



East Boston

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Wednesday, June 12, 2024

EBCCS EIGHTH GRADE GRADUATION

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA



Seventeen eighth grade students graduated from East Boston Central Catholic School (EBCCS) on June 8, at the Most Holy Redeemer Church. See page 11 for more photos.

Coletta Zapata seeks to hire more officers

Special to the Times-Free Press

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata introduced a Home Rule Petition to raise the maximum age requirements for entrance to the Boston Police Academy. Coletta Zapata's petition would raise the current maximum from forty (40) years of age to forty-five (45) years of age. Co-sponsors include Councilor At-Large Henry Santana and Councilor Enrique Pepen (District 5) of Hyde Park.

"Boston is lucky to have willing and able individuals who want to become police officers but don't meet the age qualification," said Coletta Zapata. "They are deserving of a chance even if they are over the current maximum age requirement," said Coletta Zapata. "This is a crucial measure to help fill personnel shortages in the Boston Police Department, reduce overtime spending, and decrease

See HIRE Page 2

Residents oppose proposed restaurant on Bennington Street

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

An overwhelming majority of residents in attendance at an abutters meeting last week voiced their displeasure with a proposed restaurant at 636-638 Bennington Street.

According to Attorney Francisco Gonzalez Palacio, who processed the application on behalf of the applicant, the proponents are seeking a beer, wine, and cordials license, a common victualler license, and live entertainment from the licensing board to operate a proposed restaurant called El Parche with 40 seats and operating hours from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

It should be noted that

the corporation proposing to do business as El Parche is El Parche LLC. According to the Secretary of State's website, the LLC's manager is Mery D. Quintana.

"The business proposes to have a diverse menu — breakfast, lunch, and dinner — that will include diverse, ethnic foods from different countries," said Palacio.

"The idea of having live entertainment is to have background music and to be able to have TV screens to broadcast entertaining music videos or news or sports events."

Palacio described the

See OPPOSE Page 10

Council invests in city services, community safety, housing in recommended operating budget

Special to the Times-Free Press

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata joined her colleagues in voting for an omnibus amendment package on the FY 25 Operating budget. Following the Council's first of two votes on the amended budget, it goes to Mayor Michelle Wu for acceptance, rejection, or amendments. The Council will then vote again later in the month on a final FY25 Operating budget which will commence July 1, 2024. Additionally, the Council may only reject

or pass the Boston Public Schools and the Capital budget without amendment power.

"With broad consensus, the Boston City Council has maximized its new budgetary authority, diligently and in a fiscally responsible manner, by only utilizing unspent funding sources. We have spent countless meetings analyzing every dollar of taxpayer money. The resulting amendments invest in basic city services and quality of life issues, community safety, housing, youth ca-

reer and college readiness, and more," said Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata. "I stand by the prudent process put forth by the Chair of the Ways and Means. The Council is utilizing its newfound authority to provide an independent check on the Mayor and invest directly in Bostonians."

"These amendments invest in top city departments and ensure there will be no personnel cuts to community safety. The Council maintained the collective bargaining reserve hike while also calling atten-

tion to the numerous job vacancies across the city. Hundreds of job vacancies across City departments provide hundreds of millions of dollars to reallocate without any anticipated job or service losses."

A portion of the Council's amended FY25 budget omnibus package includes:

- \$200,000 within the Inspectional Services Department (Personnel Services) to increase overtime for pest control inspections
- \$65,000 within the In-

See BUDGET Page 3

Proposed design concepts for Greenway improvements revealed

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

Proposed design concepts to improve portions of the Mary Ellen Welch

Greenway were presented during a public meeting last week hosted by the city's Parks and Recreation Department.

These concepts stem from a project to renovate the city-owned part of the Greenway from Porter Street to Marginal Street.

According to the project webpage located on the city's website, the goals of these improvements are to "reduce stormwater and coastal flooding, both near-term and long-term," "provide cool spots along the greenway to help mitigate urban heat island," and "promote tree health."

Amy Linné, the Project Manager and a Member of the Parks and Recreation

Department explained that initial community engagement began in the summer of 2022 but was paused due to a change in project managers.

An initial design meeting was held in January, and then an online survey was released in February. The results of the survey were shared last week.

"We'll take the feedback from tonight's meeting to work on the design for the Greenway and then also to get a better idea of the costs and what can be done within the current budget," said Linné.

"So then we'll share that at a third meeting this summer. We anticipate final design and permitting to

happen in late summer [or] early fall, and construction anticipated to start in 2025."

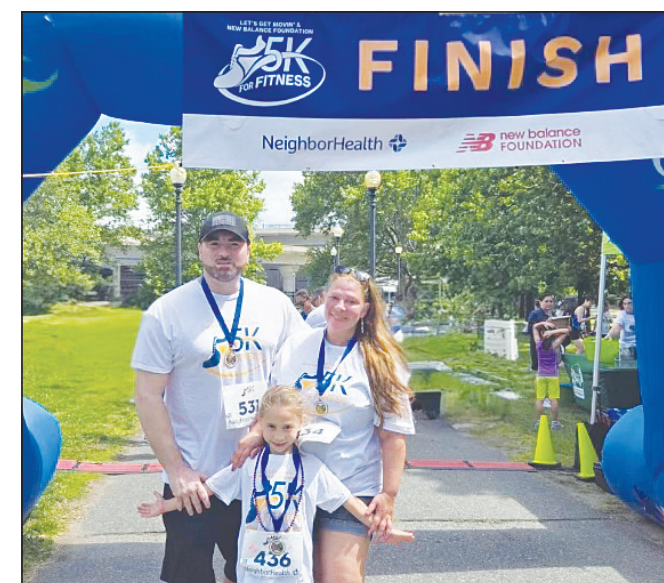
Before the design concepts were presented, Cheri Ruane of Weston & Sampson, the project's Consultant, walked through the area's existing conditions and some of the flooding that occurs.

Ruane explained that stormwater flooding on the Greenway is caused by runoff from adjacent properties, low-elevation areas on the Greenway, impervious surfaces, and more.

She also outlined some ways the flooding could be quelled, such as through green infrastructure (rain

See GREENWAY Page 9

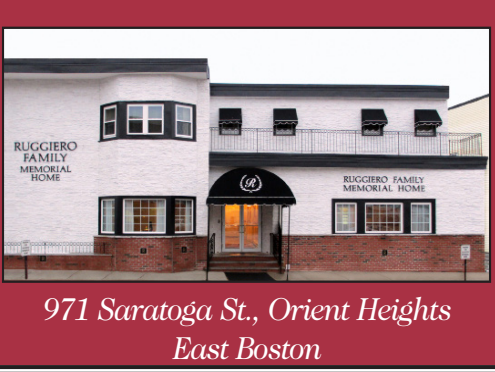
BENEFIT RUN



COURTESY PHOTO

Steven Walsh, Milana and daughter Isabella all participated in the recent East Boston 5k to benefit NeighborHealth. See Page 6 for more photos.

TRASH DELAY
Due to the Juneteenth Holiday, Wednesday June 19, 2024 Trash schedule will be as follows:
Monday & Tuesday on schedule
Weds. pick up → Thurs.
Thurs. pick up → Friday
Friday pick up → Saturday
Capitol Waste Services, Inc.



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FATHER'S DAY DRAWINGS
ON PAGE 12

YMCA of Greater Boston announces free summer access to Boston teens

YMCA of Greater Boston (YGB) President and CEO David Shapiro today joined Boston Public Schools (BPS) Superintendent Mary Skipper to announce all young people in Boston between the ages of 13 and 19 will receive free memberships to all of YGB's 13 centers this summer. The free memberships are part of YGB's "Get Summer" initiative, aimed at providing young people with safe and productive activities during the months away from school. Students at the Margarita Muñiz Academy in Jamaica Plain were greeted with t-shirts to help celebrate the announcement.

"Every young person in the City of Boston deserves to have a summer that is safe, fun, and enriching," said Shapiro. "The Y seeks to provide a neighborhood-based sense of belonging and community for every teen that's welcomed through our doors whether through a free summer membership, summer job, or teen programs and nights. We're proud that last summer one in three Boston teens came to their local Y, and we hope that number will be even higher this summer."

Last year, more than 7,000 teens took part in the program across the YMCA's 13 centers. Teens will have free access from

June 23 through Labor Day.

"The YMCA of Greater Boston is a critical partner to BPS, and this is just one example of how they deliver for our students," said Superintendent Skipper. "Summer is a fun time of year for young people, but it is also a time when students need a home-base where they can connect with friends and stay engaged. Mayor Wu and I are so grateful that once again cost will not be a barrier for young people who want to make the Y their home base this summer."

The YMCA's Get Summer initiative will focus on four key themes:

- **Staying Safe:** providing a safe space for teens during the vulnerable evening hours.
- **Healthy Living:** supporting healthy living by offering teens-only evening hours when teens can work out, swim, play basketball, take fitness classes, and connect with friends and caring adult staff members.
- **Hunger Relief:** providing free suppers to teens throughout the summer. Since the beginning of the pandemic, YGB has provided more than 5 million meals and bags of groceries.
- **Leadership Development:** Local YMCA teen leaders will design and implement much of the Get

Summer Programming. YGB staff will support upcoming leaders and create a culture where teens can grow into leaders in their community.

