

East Boston

TIMES-FREE PRESS

Wednesday, August 2, 2023

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BLO PERFORMS FREE SUMMER CONCERTS AT HATCH SHELL



Music lovers gathered at the Hatch Shell to hear Seen/Unseen: The Symphonic Legacy Of Black American Women performed by the Boston Lyric Orchestra as part of their free summer concert series. See more photos on page 8.

Rep. Madaro leads Afterschool Caucus Meeting to discuss support

Representative Adrian Madaro, Co-Chair of the Legislative Afterschool Caucus on Beacon Hill, led a group of passionate legislators last week for a meeting of the Afterschool Caucus to discuss ways to support afterschool programs across Massachusetts. The virtual event provided a platform for lawmakers to deliberate and discuss crucial mat-

ters pertaining to youth education and afterschool programs.

The Afterschool Caucus serves as an invaluable opportunity for legislators to share insights, best practices, and innovative ideas aimed at bolstering educational experiences outside of traditional school hours. Last week's meeting highlighted the pressing need for increased support and

resources for afterschool programs, especially as much of the COVID-19 funding is set to expire at the end of Fiscal Year 2024. Legislators identified potential opportunities to support afterschool programs, including legislation that would leverage legal cannabis tax revenue to sustain these invaluable programs. Another bill co-filed by Representative

Madaro, H489, similarly seeks to boost early education and child care for young children by providing a comprehensive framework for how child care in Massachusetts is structured in order to lower costs for families and better compensate providers.

"Afterschool programs

See AFTERSCHOOL Page 3

INTERNATIONAL SAND SCULPTURE FESTIVAL BRINGS HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS VISITORS TO REVERE BEACH



The International Sand Sculpture Festival wrapped up on Sunday evening with fireworks (delayed from Saturday due to the rain), seen above, alongside the Kong sand sculpture centerpiece. See more photos on Pages 12 and 13.

Big updates planned for Boston Harbor Shipyard and Marina

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

Recently, a new investment plan worth a minimum of \$12,000,000 was released, outlining a project that would renovate the Boston Harbor Shipyard & Marina (BHSM), an area that has not seen major investment since the 1940s.

The plan for this project dates back to 2018, according to Marshall Greenland, BHSM's General Manager, when the property was sold to Ocean Havens, of which Chuck and Ann Lagasse are Principals.

Notably, the Lagasse's were an integral part of transforming Charlestown's Marina — which Sal LaMattina, former Boston City Councilor who is working on the BHSM investment plan as its Community Liaison — called the "worst marina" to one that received national recognition and was named Large Marina of the Year by Marina Dock Age Magazine.

As part of this investment plan, BHSM has four distinct goals. Two of the goals include growing East Boston's economy through job creation and building a diverse and skilled workforce that is representative of the community, and upgrad-

ing dated infrastructure to improve things like safety and accessibility.

The remaining two goals are to promote and protect water-dependent industrial uses like vessel hauling, among others, and to further establish the shipyard as a place for the community by increasing public access.

BHSM's plan has several different aspects, including infrastructure improvements, marina investment, the construction of a container village, pedestrian and bike access improvements, and even a new harborwalk.

In terms of infrastructure improvements, there are plans to fill an old graving dock, demolish building 17 in the shipyard, and replace an existing boat lift while adding another, among several other infrastructure upgrades to improve ground conditions, utilities, piers, bulkheads, existing buildings and more.

Additionally, there are plans to build four new buildings to accommodate expanded marine industrial uses. These buildings include a travelift and shipyard maintenance shop, another with shop space and offices, the third with shop space, offices,

See SHIPYARD Page 7


SUMMER CONCERT SERIES 2023

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PIERS PARK SUNDAYS 6-8 PM

AUGUST 6 WILD PAINTING (indie pop)
AUGUST 13 HIGH TIDE (hippie rock)
AUGUST 20 YAYA DE ANGEL (jazz / r&b)
AUGUST 27 KOTOKO BRASS (percussion-fueled dance music from Ghana)

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Massport announces schedule for summer runway work at Boston Logan

Special to the Times

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) has announced the Runway 15R-33L Safety and Pavement Rehabilitation Project schedule for this summer. In collaboration with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Massport will begin work on Runway 15R-33L in August, with construction planned for approximately 100 days.

Serving as the longest

runway at Boston Logan, Runway 15R-33L is primarily used by the FAA during northwest winds, which are typically prevalent in winter and spring months, and is the preferred late-night over Boston Harbor runway for noise abatement purposes. Runway 15R-33L was last rehabilitated in 2012.

Beginning August 14, Runway 15R-33L will be closed to all aircraft arrivals and departures. Consistent with FAA require-

ments, the project will improve runway safety by enhancing the lighting and the surface conditions. Work will be done in several phases to include the following:

- Replacing pavement and improving runway and taxiway intersections;
- Upgrading electrical infrastructure;
- Converting runway lights to energy efficient LEDs.

In addition to the runway rehabilitation ele-

ments, FAA recommended safety improvements will be made to several taxiway intersections to reduce the potential risk of aircraft runway incursions and to enhance airfield safety overall.

This August date was determined based on close coordination with the FAA and airline stakeholders while being mindful of the Summer Tunnel closure. During the first few weeks of the closure, pavement will be removed and electrical elements will be installed. The majority of

the pavement installation will occur in September and October.

Comprehensive mitigation measures will be put in place to reduce construction noise and other impacts to the surrounding communities. Those measures include:

- Reducing noise from truck back-up alarms within OSHA guidelines and other regulations;
- Maximizing daytime work, particularly noise producing activities;
- Establishing airside haul routes that will maximize distance from neighboring homes, particularly at night;
- Hauling waste and other materials during the day to the extent possible;
- Prohibiting trucks from using City of Boston streets to and from the airport;
- All construction traffic will access the airport via Routes 90/93/1A and Coughlin Bypass Rd.;
- Aiming all lighting used for night operations away from the communities.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The sweet life: Apple pie

By Elizabeth Umbro Cavallaro

The quintessential apple pie served on Thanksgiving Day originated in England in the fourteenth century. It spread into Europe and was brought to America by the Swedes and the Dutch. The British called this pie “the casserole with a pastry lid.” It was made with raisins, pears and figs and contained no sugar. At this period in time, sugar was very expensive. The crust was hard and inedible and was only created to hold the apple mixture together.

Pertaining to your health, the apples are the only ingredient in this pie that are nutritious. This fruit contains lots of fiber with vitamin C. Not to worry about the calories because the pecan pie will do much more damage to your waistline. This indulgence contains lots of sugar, syrup, nuts and butter. Today, our pastry crust is most delicious with a deep buttery and flaky texture. According to Americans the vote is in that apple pie is the most delicious of all desserts. Another vote is the contest of which is better cake or pie; the winner hands down is pie. I agree. Most cakes are dry and need whipped cream or ice cream. Apple pie wins the prize every time.



The simplicity of this dessert ends on a high note. Our apple pie became part of the American culinary repertoire.

Years ago we did not have a pie plate in the kitchen because my mother did not bake. I requested one. Wednesday night was ‘dish night’ at the movies. For all of you baby-boomers who do not know what I am talking about, you would go to the movies and make a set of dishes. Most of the dishes were ten cents and the large servings dishes with the creamer and the sugar bowl was twenty five cents. You bought one dish each week whether you liked the movie or not; not the best china but was good enough for us. In those days, we enjoyed Bette Davis, Joan Crawford and Barbara Stanwyck. This was when movies were movies. The ladies always left the movie in tears; such great movies. All the neighborhood housewives would have the father stay home while they enjoyed their movie night. There was no

such thing as a baby-sitter. They saw their movie and got their dish. The whole neighborhood had the same set of dinnerware. They did not go for coffee or a drink after the movie; they were expected to be home right after the movie. Wow, how things have changed!

