

East Boston

TIMES - FREE PRESS

Wednesday, July 5, 2023

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The newest in sports technology, the mini pitch, combining soccer and basketball. This playing area is highly praised as they are being placed around the country. Lighting will be installed shortly, allowing evening usage by members.

New mini-pitch completes first phase of Boston Scores/ Salesian Boys & Girls Club investment

By Adam Swift

A new mini-pitch at the Salesian Boys & Girls Club aims to fuel big soccer dreams for the young

people of East Boston and beyond.

On Friday morning, Boston Scores and the Boys & Girls Club held a ribbon cutting for the new

mini-pitch, which was made possible through gifts and donations from the family of Mark and Sarah Williamson, the U.S. Soccer Foundation,

the Major League Soccer Players Foundation, and Musco Lighting.

“You guys have been nothing short of amazing in the world of community partnerships, and myself and this community and our organization will be forever grateful,” said Salesian Boys & Girls Club Executive Director Michael Triant of the partnership with Boston Scores.

The mini-pitch is the first program space to be activated as part of a \$15



Ceremonial kicking of soccer balls by, from left: Amelia Wilkes, Tony Barbiero, Elizabeth DeBlas, Samuel Lisboa, and Silene Pires.

See SALESIAN Page 16

Electric Picnic cut short at Eversource substation site

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

In the fight to put a stop to the construction of an Eversource electric substation on Condor Street, activists organized another protest, this time with a picnic — inside the project’s construction site.

Just before 9 a.m. on Tuesday, June 27, four activists set up a ladder and hopped the fence of the construction site for Eversource’s electric substation, and sat down on a blanket with a picnic basket in protest.

After sitting in the site for a few minutes and shouting out chants such as “No Eastie Substation,” the activists were subsequently arrested by Boston Police. Per a police report obtained from the Boston Police Department (BPD), all four of the protestors were charged with one count of trespassing.

There has been an on-

going fight to move this substation out of the area for at least nine years, mainly due to safety.

“They’re [Eversource] putting it into a flood plain area, and when substations are put into areas where they can flood, they have a tendency to explode, and this is already in a community that’s already

overburdened with a lot of infrastructure,” said Alex Chambers, an Organizer, and Spokesperson for Extinction Rebellion Boston (XR).

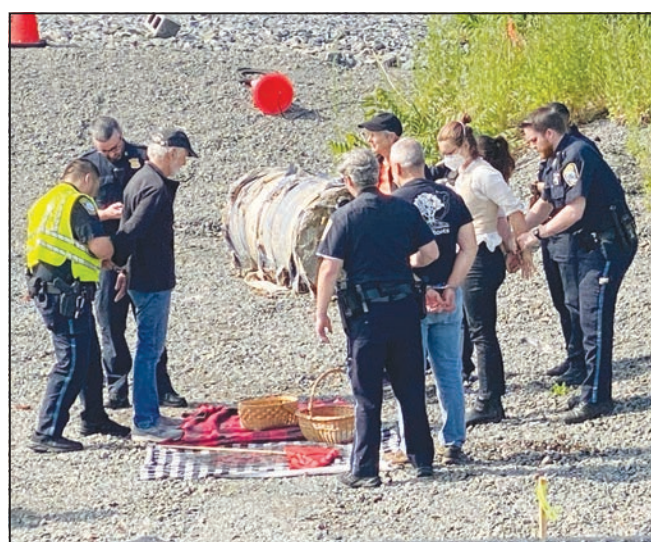
Jule Manitz, an XR Activist, echoed Chambers’ sentiment calling the substation a “timebomb” and compared the placement of the substation to putting

a toaster on a shelf above a bathtub.

Throughout this process, activists have been very outspoken in the fact that they are calling on Governor Maura Healey to step up and do something about the substation.

“We are really calling on the governor to come and talk to people in East Boston, come step foot in the neighborhood, and explain why this project that she has called an injustice in the past is being allowed to continue,” said Sara Arman, Director of Health Equity and Policy at GreenRoots an organization along with XR that has been at the forefront of opposing the substation.

As construction continues, the sense of urgency to move the substation is reaching a crescendo, but according to Chambers, there is still time for action.



MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR. PHOTO

Boston Police begin arresting the activists during their picnic protest.

See PICNIC PROTEST Page 5

OHNC votes against redevelopment project at 1141 Bennington

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

A sizeable majority of those in attendance at the monthly Orient Heights Neighborhood Council (OHNC) meeting on Wednesday, June 21, voted in opposition to a redevelopment project at the site of the old New England Casket Company at 1141 Bennington Street.

The proposal is to create a transit-oriented residential development that would include 220 units and 128 parking spaces at the site where the New England Casket Company was destroyed during a fire in 2019.

During the meeting, the

project team once again presented to the OHNC, this time to discuss concerns that had been raised about the proposal and to inform attendees of the mitigation strategies that could potentially be employed to quell those concerns.

There were four main concerns, as outlined by Paul Scapicchio, former City Councilor who was representing the Tobia family — the project’s proponent and owner of the old New England Casket Company. These concerns were traffic, parking, GPS navigation, and rodent control.

See OHNC Page 2



Shirley Fabbo, of The East Boston Chamber of Commerce, presented a mini key to the city to Happy Valley’s representative Jimmy Martinez in honor of Happy Valley’s two year anniversary. The Chamber member’s milestone was celebrated with day long festivities held at their location at 220 William F. McClellan Highway here in East Boston.

SUMNER TUNNEL CLOSES JULY 5 FOR REPAIRS

Officials offer travel options during closure

Special To The Times

Transportation Secretary and CEO Gina Fiandaca, MBTA General Manager Phillip Eng, Massport CEO Lisa Wieland, Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, and Acting Revere Mayor Patrick Keefe held a joint news conference June 28 at the MBTA’s Wonderland Blue Line Station in Revere regarding the full closure of

the Summer Tunnel.

The Summer Tunnel closed today (July 5) for extensive repairs and will remain closed until Thursday, August 31.

The full closure for several weeks is the next phase of a project that began in April, 2022, and includes work on the tunnel ceiling, roadway, walls, lighting and additional improvements which will increase safety and climate

See SUMNER TUNNEL Page 9

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NEWS IN BRIEF

PARKS DEPARTMENT SUMMER GOLF COURSE CONCERT SERIES RETURNS JULY 12

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department’s live music offerings continue in 2023 with a series of Wednesday evening summer concerts on the patios at the City of Boston’s two golf course clubhouses.

Enjoy local artists playing and a wide variety of musical styles at the George Wright Golf Course Clubhouse at 420 West Street in Hyde Park and the William Devine Golf Course Clubhouse at 1 Circuit Drive in Dorchester.

Held in July and August,

the Golf Course Concert Series is part of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department’s year-round ParkARTS program. All shows are from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Title Sponsor is Bank of America. Additional support is provided by the Emerald Necklace Conservancy.

The William Devine Golf Course Clubhouse concerts begin July 12 with folk, pop, rock, reggae, blues, and soul-influenced singer Kaliloops, continue July 26 with rising R&B singer & songwriter Amari Alexander, and wrap up August 9 with New England-based solo acoustic artist Jon Hollywood.

The George Wright Golf Course Clubhouse concerts begin July 19

with a second appearance by Jon Hollywood and continue August 2 with Western Massachusetts-based singer-songwriter Grayson Ty, August 16 with guitar, vocal, and violin trio It’s a “J” Thing, and August 24 with Boston’s own country singer-songwriter Maddi Ryan.

All ParkARTS performances are free of charge. For more information, please visit boston.gov/golf-concert-series. Stay up to date with news, events, and improvements in Boston parks by signing up for our email list at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails and following our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

WU TO CELEBRATE THE REOPENING OF BCYF PARIS STREET POOL JULY 6

The BCYF Paris Street Pool, located at 113 Paris Street in East Boston, will reopen with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, July 6, at 10:30 a.m., following a \$8.9 million, three year renovation. All

are invited to the celebration.

The building was completely renovated including upgrades to the mechanical systems, bathrooms and locker rooms, and the pool. There is a modified main entrance and lobby area, reconfigured interior spaces and exterior upgrades which make it a more inviting

and user-friendly space.

There will be no charge for membership or programming but visitors need to create a membership at boston.gov/BCYF-Registration. Registration for classes and programs can be found on the pool’s webpage, boston.gov/BCYF-Paris-Street-Pool, once the pool opens.

Eastie Week celebrates its 10th anniversary with two weeks of art, and fun all around East Boston

Special to the Times

Boston Harbor Now has announced the return of Eastie Week, the annual multi-week event celebrating the community, culture, music, and art of East Boston. This year will mark the 10th anniversary of Eastie Week, which will take place throughout East Boston from July 8 - July 26.

Eastie Week was created in 2013 to bring awareness to the vibrant neighborhood of East Boston and celebrate the community of people who call East Boston its home. Thanks to help from a variety of local organizations like, ZUMIX, East Boston Social Center, Piers Park Sailing Center, Veronica Robles Cultural Center (VROCC), HarborArts, and more, the 2023 Eastie Week celebrations will be bigger and better than ever.

The 10th anniversary will feature returning free and low-cost programs such as the Veronica Robles Cultural Center Annual Sounds Around Town Musical Float, outdoor movie nights featuring Jaws and the Super Mario Bros. Movie, wellness classes like yoga and dance lessons, and more. An abundance of new programs, including Art in the Park, Hip Hop Pop Up, and ABCD Paint Night, have been added to Eastie

Week to make this year’s celebrations the largest ever and one to remember.

Attending Eastie Week celebrations will be more convenient than ever this year. From July 5 until August 31, the MBTA Blue Line and harbor ferry service will be free for all riders. Additionally, the MBTA is providing discounted fares for the commuter rail, as well as discounts on parking at both MBTA and Commuter Rail parking lots and garages.

Eastie Week Logistics:

Who: Everyone is welcome to celebrate the East Boston community!

What: Special free and low-cost programming crafted by and for the East Boston community. Enjoy family-friendly activities and events ranging from live concerts to fitness and dance classes to kayaking and sailing on the Harbor.

When: July 8 - July 26, 2023

Where: East Boston

Eastie Week will kick off on Sunday, July 9th, with ZUMIX Walk for Music. Eastie Week will conclude on Tuesday, July 25th, with the East Boston Main Street’s Taste of Eastie event at the Tall Ship of East Boston closing out the celebrations.

To view the full Eastie Week programming

schedule, visit: <https://eastieweek.org>.

In April of 2016, Boston Harbor Now launched as a new nonprofit civic organization with a bold mission: to ensure a vibrant and sustainable future for Boston’s harbor, waterfront, and islands. Boston Harbor Now works with public and private partners to expand access to open space and recreational, educational, and cultural opportunities harbor-wide, plan for and build an integrated and expanded water transportation system, and to foster economic development and growth that is resilient to sea-level rise and the effects of climate change. Boston Harbor Now plays a unique role as the non-profit partner of the Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park raising funds to help the National Park Service, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, the City of Boston, and hundreds of youth and community organizations to build visitor amenities and recreational infrastructures like campsites and trail networks, to provide interpretive, educational and cultural programs and volunteer opportunities, and to provide free access for children and families from low-income communities.

OHNC // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In terms of traffic and parking, there are concerns that vehicles from the proposed development would use Palermo Street, Swan Avenue, and Leverett Avenue as pass-throughs or even use those streets for parking.

Moreover, regarding GPS navigation, it was pointed out that sometimes when you put the Belle Isle Marsh into your GPS, it does not send you to the correct entrance, thus pushing parking onto residential streets. Finally, there were concerns that construction would lead to pest control issues.

One of the mitigation strategies that is proposed to quell the traffic concerns is to put a cul-de-sac at the end of Palermo Street, where it meets Swan and Lawn Avenues, to prevent people from cutting through the area.

“It would obviously be subject to third-party approval, so DCR (Department of Conservation and Recreation) would have a say in this; there’s private landowners as well, but we’ve committed to pushing this forward and hopefully getting all these approvals and be able to implement this option,” said Liz Bello Senior Vice President at Redgate.

As for mitigation regarding parking concerns, there are plans to impose “a signage, monitoring, and towing program.” According to the presentation, the program would “include a physical identification system for cars of homeowners, renters, and visitors and a protocol for getting unauthorized cars towed.”

“As part of our approvals, we would work with the neighbors to imple-

ment a parking program, and it’s an easy one because it’s basically a license to hunt for Todisco Towing. They basically tow your car, take it away, you pay a fine to get it out — that’s another commitment that we would make,” said Scapicchio.

