

# East Boston

## TIMES - FREE PRESS

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### FRIENDS OF BELLE ISLE MARSH EARTH DAY CLEANUP IN CONJUNCTION WITH DCR



CARY SHUMAN PHOTOS

Pictured at the Friends of Belle Isle Marsh's cleanup of the marsh in East Boston are the many residents who volunteered their environmental efforts in coordination with the annual celebration of Earth Day.

The Friends of Belle Isle Marsh, in conjunction with the Department of Conservation and Rec-

reation, held a cleanup of the marsh on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22.



Winthrop resident Remi Sabouri participates in the Friends of Belle Isle Marsh cleanup event on Earth Day 2023.



Helping the Friends of Belle Isle Marsh on Earth Day are Sheamus Togher and Katherine Togher, who proudly wear their Cleveland Guardians and Cincinnati Bearcats sports caps respectively at the cleanup event.



Leaders of the Friends of Belle Isle Marsh, from left: Vice President Carina Campobasso, Treasurer Erica Foley, Past President and Board Member Mary Mitchell, and Past President and Board Member Liz Regan.

## Residents review three projects at OHNC meeting

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

The Orient Heights Neighborhood Council (OHNC) had a jam-packed meeting on Monday, April 17, in which residents voted on three projects proposed for the area and also listened to a presentation for a development at the site of the old New England Casket Company.

The first project up for debate was at 40 Orient Avenue, where the proponents are seeking to subdivide an existing 15,000-square-foot lot to erect a new two-family dwelling. Residents did not seem to have many issues with this proposal, as it was supported by a vote of 31 to 10.

While the Orient Avenue proposal saw significant support from residents, the same cannot be said for a project at 217 Leyden Street. The Leyden Street project proposes subdividing the existing parcel into two and creating a two-unit dwelling on the new lot.

Furthermore, the project calls for renovations of the existing structure – to change the occupancy to a four-unit dwelling. As for how residents felt about the proposal – the most prominent concern seemed to be that the project would be cramming a two-family home on a lot that is simply too small to

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## Top Women in Boston

Boston Magazine names Sen. Edwards one of 150 most influential Bostonians for 2023

Special to the Times-Free Press

Last week, Boston Magazine released its annual selection of the most influential Bostonians, adding Senator Lydia Edwards to this list. According to Boston Magazine, a publication reporting on Greater Boston since 1805, increasing the list to 150 spots mirrors “the more-diffuse nature of power across the city as the former old boys’ network becomes more diverse and inclusive.” In fact, nearly half of this year’s list is comprised of women.



Sen. Lydia Edwards.

In selecting her for this year’s Most Influential Bostonians, Boston Magazine highlights Senator Edwards’ work on the Commonwealth’s mounting housing shortage crisis.

See EDWARDS Page 3

## Katie O’Leary of NSCS named one of Boston Magazine’s Most Influential Bostonians

By Dan Murphy

Katie O’Leary was in the midst of an eight-day cruise in the Bahamas earlier this month when someone texted O’Leary to let her know that she had been named one of 150 Most Influential Bostonians by Boston Magazine as in its May issue.

“I’m really humbled,” said O’Leary, the director of recovery for North Suffolk Community Services and a Charlestown native. “It’s super cool, I can say that.”



COURTESY OF KATIE O’LEARY

Katie O’Leary.

Coming in at #137 on the list, Boston Magazine describes O’Leary, who now lives in Braintree, as someone who “has quiet-

See O’LEARY Page 3

## Potential funding coming to several Eastie programs

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

As part of grants from Boston After School & Beyond, several youth programs are slated to receive funding this summer which will help provide even more support to the children of East Boston.

Some of the programs set to receive funding include the Piers Park Sailing Center, Veronica Robles Cultural Center, East Boston Social Centers, Boston Scores, and Harlem Lacrosse. At this time, the amount of funding that is projected for each program is not finalized.

As mentioned, Boston After School & Beyond – an organization with a network of 475 after school and summer programs that focus on supporting chil-

dren outside of school – is helping make this funding possible through a Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) program.

This DESE program was created to help youth in Massachusetts recover from setbacks COVID caused and is called After School and Out-of-School Time Rebound (ASOST-R).

As part of this program, the state selected non-profit organizations – like Boston After School & Beyond – in six different regions across Massachusetts to distribute grants to after school and summer programs in their regions.

As part of the selection from the state Boston After School & Beyond has been able to fund 68 pro-

grams throughout the City of Boston – including the aforementioned East Boston programs.

To Chris Smith, Boston After School & Beyond’s Executive Director – the need for this type of funding cannot be understated, especially coming out of the pandemic.

“Kids spend 80% of their waking hours outside of school, and what happens during those hours is important to how they do in school but also in life,” said Smith.

He also spoke about how robust the pool of after school and summer programs are throughout the city and how these programs help kids build essential skills like critical thinking and teamwork, all while having fun.

“When schools closed during COVID, the world saw how important these after school and summer programs are to the lives of kids and families,” said Smith.

Moreover, Smith also spoke highly about the programs that are slated to receive funding, specifically in East Boston. In order to receive these grants, programs had to meet certain criteria, such as serving kids at least three days a week, measuring program performance, and focusing on improving students’ skills.

“The East Boston programs really exemplify that; they’ve been working with us for a long time,” said Smith.

See FUNDING Page 9

## 5th Annual Legacy Gala at Spinelli’s East Boston, April 27th to honor:



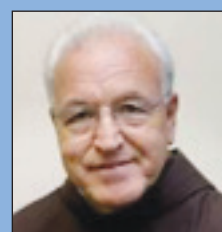
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Our 02128 Senior Page See Page 11



# Massachusetts Legislature passes \$388.6 million supplemental budget

Special to the Times-Free Press

The Massachusetts Legislature passed a \$388.6 million supplemental budget for Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23). The legislation funds vital services that support vulnerable populations and address food insecurity, housing instability, the state's long-term COVID-19 response, economic development, essential support services for incoming immigrants and refugees, and more. Notably, the bill extends initiatives first implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic, such as outdoor dining, remote public meeting access, and support for assisted living residences. The bill further authorizes \$740.3 million in bonding to bolster the Commonwealth's clean water and other public works projects for cities and towns, as well as to support the Commonwealth's ability to compete for competitive federal grant funds.

"This supplemental budget ensures that our Commonwealth continues to support the most vulnerable among us while also building on the lessons we learned during the COVID-19 pandemic," said Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland). "I'm proud to say that the Legislature has proven once again that it has the courage to chart a course that leaves no place or person in the Commonwealth behind. I would like to thank our partners in the House, as well as Chair Rodrigues and his dedicated team at Senate Ways and Means, for their hard work and contributions to this supplemental budget."

"I'm proud that, among several critical investments, this supplemental budget provides support for many of the most vulnerable residents and communities in Massa-

chusetts through funding for free school lunches, financial assistance to homeless shelters facing an increase in their migrant population, and extended enhanced SNAP benefits,” said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). “I want to thank Chairman Michlewitz and all my colleagues in the House, as well as our partners in the Senate, for prioritizing this important legislation.”

“In partnership with the House, the Legislature has taken the necessary steps to keep the economy of the Commonwealth on a firm footing as we continue to emerge from the pandemic. The passage of this supplemental budget today utilizes robust tax revenues to its fullest effect, making substantial investments in economic development, housing, education, and the social service safety net. Those investments, along with a forward-thinking long-term bond authorization, will keep Massachusetts as a leader in the key economic sectors for decades to come,” said Senator Michael J. Rodrigues (D-Westport), Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. “Thanks to the strong leadership of Senate President Spilka, and the commitment of my colleagues in the Senate, we sent a clear message to the people that we will always look to protect our marginalized communities, support our education and health care workforce, and invest in local infrastructure as the Commonwealth continues to recover from the impact of the pandemic.”

"This relatively modest supplemental budget addresses some of the most pressing needs the Commonwealth is facing. Whether it is ensuring that our school children have access to free meals, essential early childcare

education grants, or directing critical resources to deal with the influx of migrants coming into the Commonwealth, these funds will have an immediate and positive effect for the residents of the state,” said House Committee on Ways and Means Chair Representative Aaron Michlewitz (D-Boston). “I want to thank Speaker Mariano for his leadership on these issues, my counterpart Senator Rodrigues, and all my colleagues for their timely action on this matter.”

"This supplemental budget ensures that the needs of all residents of the Commonwealth are met, especially those who are most vulnerable, allocating critical funding for essential services and initiatives that will support our communities. I am especially proud of our work to provide children access to free meals in school, enhance food assistance, further housing stability, and support immigrants in Massachusetts. I am grateful to Speaker Mariano and Chairman Michlewitz for prioritizing these issues," said State Representative Adrian C. Madaro (D-East Boston).

