initiate ongoing discussions to stay on track with everything from saving for retirement to paying for a long-term healthcare event, which can happen suddenly and be very costly. Also, consider talking to a financial professional who can help identify solutions that best meet your individual needs, as well as drive better outcomes. Lincoln's research found those who work with financial professionals are more likely to prioritize retirement savings (26% vs. 10%).
2. Learn more about tax-deferred investments. Life insurance can be more than just a death benefit, with some types of policies offering income replacement for unforeseen events. It can also protect your financial security from the impact of taxes, market volatility and longevity. It's not just for individuals and families either, but busi-

nesses too. Also, consider diversifying your portfolio with an annuity, which can provide protected growth and monthly lifetime income to help cover expenses in retirement and ensure you have a stream of income.

3. Commit to maximizing your workplace benefits. Look into supplemental coverages like disability, accident and life insurance that may be available through your employer. Solutions like these protect against unexpected events that can disrupt your ability to provide for your family or drive you

into additional debt. If you have an employer-sponsored retirement plan, make sure you are contributing and getting a match, if offered. Tap into any financial wellness tools offered at work to help provide you with an accurate picture of your holistic financial situation and lower stress.

Visit www.lfg.com for more tools and resources.

With a robust plan, you can help ensure a solid financial future for you and your family.



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Almost all my middle aged & elderly acquaintances, including me, feel about 25 – unless we haven't had our coffee, in which case we feel 107

– Martha Beck

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Wu announces awardees of returning citizens support grant

Special to the Times-Free Press

Mayor Michelle Wu, the Office of Human Services (OHS), and the Office of Returning Citizens (ORC) announced the award of over \$1 million in funding to 35 organizations including North Suffolk Community Services that provide reentry support services to individuals who are returning to Boston after being released from federal, state, or county correctional facilities. Of the 35 grantees, 29 organizations are either led by people of color, led by a returning citizen, or both. Over 80% of the total funding being awarded will be going to those 29 organizations. Today's awards of the Returning Citizens Support (RCS) grants mark the first-ever City funding to support community-based organizations that serve returning citizens. This is a key component of the historic investment of \$2.6 million made by Mayor Wu in the FY23 budget for the ORC. The awards are the result of a competitive grant process announced in December.

"Wrapping around our returning citizens with programming and services is vital to ensuring formerly incarcerated individuals are able to return to their lives and community successfully," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm so grateful to



Mayor Michelle Wu.

all our partner organizations for their commitment to supporting our community members in their reentry."

"This investment in services will boost the overall impact of the Office of Returning Citizens and help to provide relief and support to individuals who are returning to Boston from incarceration," said Chief of Human Services José Massó. "In addition to the grants for services available to all returning citizens, we are making a special effort to fund organizations that are led by returning citizens and people of color, and those that have unique expertise in providing support to underserved populations of returning citizens, such as women and people who identify as LGBTQI."

"Even though there's still work to be done, it is gratifying to begin to build a network of resources for returning cit-

izens and especially to be able to support so many of our partners that have been doing this work as a labor of love for so many years," said David Mayo, Executive Director of the Office of Returning Citizens. "Partnerships like these are what will make Boston a better place to return home."

"Today, we take another step to right past harms by investing in organizations and nonprofits centering the needs of those returning home from incarceration, many of these led by those very same individuals," said Councilor Ruthzee Louijeune. "When we talked about investing in our returning citizens during last year's budget, this is a model for what my office wanted to see: organizations led by those directly impacted leading the way for mental health services, family reunification, supportive housing, substance abuse counseling, and workforce training. There's more to do, but this is a start."

This announcement marks a significant milestone in the city's efforts to create a network of services available to formerly incarcerated individuals returning home. The RCS grant will provide non-profit organizations with vital funding to support a variety of services including: family reunification; services

specifically tailored to the unique challenges facing LGBTQI returning citizens; services specifically tailored to the unique challenges facing women returning citizens; education; career and employment trainings and professional skills development; clothing, food, and other basic needs; CORI sealing and expungement; transitional and permanent housing supports; Know Your Rights legal trainings; mentorship; and mental health and substance use counseling.

The following organizations have received grants as part of this funding round:

- Baystate Reentry Network
- Big Hope Project
- Black and Pink
- Boston Lesb-gay Urban Foundation
- Charlestown Adult Education
- City Church Boston
- College Bound Dorchester
- Family Nurturing Center
- Fathers' Uplift
- Future Hope Apprenticeship
- God's Soldiers, Inc.
- Greater Boston Legal Services
- Haley House
- Healing Our Land
- Jericho Circle Project
- Justice 4 Housing Hands on Defense Program
- Justice Resource Institute, STRIVE

- Lawyer's Clearinghouse on Affordable Housing & Homelessness
- Lena-Park Community Development
- Louis D Brown Peace Institute
- New Beginnings Reentry Services
- New England Innocence Project
- North Suffolk Community Services
- Nubian Square Foundation
- Out for Good Behavioral Services
- People Affecting Community Change
- Prophetic Resistance Boston
- Project Smile, Suits and Smiles
- Project Turnaround
- The Center for Teen Empowerment
- Union of Minority Neighborhoods
- United Baptist Church
- Voices of Liberation
- We Are Better Together
- Working Credit NFP

"Massachusetts residents returning home from incarceration deserve safe and dignified housing. Instead they face stigma, barriers and discrimination. Stable housing is the most crucial resource to promoting public safety, public health and circumventing recidivism. Justice 4 Housing (J4H) is an organization whose leadership is directly affected. Our knowledge and expertise has been paramount to

our success," said Leslie Credle, Founder & Executive Director of Justice 4 Housing. "I am living proof that housing is the gateway to a successful reentry. Our programs have provided permanent housing and legal advocacy support for over 100 formerly incarcerated people in our communities. Justice 4 Housing is proud to be one of the first recipients of the Returning Citizens Support (RCS) grant. We look forward to continuing working side by side with the ORC and its new Executive Director, David Mayo. This year, we will continue to provide the most critical resources which include permanent housing solutions and homeownership to the most vulnerable population in the Commonwealth."