Concerning the GPS issues, the project team is essentially committing to contacting these different services that have the incorrect location pinned for the entrance to the Belle Isle Marsh and having the services move that pin to the correct location.

“It’s not directly linked to the project, but it’s in the same vain with people that are nonresidents, non-homeowners parking on these streets,” said Bello.

“We would contact those companies and rectify the geolocalational information that they have so that they’re not directing them to the streets; they’re directing them somewhere else more appropriate for them to park and access the marsh,” she added.

Finally, as for rodent control, the project team would engage with a pest control company long before construction starts to introduce a baiting program.

While the presentation focused on the aforementioned concerns and mitigation strategies, when it came time for questions, many residents talked about the unit makeup. According to Bello, of the 220 proposed units, 75-percent of them are one-bedroom units, which did not sit well with residents.

“I think that’s ridiculous. Like you’re trying to keep East Boston fam-

ilies in East Boston having 75-percent of your total units of 220, that is a significant amount of one-bedrooms that are going to be for people that aren’t in this room,” said one resident.

“That’s not for keeping people like this in this neighborhood; that’s for bringing people from all over the city, all over Somerville, Cambridge, moving them here, and they’re going to move out very quickly,” the resident added.

Scapicchio responded directly to the resident’s feedback saying, “Let’s be right upfront ... it is a commercial development that we have to build that has to be commercially viable.”

“The idea is we’re building more housing in a region that is starved for housing,” he added. While also indicating that the development has more two and three-bedroom units than what is required.

Other residents also commented on this subject. One said, “Let’s face it, Paul [Scapicchio], it comes down to the almighty buck, and they’re trying to make a profit, so let’s put the cards on the table.”

Scapicchio acknowledged the resident’s comments about the project, saying, “It is about a feasible project for the Tobias. It is to try to monetize their site since they lost their business.”

Although the project team certainly seemed to take in feedback from residents and make some mitigation commitments, it was not enough to win support from those in attendance, as a vote of 25-14 opposed the project.



Virtual Public Meeting

PLAN: East Boston - Waterfront and Evolving Industrial Areas Inner Harbor Community Meeting

Tuesday, July 18

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/PLANEastBostonWEI

Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 161 430 9106

Project Description:

Please join us for an Inner Harbor community meeting to preview draft recommendations for Waterfront and Evolving Industrial Areas. This event is part of PLAN: East Boston, a long-range neighborhood-wide planning initiative that, when complete, will update neighborhood zoning, establish neighborhood design guidelines, and propose new capital improvements to public space, including near- and long-term improvements to the neighborhood’s transportation network.

At this time, the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) is continuing to host public meetings in a virtual setting for the health, safety, and accessibility of Boston residents. For more information and updates, visit bostonplans.org.

mail to: **Jason Ruggiero**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
phone: 617.918.4383
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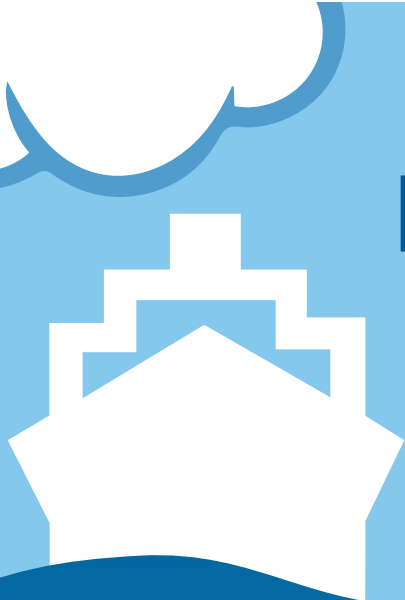
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Weekday Schedule

To Long Wharf, Boston		To Lewis Mall Wharf, East Boston	
Depart	Arrive	Depart	Arrive
Lewis Mall Wharf East Boston	Long Wharf Boston	Long Wharf Boston	Lewis Mall Wharf East Boston
7:00 AM	7:10 AM	7:15 AM	7:25 AM
7:30 AM	7:40 AM	7:45 AM	7:55 AM
8:00 AM	8:10 AM	8:15 AM	8:25 AM
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Weekend Schedule

To Long Wharf, Boston		To Lewis Mall Wharf, East Boston	
Depart	Arrive	Depart	Arrive
Lewis Mall Wharf East Boston	Long Wharf Boston	Long Wharf Boston	Lewis Mall Wharf East Boston
9:00 AM	9:10 AM	9:15 AM	9:25 AM
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Lewis Mall Wharf, East Boston — Long Wharf, Boston

Horarios vigentes a partir del 27 de marzo

de 2023 hasta el otoño de 2023



Horarios entre semana

A Long Wharf, Boston		A Lewis Mall Wharf, East Boston	
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Horarios fines de semana

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Gove Street Citizens Association discusses 9 McKay Place

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

During its regular meeting on Monday, June 26, the Gove Street Citizens Association (GSCA) welcomed the project team for the development of 9 McKay Place to update those in attendance about the proposed plans.

As it stands now, the proposed development seeks to demolish four existing buildings on the site in order to construct a five-story, 53-foot-tall building comprised of 41 units and 35 parking spaces.

Regarding the unit makeup of the 41 total units, Joshua Smith of Zephyr Architects said, “We tried to put as many two and three-bedroom units in the building as possible to make sure that over 50-percent of the units in the building were two or three-bedroom.”

“So that you can have families live in Eastie — you can raise children here. It doesn’t have to be just a place of studios and one-bedrooms as a lot of the other larger buildings are doing,” he added.

Further, of the 41 total units, seven of them will be IDP (Inclusionary Development Policy) units, which is 17-percent.

“Per current zoning code, we’re only required to have 13-percent. We figured this would be a better way of serving the community,” said Smith.

As for other aspects of the project, it has gone through some changes since it was presented to the GSCA back in November.

For example, back in November, there were plans for 1,200 square feet of commercial space that was going to be used by a popular East Boston

non-profit organization — Eastie Farm, and even a rooftop garden for Eastie Farm’s use; however, both of these things are no longer in the works.

“We’ve been working with the BPDA (Boston Planning and Development Agency), with Eastie Farm, who was looking to take our commercial space, and with other city boards and realized that we can’t necessarily offer the commercial space as a stable amenity,” said Smith.

In the project’s updated design, bicycle parking, and an amenity gym were included in the area previously planned to be commercial space. A community meeting area was also added to the plans in close proximity to the building’s lobby.

Other updates to the project since November include widening a side-

walk on Maverick Street by kicking back the building’s facade, which will consist of things like street trees and benches, as well as the inclusion of a bus stop in front of the building’s public park.

Smith indicated that he thought this new bus stop would replace the Frankfort and Cottage Street stops and, in turn, would free up parallel parking spots along Maverick Street.

When the meeting was opened up to questions for the project team, many were concerned about the impacts of the project on the Donald McKay School, which is a direct abutter.

For example, one resident asked specifically about the shadows that might be caused by the building in how that would affect the schoolyard, which is directly be-

hind the site.

“We’re working with the McKay school to mitigate any effects on their playground. I think we realize that our building is — it is tall — and it is backing up against the playground. It will overshadow their current sort of teaching garden area,” said Smith.

Although, as Smith mentioned, the building would overshadow the garden area, he indicated the team is working with the school and offering financial compensation to construct a new learning garden elsewhere on the school’s property.

Susan Huang, the Director of Operations at the McKay School, attended last Monday’s meeting and provided a statement about the talks between the school and the development team.

“We have been in con-

versation with them sort of on and off since 2021. We have expressed our concerns over construction, safety of our students — the garage entrance is right across another garage entrance — traffic and parking, and everything else that the neighborhood is concerned about,” said Huang.

“If the project goes through, we have been promised that there will be ongoing conversations and open lines of communication, which I hope will include a design construction management plan,” she added.

Huang also spoke about the financial compensation for the learning garden but mentioned it is not in writing. However, Attorney Derric Small indicated that benefit commitments would be memorialized.

See GSCA Page 5

MASSPORT AWARDS ANNUAL RAUSEO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Michalena Capogreco receives award for college

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) has announced the recipient of the annual scholarship honoring the memory of longtime employee Donna Rauseo. The 2023 Donna Rauseo Memorial Scholarship was awarded to East Boston resident Mi-



Pictured L-R: Massport Director of Community Relations and Government Affairs, Alaina Coppola; Donna’s Son, Rocco Rauseo; Michalena Capogreco; Massport CEO Lisa Wieland.

chalena Capogreco.

“Michalena’s outstanding academic achievement and commitment to her

community is truly admirable,” said Massport CEO Lisa Wieland. “Her hard work and dedication

will help her excel in her future endeavors and we wish her the best.”

The Donna Rauseo Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to a female student who resides in East Boston. Rauseo was a graduate of East Boston High School and for more than 20 years was the executive assistant to Thomas J. Kinton, Jr. when he served as Aviation Director of Logan Airport and later as CEO and Executive Director for Massport.

Capogreco graduated from Boston Latin School and will soon attend the University of Connecticut. She has volunteered her time at the Boston

Latin School Library, St. Lazarus Parish, WINARC and at the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen.

To be considered for the Donna Rauseo Memorial Scholarship, students are required to have a minimum 3.0 grade point average and submit an essay of 1,000 words describing their career interests or how their community service has affected their outlook on life. In her essay, Michalena wrote, “While my family has always been involved in some community service activity, it was important to me that I gave back to organizations which helped me grow as a person.”

Applications are judged by a committee made up of Massport employees and a representative of the Rauseo family. Students interested in applying for the 2024 scholarship should visit www.massport.com for eligibility requirements.

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1. Update your info

2. Check your mail

3. Respond to MassHealth

Act now. Stay covered.

MASSPORT AWARDS ANNUAL RICHARDS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sara Lopez Alvarez receives award for college

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) has announced the recipient of the annual memorial scholarship honoring the memory of longtime employee Lowell Richards, III. The 2023 Lowell L. Richards III Memorial Scholarship was awarded to East Boston resident Sara Lopez Alvarez.

“Sara’s interest in advocacy, shown through her work as a peer education

leader and other positions, embodies the type of student we hoped to reach through this scholarship, in memory of our dear friend and colleague Lowell Richards,” said Massport CEO Lisa Wieland. “We are excited to see what the future holds and wish her the best in all of her future endeavors.”

The Lowell Richards Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a student who resides in the City of Boston, Chelsea, Revere or Winthrop. Richards was responsible for Massport’s strategic and master planning activities, including the airports and the seaport, as well as the agency’s private commercial and residential real estate



Pictured L-R: Massport Director of Community Relations and Government Affairs, Alaina Coppola; Lowell’s Wife, Karen Richards; Sara Lopez Alvarez; Massport CEO Lisa Wieland.

development in South Boston, East Boston, and Charlestown. Richards joined Massport in 1999 and was previously the

Assistant Secretary of Administration and Finance and Chief Development Officer for the Commonwealth and Deputy Mayor for Fiscal Affairs and

Collector-Treasurer in the City of Boston.

Lopez is a graduate of the Dana Hall School and will soon attend the College of the Holy Cross. She has volunteered on the Youth Commission with Hebrew College and Teen Empowerment Center, Veronica Robles Cultural Center, the Eastie Environmental Anti Vape/Marijuana Campaign Committee and as the Peer Education Co-Head at Dana Hall School.

To be considered for the Lowell Richards Memorial Scholarship, students are required to have a minimum 3.0 grade point average and submit an essay of 1,000 words describing their career interests or

how their community service has affected their outlook on life. In her essay, Sara wrote, “I will have the opportunity to learn not only from great professors but also from my classmates and discover the things that interest me, both professionally and personally. To be happy, you must be passionate about your work, and I want to discover this passion.”

Applications are judged by a committee made up of Massport employee and a representative of the Richards family. Students interested in applying for the 2024 scholarship should visit www.massport.comfor eligibility requirements.

Picnic Protest// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“There’s an incredible amount of urgency on this because we’re six months into construction; it’s anticipated that this project will take two years to finish. There is time right now to turn it around,” said Chambers.

Since there is still time to fight back against the project, Chambers indicated that demonstrations like last week would continue. “We’re going to keep showing up until this project is canceled,” they said.

With all that said,

Manitz called on residents to get involved and make their voices heard in the fight against the substation.

“I want each and everyone to come out, and obviously, I’m aware that a lot of people are fighting and struggling with life and don’t have the freedom all the time to come out, but we have people who are coming out all the time,” said Manitz.

