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EAST BOSTON SENIOR CENTER'S LOVE'S MEMORY LANE VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY

City of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, along with members of the Boston Police Department, attended East Boston Senior Center's Love's Memory Lane Valentine's Day Party on February 14.

Dolores Russo, and Dolores Urciul.

Daniella Pierre-Louis, and Denise Lucien.

Mayor Michelle Wu greeting residents and handing out candy at the East Boston Senior Center during the February 14 Valentine's Day Party. See Page 3 for more photos.

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA

ZBA subcommittee gives approval for two Eastie projects

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

Two projects in the neighborhood — one on Horace Street and the other on Monmouth Street — were approved during a Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) subcommittee hearing last week.

The first project up for discussion during the subcommittee meeting was at 68 Horace Street, which includes an attic renovation and the replacement of a roof at an existing two-family home.

Jonathan Ginnis, the project architect, explained that when they submitted for a permit, the project was rejected due to a violation of East Boston's Interim Planning Overlay District (IPOD).

"Of the three issues in IPOD, basically there was no issue with adding 1,000 feet or expanding the front — we changed the roof line in the back," said Ginnis.

"It was a flat cornice line that wrapped the corner to what is now a raked cornice line. It meets zoning in every other requirement, and the houses to either side are bigger than this," he later added.

When the presentation was open to questions from the board, Hansy Better Barraza had asked about the height from floor to ceiling in the attic, which Ginnis said was about nine feet to the ridge beam.

Barraza also had asked about the height of the majority of the habitable bedroom — on average — to which Ginnis explained was seven and a half feet. She also had asked a clarifying question regarding windows in a bedroom area.

There were no other questions from the board, and Conor Newman with the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services not only deferred to the judgment of the board but also provided some background on the project's community process.

He explained an abutters meeting was held in December with one abutter present who did not comment and that the Harbor View Neighborhood Association Board "reviewed the plans and did not think the work being done in the plans needed to go in front of the whole civic group,

See ZBA Page 9

A Way With Words

A son rises to the occasion with a beautiful tribute to his father

By Cary Shuman

John Giuliotti had the assemblage at the St. Lazarus Church in East Boston in his hands and in his heart. Giuliotti's eulogy at the funeral Mass for his father, Boston Herald sportswriter Joe Giuliotti — who died on Jan. 12, 2024 at the age of 89 — presented so many interesting and entertaining stories that it would be difficult to choose a best one.

The stories covered thoroughly the amazing newspaper career of Joe Giuliotti, but they also gave authentic, personal remembrances of Joe Giuliotti, the husband to his beloved wife of Irish heritage, Annie, the father to his three sons, John, Eddie, and JP, the grandfather to his three grandsons, Jack, Charlie, and Sam, to

Joe Giuliotti, who served as a coach for the East Boston and Shawsheen Tech hockey teams, delivers his acceptance speech after being inducted into the Massachusetts State Coaches Hall of Fame in 2018.

Joe Giuliotti, the coach, and Joe Giuliotti, the East Boston guy who loved his neighborhood.

"I want to thank my two brothers, Eddie and JP — (who like John, were proud graduates of Dom Savio High School in East

Boston) for allowing me the honor to give today's eulogy," began John.

And one realized from John Giuliotti's remarks how cool among the brothers' friends it was to be Joe Giuliotti's son. There was the humorous anecdote about John Giuliotti getting a phone call at the family home while his father, Joe, was already talking on the line to future Hall of Famer Reggie Jackson, who became known as "Mr. October" for his clutch performances in the post-season. Mr. Giuliotti, as nice as he could be under the circumstances and pressure of an impending deadline for the story, cordially told his son's friend to call him back later. "The phone was off limits — we all remember call waiting, right?" remembered John.

Joe Giuliotti (right), assistant coach of the East Boston High School hockey team, is pictured with team captains Mark Buttiglieri, Joel Celona, Jared Redfern, and George Farrell following a tournament at Porrazzo Rink in East Boston.

John Giuliotti and his brothers came to understand their father's position of sports writing fame and royalty among Boston fans, who so enjoyed his

daily coverage of the Red Sox.

John gave his dad the ultimate tribute when he asked and then answered, "What qualifies a person

to be a legend?"

"A legend is someone who leaves behind an unforgettable impression on

See GIULIOTTI Page 4

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HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADERS ARE TO BLAME FOR UKRAINE’S PREDICAMENT

When a small gang of extreme Republicans undertook the ouster of former House Speaker Kevin McCarthy last year, we wrote at the time that the refusal of Democrats to aid in keeping McCarthy in his seat was foolhardy. Despite the contempt that Democrats felt about McCarthy, we noted that he was better than any likely replacement from the GOP. McCarthy had negotiated a debt ceiling increase and a budget with President Biden, and he was a staunch supporter of Ukraine.

As we wrote at the time, “The devil you know is better than the devil you don’t.”

However, the Democrats took the bait and sided with the small band of extremists to oust McCarthy. Instead of being the adults in the room, the new Democratic House leadership decided instead to sit back smugly and watch the spectacle, no doubt figuring that the GOP’s self-destruction would be advantageous politically.

But it is obvious now that the Democrats severely miscalculated. McCarthy has come and gone and Mike Johnson, an evangelical right-winger, is the new House Speaker. The chaos surrounding McCarthy’s final days is long-forgotten and the new reality is that Johnson represents an even more-extreme form of Republicanism than before. Most significantly, Johnson has refused to take up the bill that was passed by a bipartisan majority in the Senate to provide additional military aid to Ukraine.

For Americans who have been alarmed by Vladimir Putin’s assault on freedom, this has been a very depressing week. First came word that Putin’s main political adversary, Alexei Navalny, had died in a Siberian gulag under still-unknown circumstances. A few days later, the Ukrainian army had to abandon its position in a key city because of a lack of ammunition thanks to the failure of the U.S. to deliver military assistance.

But what is most-depressing is that it is becoming increasingly clear that Putin has outfoxed American leaders in the White House and in the Congress. To use a common metaphor, Putin has been playing three-dimensional chess and our petty and ineffectual leaders, especially the Democrats, have been playing checkers.

Putin understands American politics better than our own leaders, especially the Democrats, who obviously are clueless. The Democrats thought they were scoring political points when they abetted in McCarthy’s downfall, but in reality, they fell into a trap, with the result that they have become nothing more than the useful idiots of the 21st century.

DEMOCRATIC LEADERS NEED TO TELL BIDEN TO STEP ASIDE

It has become increasingly obvious that President Joe Biden is spiraling faster-and-faster downhill, both physically and mentally.

He can barely string together two sentences -- not even from a teleprompter -- and if he answers questions off-the-cuff (which he seldomly does because he has held fewer press conferences than any president in modern history, and when he has held press conferences, he answers questions that have been pre-submitted on index cards), he invariably will commit a major gaffe.

His advisors tell us that in meetings, he’s as sharp as ever. But if that’s true, then (as Jon Stewart suggested) why not show us a video of one of those meetings so we all can see him in action, so to speak?

Let’s be clear where we stand: Joe Biden has been a great president and his administration has accomplished more legislation that will benefit Americans than any since Lyndon Johnson’s in the 1960s.

But as much as Biden deserves credit for his landmark achievements, the only thing that matters is the future. No politician deserves re-election based solely on what they’ve done in the past. Our elected public officials are public servants -- not the other way around -- and candidates have to be judged based on what they can do if re-elected.