The ORC was established in 2019 to serve as a central hub for all services related to the reentry of formerly incarcerated individuals into Boston. The ORC's mission is to support individuals returning from incarceration by providing case management, referrals and connections to essential resources and services that can help them rebuild their lives and contribute to their communities. The RCS grant is a crucial part of the ORC's efforts to achieve this mission.

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MC Brother Daniel Cremin to be recognized at ceremony March 2

In recognition of Malden Catholic's longest serving Xaverian Brother, MC has dedicated its athletic hall of fame to Brother Daniel Cremin, C.F.X. who spent 23 years at the school coaching and teaching physical education instruction and 23 years at the school as a counselor. The school's hall of fame was originally established in 1989 and it celebrated the institution's strong athletic history and outstanding individual athlete, team, coach and volunteer accomplishments with a formal induction into the MC Hall of Fame for sixteen years.

The Hall of Fame event will be held on Thursday, March 2 at Anthony's of Malden. Mayor Gary Christenson will be in attendance along with 350 guests to honor several former great Lancer athletes, legendary coaches and two MC teams. A social hour will be held starting at 5:30 PM before the Hall of Fame ceremony begins at 6 PM. Tickets are sold out for the event.

Those who will be honored and inducted into the MC Hall of Fame are:

Brian Parow '04 – MC Wrestling (Chelmsford, MA)

Brian Parow '04 participated in the MC Wrestling team for all 4 years in high school, culminating in his senior year as team Captain, and weighing in at 135 lbs. Throughout his four years, he had multiple accomplishments and records under his belt-most notably, he won the 2004 Sectional and State Championship and was ranked 3rd in New England that year. He also had the greatest number of wins ever at Malden Catholic (110).

Dario Pizzano '09 – MC Baseball (Hoboken, NJ)

Dario Pizzano '09 lettered all four years as a member of the MC Baseball team. A two-time captain, two-time Catholic Conference All-Star, and a two-time Catholic Conference Batting Champion, he has the most career hits in MC's history. During his senior year, he was the Catholic Conference MVP, an EMass All-Star and a first team Massachusetts All-Star and MVP. He was also named a Boston Herald All-Scholastic, Boston Globe Division 1 Player of the Year and an Honorable Mention All-American. His team won the Catholic Conference Championship and reached the EMass Final in 2008. In 2009, he was a part of the Boston Herald Preseason Number One Ranked team in the state.

David Caputo '85 – MC Football and Baseball (Rowley, MA)

David Caputo '85 played MC varsity Baseball and Football. In Football, he started on both the offensive and defensive lines and was named a Catholic Conference All-Star in 1984, one of only two defensive tackles for the entire Catholic Conference to be recognized. In his senior season, he was named a Boston Herald Division II All-Star. As a senior David started as an offensive guard and defensive tackle for the Catholic Conference Co-Champion Lancers and he was a key contributor for a Lancer team that defeated St John's Prep and BC High in the same incredible season. David went to play college football for the Michigan Wolverines and earned 2



Brother Daniel Cremin.

Big Ten Title rings, a Rose Bowl Championship Ring and an M Ring and a Varsity Letter from the legendary college program.

Domenic "Junior" Vincenzo Jr. '94 – MC Soccer (North Reading, MA)

Domenic "Junior" Vincenzo Jr. '94 was a four-year starter for the MC Boys Soccer team. He was the leading goal-scorer as a freshman, a three-time 1st Team Catholic Conference All-Star, two-time Captain, two-time Daily News Mercury All-Scholastic, the 1993-94 Daily News Mercury Player of the Year, and the 1993-94 Eastern Mass Soccer Coaches Association All-Star.

Jack Leavitt '02 – MC Swimming (Silver Spring, MD)

Jack Leavitt '02 was a member of the Malden Catholic swim team from 1998 - 2002. Jack was team Captain and school record holder in the 100 Freestyle and 100 Backstroke. Leavitt was team MVP all four years and in his senior year, was MIAA State Champion in the 100-yard Backstroke.

Richard "Rick" Mazzei '74 – MC Lacrosse Coach and Athletic Director (Notre Dame, IN)

Richard Mazzei '74 returned to MC to become the Athletic Director. As the AD, he created a varsity Lacrosse team in 1996 and became the Boys Lacrosse coach. He is the first coach in state history with 400 wins, with over 200 wins as a Lancer. He has earned six Catholic Conference Championships, his team was the D1 runner-up in 2004 and was also the Boston Globe Coach of the Year in 2004. He was a MC faculty member for 30 years teaching US History, and was has been inducted into the Beverly High School and New England Lacrosse Hall of Fames.

Ryan Layton '02 – MC Football, Hockey and Lacrosse (Wilming-ton, MA)

Ryan Layton '02 was a three-sport stand-out in Football, Hockey and Lacrosse. He played four years of varsity Hockey and three years of varsity Football and Lacrosse. In his junior and senior year, he earned Catholic Conference All-Star in all three sports. In his senior year, he was earned the Most Valuable Player Award by his coaches in Football and Hockey. That year, he also was elected Captain in all three sports and earned the Extraordinary Achievement in Athletics Award. In his sophomore year he was also awarded Sophomore of the Year Award.

Sean Layton '03 – MC Football, Hockey and Lacrosse (Medford, MA)

Sean Layton '03 was a three-sport stand-out athlete which included MC Football, Hockey and Lacrosse. He played four years of varsity Hockey and three years of varsity Football and Lacrosse. In both his junior and senior years, he earned Catho-

lic Conference All-Star in all three sports. In his senior year, he was Captain of all three teams and was named a Boston Globe and Boston Herald All-Scholastic in both Football and Lacrosse. He was also named an All-American in lacrosse. His freshman year he was the recipient of Freshman of the Year in 2000 along with the Brother Kevin Kenny C.F.X., Award and earned the Extra Achievement in Athletics Award his senior year.

Stephen Joseph Harris '68 – MC Football, Hockey, Baseball and Track (Tewksbury, MA)

Stephen Joseph Harris '68 participated in multiple sports at MC including Football, Hockey, Baseball and Track programs. During his freshman year with the hockey team, the team made the state tournament. In his sophomore year, the MC Football team went undefeated and became State Champions. In his senior year, he was ranked #1 in Offense in the Catholic Conference.