Today brides are registered in the finer stores with a one setting of china priced at three or four hundred dollars. Again, I repeat myself, how things have changed! In later years, the table conversation goes back to where the dishes came from. We never had cloth napkins at the dinner table. We never knew the difference. My mother cherished a lace tablecloth which she received as a wedding present. I still have that tablecloth; it is 100-years-old and one of the most vivid memories of my life. It covered our kitchen table on a holiday. It has aged a bit and has become very fragile. Today I have about 10 sets of tablecloths with

See APPLE PIE Page 4

BEACH-Y

FRIDAYS JULY 14 – AUGUST 25

11:00AM – 1:00PM BY THE BATH HOUSES

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NEWS IN BRIEF

AUGUST HARBOR VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING AGENDA

The next meeting of the Harbor View Neighborhood Association will be on August 7, at 6 p.m. The meeting is in-person only but will be streamed via Facebook for archival purposes. Attendance on Facebook does not qualify for voting. The meeting will be held in the Salesian Boys and Girls Club cafeteria, across from the Brooke Charter School on Byron Street. You can access the meeting from the front door on Byron Street or from the rear door on Wordsworth Street, which is the handicap entry, to avoid the stairs. Since we are indoors, masks are optional for those in attendance.

La proxima reunion de Harbor View Neighborhood Association esta en 7 de Agosto, a las 6 p.m. La reunion esta en persona y via Facebook. La asistencia en Facebook no califica para vota. Llega a la cafeteria del Salesian Boys y Girls Club por la calle Byron al otro lado de Brooke Charter School. Pueda usar la entrada principal por la calle Byron o la entrada en calle de Wordsworth. La entrada de calle Wordsworth no tiene escaleras por personas con discapacidades. El cubre bocas sera opcional pues-to que estaremos adentro.

Agenda
Welcome/Introduction (5 min)
Announcements (5 min)
East Boston Senior Center is open.
Greenway Council, Tree Eastie .
Beach-Y Fridays in August at Constitution Beach 11 a.m.-1p.m. (YMCA, SAVE THE HARBOR, SAVE THE BAY and DCR).
McLean Park Update.

Station 7 Police Report (15min)
Captain Bickerton, Sgt. Cintolo, Officers Mosley and Alvarez.

106 Moore Street (30min)
1st Presentation by Attorney Richard Lynds for owner, Trichilo Development, LLC, developer Joseph Trichilo. The proposed plan is to tear down the existing two-family house and erect an eight-unit residential dwelling with nine parking spaces and three private roof decks. Variances: Use, Parking, IPOD, FAR, Stories, SideYard and Roof Structure Restrictions.

141 Addison Street (30min)
1st Presentation by Attorney Richard Lynds for owner, BP Realty Trust and developer Volnay Capital. The

proposed plan is to combine lots to create one lot containing 11,000 square feet and erect a four story, twenty 20 unit building with a residential lobby, bike storage, and 15 enclosed parking spaces. Variances: Use, FAR, Rear Yard, Parking and IPOD.

The next meeting of the HVNA will be on September 11, 2023. Please note this is one week later than our usual meeting because of the Labor Day Holiday.

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

MBTA REMINDS RIDERS OF SERVICE CHANGES

The MBTA is reminding riders of a 12-day service change on the Orange and Green Lines ending August 9.

As previously announced, due to the continued demolition of the Government Center Garage by private developer HYM Construction, Orange and Green Line service changes will take place in the downtown Boston area all day for 12 days:

- Orange Line trains will bypass Haymarket Station. Orange Line riders should instead exit at North Station or State, less than a half-mile from Haymarket (or a four- to eight-minute walk), and travel to the Haymarket area.
- Green Line service will be suspended between North Station and Government Center Station, with riders instead asked to walk above ground between these stations – Government Center, Haymarket, and North Station are each less than a half mile from each other (about a five- to 10-minute walk). The distance between Government Center to North Station is about three-quarters of a mile (about a 13-minute walk).
- Riders are also reminded that Orange Line / Green Line connections can also be made via the Winter Street Concourse, which connects Park Street and Downtown Crossing Stations.
- Accessibility vans will also be available for on-demand transportation – Orange and Green Line riders should ask MBTA personnel for information and assistance.

For more information, please visit mbta.com/alerts, or connect with the T on Twitter @MBTA and @MBTA_CR, Facebook / TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, or TikTok @thembta.

MBTA Board awards contract to New Flyer of America Inc. for purchase battery electric buses

Special to the Times

The MBTA Board of Directors awarded a \$119 million contract to New Flyer of America Inc. for the production and delivery of 80 new, low-floor, 40-foot battery electric buses (BEBs). This vehicle contract award includes an initial base order of 48 conventional BEBs and 32 BEBs with street-side boarding capability. This contract also provides the MBTA options to purchase up to an additional 380 BEBs.

“This contract demonstrates the T’s commitment toward reducing its emissions and is another step toward reaching our climate goals,” said MBTA General Manager and CEO Philip Eng. “In addition to reducing the Authority’s greenhouse gas emissions, these 40-foot battery electric buses have many amenities to enhance our riders’ experience, like flip-up seats, accessibility features, and dual-sided passenger information screens. I would like to thank the MBTA Board of Directors for approving this contract award, our Vehicle Engineering and Vehicle Procurement teams for their

hard work on this project, our Bus Modernization team for their diligent work in supporting the T’s fleet and facilities transition to BEBs, and our Finance team for their work in securing federal funding for this procurement last summer.”

The MBTA is committed to social equity, sustainability, and energy conservation. Supporting the Commonwealth’s Net Zero emissions targets, the BEBs purchased under this procurement will reduce transportation emissions, which will result in better air quality within MBTA communities. The procurement, which is part of the Authority’s fleet replacement plan, positions the MBTA to meet the 2022 Massachusetts Climate Law mandate, which requires the T to purchase zero-emission buses only after 2029 and fully electrify its fleet by 2040.

The 40-foot New Flyer BEBs will have a range of 120 miles and feature industry-leading safety features, including the ability to monitor the BEB high voltage battery systems and provide early fault detection. Other features include an enhanced security barrier for bus operators

and ADA accommodations that meet or exceed federal requirements. Street-side capability is also an important feature that allows the BEBs to service the Harvard busway. The street-side boarding BEBs also include an additional accessibility ramp located at the rear street-side door. The contract award includes options for advanced driver safety assistance systems and on-board LCD passenger information screens.

The BEBs will replace the MBTA’s aging 2008-2009 New Flyer Emissions Controlled Diesel (ECD) fleet and the retired 2004 Neoplan Electric Trolley Bus (ETB) fleet. The contract awarded today will result in the delivery of 10 pre-production buses (five conventional BEBs and five street-side boarding BEBs) next summer. The delivery schedule will then be coordinated with targeted openings of the upgraded North Cambridge bus facility anticipated in 2025 and the upcoming new Quincy bus facility anticipated in 2026. With a design that is 100-percent complete, the renovated and modernized North Cambridge facility

will be outfitted with state-of-the-art battery electric bus chargers and a control system to accommodate 32 BEBs. The new Quincy facility will provide inside storage and maintenance bays to accommodate up to 120 BEBs in a new, all-indoor, modern garage.

Funding for this BEB procurement comes in part from an unprecedented \$116 million federal grant that the MBTA received in FY22 through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law’s Federal Transit Administration Low- and No-Emission grant program. This award was the largest in the nation for this grant cycle (tied with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority) and provides a significant boost to the T’s aggressive transition toward an entirely zero-emission fleet of over 1,100 buses by 2040.

The total contract amount awarded today to New Flyer of America Inc. is \$119,087,982.

For more information, please visit mbta.com, or connect with the T on Twitter @MBTA and @MBTA_CR, Facebook / TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, or TikTok @thembta.

Back-to-School celebration returns to TD Garden

Special to the Times

TD Garden Neighborhood Charities — the philanthropic arm of TD Garden — along with The Salvation Army Massachusetts Division and the City of Boston are proud to announce that the 12th Annual Back-to-School Celebration will return to TD Garden on Tuesday, August 22, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to equip thousands of local students to go back to school. Qualified students

and families in the Greater Boston area who are interested in registering should visit salvationarmyma.org/backtoschool. Pre-registration is required.

“We are grateful to The Salvation Army and The Salvation Army Boston Kroc Center for hosting the past three Back-to-School Celebrations while the arena was under summertime construction,” said Amy Latimer, TD Garden president. “Bringing families into the arena is such a unique and cele-

bratory experience and we are thrilled for the event to return to TD Garden and help another 3,000 students have a successful school year.”