In addition to access to free Y services, YMCA centers in Dorchester, East Boston, Brighton, Roxbury, Chinatown, Huntington Ave center, and the Thomas M. Menino YMCA in Hyde Park will also offer dedicated Teen Centers this summer that are open in the afternoon. The Teen Centers allow a safe space for teens to build their own community through their ideas, relationships, and joy.

YGB is also providing summer employment opportunities to teenagers with more than 230 teens across Boston expected to have summer jobs. Teens will gain experience as lifeguards, camp counselors, and other roles at the YMCA, making YGB the largest direct youth employer partner for the City of Boston. This year Rockland Trust is the lead corporate supporter of YGB's summer youth employment program.

For more information, teens and families can visit their local YMCA of Greater Boston branch. More information is available at <https://ymcaboston.org/youth-and-family/teen-programs>.

NEWS IN BRIEF

CONSTITUTION BEACH SOFTBALL FIELDS TEMPORARY CLOSING

Beginning on July 1, and continuing through August 31, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will close Constitution Beach Softball Fields 1 and 2 in East Boston to accommodate a planned \$150,000 capital improvement project including outfield, infield, and spectator seating restoration work, as well as vegetation management along the property line fence. DCR has coordinated with leagues to relocate their permitted play to nearby fields, for the duration of the construction. Additionally, the hardcourts, playground and all other amenities at Constitution Beach will remain open for use.

OHNC MEETING AGENDA

The agenda for the Orient Heights Neighborhood Council for June 17 meeting is as follows:

- 6:30-6:35 welcome/introductions
 - 6:35-6:45 BPD Updates
 - 6:45-7:15 Rep Madaro Legislative Update
 - 7:15-7:30 28-30 Swan Ave - revised plans (Lynds)
 - 7:30-8 944 Saratoga St - revised plans (Lynds)
 - 8-8:20 Jalisco Liquor License - I am closing - voting item (Gazd)
- THE Council meets at 54 Ashley Street at the YMCA starting at 6:30.

SALESIAN BOYS & GIRLS CLUB AUCTION AND FUNDRAISER SET FOR JUNE 20

Salesian Boys & Girls Club will host the 15th Annual Summer Camp Scholarship Auction and Fundraiser on Thursday evening, June 20, at 6:00 p.m. in the Club's renovated gymnasium at 150 Bryon Street.

Join us for an evening filled with good friends,

good food, great prizes, and much fun. Together, we'll be raising funds for a fantastic cause: our kids.

Representative Adrian Madaro and the Honorable Sal LaMattina will be the Masters of Ceremonies and Auctioneers.

The East Boston Foundation will receive the Community Award for its outstanding service and support of our community's youth.

The Don Bosco Award will be presented to the East Boston Youth Basketball League for its dedication and generosity, which resonates with Don Bosco's passion for helping the young.

Please help us reach our goal of raising \$50,000 in Camp scholarships. Your generous contribution will go directly to scholarships for children to attend our summer camp and Club programs. No child will ever be denied this opportunity because of financial reasons. Your gift will help to create unforgettable summer experiences for our kids, shaping their futures and fostering their growth.

For more information, please visit at www.SalesianClub.com or contact Michael Triant at 617-913-1531 or michaeltriant@salesianclub.com or Anita at 617-784-1744 or abelmonte@salesianclub.com.

We hope you'll join us and sincerely appreciate your support in making this summer special for many amazing young people. Your contribution, no matter the size, is invaluable to us. We deeply value your potential support and are truly grateful for your consideration.

EASTIE PRIDE DAY CELEBRATION SET FOR AUGUST 17

This week, the Eastie Pride Day committee announced that the annual Eastie Pride Day celebration event will take place on Saturday, August 17, from 2 to 6 p.m. This large-scale community event showcases East Boston small businesses,

restaurants, and non-profit organizations within one location, allowing East Boston residents to learn more about the community. The celebration includes food, children's games, contests, music, and live entertainment. This event is family-friendly and open to all ages. Participating organizations and additional updates on this year's event can be found on the official website at www.EastiePrideDay.com/eastie-pride-day-2024.

"Every year, the Eastie Pride Day committee puts this event together with the goal of creating an atmosphere where residents can get to know our local businesses, nonprofit organizations, and neighbors," says Liana LaMattina, current Chair of the committee. "We are so grateful to have this celebration grow every year-it highlights the attributes that make East Boston such a remarkable place to call home."

This year's event will mark the 35th Annual Eastie Pride Day in East Boston. The event originated with Founder Sal LaMattina in 1989 to increase pride within residents in the community, and has since become a staple event in the neighborhood that children and adults alike look forward to each year.

If you have questions or would like to get involved with the Eastie Pride Day's celebration this year, please contact the committee at info@eastieprideday.com. To stay up to date on this year's Eastie Pride Day and future announcements, follow Eastie Pride Day on Facebook and on Instagram at @EastiePrideDay, or visit their website at www.EastiePrideDay.com.

Eastie Pride Day is a neighborhood committee that serves the East Boston community through an annual summer community celebration. This event is meant to highlight the values and qualities of the neighborhood, while also fostering a sense of unity and pride for residents.

BPDA hosts meeting about 944 Saratoga Development

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

Last week, the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) held a meeting regarding a development proposed at 944 Saratoga Street that would bring several units to the site, which abuts Noyes playground.

According to Richard Lynds, the project's Zoning Attorney, the plan for the site includes constructing a five-story building with 24 residential units and 11 parking spaces — three of which are tandem spaces.

After Lynds reviewed the site context, which included information about other approved projects in the area, he outlined some topics the project team was asked to respond to.

One of these items con-

cerned a mature tree to the left of the site, which is on city property. "One of the immediate comments that were raised early on in this process is the concern for that canopy of that tree and how that might be impacted based upon our proposed development," said Lynds.

He explained that they hired a "very skilled" arborist to examine the tree and its potential to be pruned.

"We had a very reputable tree company go out and deal with the canopy of this tree in a way that would ensure there's no harm and that the tree will continue to thrive," said Lynds.

After the information about the tree, Lynds walked through the project's zoning compliance. The project is situated in the mixed-use (MU)-4 dis-

trict, part of the new zoning adopted by the Boston Zoning Commission in April.

In terms of building height, the project is being proposed technically as a four-story — the maximum number of stories allowed in the MU-4 district.

"The reason why we identify this as a four-story building from a technical zoning standpoint is because of its location in what we call the coastal flood resilience overlay district (CFROD)," said Lynds.

He explained that CFROD, also known as Article 25A in the zoning code, has unique regulations for determining where a first story begins. Lynds explained that a first story is usually considered "any portion of the building that is 65% or more above grade." In CFROD, instead of measuring from grade, you would measure from the design flood elevation.

"For all intents and purposes, when you're measuring the building for the number of stories, you don't necessarily count the portion that is below 65% above grade or above the base flood elevation provided you do meet those requirements and those metrics your would not consider the first story until you get to 65% above design flood elevation," said Lynds.

Moreover, the proposed height is 52.5 feet to the roof rafters. While the MU-4 District has a maximum height of 50 feet, Lynds indicated that Article 25A of the zoning code allows "for a different measurement when dealing with properties or buildings within the coastal flood resilience overlay district."

According to the team's calculations, the project conforms to the maximum building lot coverage,

Hire // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

police officer burnout due to limited precinct capacities. I look forward to conversation and working collaboratively with my colleagues."

The current process to gain consideration to the Boston Police Academy if an individual over the maximum age requirement is such that the individual must petition through a special law both the City Council and then the State Legislature. The Boston City Council had five petitions in the first six months of the 2024 legislative session. In 2007, then Councilor Michael Flaherty sponsored a similar home rule petition to increase the maximum age requirement in an effort to fill personnel short-

ages. The measure was ultimately passed by the Council and Legislature.

"Boston Police Officers have to exercise integrity, maturity, judgment, discipline, and physical fitness every day in their roles. No age group has a monopoly on these traits that are critical for the job. This change allows for individuals with years of diverse experiences to join the BPD, combating recruitment challenges and ensuring our department remains committed to improving our city," said Councilor Enrique Pepen (District 5).

"We need more police officers in Boston, and the Police Academy and Police Department both have appropriately rigorous re-

quirements — there's no reason to block qualified applicants just because they've celebrated a few extra birthdays," said Councilor At-Large Henry Santana and Chair of the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee. "Officer shortages force our police to work too many hours, and we spend more on overtime and get less public safety services, so this is a fiscally responsible opportunity too."

This docket was referred to the Committee on Government Operations chaired by Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata (District 1) of East Boston. A hearing will be scheduled in the upcoming months.

