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Arthur Jemison stepping down as planning chief

By Adam Swift

Arthur Jemison, the city's Chief of Planning, announced his departure from that position last week.

Jemison, who was appointed by Mayor Michelle Wu two years ago, will be returning to Michigan, where his wife and two children live (a third is at college in Amherst). His last day with the city will be Sept. 13.

"Arthur has been an exceptional leader and partner to accomplish our shared vision for Boston's growth—grounded in affordability, resiliency, and equity," said Wu in a statement. "Under his leadership and vision, we've achieved unprecedented progress through Article 80 Reform, Squares and Streets Plans and Zoning, comprehensive zoning reform, and restoring planning as a core function of city government. I am so

grateful for his service to the City of Boston, and I am confident that the team we've built will ensure that we continue the momentum to make Boston a home for everyone."

Planning Department Deputy Chief Devin Quirk will serve as interim director of the department when Jemison leaves.

"Devin has played a key role setting the strategic direction for our team and I know that he will continue the great work we've done together over the past two years," Jemison stated.

Before taking over the top planning job in Boston, Jemison was the chief of planning, housing, and development for the city of Detroit.

Jemison has had a long career in planning development, having worked for the Boston Redevelopment Authority and

See JEMISON Page 4

Residents push back on proposed Maverick Square Taco Bell

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

During an abutters meeting hosted by the city last week, several residents voiced concern about a proposed Taco Bell opening at 10 Maverick Square.

As part of this proposal, Cantina Hospitality LLC — doing business as Taco Bell — is seeking a common victualler license and to open a Taco Bell location at 10 Maverick Square, which would be open from Monday to Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m.

"Taco Bell offers affordable food options in a unique setting — the concept and offerings have evolved over the years," said Tom Miller, an Attorney with McDermott, Quilty, Miller & Hanley LLP.

Miller also noted that Cantina Hospitality LLC is a franchisee of Taco Bell and has opened restaurants in South Boston, Allston, and Brookline.

According to Miller, the proposed Taco Bell would move into a space around 700 square feet with about 10 seats in a newly built building on the corner of Sumner Street and Maver-

ick Square.

Gary Sadler of Upland Architects discussed the proposed design of the restaurant and indicated that the only exterior work would be signage.

"Our intent always with any signage that's proposed is that we are aiming to meet any by-law or signage regulations," said Sadler.

Further, Sadler highlighted floor plans and interior designs. Specifically, he noted the small space, the aforementioned number of seats, utility areas, and more.

In terms of design, Sadler emphasized that Taco Bell has shifted over the years to a more contemporary feel. While the design is not final, some renderings were shown to give attendees an idea of what it might look like inside.

Miller concluded the presentation by making a statement about Cantina Hospitality LLC: "They've operated in Boston for more than four years now—I think four or five—without incident. They are a clean operator. They come with a large group of people because

See TACO BELL Page 5

EASTIE ON THE LINKS



ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

MARIANNE SALZA PHOTOS

Tracy Hollander, Frank Borriello, Erich Sbraccia, and John Moore shown above making their way across the course at Ferncroft Country Club during the annual "Eastie on the Links" golf tournament fundraiser for East Boston Central Catholic School.

Shown to the right, Eric Danilchuk leading the way on the first tee. See more photos on Pages 6 and 7.



HVNA looks to halt proposed Bennington Street restaurant

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

At its monthly meeting on Monday, the Harbor View Neighborhood Association (HVNA) discussed a highly opposed restaurant proposed at 636-638

Bennington Street called El Parche and the group's plans to formally oppose it through written letters.

During an abutters meeting in June, which the East Boston Times covered ([<https://eastie-times.com/2024/06/12/residents-oppose-proposed-restaurant-on-bennington-street-2/>\), the attorney who processed the application for the applicant went over the proposed plans for the space.](https://eastie-</p>
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Specifically, Attorney Francisco Gonzalez Palacio detailed the applicant's plans, which at the time were to acquire a beer, wine, and cordials

See HVNA Page 3

NeighborHealth welcomes Tracey Weeden as Vice President and Chief Behavioral Health Officer

Special to the Times

NeighborHealth has announced the appointment of Tracey Weeden, MSW, LICSW, as Vice President and Chief Behavioral Health Officer. Bringing over 25 years of experience in behavioral healthcare, Weeden's leadership of NeighborHealth's behavioral health services will be guided by her commitment to improving upstream determinants of health while advancing health equity in the diverse communities the health center serves.

"Tracey's wealth of experience in a variety of behavioral health settings will be an excellent addition to our organization. Her skillset will be

invaluable in supporting NeighborHealth's overall mission to care for the behavioral health needs of our patients and improving health outcomes in the communities we serve," said Dr. Ryan Boxill, NeighborHealth's Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. "Our newly opened Behavioral Health Urgent Care Services (BHUCS) is an example of how we are innovating in this area and I am confident that, with Tracey's proven leadership in prioritizing patient wellbeing at the organizational level, NeighborHealth will continue to find new ways to improve the overall health and wellness of our patients." Prior to joining NeighborHealth, Weeden served as Executive Director of the Boston Medical Center's Brockton Behavioral Health Hospital where she oversaw an 80-bed inpatient psychiatric hospital



NeighborHealth's newly appointed Vice President and Chief Behavioral Health Officer, Tracey Weeden, MSW, LICSW.

and 26-bed Clinical Stabilization Services program for individuals with behavioral health disorders. Weeden has also previously held the roles of Chief Operating Officer for First Step of Sarasota, Inc. and Director of Counseling and Homeless Services for RCAP Solutions, Inc.

"Reducing barriers to care is a top priority in providing effective behavioral health services and important for improving the lives of individuals in underserved communities who often experience unique challenges in accessing healthcare," said Tracey Weeden, NeighborHealth's newly appointed Vice President and Chief

See WEEDEN Page 3

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NEWS IN BRIEF

SUMNER TUNNEL RE-OPENS

The Sumner Tunnel reopened to traffic on Monday at 5 a.m. before the morning commute. The tunnel had been completely shut down since July 5 as part of a multi-year restoration project. The closure was the next phase of a project that began in April of 2022 and included work on the tunnel roadway, walls, drainage and additional improvements which will increase safety and climate resiliency. The project is a

\$160 million investment in the Commonwealth's infrastructure.

During the 31-day shutdown, the existing asphalt was removed from the length of the roadway and the concrete below was rehabilitated. Granite curbing and drain inlet were replaced and the installation of new fireboard was completed. The entire length of the roadway was repaved. The new pavement will be lined, and the tunnel cleaned prior to re-opening.

The Sumner Tunnel Restoration Project of-

fered a variety of mitigation options for individuals coming from all travel points. Mitigation options included free trips on the MBTA Blue Line; free and reduced cost water ferry options; reduced Commuter Rail fares for riders; reduced parking costs at MBTA and Commuter Rail parking lots and garages; discounted tolls for residents; and additional options for travelers to and from Logan Airport.

A limited number of weekend closures are planned for the fall. At their conclusion, no later

than the end of November, the project will be complete.