“Do not only come out. Also, speak with your neighbors because there’s still people living like a

block away from the construction site who don’t know what kind of time-bomb they’re getting,” she added.

As this process rolls on, Arman indicated that, in the end, there is optimism for victory in what is an ongoing battle against the East Boston substation.

“I really believe that when we fight and we organize our community like the residents of East Boston have been doing for years, we will win. So I’m always feeling positive and optimistic that we



MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR. PHOTO

Activists hold their picnic inside the construction site to protest the substation.

will have a positive result as a result of community organizing,” said Arman.

To learn more about XR and GreenRoots and get involved, you can visit <https://xrboston.org/> and <http://www.greenrootschelsea.org/>.

GSCA// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Moreover, there were concerns in regard to the garage entrance, which Huang referred to in her statement since it is just down the street from the

school. However, Smith mentioned that the garage would be equipped with alarms, beacons, mirrors, and more to make it as safe as possible.

As the meeting continued, various questions were raised about aspects of the project, such as parking, mitigating construction impacts, and

more.

If you are interested in seeing the presentation in its entirety, you can visit <https://www.govestreet.org/meetings> and find the

recording under the 2023 tab.

Per email correspondence with the GSCA, the 9 McKay Place development team must return

before a vote on the project is held. Currently, the board is deliberating if the team will return in July or at a later meeting.

2023 CITY OF BOSTON UPDATED YARD WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Due to the state’s closure of the Sumner Tunnel, yard waste will be collected on **Saturdays only during July and August** in all Boston neighborhoods. The regular collection schedule will resume in September. To learn more please visit boston.gov/yard-waste

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- Leaf and yard waste curbside collection
- Household hazardous waste drop-off
- Yard Waste drop off
- 416 American Legion Highway
Boston, MA 02131 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- NOTE:**
When regular collection resumes in September, yard waste is collected the same day as regular household recycling. If you have two recycling collections per week, collection is on your first recycling day of the week.
- Place leaves and yard waste in large paper bags or open barrels labeled “yard waste”
- Branches should be no more than 3 feet long, 1 inch thick, and tied with a string.
- Please no plastic bags or dirt.
- CHRISTMAS TREES**
We collect Christmas trees curbside from January 1 - 12, 2024
- HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF DATES AND LOCATIONS**
August 12 | West Roxbury | 315 Gardner St.
W. Roxbury DPW | 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
September 23 | Lower Roxbury Central DPW Facility
400 Frontage Road. | 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.



Constitution Beach scores 94-percent on 2023 Water Quality Report Card

Special to the Times

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay released its annual Metropolitan Beaches Water Quality Report Card this week just in time for this year’s Fourth of July celebrations. This year’s report card covers the Metropolitan Region’s public beaches in Lynn, Nahant, Revere, Winthrop, East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester, Quincy and Hull owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and managed by the Department of Conservation & Recreation. It is based on data from the 2022 beach season. In 2022, overall water quality safety rating for Boston Harbor region beaches was 93-percent, up from the previous year’s score of 86-percent, largely because it was a particularly dry year, with less than half the rainfall of 2021. They have summarized the results in the table visible on page 2.

Rainfall has a significant impact on the water quality on many beaches. In 2022, the total rainfall was much less than in 2021 (23.95 inches compared to 50.38 inches), resulting in an improvement in the all-beach average safety score.

These seasonal changes are the reason why Save the Harbor/Save the Bay prefers to reference the multi-year average to assess water quality at a beach, instead of single year safety ratings.

The beaches of South Boston continue to be among the cleanest urban

beaches in the country, with Carson Beach, Pleasure Bay and City Point Beach each receiving perfect scores of 100-percent in 2022. Eleven area beaches earned scores of over 90-percent this year, while just one beach, King’s Beach in Lynn and Swampscott, scored below 80-percent in 2022.

“Most of the region’s beaches scored quite well in 2022” said Save the Harbor/Save the Bay’s Executive Director Chris Mancini, who noted that King’s Beach in Lynn and Swampscott and Tenean Beach in Dorchester continue to lag behind in the six year average. “We are pleased to see improvement at Tenean Beach, which scored 89-percent in 2022, and are hopeful that Lynn and Swampscott ongoing efforts to address persistent pollution at Stacey Brook will improve water quality at King’s Beach,” said Mancini.

Though most area beaches received great grades in 2022, the flags flown on ocean beaches continue to earn failing grades. For example, 100-percent of the red flags DCR flew on Constitution Beach in East Boston were wrong in 2022, misleading the public about when it was safe to swim and when it was not.

Currently, DCR’s beach managers are instructed to fly a red flag to inform beach goers when water sampling test results demonstrate elevated bacteria levels. While the tests themselves are extremely accurate, it takes 24 hours

for them to be completed and posted. As a result, they are always at least one day late, and do not reflect current conditions on the beach.

“We believe that there are better ways to provide timely and accurate information about beach water quality to those who need it most,” said Mancini, citing the Metropolitan Beaches Commissions recent report “Breaking Barriers”, the City of Boston’s web-based CSO Health Alerts and DCR’s increasing use of QR codes on beach signage as examples. “We look forward to working with the Healey-Driscoll Administration, the Metropolitan Beaches Commission, the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, The Department of Conservation & Recreation, state and local officials and other stakeholders to Save the Harbor commended the Department of Public Health for improvements to its beach water quality monitoring website at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/current-public-beach-postings>, which now provides current beach closure notifications in over 100 languages.

“With support from both US EPA and the Commonwealth, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has been able to modernize our public health data systems for reporting the water quality at the more than 550 marine and over 500 freshwater beaches across the state,” said Public Health Commissioner Dr. Robbie Goldstein. “Each summer, DPH is responsible for reporting the re-

Beach	Six-year average safety rating (2017-2022)	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Pleasure Bay	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
City Point	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	97%	94%
Nantasket	98%	94%	100%	98%	97%	100%	98%
M Street	97%	94%	94%	94%	100%	100%	100%
Carson	98%	100%	92%	100%	100%	93%	100%
Revere	96%	98%	94%	100%	87%	98%	98%
Winthrop	94%	94%	100%	100%	78%	100%	94%
Constitution	94%	97%	91%	98%	90%	94%	95%
Nahant	91%	81%	77%	96%	93%	100%	100%
Short	91%	94%	89%	94%	88%	100%	80%
Wollaston	88%	88%	82%	85%	87%	93%	92%
Savin Hill	88%	94%	70%	89%	79%	100%	94%
Malibu	87%	95%	73%	91%	83%	91%	91%
King's	76%	74%	68%	70%	79%	75%	92%
Tenean	76%	89%	63%	79%	67%	78%	81%
All Beaches	92%	93%	86%	93%	89%	95%	94%
Rainfall (in)	39.28	23.95	50.38	38.54	38.04	51.94	32.85

sults of more than 16,000 water quality samples from over 1,000 locations across the state. Our new data reporting system lets us meet our obligation using the best available technology to support our dedicated network of local, state, and tribal partners who keep beaches in Massachusetts safe for all. As part of our commitment to these partners, and our ongoing commitment to equity, we are proud to invest in a new system that provides timely notifications in multiple languages and accessible formats.”

When it is completed in July, the fully redesigned site will allow multilingual access to the most current beach water quality test results and historic water-quality data for every beach in the Commonwealth, providing the public with the information they need to make informed decisions about when and where to swim. “In the meantime,” said Mancini,

“we urge beach-goers to use common sense and stay out of the water for 24 hours - two tide cycles – after a summer storm.”

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay thanks Dr. Judy Pederson, former Chair of their Beaches Science Advisory Committee and Bruce Berman, former Director of Strategy & Communications at Save the Harbor/Save the Bay for their guidance in developing the methodology used in this report. They also thank Senate President Karen Spilka and House Speaker Ron Mariano, Metropolitan Beaches Commission Co-Chairs Senator Brendan Crighton of Lynn and Rep. Adrian Madaro of East Boston, and each of the legislative and community members of the Commission for their commitment to clean water and the region’s public beaches from Nahant to Nantasket.

They also thank the Healey/Driscoll Administration, the Massachusetts

Water Resources Authority, The Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Richard M. Saltonstall Charitable Foundation, The Rose Family Foundation, Kelly Coughlin of Stony Brook Partners, Save the Harbor’s Environmental Policy Assistant Caroline Adamson, and Save the Harbor’s Environmental Policy Assistant Aliya Zwyer for their help as well.

To learn more about Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and the great work they do to restore, protect and share Boston Harbor, the waterfront, islands and the region’s public beaches with all Bostonians and the region’s residents visit their website at www.savetheharbor.org and follow @savetheharbor on social media.

JULY 9 - 26

EASTIEWEEK

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eastieweek.org

East Boston

Times-Free Press

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WE'RE (OVER)EATING OURSELVES TO DEATH

The latest statistics reveal an incredibly negative picture of Americans: 40% are obese and another 32% are overweight. In other words, almost three quarters of Americans maintain an unhealthy weight.

Yes, the fast-food industry is hugely to blame, as epitomized by all of those melted-cheese-dripping triple-bacon-burger commercials on college football Saturdays. Americans' lifespan is declining for a myriad of reasons (alcohol, opioids, and COVID), but our epidemic of obesity surely is a contributing factor to our high rates of heart disease, diabetes, and cancer. We are eating ourselves to death.

The average American male today weighs 30 pounds more than he did 50 years ago and the average American woman today weighs the same as that man of 50 years ago. Certainly, for some people genetics plays a huge role in their weight. But our society has become obese not because of changes in our genetic makeup compared to 50 years ago, but because we eat way too much of the wrong kinds of food which have become all too easy to access.

The number of fast-food franchises has grown exponentially in the past 50 years. In addition, we have come to equate excess food consumption as a luxurious pleasure, as though it is an end in itself. If you go on a cruise ship (as we recently did), the non-stop over-abundance of food available at buffets only serves to encourage gross overeating -- and way-too-many passengers are happy to comply.

Overeating truly has become as American as apple pie (no pun intended). Bad food habits are just as bad for us as anything else (e.g. smoking, alcohol, drugs), but are less expensive and on every street corner. Moreover, these unhealthy foods are pushed on us all day, every day. TV ads for cigarettes were banned decades ago — we need to do the same for fast-food ads.

The new diabetes drugs, which have been shown to induce weight loss, hold huge promise for those who struggle to maintain a healthy lifestyle. As these drugs are tested for side effects (and no doubt will be improved-upon in the future) and come to market, perhaps this generation of Americans can win the modern-day Battle of the Bulge.

60 YEARS OF JAMES BOND

It was 60 years ago this summer that the first James Bond movie, Dr. No, starring the late Sean Connery, was released in the U.S.