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East Boston groups receive grants

East Boston organizations received over \$39,000 in grants:

East Boston YMCA YOUR Beach/Tu Playa! \$3,000	Beach:Ability 2024 \$5,000
La Colaborativa Dia en la Playa \$3,000	Edwardo Chacon Open Decks at the Beach \$3,000
Mutual Aid Eastie Community Care and Resource Fairs / Ferias de recursos y cuidado comunitario \$6,000	Eli Pabon BombAntil- lana's Bomba by the Sea // Ola de la Mar: Con- necting to our Ocean, Connecting to Ancestors, Connecting to Ourselves \$3,500
Neighborhood of Af- fordable Housing, Inc (NOAH) Boating Safe- ty and Learn to Kayak \$6,000	Bigger Bodies Boston Fat Beach Day \$5,000
Soca Fusion Master Fete Experience \$4,500 Triangle, Inc.	Piers Park Sailing Center Kayaks to Go \$7,000

Save The Harbor's Better Beaches program granted over \$315,000 to community and youth serving organizations for the 2024 Better Beaches Program Partnership with the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

The focus of the program is to fund free events and connect people to Boston Harbor's beaches, with a particular focus on breaking down barriers for people of color, people who don't speak English as a first language, and people with disabilities.

Funds for the program come from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and from Save the Harbor's annual JetBlue Shamrock Splash fundraiser.

"We are very proud to partner with DCR once again to share these spectacular urban natural resources with everyone," said Chris Mancini, executive director of Save The Harbor. "We are so grateful to the Healey/Driscoll administration, the Metropolitan Beaches Commission, JetBlue and all of our corporate partners for continuing to support this essential program, which will activate our beaches all summer long."

"The way this program helps East Boston reach inland and further the connection with the rest of the city is one of the more innovative aspects of the program," said Rep. Adrian Madaro, Co-Chair of the Metropolitan Beaches Commission. "Improving community engagement within East Boston is always a priority, so knowing that Better Beaches brings community funding to promote efforts that further diversity and equity in the neighborhood is particularly exciting."

"Not to mention fun," says Maya Smith, Better Beaches Program Director. "When trying to keep public interest, exciting, lively, and community-building activations are at the core of our success."

And success has been more than evident. Since the program began, Better Beaches has supported over 2,000 free events and programs and leveraged over \$7 million in state and local investment in our beachfront and waterfront communities. Meanwhile, attendance estimates this year are expected to welcome 10,000

to 15,000 local residents across all events.

"And that is a conservative estimate," Smith adds. "Really, the sheer quantities of local folks who are engaged is ultimately too many to count."

Because all the events are free they often see pretty huge attendance!"

These free events happen almost every day of the summer, right into the fall.

On East Boston's Constitution Beach these include activations like YOUR Beach/TU Playa by the East Boston YMCA, Triangle, Inc's Beach: Ability 2024 day of accessibility, Bigger Bodies Boston's "Fat Beach Day," a Community Care and Resource Fair from Mutual Aide Eastie, and the Master Fete Experience's Soca Fusion, among several others.

"One of our top priorities at DCR is ensuring our beaches are welcoming and accessible to people of all backgrounds, incomes, and abilities," said DCR Commissioner Brian Arrigo. "As part of that work, we're thrilled to continue our partnership with Save the Harbor and to make this investment in the Better Beaches Program that will help foster a sense of community at our metropolitan waterfronts by bringing free diverse and inclusive programming throughout the summer season."

Better Beaches programming kicks off in June and continues through September.

The 2024 Better Beaches grant recipients include groups and individuals that will activate East Boston local group's beaches, including East Boston YMCA, La Colaborativa, Mutual Aid Eastie, Neighborhood of Affordable Housing, Inc (NOAH), Soca Fusion, Triangle, Inc., Edwardo Chacon, Eli Pabon, and Bigger Bodies Boston.

The 83 groups receiving grants this year are based in all the metropolitan beachfront and waterfront communities, as well as a dozen surrounding cities and towns. The grantees will bring free programming all summer long to 13 beaches in Nahant, Lynn, Revere, Winthrop, East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester, Quincy and Hull.

EAST BOSTON HOLDS 11TH ANNUAL PRIDE FLAG RAISING EVENT AT PIERS PARK

East Boston held its 11th Annual Pride Flag Raising event Friday, June 7 at Piers Park alongside Boston Harbor.

Celeste Ribeiro Hewitt, organizer of the event,

welcomed Eastie residents and friends to the event that is held during national Pride Month.

Winthrop Town Councilor John DaRos was the keynote speaker.

Sen. Lydia Edwards and Rep. Adrian Madaro delivered remarks during the program.

Anthony Guerriero, Deputy Director of Community Relations of Mass-

port Authority, a supporter of the event since its inception, brought the official greetings from the agency.



Rep. Adrian Madaro and Sen. Lydia Edwards present citations to keynote speaker John DaRos at the event.



Rep. Adrian Madaro, pictured with his wife, Ariel Madaro, and their children, Nico Glantz Madaro and Matteo Glantz Madaro, at the Pride Flag Raising event at Piers Park.



Displaying the Pride Flag at the event are keynote speaker John DaRos, Sen. Lydia Edwards, Rep. Adrian Madaro, event organizer Celeste Hewitt Ribeiro, and Massport Deputy Director of Community Relations Anthony Guerriero.

Budget // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spectional Services Department (Personnel Services) to increase Building Inspectors by 1 FTE to proactively prevent building collapses and hold short-term rentals accountable

- \$700,000 within Boston Police Department (Personnel Services) to the Boston Police Crime Lab to increase the number of lab techs and to fill the director vacancy

- \$300,000 within Boston Police Department (Equipment) to Boston Police Crime Lab to purchase new sexual assault testing equipment

- \$230,000 within the Inspectional Services Department (Personnel Services) to increase Plans Examiners by 2 FTE to relieve a backlog of plans.

- \$100,000 increase for trash containerization for rodent mitigation in Inspectional Services Department's Supplies & Materials

- \$50,000 increase for youth programming in district one Boston Centers for Youth & Families

- \$125,000 increase for 2 additional housing crisis coordinator positions in Mayor's Office of Housing

- \$300,000 increase to support ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) parent classes across the city in Office of Immigrant Advancement Contractual Services

- \$100,000 increase for route optimization - street sweepers in the Department of Innovation & Technology Equipment

- \$9,999 increase for clean water pilot in East Boston and Mattapan in the Office of Food Justice Contractual Services

- \$750,000 increase for Community Land Trust in the Mayor's Office of Housing Special Appropriations

- \$1,500,000 increase for City Housing Vouchers in the Mayor's Office of Housing Special Appropriations

- \$100,000 increase to provide seed money to create an emergency relief fund for residents impacted by disasters in Mayor's Office of Housing Special Appropriation

- \$500,000, within Boston Public Health Commission (Special Appropriation) to the Family Justice Center to support survivors of sexual assault

- \$500,000 increase for Right to Counsel in the Fair Housing & Equity's Contractual Services

- \$75,000 increase for a Parks Administrator at the Christopher Columbus Park in the Parks & Recreation Department's Contractual Services

- \$50,000 increase for landmarks personnel in the Office of Historic Preservation Personnel Services

- \$1,500,000 increase for Down Payment Assistance in the Mayor's Office of Housing Special Appropriations

- \$75,000 increase for a neighborhood traffic study in Office of Streets Contractual Services

- \$200,000 increase to support workforce language training programs in the Office of Workforce Development Contractual Services

- \$50,000 increase to create hybrid meeting locations throughout the city in the Department of Innovation & Technology Equipment

- \$100,000 increase for small business mini-grants in the Office of Economic Opportunity & Inclusion Contractual Services

- \$200,000 increase to support workforce training nonprofits for newcomers

in the Office of Workforce Development Contractual Services

- \$150,000 increase to support burial services for homicide victims in the Parks & Recreation Department Contractual Services

The Boston City Council commenced its budget hearings on April 22, 2024, and all hearings were led by Councilor Brian Worrel (D4), chair of the Committee on Ways and Means. This cycle is the third time the Boston City Council can reject, reduce, pass, or amend line items (i.e., accounts such as personnel, contracted services, equipment, etc.) in the City's Operating Budget.

To prepare for the budget cycle, Coletta Zapata hosted a round of listening sessions and budget town halls across the district to gather feedback from residents about their priorities for the fiscal year operating and capital budget.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Zimmerman, Neil L	Zimmerman, Neil L	156 Porter St #430	\$25,000
Dicenso, Paul	Gilda E Dicenso Ft	2 Horace St	\$1,250,000
Carter, Jennifer L	Dipietro Lawrence G Est	20 Annavoy St	\$790,000
23 Meridian LLC	82 Webster Street LLC	23-25 Meridian St	\$1,400,000
246 Bremen LLC	Ciampa, Joseph	246 Bremen St	\$1,035,000
250 Bremen LLC	Ciampa Investments Inc	250 Bremen St	\$780,000
252 Bremen LLC	Ciampa Investments Inc	252 Bremen St	\$1,085,000
Singhi, Eshan	308 Saratoga Street LLC	308 Saratoga St #1	\$475,000
47 Condor LLC	248 Everett Ave LLC	47-47B Condor St	\$1,100,000
Wang, Xiaoguang	White, Sandra A	97 Trenton St	\$712,000



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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 deb@reverejournal.com

East Boston

Times-Free Press

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JUNE IS A MONTH OF FREEDOM

June marks the first month of the summer season, the period on the calendar when we take vacations from school and work to travel and enjoy the company of our friends and family members. It's our personal time, that sweet spot each year when we take a break from the humdrum of our daily schedules and we have the freedom to do whatever we want.