SUMNER SUMMER PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS:

- The tunnel was closed for 31 days during which construction was ongoing 24/7.
- 3 shifts a day over 31 days equals 93 work shifts.
- 13,516 square yards of concrete roadway were rehabilitated.
- 3,122 tons of asphalt paving was laid.
- 320 linear feet of granite curbing was replaced.
- 69 new drainage inlets

were installed.

- 13,988 square feet of fireboard were installed.
- Mitigation costs for FY24 and FY25 totaled \$13 million dollars.

LOW NUMBER PLATE LOTTERY APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN THROUGH AUGUST 16

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is reminding the public that eligible vehicle owners have two weeks left to submit applications for the 2024 Low

Number Plate Lottery at myRMV Online Service Center.

Applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 16.

The Low Plate Lottery will be held on Tuesday, September 10 – details of the event will be announced soon. Winners will be notified by mail if selected for a low number plate.

This year, there are 298 plates available through the low plate lottery. Some of the available low plates

See NEWS BRIEFS Page 3

City officials revamp Environment, Energy and Open Space Cabinet

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu announced the restructuring of the Environment, Energy and Open Space (EEOS) Cabinet to create a dedicated focus on climate resilience leadership through the Office of Climate Resilience (OCR). The staff of the new office will be made up of an existing team from the City's Environment Department, now with greater coordination and focus through this budget-neutral reorganization. The Office will accelerate Boston's city-wide response to pressing climate challenges, such as coastal flooding, extreme heat, and stormwater flooding, and as one part of the City's comprehensive leadership on climate action, coordinate departments across the City to deliver critical projects that protect Boston's residents and make neighborhoods more livable. OCR will be led by Chris Osgood, who also serves as a Senior Advisor to the Mayor.

Mayor Wu has also announced other leadership positions within the EEOS Cabinet. In addition to his current role as Green New Deal Director, Oliver Sellers-Garcia will also serve as Environment Commissioner, formerly led by Alison Brizius. Jessica Morris will return to the City of Boston as Chief of Staff to the EEOS Cabinet and Chief Brian Swett. Osgood, Sellers-Garcia, and Morris are seasoned experts with tremendous energy and talent, furthering the Mayor's commitment to making Boston the greenest city in the country.

"With greater focus and accountability, we will move with even greater

urgency on climate to protect our neighborhoods, support our residents, and build a resilient Boston for future generations," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "After many years of leadership in analyzing risks and setting broad plans, it's time to accelerate getting these projects done so communities are beautiful, healthy, and safe, and Boston is thriving in the green economy. I am grateful to Chris, Oliver, and Jessica for stepping into these important roles with our Chief Climate Officer."

The Environment, Energy and Open Space (EEOS) Cabinet leads the City's climate and environmental justice agenda, focusing on decarbonization, energy transition, and resilience. The Office of Climate Resilience will spearhead a key part of that work, guided by Climate Ready Boston. These plans document the risks of climate change to Boston and prioritize interventions that reduce potential harm and strengthen the city's resilience. With credit to departments across the City, implementation of these plans is already underway, including expanded tree planting efforts that cool neighborhoods, new standards for the right-of-way that add green space and better manage stormwater, and the largest capital investment into coastal resilience projects in the City's history. The Climate Resilience team will lead priority efforts, such as implementing coastal resilience projects in vulnerable parts of the waterfront and executing strategies to reduce the impacts of rising temperatures. The creation of the Office

is budget neutral.

Today's announcement expands upon the City's work to make Boston the most green and resilient city in the country. To bolster Boston's leadership, recently, the Office of Workforce Development in collaboration with the Environment, Energy, and Open Space Cabinet, Green New Deal Office, and the Office of Green Infrastructure, have been awarded \$9.8 million from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to develop the workforce needed to enhance Boston's climate and coastal resilience. Additionally, the City of Boston was awarded a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant to develop schematic designs for an identified priority action area at Bennington Street, Frederick's Park, and Belle Isle Marsh, where flooding occurs today and will increase in the future. In 2022, Mayor Michelle Wu announced \$2.2 million secured for a climate-resilient Moakley Park. Additionally, the Boston Tree Alliance provides grants and technical support to community-based organizations to plant and care for trees on privately-owned land. The first round of fall tree planting grants closed at the end of June and awardees will be announced in the coming months. These grant awards underscores Boston's leadership on climate resiliency.

"Climate resilience is a shared responsibility that requires both an all-of-government approach and extensive public-private partnership. The Office of Climate Resilience will work hand

in hand with our communities, local businesses, and experts to develop and implement solutions that safeguard Boston's future from our rapidly changing climate," said Chief Climate Officer Brian Swett. "Additionally, I'm thrilled to be adding Chris, Oliver, and Jessica to the EEOS leadership team. It's truly a championship group of talent. They bring the exact expertise, drive, and experience we need at this critical moment in our journey to create a decarbonized, climate resilient, just and vibrant Boston for all."

Prior to this appointment, Chris Osgood served as the interim Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space, while also serving as the Mayor's Senior Advisor for Infrastructure. Since joining the City of Boston team in 2006, Osgood has served in a variety of roles and helped manage a series of new efforts for the City, such as relaunching the Mayor's 24-hour call center, co-founding the Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics, and working as the City's first Chief of Streets. Also continuing to serve as Senior Advisor, Osgood will maintain supporting the implementation of a targeted set of priority infrastructure projects.

"Building a resilient Boston will require all of us to work together, focusing on those projects that address the challenges our residents face today and -- left unaddressed -- will face in the future," said Senior Advisor and Director of Climate Resilience, Chris Osgood. "I am honored to work with this dedicated team, and I am

excited to build an office that, through collaboration and leadership, will help deliver a more resilient city that every resident can call home."

Oliver Sellers-Garcia joined the City of Boston in 2022 as the Green New Deal Director, charged with shaping an all-of-government approach to climate and equity-led governance while making Boston a groundbreaking model of city leadership. Sellers-Garcia will continue shaping and driving implementation of the Green New Deal agenda, while now also overseeing the City's Environment Department. In this enhanced capacity, Sellers-Garcia will oversee the update of Boston's Climate Action Plan and ensure the City is on track to meet decarbonization, electrification, and environmental quality goals. Prior to joining the City of Boston, Sellers-Garcia served as the Director of Resiliency and Equity at the MBTA and as the Director of the Mayor's Office of Sustainability and Environment in Somerville, Massachusetts. More information about the City's Green New Deal is available at boston.gov/gnd.

"Boston's commitment to environmental leadership and innovation is stronger than ever. As the Environment Commissioner, I am excited to advance our comprehensive Climate Action Plan and continue the vital work of the Green New Deal," said Green New Deal Director and Environment Commissioner, Oliver Sellers-Garcia. "As we accelerate implementation of climate and environmental plans, Boston is creating a model for how City agen-

cies can collaborate to deliver better jobs, quality of life, and health by focusing on climate and environmental justice."