Steve Freker – MC Baseball Coach 2000 – 2012 (Malden, MA)

Steve Freker was an exemplary Baseball coach at MC for 13 seasons, from 2000 - 2012. In those 13 seasons, he finished with a record of 182-93, including 11 trips to the MIAA Division 1 State Tournament, with a post-season record of 27-10. This included two North Sectional Championships, five trips to the North Finals

and one Eastern Mass Championship. In 2003, MC Baseball won the MIAA Division 1 State Championship. Freker also assisted in coaching football for seven seasons and basketball for two seasons.

Stephen Wishoski '68 – Football, Baseball (Malden, MA)

Stephen Wishoski '68 is a four-year member of the MC Football and Baseball teams. He was Captain of the 1967 Football team and selected to the Catholic Conference All Star team. He was a two-way player and starter for the undefeated MC Massachusetts Class B Championship football team in 1965. He is the son of Walter Wishoski, a graduate of MC's first graduating class of 1936 and an inaugural member of MC's Hall of Fame. He was also in the last graduating class from the "old MC" on Highland Avenue.

1960 - 1961 MC Boys Basketball Team

The 1960-61 MC Boys Basketball Team had a slow start to the season but finished with a 16-4 record after winning 10 straight games. The team won the New England Catholic Conference tournament and are the first basketball team in MC History to win the Catholic Conference title. Captain Tom Horne was recognized as a Catholic Conference All-Conference 1st Team, and Tom Mamos was awarded the



New England Catholic Tournament MVP.

Coaches: Head Coach Leonard Dempsey '53 (Italy) and Assistant Coach Joe Mulkerrin '55 (Virginia Beach, VA)

Players: Gerald Driscoll '62 (Beverly, MA), Ed Feeley '61 (Bluffton, SC), Robert Creeden '62 (Dennis, MA), James Russell '61 (Needham, MA), Charles Dineen '63 (South Weymouth, MA), John Healey '61 (Sun City, AZ), Tom Horne '61 (Westwood, MA), Robert Kelley '61 (Tuftonboro, NH), James Carroll '62 (Topsfield, MA), Tom Mamos '62 (Westford, MA), William Johnson '62, Hugh Murphy '62 (Jamestown, RI).

2010 - 2011 MC Boys Hockey Team

A preseason number 1 pick by hockey guru Jim Clark of the Boston Herald, the 2010 - 2011 team lived up to their billing and won the first State Championship hockey title for MC since 1974. An outstanding team led by legendary Coach Chris Serino P'07, '09, this team firmly re-established MC as a powerful New England hockey presence by winning a Catholic Conference Championship and the first of 5 Super Eight titles spanning a pe-

riod of 6 years. The Lancers beat St. Johns Prep 4-3 in overtime for the State Championship in front of 8,000 fans at Boston Garden and brought home the trophy. The 2010-2011 team finished with an impressive 21-2-2 record.

Coaches: Head Coach Chris Serino P'07, '09 (Saugus, MA), Assistant Coach Phil Antonelli '92 (Everett, MA), Assistant Coach John McLean P'15 (Wakefield, MA), Assistant Coach Patrick Driscoll (Reading, MA) and Team Manager Robert Reppucci '75 (Everett, MA).

Players: John Egan '11 (Everett, MA), Ryan Fitzgerald '13 North (Reading, MA), Ben Rosa '12 (Billerica, MA), Michael Iovanna '13 (Boston, MA), Brian Cameron '14 (Wakefield, MA), Brendan White '11 (Wakefield, MA), Garrett White '11 (Osterville, MA), Patrick Wrenn '14 (Charlestown, MA), Paul Wrenn '11 (Charlestown, MA), Brendan Collier '12 (Charlestown, MA), Paul Myers-O'Connell '12 (Charlestown, MA), Colin MacGillivray '13 (Peabody, MA), Jackson Petri '11 (Wenham, MA), Andrew Travers '13 (Lynn, MA), Nicholas Roberto '12 (Wakefield, MA), Richard Keogh '11 (North Reading, MA), Robert Keogh '12 (North Reading, MA), Paul Limone '11 (Medford, MA), Patrick Young '11 (Methuen,

See HALL OF FAME Page 8

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DELI

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Not responsible for typographical errors.
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THANK YOU, FRANK SPOLSINO



Frank Spolsino takes pride in being an Eastie resident, and wants to keep the streets clean by picking up trash around the community.

Statewide poll finds the two most salient issues among the state’s Latino population are related to affordability

Amplify Latinx, Massachusetts-based nonprofit non-partisan, collaborative convener advancing Latino leadership representation, economic prosperity, and civic engagement, along with the MassINC Polling Group released the findings of a recent poll among about 1,200 Latino residents of Massachusetts. It is the largest ever Latino focused poll on civic engagement and economic prosperity in Massachusetts. The project also included two focus groups of Latino residents and a series of interviews with Latino elected officials.

The survey found Latino residents want state leaders to focus most on economic issues. Housing costs and healthcare costs were the top priorities followed by jobs and unemployment. Education was fourth on the list. A series

of focus groups among Latino residents and interviews with elected officials found the same issues of concern. Immigrant rights fell in the middle of the list of issues, while transit improvements and climate change were near the bottom.

Full topline, crosstabs, slides, and quotes from elected officials and focus group respondents are available here.

A key part of the research project was exploring ways to boost civic engagement among Latino residents including activities such as participation in campaigns and public meetings, and contacting elected officials. A quarter or less report participating in each of these activities in the last year. Currently, civic engagement is higher among English speaking only households, those with higher education levels, and those born on the US mainland.

“We are thrilled to unveil this informative landscape of Latinos in Massachusetts, the most expansive of its kind, that presents a snapshot of our community’s priorities, such as economic development including affordability, jobs, and education, among others,” says Amplify Latinx CEO & President Eneida Román. “Amplify’s commitment to highlighting this data presents an opportunity for our coalition to increase Latino civic engagement by leading advocacy efforts statewide. Our ongoing research projects give us the necessary tools to advocate for transformative initiatives that drive pathways for economic prosperity for all residents and business owners of our great Commonwealth.”