But June also uniquely celebrates a number of events that brought true freedom to Americans who had been unable to experience the promise of America -- "all men are created equal" -- that we take for granted today.

June 12 is known as Loving Day. It was on that day in 1967 that the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a Virginia law that forbade interracial marriage and made it a criminal offense to do so. The Lovings, an interracial couple, were convicted under that Virginia law and, to avoid jail, they agreed to leave the state. Similar laws existed throughout all of the Southern states until the Supreme Court's ruling.

June is observed as Pride Month by the LGBTQIA+ community to mark the date of June 28, 1969, when gays protested arrests at the Stonewall Inn (a gay bar in New York City's Greenwich Village) at a time when police routinely arrested of gay men on phony morals charges. The riots lasted for a number of days and are widely-recognized as the beginning of the modern gay rights movement that culminated more than 50 years later with the Supreme Court decision of Obergefell v. Hodges in 2015 that struck down state laws forbidding same-sex marriage.

June 14 is Flag Day, marking the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress, which read as follows: "Resolved, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day and in 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress. Ever since its inception in 1777, the American flag has been universally recognized as a symbol of freedom around the world.

Finally, Juneteenth, which is now a national holiday, marks the day when the Union army entered the city of Galveston, Texas on June 19, 1865, and freed the slaves in Texas pursuant to President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, which had gone into effect more than two years earlier on January 1, 1863. Texas had been the last state to be occupied by Union forces and where slavery still existed.

NEAR THE WATER? WATCH YOUR CHILDREN!

We recently were shocked to learn of two statistics that were noted at a recent meeting of the Revere Board of Health.

The first is that about 4500 Americans die from drowning each year. To put that into perspective, that figure is about 50 percent greater than the total number of victims who died on 9/11.

The second number, which was even more surprising -- and even sadder -- is that drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury-related death among children ages 1-4.

What is stunning to us about that statistic is that we cannot imagine that whenever a parent is with a small child near the water -- whether it be the bathtub in their home or at the beach -- the parent is not watching over their child like a hawk without even a second's worth of distraction, including texting on a cell phone.

Young children are especially susceptible to drowning because of their small lung capacity, which means that once they slip under, their tiny lungs can fill with water almost instantly.

Even if a child is saved from death by drowning, the lack of oxygen to the brain can result in a serious brain injury that will have lifelong implications.

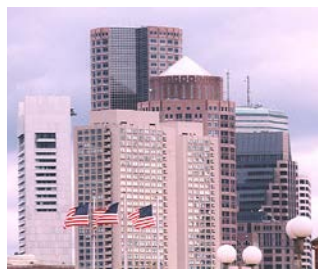
The bottom line is that a young child never should be left unattended for even a moment when near the water. And it goes without saying that every parent should be 100% sober whenever they are near water with their child, whether on a boat, at the beach, at a pool, or in their home.

Your opinions, please

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

Revere, MA 02151. Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@eastietimes.com.

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



Forum



LETTER to the Editor

LOCAL ADVOCATES ENCOURAGED BY MASSPORT SELECTING DAVEY AS CEO

To the Editor,

East Boston airport activists haven't been able to support many Massport decisions over the years. However, Airport Impact Relief, Incorporated (AIR, Inc.), a community group which has opposed the environmental and health impacts of Logan expansion since the 1960's, thinks the selection of Rich Davey as the next CEO of Massport is a promising one. AIR, Inc. representatives say that Mr. Davey's selection makes sense in light of his experience running transit systems and his familiarity with Massachusetts' transportation politics.

Logan Airport's ground access crisis is a perfect example of an opportunity for Davey's expertise. With peak traffic already choking Logan and annual passenger volumes expected to rise, convincing travelers to get out of their cars and into high occupancy vehicle (HOV) services is a major challenge. At NYC transit, the commuter rail, and the MBTA, Davey proved that he understands that the key is to offer motorists better transit options, whether through capital investments or by improving user experience and convenience. Davey also has a reputation for listening to stakeholders and system users, as he did when local youth from GreenRoots asked for fare relief on the MBTA in 2015.

It is encouraging that under Governor Healey's watch, Massport has opted NOT to offer the job to another political or airport insider. Politics too often leads to avoiding change, and airport insiders take their cues from airlines that are focused only on their next quarterly report. This has led Massport to keep airline costs down

by incrementally adding terminal facilities while delaying programs to address Logan's passenger service, traffic, and environmental needs.

Now we're in a bind. Air travel is fully recovered and set to rise, yet Logan is congested and rated at the bottom of national traveler satisfaction surveys, and Massport has no 'plan B'. The current plan is to push millions more passengers through Logan by building more terminals without addressing the basic ground access congestion problem that is choking both the airport and the community.

Consider the recent news that Philadelphia International Airport (PHL) has established 'secure to secure' service with direct bus connections between itself and smaller regional airports. This means that travelers can book, check-in, check baggage, and clear security for trips out of PHL at smaller regional airports, then hop on a luxury coach and be delivered to PHL on the other side of the security line, and their bags will check right through to their final destination.

This sort of innovation should be a starting point for Massport to enhance passenger service.

If PHL can do this, why can't Logan develop a system of full service remote terminals at Logan Express locations? This would offer travelers a way to skip the stress of dragging luggage along as they fight their way through traffic to get to Logan. Such remote terminal facilities could not only improve connections to Logan, but they could also leverage connections to other regional destinations, including major cities and even other airports. These remote terminal facilities could serve as bus transit hubs through co-locating with the bus services provided by half a dozen regional transit authorities.

Even though industry practice severely limits

airport managers' ability to innovate, for Mr. Davey, pushing the Port Authority's staff and consultants to innovate will be job one. To do this, he will need to ignore decades of recent practice at the Port Authority, and insist that Massport exercise its right and responsibility to build facilities that meet the needs of the Commonwealth's air travelers as well as those of impacted communities, and to recover those expenses from airlines and other airport users.

The problem for Rich Davey, and Governor Healey, is that this sort of thinking is not presently being advanced by the staff or board at Massport. And it will not be promoted by aviation industry insider thinking or that of political strategists. The changes we need must come from planners and leaders with the ambition and expertise to make healthy transportation a priority and a reality for our region.

While local airport activists hope that Mr. Dav-

ey can lead the Port Authority's staff to achieve these sorts of innovations, we need Mr. Davey to drive forward equally ambitious plans to implement healthy strategies to reduce net environmental impacts in nearby environmental justice communities. Luckily, his history shows openness to change, innovation, and the type of outside the box thinking which is essential for delivering both forward-looking airport facilities and effective environmental strategies.

We wish Mr. Davey well, and hope he will meet with AIR, Inc. and the Logan Community Clean Air Coalition expeditiously to discuss the community's many constructive and feasible suggestions, including much-needed improvements in ground access, an airport sponsored community air filtration program, and mitigation planning which is linked to actual growth, all of which have been proposed by impacted communities but ignored for years.

Chris Marchi

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Patrick J. Kennedy students' Father's Day poems

For an awesome father
A amazing driver
The one that I love
Helps other people
Elegant dad
Respectful of others
Special person to me
Dedicated to his family
A amazing cook
You are the best DAD!

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Alejandro Cardona*

Fair to all people
 Absolutely a great person
 Thank you for everything
 Handsome dad
 Enjoy yourself
 Respectful to everyone
 So perfect
 Definitely cool
 Amazing dad
 You are special to me

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Maria Alzate Posada*

Funny in all ways
A amazing food
Talented for making food
Helpful person
Example to follow
Respectful dad
Such a handsome dad
Does funny faces
Always being funny with me
Young

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Dayana Villanueva*

Fantastic father
A amazing
The best player of chess
Helping me with my problems
Energy
Respectful
Special person
Dedicated to your work
Appreciative
You are intelligent

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Miguel Angel Lopera*

Father
Always supporting
Teaches me to be better
Hardworking
Energetic in everything
Respectful to me and others
Successful
Dedicated to everything
Always there for me
Young and strong

*Happy Father's Day
 Zariyah Carthon*

Fantastic in every way
Always there for me
Teaches me new things
Helps me feel happy
Elegant
Really the best dad ever
Super dad
Different and special
Always making me happy
You are amazing

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Chris Querubin*

Funny in many ways
Able to help me
Having fun with me
Excellent father
Reliable father
Saying funny thing
Dedicated to his family
A amazing dad
You are the best father

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Gabriela Aime*

Funny dad
A amazing father
Talented in many sports
Hard-working person
Example to follow
Respectful father
Strong dad
Decision maker
Attitude
Young