Jessica Morris returns to the City of Boston as Chief of Staff to the EEOS Cabinet and to the Chief Climate Officer where she will support and advise Swett, as well as provide leadership support on projects and processes within the Environment Department, the Office of Climate Resilience, the Office of Food Justice, the Office of Historic Preservation, and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department. Prior to starting her new role, Morris worked as the Vice President of Public Affairs for the consulting firm, Benchmark Strategies, as well as the Chief of Staff for former City Councilor Matt O'Malley. Morris also serves as a Program Advisor for Climate Beacon, which convenes experts and leaders to share ideas across sectors on building toward a positive climate future.

"I am thrilled to return to the City of Boston and join the EEOS Cabinet at such a pivotal time. The creation of the Office of Climate Resilience is a testament to our city's dedication to proactive and inclusive climate action," said Chief of Staff to EEOS, Jessica Morris. "My focus will be on ensuring that our departments work seamlessly to implement innovative and impactful climate action strategies. I am committed to engaging with our communities and making sure that every resident is part of Boston's journey toward a greener future."

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MassDOT announces \$6.5 million Shared Streets & Spaces Program Awards

Special to the Times

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is announcing the award of \$6.5 million in funding to 28 municipalities and two Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) as part of the Healey-Driscoll Administration's Shared Streets and Spaces Program. The East Boston project on Saratoga Street was included as a recipient. The program provides project funding to help Massachusetts cities and towns design and implement changes to curbs, streets, and parking areas in support of public health, safe mobility, and community growth and revitalization.

"We are pleased to announce \$6.5 million for municipalities and Regional Transit Authorities in the Shared Streets and Spaces Program," said Transportation Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbits-Nutt.

"These grant awards will advance projects to help support safe travel for everyone, whether they are on foot, bike, transit or in an automobile and strengthen our municipalities across the state. We look forward to working with local leaders as they address the challenges and infrastructure needs in cities and towns and can help build projects which improve multimodality, accessibility, and safety."

The Shared Streets and Spaces Program is a great resource for cities and towns to quickly fund shovel-ready and impactful projects," said Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver. "We're proud to work with our local partners on another round of Shared Streets and Spaces Program funding and look forward to seeing these projects get started."

The scope of the \$229,879.74 Eastie project includes installing a new crossing island at the

Saratoga Street crosswalk, raised side street crossings at Saratoga Street/Bayswater Street and Saratoga Street/Barnes Avenue, curb extensions at Saratoga Street / Barnes Avenue adjacent to the Orient Heights busway, all-way stop control at Barnes Avenue/Bayswater Street, and green infrastructure for stormwater management. Additionally, eighteen curb ramps will be reconstructed. Saratoga Street will feature continuous green bike lanes in both directions, a new bike crossing, dedicated left-turn area, and contraflow bike lane aligned with Barnes Avenue for access to Constitution Beach and the Greenway.

The program encourages quick implementation of projects to improve plazas, sidewalks, curbs, streets, bus stops, parking areas, and other public spaces in support of public health, safe mobility, and strengthened commerce.

HVNA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

license, a common victualler license, and live entertainment for a proposed 40-seat restaurant at the aforementioned address that would operate from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

Moreover, during the abutters meeting, there were some questions about the site's permits with the Inspectional Services Department (ISD).

However, in an update about the project posted to the HVNA's Facebook page on Monday, the site, which, according to Palacio at the abutters meeting, had undergone renovations for eight months or so, is "in line" with its permits at ISD.

The post also noted that an inspector did a walk-through of the site and work is being done within parameters, and "anything that got denied at ISD will now go to the ZBA (Zoning Board of Appeal), and the next abutters meeting will be about the ZBA variances and the licensing changes."

Overall, these plans have caused quite a storm of opposition and concern among residents, so much so that the HVNA hosted its own viewing party of the virtual abutters meeting at the Salesian Boys & Girls Club, which had 28 attendees, seven of whom were abutters.

According to Skip Marcella, an HVNA Board Member, everyone who attended the viewing party mentioned above opposed the proposal.

Further, Marcella highlighted some of the concerns from residents, chief among them being that opponents feel the proposal is not what it seems.

"We believe that what we're looking at here is more of a bar — not a restaurant — but a bar," said Marcella.

Other concerns Marcella raised were the proposed hours, capacity, live entertainment, trash, rodents, noise, and much more.

"I think there are a number of concerns that I think that the neighborhood has with this particular project in terms of why it shouldn't go in as planned, as proposed," said Marcella.

After reviewing some of the concerns about the project, Marcella outlined a call to action to stop the proposal. Specifically, he asked residents, especially abutters, to write letters of opposition and for residents to sign on to a list for a letter of opposition.

As the discussion continued, several residents made comments about the proposal and its current process.

For example, one resident argued that projects that go through civic associations like the HVNA should be stopped if they are voted against rather than the current system, in which projects can be opposed by the neighborhood and then approved by the city.

The same resident also voiced displeasure that a proposal like this would be allowed in such close proximity to residential buildings under new zoning.

Another resident echoed the concerns about how close the restaurant would be to other residences and detailed the lack of parking in the area. Ultimately, the HVNA wants to contact people to provide updates about the process and ensure residents' voices are heard.

If you would like to contact the HVNA, you can visit its Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/harborview-na/>. The group's website, <https://harborvieweast-boston.com/contact/>, also has contact information.

"The only way that we're going to impact this project is if we do it collectively, and that is not only the abutters but also the neighborhood," said Marcella.

News Briefs // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

include 34, 255, 1912, 2X, 33V, B8, and Z88. Applicants should note that there is no fee to apply for the lottery. However, should the applicant be selected as a winner, there is a special plate fee that

will be required, as well as a standard registration fee. In addition, lottery plate applicants will be sent a notification from the RMV to the email address they provided with lottery event details including the

livestream link and location of the event. The lottery results will be posted after the drawing on the RMV's website, Mass.Gov/RMV.

Weeden // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Behavioral Health Officer. "NeighborHealth's dedication to eliminating these barriers and creating positive patient experiences by providing holistic, culturally-informed care is a mission I look forward to continuing with the organization as a leading provider in Greater Boston."

NeighborHealth is the largest community-based primary care health system in Massachusetts with a first-of-its-kind BHUCS that offers same-day and urgent mental health ser-

vices co-located with their Emergency Department, to ensure a rapid response to patients in crisis. These services are designed to help eliminate barriers to care and health inequities for underserved communities across Greater Boston.

Former Vice President and Chief Behavioral Health Officer Michael Mancusi, LICSW, will be instrumental in helping transition Weeden into her new role and will continue to work closely on a consultative basis with NeighborHealth's leadership as he transitions into retirement after 39 years with the health system.

Weeden received her Bachelor of Science in social work from the College of New Rochelle in New York and her Master's of Social Work from Boston University. She is currently a candidate for her Doctor of Health Services Administration at Northcentral University in San Diego, California. Weeden serves as Vice Chair of the RCAP Solu-

tions, Inc. Board of Directors, as well as member of both the Franciscan's Children's Hospital Board of Directors and the MA Public Health Data Warehouse (PHD) Community Advisory Board.