The view of a majority of voters, including Democrats, is that Joe Biden is a stumbling and bumbling old man. His rapid descent into old-age before our eyes is evidence of the truth of the maxim, “Time and tide wait for no man.”

However, despite Biden’s low poll numbers, no Democratic leader has had the courage to come forward to tell Biden that he should step aside. In our view, the Democrats’ failure to acknowledge the reality that the whole world can see eventually will be shown to represent a serious miscalculation that threatens not only the future of democracy in this country, but throughout the entire free world.

If Biden were to step aside (as LBJ did in March of 1968) it would energize the Democrats and the country. Yes, it might be a bit messy, but the end result would be a younger and more vigorous candidate, such as Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo, for example, with a vice-presidential candidate such as Maryland Governor Wes Moore (or vice-versa) in whom the American public would feel proud and confident in tackling the challenges facing the world today.



By Sandra Storey

Permission of the Parks and Recreation Department, through a Tree Warden, will soon be required for anyone—including city officials themselves—to have healthy trees removed from City of Boston property. Getting that permission will require a well-publicized public hearing.

An ordinance spelling out those and other new processes for City of Boston tree removal on its own properties—such as parks, school grounds, libraries and public housing—was passed unanimously by the Boston City Council on Dec. 13 and signed into law by Mayor Michelle Wu at the end of January. The public tree protection ordinance (TPO) will go into effect on March 28.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has long had a law regarding preserving “public shade trees” that is referenced and treated in the new Boston ordinance as a separate category of public trees from those on City property.

The original draft TPO, that also regulated removing trees on private property, was first submitted and discussed by the Boston City Council in 2021. All Council members signed on to co-sponsor it within a short time.

But the provisions that covered removal of private trees—which make up about 60 percent of the tree canopy here and represent the greatest losses of trees, according to the Parks Department—were dropped about a year ago.

At a government operations committee hearing of the council it was decided to bifurcate the first ordinance to deal with regulating public trees first, to be followed by developing the potentially more controversial rules for private tree removal later.

“Later” should be coming soon.

Jamaica Plain has a 44 percent tree canopy, the largest of any Boston neighborhood. About eight acres of canopy were lost here between 2014 and 2019, according to City assessments

Now that the public tree part of the TPO has passed into law, it’s time for Boston to revisit the most significant part of tree protection regulation—creating prior review of possible removal of trees on private land.

The original 2021 draft ordinance was similar to regulations on the books in quite a few cities and towns around the country, including Austin, Tex., Atlanta, Palo Alto (updated from original from 1951), Portland, Ore. and Seattle. Friends of Urban Forests lists about 50 cities and states that have official tree protections around the country on its website. <https://friends.urbanforests.org/tree-ordinances-in-other-states/>

Massachusetts cities that have TPOs governing private tree removal include Cambridge, Canton, Newton, Somerville, Salem and Wellesley.

An extensive Urban Forest Plan (UFP), developed by the City of Boston

with lots of community and expert participation over more than a year, and released in September, 2022, calls for regulations protecting trees as a critical action item within the first five years.

Since then, the Urban Forestry Division of the Parks Department expanded its workforce to care for thousands of trees and secured a grant of \$11.4 million from the U.S. Forest Services Urban and Community Forestry Program, according to a press release from the City.

In an online poll of the UFP’s equity centered Community Advisory Board (CAB) in March, 2022, 85 percent of the 35 voting CAB members said they believe “the existing tree protection regulations need to be strengthened;” 54 percent said regulation of private tree removal should happen in “all instances;” 38 percent said “just during land development or construction projects.” Three percent were unsure.

No one said that “tree removal on private property shouldn’t be regulated at all.”

Trees make incredible contributions to the well-being of cities and their residents, as the UFP says. They reduce storm water run-off, air pollution, the heat island effect, rates of respiratory ailments and energy usage. They provide wildlife habitat and give off oxygen while taking in harmful carbon dioxide. They are visually pleasing and provide shade and privacy.

Former local District 6 City Councilor Matt O’Malley cited a study that showed the average tree gives \$293 worth of benefits a year to its community at a City Council hearing in 2018.

Boston’s tree canopy covers about 27 percent of the city, according to a Tree Canopy Assessment put out by the City in 2020 that analyzed tree cover changes in the City from 2014-2019. That isn’t high.

Findings from the same City of Boston Tree Canopy Assessment of 2020 show that Jamaica Plain saw a net loss of about eight acres of canopy coverage, most of which came from “residential, mixed use and public open space,” according to the Parks Department in 2021 and quoted by the Gazette.

During Mayor Marty Walsh’s administration, the goal of 35 percent tree coverage in Boston by 2030 was set. That will be difficult to achieve just by planting new trees. Preserving mature trees, which bring more benefits than young ones, is important, especially in Boston’s environmental equity neighborhoods.

Key to thinking and planning for Boston’s urban forest is the fact that lower income neighborhoods with significant populations of people of color are being negatively impacted by a lack of trees. Chinatown, Dorchester, East Boston, Mattapan, and Roxbury residents suffer from related health issues.

“It’s no coincidence that many of the communities

disproportionately impacted by poor air quality and the urban “heat island” effect also have inadequate tree cover.” Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods said when the Urban Forest Plan, which has “equity” for those neighborhoods as a primary goal, was originally announced.

District 5 City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, who drafted the original TPO in 2021, said at a Council hearing where Woods was present that equity was a major goal of both the UFP and the TPO.

At the moment, the brakes seem to be on regulating removal of private trees in those environmental equity neighborhoods and all of Boston, actually for some good, practical reasons.

But drafting and passing an ordinance regarding private tree removal should be put on the fast track in six months to a year. Every day those regulations are not in place, the environmental advantages they will bring to our neighborhoods and city are postponed.

Meanwhile, there is a lot of work to be done in coming months to prepare for drafting and passing the new private tree ordinance.

JP’s new District 6 City Councilor Ben Weber and David Meshoulam, co-founder and executive director of Speak for the Trees, said in separate interviews earlier this month they are happy to have the public tree ordinance on the books. Both said they want to monitor the implementation of that ordinance before moving on to regulating removal of privately owned trees, specifically paying attention to enforcement of the new rules and processes.

A Parks Department spokesperson pointed out another two reasons to not rush into creating the next TPO. City Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Spaces Mariama White-Hammond, who was a key person in leading the Parks Department’s UFP process and acting as a resource on the TPOs, will be leaving her position in April. Her replacement will need to be brought up to speed on tree protection activities here, along with myriad other subjects.

The Parks spokesperson

also pointed out that the public tree ordinance that goes into effect next month calls for creation of an Urban Forest Advisory Committee (UFAC) of at least seven members. She said that group that will be convened this summer can be a valuable source of input.

With the UFAC, which can possibly help shape and guide the ordinance governing private trees, and a new chief of environment in place, additional input from City agencies relating to private property, including the Planning and Inspectional Services Departments, will be sought, along with residential property owners, neighborhood associations, institutional property owners and advocates for various causes, according to the Parks Department spokesperson.

Public education needs to be done during coming months to make sure the private PTO is considered with a maximum of knowledge and a minimum of fear and interference on the part of the entire, interested Boston community.

The Parks Department working with tree advocacy and environmental groups in Boston can play an important role in gathering and sharing information necessary to make good decisions about developing private tree protections that work for everyone when the time comes.