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Christian Castaneda Lazo*

Funny Guy
Awesome
Teaching me how to be smart
Hard-working
Eats too much
Respectful to others and me
Sassy all the time
Driving me everywhere
 I need to go
Always there for me
Yelling at my dog when he
 does something bad

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Ashly Martinez*

Forever will be the best dad
Always there for me
The most inspiring dad
Hero
Every day he cares for me
Really kind
Sport lover
Day after day he never fails
 to make me laugh
Always loving me
Young and caring

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Justin Amaya*

Funny at the wrong times
Always sleeping just like me
The kindest heart ever
Honest about everything
Eating with me
Relying on me to have a good
 future
Sassing me around
Dressing me to be successful
 in life
Always driving him crazy
Yelling at me to do my best

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Lesly Martinez*

Fun person to have around
A amazing person
The "boys" of the family
He has high expectations
Expect the best in every
 situation
Reliable man in my life
Saving my money
Dedicated to his job
Always doing his work
Yearning for the best

*Happy Father's Day
 Vincent Phan*

Forgiving and loving
Always making jokes
Talks to me while going
 somewhere
He loves my brother and
 me dearly
Enjoys walking with me
Really makes sure I'm ok
 and safe
Sweet and busy
Dedicated to his family
A amazing with fixing stuff
You're awesome

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Rebecca Contreras*

Feeling loved when I'm
 around him
Awesome father who travels
 with me
The one who saves me
 from danger
He is my hero
Excellent
Really loving
Soft like a feather
Dedicated to my future
Adorable
Young and brave

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Gino Reyes*

Frequently looking out
 for me
An amazing father
Tries pushing me to my best
Honest with me
Eager to know how
 I'm doing
Respectful
Strong dad
Dressing me to look good
Always supporting
Young and brave

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Angel Salinas*

Fun and playful
A amazing father
Thankful I have a fantastic
 father
Helpful and caring
Excellent father to have
 in my life
Respects me and other people
Sacrificed everything for me
Day after day, he makes
 me smile
A father that I can't replace
Young

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Rodrigo Landaverde*

Forever in my heart
An amazing person
Teaching me to respect
 other people
Helping me when I need him
Excellent dad
Respectful to all people
Special person to his family
Dedicated himself to me
Always there for me
You're the BEST DAD

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Isabella Rodriguez*

Fun to talk to
Always supports my decisions
Tells me to do my best
Hard-working father
Eating a lot
Respectful to others
Sundays with Dad are
 always fun
Drugging me away from
 my problems
Always there to make me smile
Yelling and always cheering
 for me

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Jennifer Suar*

Father that I will never
 stop loving
An amazing worker
Teaching me about history
How he complain to me so good
Enters me in a funny space
 in his heart
Rare driving that feels like a
 professional
Special dad to me
Demonstrating how to drive
 correctly
A amazing driver and dad
Yelling jokes to make me laugh

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Jose Miguel Mejia Arenas*

Fantastic person
A amazing father
Teaching me how to be a great
 person
Helping me to do my best
Eating too much
Respectful with my sister
 and me
Special person in my heart
Dedicated to making my sister
 and me good people
Able to help me with my
 homework
You are the best!

*Feliz Día del Padre
 Samuel Chalavca*

Winthrop Marketplace celebrates 25 years

Photos by Marianne Salza

Winthrop Market celebrated its 25th anniversary on June 6 with local and state officials, who expressed their wishes for continued success and good fortune. Senator Lydia Edwards congratulated the Winthrop Market for their 25 years of contributions to the town by presenting a citation. Representative Jeff Turco also presented the Winthrop

Market with a certificate of recognition for 25 years of being in business. "I cannot thank the community enough for supporting us," said Marc Wallerce, owner. "I want to thank our employees. They've been here 26-27 years helping us build it. These accolades that Chris [Wallerce] and I are getting is wonderful; but we wouldn't be here without our employees."



Town Manager Tony Marino, Chris Wallerce, Store Manager Kevin Miccichi, Marc Wallerce, Owner, Representative Jeff Turco, former Speaker of the House of Representatives Bob DeLeo, Councilor Joe Aiello, Senator Lydia Edwards, Councilor Max Tassinari, Councilor Pat Costigan, Council President Jim Letterie, and Eric Reidister, Senator Edwards' Legislative Aid.



Marc Wallerce, Senator Lydia Edwards, Chris Wallerce, and Representative Jeff Turco.

NEIGHBORHEALTH UNITES COMMUNITY FOR HEALTH AND FITNESS AT ANNUAL 5K EVENT

NeighborHealth, formerly East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, Let's Get Movin' program, in partnership with the New Balance Foundation, hosted its annual 5K for Fitness event on Saturday, June 8th, 2024, at East Boston's Memorial Park. The event - the first to take place under the

health center's new name - brought together more than 700 people, including over 570 runners, to celebrate and promote healthy living through physical activity and nutrition education. "I love seeing our community come together to celebrate fitness, physical activity and healthy eating at the Let's Get Movin' 5K," said NeighborHealth President and CEO Greg Wilmot. "Staying healthy is more than not feeling sick, it's about feeling well, and I can't think of a better example of an event that keeps our community connected and supported in living a full and flourishing life."



Dozens of NeighborHealth staff participated in the event, both as volunteers and race participants at East Boston's Memorial Park

The race day schedule included "day of" registration followed by a warmup led by the Let's Get Movin' team with refreshments and live music following the event. The first 200 registrants received free t-shirts, and all finishers were awarded medals. The top finishers in each age category were also recognized with special awards concluding the event. More than a dozen community organizations joined the festivities to share resources. Let's Get Movin' is a lifestyle-change program for children and teens that

promotes physical activity, teaches proper nutrition, and helps young people make healthier lifestyle choices. The program was developed in response to the national epidemic of childhood obesity and its impact on the local community. Built on three main components - medical monitoring, physical activity, and nutrition education - Let's Get Movin' offers training sessions, after-school and summer programs, field trips, community events, cooking classes, and educational activities for adults who want to learn more about supporting their children's healthier lifestyles. NeighborHealth would like to thank our generous sponsors, in addition to the New Balance Foundation, for supporting this event: 261 Fearless, is-genuity, Air Cargo Club of New England, Planet Fitness, Citius Printers, the YMCA, Globos y Fiestas, FJ Juice Bar Café, Bos-



Let's Get Movin' & New Balance Foundation 5K for Fitness runners at the start line



NeighborHealth President and CEO, Greg Wilmot with 5K participants and medal winners

Same neighbors. New name.



We have changed our name. Our commitment to community-based care is the same. [Learn more at neighborhealth.com](https://neighborhealth.com)

JUNETEENTH TRASH & RECYCLING COLLECTION SCHEDULE



Delayed pick-up service begins on Wednesday 6/19.

Neighborhoods on a **Regular** Pick-Up Schedule:

- Back Bay
- Bay Village
- Beacon Hill
- Charlestown
- Chinatown
- Downtown Boston
- Fenway-Kenmore
- Mission Hill
- Wharf District
- North End
- Roxbury
- South End
- West End

Neighborhoods on a **Delayed** Pick-Up Schedule:

- Allston
- Brighton
- Dorchester
- East Boston
- Hyde Park
- Jamaica Plain
- Mattapan
- Roslindale
- South Boston
- West Roxbury

Please note that all neighborhoods will run on a regular collection schedule on Monday & Tuesday.

WINTHROP MARKETPLACE

Your Independent Grocer, Where Old Friends Meet And New Ones Are Made
SALE DAYS THURSDAY, JUNE 6TH THROUGH SUNDAY JUNE 16, 2024

Celebrating

25 YEARS

Meat

"Meat Cut Fresh Every Day"

- Steak Tips **\$8.99/lb** limit 3 pkgs
- New York Strip Steaks **\$8.99/lb** limit 3 pkgs
- Boneless Chicken Breast **\$2.99/lb** limit 3 pkgs
- Boneless Center Cut Pork Chops **\$2.79/lb** limit 3 pkgs
- Best Yet Raw Frozen Shrimp..... **\$6.99**
16-20 ct



Bakery

- 8" Apple Crumb Pie **\$5.99**
- 8" Lemon Crumb Pie..... **\$4.99**
- Carrot Cake..... **\$8.99**
- Our Own Chocolate Chip Cookies 10 pk... **\$2.29**
- Cinnamon Roll 6 pk..... **\$3.99**
- Whoopie Pies..... **2/\$4.00**
- Our Own Hamburger or Hot Dog Rolls **2/\$6.00**
- White Pizza Dough **2/\$5.00**
- Our Own Parisian Bread **\$1.99**

Deli

- Land O' Lakes American Cheese **\$3.99/lb**
- Carando Genoa Salami **\$6.99/lb**
- Best Yet Roast Beef..... **\$9.99/lb**
- Carolina Deluxe Turkey Breast..... **\$4.99/lb**
- Hans Kisse Salads **\$2.99/lb**
White Potato-Cole Slaw-Macaroni

Produce

- Whole Seedless Watermelon **\$4.99** limit 2
- Bi-Color Corn **8/\$2.99** limit 16
- Fresh Blueberries..... **2/\$5.00** limit 4
- Sweet Red Strawberries..... **2/\$5.00** limit 4
- Russet Potatoes 5 lb bag **2/\$4.00**