NeighborHealth, formerly East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, is one of the nation's largest Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and the largest community-based primary care health system

in Massachusetts, serving over 120,000 people and recognized by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as a National Quality Leader. For more than 50 years, NeighborHealth has offered access to comprehensive primary care, specialty care and emergency care for patients in the Commonwealth. In a first-of-its-kind merger in 2020, East Boston Neighborhood Health Center joined forces with

the South End Community Health Center and expanded services to patients who live and work in Boston's South End and Roxbury neighborhoods. NeighborHealth champions innovative care models to actively bridge health equity gaps in our low-income and immigrant communities with services unique from other healthcare providers in our state. For more information, visit www.neighborhealth.com.



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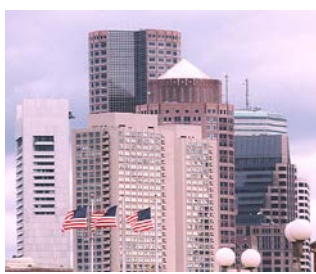
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Forum

GUEST OP-ED

What could have been: Amendment #105 as changed to Bill H4876

By Chris Marchi with AIR, Inc.

The basic idea is that all Americans have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, right? So it follows that if families living in areas near power plants, chemical factories, or airports get asthma, COPD, or any number of other chronic health problems because of exposure to pollution that comes from those types of facilities, their constitutional rights are being violated. That's what environmental justice, also known as "EJ", is all about.

Very often, polluting facilities end up located away from where wealthy people live, and closer to where working class and lower income people live. Environmental justice laws strive to ensure that families who are living near polluting facilities get equal protection from environmental damage. These families are often non-English speaking people, people with lower educational attainment, and people of color.

Not everybody recognizes this, but living next to a major international airport comes with serious environmental consequences. Most of the East Boston, Chelsea, Winthrop, and Revere area has large environmental justice communities. As a volunteer for Airport Im-

pact Relief, Incorporated (AIR, Inc.) I've worked to achieve environmental justice for 30 years. AIR, Inc.'s work to push for air filtration programs alongside Mothers Out Front and others, our work with the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway and others to extend the East Boston Greenway, etc., is all about achieving environmental justice.

The biggest problem we've faced over AIR, Inc.'s 60+ years of activism has been the lack of environmental accountability at the Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) which owns and operates Logan Airport. One of the main reasons we've had so much trouble getting Massport to accept accountability for the impacts of Logan's noise and pollution is that it has not been in Massport's job description to worry about the negative environmental consequences of aviation. Massport was established by an act of the state legislature back in 1956, at a time when politicians and planners weren't thinking about environmental damage and people's environmental rights as much as they were trying to support and grow economic benefits of aviation, building highways, and bulldozing urban communities through urban renewal plans.

When our partners at Stop Private Jet Expansion at Hanscom reached out about the effort to improve Massport's enabling language, we saw that there was an opportunity to strengthen the language from just mentioning equity, to specifically requiring the Port Authority to consider environmental justice in their mission. This language became Amendment #105 to Bill H4876 ("The Climate Bill"), which was formed in the legislative session that closed on July 31.

With the help of Representative Adrian Madaro and many of his colleagues in the Massachusetts House of Representatives, we came up with much stronger language for "The Climate Bill" than what was originally proposed. The new language required that Massport consider "environmental resiliency and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, and incorporating environmental justice principles". After passing the legislative process with enormous support from advocates across Massachusetts, Bill H4876 was declined last week when conference committee negotiations broke down.

We thank Representatives Madaro, Peisch, Cataldo, Gordon, Gentile, Ciccolo, and the numer-

ous other representatives who signed the Climate Bill for their advocacy. We were thrilled with the proposed new language, and we were disappointed to learn that the Climate Bill was abandoned at a late hour on the final legislative workday for the session. We are disappointed that Massport has not yet been given a legislative mandate to work collaboratively with the neighborhoods who support it to reduce environmental impacts. We are worried for our futures, and for our children's futures.

Under the Port Authority's current charter, Massport's staff, board, and leadership has no explicit responsibility to reduce environmental impacts. They see their calling as boosting the economy. The unspoken paradigm is "It's the economy versus the environment" and without the requirement to address environmental costs, Massport has routinely chosen the most environmentally destructive alternatives.

Over the past 65 years or so that Massport has been in existence, the "grow first at any and all environmental costs approach" which has prevailed at the Massachusetts Port Authority has resulted in massive and ongoing en-

See OP-ED Page 5

NOAH LYLES' -- AND OUR -- OLYMPIC MOMENT

The quadrennial Summer Olympics turns even the least of sports fans among us into active, if not rabid, rooters of the athletes who captivate our hearts and imaginations, both in sports with which we are familiar (basketball, soccer, gymnastics) and those that we get to see only once-every-four-years (pole vaulting).

The Olympics are the ultimate shared experience for people of all ages. The shots of the jubilant young gymnasts who gathered in their home gyms to root on Simone Biles and the U.S. team reminded us of our youth, when we sat in our living rooms with our parents and siblings to watch seemingly every minute of Olympics coverage (in those days, the Olympics took on greater meaning thanks in large part to the atmosphere of the Cold War-era when the competition between the U.S. and the Soviet bloc was a proxy for world politics at the time), and then doing the same with our own children decades later.

Those memories of past Olympics cascade in our mind's eye, with one memory leading to a host of others:

-- The 1968 Mexico Olympics, when Tommy Smith and John Carlos raised their fists in the Black Power salute on the medals podium, and when the long jump of Bob Beamon, which was almost two feet further than the then-world record, led Beamon to completely break down in sobbing when his result finally was posted (it took almost half-an-hour because his jump so far exceeded the measuring equipment at the time that the judges finally had to resort to using a tape measure);

-- The tragedy of the 1972 Munich Olympics when Palestinian terrorists kidnapped and murdered Israeli athletes, which overshadowed Russian Olga Korbut's historic gymnastics beam performance and swimmer Mark Spitz's seven gold medals (and his iconic photo);

-- Bruce Jenner's decathlon gold in 1976 in Montreal, which also featured Romania's Nadia Comaneci's first-ever perfect 10 in gymnastics;

-- Carl Lewis's track feats in the 1980s;

-- Michael Johnson's amazing feat of winning gold in the 200 and 400 in the Atlanta Olympics in 1996 (which also included a tragic bombing that killed one person and injured more than 100);

-- Michael Phelps winning eight golds in 2008;

-- The incomparable Usain Bolt winning the 100 and 200 dashes in 2012 and 2016 that turned all of us into Jamaican track fans;

-- And of course, the Winter Olympics of 1980, when Winthrop's Mike Eruzione captained the U.S. hockey team to a gold medal at Lake Placid over a heavily-favored Soviet team -- all of us can remember where we were that Friday afternoon when Mike scored the winning goal, and then two days later when the Americans beat the Finns to win the gold medal (we missed that game because we were playing in the Chelsea YMHA's Wild Animal basketball league on Sunday mornings).

So it was with a lifetime's worth of Olympic memories that we tuned in to watch the men's 100 meter finals on Sunday afternoon in which America's Noah Lyles was competing in the first of what he hoped would be a Bolt-like 100-200 double.