Other results of activities reported include: posting about political views on social media was most common (26%), followed by attending government meetings (23%) and displaying a campaign sign, button, or bumper sticker (22%). One of the least frequent activities was contacting an elected official (17%). Out of all eight activities, Latino residents took part in an average of 1.43 in the last year. Activity levels decreased among residents who only spoke Spanish, lived outside of the U.S. and Puerto Rico and those without a college degree. The high-

est engagement was from Latino residents who identified as LGBTQ+.

The focus groups found that for many, a key hurdle was the sense that their voices were not heard or represented in the political process and that they were disappointed in past political outcomes. Even so, 73% think their community could make “a lot” or “some” difference if they pushed for change.

When polled about voting, there was considerable optimism, with 82% saying they agree voting “has a real impact on the way decisions are made” (52% strongly agree). The poll suggests boosting registration rates will require both addressing structural barriers to registering and overcoming disaffection and distrust of the political system among potential voters. Those who could potentially register but have not done so cited a range of barriers including a lack of time and little interest or faith in the political system.

About three-quarters (76%) said electing more Latinos to office was somewhat or very important. In a series of focus groups with residents and interviews with elected officials, the issue of representation came up frequently as essential to boosting civic engagement among Latino voters. Some described voting exclusively to support Latino candidates. One elected official said Latino residents would sometimes reach out to their office even if they were not their constituents.

When it comes to specific policy proposals, over three-quarters (78%) of Latino residents support “making buses and trains free to ride in Massachusetts.” A majority of Latino residents support limiting rent increases (79%), helping families pay for childcare (87%), and expanding programs that support small businesses to access funds (90%).

Among other major findings:

- Abortion is not the most salient issue to most respondents, falling below many other issues in terms of priorities for state leaders. Even so, 59% say abortion should be legal in all or most cases, while 34% say it should be illegal. Support is highest among college degree

holders, (71%), people under 30 (67%), Democrats (64%), and those who are registered to vote (65%). Its lower position on the priority list suggests it’s less salient than other issues in Massachusetts, where abortion rights are more secure than elsewhere.

- Elizabeth Warren is the most commonly known Massachusetts politician while Katherine Clark is the least well known of those included in the poll. Those who were familiar with these officials were also more civically engaged and more likely to contact their public officials. Registered voters and the senior population were more likely to have heard of each of the elected officials.

- More respondents say they prefer Hispanic, Latino, or refer to their place or country of origin to describe themselves. Just 5% identified with Latinx. On this and on many other items, there were considerable differences by nationality / ancestry.

- Overall, 10% identify as LGBTQ+. Among younger Latinos (those under 30) the figure is 19%. This echoes national surveys which have suggested younger Latinos identify as LGBTQ+ at higher rates than others, a figure which has grown in recent years.

“This effort is absolutely unique in scope and scale,” said Steve Koczela, “President of The MassINC Polling Group, which oversaw the poll. “The survey includes a very large sample size of Latino respondents in Massachusetts and sits alongside resident focus groups and elected official interviews.”

Amplify Latinx is a Massachusetts-based nonprofit formed in 2018 by The Latina Circle, Inc. that serves as a non-partisan, collaborative convener advancing Latino leadership representation, economic prosperity, and civic engagement.

The MassINC Polling Group is a nonpartisan public opinion research firm serving public, private, and social-sector clients. MPG elevates the public’s voice with cutting edge methods and rigorous analysis. Based in Boston, MPG serves a nationwide client base.

Hall of Fame // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

MA), Cam Ferry ’13 (Georgetown, MA), Tyler Sifferlen ’14 (North Andover, MA), Matthew Hamill ’11 (Peabody, MA), Andrew Cross ’14 (Reading, MA), Michael Vecchione ’11 (Saugus, MA), Nolan Carrier ’12 (Somerville, MA), Connor Evangelista ’12 (Stoneham, MA), Nicholas Rolli ’14 (Stoneham, MA), Timothy Lynch ’11 (Lynnfield, MA), Nicholas Masiello ’12 (Wilmington, MA), Jake Porrazzo ’13 (Medford, MA), Michael Clancy ’11 (Lynn, MA), Joe Sullivan ’11 (Saugus, MA).

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demics during the day and integrated social and extracurricular opportunities after school. Malden Catholic is known in the community for its rigorous academics, SFX Scholars Program and award-winning STEM program (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) with electives such as Robotics and Engineering Design. Malden Catholic curricula is designed to improve individual growth mindset, leadership principles and success outcomes along with integrating the Xavarian values of trust, humility, compassion, simplicity and zeal. <https://www.maldencatholic.org/>



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PIERS PARK II AND III INFORMATION SESSION

MASSACHUSETTS ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MEETING
Hosted by Massport and The Trustees

Tuesday, March 7 at 6PM




Cathy Leonard-McLean Community Room
Logan Airport's Rental Car Center
15 Transportation Way
East Boston, MA 02128



OR JOIN BY ZOOM:
Register here to receive the link:

This is an informational meeting to share information about the Piers Park II and Piers Park III projects. Spanish translation will be provided. Requests for other interpretation can be accommodated with at least 48 hours' notice.

For more information please visit
onewaterfront.thetrustees.org/community-events
or email onewaterfront@thetrustees.org




PIERS PARK II Y III SESIÓN INFORMATIVA

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Organizada por Massport y The Trustees

Martes, 7 de marzo a las 6PM


Cathy Leonard-McLean Community Room
Logan Airport's Rental Car Center
15 Transportation Way
East Boston, MA 02128



O PARTICIPE POR ZOOM:
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Esta es una reunión informativa para compartir información sobre los proyectos Piers Park II y Piers Park III. Se proveerá la traducción al español. Los pedidos de otros intérpretes pueden ser atendidos con una notificación anticipada de por lo menos 48 horas.

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OBITUARIES

Gary Michael Daley

Long-time employee of Kelly’s Square Pub in East Boston

Gary Michael Daley of East Boston passed away on February 25 surrounded by his loving family.