Grocery

Great grocery specials

- Ronzoni Pasta..... **10/\$10.00** limit 10
(ex: gluten free-super green-garden veggie)
- Knorr Rice or Pasta Side Dishes . **10/\$10.00**
- Kraft Barbecue Sauce..... **10/\$10.00**
- Chicken of the Sea
- Solid White Canned Tuna .. **10/\$10.00** limit 10
- Celeste Pizza **10/\$10.00**
- Oui French Style Yogurt..... **10/\$10.00**
- Best Yet Apple Juice..... **2/\$3.00**
- Best Yet Mayonnaise 30 oz **2/\$6.00**
- Xtra Laundry Detergent **2/\$5.00**
- B&M Baked Beans **2/\$4.00**
- Best Yet K Cups 36 ct..... **\$9.99**
- Clear & Natural Sparkling Seltzer Water..... **2/\$1.00** plus deposit
- Tuttorosso Tomatoes **4/\$5.00** limit 12
- Best Yet Bath Tissue 4 roll pkg **2/\$7.00**
- Heinz Easy Squeeze Ketchup **4/\$10.00**
- Kens Salad Dressing 9 oz..... **2/\$3.00**
- Winter Hill Scali Bread **2/\$5.00**
- Nabisco Oreo Family Size Cookies... **2/\$8.00**
- Pepsi 2 liter..... **4/\$7.00** plus deposit limit 4
- Ore-Ida Frozen Potatoes **2/\$6.00**
- Eggo Waffles (ex: thick & fluffy) **2/\$4.00**
- Friendly's Ice Cream..... **2/\$7.00**
- Bays English Muffins **2/\$5.00**
- Sargento Shredded Cheese **2/\$3.00**
- Simply Lemonade **2/\$4.00**
- Philadelphia Cream Cheese
- Brick Pack 8 oz..... **2/\$6.00**
- Best Yet Orange Juice 52 oz..... **2/\$5.00**
- Richies' Slush Cups 10 oz **2/\$3.00**
- Hood 1% Gallon Milk **\$3.99**



Mon-Sat 7:30 am-8pm Sun: 7:30am-7pm

Not responsible for typographical errors. We have the right to limit quantities.

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BRADLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CELEBRATES STEAM EXHIBITION

This week we celebrated our first annual Bradley STEAM Exhibition. All students from PreK-grade 6 and their teachers Teresa Dankner, Michelle Forbes

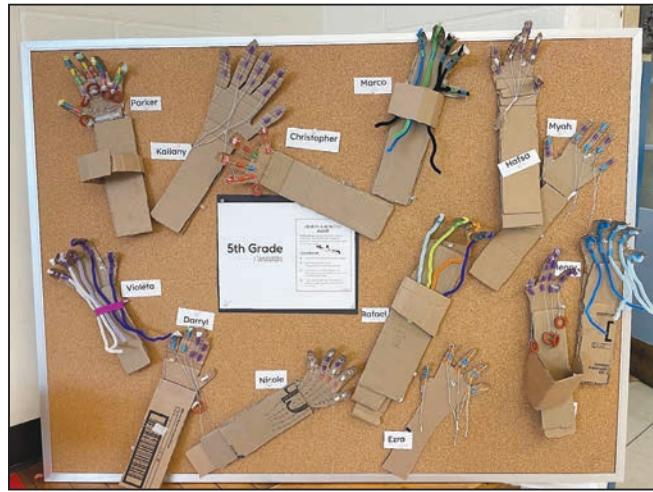
and Alyson Wall were excited to present creations from art, innovation and science. On display were works done in painting, collage, weaving and mixed media.

Third grade scientists engineered devices utilizing biomimicry (nature) to inspire their designs. Innovation projects showcased working models of the

respiratory system, shoes designed from cardboard, prototypes of robotic hands and even a large-scale model of East Boston as seen by kindergarten students!



COURTESY PHOTOS



Greenway // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

gardens), grey infrastructure (catch basins), elevating pathways on the Greenway, and more.

Ruane also walked through the survey responses. The 89 responses called for amenities such as seating, plantings, improved lighting, and more at entrances and at the Greenway itself.

Moreover, most survey responses thought that reducing flood impacts was the most critical improvement for the Greenway and preferred keeping its existing condition with two separate paths for different uses.

As the meeting progressed, Farah Dakkak, the project's Landscape Architect, outlined the proposed design concepts.

"We'd love to hear feedback on where we are at in the process and the design thinking we've done so far, and with that feedback, we will continue developing the design and come back to you in a couple of months and sort of show you the progress," said Dakkak.

As part of the presentation, Dakkak discussed four sections of the project area and the proposed concepts for each section.

The first area she discussed was from Marginal Street to Sumner Street. In this area, there are plans for minor adjustments to the path. The path alignment will stay the same, with new and relocated lighting and a reduction in pavement.

Plans also include adding pavers and cafe-style tables near the blue caboose. Dakkak also discussed the idea of adding programming in the area near the blue caboose.

vision that area up top to host a farmers market or sort of an art market where vendors could set up tents and sort of take advantage of this whole green space and be a community anchor that people can meet at," Dakkak.

She also zoomed in on concepts for the Marginal Street entry, which included the aforementioned plans near the blue caboose, adding a trash receptacle, preserving the existing ornamental fence in the area, and more.

The next area discussed was from Sumner Street to Maverick Street. This area has plans for drainage improvements, a rain garden, seating, and more. The city is also considering the potential for a deployable barrier and accompanying storage container.

"Right under Sumner Street, there is infrastructure installed that would allow for the installation of a deployable barrier, and the city's looking at where we could locate that infrastructure — those pieces — that would need to be installed during a storm event and we're trying to think through locating that on-site," said Dakkak.

Moreover, the pathway alignment is planned to stay the same, and they are considering elevating a section of the lower path.

The Sumner Street to Gove Street area was also discussed. "This is the only portion of the site where we are proposing the pathway to merge into one," said Dakkak. The pathway would turn into one and be elevated at about 12 feet in width.

"The reason for that is that this is the area that is most prone to water ponding, and we think that in do-

ing this, we would decrease the amount of impervious surface and allow for more infiltration," she added.

There are also plans to add ground markings to differentiate bike versus pedestrian uses, realign seating, and install new lighting.

Dakkak also mentioned that there is a consideration for places in this area to be bridged over to "allow for water to sort of cross over the path."

Finally, Dakkak outlined the Gove Street to Porter Street area. Plans here include fence improvements on the northern edge, slope stabilization, drainage improvements, seating, and more. The pathway alignment in this area would also remain the same.

To wrap up, Dakkak discussed plans to incorporate signage and strengthen the art program and outlined proposed site materials.

The floor was opened after the presentation so attendees could comment or ask questions.

Jane O'Reilly, a Gove Street Citizens Association Board Member, thanked those involved with the project and made a few requests. She had requested more and better trash cans and training to maintain trees and grass.

John Casamassima, an Orient Heights Neighborhood Council member, made several comments.

Casamassima pondered if granite blocks could be used for seating instead of benches to discourage folks from staying in the Greenway overnight.

Linné indicated that the benches proposed have a middle armrest, so they are less accommodating for overnight stays, and indicated they have heard feed-

back that granite blocks are less comfortable for seating.

Casamassima also wondered if the better plan to address the flooding problem was to manage runoff from parking lots rather than raise or change the pathways.

Ruane indicated that runoff is part of the problem but not most of it. "Even if we were to stop every drop of abutter runoff, you would still end up with impassible pathways," she said.

Casamassima also commented that the Greenway's maintenance is poor and was concerned about adding features like rain gardens if they were not going to be appropriately maintained.

Linné, in part, said, "We would only do what we knew could be maintained."

Valerie Burns also made some comments, including widening the path that is proposed to be merged to 16 feet, focusing on addressing runoff from parking lots and making entrances more welcoming and announced.

Ethan Vogt also suggested bringing the programming idea, with an art or farmers market proposed near the blue caboose, to the Gove Street area.

As the meeting wrapped up, several other comments and suggestions were made. For those interested in viewing the meeting recording and learning more about the project and future engagement opportunities, visit <https://www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/improvements-mary-el-len-welch-greenway>.

OBITUARIES

Barbara Zagarella

Retired waitress and member of Beachmont VFW



Barbara A. Zagarella of Revere, formerly of East Boston, passed away at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston on June 9, 2024. She was 94 years old.

Born in East Boston, she was the beloved daughter of the late Marie P. "Lena" (Caggiano) and William J. Burke. A long-time resident of East Boston, she worked as a waitress prior to her retirement. She was also a member of the VFW in Beachmont, Revere.

She was the devoted wife of the late Salvatore A. Zagarella and the loving mother of Avis Surette, the late Paul Zagarella and the dear sister of the late Pauline Rigione.