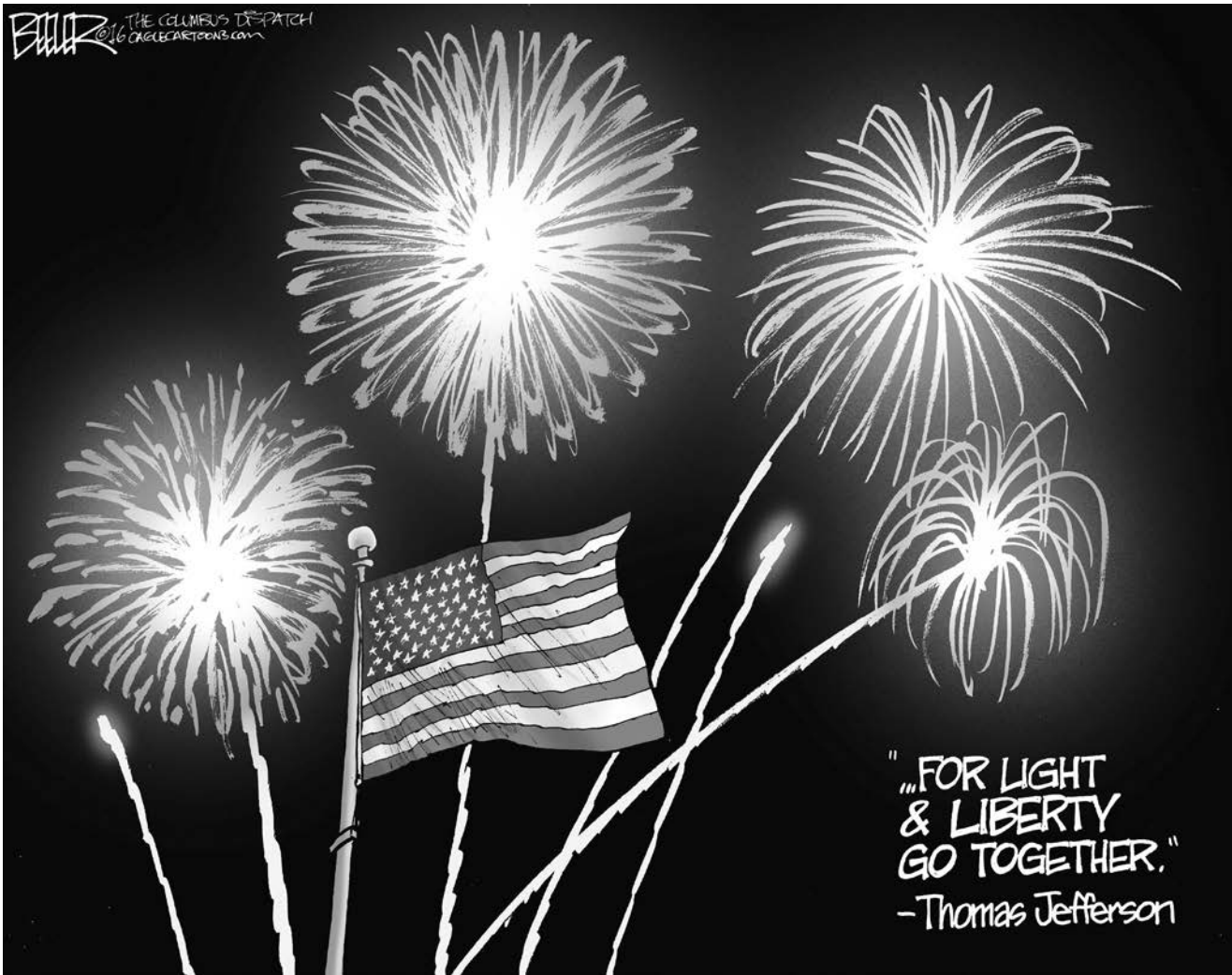
That movie instantly became a touchstone of 1960s pop culture which has flourished to the present day. The iconic James Bond theme is as recognizable today as it was 60 years ago, and we recall all of the big pop songs by the biggest stars that were written just for the movie, from Shirley Bassey belting out Goldfinger to Adele's haunting performance of Skyfall.

Admittedly, not all of the Bond movies were that great, nor were all of Sean Connery's successors equal to Connery. And to be sure, as with just anything from that pop-culture era, some of it is cringe-worthy by today's standards.

But James Bond films always were fun and entertaining, and proved to be a wonderful escape, whether in an air-conditioned movie theatre in the summertime or a cozy theatre at winter holiday-time, creating warm memories that have lasted a lifetime.



Forum



Mayor's Garden Contest deadline is July 12

Special to the Times-Free Press

Mayor Michelle Wu has announced the 27th annual Mayor's Garden Contest highlighting the hard work of Boston's urban gardeners. The competition provides the perfect opportunity to recognize the skills of all Boston residents who contribute to the beauty of the city's landscape.

Boston's green thumbs have until 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, July 12, to submit their gardens for award contention. The contest recognizes gardeners who have landscaped, planted flowers, trees, shrubs, and, in the

process, helped beautify Boston's neighborhoods.

Gardeners or those nominating their favorite gardeners may find printable and online nomination forms at boston.gov/mayors-garden-contest. The preferred method of entry is to submit photos through the online application. Alternatively, contestants may request an application by emailing their name and address to gardencontest@boston.gov. Paper applications are also available in English and 10 additional languages.

Judges will fan out across the city visiting fi-

nalists the week of July 24. Once the votes are tallied, first place winners will receive the coveted "Golden Trowel" award from Mayor Wu while second and third place winners will be awarded certificates.

Gardeners who have won three or more times in the last 10 years will be automatically entered into the Hall of Fame. These distinguished Hall-of-Famers are not eligible to enter as contestants but are invited to return as judges.

First place winners are eligible for a drawing for a JetBlue Grand Prize consisting of roundtrip flights for two to any nonstop

destination from Boston. Terms, conditions, and blackout dates apply. In addition, Mahoney's Garden Centers will provide gardener's gift bags to the top three winners in each category, as well as gift certificates for the 2023 Hall of Fame winners.

Stay up to date with the Mayor's Garden Contest as well as news, events, and design and construction work in Boston parks by calling (617) 635-4505, signing up for our email list at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails, and following our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

Sen. Edwards holds Route 1A listening session

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

On Saturday, June 24, over 150 people in person at the Suffolk Downs Media Room and on Zoom gathered for a listening session regarding the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's (MassDOT) Route 1A corridor study hosted by Senator Lydia Edwards.

Per MassDOT's website, the study seeks to assess "the potential uses of the MassDOT and MBTA rail parcels located between Route 1A and the Chelsea Creek, and evaluate the Route 1A corridor between Bell Circle in Revere and Day Square in East Boston."

According to Edwards, the study began in October of 2021; however, now the study has been paused.

"It is paused because the analysis that we're looking at in terms of numbers, in terms of truck mitigation, did not include Suffolk Downs, which is a major factor," said Edwards.

Though the study has been paused, Edwards presented data for two alternatives that have been discussed for the area. Alternative one is a bike and pedestrian path that connects East Boston from the Curtis Street Bridge to Belle Circle in Revere.

While alternative two is a bike and pedestrian path with the inclusion of

a multi-modal bypass road for transit and freight that begins at the Curtis Street Bridge and ends at Tomasello Way.

Edwards' presentation identified that the two alternatives were compared through different lenses, such as equity and resilience, and in the case of alternative two, truck diversions projected for 2040 were analyzed.

In terms of equity, the presentation noted that both alternatives provide better connections for environmental justice (EJ) communities. However, alternative one would provide better recreation and access to natural resources for EJ communities.

As for resilience, both options have flood protection for projected 2070 sea level rise. Although, alternative one includes 3.4 acres of additional green space.

Concerning projected 2040 truck diversions which were only analyzed for alternative two because it includes a bypass road, Edwards indicated that about 35-percent of truck traffic would be moved to the bypass road off of route 1A. Though it should be noted, as previously mentioned, the study in which these numbers come from omitted Suffolk Downs.

Shortly after Edwards' presentation, it was time for the open mic portion of

the meeting in which residents, either for or against the bypass road, made their voices heard.

One resident voiced her support for the bypass, alluding to the Maverick Street Mothers in the 1960s.

"I am the daughter of one of the Maverick Mothers. Yes, they did want to stop traffic on Maverick Street, and they did. In actuality, isn't that what the bypass road would also do — it would take trucks further away from East Boston," said the resident.

"I agreed with the project when it was first proposed and still do — it will make it safer for children and add more space — for the children anyway — by getting the trucks off the roads," she added.

Others were for the bypass road because they felt it would help relieve traffic that hampers the area. "We're drowning in traffic right now from trucks to Amazon trucks to UPS to FedEx," said a resident.

"Anything that mitigates 35-percent traffic out of my area, I'm for," added the resident.

While there were a lot of folks who were in support of instituting the bypass road, there were several detractors as well.

One of those residents against the bypass road spoke about how East Boston should not be giving up any more land, es-

pecially waterfront land.

"Please keep trucks off our waterfront, defend the legacy of those who fought and lost Wood Island by not giving up one more acre of East Boston's waterfront to development by these industries," said the resident.

That same resident also said, "Our waterfront is a limited resource, and we need to preserve and retain it for future improvements."

Others had concerns about the proposed bypass road, such as a representative from Mothers Out Front East Boston, who wrote in the Zoom chat that there were concerns over a just community involvement process, potential added pollution from the bypass road, and insinuating that the bypass road is essentially airport expansion.

Though many residents were on each side of the aisle concerning the bypass road, some remained undecided. One undecided resident asked about Edwards' thoughts, but she declined to give them, indicating that the session was for hearing from residents.

Overall, in what seems to be a hot-button issue, it looks like Edwards' listening session was a good step in ensuring residents' voices are heard.

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EBNHC Chief Behavioral Health Officer receives Massachusetts Community Health Center Clinician Award

Special to the Times

Earlier this month, East Boston Neighborhood Health Center’s (EBNHC) Chief Behavioral Health Officer, Michael Mancusi, LICSW, received the Massachusetts Community Health Center Clinician Award from the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers. The award is presented to clinicians who embody the mission of community health centers and are committed to innovation to achieve health equity for all.

“I am honored to receive this recognition from the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers,” said EBNHC Chief Behavioral Health Officer, Michael Mancusi, LICSW. “I am

proud to work at an organization that values mental health as a core component of health care and lead a team of accomplished practitioners who share my view of mental health care as a basic human right.”

Michael, who has been with the health center for 38 years, manages EBNHC’s more than 50-person Behavioral Health team, which serves a community of patients that bear a disproportionate burden of trauma, unmet mental health needs and substance use disorders.

Specializing in an integrated model of behavioral health care, Michael oversees a broad spectrum of departments including Emergency Preparedness, Recovery Services, and numerous commu-

nity-based programs, including the health center’s Community Resource and Wellness Center at 282 Meridian Street in East Boston and the Student Wellness Center at East Boston High School.

“Access to high quality behavioral health care services remains a significant challenge in communities across the Commonwealth. As our state’s largest community-based primary care health system, East Boston Neighborhood Health Center continues to lead the way on expanding access to behavioral health services as well as introducing new services for our patients and communities,” said EBNHC President & CEO, Greg Wilmot.

“We are grateful for Michael’s nearly 40 years

of dedicated service, both caring for the mental health of our patients and leading EBNHC’s efforts to grow and innovate the area of Behavioral Health. We are so excited to celebrate him and the important work of our diverse and talented Behavioral Health team.”

This fall, EBNHC will be launching a new Behavioral Health Urgent Care Service located at 10 Gove Street in East Boston, in order to deepen and extend mental health community support. This new service is just another example of important and innovative work that EBNHC advances under Michael’s leadership, enabling EBNHC to improve access to high-quality behavioral health care in the communities it serves.



(From left to right: Michael Curry, Esq., President & CEO, Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, Michael Mancusi, LICSW, EBNHC Chief Behavioral Health Officer, Elizabeth Browne, CEO of Charles River Health & Chair of the Mass League Board of Directors).

BPHC reminds residents about dangers of opioids after 7 percent increase in fatal overdoses in Boston

Following the release of preliminary state data for 2022 on opioid-related overdose deaths, the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is reminding residents about the dangers of opioid use and its harmful impacts on our communities, as well as the presence of fentanyl in the drug supply.

New data released by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health last week noted that 352 people died from opioid overdoses in Boston in 2022, a nearly 7 percent increase from 2021 (330 total deaths). From 2019 to 2022, Boston experienced a 36 percent increase in opioid related deaths, more than twice the statewide rate of increase (16 percent) over the same time period.

A key factor for this increase is the role of fentanyl, a highly potent synthetic opioid, involved in

more than 90 percent of opioid-related deaths in both the state and among Boston residents in 2022.

Xylazine, known as “tranq,” an animal tranquilizer has also been increasingly found in the drug supply and increases the risk of overdose through oversedation.

“This ongoing tragedy requires increasing our focus on overdose prevention throughout our city,” said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. “We must respond by scaling up evidence-based interventions that decrease the harm associated with drug use and keep people alive. We must also address pervasive inequities and ensure that lifesaving prevention, care, and treatment are available to all.”

The 2022 data show that opioid-related over-

doses have disproportionately impacted Black and Latinx individuals in Boston: 30 percent of all opioid overdose deaths in Boston were among Black individuals and 21 percent were among Latinx individuals.

Opioid overdose deaths among Black individuals in Boston increased by 29 percent from 2021-2022, and deaths among Latinx individuals increased by 9 percent from 2021-2022.

From 2020-2022 combined, the average annual opioid overdose mortality rate for Black and Latinx residents was 66 percent and 31 percent higher than white residents, respectively. The rate of overdose death for Black residents from 2020-2022 is a 130 percent increase from the rate observed from 2017-2019. Data compiled by BPHC in its recent Health of Boston Report show the leading

cause of premature deaths among male Black and Latinx residents for 2017 through 2021 combined was accidents, with opioid overdoses accounting for most of these deaths. These data emphasize the need for increased attention to equitable access to harm reduction prevention, and treatment services in Boston.