Gary was a long-time employee of Kelly’s Square Pub in East Boston

The loving son of Roberta (Molinaro) and the late Francis Daley, he was the beloved husband of Susan (Maguire) Daley, precious father of the late Lauren Anne, dear brother of Debbie Ferguson and her husband, Ronnie of Saugus, Valerie Moscone and her husband, Albie of Revere, Karen Marino and her husband, Frank of Clearwater, FL, Robert and Kenny Daley of East Boston, Kevin Daley and Mary Croto of Danvers, Robin Daley and Bruce Findlay of East Boston; cherished brother-in-law of Karen Maguire of Rhode Island, Kevin C. Maguire of East Hampden, Barry and Kara Maguire of Hopedale, Paula Ellis of Weymouth, Kathy Maguire of South Bos-



ton and Seamus Ellis of South Boston. He was the adored uncle of 16 nieces and nephews as well as great-uncle to seven nieces and nephews.

A memorial service honoring Gary’s life will be held at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street, on Sunday, March 5 from 2 to 5 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Gary’s name to Merrimack Valley Hospice, 360 Merrimack St Bldg #9, Lawrence, MA 01843. To leave an online condolence visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Robert Toscano

Loved his grandchildren

It is with cold hearts and sorrows, Robert Toscano has passed away after 76 years, following a short battle with cancer.

In typical Rob fashion, he was full of surprises up until the end. He fought with bravado, surrounded by family in his final moments. Born June 6, 1946 to his pre-deceased parents, Carmine and Mary. His pre-deceased wife, Patty Toscano, you’re a waiting Saint. His brothers Roy, Stevie still here and dear, but Vinny, we miss you too. His three children didn’t consent to the roller coaster ride that his life abided.

They raised seven amazing grand daughters: Kyrie, Brittany, Jayme, Autumn, Bobbi, Bella, Emily, and one great-granddaughter Scarlett. Know that you’re the greatest product of Rob’s life. To all those who knew him, friends and family, know you got a pair of sunglasses out of the deal. Likely a steal with Rob.

He worked as an opti-



cian throughout his life. His journey was difficult, and often misunderstood, but he was greatly loved by all he came in contact with.

He doesn’t want your thoughts or prayers. Or even your money.

Rob said kick rocks. His family wishes that you recall the good times with him.

Any money you have, please consider a donation to the American Cancer Society or scratch tickets. Don’t try his numbers, we already know they’re bad luck.

Gaetano “Danny” Festa

June 2, 1929 – February 23, 2023

Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend visiting hours on Thursday, March 2 from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Vertuccio, Smith, and Vazza Beechwood Home for Funerals, 262 Beach Street, Revere for Gaetano “Danny” Festa who died on Thursday, February 23rd surrounded by his loving family at the Kaplan Family Hospice in Danvers following a brief illness. He was 93 years old. His funeral will be conducted from the funeral home on Friday at 9 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in St. Anthony of Padua Church, 250 Revere Street, Revere, immediately followed by interment with Military Honors in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Gaetano D. “Danny” Festa was born in East Boston on June 2, 1929 to his late parents, Gabriel R. and Edith (Marciano) Festa. He was raised in Everett with his brother and three sisters and was a graduate of Everett High School, Class of 1946.

After graduation, Danny successfully enlisted in the United States Army at the end of the Second World War. It was his second try after being caught when he was 16 trying to prematurely enlist. He proudly served his country overseas in Kyushu, Japan and returned home after being honorably discharged.

Danny was recognized for his service to WWII on a military plaque in Everett Square and most recently was recognized by the Boston City Council for his United States Army service and long standing service to the East Boston Community. A street sign was recently placed near his home which reads “Gaetano “Danny” Festa Way.”

On January 30, 1949, Danny married the love of his life, Mary (Moscattelli) and the couple moved to East Boston, where they raised their family and remained.

Danny was noted for his larger than life personality, biggest heart and funniest man in town! Danny was extremely talented and had an innate ability to fix just about anything. His lifelong career was as a TV repair man. He owned and operated

his own business, Middlesex TV Repair in Somerville. He had a superior reputation and was always known for being prompt and fair.



In his free time, he enjoyed watching baseball, basketball and Fox News. He was a diehard Yankee’s fan, much to the chagrin of his nephews! He also loved horse racing. He would frequent the racetracks and also enjoyed the races on TV. Danny loved playing the lottery and scratching tickets, he also enjoyed frequent visits to the casino.

He was all about family, he cherished his children, his granddaughters, and his three great grandchildren and one great, great grandchild with unconditional love in his heart.

He was the beloved husband of 65 years to the late Mary (Moscattelli) Festa; the loving father of Denise Festa Viscardi and her husband, Michael of Foxboro, the late Ret. Lt. of the Suffolk County Sheriff’s Dept. Gabriel “Stevie” Festa, the late Olga Ann Festa and the late Michelle Festa Fiorentino; the cherished grandfather of Danielle Santana and her husband, Val of New York and Deanna Festa of East Boston; the great grandfather of Sierra Santiago and her partner, Jovanny Iglesia, Sofia Finau , Julian Santana and the great great grandfather of Mateo Santiago Iglesia. He was the brother of Karyn Russo and her husband, Michael of Everett, the late John Festa and his wife, Phyllis, the late Marilyn Gaylardi and her husband, Joseph and the late Judith Storella and her husband, Larry. He is also lovingly survived by his son in law Jeffrey Fiorentino and by many loving nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews.

In lieu of flowers, remembrance donations may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. For online guestbook, please visit:

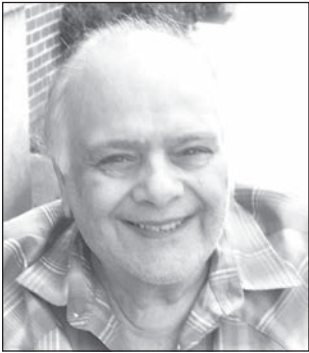
Vincent Francis Lauretano

Of East Boston, formerly of the North End

Vincent Francis Lauretano of East Boston, formerly of the North End, passed away on February 26.