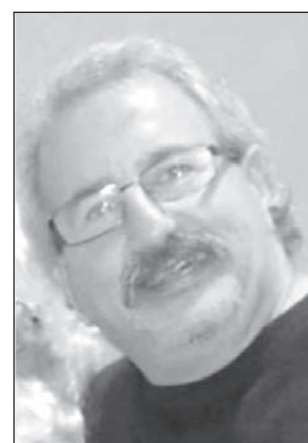
Family and friends are cordially invited to attend the visitation from the

Caggiano-O'Maley-Frazier Funeral Home, 147 Winthrop St., Winthrop on Friday, June 14 from 9 to 11 a.m. followed by a funeral service in the funeral home at 11 a.m. Services will conclude with the entombment in the Holy Cross Mausoleum in Malden.

For directions or to sign the online guestbook, go to www.caggianofuneral-home.com.

Robert D'Amelio

His love and devotion to his family was at the forefront of his entire life



Robert D'Amelio, 67, of Lakeland, FL formerly of East Boston and Tewksbury, passed away peacefully on May 2, 2024 after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

The son of the late Carmine and Nancy (Briganti) D'Amelio, he was surrounded by his loving, caring wife Kelley (Mahoney) with whom he shared 25 years of marriage and sons, Dante and Robert D'Amelio, all of Lakeland, FL. He was the beloved father of Nadine and her husband, Antonio (Tony) Ramirez of Revere, loving grandfather of Lily and Lia Ramirez, who he cherished and loved dearly, they lit up his life, especially when they would facetime him. His children and grandchildren brought him extreme pride and joy.

He was the loving brother of the late Janet DiLuigi of Revere and is survived by his siblings: Richard and his wife, Donna D'Amelio of Saugus, Nancy and her husband, Thomas Abrams of Newburyport, Carmine (Jr) and his wife, Marie D'Amelio of East Boston

and his baby sister, Mara and her husband, Mark O'Brien of Winthrop. He was the cherished nephew of Edie Solari and is also survived by many adoring nieces, nephews and cousins, along with friends who he called family.

He was a kind and compassionate friend and family-man. His love and devotion to his family was at the forefront of his entire life.

A mass in his honor will be celebrated on Sunday, June 23 at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, 404 Sumner St., East Boston and will conclude with a celebration of life luncheon at 12 Noon at the Beachmont VFW in Revere.

BPDA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

building width, floor plate, and minimum permeable area.

The minimum front yard requirement in MU-4 is six feet; the proposal ranges from 2.7 feet to 8.2 feet. Lynds explained that there is a carryover from the old zoning code in that there is language that allows for a modal setback.

"That is an exception under our code that allows for an average setback of a building based upon other buildings along that side of the street," he said.

While the proposal complies with the minimum side yard, it only has a rear yard of 3.1 feet to 4.2 feet, which is less than the minimum requirement of 10 feet in the MU-4 District.

Lynds argued that the 10-foot minimum is intended to create a 20-foot buffer between buildings, but they do not have any buildings behind them, only Noyes playground.

"We're going to likely be requesting relief for this particular item because we feel that the condition is a unique condition; it's not one that's shared by all of the properties in this particular district," said Lynds.

Finally, Lynds spoke about parking and explained that under new zoning, the BPDA determines parking for projects under small or large project review, which this project is.

He explained that the parking is determined through maximum parking ratios and mobility scores determined by the city's transportation department. East Boston has a mobility score that corresponds to a maximum parking ratio of 0-0.75 for rental projects and 0-1.0 for condominium projects.

"We are proposing a total of 11 parking spaces for this project. That will be entirely up to the BPDA and the BTM (Boston Transportation Department) to determine if it's appropriate," said Lynds.

After Lynds wrapped up his part of the presentation, Ermelin Moliere, a Senior Designer with Embarc, the project architect, walked through several aspects of the proposal.

The unit mix includes three studios, 13 one-bedrooms, and eight two-bedrooms, as well as five IDP (inclusionary development policy) units.

Moreover, Moliere spoke about the modal setback, in that the front of the building lines up with neighboring properties and that there are setbacks to the building to mitigate the height.

Moliere outlined the plan, which also contained updates, including relocating the building's entrance, relocating the bike room, and much more. In terms of landscaping, there are plans to plant around the site and more.

After Moliere walked through floor plans, elevations, renderings, and more, the floor was opened to questions and comments from those in attendance.

One attendee questioned which units would be IDP units. Lynds indicated that there is a formula for selecting the IDP units, that they would be a mix of what has been proposed, and that they would be spread out in the building.

The same attendee had thought that since the units would have decks, there should be no need for a roof deck. Still, Lynds indicated that the roof deck offers another opportunity for outdoor space and that the property will be profession-

ally managed.

Lynds also mentioned that the team would examine the unit mix, as the attendee wanted the team to consider including some larger units instead of studios.

Finally, the attendee was not in favor of the potential of the project, seeking a variance for the rear yard since new zoning was just recently introduced.

Another attendee agreed that the roof deck seemed unnecessary and commented that she needed clarification about the building height related to zoning parameters and CFROD and that she did not remember it being mentioned during the meetings about new zoning.

After Lynds cleared up the attendee's confusion, the meeting was wrapped up by Ebony DaRosa of the BPDA. For more information about the project and to leave comments, visit <https://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/944-saratoga-street>. The comment period ends June 12th.

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Oppose // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

proposed restaurant as a space that would be “amenable to the public” and that the applicant has experience working in this type of business for more than 20 years.

He also indicated that the applicant has hired a licensed contractor who “has obtained all of the required permits in order to make the site compliant with the requirements of the Inspectional Services Department (ISD), the building department.”

Palacio also mentioned that the site has undergone renovations for the last eight months or so, but they did not have any photos to show during the meeting. Further, the proposed restaurant operators are renting the property from the building owner.

However, it should be noted that Eva Jones, a Community Engagement Specialist from the city who hosted the meeting, said that the occupancy permit to change the occupancy from what was previously a hair salon to a restaurant has been considered abandoned by ISD.

In speaking about the occupancy permit, Palacio said, “We are following up with the Inspectional Services Department through

the contractor who pulled the permits originally... apparently there was some kind of oversight, some kind of confusion with the paperwork because they initially, from the beginning, intended to change the occupancy of the premises to comply with the requirements in order to operate a restaurant.”

Jones also addressed the zoning aspect of the proposal, which seemed to need more clarification when it was brought up during this month’s Harbor View Neighborhood Association (HVNA) meeting, during which there was a conversation about the abutters meeting.

Jones detailed that under new zoning, the site sits in the East Boston Residential (EBR)-4 district, which allows for restaurant uses on the first floor.

Following Palacio’s brief presentation, which did not feature building plans or photos, residents were allowed to comment or ask questions.

An attendee in the chat thought the restaurant would not benefit the neighborhood and had concerns about the lack of parking and the potential for drunk patrons exiting

the restaurant at 2:00 a.m. and asked about security plans.

Regarding security plans, Palacio indicated that the owners would provide security during the late hours of operation and mentioned someone would guard the entry.

“As I stated earlier, Ms. Quintana has a long experience in working in this business line, and she understands the obligation and her responsibility not to serve people who are visibly inebriated,” said Palacio.

Ellen Agostinelli, a resident whose backyard abuts the property, said she was upset about the process that has begun and shared concerns about a ramp that had been taken down at the property.

Moreover, she had questions about soundproofing, deliveries, and the potential for an outdoor patio and said, “I think that this is really going to ruin the neighborhood.”

In speaking about the ramp, Jones indicated that the city is in contact with ISD and has asked why the ramp was removed.

Palacio also spoke about the ramp and mentioned he would have to find out more about it. Moreover, he said that in-

side the proposed restaurant, the bathrooms are handicap accessible, and the idea is to have ramp access into the business.

Regarding soundproofing, he said, in part, “The place is being insulated with the latest available technology.” Further, he emphasized that the live entertainment aspect of the proposal is intended for background music and the TV screen for sporting events rather than a party-like atmosphere.

Ed Deveau, a resident who previously served on the city’s Zoning Board, had the impression that even under new zoning, live entertainment was forbidden or conditional, meaning the project would need zoning relief.

Deveau also thought that under the new zoning, the applicant would be required to provide off-street parking, which he said the applicant could not do, which would require zoning relief.

“So I believe it is premature for the applicant to proceed with a licensing hearing until they have fully met with the new zoning requirements,” said Deveau.

Moreover, he said the request for live entertainment and 40 patrons in

such a small building “defies logic” and that the operating hours were “egregious.”

After Deveau’s statements, Jones said, “We are also doing our own research to make sure they are within line. This is very important to us that a business that is going into a neighborhood as such is within the right controls.”

As the meeting continued, more residents asked questions and raised concerns. One concern was how deliveries would be made to the restaurant, especially for large vehicles like trucks, given the lack of parking space.

Regarding the delivery plan, Palacio said someone from the restaurant would obtain the food products from the restaurant depot and bring them back.

Regarding alcohol delivery, Palacio mentioned it would be provided by a distributor and argued that a truck would not necessarily bring the alcohol since it is a smaller establishment.