Along with support from the Boston Bruins Foundation, Garden Neighborhood Charities has donated 46,000 backpacks and more than \$485,000 since 2012. This donation reflects TD Garden Neighborhood Charities and its partners’ commitment to equip students with all they need to be

successful this year and well into the future.

“When thousands of Boston-area children head back to school this September, many will need assistance to start the school year off right. By providing school supplies for a child in need, we’re easing the financial burden parents experience at the start of the school year and helping boost kids’ confidence,” says Major Scott Kelly, General Secretary, The Salvation Army Massachusetts Division.

Afterschool //

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

are invaluable resources for our youth and their families,” said Representative Madaro. “They provide enriching, educational, and fun spaces for young people to spend time outside of school hours. But to make sure these resources are truly accessible to every community across the Com-

monwealth, we must ensure that they have the strong and stable funding they need to support their programming. I’m proud to lead the Afterschool Caucus to advance this issue up at the State House.”

As the meeting con-

cluded, legislators expressed optimism and a renewed commitment to advancing the cause of quality afterschool education. Recognizing the immense potential within these programs to bridge gaps in learning, foster

social-emotional development, and enhance overall academic outcomes, attendees vowed to continue to work to support afterschool and summer programs that serve families across Massachusetts.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1

Sachin H Jain Nt Rt
Perez, Ernesto E
Alessandri, Cristobal
Nasuti, Suzanne
Gupta, Nehal
Brown, Amanda
Gordon, Zachary D
Fala, Igor
Loy, Allyson T
Constitution Prop LLC
Chinchilla, Arquimides
25 Everett Street Cbc LLC
25 Everett Street Cbc LLC
Lacey, Joshua G
Kemble, Amanda C
He, Jiadai
Charles Jr, Lyndon F
Fl Maverick LLC
Tavares, Sabina F

SELLER 1

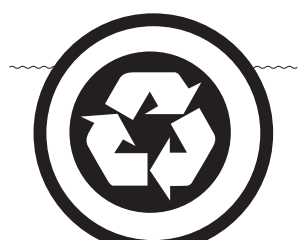
Arbel, Boaz
Beebe, Christopher O
Condor Street Condo LLC
200 Byron Street LLC
Labrecque, Aaron
Labrecque, Aaron
Raffa, Zachary S
Beaudent, Jennifer C
Pillemer, Scarlett
Seel, Laura A
Christine M Martorano RE
25 Everett LLC
25 Everett LLC
Magnolia Boardman LLC
Magnolia Boardman LLC
Drake, Jed
Silcared Harvest LLC
Cifuni Maverick Rt
Db Saratoga LLC

ADDRESS

118 Gladstone St
128 Webster St #A
187-191 Condor St #8
200 Byron St
237 Trenton St #A
237 Trenton St #B
240 Paris St #1
271 Webster St #4
285 Princeton St #3
390 Meridian St
724 Saratoga St
23-R Everett St
25 Everett St
31 Boardman St #1
31-33 Boardman St #33-2
156 Porter St #247
218 Brooks St #3
249-251A Maverick St
694 Saratoga St

PRICE

\$1,475,000
\$470,000
\$825,000
\$870,000
\$670,000
\$684,000
\$400,000
\$590,000
\$589,000
\$960,000
\$1,012,000
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Weekly meetings are free and available for anyone suffering from food addiction, food obsession, overeating, under-eating or bulimia. There are no dues or weigh-ins.

ANDOVER _____ Saturday 8:00 – 9:30 am Christ Church, 33 Central St., Sharon H. 617-515-7292 / Lauren S. 415-690-9401	Calvary United Methodist Church, 300 Massachusetts Ave., Vera V. 617-308-7740 / Kelly M. 781-572-0109	Chelsea Police Station, 19 Park Street, Darlene D. 857-654-5494 / Evelyn C. 617-240-2447	1400 VFW Parkway, Tricia H. 781-325-3626 / George M. 781-752-9157 Saturday 8:15 – 9:45 am VA Hospital West Roxbury, 1400 VFW Parkway, Tricia H. 781-325-3626 / Courtney T. 617-610-2367
ARLINGTON _____ Tuesday 9:30 – 11:00 am	CHELSEA _____ Wednesday 7:00 – 9:30 pm	WEST ROXBURY _____ Tuesday 7:00 – 8:30 pm VA Hospital West Roxbury,	

For more information about FA, speak with a local member or visit our website: www.foodaddicts.org

ABOUT FOOD ADDICTS IN RECOVERY ANONYMOUS: Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous is a tax-exempt, non-profit Twelve Step program based on the principles of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) that helps people of all ages who have issues with body image and/or food. There are no dues or fees for members. Anyone, from any walk of life, who seeks recovery from problems with food, is welcome.



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Times-Free Press

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Forum

GUEST OP-ED

Seek medical truth, enjoy your life

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Does your doctor make you feel good? Does he or she tell you what you want to hear just to make you happy? If so, you probably should look for another doctor.

No one enjoys leaving the doctor's office feeling bad. We don't want to hear, "You need to change your lifestyle." We don't want to hear, "You need to cut way back on your sugar intake." We enjoy our habits. Habits are hard to break. My wife's grandfather loved smoking. He wouldn't give it up even after numerous cancer surgeries. He died at age 65.

A friend died recently. She died from what is often called fatty liver disease. Six months before she died, she told me she was terminal. She said, "I guess I drank too much alcohol throughout my lifetime." She went on to tell me that her family doctor two years prior had said her issue wasn't severe

and that she didn't have to worry." She was very displeased with her doctor's passive attitude about her condition that would soon take her life.

Another friend of mine was diagnosed with prostate cancer. His doctor's approach to his condition was that, "They would watch it. When it became worse, they would do something about the cancer." They watched it and they watched it kill my friend. Within a year it was out of control and had spread outside his prostate. The doctor's relaxed attitude about a serious situation did not go well for my friend.

Many doctors want to make you to feel good. Of course, we don't want a doctor whose goal is to make us feel bad. Typically, they don't want to lose you as a patient. Still, they should diplomatically tell you what you may not want to hear.

Keep in mind the doctor ordinarily knows more

than we do. However, you do know how you feel. Be aware of your family history. In this information age you have to do some self-study. There is a lot of information on-line about most conditions you are facing. You have to research thoroughly though because often you can find whatever response you want on the Internet. Ask your doctor questions about your research. Tell him or her that you want to make good choices. Be willing to travel to another town if your doctor refers you or seek out someone who might be able to provide the care you need.

The bottom line is we have to rake personal responsibility for our health and do the best we can do. Even when we do everything, we can think of to do, these bodies are subject to disease and death.

Richard Thousand is with the Taussig Cancer Center at Cleveland Clinic. He was recently talking to me about the many

medical advances made in recent years and noted more are on the way. He then said something I had only heard my dad say many times, "Glenn, we aren't going to get out of this world alive. From the moment we are born, there is something that is trying to kill us. Eventually, it's going to happen."

The bottom line is do the best we can with the information we have. Be diligent. Be thorough. Seek the truth from your doctor. Finally, enjoy your life, we all only get one.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch, and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories, and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

SINEAD O'CONNOR WAS A PROFILE IN COURAGE

When the late Sinead O'Connor tore up a picture of the Pope on Saturday Night Live after her acapella performance of Bob Marley's "War" in 1992, the full extent of the Catholic Church's complicity in facilitating widespread child-molestation was not fully known.

Here in the Boston area, the predations of the former priest from Revere, James Porter, who molested hundreds of Boston-area children with the full knowledge of Church officials (who had simply reassigned him to different parishes where he continued to molest more and more children) had just come to light.

Church officials assured their members that Porter was just an aberration. But a decade later, when the Boston Globe Spotlight team unveiled the full picture of the Church's misdeeds and coverups, it became clear that Porter was just the tip of the iceberg, not only in Boston, but throughout the world.

Though O'Connor, who herself had been a victim of child abuse (though not by the church), destroyed her career with her outspokenness on that Saturday Night Live appearance, the courage she displayed with that performance will far outlive her musical legacy.