Discussions about a private TPO will go better if all participants have already:

1. Familiarized themselves with some tree protections already in place in a city or cities around the country.

Boston is not alone. Urban tree protections are not some wild experiment cooked up by local tree-huggers. As individuals and organizations, the community can learn a lot from the tree ordinances and experiences of other cities. There’s no need to invent this private TPO wheel from scratch. We can look at existing regulations while crafting our own.

Councilor Arroyo asked his staff to contact some of those cities for information, especially about any pitfalls they had encountered.

See TREES Page 8

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EAST BOSTON SENIOR CENTER’S LOVE’S MEMORY LANE VALENTINE’S DAY PARTY

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA

City of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, along with members of the Boston Police Department, attended East Boston Senior Center’s Love’s Memory Lane Valentine’s Day Party

on February 14. Mayor Wu greeted seniors while distributing candy, and received a bouquet of flowers and Valentine card on behalf of the Senior Center, which celebrated with

lunch and dancing to romantic live music.

“This was a team effort to create the center, make the center a home, and make it active. I saw people doing yoga down-

stairs,” beamed Emily Shea, Age Strong Commissioner, City of Boston. “Thank you for making this center a blessing to the community.”



Police Captain Bickerton and Fran Carbone.



Kenia Alcañara, Police Captain Bickerton, Grace Camou, interpreter, and Mayor Michelle Wu.



East Boston Senior Center Director Judith Thermidor thanking members for attending the party in celebration of Valentine’s Day, Black History Month, and the Lunar New Year.



Grace Camou and Olga Pasco, of East Boston, and Elizabeth Silva, of Winthrop.



Officer Hugo Alvarez, with Pat Leary and Annmarie Miller-ick, of Winthrop



Pam M. Anderson, Mayor Michelle Wu, and Giulia Dello-acono, of East Boston.



Luz Leal, Assistant Director, and Michael Langone.



Nohemi Carvajal, Luz Medina, Sofia Monsalve, Lida Cespedes, Ocabet C., Camilo Alvarez, Marta Serna, and Luz Yepes.



Mayor Michelle Wu received a Valentine’s card and bouquet of flowers from the East Boston Senior Center.



Members of the East Boston Senior Center gathering for a Valentine’s Day Party on February 14.



Emily Shea, Age Strong Commissioner, City of Boston, with members of the East Boston Senior Center.

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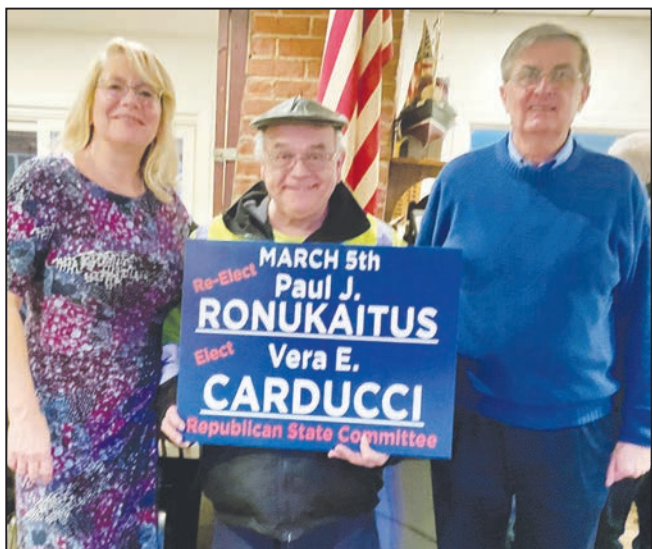
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REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEE
MARCH 5TH ELECTION

Paul Ronukaitus the 3rd Suffolk Republican State Committeeman is running for re-election to the position, and after long standing Republican State Committee member Joyce Kelly has stepped down from her post, Vera E. Carducci has taken up the mantle with Kelly's endorsement.

Recently a Q&A, meet the candidate night was held at the East Boston Yacht Club for both Ronukaitus and Carducci.

The election will be held on March 5th , and it is also the date of the US Presidential Primary in Massachusetts.



Mike Palermo is shown with candidates for the 3rd Suffolk District Republican Committee Vera Carducci and Paul Ronukaitus at the East Boston Yacht Club.



Republican Revere Councillor-at-Large Tony Zambuto addresses the crowd in support of both candidates.

Doyle will not seek re-election in 2024

Maura S. Doyle, Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for the County of Suffolk, announces that she will not be seeking re-election in 2024.

"It has been an incred-

ible honor to work at the Supreme Judicial Court for 32 years, first as an assistant clerk for 4 years and then as the Court's elected Clerk for the past 28 years, during which time I have

had the privilege of working with 28 justices and 6 chief justices.

I have been invigorated over the years by the numerous collaborations I have had with my constituents, court professionals, attorneys, law schools, and bar associations. Most of all, I have cherished working with my extraordinary staff and assistant clerks who have aided me in creating an incredibly responsive, accountable, and professional office for all who seek relief from the highest court in the Commonwealth.

However, I will not be seeking reelection in 2024 because the time has now come for me to step back from public life and look to a future spent with my amazing family who have graciously supported me throughout the years."

Additional biographical information can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/biography-of-clerk-maura-s-doyle-esq>.

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Giulioti // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

others They touch lives, they're remembered, they're cherished. There are all sorts of legends in this world – famous or not. Becoming one means finding your particular role, your calling, following it, and touching others around you.

"I think this summarizes my dad, and as everyone knows, he lived an amazing life doing things that only some can dream of, but he never viewed himself as that celebrity," said John.

An East Boston guy

Joe Giulioti was remembered fondly as a favorite son of East Boston, an Eastie guy who loved the neighborhood restaurants, its taverns, and its people.

"He never put his family second, and he never forgot where he came from," said John thoughtfully. "He grew up not far from here. He went to school right next door. He hung around with friends that he was loyal to his whole life. When leaving the funeral home, we drove past most of the places that were important to him. The short drive took us past Donna's Restaurant where we used to go for breakfast. I remember one of the cooks would jump right up and go over to him when he walked through the door and would say, "Hello, Coach."

A Hall of Fame-caliber coach

"Although he was an accomplished writer, coaching was his true calling. He was meant to be a coach and this was pretty clear during his time first, as a youth football coach and later as a high school hockey coach. John noted that his father introduced the concept of season-ending awards banquet at the Prince Restaurant in Saugus. "At the banquet, he had a trophy and a story for every kid. Now as an adult, I see why he did this. The trophy is just a symbol while my dad's message was the true gift. Those words helped make a difference in some of

those kids lives and even today, my brothers and I get approached by some of those former players who would say ' I remember when you dad said..."

John noted that his influence helped Joe begin his coaching career. "Football started for my dad when I was six years old, I signed up for the tag rush league and my team was the Cowboys. At our first game at East Boston Stadium, our coach never showed up. My father headed down to the sideline and coached that game and then stayed as coach with me and my brothers for so many years which by the way he was East Boston's first Pop Warner coach."

John noted that while he loved all sports, hockey was his favorite and a gift that he got him one Christmas helped change not only his life, but the lives of many young players. "A little later in life, my dad started to exercise and he would go public skating at the Porrazzo Rink. He used to rent skates so I decided to by him a pair of skates for Christmas and those skates carried him on an amazing ride. I decided to start coaching a Midget Youth Hockey team and I brought my dad along as an assistant. Most of the players played at East Boston High School and they quickly recruited him to be their coach" During these last few days, we have heard many stories and have seen many photo's of my dad with famous people but his most cherished experiences were with this group of East Boston kids. He loved them like they were his own. One of his former players sent me this text which speaks to what he meant to him ' Your father meant so much to so many of us...he taught us the game, but even more about life. He gave us the tools to become good men when many of us didn't always have that great influence in our lives. Your family gave so much more to East Boston than just making hockey players. I know I speak for everyone

when I tell you that I loved your dad and he will always hold a special place in my heart.'