As we all know, that 100 meter race will forever be etched in Olympic history. Lyles was dead last through the first 40 meters. The NBC commentator (the Australian guy who otherwise does a great job) called it right away for Jamaica's Kishane Thompson -- "Jamaica's going to do it! Kishane Thompson is a gold medalist!!" -- a mistake worthy of the historic "Dewey Beats Truman" newspaper headline.

In the announcer's defense, even Lyles himself thought that Thompson had won. But then the waiting game began -- and for 29 seconds the entire world waited for the official announcement (vs. the 29 minutes it took to measure Bob Beamon's jump). When Lyles was declared the winner by five one thousandths of a second (that's .005), the joy and emotion, epitomized by Lyles's mom almost collapsing in the stands, but then rallying to give her son a big bear hug when he fell into her arms -- was shared by all of us.

Even diehard sports fans such as ourselves learned something new from that race. We always had assumed that the first part of the body to cross the line is what counted. But unlike horse racing (for which the phrase "wins by a nose" is accurate), a human race is determined by the torso, which effectively means the clavicle (commonly called the collarbone) because the runners are leaning forward as they hit the line.

So even though other parts of Thompson's body had crossed the finish line ahead of Lyles's, Noah's clavicle had reached the line ahead of Thompson, and thus he was awarded the gold medal. It was an Olympic moment for the ages -- and one that we and the hundreds of millions of people watching worldwide will never forget.

Jemison // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the Boston Housing Authority, as well as a state housing official for former Governor Deval Patrick, previous to serving as the top planning official in Detroit.

During his time in Boston, Jemison helped oversee the transition of the quasi-public Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) into a city-run planning department.

On July 1, Wu marked the first day of the new department, stating that it was the first time in 70 years the city has had a planning department, restoring planning as a core function of city government. The majority of BPDA staff transitioned into jobs with the city to become employees of the new department. However, the planning process in the city still faces some challenges, as the state legislature recently failed to pass a home-rule petition that would have allied the city to revise the legal structures that created the BPDA (formerly the Boston Redevelopment Authority) decades ago.

In an email to planning staff sent on Thursday, August 1, Jemison stated that it was a difficult decision to leave, because he said he believes deeply in the work the department is doing.

"I believe in growing Boston by leading with planning and elevating design," he wrote. "I believe in reforming the zoning code, modernizing development review, and ensuring public land for public good. Together, we made incredible progress

to meet these priorities over the last 2+ years, and today our organization is thriving and set up for success in its next chapter."

Jemison stated that when he arrived to pursue an ambitious agenda, people questioned whether project approvals would stop and staff would keep leaving.

"Now, everyone can see that the new Planning Department is strong," he stated. "Our team has 45 additional staff than when I started. We have retained talent and are hiring bright, young and senior experienced staff who want to grow this City and make it more resilient, equitable, and affordable."

During the past two-plus years, Jemison said the department and the city accomplished all of this while succeeding in every traditional metric -- five large area or neighborhood plans completed, four neighborhood rezonings passed -- over 170 projects, 40M GSF of development approved.

"This included approx 11,000 new housing units, including 3,790 income restricted units approved in two years," Jemison stated. "We have also successfully launched Article 80 modernization, Squares + Streets, and are working hard on comprehensive citywide zoning reform. It is important to say that you - our team working together - made these things happen."

Jemison stated that he made the decision to move back to Michigan to be closer to his family. While the intention was for his family to join

him in Boston in 2022, he stated that a serious health challenge required his family to remain in Michigan.

"A central goal of mine over the last two years has been establishing a Planning Department in the City of Boston that will improve, elevate, and center planning and zoning in a way that serves this City and its residents," Jemison stated. "With the transition complete and a new school year about to begin, now is a good time for me to step away from this role for my family."

Jemison shared his gratitude to Mayor Wu for giving him the opportunity to head the planning department.

"It has been my honor to serve the residents of Boston as part of her Administration," he stated. "She believes in Boston and its people and is resolute in her commitment to the City's growth. This staff has done an exceptional job implementing her vision for a green and growing City that everyone can call home."

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Youth Development Fund now open for applications

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu and the City of Boston's Human Services Cabinet have announced applications are now open for the 2024 Youth Development Fund (YDF), a \$1.5 million grant program to support non-profit organizations that provide high

quality, engaging programming for youth and young adults ages 14-24. Funding will be prioritized for areas that are aligned with the Mayor's Connect, Learn, Explore commitment to youth. The goal of this grant is to increase the variety of free youth programming in the City and provide a positive out-

let for youth when they're not in school. Applications are open until 5:00 p.m. on August 19, 2024.

"We're working to make Boston a city where every young person has access to enriching experiences outside of the classroom," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "By directing funds to initiatives that support

youth programming we are not just investing in the futures of our young people, but in the future of our entire community. Thank you to our Office of Human Services for their work in launching this grant. I can't wait to see the programs that our partner organizations will offer and all the ways they

will bring new and exciting experiences for our young people."

This year, the Youth Development Fund will support non-profit youth-serving organizations through two tracks of funding – one track for small, emerging organizations and another track for larger, established organi-

zations. Those chosen for the emerging awards will be invited to participate in the Emerging Organization Learning Community, a series of free training and capacity-building workshops. This will be the second year that the Mayor's Office of Human

See APPLICATIONS Page 7

Taco Bell // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

they really try and connect with the community, run a clean operation, and really become a member of that community."

Residents were welcomed to make their voices heard after the presentation, and there was evident concern.

One resident who indicated they lived on Sumner Street noted the large Hispanic population in the neighborhood and how the proposed Taco Bell could negatively impact local small businesses serving similar types of food.

The same resident also raised concerns about the closing time, traffic, adding another food chain in the area when there is a Dunkin' and Burger King across the street, and more, which many in the Zoom meeting chat agreed with.

In response, Miller argued that Taco Bell differed from the abovementioned

fast-food chains because of the restaurant's menu and food customization. "It's not just another fast-food chain that has french fries and burgers and items like that," he said.

Regarding the closing time, Miller indicated that Cantina Hospitality LLC has managed other restaurants in and around Boston with similar closing times.

"They're very good at it. They manage their orders and customers and restaurants in a way that it doesn't actually have a negative impact on the community."

Regarding traffic concerns, Jim Rooney of Cantina Hospitality LLC noted that the restaurant will use a delivery system currently employed at its other establishments in and around Boston, which limits its wait times and traffic in front of the buildings.

Rooney also discussed the late closing time and indicated that the business

would be evaluated after 60-90 days to determine the best decision for employees and the community.

Another resident reinforced the previous speaker's point that they were concerned with a chain restaurant coming in and offering the same type of food as smaller local establishments.

"I don't really think we need another Mexican restaurant in proximity with the amount that are already a part of the community," they said.

Later, adding, "By putting this restaurant here, you're going to be cannibalizing business from already established family and local operated businesses."

While Miller acknowledged the prevalence of local Hispanic restaurants, he said, "This is, for lack of a better way of putting it, a different style of food with similar inspiration."

Moreover, Rooney said, "We're not trying to undermine the local concepts; we're just bringing in value, innovation, and marketing to our community."