BPHC and the City of Boston remain committed to responding to this crisis in collaboration with the state, clinical, and community partners through a public health approach that expands access to life-saving treatment, harm reduction services, prevention, and recovery support. In addition to providing harm reduction tools like syringes and safe smoking supplies, BPHC’s AHOPE (Access, Harm Reduction, Overdose Prevention and Education) program offers drug testing services to

drug users to identify the presence of fentanyl, xylazine, or other substances. Access to treatment services is also available through the PAATHS (Providing Access to Addictions Treatment, Hope and Support) program. To contact PAATHS, please call 1-855-494-4057. Anyone in the City of Boston can call 311 anytime to access treatment services or care.

Expanding access to Narcan (naloxone) is another critical aspect of the response to overdoses.

BPHC distributed nearly 15,000 doses of Narcan to residents and community partners in 2022, and outreach workers reverse up to five overdoses a day.

Boston EMS responded to 4,245 narcotic related incidents in 2022 and administered Narcan to 2,181 patients. Not only do these heroic actions save lives, but they also help build all-important relationships with clients to that help engage them and link them to services. Naloxone is available over

the counter at pharmacies across Massachusetts. BPHC offers free training on how to respond to overdoses and administer naloxone.

In 2022, BPHC began funding two day-spaces in Roxbury and Back Bay that serve as safe environments where individuals can get connected to clinical care and services and get meals, basic amenities, and build trust with our providers.

As more and more individuals come to Boston for treatment and resources, BPHC and the City support Governor Healey’s commitment to increase harm reduction capacity in cities and towns across the Commonwealth.

BPHC urges the city to remain vigilant for signs of overdose. Common signs of an opioid overdose include slowed breathing, blue lips, and unresponsiveness. If you encounter someone who you believe has overdosed, call 911 immediately, perform rescue breathing, and administer naloxone.

ParkARTS Neighborhood concerts return July 10

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department’s 2023 ParkARTS Citywide Neighborhood Concert Series will offer top-notch musical entertainment in local parks from July 10 through August 9.

The ParkARTS outdoor neighborhood summer

concerts are presented in City of Boston parks and made possible by presenting sponsor Bank of America with additional support from Berklee College of Music and College Hunks Hauling Junk & Moving. All shows begin at 7 p.m. unless other-

wise noted. The following schedule is for the ParkARTS:

- Monday, July 10, Living on a Bad Name (Bon Jovi tribute) , Billings Field, 369 LaGrange Street, West Roxbury
- Tuesday, July 11, JP Sax Quartet, Oak Square Common, Oak Square, Brighton
- Wednesday, July 12, 6:30 p.m., Swingin’ in the Fens featuring Jelani Bauman, Ramler Park, 130 Peterborough Street, Fenway (rain date July 19)
- Monday, July 17, Divas with a Twist, Fallon Field, 50 Firth Road, Roslindale
- Monday, July 24, Northeast Groove, Pinebank, 345 Jamaicaaway, Jamaica Plain
- Wednesday, July 26, Conscious Reggae, Blackstone Square, 1530 Washington Street, South End
- Monday, July 31, National Night Out with Conscious Reggae, Hunt/Almont Park, 40 Almont

Street, Mattapan

- Wednesday, August 2, River of Dreams (Billy Joel tribute), Dorchester Park, Adams Street, Dorchester
 - Sunday, August 6, 5 p.m., Jazz at the Fort featuring Tim Hall: Trust the Process, Highland Park, 58 Beech Glen Street, Roxbury
 - Wednesday, August 9, Be Kind, Rewind (90s tribute), Medal of Honor Park, East Broadway and N Streets, South Boston
- All ParkARTS neighborhood performances are free of charge. For more information, please call (617) 635-4505 or visit boston.gov/park-arts. Stay up to date with news, events, and design and construction work in Boston parks by signing up for our email list at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails and following our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

Michael Bookman named to GSEMA Board of Directors

Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts (GSEMA), the largest girl-serving organization in Massachusetts and 10th largest Girl Scout council in the United States, elected Michael Bookman of Boston to serve on its Board of Directors during the council’s Annual Meeting, which was hosted on May 11. Voting members of the council elected this year’s slate, which includes three new adult board members, four new girl board members, and three new Board Nominating and Development Committee members.

Michael serves as the Chief Legal Officer of Immuneering Corporation (Nasdaq:IMRX), a clinical-stage oncology company. Prior to joining Immuneering, Michael



Michael Bookman

served as General Counsel and Secretary of Frequency Therapeutics (Nasdaq: FREQ). As a member of the Executive Leadership Team, he established and led Frequency’s Legal Department as its first in-house attorney.

Prior to his time at Frequency, Michael was an associate at Latham & Watkins LLP, a leading international law firm where

See BOOKMAN Page 10



Thank You

For Making Our 14th Annual Summer Camp Scholarship Auction Fundraiser A Success!

Our annual event brought many wonderfully caring people together to celebrate award recipients and help raise money for our Summer Camp & After School programs. Our Salesian Boys & Girls Club family, thank you for joining us and making the evening memorable. We are grateful for your generosity and support and for helping provide deserving children with a safe, fun, and unique summer camp experience.

We are proud to Congratulate Community Award recipient Thomas O'Brien, CEO of The HYM Investment Group LLC, Don Bosco Award recipient Stanley DeMartinis, Sr. (posthumously), Youth of the Year Julianna Troville, Stanley DeMartinis, Sr. Scholarship Award Recipients Julianna Troville and Camila Espinal, and Fr. John Nazzaro, SDB, as he celebrates the 40th Anniversary of his Priestly Ordination.

Special Thank You to Salesian Boys & Girls Club alumni Rep. Adrian Madaro and Honorable and Honorable Carlo Basile, our Masters of Ceremony and Auctioneers for the event, and Honorable Robert Travaglini for his kind support.

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LOCAL STUDENTS EARN

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LOCAL RESIDENTS GRADUATE FROM HAMILTON COLLEGE

The following local resident received Bachelor of Arts degrees from Hamilton College on Sunday, May 21, in a Commencement ceremony concluding the college’s 211th year:

Clarissa Hurley of East Boston (02128). An economics major, Hurley graduated with Departmental Honors in economics and completed an honors presentation titled “The Semiconductor Industry’s Business Model Disparities.”

Retired Navy Adm. Michelle J. Howard, the first female four-star admiral and chair of the 2020-22 Congressional Naming Commission, was awarded an honorary degree and delivered the Commencement address.

In her remarks, Howard shared anecdotes from her time before and after active duty, all tied to this life lesson: the call to the common good is for all of us. “As your namesake [Alexander Hamilton] would say, the first duty is justice,” she told the Class of 2023.

Hamilton’s 500 graduates now join an alumni body of more than 23,000, many of whom have made important contributions to business, the professions, government and the arts.

Hamilton College, a leading liberal arts institution located in Clinton, New York, is where exceptional students explore passions through an open curriculum and robust research, internship, and off-campus study opportunities. Students graduate ready to lead purposeful lives thanks to highly regarded faculty mentors, generous resources that support each student’s interests, and a loyal alumni network. The College’s need-blind admission policy ensures access for talented students with limited financial means.

SANTOS GRADUATES FROM COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS

Arlyn Santos, of East Boston received a bachelor of arts degree from College of the Holy Cross.

Santos is among 762 bachelor of arts degree recipients Holy Cross celebrated at its 177th Commencement held in person on Friday, May 26 at the DCU Center in Worcester. U.S. Senator Peter Welch ‘69 of Vermont, a Class of 1969 alumnus, delivered this year’s address to the Class of 2023 and received an honorary degree.

Vincent D. Rougeau, president of the College, presided over the celebratory event, bestowing the honorary degrees and greeting each graduate as they crossed the stage.

In his remarks, Welch said the social mission of Holy Cross - that achievements should be shared and used for the betterment of others - left an indelible mark on him.

Welch also assured graduates that they are capable of facing the great odds of today to accomplish great things for the future.

“You are strong and ready. Your shared experience at Holy Cross has made you so,” said Welch. “The Holy Cross commit-

ment to intellectual and open inquiry and using our talents for good is something this institution has preserved and passed on to one generation after another since 1843. This experience and commitment will make you the builders of tomorrow.”

In addition to Welch, Holy Cross also awarded an honorary degree to Rosanne Haggerty, an internationally recognized social entrepreneur and leader in developing innovative strategies to end homelessness. Haggerty is the president and chief executive officer of Community Solutions, a non-profit organization dedicated to ending homelessness she founded in 2011.

About Holy Cross
The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Mass., is among the nation’s leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,100 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.

REGIS COLLEGE CELEBRATES 93RD COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Empowered and inspired by their Regis education to serve as leaders and advocates for a more just and compassionate global society, members of the Class of 2023 celebrated their accomplishments with an inspirational commencement ceremony at the Leader Bank Pavilion in Boston featuring WH-DH’s Amaka Ubaka who delivered the commencement address and received an honorary degree, along with philanthropists Bill and Joyce Cummings. More than 1,300 students graduated with degrees ranging from associate to doctoral levels.

“It is now up to you to take what you have learned and leave this ceremony committed to bettering the world around us with your knowledge and compassion. As the journey continues for each of you, I am confident in the future because you are in it,” Regis College President Antoinette M. Hays, PhD, RN said to the graduates.

Ubaka delivered the commencement address urging graduates to embrace their “rebel hearts,” a term used by the late singer Harry Belafonte to encourage individuals to stand up for what they believe in, even if it goes against the norm.

“Whether it’s through volunteering, activism, or pursuing a career that aligns with your values and passions, each of you has the power to create positive change. Remember that life is a journey, not a destination. There will be ups and downs, twists and turns, and unexpected surprises along the way. Embrace the journey and don’t be too hard on yourself if things don’t always go as you planned in your head.” said Ubaka. “As you move forward, remember that your unique

Sumner Tunnel // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

resiliency. MassDOT has put together a robust plan to mitigate as much as possible the impact of the project to residents and travelers.

Following are the remarks of some of the speakers at the news conference:

Transportation Secretary Gina Fiandaca

“This project will have huge impacts across our region. The Sumner Tunnel Restoration Project is crucial. It’s a \$160 million investment in our transportation system. We’re working hard to provide as many options for mitigation as possible for those who are impacted by this restoration work. The tunnel will also be closed for two months next summer (2024) to complete the restoration work.

“We know that this [closure] will impact the lives of our travelers and our commuters and we appreciate their willingness to explore different modes of travel. We’re asking if you can (to) ditch the drive. We’re investing in free and reduced transit. There will be free trips on the MBTA Blue Line for the length of the tunnel’s

closure. And there will be free and reduced costs for ferry options, including making the East Boston Ferry free. We will be providing reduced fares (\$2.40, the same price as the current subway ticket) on the commuter rail. There will be reduced parking (fees) across the parking lots of the MBTA and the commuter rail garages. Discounted tolls will also be provided on the Tobin Bridge and the Ted Williams Tunnel for those registered with the resident discount program. Five bus routes in Chelsea will also be free.”

MBTA General Manager Phillip Eng

“We understand that the Sumner Tunnel shutdown will disrupt travel patterns and be a frustration for some of the public as they find new ways to travel. But we all recognize that the work is critical for the longevity of the tunnel and safety of the infrastructure. With the partnership of MassDOT and the Highway Division, we’ve been hard at work in order to offer a number of creative transportation alternatives for the public while we support the Sumner

Tunnel project. I want the public to know that the ‘T’ is ready to step up and move the public, essential workers, travelers, and transport-dependent riders during the Sumner Tunnel shutdown.”

Massport CEO Lisa Wieland

“Summer is Logan’s busiest season as families prepare to take vacations, as you welcome visitors from across the country and around the world, you come to see the City of Boston, our great state (Massachusetts), and New England. And this summer will be no exception as MassDOT moves ahead with this very important work to repair the Sumner Tunnel.

“So, we want to prepare people if you are coming to Logan, here’s what we’re asking you to do. First, we want you to prepare and plan ahead. We’re asking people to plan for an extra two hours of travel time coming to and leaving Logan Airport. We’re also asking people not to drive, so get out of your cars and take public transportation or transit. We have a lot of great options for people: you can take the Blue

Line, the Silver Line, we also offer services from four suburban locations on our Logan Express Service, as well as one from the Back Bay. There’s water transportation as well as private bus service.”

Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver

“This project is the culmination of five years of engineering, planning, and a lot of coordination and our team is ready. Crews will be working 24/7 during a two-month period to rehabilitate and repair the tunnel. We will have over 200 personnel on site working around the clock and using accelerated construction techniques to get this work done. Crews will be removing nearly 4,000 linear feet of ceiling panels and installing 326 linear feet of pre-cast arch segments and upgrading the lighting, communications, and life safety systems of the tunnel. This is not an easy job, by any means. But again we are ready and when we are reopened, drivers will have a bright tunnel, with new ceilings that will be safe for years to come.”