And Joe Giulioti would become revered as both a youth football coach and high school hockey coach. He went the extra mile to ensure that every player was maximizing his experience in the program but more importantly, helped those kids grow into young men – helping to make a difference in their lives.

In 2018, Joe Giulioti's excellence and dedication as a hockey coach (both at East Boston High School an Shawsheen Tech High School)was recognized with his induction into the Massachusetts Hockey Hall of Fame.

'He was my best friend'

John Giulioti's final words of farewell to his father were touching.

"Our relationship grew more from a father-son to a friend," said John. "He was my best friend, and when he passed away, I felt like a part of me died, and I'm going to miss him.

"God, once he has settled in, please give him a front seat in the Heaven Press Box, where he can look down and watch his family and friends continue to live their lives while spreading his message. Lastly, God, I also want to thank you for allowing me to be so close to him over the last couple of years. It was truly a gift. I want to thank you for allowing me to be there holding his hand as he took his last breath – he didn't leave this world alone.

"When I would talk to him on the phone and when our conversations were over, I would also say something like, "Okay, Coach, we'll talk to you soon.' So I'll say it now for the final time, "Okay, Coach, I'll talk with you soon...Love you, Dad!"

In baseball parlance, in the language of sports writing that his father had perfected – John Giulioti hit a home run, encapsulating the life of a legend in his remembrances of his father.



Joe Giulioti (center, back row) was a coach of the East Boston 49ers tag rush football league team. Mr. Giulioti is pictured with coaches Bobby Travaglini (left) and Billy Motherway (right) and the players.

REPUBLICAN
PRESIDENTIAL
PRIMARY

Tuesday March 5, 2024

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PAUL J. RONUKAITUS

of Winthrop

Republican State Committeeman

Elect

VERA E. CARDUCCI

Of East Boston

Republican State Committeewoman

A SHORT STORY ABOUT
GROWING UP WITH AN
UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

POLIO.

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

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

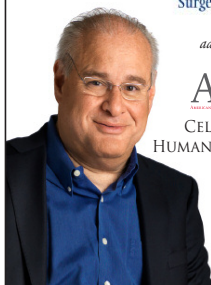
Dr. Galpin actually credits his own incurable condition for giving him the focus that made him so passionate in his research. His story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more person to make a difference,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

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Sports

EAST BOSTON IN HOOP ACTION AGAINST EVERETT

East Boston and Everett came into their non-encounter last Thursday night riding impressive win streaks, and one had to end. Greater Boston League power Everett, 14-4 coming into the game and winners of five straight, and East Boston, 14-4 with all their wins piling up after a 0-4 start, put on a Battle Royale, and four quarters of basketball wasn't enough. Tied 50-50 at the end of regulation, Everett went on to win 65-60 in overtime. Both teams are headed for post-season play, Everett in Division 1 and East Boston in Division 3.



THUNDER ROAD: Christian Sanders powers his way through a pair of Everett defenders.



GO BETWEEN: Eastie's Xander Boutros takes to the air to split Everett defenders Jevaun Berberena (left) and Christian Vaszquez. See Page 6 for more photos.



FINDING A WAY: Robin Cartegena (22) looks for low road past an Everett defender.



THREE ON THREE: Xander Boutros (3) fend off Everett's Tyson Chhun (3) as they reach for a loose ball.



SLAM JAM: Javon Wise Normil (33) scores an emphatic two points with a dunk.

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Ragu Pasta Sauce..... 2/ \$5.00

Near East Rice Pilaf..... 2/ \$4.00

Bumble Bee Solid White Canned Tuna..... 3/ \$5.00

Kraft Macaroni & Cheese..... 4/ \$5.00

(ex: gluten free-single box only)

Betty Crocker Potato Buds 2/ \$5.00

Red Pack Canned Tomatoes 28 oz..... 2/ \$4.00

McCain's French Fries 2/ \$6.00

Coles Garlic Bread \$3.49

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Kayem Skinless Meat Franks 2/ \$9.00

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Our Own M&M Cookies \$2.49

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Mcintosh Apples 3lb Bag \$2.99

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Cinnamon Rolls 6pk \$4.99

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Natures Finest Red Bliss Potatoes 5lb bag. \$2.99

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Large Navel Oranges \$1.69/lb

Deli

Carando Genoa Salami..... \$9.49/lb

Kretschmar Black Forest Ham..... \$8.99/lb

Swiss Lorraine Cheese..... \$9.99/lb

Kretschmar Black Forest Turkey \$8.99/lb

Hans Kissle Cranberry Walnut

Chicken Salad..... \$13.99/lb

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For more information, contact the Lewis Lab at MGHLCOVID@MGB.ORG

Scan QR code to fill out screening form

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New Store Hours starting June 22: Mon-Sat 7:30 am-8pm; Sun: 7:30am-7pm

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EAST BOSTON IN HOOP ACTION AGAINST EVERETT

PHOTOS BY BOB MARRA



MY BALL: Robin Cartegena (22) grips a rebound from Everett’s Jevaun Berberna (21) and Lian Dorosario Santos (13).



KEEP AWAY: Javon Wise Normil holds the ball away from the reach of Everett’s Leison Ruiz.



A HIGHER VIEW: Christian Sanders surveys his options as Everett’s Tyson Chhun defends.



END AROUND: Islam Mohammed (2) gets past Everett’s Jeaun Berberena (21).



A LOOK OF CONCERN: Coach Tyrone Figueroa shows concern as his team’s offense slowed during the overtime period.

STARTING 5 FOR THE CITY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

As we go to press this week, the East Boston boys basketball team are off to contend for the city league championship at Madison Park on Wednesday, February 21. The Jets (15-5) will clash with the boys from the Jeremiah E. Burke (16-3) at 1:45 p.m. Latin Academy boys (14-5) will clash with Charlestown (16-2) at 3:30. The winner of each game will meet on Thursday, February 22 at 2 p.m. East Boston had a fourteen game winning streak come to an end last Friday, February 16 with a 65-60 loss to Gloucester. As for the girls, the winner of the New Mission/O’Bryant and the Latin Academy/Boston United teams on Wednesday will meet on Thursday for the girls city league championship.



Here are the starting five hoping to lead the Jets to a city league championship this week at Madison Park.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Qi, Zhiqiang	Bresnahan, Mark W	150 Orleans St #403	\$590,000
Eddins, Jason G	173 Maverick St LLC	173 Maverick St #303	\$854,000
Silk, Kevin	185 Maverick St LLC	185 Maverick St #2	\$525,000
254 Paris Nt LLC	Sg Paris Development LLC	254 Paris St	\$1,160,000
Aileni, Cristian M	Border Development LLC	301 Border St #612	\$870,000
Belagodu, Vilas	Border Development LLC	301 Border St #401	\$515,000
Gourley, Devyn P	Border Development LLC	301 Border St #408	\$186,400
Hunter, Lorraine	Border Development LLC	301 Border St #501	\$559,000
Long, Johnny	Border Development LLC	301 Border St #202	\$689,000
Shahin, Shirin	Border Development LLC	301 Border St #508	\$665,000
Yan, Calantha J	Border Development LLC	301 Border St #203	\$650,000
479 Sumne St Rt	Zambella Rt	479 Sumner St	\$1,175,000
Giraldo, Juan	Sachem -9 Rt	745 Saratoga St	\$885,000
H&w Properties LLC	Zou Lu Est	76 Faywood Ave	\$735,000

RESEARCH STUDY: Testosterone treatment in men with back pain who use opioids for pain control

You are invited to participate in a clinical research study at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital. Investigators are evaluating the effect of testosterone treatment on back pain in men who use opioids for pain control. Your participation may help men with chronic back pain and low testosterone.