"We're trying to be partners; we're not trying to undermine the local businesses; we're not trying to do anything of that nature."

Another resident questioned how the project team would partner with the community and wondered if there would be increased traffic at later hours and how that might be mitigated.

As for partnering with the community, Rooney spoke about their work with the community at their Allston location to create a mural inside the restaurant to commemorate a bar that used to be there. Miller also noted a focus on hiring people from East Boston.

Regarding increased

late-night traffic, Rooney said, "It is not an area where we expect any problems with security or gatherings of large numbers of people."

As the discussion continued, more questions and concerns were raised about traffic with deliveries, community outreach, plans for trash, rodents, and more.

In speaking about community involvement, Rooney indicated that they try to support the community as much as possible and are open to "whatever we can do."

He also responded to rodent concerns, mentioning that in Boston, their establishments are serviced twice a month and as needed.

Miller discussed the delivery traffic concerns, stating that the restaurant has a system used in the city that has yielded "extremely limited wait times with no complaints and no

negative incidents."

Ultimately, as the meeting ended, it was clear that several residents had concerns about a Taco Bell coming to the area.

In terms of the next steps for the proposal, Eva Jones, a Community Engagement Specialist with the city, indicated that the request for a common victualler license requires a community process.

Specifically, the project team will meet with the local civic organization and then go before the licensing board, which also has a community comment period.

"I encourage everybody to please contact me with any concerns, any support, any questions that you have, and I can be a liaison for you between the licensing board and the attorneys in this case," said Jones.

To get in contact with Jones, email eva.jones2@boston.gov.

Op-Ed // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

environmental damage. To grow Logan, Massport has consumed 1,500 acres of Boston Harbor, 3 harbor islands, and 2 urban parks. Massport and the state have taken hundreds of homes and businesses in East Boston by eminent

domain, bulldozed 3 urban neighborhoods. Today, Massport's Logan airport releases 35,000 LBS of EPA criteria air pollution into the air in East Boston every day. We experience hundreds of night time flights which destroy our

sleep, and Logan's traffic in the air and ground grows worse by the day. Hanscom residents deal with disproportionate burdens as well.

We cannot continue to ask residents in airport impacted communities

to fight the Authority for every gain at every turn. With the language in Amendment 105, hopefully we would not have needed to. However, the Massachusetts' legislature has decided yet again to prioritize profits and po-

litical posturing over the wellbeing of residents.

Chris Marchi is from Air inc that is an East Boston based environmental group focused on improving the quality of life of all people – especially the most vulnerable: children,

elderly, the more susceptible and those with fewer means – living in communities surrounding New England's Logan International Airport, by mitigating the noise, air quality and traffic impacts of our large and growing airport.

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Presented by

EBCCS HOSTS 'EASTIE ON THE LINKS' GOLF TOURNAMENT



Ron Folite, Frank Pasciuto, Michael Bonacorso, Ray Falite, Charlie Raso, and Frank Amato.

Photos by Marianne Salza
East Boston Central Catholic School (EBCCS) held its annual "Eastie on

the Links" golf tournament fundraiser on July 29 at Ferncroft Country Club with over 100 players.



Vinny Ferullo putting at the 18th hold.



Parent volunteers, Rodrigo London, Luisa Lopera, and Du-ber Gutierrez, enrollment director, serving breakfast.



Matteo, John, and Marco Zirpola.

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Sharon Rozzi, 5th grade teacher, Carol Baglio, business manager, Roberta Casaletto, librarian, Dana DelPrato, kindergarten teacher, and Veronica Shaponick, kindergarten teacher

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Anthony Capo, tournament director, Principal Robert Casaletto, and John Zirpola, Co-Chair of the tournament.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

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

EBCCS HOSTS 'EASTIE ON THE LINKS' GOLF TOURNAMENT



Sal Cucc, Vinny Ferullo, Nick Gregory, John Zirpolo, and Ralph Amoroso.



Doug and Andy Ferguson, Rob Gamache, and Mark Eliuk.



Anthony Capo, Jim Griffin, and Scott Mallatt, Jr.



Alex Cohn, Scott Schwalbert, and Caitlyn Tellier.



Greg Chiulli, Bill Mabardy, Mark Lacaillade, and Bernie Foster.

Applications // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Services has offered the Learning Community.

"I am excited that we are able to partner with so many youth development organizations to offer a diverse array of programming," said Human Services Chief José F. Massó. "We want every family in Boston to be able to find fun, engaging, high quality programs in their neighborhood."

The Emerging Leader Grant will support organizations that have an annual operating budget of \$200,000 or less and all awards will come with technical assistance and capacity building to help smaller organizations develop the skills needed to grow the program. These grantees will also be partnered with a mentor organization that can provide coaching in non-profit leadership.

"The Youth Development Fund and the overwhelming support I received from the Office of Human Services were invaluable," said FY '24 grantee, Benjamin Diaz, founder of Fatherly Justice Association. "The lessons I learned over the last six months through the Emerging Organizations Learning Community are truly important to Fatherly Justice Association Corp and myself. I will always value the long-lasting partnerships that I was able to find with my fellow grantees."

Larger organizations, those with a budget greater than \$200,000 but less than \$5 million, are eligible for the Established Organization track. This grant opportunity is available to medium-to-large-sized youth development organizations with a strong track record of engaging young people and achieving successful outcomes. Grants in this category can go up to \$30,000. This year, the Youth

Development Fund grants focus on five categories of programming that are consistent with Mayor Wu's Connect, Learn, Explore commitment to providing opportunities for youth to explore and discover their passions. Organizations that present programming in the following areas will be prioritized:

- Sports, including swimming and biking
- Gardening, urban farming, and culinary arts
- Arts, including both visual and performing arts
- Other Youth development programming

In FY24, the YDF supported 88 grantees, including programming in every neighborhood that spanned sports, arts, academic support, after school programming, and entrepreneurship. Collectively, the FY 2024 YDF grantees served approximately 7,500 youth across Boston.

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Boston Public Market awards local women-owned biz. opportunity to join The Market rent-free

Special to the Times

The Boston Public Market has announced the winners of their second annual Entrepreneurship Forum Incubator Competition, powered by Citizens. Upon completion of the six-seminar series, and small business pitch contest, three local women-owned businesses, were awarded the opportunity to join the market rent-free for up to one year.

The Entrepreneurship Forum, launched in partnership with Citizens in 2022, is a two-part program aimed at increasing education, opportunity, and access to the downtown stage for women and minority-owned small businesses. This year's cohort of 39 small businesses – 77% women-owned and 72% minority-owned – participated in a six-seminar series focused on building entrepreneur's financial and business development acumen.

The Forum culminated in a pitch competition, where small business owners shared their products and business plan with a panel of judges, which included the participation of Citizens' business bankers.

Tiny Farmhouse, AIRI Jewelry & Gallery and Bluebird Bouquets, three women-owned businesses were recognized as this year's winners, receiving up to a year of free rent to sell their products at the Boston Public Market.