Boston Mayor Michelle Wu

“The closure of the Sumner Tunnel will be a significant disruption for our residents of East Boston and the North Shore. As a City, we are working in close collaboration with our partners at the state level to mitigate the impacts and ensure that residents can get where they need to go as efficiently and reliably as possible. I want to thank the general manager (Phillip Eng) and everyone at the MBTA for making the Blue Line and East Boston Ferry both free of charge for the entire duration of the closure.”



CARY SHUMAN PHOTO

State Transportation Secretary Gina Fiandaca speaks at the news conference held last week at Wonderland Train Station regarding the full closing of the Sumner Tunnel.

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SeeACADEMIC HONORSPage 15

OBITUARIES

Albert DiOnizio, Jr. Lifelong Resident of East Boston

Albert J. DiOnizio Jr., a life-long resident of East Boston, passed away suddenly on June 29 at the age of 60.

The beloved son of Carmela (Repoli) DiOnizio and the late Albert DiOnizio, he was the devoted father of Kristin Wood and her husband, Greg of Nashua; dear brother of Francine DiOnizio O'Shea and her husband, David of Dracut; cherished grandfather of Joshua, Oliver and Dakota and adored uncle of John, Kayla and Kimberly O'Shea. Family and friends will honor Albert's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga St., East



Boston, today, Wednesday July 5 from 4 to 8 p.m. A funeral in celebration of Albert's life will take place in the memorial home chapel at 7:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association.

Nancy M. Iovanna Loving wife, mom, sister and nana

Nancy M. (Dalton) Iovanna of Revere, passed away on Thursday, June 29th, 2023. Beloved wife of Andrew Iovanna. Loving mother of Karla Iovanna of North Reading, Michael Iovanna and Jessica Iovanna both of Revere. Daughter of the late Albert "Cappy" and Theresa "TeeTee" (Amaru) Dalton. Grandmother of Olivia DeLuca and DJ Canniff. Sister of Karen Dalton of Revere, Maureen Waddell and her husband George of Beverly, Charles Dalton of Revere and the late Denise Parsons and Raymond Dalton.

Nancy was full of life, love and laughter. Her beautiful smile lit up any room she was in. Her fun, sweet personality made it impossible not to love her. Everyone loved Nancy, and Nancy loved everyone — exactly the way they needed to be loved.

Nancy was adored by her loving husband, Andrew, for 53 years and together they shared 51 beautiful years of marriage. There was nothing more important to Nancy than family. She was THE BEST wife, mother, Nunna, daughter, sister, niece, cousin and friend to all who knew her, and even those she just met. Nancy loved to cook, bowl, travel and shop. The majority of her time was spent caring for, and doting over, her two grandchildren, Olivia and DJ. Nancy fell ill in 2020, and spent 3 long years



battling pulmonary hypertension and Sjogren's syndrome. She struggled longer than she should have for her family, and in the end she wanted to make sure everyone knows that now she gets to rest peacefully. Nancy will be sorely missed by all who knew her, and remembered by the precious memories she left behind.

Relatives and friends are most respectfully invited to attend a Funeral Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 670 Washington St., Revere on Thursday, July 6th at 11am.

Visiting hours at the Cota Funeral Home, 335 Park St. (corner of Park St. and Rte. 28) NORTH READING, at Reading line, on Wednesday from 4-8pm.

Interment Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Nancy's name to ACF Family Scholarship Fund, 14 Joseph Rd., Revere, MA 02151.

New Stormwater Utility will help modernize infrastructure and support cleaner waterways

Special to the Times

Early next year, the Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) will launch a new stormwater utility that will meet an increased need to modernize Boston's stormwater infrastructure and better prepare for climate change. The proposed stormwater utility will restructure BWSC's current billing by creating a stormwater charge, as well as credit and grant programs that will allow customers to reduce their stormwater charge by performing approved stormwater management activities. The credit and grant programs are being included as part of the stormwater utility following months of conversation with the City of Boston.

BWSC expects that the majority of residential customers will not see an increase in their overall bill because the new billing structure includes a reduction to the existing sewer rate. The funds from the new stormwater charge will help make necessary improvements to Boston's stormwater management systems to better prepare the City for more frequent and intense storms, mitigate flooding, and reduce the amount of polluted runoff draining to the city's waterways. Ahead of the launch, BWSC will undertake a six-month public outreach campaign, during which BWSC will solicit feedback and share information about the proposed stormwater utility with the public.

"The stormwater charge is a fairer and more equitable way to support stormwater services," said Henry Vitale, Executive Director of BWSC. "There are some properties in the City of Boston—such as parking lots—that are not billed for water and sewer, yet these properties have a significant impact on the amount of stormwater runoff that must be managed. We're proposing that these property owners will have 'stormwater only' accounts and pay a stormwater charge."

The new stormwater

charge will allow BWSC and its partners to modernize infrastructure while allowing Boston to address additional growing challenges posed by both climate change and urban development's expanding footprint.

Stormwater is generated when precipitation falls on hard impervious surfaces like roofs, driveways, roads, or sidewalks and "runs off," rather than absorbing into the ground as it would in nature. When stormwater flows over hard surfaces, it collects litter, sediment, and other pollutants, like motor oil and fertilizer. Catch basins in our roadways capture stormwater and convey it through a network of underground pipes called storm drains. Storm drains then release stormwater into our water bodies via stormwater outfalls. Stormwater does not receive treatment at the Deer Island wastewater treatment plant, which means that all the pollutants carried by stormwater enter our lakes, rivers, streams, and Boston Harbor.

In a city that receives an average of 48 inches of rainfall annually, stormwater runoff also contributes to inland flooding. Due to climate change, storms are becoming more frequent and more intense, which will result in more flooding in the coming years if BWSC and the City do not begin to adapt now.

To respond to these challenges, Boston must make improvements to our aging storm drain system, add storage capacity and stormwater treatment, and increase maintenance activities throughout the City. Infrastructure improvements will include pipe replacement and upsizing to accommodate larger volumes of water; stormwater storage features, like stormwater trenches, chambers, vaults, and other infiltration features that will be implemented wherever feasible; and additional staff, training, and equipment to facilitate more frequent and effective maintenance for all stormwater infrastructure, both gray and green.

Green infrastructure

(GI) will also be a key component of Boston's stormwater management strategy. GI features mimic the natural water cycle, using plants, soil and other natural materials to capture, filter, store and infiltrate stormwater back into the ground. These features come in all shapes and sizes and have many benefits beyond stormwater management. Benefits include increasing urban tree canopy, mitigating urban heat islands, improving air quality, as well as providing access to green space and improving mental health among urban dwellers. BWSC and the City are currently building and expanding our GI Programs, which include GI planning, design, construction, maintenance, and monitoring activities. GI features like rain gardens, bioswales, bioretention areas, tree infiltration trenches, constructed wetlands, etc. will be deployed in Environmental Justice communities and areas that are already disproportionately experiencing the effects of climate change. These features will not only remove pollutants and provide much-needed stormwater storage to reduce localized flooding but will help create a more beautiful and healthy city.

The proposed stormwater charge will be used exclusively for stormwater management and will be based on the amount of impervious surface on a property. This is the most common basis for stormwater charges across the country and will more accurately reflect the cost of collecting and managing stormwater. Additionally, customers that currently receive BWSC's elderly and disability discounts (30-percent on water and sewer charges) will have those discounts automatically applied to the stormwater charge.

Since BWSC's creation in 1977, its investment in sewer and stormwater infrastructure modernization has resulted in dramatic water quality improvements in Boston Harbor, its beaches, and tributary rivers. In 2012, BWSC filed a consent decree settlement to enhance its efforts to comply with the Clean Wa-

ter Act, as well as clean and revitalize Boston Harbor and its tributaries, including the Charles, Neponset, and Mystic Rivers.

The revenue generated by the stormwater charge will fund BWSC's regulatory compliance responsibilities, while also supporting a more resilient future. BWSC will make investments in measures that improve water quality, increase public awareness, and protect the environment, including:

- New storm drain infrastructure
- Repair and replacement of existing infrastructure
- Green infrastructure
- Installation of stormwater control measures
- Outfall restoration
- Numerous other drainage improvement projects

A growing number of U.S. cities, including over 20 municipalities in Massachusetts, have implemented stormwater utilities. Stormwater charges have been embraced nationwide as a more equitable approach to funding infrastructure modernization and better management of stormwater runoff.

Boston's stormwater system is New England's largest and consists of over 30,000 catch basins and 600 miles of pipe conveying stormwater to more than 250 outfalls. BWSC customers currently pay for stormwater management through the rates charged for sewer service. In the past, when sewage and stormwater were managed with one set of "combined sewer" pipes, using sewer charges to pay for stormwater management made sense. Now that BWSC has largely separated Boston's combined system, the proposed stormwater utility will separate out charges for stormwater from the charges for sewer.

BWSC is in the process of determining the final amount of the proposed stormwater charge. However, customers can access more information about the proposed stormwater utility (stormwater charge, credit program, and grant program), as well as a bill estimator tool, on the BWSC webpage at <https://www.bwsc.org/stormwater>.

Bookman // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

he worked on corporate transactional, securities and general business and governance matters, with an emphasis on representing high-growth technology and life sciences companies. Bookman holds a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Virginia School of Law and a Bachelor of Business Administration, summa cum laude, from the University of Miami.

"Our Board of Directors are so vital to helping advance the Girl Scouts mission," said Barbara Fortier, Chief Executive Officer, Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts. "Our organization is fully dedicated to providing all girls, no matter their circumstances, unmatched opportunities to be their best selves, champion causes, embrace the outdoors, and gain per-

spectives from peers outside their social circles. We are pleased to welcome

our newly elected board members, whose talents and commitment will help

make strides for every current and future Girl Scout."

Birthday Remembrance

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

July 3, 1935 -
November 25, 2016



May your spirit shine forever!
I think of you in silence,
I often speak your name.
Though life goes on without you,
it will never be the same.
You can never be more than a thought apart.
For as long as there are memories,
they and you will live on in our hearts.

Remembering Elaine,
Dearly missed...never forgotten...
Lovingly remembered, and always, with love.
Tony

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Stuntz, Sarah	Sunrise Hill LLC	114 White St	\$1,280,000
116-120 Moore Street LLC	First Moore LLC	116-120 Moore St	\$4,810,000
Cooper, Matthew A	Havrest121 LLC	121 Havre St #1	\$685,000
Fanaei, Mohammad	Zhu, Jian X	135 Everett St	\$975,000
Axelrod, Ariana D	Condor Street Condo LLC	187-191 Condor St #9	\$675,000
Matulsky, Eric	200 Byron Street LLC	200 Byron St #2	\$907,500
Moody, Patrick	Silcared Harvest LLC	218 Brooks St #1	\$785,000



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EAST BOSTON ATHLETIC BOARD 70TH BANQUET OF CHAMPIONS



Award recipient Angel Franco, with his proud father, Luis Rodriguez.



Casey Fanning (right) presents the Outstanding Female Basketball Award to Isabella Munoz.



Coach Jeff Arinella, Luis Ortiz, recipient of the Al Festa Memorial Outstanding Baseball Player Award.

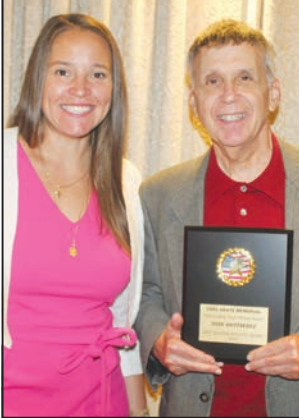
Cary Shuman photos

The East Boston Athletic Board held its 70th Banquet of Champions June 26 at Spinelli's.

The Board honored its Fred O'Brien Scholarship recipients and presented awards to East Boston's most outstanding student-athletes, coaches, and leaders in the sports community during an impressive awards ceremony.

The sports banquet is truly one of the most anticipated events on the East Boston calendar each year and a tribute to all the EBAB members, present

and past, that have continued the hallowed tradition for the past seven decades.



EBAB President Nicole McCormack and Carl Abate Jr. presenter of the Carl Abate Memorial Award to Outstanding Track Athlete Jose Gutierrez (not pictured).



Adrienne Wilson and Michelle Dagle present the Bill Pepicelli Memorial Winsor Award to Fernando Fernandez.



Angelina Catino was the recipient of the John P. Torrone Female High School Athlete of the Year Trophy.