The bill invests \$388.6 million to address several time sensitive needs for an array of programs relied on by some of the most vulnerable residents of the Commonwealth, including \$130 million for SNAP food assistance benefits to provide a path for families who were receiving enhanced SNAP benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic, \$68 million for the Early Education C3 stabilization grant program, \$65 million for the continuation of free school meals, \$45 million for emergency shelter assistance, and over \$40 million to support affordable housing for immigrants and refugees. Other measures

funded in the bill include:

- \$8.3 million for judgments, settlements, and legal fees
- \$7 million for coordinated wraparound services for incoming immigrants and refugees
- \$2 million for the reimbursement of SNAP benefits for victims of benefit theft
- \$2 million for the preparation and execution of the 114th National NAACP conference, which is taking place in Massachusetts in 2023
- \$1 million for a public awareness campaign to educate the public about the misleading tactics of so-called crisis pregnancy centers and their lack of medical services
- \$250,000 for Reproductive Equity Now's free abortion-related legal hotline

The bill also authorizes \$740.3 million in capital expenditures to support economic development projects. Notably, these include \$400 million for the MassWorks Infrastructure Program, which provides grants to cities, towns, and other public entities for infrastructure projects, and \$125 million for state matching funds to compete for federal grant opportunities, including those funded through the CHIPS and Science Act, which encourage innovation in Massachusetts. Other bonding items authorized by the bill include:

- \$104 million for the Clean Water Trust Fund

- \$34 million for a program to revitalize underutilized properties
- \$30 million for state matching funds to compete for federal broadband expansion grants and improve state broadband infrastructure
- \$15 million for the Massachusetts Manufacturing Innovation Initiative, which supports innovation within the state's manufacturing industry, including by offering technical assistance to manufacturers and attracting talent from outside of the state
- \$14 million for the Massachusetts Manufacturing Accelerate Program
- \$9.3 million for broadband middle mile supports
- \$8 million for the Smart Growth Housing Trust Fund

Recognizing the societal shifts that have taken place during the pandemic, the bill also addresses several pandemic-era related measures, including:

- Permanently allowing public corporations and nonprofits to hold certain meetings by means of remote communication
- Permanently allowing notaries public to conduct remote online notarization using communication technology
- Extending the ability of graduates and students in their last semester of nursing education programs to practice nursing in accordance with guidance from the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing

## Two men pleaded guilty in separate murders

Special to the Times-Free Press

Two men pleaded guilty to second-degree murder last week on two separate murder cases in Suffolk Superior Court, District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced.

Raoul Gutierrez-Rosales, 25, of Chelsea pleaded guilty on Friday to second-degree murder for the stabbing death of Carlos Ramos, 22, on September 3, 2019 in the area of West Eagle Street in East Boston. Rosales also pleaded guilty to witness intimidation. Judge Mary Ames sentenced Rosales to life with a possibility of parole after 15 years.

Assistant District Attorney David Bradley stated that on September 3, 2019, at approximately 11:20 p.m., Rosales had a brief argument with Ramos and then left in a distinctive white custom convertible Mustang. A short time later, Rosales returned to West Eagle Street with others in the same Mustang, and parked up the street from the scene of the incident. Rosales and the other individuals attacked Ramos, stabbing and kicking him multiple times before fleeing the scene, leaving Ramos in the middle of the street.

Ramos was transported to Massachusetts General Hospital and pronounced dead shortly after. Surveillance video captured part of the stabbing and Rosales's distinctive car arriving and fleeing the area. Investigators tracked the Mustang to where Rosales' lived and worked.

and subsequently discovered Ramos's DNA inside the car.

Marcus Ambrosio, 28, pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and firearm offenses for the shooting death of Gregory Phillips, 25, on December 10, 2018 outside of 155 Savannah Avenue in Mattapan. Judge Mary Ames sentenced Ambrosio to life with the possibility of parole after 15 years.

Assistant District Attorney Craig Iannini said surveillance footage from Savannah Ave. showed two males, one of whom was later identified as Ambrosio, exit a van and walk in the direction of Phillips's car. Ambrosio and the other male continued walking down Savannah Ave. until they were out of camera view. While out of view, Ambrosio and the other male fired multiple shots into Phillips's car. After running back to their car, both Ambrosio and the other male drove by Phillips's car and again fired multiple shots into his car.

In November 2019, Boston police were informed that Massachusetts State police recovered two firearms on the morning of December 13, 2018. The firearms were discovered lying on ice under the Fellsway Bridge in Somerville. Firearm analysis connected the firearms to the Phillips murder. Cell tower records from Ambrosio's phone placed him in the area of Fellsway Bridge on the night of December 12, 2018.

- Extending popular pandemic-related provisions including outdoor dining services, and beer, wine and cocktails to-go for a year

- Extending the ability of public bodies to allow remote participation by members in public meetings

- Extending flexibilities given to municipalities to allow for representative town meetings to be held in hybrid or fully remote capacities and that authorize reduced in-person quorum requirements

- Extending the ability of nurses employed by assisted living residences to provide skilled nursing care in accordance with valid medical orders, provided the nurse holds a valid license to provide such care.

The supplemental budget includes the following provisions related to the end of the public health emergency on May 11, 2023:

- Temporarily extending flexibility on ambulance staffing

- Temporarily extending the ability of staff of a community program to administer prepackaged medications if in compliance with DPH guidance.

- Temporarily extending staffing flexibilities related to dialysis providers

Having been passed by the Senate and the House, the supplemental budget now goes to the Governor for her signature.

Both Gutierrez-Rosales and Ambrosio were represented by Attorney John Geary.

"Although there is nothing we can do to bring back their loved ones, I hope that these defendants being held accountable will provide some sense of justice for the families involved. The evidence in both cases was overwhelming and I applaud the collaborative work between my office and the investigators involved, resulting in these convictions." Hayden said.

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

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

## Correction

We regret that in last week's Times-Free Press article "East Boston native receives award for first book" Essmaa Litim's father's name was misspelled. Her father's name is spelled Brahim. And Essmaa Litim received her award for her commitment to her neighborhood and workplace. Sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.



# Healey-Driscoll administration launches new climate resiliency program

## Makes announcement at Belle Isle Marsh

Special to the Tiems-Free Press

Gov. Maura Healey and Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Rebecca Tepper have announced a new pilot program to support cities and towns across Massachusetts in updating and putting their climate change resiliency plans and projects into action.

The announcement was made April 19 at the Belle Isle Marsh Reservation off Bennington Street.

The Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Planning 2.0 (MVP 2.0) expands the MVP grant program, which provides communities with funding and technical support to identify climate hazards, develop strategies to improve resilience, and implement priority actions to adapt to climate change. After a year of reviewing the initial MVP Planning Grant program and conducting extensive stakeholder input, EEA developed MVP 2.0 to include new methods, tools, and resources for updating MVP plans and actions.

“The climate crisis is one of our greatest challenges, but there is enormous opportunity in our response. We have the science, data, tools and commitment to help communities understand how climate change impacts them and take action to advance resiliency and preparedness,” said Governor Maura Healey. “With the next phase of the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program, we will harness the incredible resources at our disposal and bring people together to protect our environment, grow our economy and build a more resilient future.”

“As a former mayor, I’ve seen firsthand the impact of the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program on local communities,” said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. “Our administration is about ac-

tion – this new iteration of the project will take these resiliency plans and put them into action so our cities and towns are better prepared to withstand changing temperatures, flooding, and other climate impacts.”

MVP 2.0 provides communities with guidance and funding to center residents most impacted by climate change in the update process. Cities and towns will also receive innovative training on climate resilience best practices, equity, and environmental justice, revisit priorities in their current MVP plans based on this new knowledge and engagement and receive technical assistance and \$50,000 of guaranteed funding to develop and implement an action project. A new web tool called Guides for Equitable and Actionable Resilience (GEAR) will launch with the program in the next few weeks and aid communities in understanding how local climate impacts may intersect with topics like housing and public health through data explorations, case studies, and key actions communities can take to build resilience.

“As we transition to clean energy, we also need strong protections against the climate impacts already burdening our residents,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper. “We are excited to keep growing and evolving this program to meet the needs of our communities while achieving our climate goals.”

EEA will award funding to a maximum of 30 communities, five in each region, to undergo the two-year pilot program. Pilot communities will hire a vendor with skills in climate resilience, facilitation, and equity and build a community team with community liaisons, or community members who are from



Governor Maura Healey joins state and local officials and Friends of Belle Isle Marsh members for a photo following the press conference announcing the state’s new climate resiliency program.

and/or have strong relationships with environmental justice and other priority populations who will be the most impacted by climate change. These community liaisons will be compensated for their time through grant funding.

“The emphasis on engaging environmental justice communities and organizations most impacted by climate change and requiring climate justice training for participants are exciting parts of this new pilot program,” said Undersecretary of Environmental Justice and Equity María Belén Power. “I look forward to working with the MVP program and other Commonwealth grant programs to ensure our funding supports our environmental justice and equity goals.”

Currently, 99 percent, or 349, of municipalities in Massachusetts have completed or are currently completing the original MVP Planning Grant process. Dunstable, Florida, Gill, Oakham, Peru, Russell, Shelburne, and Wales received awards this year.

Communities that completed the initial MVP Planning Grant program are eligible to apply to implement their climate resilience priorities through the MVP Action Grant program.