Participation includes:

- 6 to 8 study visits
 - Financial compensation of up to \$935
 - Free parking / meal vouchers for visits that require fasting
- You may be eligible to participate in this study:

 - If you are a man aged 18 or older
 - If you have history of back pain
 - If you are receiving opioid to treat your pain

For more information, please call: 617-278-0722
or Email: lchammas@bwh.harvard.edu

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The Times encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to

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News Briefs

GSCA MEETING SET FOR FEB. 26

Gove Street Citizens Association (GSCA) agenda for Monday, February 26, is as follows:

The meeting will start at 6:30 PM.

Please register for this virtual meeting on our website: <https://www.govestreet.org/meetings>

The developer will provide an update on the “Loftel” Hotel Project at the corner of Orleans and Porter Streets at this meeting.

Agenda (approx. 90 min)

- Community Updates (30 min)

Updates from BPD (Sgt. Cintolo)

Updates from City Hall (Mela Villa Gomez)

Update from City Hall on new electric vehicle (EV) charging station

Eastie Farm: Youth green job opportunity as well as our Community Shared Agriculture program (shares of weekly fresh produce)

- Project Updates (40 min + time for questions and answers)

VOTE 240 Maverick Street: Erect addition and change occupancy to a four-unit residential dwelling (20 min)

Update on “Loftel” Project at the corner of Orleans and Porter Streets (20 min + time for Q&A)

GSCA Community Meeting - February 2024

Monday, February 26 · 6:30 – 8:00pm

Time zone: America/New_York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/tra-rvsn-tnv>

Or dial: (US) +1 669-241-7553 PIN: 679 240 821#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/tra-rvsn-tnv?pin=3948412905110>

Our next meeting after the February meeting will be on Monday, March 25, at 6:30 PM.

Asociación de ciudadanos de la calle Gove

Agenda para el lunes 26 de febrero de 2024, a las 6:30 PM

Regístrese para esta reunión virtual en nuestro sitio web: <https://www.govestreet.org/meetings>

En esta reunión, el desarrollador proporcionará una actualización sobre el proyecto del hotel “Loftel” en la esquina de las calles Orleans y Porter.

Agenda (aprox. 90 min)

Actualizaciones de la comunidad (30 min)

Actualizaciones de BPD (Sgt. Cintolo)

Actualizaciones de Ayuntamiento (Mela Villa Gomez)

Actualización del Ayuntamiento sobre la nueva estación de carga de vehículos eléctricos (EV)

Eastie Farm: oportunidad de empleo ecológico para jóvenes, así como nuestro programa de agricultura comunitaria compartida (acciones de productos frescos semanales)

Actualizaciones del proyecto (40 min + tiempo para preguntas y respuestas)

VOTO 240 Maverick Street: Construir una adición y cambiar la ocupación a una vivienda residencial de cuatro unidades (20 min)

Actualización sobre el proyecto hotelero “Loftel” en la esquina de las calles Orleans y Porter (20 minutos + tiempo para preguntas y respuestas)

Reunión comunitaria de GSCA - febrero de 2024

Lunes 26 de febrero ·

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Zona horaria: América/Nueva York

Información para unirse a Google Meet

Enlace de videollamada: <https://meet.google.com/tra-rvsn-tnv>

O marque: (EE. UU.) +1 669-241-7553 PIN: 679 240 821#

Más números de teléfono: <https://tel.meet/tra-rvsn-tnv?pin=3948412905110>

Nuestra próxima reunión después de la reunión de febrero será el lunes 25 de marzo a las 6:30 p.m.

LOCAL AUTHOR PUBLISHES RECIPE, SHORT STORY BOOK

The Cocktail Keeper: Recipes and Stories, a new book by Paul M Markis of Winthrop, has been released by Dorrance Publishing Co., Inc.

The Cocktail Keeper: Recipes and Stories is a collection of recipes, stories, anecdotes, and more to entertain the reader. This book will inform the reader about different ways to approach customers to be a successful bartender and make good money doing it! The recipes for many unique cocktails are shared in simple terms that result in delicious drinks. There are also many funny stories about the bar and restaurant industry told from the perspective of an experienced New England bartender who has forty years of memories in the hospitality industry to share.

Paul M Markis, raised in East Boston, currently resides in Winthrop, Massachusetts. He has always been an active member of his community, belonging to many organizations. He loves the creativity of food and beverages in the hospitality industry. In his free time, Markis enjoys kayaking, hiking, axe throwing, and spending time in the outdoors. He is a single guy who is always on the move.

The Cocktail Keeper: Recipes and Stories is a 134-page paperback with a retail price of \$15.00 (eBook \$10.00). The ISBN is 979-8-88925-413-3. It was published by Dorrance Publishing Co., Inc of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Eleanor Barisano

Loving wife, mother, generous person and friend to many

Eleanor (Vallen) Barisano of East Boston passed away suddenly on February 16th.

The loving daughter of the late Cyril and Constance (Prisco) O’Brien, she was the devoted wife of the late Phillip R. Barisano; beloved mother of Robert Barisano and his loving companion, Laraine Rossi, Richard Barisano and the late Randal Barisano, Ronald Barisano and his surviving wife, Corinne; dear sister of the late Claire Martello, Loraine Andrews and Carol Capodilupo; cherished grandmother of Lauren, Christine, Bridget, Julieann Barisano and adored great-grandmother of Anthony, Jeremiah and Isayah. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Eleanor was blessed for over 70 years to have lived in the same home with her mother in law, Bernadina and father in law, Salvatore Barisano. Eleanor loved to travel, loved to cook and loved to shop. She will miss her weekly shopping ritual with her good friend, Maryann. Eleanor was a loving mother and wife. She was a friend to many, a generous person who would be there



for you whenever you needed her, whether it was to go to an appointment or sit at MGH and keep you company. She was always there in good times and bad. She will be reunited with her loving husband and her two sons. She will be missed by all. May she rest in peace.

Family and friends will honor Eleanor’s life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, East Boston, today, Wednesday, February 21st from 3 to 7 p.m. and again on Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m. before leaving in procession to Sacred Heart Church in East Boston for a Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. Services will conclude with Eleanor being laid to rest at Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett. To leave an online condolence visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Patricia Granara

US Postal Service Retiree

Patricia A. (Johnson) Granara died in East Boston on February 19.

Patricia was a late retired employee of the US Postal Service.

The beloved wife of the late Arthur J. Granara, she was the loving mother of Arthur Granara, Lynne Leggiero and her husband, Anthony “Tony” David Granara and his wife, Paula, Thomas “Doss” Granara and his wife Cheryl, all of East Boston; grandmother of Jaclyn and her husband, Matthew, Thomas, Joseph, Paul, Bryann, David Jr, Alyssa and her husband, John, Taylor and her husband, Alex. She is also survived by seven great-grandchildren.



At her request all services are private. Please leave messages of condolence for the family on her Tribute Page at Magrath-FuneralHome.com.