Other residents were dissatisfied with the late operating hours and occupancy, raised concerns about where trash would be stored, did not like the potential establishment

near a school, and feared that it would essentially be a nightclub in a residential area.

In responding to some of these concerns, Palacio acknowledged that the operating hours might be ambitious, indicated the manager would be in charge of occupancy, and said a dumpster is planned adjacent to the property’s second means of egress.

Ultimately, Skip Marcella, an HVNA Board Member, probably best summed up the community’s sentiment: “This is a wolf in sheep’s clothing, and as somebody indicated, this is a bar; this is not a restaurant.” Later, he added that the neighborhood does not want it.

In closing the meeting, Jones assured residents this would not be the only abutters meeting on the proposal and encouraged Palacio and his client to “plan something else for the community because they have clearly been dissatisfied with what is being brought to them.”

To view a recording of the abutters meeting, visit the HVNA’s Facebook page — <https://www.facebook.com/groups/harborviewna> — which has a link to the recording.

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Seventeen 8th grade students graduated from East Boston Central Catholic School (EBCCS) on June 8, at the Most Holy Redeemer Church. The commencement exercises

were celebrated on the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, which Father Thomas Domurat described as the symbol of God's great love. He shared student reflections

that compared EBCCS to family, and noted how the school helped them deepen their faith, and learn respect and responsibility. Father Domurat expressed his hopes that graduates

will remember the joys they experienced at EBCCS and continue to pray as they progress along their journeys.



Father Thomas Domurat addressing the graduates.



Luciana Mejia Gaviria presenting the first reading.



Kayla Gomes, Adrianna Puerta-Oliveras, and Elena Gonzalez.



Lillian Ezaquiel-Blake and Luisantonio Rivero reading the prayers of the faithful.



Dishawn Newton, Thomas Rozzi, Luisantonio Rivero, Diego Garcia, and Carlos Hincapie Gutierrez.



Adrianna Puerta-Oliveras entering the Most Holy Redeemer Church for the June 8 graduation mass.



Samara Mejia, Gia Allen, Luciana Mejia Gaviria, Kelsey O'Connor, Lillian Ezaquiel-Blake, and Hanna Munoz.

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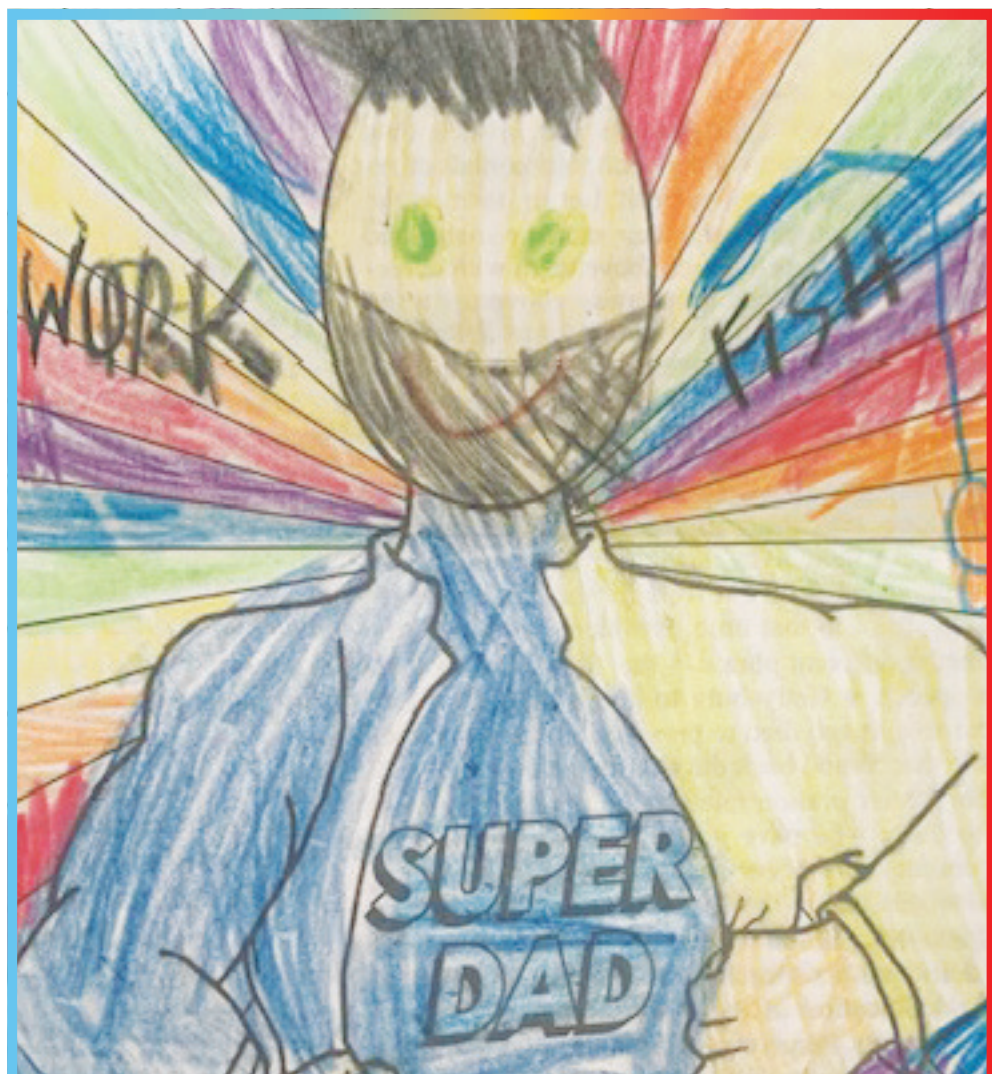
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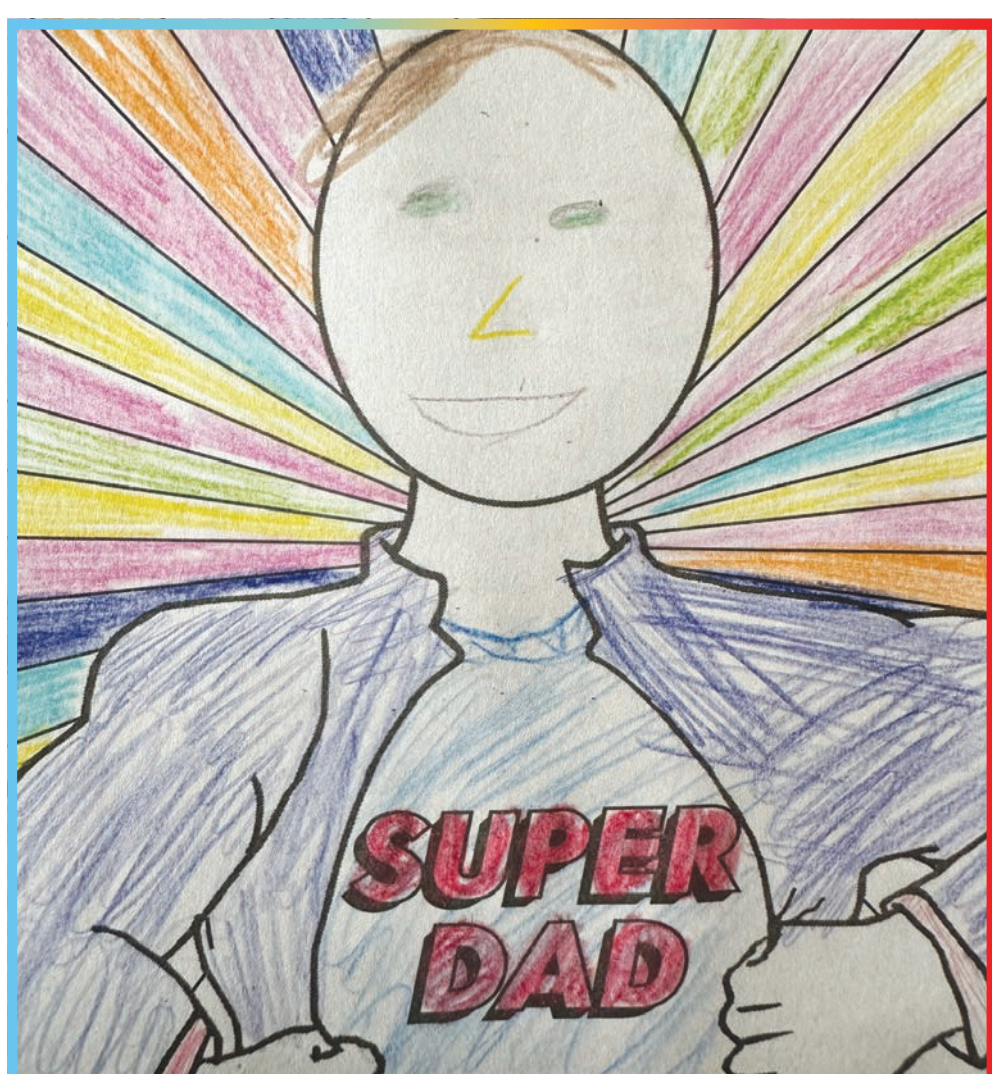
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