Communities are encouraged to apply to MVP



Pictured with Governor Maura Healey at the April 19 press conference at Belle Isle Marsh announcing the state’s new climate resiliency program, from left, are: Rep. Jeff Turco, Rep. Jessica Giannino, Heather O’Brien, Rep. Adrian Madaro, Winthrop Town Manager Tony Marino, and Bill Schmidt.

2.0 as regional groups where feasible, and communities with MVP plans that are five years old are particularly encouraged to apply for the MVP 2.0 pilot to update their plans with the new process, tools, and data that are incorporated into the program. Federally-recognized and state-acknowledged Tribes and Regional Planning Agencies applying on behalf of a municipality or group of municipalities are also able to apply.

“We look forward to providing resources for community-based planning and climate resilience projects through the MVP 2.0 pilot and using this work to

inform a full rollout to all communities anticipated next year,” said Undersecretary of Decarbonization & Resilience Katherine Antos. “We will also provide opportunities for communities to network, share lessons learned, and provide feedback to EEA as we continue to improve the program.”

The FY24 round of MVP Action Grant funding is also currently open for applications through May 4, 2023. MVP Action Grants provide funding for communities’ climate resilience priority projects focused on proactive strategies to address climate change impacts. This may include

actions to invest in and protect environmental justice neighborhoods and improve public health, nature-based solutions to mitigate the impacts of extreme heat and flooding, and climate resilience-focused regulatory updates, among others.

Communities participating in the MVP 2.0 pilot round will still be able to apply for and implement MVP Action Grants at the same time. After the pilot round, EEA intends to require all communities to undergo MVP 2.0 to maintain eligibility in applying for MVP Action Grants, starting with those with the earliest MVP plans.

## O’Leary// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ly become a catalyst for change in a region that continues to struggle with addiction-related issues.”

But before O’Leary came to work in recovery services, she was in recovery herself.

After graduating from Matignon High School in 1998, O’Leary went off to attend college at UMass Amherst. Her drinking in college eventually escalated into a problem, and she would later struggle with addiction to alcohol, as well as to opioids.

O’Leary made various attempts at sobriety before January of 2011 when she entered treatment for the last time and became truly sober.

In October of 2013 – two years into her sobriety – O’Leary was receiving recovery services from North Suffolk Mental Health Association (NSMHA) now North Suffolk Community Services (NSCS) when she went to

work as a Recovery Coach for the organization. Her work mentor there was Kim Hanton, NSMHA’s former Director of Addiction Services.

O’Leary was already well acquainted with Hanton, who was helping to start the Recovery Court at Chelsea District Court, when Katie’s father, Bob O’Leary, was working at the court.

Hanton had also helped both Katie and her sister, Bonnie O’Leary, “get into recovery during different points of our active addictions,” said Katie.

Meanwhile, O’Leary excelled in her position with NSMHA, being named the organization’s Director of Recovery Support Services in 2017. She was promoted again to her current role in senior management last November.

O’Leary has helped open two new recovery facilities – Recovery on the Harbor in East Bos-

ton, and Hanton House in Chelsea. She was also instrumental in helping another established recovery service, StepRox in Roxbury, move and get their building permitted before reopening.

In March of 2022, O’Leary was one of 10 women recognized as part of Chelsea District Court’s Women’s History Month Celebration in an event that acknowledged women who are “providing healing and promoting hope.”

Regarding O’Leary’s work, First Justice Matthew Machera said at this time that “keeping people in recovery through these unprecedented times has been beyond remarkable.”

In light of receiving this recognition, O’Leary humbly said, “It’s not me. I’m getting recognized for all work my team does.”

And as much of a surprise as the latest recognition for O’Leary from

Boston Magazine has been, she admits she had an inkling something was afoot when Sen. Lydia Edwards reached out about six weeks ago to ask O’Leary for her bio, as well as to let O’Leary know that the senator would be nominating her as an Influential Bostonian.

“Never in a million years did I think anything would come of it,” said O’Leary.

As for O’Leary ultimately receiving this recognition from Boston Magazine, Sen. Edwards said: “Katie is a true life saver and first responder. She is a straight shooter, humble, kind and leads with her heart. Her journey and growth reflect the struggles of a lot of good people. She has been a guiding light for so many including myself. She serves as a bridge for so many on the long road to recovery. She demands

a seat at the table for so many silenced by stigma and shame. Katie represents so many people that are everyday heroes.”

Meanwhile, O’Leary knows above all else, that recovery doesn’t come easily and requires hard work.

“The biggest misconception is someone once told me that ‘when the pain gets great enough, we change,’ and now we live in a world where there’s a pill that fixes everything,” she said. “But that’s not factual – people have to put in the work.”

## Edwards// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sis. Within one year, Edwards was appointed to the position of Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Housing for the 2023-2024 Legislative Session. Boston Magazine also emphasizes the importance of Edwards’ unique ability to make lasting and powerful relationships with key

stakeholders and decision-makers in the Commonwealth as a central reason in positioning her among this year’s list of Boston’s most effective and celebrated leaders.

The final list of Boston Magazine’s 150 Most Influential Bostonians reflects a profound shift

toward leadership gender parity. Massachusetts residents can expect Edwards to continue to fight for the needs of her constituents. “I’m honored and grateful to have the opportunity to serve. Like with all accolades, I did not get this on my own. My family, staff, colleagues, and constitu-

ents all played a part and helped me. Even those that disagree with me teach me through respectful discourse. All I can say is thank you.” Read more about Boston Magazine’s May 2023 issue listing the 150 Most Influential Bostonians, here: <https://bit.ly/3UUWGan>.



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# East Boston

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## ANTISEMITISM HAS NO PLACE IN OUR SOCIETY

As we were reading about the federal court trial that is getting underway this week of the 50 year-old Pennsylvania man charged with fatally shooting 11 people and wounding six at a Pittsburgh synagogue in 2018, which was the deadliest antisemitic attack in U.S. history, we at first felt a sense of irony -- which then turned to sadness -- and finally into anger.

Irony, because this miscreant's trial follows Holocaust Remembrance Week, which was observed last week (Holocaust Remembrance Day itself was last Tuesday) throughout the world.

Sadness, for the innocent victims of his rampage, most of whom were elderly worshippers, whose lives were taken at the Tree of Life synagogue on the morning of Oct. 27, 2018.

And anger, that antisemitism not only still exists, but is growing all across our country.

When we were young, the typical antisemitic act consisted of a rock thrown through the window of a temple or some ant-semitic graffiti. But those acts of vandalism typically were committed by teens who had been drinking, and who were as likely to throw rocks through a school window as a synagogue.

But in recent years, antisemitic has escalated exponentially, both in numbers and in severity, of which the Tree of Life mass shooting is the apotheosis.

The Anti Defamation League (ADL) found that the number of antisemitic incidents in the U.S. increased by more than 36 percent in the past year, from 2,721 in 2021 to 3,697 in 2022. Antisemitic and white supremacist propaganda in the U.S. also hit new levels.

According to the ADL's web site, 2022 saw the highest number on record since the ADL began tracking antisemitic incidents in 1979, marking the third time in the past five years that the year-end total has been the highest number ever recorded.

The ADL also noted that incidents increased in each of the major audit categories: antisemitic harassment increased 29% to 2,298; antisemitic vandalism increased 51% to 1,288; and antisemitic assaults increased 26% to 111.

This trend is having a profound effect upon our fellow citizens of the Jewish faith.

A New Jersey rabbi wrote a column in the New York Times over the weekend in which he said::

“In the four years since the shooting at the Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh, American Jewish institutions have developed rapid-response playbooks to address concrete terror threats and best practices have been shared around the country. We have invested in our security infrastructure and communicated those changes to our congregants. Over the past few years we’ve added cameras, panic buttons, shatterproof film to our windows, and boulders meant to keep cars from plowing into our buildings.”

For those of us who were born shortly after the end of WWII, it is inconceivable that antisemitism can be on the rise. To be sure, antisemitism always has existed in our country, but when we were growing up in the ‘60s and ‘70s in the immediate aftermath of WWII and the Holocaust, it seemed that the lessons of the horrors of WWII had been learned and that the world was becoming a better place, not only for Jews, but for people of all races and creeds.

So it has been with a profound sense of sadness, dismay, and anger for us to witness the sharp increase in antisemitic acts across the United States today.

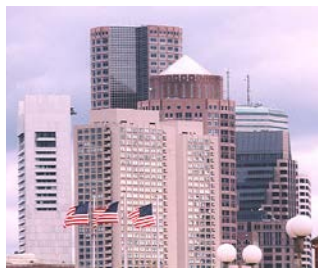
The theme of Holocaust Remembrance Week is that the world must never forget what can happen when hate and politics merge to create a force of evil. That is a message that is just as timely today as it ever has been.

## Your opinions, please

The Times welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

Letters may also be e-mailed to [editor@eastietimes.com](mailto:editor@eastietimes.com).