Lillian Rita Buscanera

Her infectious laughter and compassionate spirit brightened the lives of all who had the privilege of knowing her

Lillian Rita (DeLeo) Buscanera of East Boston, passed away peacefully on February 11th in Florida.

Born to Alfonso and Maria (Guardino) DeLeo, Lillian lived a life filled with love, laughter, and cherished moments with those she held dear. She was the beloved wife of the late Frank Buscanera and a devoted mother to Lena Mangino and her husband, Frank of Peabody, Gregory Buscanera of Clearwater, FL, and Ann Marie Tobin and her husband, Bob of East Boston. Lillian was preceded in death by many siblings, but her memory lives on through her seven grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. Her legacy of warmth, kindness, and unwavering love will forever be treasured by her family and friends.

Lillian was an active member of the East Boston Golden Age Club, where she formed lifelong friendships and created countless memories. She had a special fondness for Florida, where she enjoyed the sunshine and spending quality time with her family. Lillian also had a deep love for Cape Cod and cherished



the moments spent in Peabody, where she cultivated enduring connections with her community.

An avid enthusiast of bingo and a devoted fan of the Red Sox, Lillian found joy in life’s simple pleasures. Her infectious laughter and compassionate spirit brightened the lives of all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Family and friends honored Lillian’s life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, East Boston, on Tuesday, February 20th and again today, Wednesday morning at St. Adelaide’s Church for an 11 a.m. Funeral Mass. PLEASE MEET DIRECTLY AT CHURCH. Services will conclude with Lillian being laid to rest at Puritan Lawn Memorial Park Cemetery in Peabody. To leave an online condolence, visit www.ruggieromh.com.

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper.

Includes photo.No word Limit.

Please send to

obits@reverejournal.com

or call 781-485-0588

In Loving Memory Dolores LaMattina

Oct. 20, 1935 — Feb. 10, 2021

You can only have one mother Patient, kind and true; No other friend in all the world, Will be the same to you. When other friends forsake you, To mother you will turn, For all her loving kindness, She asks nothing in return. As we look



upon her picture, Sweet memories we recall, Of a face so full of sunshine, And a smile for one and all. Sweet Jesus, take this message, To our dear mother up above; Tell her how we miss her, and give her all our love.

Please join us for a Mass being held in their memory on Sunday Feb. 24th at 4:00pm at Sacred Heart Church in East Boston

In Loving Memory Mary (DeRuosi) Roach

Feb. 18, 1930 — Feb. 4, 2022

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interest and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine foster-Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; so that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my



thanks giving and homage to the most loving of Fathers. Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph patron of departing souls, pray for us. Amen.

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Times-Free Press

Bunker Hill Community College opens Student Success Center

Special to the Times-Free Press

Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) held a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the College’s Student Success Center on Monday, officially opening the first new building in more than a decade at the state’s largest community college.

The 56,000-square-foot Student Success Center is home to the College Library & Learning Commons, academic advising and coaching, and wrap-around student services that help support BHCC’s students, many of whom are students of color and first-generation college students. The State’s Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) and BOND Building and Construction led the building’s planning, engineering, and construction. NBBJ is the project architect.

“Today is the culmination of the work of so many and of 50 years of the Community College movement right here on this campus,” said BHCC

President Pam Eddinger. “In these hallways, we can see the ambitions and potential of our students.”

President Eddinger, Secretary of Education Patrick Tutwiler, Commissioner of Higher Education Noe Ortega, DCAMM Commissioner Adam Baacke, State Senator Sal DiDomenico, and State Representative Dan Ryan spoke to College community members at the ceremony.

“Today, we are celebrating a new space that will benefit BHCC’s student community now and for years to come, improving their experience and maximizing the resources available to them,” Secretary Tutwiler told an audience of more than 100 BHCC faculty, students, and guests. I want to share a strong congratulations to the BHCC leadership team and the entire student community for nurturing this project forward.”

“It is our genuine pleasure to deliver the space that your students deserve,” said DCAMM Commissioner Baacke.

“Your students, faculty, and staff have been creating transformative experiences for 50 years, and they’ve been doing that despite the facilities. Now, they’ll be doing it with the facilities that help make their jobs easier and not harder.”

State Senator Sal DiDomenico reflected on the new building coming online in the middle of the College’s 50th Anniversary, saying, “50 years in the making is a special thing for any institution. But the mission of this school is to give people a second chance, it is turning their lives around, it is the first step in the next step of their lives... This is the mosaic of the Commonwealth coming together at this school, and now we have a facility that matches the dedication, excellence, and prestige of being a graduate of this institution.” State Representative Dan Ryan spoke both as a legislator and a graduate of BHCC: “I think of where we are now as a community, as a nation, as a commonwealth and



The Student Success Center at Bunker Hill Community College.

I think of the impact that this building, the students, the teachers, the faculty, President Eddinger and all the presidents before her have had... People didn’t envision it then, but the Commonwealth did... and that’s why businesses are coming from around the world to headquarter themselves within walking distance from here.” All but one of the College’s current buildings were constructed almost 50 years ago and designed to accommodate around 5000 students. However, the campus has housed more than three times that number in recent years, and the aging buildings have accumulated a backlog of deferred maintenance.

The Student Success Center also represents the Commonwealth’s commitment to climate-resilient infrastructure. Based on Passive House principles, the building’s exterior enhances the college’s visual engagement with the community. The building is designed to be Net Zero Energy-ready, integrating a geothermal well field on campus. It is engineered in anticipation of a future photovoltaic array. Additionally, the building uses a highly insulated, high-performing envelope. It anticipates projected sea-level change and the rise in base flood elevation by shifting all critical building systems, including the emergency generator, to the roof

level. About Bunker Hill Community College

Bunker Hill Community College is the largest community college in Massachusetts, enrolling approximately 16,000 students annually. BHCC has campuses in Charlestown and Chelsea, and a number of other locations throughout the Greater Boston area. BHCC is one of the most diverse institutions of higher education in Massachusetts. Sixty-five percent of the students are people of color and more than half of BHCC’s students are women. The College also enrolls nearly 600 international students who come from 94 countries and speak more than 75 languages.

New England premiere of ‘Eurydice’ includes new arrangement from Boston-born composer

Boston Lyric Opera (BLO) presents a new production of composer Matthew Aucoin and librettist Sarah Ruhl’s opera Eurydice – a retelling of the Orpheus myth from Eurydice’s viewpoint – directed by Doug Fitch and conducted by Aucoin. BLO, with Opera Grand Rapids, has co-commissioned a new, more intimate orchestral arrangement from Aucoin that premieres here. Sydney Mancasola (far r.) and Elliot Madore (r.) perform the roles of Eurydice and Orpheus.

Eurydice runs for five performances over two weeks, from March 1 to March 10, 2024, at the Huntington Theatre.

Both Ruhl and Aucoin are recipients of the MacArthur “Genius Grant” Fellowship. Aucoin was born and raised in Boston. His 2015 opera, Crossing, was premiered in the city by American Repertory Theater.

Ruhl’s libretto for Eurydice is adapted from her 2003 play of the same name. In both, she challenges the traditional myth of Orpheus and the Underworld by giving voice and prominence to a character often relegated to the background. Ruhl has said, “in the myth, we never hear from Eurydice – she is always a cipher. I’m interested in her voice, a voice that hasn’t been heard before.”