Award recipient Orlando Jusino, with his friend, Princess Beauilliere, sister, Yanelis Jusino, mother, Yari Jusino, and father, Alberto Jusino.



Coach Vinnie Guarino of the East Boston Youth Basketball League champions, the Spartans, with his son, Nicholas Guarino, and Corey Bicknell.



East Boston Assistant Coach Kevin Sinatra (right) presents the Outstanding Male Basketball Player Award to Angel Franco.



East Boston Athletic Board President Nicole McCormack (right) with volunteers, Briana D'Amelio and Secretary Liz Ahern.



East Boston High swimming coach Dave Arinella (center) presents the Dave Arinella Outstanding Swimmer Awards to Jhoneider Herrera (left) and Emma Whiteknact (right).



Julianna Troville was the recipient of the James A. Sartori Memorial Athletics and Achievement Award. Making the presentation are Damien Margado and Joseph Bruno.



Fisher College soccer star Stephanie Faiella (center) was the recipient of James A. Sartori Memorial College Athlete Award for Athletics and Character. Participating in the award presentation are Matt Crystal and Fisher women's soccer coach John Del Valle.



Two giants in the East Boston sports community, previous Outstanding Sandlot Athlete Award recipients Frank Scarpa Jr. (1973) and Vincent Schettino (1984), who is arguably the greatest athlete in the history of the Camp Robie Sports Camp in Chelsea.



Enjoying the Banquet of Champions are seated (left to right), Jaden Pacitta, Michelle Pacitta, Nicole DaSilva, and Julianna Troville; standing (left to right) are Gianna Troville, Laura Troville, Craig Pacitta, Brian Troville (who launched the family's esteemed sports tradition as a star in Chelsea Little League), and Jason DaSilva.

EAST BOSTON ATHLETIC BOARD 70TH BANQUET OF CHAMPIONS



From left, Frank Scarpa Jr., Frank Scarpa Memorial Athletic and Sportsmanship Award recipients Luke Etheridge (being represented by Gabby Etheridge) and Ruwella Mejia, and Jeff Arinella.



East Boston High School baseball coach Jeff Arinella, Maria Camila Arinella, Cynthia Rozzi, and East Boston High School swimming coach Dave Arinella.



Boston Latin School graduate Sofia Lynds, recipient of a Fred O'Brien Scholarship, is pictured with her mother, Rebecca Lynds (left), her brother, Brody Lynds, and her father, John Lynds, the long-time and highly respected East Boston Times photojournalist. Sofia will be attending the University of South Florida.



Members of The East Boston Athletic Board are pictured at the 70th Banquet of Champions at Spinelli's.



Past Outstanding Sandlot Athlete Award recipient Steven Walsh and family, including Milena Gil, James Sartori Memorial Award recipient and Fisher College soccer star Stephanie Faiella, and Isabella Walsh.



Fred O'Brien Scholarship recipients (front row, left) Jeremy Ramos Mantia and Johoneider Herrera join the well-known Fanning Family for a group photo. Also pictured (front row) are Michelle Fanning, Meghan Paolera, and Casey Fanning. Back row are John Fanning, former Outstanding Sandlot Athlete Award recipient Katelynn Fanning Cali and her husband, Brandon Cali (far right), and their son, Lucas Cali.



East Boston High School baseball coach Jeff Arinella, recipient of the Sonny Buttiglieri Memorial Coaches Award, with assistant coaches Joseph Bruno, Kevin Sinatra, and Steve Tauro.



Kevin Sinatra was the recipient of the Michael J. Milano Memorial Outstanding Sandlot Athlete Award. Making the presentation are Joseph Bruno, Nicole McCormack, and Tony Geraci.



Joseph Bruno (right) presents the Outstanding Volleyball Player Award to Cindy Alfaro.



The recipients of the Fred O'Brien Scholarships display their individual plaques at the Banquet of Champions.

EAST BOSTON ATHLETIC BOARD 70TH BANQUET OF CHAMPIONS



From left, Casey Fanning, John Fanning, Michelle Fanning, recipient of the Sonny Buttiglieri Memorial Special Recognition Award, and Debbie Tassinari, recipient of the Racky DiNicolantonio Memorial Special Recognition Award, and Nicole McCormack.



Steve Scire, recipient of the Joe Guarnaccia Memorial Humanitarian Award.



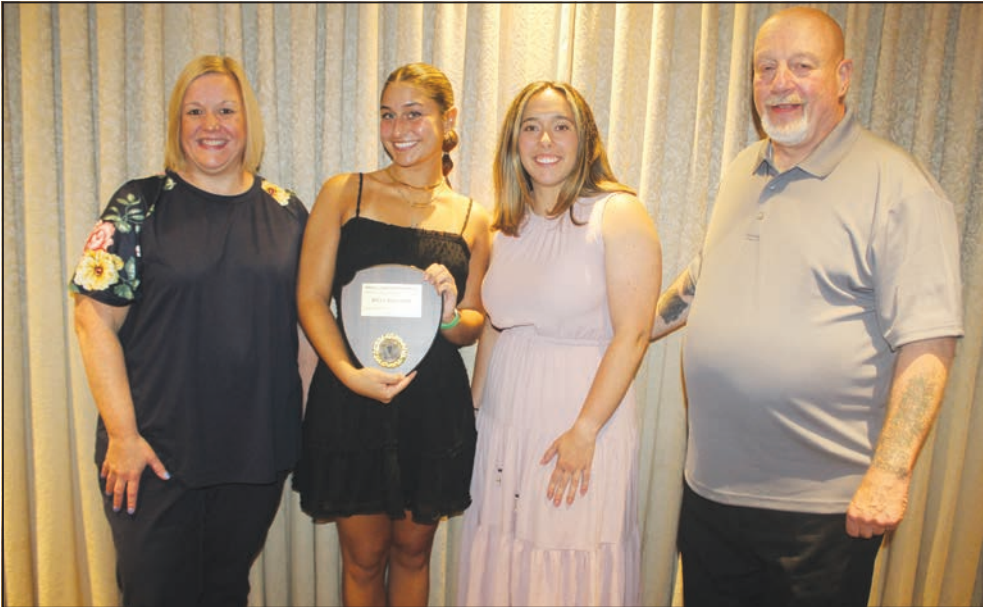
The 2023 Fred O'Brien Scholarship recipients are pictured at the Banquet of Champions.



Marc Lanzilli of the Men's Hockey League champions, Team Madaro, with his son, Budhi Lanzilli.



Angelina Catino, who had a phemonenal season as the goaltender for the Division 1 state finalist St. Mary's High School (Lynn) girls hockey team, was the recipient of multiple awards at the banquet. Also pictured are proud family, Ellie Catino, Joe Catino, and Anthony Catino.



The Mario Sinatra Memorial Athletic and Sportsmanship Award was presented to Billy Sullivan.



Orlando Jusino was the recipient of the John M. Sacco Male High School Athlete of the Year Trophy.



James Kearney, Male High School Athlete of the Year Orlando Jusino, Female High School Athlete of the Year Angelina Catino, Damien Margado, and Joe Weddleton.



Joseph Bruno (right) presents the Outstanding Male Soccer Player Award to Jeremy Ramos.



Nicole McCormack (left) presents the Outstanding Female Soccer Player Award to Raquel Rico.



The Jerry Barletta Memorial Athletics and Character Award was presented to Jason DaSilva. Making the presentation are Lorraine Barletta (left) and Vincent Schettino (right).



Damien Margardo presents the Out-standing Softball Player Award to Jaden Pacitta.



The Coach Tony Geraci Flashback Awqard was presented to Robert D'Italia (center). Making the presentation are Joe Weddleton (left) and Jim Geraci (right).



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Rare Steakhouse at Encore is an unforgettable dining experience

By Victoria Fabbo

Upon your first step walking into Rare Steakhouse, you are warmly greeted by the hospitality professionals at the reception area. They kindly lead you into an elegant room where you can view an open bar that is decorated with a variety of liquors.

The staff's attention to detail was noteworthy from the outset. One of the dining room assistants even brought over mini chairs for our bags. How thoughtful!

Our server, Bouchaib, was wonderful and knowledgeable of the menu. We had questions on the different steaks and Bouchaib was able to answer them easily.

We began our exquisite dining experience with an amuse bouche: bellini topped with creme fraiche, salmon and salmon caviar. It was delightful.

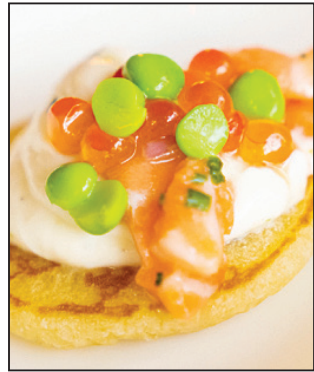
We then ordered our mocktail beverages, Passion Project and Butterfly Effect. The Passion Project was refreshing - it could be sipped all day long! The butterfly effect with the butterfly flower and cucumber was like a day at the spa.

Our appetizers included lobster bisque, French onion soup, and Little Gem Caesar Salad. The Little Gem Caesar Salad had a crostini which held the salad. As for the lobster bisque, it felt like you could taste that they had made the broth fresh using the shellfish.

Jhalak, one of our food service assistants, was knowledgeable on the ingredients in each dish. It was very helpful. The general manager, Tomas, was so kind and cordial, visiting each table and conversing with guests about their dining experience.



Rare Chocolate Cake.



Salmon Caviar with Creme Fraiche and Bellini.

Next, we enjoyed our steaks, the Boneless New York Sirloin with truffle butter on top! Yum! We

had it served with Brussel sprouts and mashed potatoes. They were just as superb as you could imagine.

The sweetest part happened to be the Pineapple Upside Down Baked Alaska for two, which was served table side. Baked Alaska has ice cream in the middle and it is covered in Italian Meringue which they then flambé. The presentation was lovely - Levin did a phenomenal job. We paired the baked Alaska with the Rare Chocolate Cake, which had a la mode vanilla ice cream. The ice cream was just what this ice cream lover enjoys. Sweetness!

As we were ready to leave our palatial surroundings, sweet goodies were served: macaroon, Pâte de fruit and chocolate truffle. Oh, the Rare Steakhouse was a Rare experience indeed. The bar is set high.



Victoria Fabbo in front of the Rare Steakhouse at Encore.

BLO brings free orchestral music to the DCR Hatch Memorial Shell on the Esplanade and Boston neighborhoods

Boston Landmarks Orchestra (BLO), under the direction of Music Director Christopher Wilkins, brings its annual summer series of free, live orchestral concerts to the iconic DCR Hatch Memorial Shell on the Esplanade, with a special focus on concerts in Dorchester, Roxbury, Hyde Square, and Chelsea. Rooted in the mission “we build community through great music,” Landmarks Orchestra is thrilled to present a concert series of free events which showcase a diversity of music and cultures.

Programming this summer celebrates an increased commitment to programming music by underrepresented composers and artists.

Music Director Christopher Wilkins says, “The 2023 season is filled with music everyone can enjoy. On the Hatch Shell series, we’re thrilled to work with Grammy Award-winning drummer and composer Terri Lyne Carrington, celebrating the symphonic legacy of Black American women during the NAACP’s national convention. With the Landmarks Orchestra’s Artist-in-Residence Fabiola Méndez, we continue our fruitful partnership with the Hyde Square Task Force. Other highlights include the premiere of a co-commissioned work by Brian Raphael Nabors on our annual “Green” Concert; George Gershwin’s



PHOTO BY MICHAEL DWYER

A scene from a previous Boston Landmarks Orchestra concert at the Hatch Shell.

An American in Paris; Rodrigo’s Concierto de Aranjuez for guitar and orchestra; and Violin Concerto in G composed by Joseph Bologne, subject of the new film, Chevalier. Most importantly, performing in Boston’s neighborhoods brings our mission front and center, celebrating Boston’s diverse culture and history through live orchestral performances.”

2023 Summer Concerts and Events

ASL interpreters will be present at many performances; see the website for current details.

GREEN CONCERT
Wednesday, July 19, 2023, 7p.m. ET | Hatch Shell

July 19th at the Hatch Shell is the annual “Green Concert” with works celebrating nature, including “Appalachian Spring” and a new piece from Bri-

an Nabors, “Upon Daybreak”, co-commissioned by Landmarks Orchestra.