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



# Forum

## GUEST OP-ED

### A sustainable and structural response to migration

By Frank Ramirez

On Tuesday, April 18, U.S. Senator Bob Menendez (D-N.J.) unveiled his recommendations for managing migration and refugees in the Western Hemisphere. The Menendez Plan provides the Biden Administration with a sustainable and structural response to migration in the region that will reduce pressure on the U.S. southwest border.

In a press release, Senator Mendez said “the Biden Administration’s decision to implement short-term deterrence policies fail to address the cycle of irregular migration at our southwest border. My plan provides a set of policies that will secure our borders without sacrificing our domestic and legal obligations to asylum seekers by working with partners in the region to give people alternative options to illegal smuggling networks. This plan largely includes policies that President Biden can pursue without Congress, until Republicans decide to come to the table and

help the administration manage the current challenge.”

The East Boston Community Council (EBCC) join UnidosUS President & CEO, Janet Murguía, in her endorsement of Senator Menendez plan, “we applaud Senator Menendez for his timely, pragmatic, and forward-looking plan to address the humanitarian challenges our country is facing on our southern border. His plan is the kind of constructive and solutions-driven vision that Hispanic voters and millions of other Americans want to see: an immigration system that is humane, efficient, and secure.”

The Menendez Plan proposes four pillars to effectively manage migration in the Americas, from addressing the drivers of migration in the region to establishing border policies that maintain order and safety for migrants, refugees, and law enforcement alike:

1. Create New Legal Pathways and Expand Existing Pathways to Reduce

Pressure at the Southwest-ern Border

2. Increase Resources at the Border to Process Asylum Seekers and Remove People without Legal Claims to Stay in the U.S.

3. Expand Humanitarian Assistance and Develop Financing to Better Integrate Migrants & Refugees in Countries Across the America

4. Elevate Efforts to Counter Transnational Criminal Organizations Involved in Human Trafficking & Smuggling

We support Janet’s endorsement of The Menendez plan because since its foundation in 1979, EBCC have promoted justice under the law for Immigrants and limited English-speaking newcomers to the United States who live in East Boston. EBCC efforts include:

- To educate program participants about the American legal system and their rights under the law;
- To promote the achievement of optimal immigration status by

individuals who are not United States citizens and full attainment of the protections and benefits afforded them under the law;

- To promote access to legal representation; and,
- To support effective legal representation of program participants through the provision of interpretation/translation, escort, and related services.

Frank Ramirez concluded “we support policies and law-makers that shape reforms that eventually legalize more than 3 million of undocumented immigrants and facilitates the path to citizenship to DACA holders. We will continue in our tradition that through services, education, advocacy, and organizing, EBCC works with newcomers and people of lower income to improve the quality of life, foster mutual respect, and promote justice, equality, and solidarity.”

*Frank Ramirez is the Executive Director East Boston Community Council*

## Wu announces expansion of curbside food waste collection

Special to the Times-Free Press

In celebration of Earth Day (April 22) and building on her commitment to make Boston a greener and more sustainable city, Mayor Michelle Wu and the Public Works Department announced the expansion of the food waste curbside collection program, increasing from its current capacity servicing 10,000 households to 30,000. Since launching in August 2022, the program has allowed residents to conveniently dispose of their household food waste, while also reducing the City’s reliance on landfills and incinerators. The curbside food waste collection program was initially announced last May. The City is now surpassing the original expansion goal for the second year of the program, due to high interest from residents. To date, the program has collected over 800 tons of curbside food waste at no cost to residents.

“As we celebrate Earth Day, I’m excited to announce the expansion of this highly successful program that builds on our efforts to make Boston a Zero Waste City through sustainable food waste disposal,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “The strong interest in our pilot program gave us a clear sign that residents are eager to participate in curbside food waste collection if the resources are available. This expansion will make it easier for more residents to help our City fight the effects of climate change.”

“I look forward to the expansion of the curbside food waste collection program to more of our households. I have been working closely with my Council colleagues on the issue of pest control, and I believe this program is part of the solution for cleaner streets as we sep-

arate food sources from our trash,” said Council President Ed Flynn. “This is much better for the environment and will help improve the quality of life for all our residents.”

Beginning in July, the City’s Waste Reduction Division will begin onboarding new households into the program, and will continue to add households each month until its capacity of 30,000 is reached. Residents who were previously placed on the waiting list for pick-up service will be enrolled first in the program. Residents who have not previously signed up but want to can do so here. Food waste curbside pick-up will continue to align with residents’ scheduled trash and recycling collection days.

“The interest in the curbside food scrap program has been remarkable, so expanding our service capacity and offering the program to more residents was an easy decision,” said Chief of Streets, Sanitation and Transportation Jascha Franklin Hodge. “We look forward to our continued partnership with the community as we work together to achieve our Zero Waste goals.”

“At the City Council, we’re committed to moving toward a greener, cleaner Boston,” said Boston City Councilor Kendra Lara. “This expansion of the food scrap program signals exciting prospects for what we can achieve as a City when our goals align.”

The food waste, which is collected through a partnership between Garbage to Garden and Save That Stuff, is recycled to make clean energy and nutrient-rich compost. Food scraps sent to Waste Management’s CORE Facility in Charlestown are made into a slurry for easier processing. The slurry is then transported to North Andover’s GLSD anaerobic di-

gestion facility where it is turned into biogas and renewable electricity which is sent to the grid. Composting is an important part of this program, and in partnership with Garbage to Garden and Save That Stuff, the City is exploring options to expand and secure more composting sites for Boston’s food waste.

Any Boston resident who lives in a residential building with six units or less is eligible to enroll in the program. The City is prioritizing enrollment in the program to residents in environmental justice communities, based on the state’s criteria for such communities coupled with proximity to a Project Oscar compost drop-off site.

In June, compost bin “starter kits” will be delivered to residents whose curbside pick-up service begins in July. Another batch of curbside bins will

be delivered in July with service beginning in August. The “starter kits” include an onboarding manual, a roll of liners, kitchen bin, collection bin, and a magnet outlining what food scraps are and are not accepted in the program. Accepted materials include common household food scraps such as coffee grounds, fruits and vegetables, meat and seafood, and eggs.

This expansion announcement aligns with Boston’s Zero Waste Plan, outlining the City’s strategy to reduce its waste by 2035. MassDEP estimates that food waste accounts for more than 25 percent of the waste stream in Massachusetts after recycling. When sent to landfills or incinerators, food waste can generate harmful greenhouse gasses, lose

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# Henry Santana, a familiar face around City Hall, makes bid for City Councilor at-Large

By Dan Murphy

A familiar face around City Hall over the past few years, Henry Santana will be among the candidates for City Councilor at-Large this fall.

Santana, 27, who serves as the city’s Director of the Office of Civic Organizing, was born in Bani, Dominican Republic. He immigrated to the U.S. with his family at age 3 and moved into public housing in the Alice Taylor Boston Housing Authority apartments in Mission Hill, the neighborhood where his parents still live today. “I’m a product of Boston,” he said proudly.

Like his parents, Santana didn’t speak English upon arriving in Boston, where they all learned the language.

“We all got the proper education we couldn’t have in the Dominican Republic,” said Santana, now a bilingual English and Spanish speaker.

Santana attended Boston Public Schools and, between junior high and high school, spent one year at Beacon Academy, a Boston-based program that, according to its website, “prepares highly motivated students from communities with limited resources to succeed in competitive high schools, colleges, and careers.”

After completing the rigorous 14-month program at Beacon Academy, Santana entered boarding school as a freshman at Fryeburg Academy in Maine, where he had access to the school’s rich resources, including its own dedicated math-and-science building; a gym with a fitness center; and



COURTESY OF HENRY SANTANA  
**Henry Santana, a candidate for City Councilor at-Large.**

even a woodworking studio.

Santana “broke barriers” during his four years at Fryeburg Academy, he said, becoming the second-ever class president in the school’s history.

During high school, Santana returned to Boston in the summers and worked as a junior councilor for the Mission Hill Summer Program, which he first attended as a 7-year-old camper. He remained with the program during summers in college as well, eventually becoming a senior councilor and program director.

“Spending time in Maine and then coming back to Boston and serving in [the Mission Hill Summer Program], I really saw the lack of resources that youth in Boston really had access to,” said Santana, “and that really motivated me to serving my community.”

Upon graduating from Fryeburg Academy, Santana returned to the Boston area to attend Lasell University in Newton, where he originally planned to pursue a degree in education.

“I really thought I want-

ed to be an educator,” he said. “I thought I wanted to be a teacher or a principal one day.”

While attending college, however, Santana said he quickly came to the realization that it was local and state government “who has access to making decisions.” He subsequently changed his academic focus to majoring in history, with a minor in political science.

Weeks after graduating from Lasell University, Santana visited Beacon Academy, where he struck up a conversation with one of program’s directors. He mentioned to her that he hoped to get involved in politics. By chance, this connection was a relative of Kenzie Bok’s and put Santana in touch with the future District 8 City Councilor as Bok was embarking on her maiden campaign for office.

While he would eventually join Bok’s campaign, Santana said he first decided to do his due diligence by acquainting himself with all the candidates in the five-way race.