Tiny Farmhouse, owned by artist Amy McCoy, is all about cheery, environmentally responsible stationery, home goods, and accessories featuring Amy's whimsical original illustrations and patterns. Each design is inspired by life at Amy's tiny farmhouse in Rehoboth, Massachusetts, and is from original artwork created in watercolor, pen and ink, or gouache. Tiny Farmhouse was awarded one year of full-time rent-free space within the Boston Public Market starting in early fall 2024.

AIRI Jewelry & Gallery, owned by artist Maya Alia produces handmade jewelry, vibrant art prints, and culture-inspired apparel. AIRI is known for award-winning wire earrings (BEST of Boston 2023), thoughtfully designed to balance minimal and modern elegance with creative features that make for an unforgettable statement. AIRI is a woman- and black-owned business. AIRI Jewelry will pop up year-round on weekends at the Boston Public Market.

Bluebird Bouquets, owned by Haley Cormier, shares meaningful moments with others through thoughtfully crafted floral pieces for life's special moments. Bluebird Bouquets will participate in the seasonal Boston Public Market on the Greenway, located weekly on Thursdays through October across from the New England Aquarium.

"We are thrilled to welcome this next generation of women-owned small businesses and shepherd their success through ongoing mentorship, collaboration, and guidance," said Cheryl Cronin, CEO of Boston Public Market. "We are immensely grateful to Citizens for their ongoing partnership, support, and dedication to developing local entrepreneurship, which continues to be a cornerstone in making the Market a unique, vibrant, and mission-driven institution in Downtown Boston."

The Entrepreneurship Forum has proven to be a high touch opportunity for local entrepreneurs to fine-tune their business concept to a hyper-relevant market with low overhead costs and ongoing assistance from the Boston Public Market Association team. Last year's inaugural winner Lifebloom, a Boston-based co-owned small business that identifies as woman, Black, and immigrant led, encountered such success selling their handmade candles on the floor of the Market during the last year, that they will be continuing as a permanent vendor at the Boston Public Market.

"At Citizens, we recognize that small businesses are the heartbeat of our community, providing valuable goods and services and creating local jobs," said Lisa Murray, Massachusetts President at Citizens. "We are honored to partner with the Boston Public Market to support our local entrepreneurs and recognize this year's winners. We know this opportunity will be transformational to their businesses and encourage everyone to check out the market and the thoughtfully crafted products and offerings these talented women are bringing to Boston."

The third annual Entrepreneurship Forum powered by Citizens will launch in fall of 2024. Applications will open on July 17, 2024, with a submission deadline of September 9, 2024. Those interested are encouraged to apply at bostonpublicmarket.org/entrepreneurship.

Bikes // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

of individuals with chronic disabilities.

The application process for adults with permanent disabilities interested in powered handcycle wheelchair attachments or adaptive e-bikes will be open from August 5 to September 5. All other eligible groups can access the application from August 12 to August 24. The City will hold another application round in spring 2025. More information on how to apply and the program details can be found at boston.gov/ebikes.

"We are excited to see the City of Boston offer incentives to lower the costs for their residents to use electric bicycles to get around," said Alex Salcedo, E-Bike Program Manager for MassBike. "Through our Worcester program, where we have offered e-bikes to

income-burdened residents over the past two years, MassBike has seen the benefits that e-bikes can bring, especially to people who may not consider themselves everyday riders. Riding bikes has improved participants' health and mental wellness, lowered the costs of transportation, expanded connections to the community, and introduced the joy of bicycling to more people. We're expecting great success from this program in Boston."

The Boston Bikes team will also host free "Try an E-Bike" and bike shop showcase events in August, where eligible residents can test different bikes and receive help on their applications. There will also be additional e-bike hours to help residents with applications if needed.

OBITUARIES

Robert Licari

Devout Catholic, he leaves a legacy of love and his presence will surely be missed by those who knew him

Robert A. Licari of Medford, formerly of Greensboro, North Carolina and East Boston, died unexpectedly on August 1, 2024.

The beloved son of the late A. Leonard "Lenny" Licari and Mary V. (Hennessey) Licari, he was the loving brother of Richard L. "Rick" Licari and his wife, Nancy of North Quincy, Stephen J. Licari of East Boston, Michael P. Licari of Tustin, CA and the late James G. Licari; cherished uncle of James Licari, Molly Belovarac, Matthew Licari and Doreese Licari and brother in law of Charlene Deveney of Wakefield.

Rob grew up in East Boston. He attended Sacred Heart Grammar School and then went on to Boston Latin, where he graduated in the Class of 1973. He furthered his education at Boston University. Rob worked at the Army Base before taking a position with the United States Postal Service where he worked in Human Resources, retiring back in 2015. He was well known for his strong work ethic. A devout Catholic, Rob held the position of Fourth Degree Knight in the Knights of Columbus.

Robby lived a rich and fulfilling life, surrounded by his passions and loved ones. He loved a great time with various forms of excitement. Las Vegas was one of his favorite hot spots, he enjoyed games of chance. The Kentucky Derby was always thrilling to him. The Turf Club at Suffolk Downs was another favorite location. His diverse interests, from playing the clarinet, enjoying Titos Martini's, indulging in great seafood



to following New England sports, paint a picture of someone who embraced life's pleasure with gusto.

It was clear that Christmas held a very special place in his heart, especially with the traditional lavish Christmas Dinners he hosted, which brought everyone together. His dislike for traffic, ATM's and shopping malls shows his very practical side. His dedication and generosity to his family truly stands out. He leaves a legacy of love and his presence will surely be missed by those who knew him.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to greet the family during the visiting hours on Thursday, August 8th from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Keohane Funeral Home, 785 Hancock St., Quincy. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated in Sacred Heart Church, 45 Brooks St., East Boston on Friday August 9th at 11 a.m. Burial in Oak Grove Cemetery, Medford.

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Robert may be made to Archdiocese of Boston Chapter Knights of Columbus, 470 Washington St., Suite 6, Norwood, MA 02062

See www.Keohane.com for directions and online condolences.

Robert Romeo White

US Postal Service Retiree

Robert Romeo White passed away on July 14, 2024.

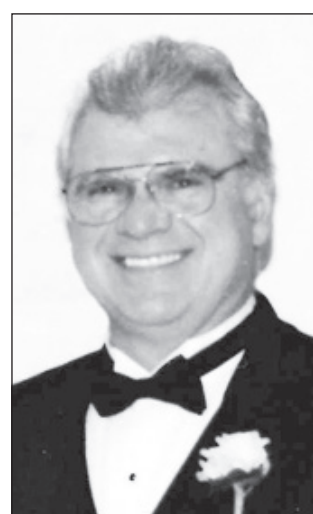


The loving son of the late Francis J. White and Gilda (DiBerto), he was the

loving and caring father to Carla (White) Ward and her husband, John Ward and Robert T White and his wife, Francesca White; proud and loving grandfather to Amber Ward, Olivia White, Christopher White and Loretta White; dear brother of Thomas White, Francis White and John White. He was loved and adored by many nieces and nephews.