The beloved husband of Karen (Kane) Lauretano, he was the devoted father of Lisa Kowlasky and her husband, Bill and Vincent Lauretano Jr.; dear brother of the late Salvatore Lauretano and his surviving spouse, Carol; cherished uncle of Christine Lauretano and Joanne Vano and adored grandfather of William.

Family and friends will honor Vincent’s life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga St., East Boston on Friday, March 3



from 12 noon to 2 p.m. A prayer service will be held at 1:30 p.m. in our serenity chapel. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Vincent’s name may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis TN 38105. To leave an online condolence visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Pasqualino Turavani

Of Chelsea, formerly of East Boston and Italy

Pasqualino “Pat” Turavani of Chelsea, formerly of East Boston and Italy, passed away unexpectedly on February 23.

He was the loving son of Onorato and Cristina (Chilante) Turavani and devoted father of Gianna Turavani of Winthrop and Kenneth Cummings of Tennessee, longtime companion of Gail Tarmy; dear brother of Luciano Turavani of Maine, Angelo Turavani of Italy, David Turavani of Maine and Annamaria Williams of Everett and is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and his adored feline, Tinkerbelle.

Family and friends will honor Pat’s life by gathering at the Ruggiero Fam-



ily Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga St., East Boston, on Saturday, March 4 from 1 to 3 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to help offset the funeral costs. To make a donation, please visit: <https://gofund.me/045790b0>. To leave an online condolence, visit www.ruggieromh.com.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Francis M. Vatalaro

Feb. 27, 2018 — Feb. 27, 2023

If we could visit heaven even for a day, maybe for a moment, the pain would go away.

We’d put our arms around you, and whisper words so true, that living life without you is the hardest thing to do.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

INPUT FROM RESIDENTS SOUGHT

CHELSEA - Chelsea City Councilors have stressed the importance of community input when it comes to hiring a new City Manager.

The council has two current initiatives to gather public input for the search process.

On Tuesday, Feb. 28, Chelsea residents went to a council subcommittee meeting beginnin at City Hall to provide input on the search for a new City Manager. Residents will have two minutes to speak to the council.

For residents who are unable to attend the meeting, there is an on-line form available on the city’s website at www.chelseama.gov. The deadline to complete that form is Friday, March 3.

The form includes questions about challenges facing the city and that will face the new city manager, as well as the characteristics, training, and experience residents would like to see in a new manager. The form is in English and Spanish.

Earlier this month, the City Council officially voted to make Deputy City Manager Ned Keefe the interim manager as the search process gets underway.

District 8 Councilor Calvin Brown has said that Keefe’s experience in the city will allow him to focus on a lot of projects over the next six months that are already underway, and that having the deputy

city manager in place will help make the transition to a new city manager easier when the time comes.

Earlier this year, the council also approved hiring the Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Management to consult and assist with the City Manager search process.

The Collins Center is based out of UMass-Boston, and helps municipalities with a number of local government efforts, including recruiting.

Late last year, former City Manager Thomas Ambrosino left his position after more than seven years to take a new position as the Court Administrator of the Trial Court for Massachusetts.

DIDOMENICO ST. PATRICK’S PARTY ALMOST HERE

EVERETT - Sen. Sal DiDomenico and his wife, Tricia DiDonemico, president of the DiDomenico Foundation, will host the Foundation’s annual St. Patrick’s Day Dinner on Thursday, March 9 at the Knights of Columbus in Charlestown.

The event has traditionally kicked off the season for the Irish holiday celebrations in Massachusetts.

Sen. DiDomenico’s roast-style party has always drawn a “who’s who” of political leaders in Massachusetts, and this year is no exception.

The Massachusetts Senate’s popular and charismatic assistant majority leader, DiDomenico said that Gov. Maura Healey,

Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, Attorney General Andrea Campbell, Senate President Karen Spilka, State Auditor Diana DiZoglio, Sen. Lydia Edwards, Rep. Dan Ryan, Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta, Suffolk County DA Kevin Hayden, and Middlesex County DA Marian Ryan will be a part of the speaking program.

Well-known Boston radio personality Hank Morse will make an appearance at the event. DiDomenico will serve as master of ceremonies.

The Platters, a legendary vocal group, will provide the musical entertainment. A well-known comedian will also perform at the event.

“We expect 75 state and local officials to attend,” said DiDomenico. “We’ll be serving a delicious, corned beef and cabbage dinner. This is our ninth year and it’s always a fun event that attracts a large crowd.”

Dinner tickets, at \$35 per person, or \$300 for a table of ten, can be purchased by calling 617-387-3327, or by emailing the DiDomenico Foundation at ttankevich@hotmail.com.

WONDERLAND OWNERS FILE SUIT OVER EMINENT DOMAIN TAKING

REVERE - The owners of the Wonderland property have filed a lawsuit against the city over the taking of the 33-plus acre property by eminent domain.

CBW Lending, LLC vs. City of Revere was filed in Suffolk Superior Court on Friday, Feb. 17.

CBW Lending, a group that includes local businessman Joe O’Donnell and Vornado Realty Trust, is being represented by attorneys Peter Flynn and Jason Scopa of the Saugus-based Law Offices of Peter Flynn, which specializes in eminent domain cases.

Last November, the City Council approved a \$29.5 million bond to purchase the property, which consists of 12 individual lots, for use as the home of the new Revere High School.

Flynn said the current landowners are not contesting the validity of the taking itself, but the price that was approved to pay for the property.

VALENTINE’S DAY PARTY AT THE ROSSETTI-COWAN SENIOR CENTER

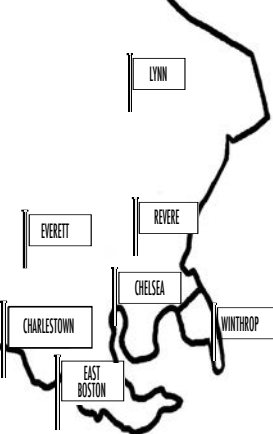


PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA

Shown above, Senior Center members singing, “Sweet Caroline” during the Rossetti-Cowan Senior Center Valentine’s Day Party held on Feb. 15

Shown left, DJ Alan LaBella handing a rose to Marie Voto during “Roses are Red (My Love).”