“They were running to represent the neighborhood I grew up in, so I wanted to make sure I was basically engaged and educated, and that I was aligned with the candidates and their ideas and priorities,” said Santana.

Santana got to know Bok better over the course of that summer, and by its end, she had offered him the position as her campaign’s field director.

After Bok proceeded to win the election as the top vote-getter in all the neighborhoods she would come to represent, she offered Santana the role

as her office’s Director of Operations and Mission Hill and Fenway Liaison.

Councilor Bok was sworn in January of 2020, and two months later, the pandemic struck.

“We really had to buckle down with constituent services and make sure the most vulnerable people in the district were protected and connected to our office,” said Santana. “Because we were a new office, we wanted to make sure that the whole district knew we were available to them.”

Additionally, Santana said: “We saw firsthand the challenges that families and residents, especially vulnerable residents, were experiencing, and we tried to do our best to connect residents with the resources they needed.”

In February of 2022, Mayor Michelle Wu selected Santana for his current role as the city’s Director of the Office of Civic Organizing.

“I love it,” Santana said of the position that has charged him with working to improve the facilities and infrastructure of the city’s public housing. “I’ve been honored to serve in a position and in a new office that really focuses on identifying different barriers that residents are facing in engaging with local politics, and creating programs and initiatives that break down those barriers.”

Santana will take a leave of absence from this role at the end of April to focus on his campaign.

If elected, Santana, a self-described “product of public housing,” said “the investments we need to make to expand afford-

able housing” would rank among his top priorities.

Matilda Drayton, president of the Tenant Task Force at Alice Taylor, the BHA housing development where Santana grew up, said in an April 3 press release announcing his candidacy: “We are so proud of Henry. We need more candidates that know firsthand about living in public housing and can advocate for us.”

Another top priority for Santana is “civic engagement,” particularly providing affordable options for after-school and summer programming to the city’s youth.

Moreover, Santana said: “Public safety is a big issue that I want to focus on. Obviously, there are hot zones where violence is most likely to happen, but across the neighborhoods, there’s a sense of feeling unsafe...whether it’s walking your dog or going to the convenience store.”

As city councilor, Santana said he would strive to better connect Boston Police with communities to “build trust and transparency” between them.

But Santana also realizes that communities cannot heal if pathways aren’t created for returning citizens.

David Jean-Jacques, executive director of the Big Hope Project, said in a press release: “As someone who’s spent years working with incarcerated individuals, I know firsthand how important it is to have leaders who prioritize criminal justice reform and support reentry programs. Henry Santana is that kind of leader. He understands the challeng-

es faced by the formerly incarcerated and is committed to ensuring they have the resources they need to successfully reintegrate into our community.”

Meanwhile, Councilor Bok has endorsed Santana for City Councilor at-Large.

“Henry Santana has a heart for service and an instinct to include everyone,” Councilor Bok said in part in an April 19 press release announcing her endorsement of him. “He knows firsthand how public housing and great youth programming gave him the opportunity to thrive in Boston, and he wants to lay that same foundation for every other person in our city. I’m proud to endorse him for an At-Large seat on the Boston City Council, where his experience in city government and his passion for civic engagement will make him a great champion for all our communities.”

Councilor Bok continued: “When the pandemic hit, I saw how Henry served as a resource to his whole community. He was the person who helped our office connect with Mission Hill families that were hungry during lockdown, and who Tobin School teachers asked for help delivering computers and reaching out to absent students. As a former director of the annual affordable summer camp in Mission Hill, he has also been a mentor and role model to countless young people, whom he still connects to resources and opportunities. I know that the entire city of Boston would ben-

See SANTANA Page 6

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# Sports

## EAST BOSTON JETS WIN THE CHRISTIE SERINO BASEBALL CLASSIC

PHOTOS BY BOB MARRA

The Jets rallied from five runs down to top Somerville 9-5 in the first game of the Christie Serino Baseball Classic Friday, April 21 at Maplewood Park in Malden. The Jets made it a two-win Friday and earned the Classic championship

with a 1-0 win over Greater Lawrence. Sophomore catcher Andry Marte was named tournament MVP.



**SAFE:** Somerville's Jared Antonelli slides under the tag of East Boston third baseman Luis Ortiz for a stolen base that helped Somerville grab a 2-0 lead in the second inning. See page 8 for more photos.



**BELLY LANDING:** Caden Pelosi went head first into third base on a wild pitch.



**I GOT IT:** Centerfielder Jason DaSilva (7) has the ball safely in his glove for an out after fielding a Somerville fly ball.



**IN CONTROL:** Starting pitcher Andry Marte into his wind-up.



**MAKING THE PLAY:** Shortstop Joel Valera watches as his throw to first base completes a 6-3 double play that ended Somerville's fourth inning.

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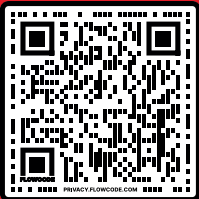
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# Wu announces registration for BCYF teen summer programming now open

Special to the Times-Free Press

Mayor Michelle Wu and Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) announced that registration is open for a variety of summer teen programs. Building on Mayor Wu’s commitment to make Boston the best city in the country to raise a family, these programs foster youth employment and life skills while providing youth with fun summer activities. Boston teens can register now for the BCYF Snap Shot photography program through the City of Boston’s Summer Jobs Program, SuccessLink. Registration for the BCYF SuperTeens pre-employment program for young teens opens today. The BCYF Girls Leadership Corps is also now seeking participants for this year’s programming.

“These summer opportunities enable teens to learn crucial life skills, while enjoying the company of their peers,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “Summer programming, especially opportunities like these that provide a paycheck, help prepare our teens for the future and I encourage any interested families to apply and take advantage of what BCYF has to offer.”

“We have put together a diverse menu of options for young people of all ages this summer across all our centers and we are looking forward to providing these enriching and engaging summer programs,” said Marta Rivera, Commissioner of Bos-

ton Centers for Youth & Families. “We encourage interested families to sign up as soon as possible to guarantee a spot.”

“Summer workshops, programs, and employment are fantastic opportunities for our young people to stay engaged, make new friends, and learn new skills,” said Council President Ed Flynn. “I want to thank the BCYF team for putting together a variety of different programs for our young people. Summer programming brings tremendous benefits to our young people’s physical and mental well-being, and I encourage our families and young people, especially young women, to join leadership programs to learn about community service, teamwork, accountability, and financial literacy.”

BCYF’s Snap Shot Teen Photography program is a unique summer job program for ages 16 to 18 that introduces participants to all aspects of photography. Teens receive a paycheck while participating in the program. Led by a professional photographer, the program includes opportunities to conduct photo shoots, visit museums and art galleries, learn digital photo editing, engage in online personal development workshops, and serve as a staff photographer for BCYF. Interested youth should apply to Snap Shot through the SuccessLink Summer Jobs Program at [Boston.gov/Youth-Jobs](http://Boston.gov/Youth-Jobs). Select “BCYF Snap Shot” from the summer job spreadsheet on the website. The program will operate from Monday, June 26 to Friday, August 25, 2023.

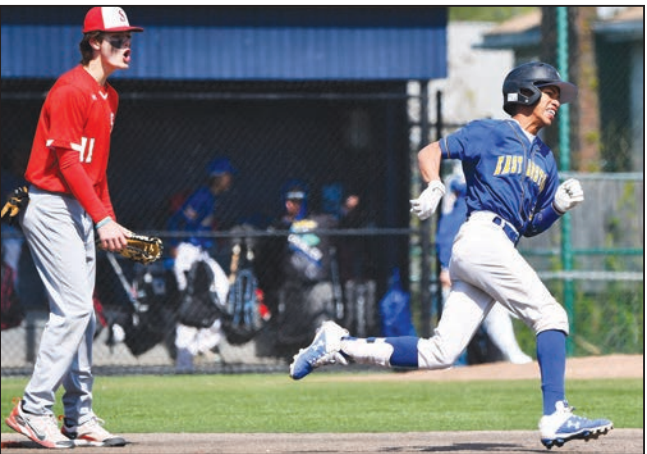
BCYF SuperTeens program teaches teens ages 13 and 14 life readiness and resiliency to help prepare them for their upcoming academic year and future employment. The program focuses on opportunities to enhance communication, collaboration, teamwork, and problem solving. The SuperTeens are mentored by BCYF staff throughout the summer, and they participate in both online workshops and in-person job shadowing activities that highlight employment skills. The SuperTeens also participate in weekly social and recreational activities, including a Learn to Row crew program on the Charles River, leadership workshops, job shadowing, community service projects as well as field trips to museums and institutions around the City of Boston. Participants earn a paycheck in the form of a stipend, and they will also be provided with opportunities that encourage civic engagement and physical health and wellness. Registration began today at [Boston.gov/BCYF-SuperTeens](http://Boston.gov/BCYF-SuperTeens). The program will operate for 6 weeks from Monday, July 10 to Friday, August 18, 2023.