WHY DESANTIS DOESN'T HAVE A PRAYER AGAINST TRUMP

For anyone who has even a passing interest in presidential politics right now, initially it may seem perplexing that Florida Governor Ron DeSantis is getting clobbered in the polls by former President Donald Trump.

While it may be true that DeSantis has shot himself in the foot time and time again with his views about any number of issues that are so far Right that even the most conservative Republicans are bewildered by what he says (the most recent example being his support for teaching Florida school children that slavery may have benefited slaves), the real reason why he is trailing Trump by double-digits -- and that margin is growing larger (even in Florida) -- is that DeSantis is nothing more than just another politician.

From the moment that he rode down that escalator in Trump Tower, the big allure of Donald Trump (for his base of supporters) is that he is anything but a typical politician. His campaign rallies and rambling speeches do not follow anything close to a traditional political script.

For his opponents, particularly DeSantis, trying to outthink or outwit Donald Trump is a fool's errand. Trump doesn't play by the rules, which not only has proven bad for the country-at-large (January 6), but also means that he is not constrained by the conventions of politics-as-usual. It's not so much that Trump is playing 3-dimensional chess, but that he flips over the board whenever he feels threatened.

In addition, DeSantis faces the conundrum that by accepting Trump's pretext that the 2020 election was stolen from him, he cannot claim that Trump is a loser. In short, he has swallowed Trump's bait -- hook, line, and sinker.

The bottom line is that to Trump voters, Ron DeSantis sounds just like any other politician on the campaign stump. There's nothing about him that is even remotely appealing to the GOP base (or anyone else, for that matter), not to mention that DeSantis has an intensely dislikable personality that makes him seem to be talking down to his audience.

Trump may be a con man -- but both he and his supporters know it and even embrace it.

As for DeSantis, he is as appealing a candidate as Joe Biden -- which is the biggest insult you can toss at any GOP politician.

Apple Pie // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

napkins to match. Things certainly have changed.

According to chefs around the world, the best pies come from Germany with their strawberry pie, from Korea with their tomato pie, from Mexico with their lemon pie, from Australia with their French silk pie and from England with their shepard-s pie. Of course, America has its famous apple pie.

In retrospect, I made my first apple pie that was not a success. The crust was very tough and the apples were mushy. I realized that the dough must be very cold when rolled out and not to cut the apples so small. I needed some refined techniques. As I became more confident, my third pie had all the bells and whistles. I

learned that the dough must be chilled along with the rolling pin for about 30 minutes. The trick here is three little words; cold, cold, cold. Flour your surface and your rolling pin. Roll the dough from the middle out and lay in the pie plate. The apples should be chunky.

I have spent the best moments of my life making pies. Once you have claimed victory, you will be master in the kitchen. My daughters learned and they pull perfect apple pies out of the oven every time.

APPLE PIE

Five or six macintosh apples
Three tablespoons of cinnamon
One half cup of white

sugar

One half cup of brown sugar

One heaping tablespoon of flour

DOUGH FOR TWO CRUST PIE

Two and a half cups of flour

Two and a half sticks of butter or margarine

Pinch of salt

Six tablespoons of ice water

Mix, roll in two balls and refrigerate for 30 minutes. Set oven at 400F.

Peel apples and cut in chunks. In large bowl add

ingredients. Flour your surface and roll out one crust a little bigger than your pie plate, lay in plate. Fold apple mixture in, roll out top crust and lay over pie. Crimp pie crust edge. Mix one egg yolk with a touch of water and brush over pie. Make slits with sharp knife. Lay on cookie sheet for spills. Bake for one hour. You will be so proud of yourself. Don't forget the ice cream!

Elizabeth was born and raised in East Boston; now resides in Lynnfield.

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Your opinions, please

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



Take the MBTA Ferry


East Boston Long Wharf

From now through August 2023, show a CharlieCard or CharlieTicket to board.

EAST BOSTON FERRY Pilot Program

Lewis Mall Wharf, East Boston — Long Wharf, Boston

Schedule effective
March 27, 2023 through fall 2023



Weekday Schedule				Weekend Schedule			
To Long Wharf, Boston		To Lewis Mall Wharf, East Boston		To Long Wharf, Boston		To Lewis Mall Wharf, East Boston	
Depart	Arrive	Depart	Arrive	Depart	Arrive	Depart	Arrive
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East Boston Long Wharf

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Horarios vigentes a partir del 27 de marzo de 2023 hasta el otoño de 2023



Horarios entre semana				Horarios fines de semana			
A Long Wharf, Boston		A Lewis Mall Wharf, East Boston		A Long Wharf, Boston		A Lewis Mall Wharf, East Boston	
Salidas	Llegadas	Salidas	Llegadas	Salidas	Llegadas	Salidas	Llegadas
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**Boston Water and
Sewer Commission**



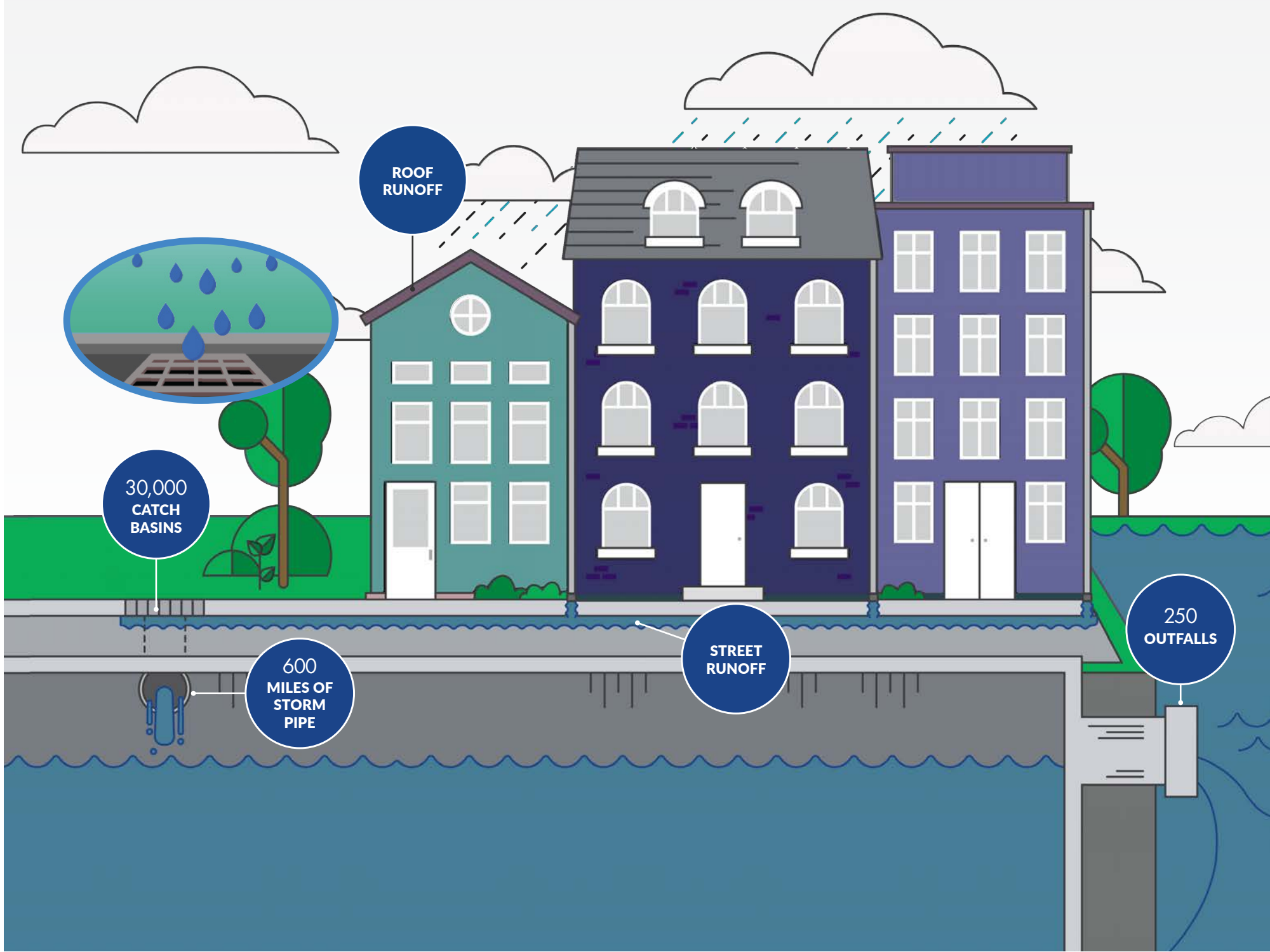
We're Changing the Way We Charge for Stormwater

What is stormwater, and how does it become a source of pollution?