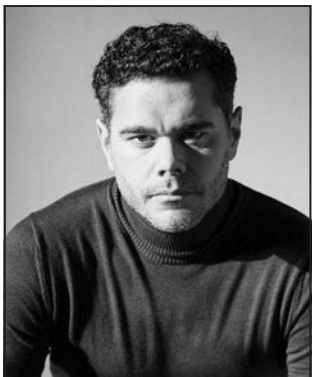
BLO General Director & CEO Bradley Vernatter praises both Ruhl’s writing and Aucoin’s music, saying “I fell in love with Sarah’s poetic adaptation...so much so that a line from the libretto (‘All I have I give for love’) anchors our season materials. Matt’s score is stunning, and I was convinced it would shine for a chamber ensemble.”

CAST AND CREATIVE TEAMS

In addition to Mancasola and Madore, the cast for Eurydice includes: Mark S. Doss as Father (a character Ruhl created in part to honor her own father, who died when she was 20 years old); Nicholas Kelliher as Orpheus Double; David Portillo as Hades,



Sydney Mancasola.



Elliot Madore.

Maggie Finnegan as Little Stone/Ensemble; Alexis Peart as Big Stone/Ensemble; Neal Ferreira as Loud Stone/Ensemble; and Junhan Choi as Ensemble.

In addition to directing the production, Doug Fitch will design sets and costumes. Lighting design for Eurydice is by Jorge Arroyo.

PLOT SYNOPSIS

When Eurydice opens, Orpheus and Eurydice are playing on the beach. Orpheus proposes and Eurydice accepts. Meanwhile, Eurydice’s father, who resides in the Underworld, writes a letter to his daughter but has no way to get it to her in the “real world.” He drops the letter on the ground, where Hades finds it.

On her wedding day, Eurydice leaves the party and laments not knowing more interesting people. Hades appears as a mysterious man who says he has a letter from her father and invites Eurydice to

his high-rise apartment to read it. A deadly accident sends her to the Underworld, where a dip in the river of forgetfulness erases her memories. With the help of her father, Eurydice regains the details of her life.

Above ground, Orpheus mourns Eurydice’s loss and resolves to bring her back from the Underworld. He confronts Hades, who agrees to let Eurydice go but sets a condition: Orpheus must lead her out of the Underworld without looking back. The opera concludes with a heart-wrenching sequence, showcasing consequences of love, loss, and the pursuit of a second chance.

THE PRODUCTION

Fitch’s production moves the “real world” portion of the story to a hyper-stylized beachside location with palm trees. The Eurydice and Orpheus characters are inspired by

hipster/nerd/musician culture. Eurydice’s father sits lonely in his Underworld room, rumpled, dusty and dreaming of the daughter he left in the real world. Hades’s persona is alternately scary, funny and protean...brazenly macho yet able to access his feminine side. The underworld is a desolate but richly textured location, accessed by a winding iridescent river and a mysterious rain-filled elevator, all leading to the gates of Hell.

TICKETS

Tickets for Eurydice start at \$33 and are available now through the BLO website at blo.org, by reaching BLO Audience Services at 617.542.6772, or via email at boxoffice@blo.org.

Matthew Aucoin’s residency is made possible by Katie and Paul Bittenwieser. The commission of EURYDICE is supported in part by a gift from Pat and Bill O’Connor.

Trees // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

countered, as he drafted the original ordinance. Although specifics and lingo can be different, and provisions in some cities are scattered throughout various parts of their laws, successful TPOs have a lot of basics in common.

Most tree protections go easy on small homeowners. Most make dealing with DDI (“Dead, Diseased, Imminent Hazard,” according to Austin) trees easy, too. Developers, attorneys, architects, landscapers and builders often treat the rules as just another part of a building code they already have to follow. Quite a few, I’ve heard, are into protecting trees and the environment as the ordinances say.

My brother and his wife own a single-family house in a newish development in Austin, which has had tree protection regulations since 1984. I asked him last week, objectively speaking, what his experience with those regulations there has been. He said he and his wife have had to have four trees on their property cut down over the years because they were

diseased or leaning way over. No special permits were necessary because they were smallish trees and were not healthy.

On the other hand, he said, he is very happy that builders of a nearby housing development preserved lots of mature trees along the shared fence and planted other new trees throughout the development to keep with the City’s regulations. He said he likes knowing that the environment of all of Austin, not just his neighborhood, is better because of tree protection rules.

People who have friends or relatives in other cities with TPOs might want to ask them about their experiences.

2. Read the City of Boston’s Urban Forest Plan and its appendixes. <https://www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/urban-forest-plan>

3. Read the provisions regarding trees on public and private land in the original ordinance submitted to the Boston City Council in 2021. <https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/file/2021/08/0858.PDF>

and of the one regarding trees on public land that just passed with a link to it here: <https://www.boston.gov/news/mayor-wu-signs-public-tree-protection-ordinance-advancing-urban-forest-plan>. They give a good idea of how private tree provisions might go.

4. Think in terms of the widely different types of private ownership of trees that will need to be considered when tailoring an ordinance suitable to each of them: institutional, commercial, small homeowner, large residential property owner or entity, new developments of various sizes, etc.

5. Think in terms of what trees should be protected based on history, size, age, etc.

6. Everyone interested in the topic of tree protections should be open, not only to taking in information, but also to holding transparent, sometimes public dialogues with others when discussing protections and any concerns.

7. After the private TPO passes, outreach about it should be done to everyone

in the city in various ways, including in brochures like the ones the City puts out now every winter regarding dealing with snow and low temperatures. It’s not too late to educate the entire community about the public TPO either.

District 9 City Councilor Liz Breadon—a co-sponsor of the urban tree protection ordinance as well as the original one, along with former Councilors Arroyo and local District 6 Councilor Kendra Lara—said at the Dec. 13 Council meeting that she was “delighted” that the “critically important” public TPO had passed.

“This is one phase,” Breadon pointed out. “I am committed to continue to work for public and private tree protections.”

Isabella Gambill is Assistant Director of Climate, Energy, & Resilience at A Better City (ABC), an organization that “represents a multi-sector group of nearly 130 business leaders united around a common goal: to enhance the Greater Boston region’s economic health, competitiveness, equitable growth,

sustainability, and quality of life for all communities,” according to its website.

ABC has not taken a position on either the new urban tree protection ordinance or an upcoming private tree ordinance.

One thing is clear right now. Boston needs a private TPO. We need to prepare to draft and pass it after some prior practical actions, community education and monitoring of enforcement of the existing public TPO.

“No one will be surprised to hear that I am very supportive of a tree ordinance,” local environment and open space advocate Sarah Freeman of the Arborway Coalition, said during her City Council testimony when the first TPO, with urban and private trees included, was introduced in 2021.

“The best time to enact it was 20 years ago,” she said. “The second-best time is now.”

The same is still true of the part of that ordinance that remains to be enacted three years later.

Putting a lot of time

between the public TPO taking effect next month and developing a draft ordinance to add the majority of trees (private ones) to those we are safeguarding is slightly dangerous.

People quickly forget. And it’s tempting to want to ignore policies that could be controversial and a little complicated. The thought of private tree protections makes many people happy, but it makes a few people, especially those not familiar with what they typically entail and the benefits they bring, nervous, especially at first.

We can’t let the beginning of public tree protection in Boston mark the end of caring for more numerous, more threatened privately owned trees. That would be a real shame.

And for a city that takes pride in its concern for science, greenspace and the environment, failing to pass a good private TPO would be downright shameful.

Sandee Storey is Publisher Emerita of the Jamaica Plain Gazette.