BCYF Girls Leadership Corps (GLC) provides girls ages 11-14 with workshops and activities. Workshop topics will include self-defense with Girls LEAP, leadership skills, empowerment with the YW.F.R.Y.E. Initiative, and more. The Girls Leadership Corps program participants will plan activities that Boston girls will be invited to register for, including Summer Girls Nights and various workshops and special activities. Interested program participants should email [Erika.Butler@boston.gov](mailto:Erika.Butler@boston.gov). The program will operate from Tuesday, July 18 to Friday, August 18, 2023.

These teen programs are in addition to many activities offered at BCYF community centers across the city. Registration for center programs can be found at [Boston.gov/BCYF-Registration](http://Boston.gov/BCYF-Registration). In addition, BCYF is currently seeking full-time, part-time, and seasonal lifeguards for BCYF pools and swim lessons. Sign on and retention bonuses up to \$1,000 are available, depending on date of hire and remaining employed through September 4th. Training is available and equipment is provided. Visit [Boston.gov/BCYF-Aquatics](http://Boston.gov/BCYF-Aquatics) for more information or apply directly at [Boston.gov/Lifeguard-Jobs](http://Boston.gov/Lifeguard-Jobs).

Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) is the City of Boston’s largest youth and human service agency. BCYF operates 35 community centers in Boston that offer a variety of engaging and enriching programs for people of all ages created through community input and need. BCYF also oversees many citywide programs.

## EAST BOSTON JETS WIN THE CHRISTIE SERINO BASEBALL CLASSIC



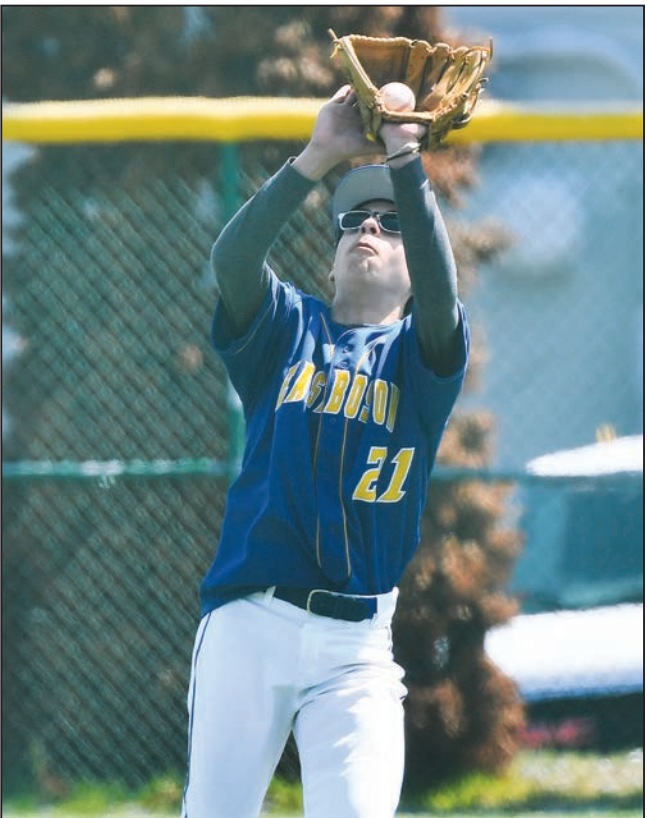
ON THE MOVE: Andry Marte rounds first base and heads for second as Somerville first baseman Jared Antonelli hollers instructions to the outfield.



NOT IN TIME: East Boston shortstop Joel Valera fields a throw that was not in time to prevent a stolen base by Jared Antonelli in the second inning of the Jets 9-5 win over the Highlanders in the first game of the Christie Serino Baseball Classic at Maplewood Field in Malden.



I DISAGREE: Brian Munoz grimaces after a called strike with which he disagreed.



SOFT LANDING: The ball nestles in the glove of rightfielder Brian Munoz for the first out of the Somerville 6th inning.

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# Wu announces funding to support small businesses

Special to the Times-Free Press

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Mayor’s Office of Housing (MOH) last week announced that the City of Boston awarded the first grants from the previously announced Affordable Commercial Assistance Fund (ACAF) to make commercial rents more accessible to small businesses in Boston impacted by the pandemic. The first awards will subsidize rent for Jean Appolon Expressions, a Haitian dance company in Roxbury, and for Words as Worlds Bookstore in Dorchester. In August 2022, the Mayor’s Office of Housing announced a request for proposals (RFP) for the Affordable Commercial Assistance Fund. The ACAF made \$1 million available to help sustain local businesses and community-based nonprofits operating in affordable housing buildings. ACAF funding awards enable property developers to lower their commercial rents and support the growth of businesses investing in local neighborhoods. The funding is available to owners of buildings with City-supported affordable housing, including rental and homeownership properties, that include commercial space. The City anticipates that this new fund will ensure the affordability of approximately 35,000 square feet of commercial space

for local small businesses and nonprofits that would otherwise be unable to afford market rents. “When Boston small businesses prosper, everyone benefits—anchoring our economy and community,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “We will continue to support these drivers of innovation and connection throughout our neighborhoods.” “Providing affordable commercial space in our neighborhoods strengthens our local business districts, supports entrepreneurship, and creates a pipeline to Boston’s economic engine,” said Councilor Brian Worrell, Chair of the Boston City Council’s Committee on Small Business & Professional Licensure. “I am excited to see local small business owners utilize this program to enhance our communities and expand Boston’s small business ecosystem.” “We are thrilled to see the Affordable Commercial Assistance Fund supporting small businesses and nonprofits, particularly those that are providing essential services and cultural assets to our neighborhoods,” said Sheila Dillon, Chief of Housing. “The Jean Appolon Expressions dance company and Words as Worlds Bookstore are great examples of how we can invest in the economic vitality and cultural richness of our communities through

this new program. The ACAF is an important tool for creating economic opportunities and supporting our city’s diversity and vibrancy.” The development team for 2147 Washington Street has been awarded a \$225,000 Affordable Commercial Assistance Fund grant for their 74-unit mixed-use development in Roxbury. The grant will support Jean Appolon Expressions, a dance company focused on contemporary Haitian-rooted dance, by subsidizing their rent for 2,846 square feet of first-floor retail space. With the assistance, their rent will be reduced to almost half the area’s average market rate per square foot. The construction of 2147 Washington Street is expected to be completed in the spring of 2024. “We are thrilled to be moving into the 2147 Washington Street building in Nubian Square and are excited to partner with other artists and area businesses to expand our impact in Boston’s growing arts ecosystem,” said Jean Appolon, Founder and Artistic Director of Jean Appolon Expressions (JAE). “This ACAF award from the City of Boston is making it possible for JAE to partner with the New Atlantic Development team and enter our first dance studio home, at a lower rent level, allowing us to continue offering our arts programming at a very

accessible level for our diverse community members.” “On behalf of the entire development team for the 2147 Washington project, we are extremely grateful to Mayor Wu and the Mayor’s Office of Housing for providing this ACAF award. Without it, we would never have been able to bring Jean Appolon Expressions into our building,” said Bill Madsen Hardy, Owner of New Atlantic Development. “As a nonprofit, community-oriented, and community-serving creative business with deep ties to Boston, they are an ideal tenant for this prominent commercial space. Most importantly, their long-term presence in Nubian Square will further the goals of the Roxbury Cultural District and the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan.” The development team for 1463 Dorchester Avenue, Tlee Development LLC, has been awarded a \$150,000 Affordable Commercial Assistance Grant to support their Dot Crossing Apartments project. This transit-oriented development features a five-story building with 29 mixed-income units, along with a residential lobby and a retail space that will be occupied by the Words as Worlds Bookstore. The project includes rent restrictions for the next five years, reducing the rent by 40 percent and ensuring

that the bookstore’s rent does not increase by more than 2% annually. The anticipated completion date for the Dot Crossing Apartments is June 2023. “We at Words as Worlds are incredibly grateful for this rent relief support through the Affordable Commercial Space Assistance funding, which makes our model for a community bookstore and gathering space so much more sustainable over the next ten years,” said Bing Broderick, Community Organizer for Words as Worlds. “We appreciate this support and vote of confidence. We know that this will facilitate collaboration and partnership in the years ahead. “We look forward to being a community staple in Boston,” said Travis Lee, President of TLee Development LLC. “Words as Worlds will provide a curated and culturally relevant book selection to residents of the Dorchester neighborhood, as well as a small space for spoken word performances. The community has expressed overwhelming support for this new addition to the neighborhood, and we all look forward to its opening this fall.” “This investment in affordable commercial space for Jean Appolon Expressions and Words as Worlds is so important, because it allows for these organizations to provide programming that is accessible to

community members in a way that is sustainable over the long-term,” said Kara Elliott-Ortega, Chief of Arts and Culture. “Investing in cultural spaces and housing goes hand in hand with creating healthy communities, and we’re so excited to see the opportunities these organizations will be able to provide for community gathering, cultural celebration, and creative expression in the Dorchester and Roxbury neighborhoods as a result of this funding. “The Affordable Commercial Assistance Fund is an exciting opportunity to support the local, small, diverse businesses that are so integral to Boston’s economy,” said Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. “This program is an important step in supporting our small business community and addressing the need for affordable commercial spaces in the City.” The Mayor’s Office of Housing (MOH) currently prioritizes applications for commercial spaces that are either on the first floor or contribute to an active street space and proposals that can demonstrate significant community and neighborhood ties for the proposed tenants. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until June 30, 2023.