Stormwater runoff is water from rain or snowmelt that does not soak into the ground. As stormwater flows over hard (impervious) surfaces, it collects trash, sediment, and pollutants like motor oil and fertilizer. Impervious surfaces like roofs, patios, roadways, parking lots, and sidewalks prevent water from absorbing into the ground. Stormwater is not treated, so these surfaces allow more pollutants to enter local waterways. The image below shows a Boston cityscape and the features of our stormwater system.

Next year, the Boston Water and Sewer Commission will launch an expanded stormwater program that meets an elevated need for investment in stormwater infrastructure and green solutions. The program will include the creation of a proposed separate stormwater charge and credits/grants for customers who work to reduce stormwater runoff from their property.

For more information visit: www.bwsc.org/stormwater



Mayor Michelle Wu signs executive order banning fossil fuels in new city-owned buildings

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu, joined Green New Deal Director Oliver Sellers-Garcia, the Operations Cabinet and local climate, and labor advocates has signed An Executive Order (EO) Eliminating the Use of Fossil Fuels in New Construction and Major Renovations of City Buildings. Through signing the EO, Mayor Wu is demonstrating her commitment to accelerating climate action by requiring that all new municipal buildings and major renovations operate without fossil fuels, reducing emissions from Boston’s building sector while creating high-quality jobs, improving public health and quality of life, and advancing racial and economic justice.

Mayor Wu previously announced her intention to draft and sign this EO during her 2023 State of the City Address. The functions of the EO will take immediate effect, ex-

empting projects currently in procurement, design, or construction. Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson also joined for the signing ceremony.

“Week after week, we see the signs of extreme heat, storms, and flooding that remind us of a closing window to take climate action,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “The benefits of embracing fossil fuel-free infrastructure in our City hold no boundary across industries and communities, and Boston will continue using every possible tool to build the green, clean, healthy, and prosperous future our city deserves.”

“As part of the Green New Deal for Boston, we are taking an all-of-government approach, finding ways for our Cabinets and departments to play a role in climate action,” said Green New Deal Director Oliver Sellers-Garcia. “This Executive Order directs and empowers the Operations Cabinet and facilities managers across

the City to lead the decarbonization of our building portfolio. In addition to new buildings, this order applies to major renovations because, often, the most sustainable way to make a green building is not to start from scratch.”

In Boston, municipal emissions constitute 2.3-percent of all of Boston’s carbon emissions, and over 70-percent of the City’s emissions are from buildings. Through the Executive Order, the City is leveraging the opportunity to ensure every new capital investment in new construction or major renovation project catalyzes the decarbonization of Boston’s building sector by constructing or retrofitting buildings to eliminate the use of fossil fuels in building operations.

This Executive Order puts in place a clear path to decarbonizing the City’s building portfolio. As the owner of over 16 million square feet of property, the City’s commitment to fossil fuel free buildings will

add substantial demand to the many trades and professions that are part of the green building ecosystem. The City will lead by example with its own buildings, and will contribute to the creation of new jobs in the building trades as well as building design and maintenance, expanding local opportunities to strengthen workforce development programs, apprenticeships and other training pipelines for Boston residents to gain access to high-quality employment in the building sector.

PowerCorpsBOS supports these workforce development efforts by training Boston residents for jobs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions in large buildings by learning skills to maintain building operations at peak efficiency. The program is a partnership led by the Worker Empowerment Cabinet and the Environment Department in collaboration with the Department of Youth Em-

ployment and Opportunity, and Boston Centers for Youth & Families. The third cohort of the program began last week.

With the implementation of the EO, all new buildings will be planned, designed, and constructed so that HVAC, hot water, and cooking systems will not combust or directly connect to fossil fuels for all municipal buildings. In addition to applying to all new buildings, it also impacts alterations where structural work is planned in 75-percent or more of the building’s square footage. Any project that replaces a building’s heating, ventilation, air conditioning or hot water system, or cooking equipment must eliminate fossil fuel combustion in the affected system.

In addition, the executive order will improve public health and save the City money. Highly efficient fossil fuel-free buildings create immediate health benefits for building occupants by improving indoor air quality,

increasing resilience, and lessening the symptoms of existing respiratory and other health conditions. These buildings will also be cost-effective to operate in the long run, reducing municipal energy costs and creating cost savings that can be reinvested in local municipal services.

To support the implementation, the Operations Cabinet will be launching a Facilities Condition Assessment that will identify decarbonization projects. The FY 24-29 Capital Plan includes \$132,510,000 for building design projects that will advance decarbonization.

Signing this executive order complements the work of the City’s Building Emissions Reduction and Disclosure Ordinance (BERDO). This ordinance sets emissions standards for large existing buildings, requiring all covered buildings, including municipal buildings, to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

Shipyard // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and a community room, and finally, a vessel maintenance and repair shed.

“A lot of our infrastructure dates to the 1850s that’s seawalls, bulkheads, and then over the years there were some expansions and repairs, so our most modern infrastructure dates to the 1940s,” said Greenland.

“A lot of people don’t realize the condition the site is in and has been in for many years,” he added.

As for other plans for the site, the project would construct a new marina with 150 more boat slips, and other features like a wave attenuation system, in-slip electric vessel charging stations, and a water transportation dock would also be included.

The site’s projected container village is being described as a community amenity with additional space for vendors and retail spots residents could visit.

“We would hope to get some local businesses

over there, and we also have over 400 employees that are looking for a place to have lunch,” said LaMattina.

“Small, easy, you know, pop-in, like Sal said, our employees, people walking the harborwalk now — there’s no vision of bars and music and late night — none of that,” said Greenland.

Furthermore, there are plans to add 650 feet of new harborwalk with light fixtures, furniture, and greenery.

Moreover, other public access enhancements include a new pedestrian entrance to the shipyard, container village, and harborwalk, the installation of a sidewalk between Piers Park and the shipyard entrance, a proposed bike lane, and the addition of trees on the new sidewalk and other shipyard areas.

It should also be noted that Greenland stressed the importance of preserving and telling the history

of the shipyard and its tenants. The plan will do this through things like signage, historic photos and documents in the offices, using the planned community center as a historic exhibit, and more.

Throughout this process, BHSM has been making an effort in community engagement. As part of its community engagement, BHSM has made changes to previous iterations of its plan, such as updating one of its new buildings not once but twice.

Building four — the vessel maintenance and repair shed was initially 95 feet tall to the building’s eave and set back 10 feet from Marginal Street. In February of last year, BHSM moved the building to 120 feet back from Marginal and added a community space, then, with the latest plan, dropped the height of the building to 65 feet to its eave.

Moreover, regarding community engagement, some of the team recently presented the latest plan at the Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association’s (JPNA) Planning and Zoning meeting in July.

During this meeting, not only was the investment plan presented, but Greenland took questions on aspects of the project such as the container village, building dimensions, mitigation plans, plans to preserve history at the site, and more.

If you are interested in learning more about the



A side by side comparison of what the shipyard looks like now versus what it could look like years from now.