ZBA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

so they declined to have them come meet,” per Newman.

There were no other public comments following Newman’s testimony, and the board unanimously supported a motion to approve the project with a proviso that it has no building code violations.

The next project up for discussion was at 49 Monmouth Street. The purpose of the project is to change the building from a one-family to a two-family and include a rear deck.

Specifically, the project proponent sought relief for the side and rear yards setbacks and the floor area ratio.

Joie Mara, the owner of the building, presented and expanded on the portion of the project concerning the deck, explaining that it would be bi-level and

serve as an egress.

Mara also mentioned that an updated drawing was provided to resolve the sideyard setbacks. “Both sides are now no longer in violation of the code, so it’s just the back side that is less than 30 feet,” he said.

Barraza had asked some questions about the proposed deck, which revealed that it extends 10.2 feet from the existing property and that the new rear setback with the deck would be 19.5 feet. She also asked some questions about a drawing shown during the presentation, and there were no other questions from the board.

Again, Newman deferred to the judgment of the board and provided background on the community engagement of the project. There was an abutters meeting held in

September, in which no abutters were present, and support was received from the Eagle Hill Civic Association in November.

There were no other public comments, and the board unanimously supported a motion to approve the project with the proviso that it go through Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) design review.

Per a description of the hearing on the city’s YouTube channel — where the hearing recording can be found — “The Zoning Board will hold a vote on whether to approve or reject the Subcommittee recommendations at its next full-Board hearing.”

The next ZBA hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, February 27th, according to the ZBA webpage on the city’s website.

LOCAL STUDENT EARNS ACADEMIC HONORS

LOCAL STUDENTS WHO MADE THE UMASS AMHERST DEAN’S LIST

The following local students who were named to the dean’s list at the University of Massachusetts Amherst for the fall 2023 semester.

In order to qualify, an undergraduate student must receive a 3.5 grade-point average or better on

a four-point scale.

Kevin Joan Bedoya Catano
Ayman Joseph Blanco
Rosanna Teresa Caralis
Melissa Castaneda Vargas
Emily Elvia Depina-Londono
Ariane Lopes Guerra
Helen Sui Loc
Maxwell Shane
McHugh
Arlette Vanessa Ordonez

Nyla Perez
Joseph Kolbeinn Pucillo
Mariaisabel Rojas
Diego Alejandro Sarinana
Cameron Alexander Shepherd
Cristina Lisseth Vasquez
Trong Sang Vo
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CITY PAWS

Companion animals are living longer

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Healthcare improvements, better diet, exercise, and cutting-edge scientific research have extended the lifespan of humans. Similar movements in the veterinary field are allowing our companion animals to live longer, healthier lives. This is excellent news for all of us who consider the much-loved furry members of our household to be family.

Nature vs Nurture

Since most are bred, housed, fed, and cared for by humans, domestic dogs live longer than their Canidae family of mammals like wolves, coyotes, foxes, jackals, and dingoes. For decades, how we care for our companion animals has improved with more routine veterinary care, dental care, better grooming, better compliance with vaccination recommendations, higher quality food, greater acceptance of neutering, and a change in how we treat

Breed, Face Shape, and Size Matter

A recent Companion Animal Psychology article summarized a British Study’s findings. Zazie Todd, Ph.D., reported, “The study of over 150 breeds and crossbreeds shows that size matters, as little dogs live longer—and so do those with a medium head shape rather than a flat face.”

Most of us understand that larger breeds, like Great Danes, Mastiffs, and Saint Bernards, have shorter lives. The Schipperke, Shiba Inu, Papillon, Border Terrier, Italian Greyhound, and Miniature Dachshund were among the small breeds noted to have longer lives.

Face shape is also a factor. Brachycephalic or flat-faced dogs, from the French Bulldog to its larger cousin, the English Bulldog, have shorter lifespans regardless of size. These breeds may struggle to breathe if they develop Brachycephalic

Obstructive Airway Syndrome. Dogs with medium-shaped faces lived slightly longer than those with long faces.

More Support May Be Needed

Knowing that the dog or cat we bring into our life may live longer than in the past, we may need to think a bit more about planning for a support system to care for that pet if it outlives us.

This is a common concern of people with a large bird like a Parrot who could live 50 years or more. We looked at discussions in bird forums to learn how these guardians addressed this issue. One answer is to become part of a local bird club or Aviculture Society. Another was to prearrange for care with a rescue organization or humane society.

We’ve been part of West Highland Terrier rescue organizations for many years and developed friendships with others who know the breed’s strengths and weaknesses.



Reports of companion animals living longer is excellent news for all of us who consider the much-loved furry members of our household to be family. (Photo by Eric Ward)

Through routine communication, they even know a bit about our Poppy in particular.

In Massachusetts, you can establish a trust that you can fund to care for an animal if and when you are unable to do so.

Mutually Beneficial

Some of the things dog guardians do for their furry companions are mutually beneficial. We know

that more exercise, socialization, fun, and stress relief can extend the lives of all species. Our companion animals provide us with many opportunities to relax and enjoy life.

In the case of dogs and humans, we’ll let the American Heart Association have the final word on the topic. They reported, “As dog lovers have long suspected, owning a canine companion can be

good for you.” Two studies in one of their scientific publications suggested, “... your four-legged friend may help you do better after a heart attack or stroke and may help you live a longer, healthier life.”

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.

Music of Bruckner and Bach headline North Shore Philharmonic Winter Concert

Anton Bruckner’s demanding Symphony No. 3 and Johan Sebastian Bach’s acclaimed Double Violin Concerto are the featured works when Music Director Robert Lehmann conducts the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra in its Winter Concert Sunday, February 25 at Swampscott High School auditorium.

Concert time is 3:00 p.m. Ticket will be available at the door or can be purchased in advance at

www.nspo.org for \$30, \$25 for seniors and students. Children 12 and under are admitted free.

The Double Violin Concerto will highlight NSPO concertmaster Zoia Bologovsky and principal second violin Ashley Offret. Both are longstanding members of the NSPO and well-known throughout the area. Bologovsky has toured throughout the United States and Europe as first violinist with the Arden String Quartet and

has held positions with the Portland Symphony and Springfield Symphony and the Rhode Island Philharmonic, along with other roles with Opera Maine, and the Portsmouth Symphony. Offret has played with the Rhode Island Philharmonic, Symphony New Hampshire, and the Bach-Beethoven-Brahms Society of Boston. Both teach music, as well.

The Bach Double Violin concerto, composed around 1730, has long been one of the composer’s most famous works.

German composer Anton Bruckner composed his Symphony No. 3 in 1873 as a dedication to fellow composer Richard Wagner. The work is an expressive composition that illustrates the composer’s affection for the grand and majestic scale of classical music.

Also on the concert program is Franz Shubert’s

“Rosamunde” Overture. Though the play for which the music was unsuccessful, Shubert’s music earned much more favorable response and has lived on to be one of Shubert’s most popular pieces.

The North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra is playing its 75th season in its 76th year, having missed all of the 2020-2021 season due to the pandemic. Staffed largely by volunteer players, the NSPO is committed to providing access to quality music at an affordable price to communities north of Boston. The Orchestra strives to develop, train, and provide opportunities for young musicians, while providing a large range of programs covering the full range of symphonic and pops repertoire for a diverse public. For full concert information, visit www.nspo.org or contact info@nspo.org.



Shown (above and below) are members of the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra.



Music Director Robert Lehmann.

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