## Funding // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

While these East Boston programs are slated to get funding this summer – many of them have already received funds in the Summer of 2022 and the 2022-2023 school year through ASOST-R. Several of those affiliated with these programs spoke about how invaluable the past funding has been and how invaluable the slated upcoming support from Boston After School & Beyond will be. For example, Alex DeFronzo, the Executive Director of the Piers Park Sailing Center, explained how this funding has allowed them to open more spots for enrollment in their programs and hire the staff necessary to accommodate the enrollment increase. DeFronzo also mentioned that the potential new funding would allow the center to get more East Boston kids into their programs and support those in East Boston with discounts or fully support those who want to join but might be struggling financially. Veronica Robles, the

Executive Director of the Veronica Robles Cultural Center, described how the funding from Boston After School & Beyond has enabled the center to support hundreds of kids and offer more robust arts and culture programming through things like dance and music. Robles also spoke about how this funding from Boston After School & Beyond is really the first time the center has gotten monetary support to provide its services – and shared how helpful the support has been. “We have improved and extended our programming and been able to offer these opportunities to our community. So for us – it means a lot,” said Robles. This funding will also support programming from Boston Scores – an organization that blends soccer and things like poetry and service learning together. Past funding has supported a free after school program for kids from fourth to eighth grade, and the slated funding would support a summer

program located at East Boston High School. “For an organization like ours, it’s [the funding] really been a crucial source of support these last several years,” said Andy Crossley, Boston Scores’ Chief Development Officer. Moreover, with potential funding coming this summer, East Boston Social Centers will be able to rebound from the effects of COVID by hiring more staff to support kids in the program. While Harlem Lacrosse would be able to offer off-site enrichment opportunities like museum visits, beach visits, and more with potential funding. It is clear that the work Boston After School & Beyond has done to support these programs around the city has been tremendously helpful – especially to East Boston – and Smith and his team are looking to continue this support well into the future. “We’re trying to make this a new baseline for supporting youth in the city. This was sourced with federal relief fund-



ing, and we’re trying to get the legislature to increase the amounts available and make it so that we can distribute it to programs every year,” said Smith. Just recently – according to Smith – State Representative Adrian Madaro co-sponsored two amendments to increase funding for after school and summer programs – so even more help for these programs could be coming in the future. To learn more about all the different organiza-

tions serving the youth of East Boston and their programs, you can visit each of their websites below. Piers Park Sailing Center: <https://piersparksailing.org/> Veronica Robles Cultural Center: <https://veronicaroblesculturalcenter.org/> East Boston Social Centers: <https://www.eb-socialcenters.org/> Boston Scores: <https://www.bostonscores.org/> Harlem Lacrosse: [https://www.harlemla-](https://www.harlemlacrosse.org/boston)

[crosse.org/boston](https://www.harlemlacrosse.org/boston) “We say that when you have a diverse network of programs, you’re making the whole city a classroom, and I love it when you do that in a neighborhood. You see from the water at Piers Park all the way to Veronica Robles Cultural Center – different activities, different use of space – but kids are learning and thriving in these different settings,” said Smith.

## Real Estate Transfers

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Adams, Michael	35 Leyden Street LLC	35 Leyden St #6	\$750,000
Baldeas, Mirian G	Gonzalez, Martin	113 Moore St	\$770,000
Lin, Karen	156 Everett LLC	154-156 Everett St	\$877,000
Greene, Ginaya H	Cowper Residences LLC	181 Cowper St #102	\$620,000
Kraja, Ardit	Full Circle Prop Re LLC	190-190R Paris St	\$1,100,000
Koehl, Jennifer L	Appleton Grove LLC	217 Lexington St #2	\$641,000
272 East Eagle LLC	Gallagher, Joanne L	272 E Eagle St	\$1,000,000
Siddiqi, Khurram A	Two Seventy Seven Border	277 Border St #403	\$470,000



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# James Rosatto Walk on Water event benefiting Dana-Faber Cancer Institute set for June 10

Please join us on Saturday, June 10, 10 a.m. at the Eliot Circle end of Revere Beach for our second annual James Rosatto Walk on Water benefiting Dana-Faber Cancer Institute.

East Boston born and raised business owner, James “Jimmy” Rosatto, brother of Richard Rosatto was well known and has strong family ties in the community. He was the original owner of DaCoopas Pizza, Quality Car Wash of Day Square, Jimmy’s Fish and Dairy Barn and member of Orient Heights Yacht Club. Jimmy’s day was not complete unless he did his five-mile walk on Revere Beach - rain or shine.

He lived with no major illnesses and enjoyed life. Then suddenly he was gone. James passed away in March 2022 only seven weeks after his diagnosis. He and his entire family were shocked when he was diagnosed with liver cancer which, unfortunately, oftentimes does not rear its ugly head until it is too late. After noticing a bit of yellow in his eyes, he went to the doctor. One day Jimmy was walking the beach, the next he was



Walkers during last year's event.

being told, he was not a candidate for surgery. The size of the tumor in his liver also prevented him from treatment.

Jimmy’s family, Stacy Egan VanPutten, Danielle Egan, Tommy Rosatto, Michelle Rosatto Donovan and Jackie Rosatto Indrisano wanted to have something positive come out of this sad experience. They wanted to find a way to honor their Jimmy while at the same time helping others avoid a similar diagnosis. “We reached out to Dana-Faber to see where we could help”, said Stacy VanPutten. “My dad walked on the water’s edge of Revere Beach every day. So to honor and celebrate this great man, we organized an event the way he would want - walking the water’s edge.”

With proceeds benefit-

ing Dana-Faber Cancer Institute, in loving memory of James Rosatto, this year’s fundraiser will support a collaborative effort to advance medicine in the areas of early detection and diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of gastrointestinal cancers to greatly improve patient outcomes.

For walk registration or people unable to attend that would like to show support with a donation. [http://danafarber.jimmyfund.org/site/TR?px=2466571&pg=personal&fr\\_id=1790](http://danafarber.jimmyfund.org/site/TR?px=2466571&pg=personal&fr_id=1790)

To buy T-shirts for the walk or to show support in memory of “My Jimmy” and those facing the similar battles, <https://www.customink.com/fundraising/james-rosatto-walk-on-water-2023>.

Thank you whole heartedly for joining us and helping us to heal.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Division 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR’S ACCOUNT Docket No. SU18P2620PM In the matter of: Elisabeth Haynes Bussey Of: East Boston, MA To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the 1st Annual account(s) of Namar E. Bussey of Roxbury, MA as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance. You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return

date of 05/16/2023. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s). Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court. You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you. IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person

has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 11, 2023 Vincent Procopio Register of Probate 4/26/23 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 DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING DOCKET NUMBER: SU23DO418DR Jackie Wilson Plaintiff VS. Algernon Wilson Defendant To the Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court. As 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: Jackie Wilson, 41 Tucker Dr. Brockton, MA 02301, your answer, if any, on or before 06/08/2023 . 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 at 24 New Chardon St., Boston, MA 02114. Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 13, 2023 Vincent Procopio Register of Probate 4/26/23 EB

### IN MEMORIAM

April 24, 2023

~ 24th Anniversary ~

## GERARD RUOTOLO



Born 12/9/41 - Died 4/24/99 God saw you getting tired And a cure was not to be So he put His arms around you And whispered "Come to Me" With tearful eyes we watched you And saw you pass away Although we loved you dearly We could not make you stay A golden heart stopped beating Hard working hands at rest God broke our hearts to prove to us He only takes the best Love Always Wife & Son

## In Loving Memory 8th Year Anniversary William Joseph Gleeson, III “Willy”

Dec. 31, 1990 — April 26, 2015



I heard your voice in the wind today and I turned to see your face; the warmth of the wind caressed me as I stood silently in place.

I felt your touch in the sun today as its warmth filled the sky; I closed my eyes for your embrace and my spirit soared high.

I saw your eyes in the window pane as I watched the falling rain; It seemed as each raindrop fell it quietly said your name.

I held you close in my heart today it made me feel complete; You may have died... But you are not gone You will always be a part of me.

As long as the sun shines... the wind blows...the rain falls... You will live on inside of me forever for that is all my hearts knows

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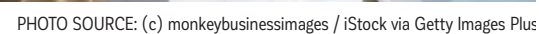
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— Walt Disney

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5	6	9	5	2	7	4	8	3
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## SUDOKU ANSWERS

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4	1	3	9	5	8	6	7	2
2	9	5	3	6	7	8	1	4



# Wu announces Street Theory Inc. as City of Boston mural consultant

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Mayor’s Office of Arts and Culture (MOAC) announced Street Theory, Inc. as the City of Boston’s mural consultant. This three year contract, which totals \$3,525,000, includes artist payments and all related project costs. It is funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and capital funds through the City’s Percent for Art program. As the mural consultant, Street Theory will be responsible for the administration and completion of 10 to 15 murals or other mutually agreed upon public art projects across Boston through December 2025. It is the largest contract awarded by the Mayor’s Office of Arts and Culture for public art to date.