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LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

MARCHI EARNS A SPOT ON THE DEAN’S LIST


More than 2,700 undergraduate students at Coastal Carolina University were named to the Dean’s List for the Fall 2022 semester, including William Marchi, from East Boston, MA (02128). Students who make the Dean’s List have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher (3.25 for freshmen) for the semester.

Coastal Carolina University is a dynamic, public comprehensive liberal arts institution located in Conway, located just minutes from the resort area of Myrtle Beach, S.C.

CCU offers baccalaureate degrees in 104 major fields of study. Among

the University’s graduate-level programs are 27 master’s degrees, one educational specialist degree, and the doctorates in education and in marine science: coastal and marine systems science. CCU boasts a growing array of internship, research, and international opportunities for students, as well as numerous online programs through Coastal Online.

More than 10,300 students from across the country and around the world interact with a world-class faculty, and enjoy a nationally competitive NCAA I athletic program, an inspiring cultural calendar, and a tradition of community interaction that is fueled by more than 180 student clubs and organizations.



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LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH
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THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY
COURT

Suffolk Probate
And Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
DIVORCE SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION AND
MAILING
DOCKET NUMBER:
SU2200224DR
Yurley Franco
Castano
Plaintiff
VS.
Joaquin Rua
Defendant
To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a
Complaint for Divorce re-
questing that the Court grant a
divorce for Irretrievable
Breakdown.
The Complaint is on file at
the Court.
An Automatic Restraining
Order has been entered in
this matter preventing you
from taking any action which
would negatively impact the
current financial status of
either party. SEE Supplemental
Probate Court Rule 411.
You are hereby summoned
and required to serve upon:
Craig R. Misci, Esq. 100 Ever-
ett Ave. Unit 3, Chelsea, MA

02150 your answer, if any,
on or before 03/21/2023.
If you fail to do so, the court
will proceed to the hearing
and adjudication of this
action. You are also required
to file a copy of your answer,
if any, in the office of the
Register of this Court.
Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 23, 2023
Felix D. Arroyo
Register of Probate

3/1/23
EB

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

Suffolk Probate
and Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
SALE OF REAL
ESTATE BY A
PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE
Docket No.
SU22P2567EA
Estate of:
Jean Marie
Marino
Date of Death:
09/22/2022

To all interested
persons:
A Petition for Sale of Real
Estate has been filed by:
Carol A. Ferguson of East
Boston, MA requesting that
the Court authorize the Per-
sonal Representative to sell
the decedent's real estate at
a private sale.
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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 appear-
ance and objection at this
Court before 10:00 a.m. on
03/30/2023.
This is NOT a hearing date,
but a deadline by which you
must file a written appear-
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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: February 22, 2023
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate

3/1/23
EB

LEGAL NOTICE
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VESSEL

In accordance with Massa-
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dance with State Statue cited
above, the Owner, Stephane
Audet, has a right to reclaim
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(30) days subject to rights
of any other lien holders.
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OF ALL RIGHTS, TITLE AND
INTEREST IN THE VESSEL.
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interest is not claimed and
the vessel is
not removed within NINTY
(90) DAYS of the last day
of Notice by Publication,
whichever is later, we will
apply to the Division of Title
to this property and Sell The
Vessel.

3/1/23
EB

Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

case has to value the prop-erty.

“That’s the date the city recorded the order of tak- ing, because they voted it on (Nov.) 17,” said Flynn.

While Flynn’s firm has handled a number of high-profile eminent do- main cases in the region and throughout the state, Flynn said the Wonder- land case could be the big- gest one yet.

“This case represents potentially the largest em- inent domain case in the history of the state,” said Flynn.

The taking price is well below what other market indicators have indicat- ed the property could be worth, Flynn said.

“If you were to say to me, what’s the low, what’s the high?, it would run anywhere from \$50, \$60 (million) to \$120 million,” said Flynn.

The potential for a law- suit and for the city’s cost of the land taking going past the initial \$29.5 mil- lion that was approved for bonding has been a con- cern raised by several city councillors.

In the recent debate over the price tag of the project itself, several councillors have requested that the city look at the costs for building on the current high school site.

Councilors Anthony Zambuto and Dan Rizzo have been among those who have cautioned on taking the property off the table for future private development, while May- or Brian Arrigo has noted that the land has sat empty with no viable develop- ment offers for the land.

At a ways and means subcommittee meeting on Feb. 13, Brian Dakin of project manager LeftField estimated that going back to the current site would have a price tag of \$525 million.

On Monday, Feb. 27, the council is being asked to forward a schematic plan to the Massachusetts School Building Authority with an estimated cost of \$470 million, with a cost to the city of \$290 million after the MSBA loan. That estimate does not include the acquisition costs for the Wonderland site.

“I think we were all prepared for some form of legal posturing during this land taking,” said Council President Patrick Keefe. “It’s not uncommon (and) not unexpected.”

Flynn said he has a good relationship with the legal counsel representing the city, and said everyone will be wondering if there is some imaginative way the city and the landown- ers can resolve the issue.

COUNCIL CONSIDERS NEW TRASH ORDINANCE

WINTHROP - The Town Council will contin- ue its public hearing on a proposed new trash ordi- nance at its next meeting on Tuesday, March 7.

The council opened the public hearing at its most recent meeting on Tues- day night. Highlights of the proposed new policy include requiring residents to purchase town-ap- proved trash bags for pick up of any trash that goes above the one allowed trash barrel per household. It is expected the large trash bags will cost \$3 each and will be available at a number of locations throughout town.

Winthrop is about half- way into its current five- year trash and recycling contract with Capital Waste Services.

“We’ve been working on this for a little while, and this will allow us to be in compliance with what I believe was prom- ised years ago that we once we get to the trash barrels, where there will be allowed one barrel per household for trash and one barrel for recycling, anything over that will require the purchase of bags,” said Town Manager Tony Marino.

The trash ordinance will also outline fees, when bills are sent out, and enforcement of the ordi- nance, said Marino.