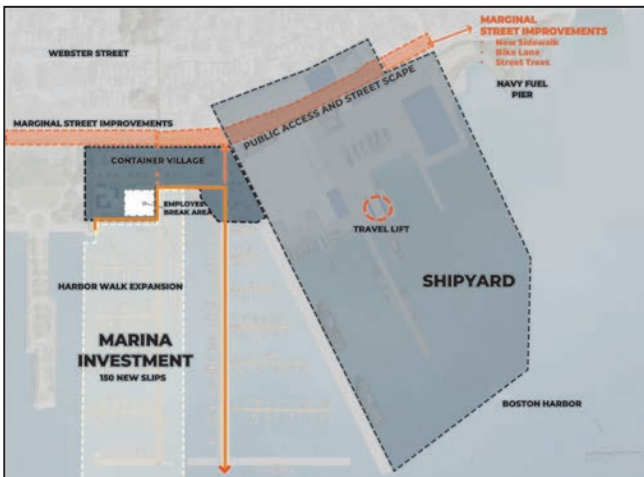
project and the response to questions, you can view the JPNA meeting at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tKSFVzV-9V3A&ab_channel=JeffriesPointNeighborhoodAssociation.

As this process moves forward, LaMattina indicated that BHSM is going to continue to work with the neighborhood.

“We still have work, and we’re going to work closely with the neighborhood, and we want them to be involved,” he said.

Greenland echoed this point saying, “We’ll continue to engage — try and engage all community — not just Jeffries Point but all of East Boston and let people know what we’re doing and hopefully get a lot of support for you know jobs and economic impact and all that.”

In terms of the next steps, over the next 12



A photo depicting some of the plans for the project.

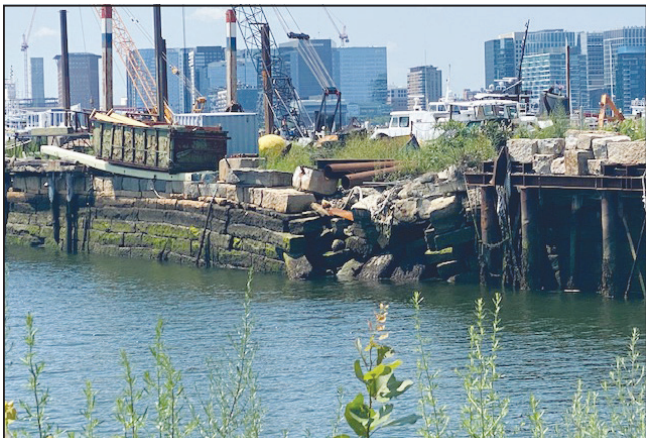
months, there are plans to finalize aspects of the project, such as engineering, permitting, and architecture, with the goal of being ready to start phase one of construction at the end of 2024. Complete project construction is slated to take between five to 10 years.

“I’m hoping that at the end of the day, that we will

get an award for the best shipyard in the United States,” said LaMattina.

“I’m excited about just bringing people down here and to be able to enjoy this area of the East Boston Waterfront,” he added.

If you have questions about the project or any other inquiries, you can send an email to marinaoffice@bhsmarina.com.



The conditions at the Boston Harbor Shipyard and Marina are in need of some much needed repair.



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BOSTON LANDMARKS ORCHESTRA FREE SUMMER CONCERTS



Ruth and Ben enjoy the evening together.

The Boston Landmarks Orchestra dedicated their performance Wednesday



Terri Lynn Carrington had a more personal fan base with cousins Nicole and Malachi Johnson who were happy to celebrate the acclaimed musician's work.

day to honor the NAACP during their convention in our city. Seen/Unseen: The Symphonic Legacy Of Black American Women is a symphonic legacy of Black American Women and their compositions. Grammy Award winner and Boston resident Terri Lynn Carrington was a performer and curator of these compositions. Guest conductor Damali Willingham was accompanied by soprano vocalist Louise Toppin and tenor vocalist Robert McAvoy.

Three more shows are scheduled for the Boston Landmarks Orchestra on August 2, 12, and 23.



The Maestro Zone was curated by award winning musician and conductor Sheila Del Bosque (right) who helped audience members gain a better understanding of conducting an orchestra as Julia Lukens was happy to discover.



Grammy Award winner and Boston resident Terri Lynn Carrington introduces the next piece.



Taylor, Euro, and Liliana had each other's company, and snacks.



Landmarks Orchestra Music Director and Conductor Christopher Wilkins takes a bow.



The audience enjoyed the evening that cooled down from the hot temperatures during the day as well as the superb music.



Asha, Sanjukta, and Steven were enjoying the music.

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PRODUCE

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Special to the Times

The bill having passed both the Senate and the House of Representatives, it will now be sent to the Governor for her consideration.

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Over 200 Eastie community members join STH/STB for free Boston Harbor Cruises

Special to the Times

This July, 218 East Boston community members from the Harborkeepers and Eastie Farms joined Save The Harbor/Save The Bay's (STH/STB) free All Access Boston Harbor Cruises to Georges and Spectacle Island.

"There's no better way to beat this summer's record-breaking heat than to spend the day out on the harbor and the islands," said Save the Harbor Executive Director Chris Mancini. "Swimming in the clean waters off Spectacle Island and exploring the 'Dark Tunnel' in Fort Warren are two of the best places to be during a heat-wave."

Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 300-500 kids from around the region meet at the Leader Bank Pavilion

or Fan Pier where Harbor Historian David Coffin tells them how Spectacle Island went from a landfill on fire to the beautiful park it is today. "It's one of my favorite stories to share with the kids," said Coffin, "And it emphasizes the importance of the park's carry-in, carry-out policy. They take that experience home with them and become the next generation of environmental stewards."

The trips are organized and run by Boston Public School students in Save the Harbor's Youth Jobs Program. Once on the island, they lead fun, STEAM-based education activities like Fishing 101, the Treasures of Spectacle Island archaeology exploration, and hikes through Fort Warren on Georges or to the top of Spectacle's drumlins for a great view



PHOTO BY KAYLA DAM

Members of East Boston's Harborkeepers group at Leader Bank Pavillion before their day on Spectacle Island.

of the Boston Skyline and the outer harbor.

"We're particularly proud to have added guided audio tours and information in six languages this year," said Deputy Director Kristen Barry. "This way, native speakers in Mandarin, Spanish, Cape Verdian Creole, Vietnamese, and Haitian Creole can more easily participate in our programs."

"All of these free cruises are only made possible

with leadership support and partnership from Cronin Development, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Massachusetts Office of Environmental Protection, Bay State Cruise Company, and Mass Bay Lines," said Mancini.

Mancini went on to thank partners and funders for their sustained support, including the Healey/Driscoll Administration, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Champions Liberty Mutual Foundation, Coca-Cola Company, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Eastern Salt Company, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, JetBlue, John Hancock Financial Services, Massport, the Mass Cultural Council, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and the National Grid Foundation, and the hundreds of individual donors who support the organization.

They also thanked Alexandria, Amazon, Bay State Cruise Company, BXP - Atlantic Wharf, City of Boston Department of Youth Engagement and Employment, Boston Consulting Group, the Comcast Foundation, Constellation Generation, the Cronin Group, Hood



PHOTO BY IRKA PEREZ

Kids enjoying the beach on Spectacle Island.

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Foundation, Rockland Trust, Ms. Wallace M. Leonard Foundation, and Vertex.

All Access trips will continue weekly until August 24 and are free and open to all to join through Save the Harbor's website, along with evening and weekend Share the Harbor tours.

To learn more about Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's free All Access Boston Harbor excursions or upcoming free events on the waterfront or your favorite beach, visit their website at www.savetheharbor.org and follow @savetheharbor on social media.



PHOTO BY IRKA PEREZ

The Save The Harbor/Save The Bay Youth Staff leading fishing on Spectacle Island.

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LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON ST. BOSTON, MA 02114

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING Docket No. SU23D1268DR Erica Yuliana Martinez VS. Joel Martinez

To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411. You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Erica Yuliana

Martinez 192 Layden St. Boston, MA 02128 your answer, if any, on or before 08/30/2023. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: July 14, 2023 Vincent Procopio Register of Probate 8/02/23 EB



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Virtual Public Meeting

PLAN: East Boston Community Meeting - English Waterfront and Evolving Industrial Areas Chelsea Creek Community Meeting

August 9, 2023
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/PLANEastBostonWEI0809
Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
Meeting ID: 160 207 1292



Project Description:

Please join us for a Chelsea Creek 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
email: Jason.Ruggiero@Boston.gov

website:
bit.ly/EB-ChelseaCreek

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Jimmy Buffett's 'Escape To Margaritaville' brings the party to North Shore Music Theatre

It's five o'clock somewhere... Bill Hanney's award-winning North Shore Music Theatre (NSMT) will bring Jimmy Buffett's "Escape To Margaritaville" for an exciting island getaway. "Escape To Margaritaville" will play from Tuesday, Aug. 15 through Sunday, Aug. 27.