“Murals in Boston are a critical part of highlighting and amplifying culture and beauty in our communities,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “Arts help to create dynamic, connected and welcoming communities representative of our residents. I’m grateful to Street Theory for their partnership and dedication to equity in the creative space. This historic investment will uplift the work of diverse artists in all of our neighborhoods.”

Street Theory will work with MOAC to identify potential mural sites across

Boston, provide feedback on Calls to Artists, and facilitate artist selection processes. They will also lead the documentation and community engagement processes related to these new mural projects. This support allows for the City to commission more artists for projects all over the city, with the goal of bringing more public art to every neighborhood. Projects that Street Theory will oversee include three basketball court murals at Malcolm X Park and a mural on a wall of the BCYF Shelburne in Roxbury, as well as murals in partnership with the Boston Public Library, Boston Housing Authority, Boston Public Schools, and Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF).

“Public art has an incredible impact on communities, and we’ve seen that through some of the artworks we’ve been able to install in different neighborhoods over the past year, like Rita’s Spotlight by Rixy in Allston and The Joy of Growing by Mattaya Fitts in Dorchester,” said Kara Elliott-Ortega, Chief of Arts and Culture. “We’re looking forward to continuing our partnership with Liza and her team to transform neighborhoods across the city through more murals.”

“Murals are a form of

public expression that create powerful experiences,” said Councilor Gabriela Coletta, Chair of the Committee on Arts, Culture, and Special Events. “They represent community values and foster the vibrancy of our beloved neighborhoods. Thank you to Mayor Michelle Wu and Street Theory for their investment that will ultimately empower artists across the City.”

Street Theory, Inc. is an award-winning creative agency that activates communities, spaces, and global brands through street art, experiential marketing, cultural placemaking, branding and design. Established in 2016, Street Theory is an artist-centric agency, owned and operated by its founder Liza Quiñonez. In 2021 and 2022, Street Theory served as Mural Consultant for the Mayor’s Office of Arts and Culture, through which Liza supported 11 mural projects across the city, including:

- Doujans D’al Hirhoal by Cyrille Conan at the Patricia White Apartments in Brighton,
- Tree of Life, You Are Loved, Tree with Network of Stars, and Thank You Heroes by Alex Cook at the Engagement Center in Newmarket Square,
- Together by Mz. Icar at the Engagement Center in Newmarket Square,

- Youth Lead the Change: Rise Up from Your Roots by Mel Mandel at Franklin Field in Dorchester,
  - Rita’s Spotlight by Rixy at 506 Cambridge St. in Allston,
  - The Future of the Past Is Here Now by Curtis Williams at the Faneuil Branch of the Boston Public Library in Brighton (in progress),
  - The Joy of Growing by Mattaya Fitts at the Peabody/Englewood Apartments in Dorchester, and
  - A mural activation at the Boston Blooms Block Party in Downtown Crossing.
- Street Theory’s overarching mission and strategy is to empower BIPOC creatives by fortifying and amplifying their respective artforms through talent and business devel-

opment, intergenerational mentorship, cross-sector collaboration, and local engagement to increase equity in creative industries and build a more inclusive creative sector. The organization believes in breaking down barriers to the art industry by meeting BIPOC artists at every stage of their careers and creating pathways towards becoming thriving career artists through education, training, advocacy and exposure, while beautifying cities, communities, and neighborhoods with diverse and culturally-inspired public art.

“As the newly appointed mural consultant for the City of Boston, I am thrilled to have the opportunity to develop and administer dynamic and impactful murals and public art projects over the next three years,” said

Liza Quiñonez. “I am excited to collaborate with the City, local artists, and community members to create works of art that reflect the diverse and vibrant culture of Boston. I look forward to bringing new life to public spaces throughout the city and leaving a lasting impression on residents and visitors alike.”

Street Theory was identified as the bidder that was most advantageous regarding proposal quality, vendor experience and qualifications, and diversity and inclusion plan. Street Theory is also certified by the City’s Supplier Diversity Program as a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Woman Business Enterprise (WBE), and Small Business Enterprise (SBE).

## News in Brief

### MAY HARBOR VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING AGENDA

The next meeting of the Harbor View Neighborhood Association will be on May 1 at 6 p.m. 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 primero de mayo a las 6pm. La reunion esta en persona y via Facebook. La asistencia en Facebook no califica para vota. Llega a la cafeteria del Salesian Boys y Girls Club por la calle Byron al otro lado de Brooke Charter School. Pueda usar

la entrada 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  
Announcements  
East Boston Senior Center is open. Greenway Council, Tree Eastie, McLean Park Update. Love Your Block. One Boston Day. Abutter Meeting for 106 Moore Street on May 3, at 7pm. St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive 6/24-25.  
Station 7 Police Report (15min) Sgt. Cintolo, Officers Mosley, Figueroa and Alvarez.  
Massport Anthony Guerriero, Deputy Director, Community Relations and Federal Affairs will speak to us about runway resurfacing.  
64 Homer Street (20 min) Theresa Strachila, Program Manager Grow Boston: Office of Urban Agriculture Office of Housing. She will continue the discussion on the future of the parcel at 64 Homer

Street, which has been vacant for many years. Come and share your thoughts about future plans for this land.

125 Addison Street (30min) Attorney Richard Lynds 1st Presentation proposes 9 residential units on a 5000 sq. foot lot with 2 IDP units. Intended for home ownership. 7 parking spaces. Raze existing single-family home. In November of 2019 an informational meeting on 125 Addison was made to HVNA but the proposal was for 9 Executive Suites. The project was denied by the ZBA and is on appeal with the Suffolk Superior Court.

74 Horace Street (30min) Attorney Richard Lynds, for owner Hannah Quann. 2nd presentation and VOTE. The proposal is to raze the existing 2 family and erect a 6 unit residential building with 6 parking spaces.

The next meeting of the HVNA will be on June 5, 2023.

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

# D'Ambrosio appointed to state's Judicial Nominating Commission

Special to the Times-Free Press

Well-known Revere attorney Gerry D'Ambrosio has been appointed to the state's Judicial Nominating Commission.

Governor Maura Healey said D'Ambrosio and the other Commissioners will be responsible for advising her on nominating and appointing judicial officers in coordination with the Governor's Council.



Gerry D'Ambrosio.

uate of Saint Dominic Saavio High School. He is a magna cum laude graduate of Boston University and went on to attend Suffolk Law School, where he was a member of the Law Review and a Trustees' Scholar.

D'Ambrosio has been an attorney for 30 years and serves as managing partner of D'Ambrosio Counselors At Law, which has offices in Revere and Boston. He has tried cases at the District, Superior, and Federal Court levels and also argued cases before the First Circuit Court of Appeals and the Supreme Judicial Court.

Gerry and his wife, Michelle, have four children, Anthony, a graduate of Yale University and a former member of the Revere School Committee, Gabby, a third-year law student at Suffolk, Andrew, a senior at the University of Southern California (USC), and Ava, a freshman at Boston College.

people of Massachusetts.”

D'Ambrosio said he was “very thankful” to Gov. Healey for the prestigious appointment to the Commission.

“I look forward to participating in public service and helping Gov. Healey in screening her judicial nominations for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,” D'Ambrosio said humbly.

D'Ambrosio attended the McKinley School, Revere, and is a 1986 grad-



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## OHNC// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

accommodate it.

It was clear there was significant concern regarding the Leyden Street project, so much so that the proposal was opposed by a vote of 38 to 2.

The final project that was up for a vote at this month's OHNC meeting was at 166 Bayswater Street. The proposal would convert an unfinished attic into a livable area with two bedrooms and more. Also, in this proposal, there are plans to build a new roof at the site as well as build porches for the first and second levels.

Overall, there was not much opposition to this project – the only major concern dealt with a backyard garage at the property being used as a residential area in the past; however, that is not planned to continue. Ultimately, the project was supported by a vote of 27 to 10.

Not only did those in attendance at the meeting vote on some proposed projects, but they also listened to the presentation for a development at 1141 Bennington Street – the

site of the old New England Casket Company.

The proponents propose to redevelop the site as a “transit-oriented” residential development with 220 units, an abundance of bicycle spaces, and 121 vehicle spaces, with improvements to open green space and much more.

According to John Casamassima, there was a lot of opposition to the massing and height of the proposed development. Further, there were concerns about the number of parking spaces that seemed to be lacking in the eyes of some residents.

Moreover, there were also concerns about the impact on traffic this project would have on the area. Casamassima indicated that one resident observed that the traffic plan depends on sending cars on Palermo Street – a private way – and that the proponents had not conversed with residents on that street yet.

Overall, the OHNC had a busy meeting on its hands last week. It is scheduled to meet again next month on Monday, May 15, and hear from City Councilor Gabriela Coletta, vote on the 1141 Bennington Street development, and more.



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