In 2022, the curbside pickup fee from Capiti- al Waste was just over \$938,000.

Marino said Capital picked up 5,006 tons of waste in the town in 2022, at a total cost of \$440,540 to the town to be disposed of.

“That average per ton cost varies a little bit, but it averages \$85 to \$88 per ton,” said Marino.

The proposed addition- al trash bags would fit about two standard kitch- en-sized bags of trash, and would have to be placed in a container to be picked up by Capital Waste. The hauler will not collect bags that are placed on the side of the road.

Marino and Council President James Letterie said the goal is to imple- ment the new trash pro- gram on July 1, with an educational program for residents at the rollout. Letterie said he wanted to keep the public hearing open until the next meet- ing in case there was more feedback from residents.

In other business Tues- day night, Marino said that as a result of a Stan- dard and Poor’s rate call last week, the town’s bond rating improved to a dou- ble A-plus, allowing the town to better rates on mun- icipal bonds.

Marino also noted that the repairs to the town ferry are continuing on schedule, and that there are also discussions about possibly adding a ferry stop during the next sea- son near the Logan Air- port hotels.

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FRESH AND LOCAL

Nacho World Tour

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Often, a food adventure begins when leftovers become second acts. Our non-traditional nacho world tour started with a container of roasted root vegetables, leftover braised beef, and some black beans.

Penny spread tortilla chips on a sheet pan; added pieces of roasted carrot, onion, potato, rutabaga, and squash; sprinkled a layer of grated cheese; dotted it with black beans; and topped that with shredded braised beef. After a few minutes under a hot broiler, she added cherry tomatoes and scallions. She served it with sour cream and lime wedges on the side.

Recipe Development Research

The following day, we began tossing ideas around for recipes. We discussed everything from Chinese nachos with char siu (bbq pork) and hoisin sauce to Pol-

ish nachos with kielbasa and horseradish.

Now in research mode, we borrowed a copy of Dan Whalen’s “Nachos for Dinner” from the library. We soon learned to enjoy his system for taking foods you love and turning those flavors into nachos. Whalen starts with a chapter on building blocks. You’ll find recipes for nacho-friendly sauces, salsas, guacamoles, beans, vegetables, and proteins. For most of these, he adds a few ways to use that ingredient in nachos.

He follows with chapters for turning popular soups, salads, appetizers, sandwiches, tacos, comfort foods, brunch, and snack items into trays of nachos. We’ve bookmarked his recipes for Chicken Larb, Banh Mi, Chicken Parm, and Italian Sub Nachos. Whalen even invented an array of dessert nachos. We can’t wait to try the S’mores, Apple Pie, and Strawberry Shortcake nacho reci-

pes.

Your Nachos

From what we learned, the dish was named for Ignacio Anaya, the inventor, whose nickname was “Nacho.” The snack he created for a favorite customer in 1940 was fried tortilla triangles with shredded Colby cheese, heated and topped with pickled jalapeños. He was working with what he had—something crispy, cheesy, and spicy. We honor his creativity by using his formula with any ingredients that fit the role.

You can replace tortilla chips with any base layer that will work with your theme and be easy to pick up. We like toasted naan for Indian nachos. Whalen uses pie crust triangles for his Apple Pie nachos.

Nacho Tips

We suggest following the best tip we took from “Nachos for Dinner.” Whalen wrote, “..."



Our non-traditional nacho world tour started with a container of roasted root vegetables, braised beef, and some black beans.

sometimes it is better to reserve the toppings on the side for dipping. This keeps the chips crispy and the nachos themselves less messy, and it lets the eaters decide how much salsa, sour cream, or other cold topping they want.”

Enjoy the fact that Nachos are casual food. Go ahead and serve them right on the baking sheet. This can be a perfect time to use smaller ¼ or

⅓ size sheet pans for individual servings. And line your pan with parchment paper or foil for fast cleanup.

Another favorite tip from the book was, “Spread them out so that every chip has at least 50 percent of its surface area exposed to the pan’s surface.”

Finally, many of us first tasted Nachos in a favorite pub. These were likely to be a big pile of

“loaded nachos” that became soggy long before the plate was empty. Try for a more straightforward array of ingredients with cold toppings on the side. You may find that you prefer your clean and crispy homemade nachos better than the pile from the pub.

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

Boston sees continued improvement in COVID-19 metrics

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) shared that the city continues to note downward trends in several key COVID-19 metrics. Suffolk County is now at low community level, per the CDC.

While these data are a positive sign, residents who are at high risk of severe illness and hospitalization should continue to take precautions.

The amount of new COVID-19 cases per day have decreased by 36% over the past two weeks

(data through 2/24). Boston hospitals had 143 new hospital admissions through February 27, which marks a 23% decrease over the past two weeks.

Analysis of the city’s wastewater shows the level of COVID-19 particles has remained stable over the past two weeks, having decreased by 14%. Nine of the 11 neighborhood testing sites had rates that were below the citywide average of 1,222 RNA copies/mL (data through 2/19).

“The downward trends that we have noted are encouraging,” said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission.

“However, COVID-19 is unpredictable and continues to have a disproportionate impact within communities throughout Boston and among individuals who are vulnerable due to underlying illness and immunocompromise. We urge Boston residents to get boosted

and to utilize the free vaccination and testing resources available throughout our city.”

Indoor masking remains an important strategy to decrease transmission risk. Individuals who are at higher risk of severe illness and hospitalization due to COVID-19 are highly encouraged to mask while indoors.

In addition, individuals with COVID-19 symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a high-quality mask

or respirator in public indoor spaces. BPHC reminds residents that staying up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations by getting the bivalent booster is the most effective way to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection and severe illness that can result in hospitalization. If you have not received a COVID-19 booster since August 2022, you are due to receive the updated bivalent booster.

Bivalent boosters, as well as the primary COVID-19 vaccination

series, COVID-19 testing, and flu shots are free and available at BPHC’s standing clinics throughout the city. At-home rapid testing kits and \$75 gift cards for individuals who receive a COVID-19 vaccination are also available at these sites, while supplies last. Walk-ins are welcome and no IDs or proof of insurance are required.

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