"Jimmy Buffett's Escape To Margaritaville is a true feel-good musical that will bring a little slice of island paradise to our North Shore audience. With this production we want to finish the summer with the party everyone has been waiting for," said owner and producer Bill Hanney. "We have assembled a fantastic creative team led by the show's director and choreographer, Charlie Sutton, and a high-energy cast featuring Wes Williams and Dakota Mackey-McGee. I am eager to see our NSMT audiences and the 'Parrot Heads' coming together to enjoy this fun musical."

Audiences can kick off their flip-flops and set their mind to island time when they join us in a tropical paradise where love and laughter are the keys to 'growing older but not up.' Jimmy Buffett's "Escape To Margaritaville" is an upbeat and energetic new musical comedy featuring new music by Jimmy Buffett, along with some of his most-loved classics, including "Cheeseburger in Paradise," "Margaritaville," "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere," "Fins," "Volcano," and many more.

"Escape To Margaritaville" follows the story of a part-time bartender, part-time singer, and full-time charmer named Tully who thinks he's got life all figured out, until a beautiful career-minded tourist steals his heart and makes him question everything. With a book by Emmy Award winner Greg Garcia ("My Name is Earl," "Raising Hope") and Emmy nominee Mike O'Malley ("Survivor's Remorse," "Shameless"), this hilarious, heartwarming musical is the party we have all been waiting for!

Wes Williams and Dakota Mackey-McGee are set to star in "Escape To Margaritaville" as Tully and Rachel (respectively). Wes Williams has starred in many regional productions across the country, including West Side Story (Tony), Guys and Dolls (Sky Masterson), and Newsies (Jack Kelly). Dakota Mackey-McGee has been seen across the country leading productions of Oliver (Nancy) and Fiddler On the Roof (Hodel).

"Escape To Margaritaville" will also feature Sean Steele (Brick), Shelly Lynn Walsh (Tammy), Altamiece Carolyn Cooper (Marley), and Joe Hart (J.D.). Rounding out the cast the production will feature Caleb Ajao (Jamal), Savannah Cranford, Maurice Dawkins (Ted), Alex DeLeo, Fabi Gallmeister, Kal Kalil (Chadd), Esther Lee, Melaina Rairamo, Luke Rands, Whitney Renee, Taryn Smithson, and Cait Zuckerman.

"Escape To Margaritaville" will be directed and choreographed by Charlie Sutton who is making his North Shore Music Theatre directorial debut. The creative team will also include Robert L. Rucinski (Music Director), Nate

Bertone (Scenic Design), Kelly Baker (Costume Coordinator), Corey Whittemore (Lighting Design), Alex Berg and Don Hanna (Co-Sound Design), Rachel Padula-Shufelt (Wig and Hair Design), Stephen MacDonald (Production Stage Manager), Dakota Wiley Horan (Assistant Stage Manager) and Luke Molloy (Assistant Music Director/Rehearsal Pianist).

"Escape To Margaritaville" is produced for North Shore Music Theatre by Bill Hanney (Owner/Producer), Kevin P. Hill (Producing Artistic Director), and Matthew Chapell (Associate Producer / Casting Director).

Tickets for "Escape To Margaritaville" are priced starting from \$68 - \$93. Performances are August 15 – August 27, 2023, Tue - Thurs at 7:30 pm, Fri & Sat at 8 pm, matinees Wed, Sat and Sun at 2 pm. \$25 Student Rush tickets are available. For tickets and information call (978) 232-7200, visit www.nsmt.org, or visit the box office in person at 54 Dunham Rd., Beverly, MA.

North Shore Music Theatre will continue the 2023 musical season with The Full Monty (September 26 – October 8), Elvis: A

Musical Revolution (October 31 - November 12), and end with the annual production of A Christmas Carol once again starring David Coffee (December 7 - 23).

Since opening in 1955, NSMT has become one of the most attended theatres in New England, with approximately 250,000 patrons annually. With a national and regional reputation for artistic achievement, NSMT has received numerous industry awards including Elliot Norton Awards, IRNE Awards, the Rosetta Le Noire Award from Actors' Equity, and the Moss Hart Award.

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SCENES FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SAND SCULPTURE FESTIVAL ON REVERE BEACH

Derek Kouyoumjian photos



Cristian Arias with Abby.



Kim Rice and Gene Hannigan.



Franco and Linda Pasqual.

FROM THE NFPA

Mitigating fire and electrical hazards related to record- breaking heat

With extreme temperatures breaking records around the world, scientists predict that 2023 could be the hottest year on record. As a series of heat waves continue to blanket large portions of the U.S., residents are actively looking for more information on what they can do to beat the heat safely.

In response, the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) is distributing resources to support the media’s coverage of extreme weather, including action steps and tip sheets that can help residents stay fire-safe when using portable air conditioners, fans, and other cooling devices in warmer weather.

“As temperatures continue to increase across the country and more people turn to portable air conditioners and fans at home to cool off, these devices are often running at the same time we’re plugging in computers, kitchen appliances, and other devices, and for more hours a day than usual, which can present a fire hazard,” said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA. “By learning the proper way to plug in appliances and safeguard electrical outlets in the home, people can take simple steps to greatly reduce fire, electrical, and associated hazards.”

NFPA offers these best practices for staying fire-safe during extreme heat:

- Plug only one heat-producing appliance (such as a coffee maker, toaster, space heater, etc.) into a receptacle outlet at a time.
- Plug major appliances (refrigerators, dryers, washers, stoves, air conditioners, microwave ovens, etc.) directly into a wall

uled events were delayed by Saturday night's rain-storm, which also diminished the sculptures but the people still came to see the work and enjoy the summer tradition.



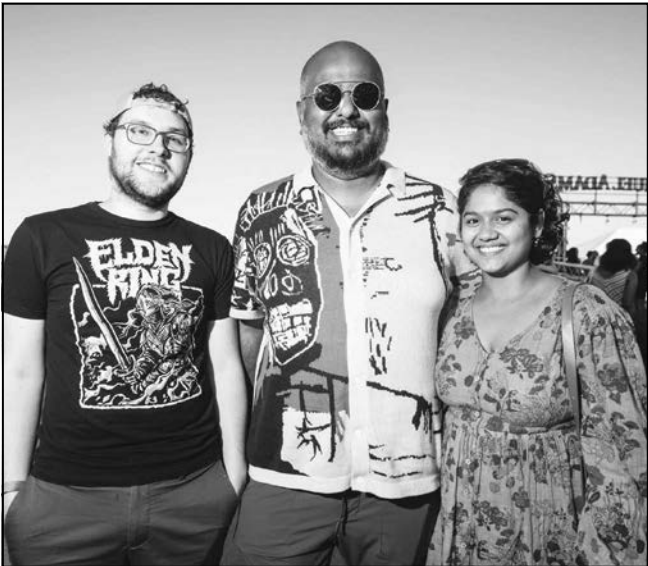
Driscoll Produce was giving samples of their fruit to a grateful gathering of sand sculpture fans.



Lala and Weezy Colaire of Backdoor Tires relax at the Sam Adams Beer Garden.



Scott Devine and Brenda White relax at the Sam Adams Beer Garden.



Ian, Gautham, and Aparna relax at the Sam Adams Beer Garden.



Revere Beach Blvd was packed with people enjoying the mellow summer day.



Spectators are treated to lively music from the band LPE Groove Experience.



Spectators are treated to lively music from the band LPE Groove Experience.



The Kong sculpture featured a glowing volcano that matched well with the rising Moon.



Fireworks provided a fine finish to this year's Sand Sculpture Festival.