BLO, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Ludwig van Beethoven The Creatures of Prometheus: Overture Op. 43

Lili Boulanger On a Spring Morning

Aaron Copland Appalachian Spring

Ethel Smyth On the Cliffs of Cornwall

Brian Raphael Nabors Upon Daybreak (Landmarks Orchestra co-commission)

Franz Liszt Les Préludes

SEEN/UNSEEN:
Wednesday, July 26, 2023, 7p.m. ET | Hatch Shell

The Symphonic Legacy of Black American Women Featuring Terri Lyne Carrington, guest artist and co-curator

Coinciding with the NAACP’s conference in Boston, the July 26 concert

at the Hatch Shell brings a special focus to celebrating the symphonic legacy of Black American women and their compositions. GRAMMY® award-winning drummer, producer and educator, Terri Lyne Carrington joins Landmarks as a guest curator and performer.

BLO, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Louise Toppin, soprano

Shirley Graham Tom-Tom: Overture and Excerpts, orchestrated David Kempers

Florence Price Dances in the Canbrakes, orchestrated William Grant Still

Undine Smith Moore Three Love Songs from Scenes from the Life of a Martyr, To the Memory of Martin Luther King Jr.

Mary Lou Williams Zodiac Suite (excerpts)

Nkeiru Okoye Voices Shouting Out

Valerie Coleman Umoja: Anthem of Unity

Courtney Bryan Footsteps of a Queen

Terri Lyne Carrington Seen/Unseen

COMMUNITY DAY IN CHELSEA
Saturday, July 29, 2023, 1 - 4p.m. | PORT Park 99 Marginal St, Chelsea

Join Landmarks Orchestra for a day of family fun! We’re hosting a Community Day in Chelsea at PORT Park on July 29th. Hosted by José Massó, this will be a family-friendly event featuring music, entertainment, family-friendly activities and more.

AMERICAN VIRTUOSO: AN AMERICAN IN PARIS & DVOŘÁK CELLO CONCERTO
Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2023, 7pm ET | Hatch Shell

On August 2, at the Hatch Shell, this concert features American gems such as George Gersh-

win’s An American in Paris and three dance episodes from Leonard Bernstein’s On the Town, along with a special prelude concert with Four Strings Academy.

BLO, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Tommy Mesa, cello

Prelude: Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson Sinfonietta: Allegro furioso (3rd movement)

Four Strings Academy

Leonard Bernstein On the Town: Three Dance Episodes

George Chadwick Symphony No. 2: Allegretto scherzando

George Gershwin An American in Paris, critical edition edited Mark Clague

Antonín Dvořák Cello Concerto in B Minor, op. 104, Tommy Mesa, cello

MOZART AND MORE
Thursday, Aug. 10, 2023, venue & time TBA

Friday, Aug. 11, 2023, venue & time TBA

Saturday, Aug. 12, 2023, 7p.m. ET | Hatch Shell

Two neighborhood concerts will take place on August 10 and August 11. Both concerts will feature the same program of the August 12 Hatch Shell concert.

These concerts pair Mozart and Joseph Bologne, subject of the new film, Chevalier, and features composers who have overcome challenges in their lives. Featuring a special piece from Artist-in-Residence, Fabiola Méndez and her collaboration with students from Hyde Square Task Force, alongside violinist Mariana Green-Hill, and guitarist Zaira Meneses. Hosted by José Massó.

BLO, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

José Massó, host

Fabiola Méndez, cuatro and vocalist

Mariana Green-Hill, violin

Zaira Meneses, guitar

Young Musicians and Dancers of the Hyde Square Task Force

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor Puerto Rican Overture

Fanny Mendelssohn Overture in C Major

Joseph Boulogne Violin Concerto in G

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Symphony No. 35 “Haffner”

Roberto Sierra “Guaracha” from Serenata for Chamber Orchestra

Fabiola Méndez and students from Hyde Square Task Force

Joaquín Rodrigo Concierto de Aranjuez

DANCE NIGHT: BEETHOVEN TO GOTTSCHALK
Wednesday, Aug. 23, 2023, 7pm ET | Hatch Shell

The final performance at the Hatch Shell on August 23 is Landmarks Annual “Dance Night” featuring Beethoven’s Symphony No. 7 and Tchaikovsky’s The Sleeping Beauty, along with performances from Jean Appolon Expressions, Sayat Nova Dance Company, and Principal Dancer of Boston Ballet, Chyrstyn Mariah Fentroy.

BLO, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Hector Berlioz Roman Carnival

Ludwig van Beethoven Symphony No. 7 in A major, op. 92

Tchaikovsky, Aurora’s Wedding from Sleeping Beauty, danced by Chyrstyn Mariah Fentroy

Toto Bissainthe Dey Kareem Roustom Armenian Dances, Jean Appolon Expressions

Hershly Kay Cakewalk: Concert Suite Sayat Nova

Boston Landmarks Orchestra was founded in 2001 by conductor and community advocate Charles Ansbacher. The orchestra is comprised of many of the area’s finest professional musicians. In its earliest years, the orchestra performed in such historically important settings as Fenway Park, the USS CONSTITUTION pier, Jamaica Pond, Franklin Park, Copley Square, Boston Common, and other landmark locations. Since 2007, its principal home has been at the DCR’s Hatch Memorial Shell. For more history visit landmarksorchestra.org.

Major funders of Boston Landmarks Orchestra include the Free for All Concert Fund, The Boston Foundation, Encore Boston Harbor, Liberty Mutual and the Klarman Foundation. These programs are supported in part by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, Massachusetts Cultural Council, the League of American Orchestras, and the Boston Cultural Council, a local agency which is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and administered by the Mayor’s Office of Arts + Culture for the City of Boston. WCVB Channel 5 and CRB Classical 99.5 are proud media sponsors.

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Academic Honors // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

experiences and perspectives are what make you special. Embrace your rebel heart, pursue your passions, and don't be afraid to take risks."

Thousands of friends and family members attended the ceremony, bringing their support and enthusiasm in celebration of the graduates' achievements.

The following local students earned degrees:

Lora Moscoso of East Boston graduated with a AS in Nursing

Cassandra Baltazar of East Boston graduated with a BS in Nursing

Nancy Garcia of Boston graduated with a Master of Social Work

Juliane Jorge of East Boston graduated with a Master of Education-Special Education Initial Licensure

Ashley Mongeon of Boston graduated with a MS in Nursing - Adult/Geriatric Nurse Practitioner

Raphaella Silva Couzzi of Boston graduated with a MS in Nursing - Family Nurse Practitioner

Regis College is a coed university 12 miles west of Boston in Weston, Mass. founded by the Sisters of

St. Joseph of Boston. With over 3,200 undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students enrolled on campus and in fully online graduate programs, Regis provides an academically rigorous education within the schools of nursing, arts and sciences, business and communication, and health sciences. In line with Regis' mission of providing innovative, industry-focused learning opportunities, the university offers academic partnerships with hospitals and local employers, a clinical dental center in Waltham, Mass., and bachelor's completion and accelerated nursing programs at its campus in Lawrence, Mass. The university's 20 NCAA Division III athletic teams compete within the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC). Regis educates the whole person, preparing our students to pursue excellence, to become change agents in their own communities, and to serve and lead as advocates for a more just and compassionate global society.

ST. JOHN'S PREP ANNOUNCES ACADEMIC HONORS
St. John's Prep recently

announced the names of students who earned academic honors for the fourth quarter of the 2022–2023 school year, which ended on June 2, 2023. Students who qualified for the Head of School's List earned grades of A- or above in all courses; students who qualified for the Principal's List earned grades of B+ or above in all courses; and students who qualified for the Honor Roll earned grades of B or above in all courses.

The following student was named to the academic honors list for the Fourth Quarter 2022–2023.

EAST BOSTON Honor Roll
Owen Flanagan '28

MORE THAN 6,500 UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND STUDENTS NAMED TO SPRING 2023 DEAN'S LIST

The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce the Spring 2023 Dean's List. Students named to the Dean's List represent nearly all of Rhode Island's cities and towns, all six New

England states, New York and New Jersey, and many other states and countries.

To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applica-

ble earning at least a 3.30 quality point average.

Nathan Thomas of East Boston

Founded in 1892, the University of Rhode Island is the principal public flagship research and graduate institution in Rhode Island. Competitive and highly regarded, its 14,300 undergraduate students and more than 2,700 graduate students represent 48 states and 76 countries across the

globe. With 203 academic programs, URI offers its undergraduate, graduate, and professional students distinctive educational opportunities designed to meet the global challenges of today's world and the rapidly evolving needs of tomorrow. At URI, you will find some of today's leading innovators, discoverers, and creative problem solvers. To learn more, visit: uri.edu.

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Salesian // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

million investment by Boston Scores in the Salesian Boys & Girls Club that will also include a multi-field soccer complex, playground, community garden, outdoor classroom, shaded sitting areas, field house, renovated classrooms, meeting spaces, and parking. Boston Scores is a non-profit organization and an affiliate of America SCORES that has provided programs in East Boston and across the city for over 20 years.

“I have never seen a programming space impact an organization in such a short period of time as I have this mini-pitch in just the one week that we’ve had it available to the summer camp,” said Triant. “We have over 150 kids a day, and it wouldn’t be possible without a safe space for them, and they have come out to baptize



Mark Williamson speaks to the crowd at the grand opening ceremony last Friday morning. Williams is a major investor in the 15-million-dollar project.



Mo’s Ice Cream was on hand giving frozen treats to all the kids. Omar and Mohamed Alkhatatbeh love serving the East Boston Community.



Some of the many members of the East Boston Salesian Boys and Girls Club at the grand opening of the new hi-tech mini pitch. A combination of soccer and basketball in a confined area. There are hundreds of these being installed around the country, and East Boston now has the latest in the field of sports available for use. Lighting will also be added for evening play.



A render of Stage 2. Three full size soccer field, a walking track and playground. To be started by end on Summer 2023 and completed by Summer of 2024. All part of the 15-million-dollar investment into the club.

it, it’s been amazing.” Boston Scores Executive Director John Maconga noted that the mini-pitch is just the first phase of the Boston Scores \$15 million investment in the Salesian Boys & Girls Club. “This is going to offer new program opportunities and really provide access to the whole community to a world-class educational and recreational facility,” said Maconga, who thanked the club’s board and leadership team for partnering with Boston Scores and making it feel like part of the family.

Maconga also thanked the other donors and partners in bringing the mini-pitch to East Boston.

Williamson, a former Boston Scores board member and current U.S. Soccer Foundation board member, said he and his wife Sarah were delighted to support the mini-pitch project.

“The mission of the (U.S. Soccer) Foundation is to bring innovative play spaces ... to underserved communities in a way that fosters wellbeing and helps youth to achieve their full potential,” said Williamson. “It’s great to see the embodiment of that mission here today with this field.”

The U.S. Soccer Foundation works with 700,000 young people annually and has built 600 of the mini-pitches throughout the country.

“This is the first in the city of Boston, and really,



Campers Carolina Arredondo and Melissa Balla assist with the ribbon cutting, shown from left: Dan Jones, Mike Berry from Musco Lighting (another sponsor) Mark Williamson, John Maconga, Michael Triant. The ribbon was cut, and the mini pitch was open for use.



As part of Stage 1 of a 2 Stage project, totaling 15 million dollars, this hi tech room will be used during the day for homework help, and by night a hi-tech learning center for coaches around the East Boston Community.

what better place to have this one than at this fabulous boys and girls club,” said Williamson.

Dan Jones of the Major League Soccer Players Association said he was excited to represent MLS players, who are committed to working with the communities they play and that the players are from.

Musco Lighting con-

structed the pitch, and will be adding lights soon so play can extend into the evening hours.

“Musco has partnered with U.S. Soccer and we have invested heavily with the goal to put 1,000 of these mini-pitches across the country by 2026 to promote youth sports accessibility and equal play,” said Mike Berry of Musco Lighting.



Dan Jones from MLS (major League soccer) Association. Jones is happy to see the growth in the Salesian Boys and Girls Club. Jones also represents the players in major league soccer.

Hitting that goal will coincide with the 2026 World Cup, which will

be hosted by the United States and see games played in the Boston area.



On the grill, Emilio Passariello and Steve Carlo from Carlo’s Catering.



John Maconga (left), Executive Director of Boston Scores (another major contributor) is shown with the lead architect Dan Perruzzi of Margulies and Perruzzi.



Executive Director of the Salesian Boys and Girls Club, Michael Triant, a native from East Boston and well familiar with the needs of the many members of the club. The latest in tech is available for all the members, from classroom to sports fields, putting the children under his care is a top priority. Triant is shown with the new partner and investor, Executive Director of Boston Scores, John Maconga (right).