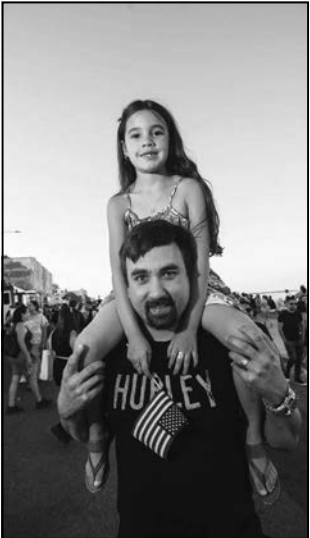
SCENES FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SAND SCULPTURE FESTIVAL ON REVERE BEACH



Justin Cox and Simone Tavino throw back some beverages at the Sam Adams Beer Garden.



Evelyn Hinde and Jamie Ortiz.



Mariah Mansur gets a perch on her dad Sammy for a better view of the goings on.



Azlann Loman enjoys the perch on her dad Orlando to get a better look at the sand sculptures.



Tony Denson the singer for LPE Groove Experience rocks out to their cover of Proud Mary.



Revere Beach Blvd was packed with people enjoying the mellow Summer day.



The Spider Wheel was back and drew many visitors to be spun in its web of ferris wheel fun.



Meanwhile Yariana Lopez Gives her brother Ian a quick spinning ride.



Jose and Sara with their four-legged friend Chloe.



Kenneth McKeen and Nicole D'Amato.



Ashley Qualls with daughter Harper with son Carter.



Maria Costa has her ice cream cone and Frozen doll.



Simba hangs out with his humans, Danny, Louisa, Maria, and David at the Sam Adams Beer Garden.

MBTA to release RFQ for 3-5 year \$120 million renewable energy contract, continues leadership in clean transportation

The MBTA Board of Directors approved the release of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for an up-to-\$120 million wholesale renewable electricity supply contract, upgrading the T's commitment to renewable energy and continuing its leadership in clean transportation. The MBTA is also further supporting the Commonwealth's climate change goals and meeting Clean Energy Standard requirements by recommending that 30-percent of its power be supplied by Massachusetts solar and wind Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs).

"This critical procurement in fully renewable energy, further highlighted by our recommendation to purchase 30-percent Massachusetts Renewable Energy Credits, underscores the T's commitment to electricity produced from renewable energy sources while being fiscally responsible, understanding our energy needs will continue to grow in the future," said MBTA General Manager and CEO Phillip Eng. "We're looking forward to receiving responses to this RFQ, and I thank the dedicated members of our Sustainability and Finance teams for working so diligently to build out this procurement."

"I applaud the MBTA's commitment to renewable energy and its efforts to make clean transportation a reality," said Massachusetts Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Rebecca Tepper. "This procurement is an important part of our whole-of-government approach to combatting the climate crisis. I'm grateful for the collaboration we have across agencies to achieve our ambitious climate goals and deliver

clean transportation to the people of Massachusetts."

To meet the transportation needs of the region, the MBTA uses many forms of energy and seeks to reduce our carbon footprint and our impact on the environment whenever possible.

Currently, the MBTA is the second largest transportation entity and the fourth largest U.S. government entity powered by renewable energy as well as the 50th largest purchaser of renewable energy overall in the country. As a leader in clean transportation initiatives, this energy procurement upgrades the T's commitment to renewables since its last energy contract in 2021.

The MBTA currently uses approximately 360,000 megawatt hours (MWh) of electricity annually, making the T the largest electricity consumer in the Commonwealth. The MBTA procures its electricity supply in advance at a fixed price because it makes smart fiscal sense, providing the T with budget stability and predictability in an energy market that can frequently fluctuate. Alongside much of the Commonwealth and the country as more services convert away from carbon-emitting avenues, the T's electricity usage is also projected to increase as the MBTA transitions to battery-electric buses, electrified commuter rail vehicles, and more.

As the Commonwealth's largest electricity consumer, the MBTA is committed to utilizing 100-percent renewable



energy sources. The MBTA's proposed electricity procurement includes both the purchase of fixed-price electricity and provisions for the purchase of RECs. RECs certify that electricity has been purchased from a renewable power source, such as wind or solar, with each certificate equivalent to the generation of 1 MWh of electricity.

The winning bid in response to the upcoming RFQ will be in place beginning January 1, 2024, for a three-to-five-year period. Responses to the RFQ may include fixed-price electricity blocks, RECs only, or a combination of the two.

The MBTA's recommendations for the upcoming 2023 procurement include a mix of renewable energy sources – 70-percent hydropower from Maine Class II RECs and 30-percent solar and wind from Massachusetts Class I RECs. The purchase of these Massachusetts Class I RECs would help the T support the Commonwealth's climate change goals and meet Clean Energy Standard requirements. The T's previous 2021 energy contracts were a major achievement in offsetting its carbon footprint, though these contracts provided 100-percent renewable energy sources through hydropower from Maine Class II RECs only.

In order for the purchase of power contract to be in place by December 31, the MBTA will issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) on August 4 with responses due August 21. The official purchase will take place on September 13 with a transaction agreement finalized and signed with the winning bidder on September 13.

For more information, please visit mbta.com/sustainability, or connect with the T on Twitter @MBTA and @MBTA_CR, Facebook /TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, or TikTok @thembta.

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Public access advocates testify in support of guaranteed hybrid open meetings

Special to the Times

At a public hearing by the Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, municipal leaders, disability advocates, and open government organizations are testifying in support of legislation that will guarantee greater access to open meetings by allowing members of the public to attend and participate in meetings in person or remotely.

An Act to Modernize Participation in Public Meetings (H.3040/S.2024), sponsored by Representative Denise Garlick and Senator Jason Lewis, seeks to update the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law to guarantee hybrid meetings. As opposed to meetings conducted exclusively in person or exclusively online, hybrid meetings maximize civic engagement by allowing participants to choose the format that works best for them.

"I've been driving a motorized wheelchair since I was two years old, and it was during the pandemic that I attended my first legislative hearing – remotely," said Diana Hu, chairperson of the Boston Center for Independent Living. "Hybrid meetings are the latest instance of universal design, enabling residents across the state to engage with our government in a new and empowering way. We must bring this curb cut 2.0 into its rightful place of permanence."

"Hybrid access has become an essential part of public life," said Geoff Foster, executive director of Common Cause Massachusetts. "Having the option to attend meetings virtually has given many of our neighbors – particularly those with disabilities, caregiving responsibilities, or limited transportation – the ability to more easily participate in our democracy. We need to safeguard and expand this option for all members of our Commonwealth."

"Our 44 local Leagues of Women Voters across the state are deeply involved in the governments in their towns and cities. The League strongly supports this bill to assure that all residents can readily access and participate in the local government meetings that make so many major decisions about their lives," said Pattye Comfort, executive director, League of Women Voters of Massachusetts.

"Government participation and transparency is the cornerstone to a strong democracy," said Deirdre Cummings, MASSPIRG's legislative director. "This bill provides for both, making government meetings more accessible and transparent."

"Hybrid meetings are the only way to maximize public access to government deliberations. We can no longer accept the exclusion of large segments of the population from the democratic process simply because inclusion has a price tag or because change is inconvenient," said Gavi Wolfe, legislative director of the ACLU of Massachusetts. "We can do better, and we know how. In fact, nearly half of all Massachusetts city councils and select

boards are already conducting hybrid meetings. The legislature should update the Open Meeting Law to guarantee hybrid meetings across the Commonwealth moving forward."

"A guiding principle of the disability justice movement is 'Nothing About Us Without Us,'" explained Barbara L'Italien, executive director of the Disability Law Center. "By focusing on inclusion and equity, and welcoming the participation of 11.5-percent of the population, our communities and our democracy will only become stronger."

This legislation will provide municipalities the time and money needed to establish hybrid open meetings by:

- Creating a Municipal Hybrid Meeting Trust Fund and a grant program to help municipalities finance their modernization efforts.
- Prioritizing adoption by state agencies and elected municipal bodies.
- Allowing economic hardship waivers for non-elected municipal bodies.
- Giving more than five years – until 2030 – to phase in universal compliance.

The bill is backed by the ACLU of Massachusetts, Boston Center for Independent Living, Common Cause Massachusetts, Disability Law Center, League of Women Voters of Massachusetts, Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association, MASSPIRG, New England First Amendment Coalition, and New England Newspaper & Press Association.