Robert was born August 12, 1942. He grew up in East Boston and was a graduate of East Boston High School, Class of 1960. After high school, Robert joined the US Army and spent the next three years stationed in Europe. While stationed in Mannheim, Germany, Robert met his wife, Margot. They married in Germany and returned to the US when Robert completed his tour of duty. They settled in East Boston where they raised their family.

Robert joined the US Postal Service in 1964 and was a dedicated postal employee for almost 40 years, retiring in 2003. After retirement, he moved to Stuart Florida as



a "snowbird," eventually becoming a full-time Florida resident until his death.

Robert graduated from Suffolk University in 1976 with a BS in Business Administration and was a devoted Friend of Bill for over 43 years.

Family and friends will honor Robert's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street, East Boston, on Friday, August 16th from 1 to 4 p.m. An inurnment will take place at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne at a later date.

Robert will be missed, loved and remembered by all. May he rest in peace. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Tunnel To Towers Foundation (t2t.org) in honor of Robert's memory. To leave an online condolence visit www.ruggieromh.com.

27th Anniversary
In Loving Memory of
FRANCIS T. MARTORANA, JR.
On His 59th
Birthday
Born
August 9, 1965
Aug. 13, 1997-Aug. 13, 2024



*I can't believe twenty-seven years have passed.
I just wait for the day when we can be together again.*

*And if I go while you're still here...
Know that I live on. Vibrating to a different measure
Behind a thin veil that you can not see through
You will not see me. So you must have faith
I wait for the time when we can be together again.
Both aware of each other. Until then,
live your life to it's fullest.
And when you need me, just whisper
my name in your heart...
I will be there.*

*Happy Birthday Frankie.
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LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

ON HONOR ROLL AT ST. JOHN'S PREP

St. John's Prep recently announced the names of students who earned academic honors for the fourth quarter of the 2023-2024 school year, which ended on March 24, 2023. Students who qualified for the Headmaster's List earned grades of A- or above in all courses; students who qualified for the Principal's List earned grades of B+ or above in all courses; and students who qualified for the Honor Roll earned grades of B or above in all courses.

The following students were named to the academic honors list for the Fourth Quarter 2023-2024.

Principal's List

Owen Flanagan '28

REGIS COLLEGE CELEBRATES 94TH COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Regis College celebrated its 94th Commencement Ceremony at the Leader Bank Pavilion in Boston, where more than

1,100 students received degrees ranging from associate to doctorate.

Members of the Class of 2024 celebrated their accomplishments with an inspirational commencement ceremony at the Leader Bank Pavilion in Boston featuring humanitarian and nurse Alix Dorsainvil, '14, who delivered the commencement address and received an honorary degree. Social justice advocates Dr. Alix Cantave and Charlotte Cramer Wagner received honorary degrees.

"Not only are you college graduates, you are Regis College graduates," said President Antoinette Hays, PhD, RN in her message to the graduates. "That really means something. It means that each of you have engaged in a journey of learning in which the university has contributed to forming your character and confidence in preparing you for a career, and more importantly, a life of meaning."

"Never stop learning, for learning is a lifelong journey," Hays continued. "Use the knowledge you

gained at Regis to make the world a better place."

The following local students earned degrees:

Diana Munera of East Boston, graduated with a Bs in Nursing Accelerated 24 Months

Laura Vasquez Estrella of East Boston, graduated with a BS in Nursing

Regis College is a coed university 12 miles west of Boston in Weston, Mass. founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston nearly a century ago. With over 3,200 undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students enrolled on campus and in fully online graduate programs, Regis provides an academically rigorous education within the schools of nursing, arts and sciences, business and communication, and health sciences.

MIRANDA NAMED TO SNHU DEAN'S LIST

Jennifer Miranda of Boston has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's 2024 Dean's List.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point

average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

SNHU ANNOUNCES WINTER 2024 PRESIDENT'S LIST

It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Winter 2024 President's List.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

- Jose Morales
- Sara Haidar
- Marleny Flores
- Crissy Anderson
- Denny Chavez
- Glauber DeCastro

City Paws // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

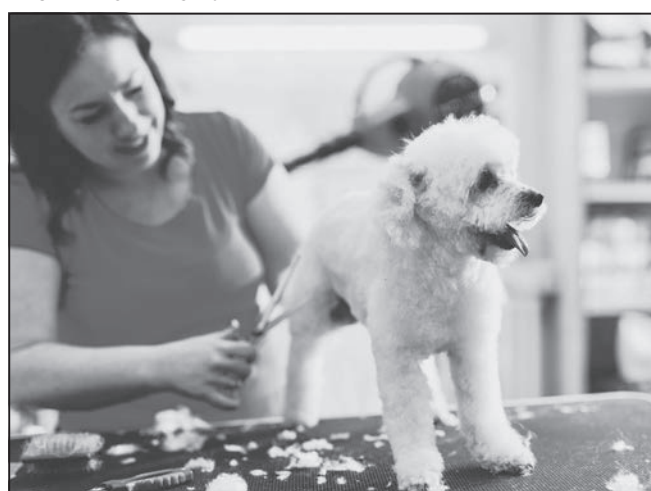
"We work locally, on the state level, and nationally to improve animal protection laws and regulations. Our work also includes working with the public and providing resources and information on how to live humanely with our wild neighbors."

Working with Animals

Before you give up your day job to pursue a career in animal services, you should get some part-time experience. You may love to take care of your own dog or cat but find yourself less satisfied when working with animals less predictable or well-behaved than yours.

From dog walking to pet sitting, you can work as much or as little as you want. In all cases, the quality of your services and reputation are key to your success.

You should be sure you are on safe, legal ground



While training is required, we hear from friends in the business that good groomers are in demand.

by checking all the business requirements and arranging for any needed insurance. For example, if you would be boarding animals in your home, you must be certain it is legal with city or town zoning, your condo or homeowners association, or your landlord.

Training for a Career

We all know that be-

coming a veterinarian requires years of education. Many animal healthcare professionals, such as veterinary technicians, also require formal training, including college certificate programs, vocational school training, or apprenticeship programs in which they are trained on the job by a veterinarian or veterinary technician.

The same is true of

groomers. They may attend a grooming school or course, be trained in a corporate training program from a large organization, or be trained by an experienced groomer in a smaller salon. We hear from friends in the business that good groomers are in demand.

The good news is that you can easily make a plan to test the waters for a transition into working or volunteering with animals by simply helping out friends and family to see if you love taking care of animals beyond those in your household. You may be surprised at how quickly an offer of free pet walking or sitting is snapped up!

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

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 & §5-405 Docket No. SU24P1553PM In the matter of: Veronica Marie Berrios

Of: East Boston, MA To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Marie Ciulla of East Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Veronica Marie Berrios is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Marie Ciulla of Boston, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 08/29/2023. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file an affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: July 30, 2023 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate 08/07/24 EB

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Division 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU24P0739EA Estate of: Lillian Buscanera Also known as: Lillian Rita Buscanera Date of Death: 02/11/2024

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Gregory Buscanera of Clearwater, FL requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Gregory Buscanera of Clearwater, FL be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/16/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty days (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: August 02, 2024 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate 08/07/24 EB

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 Docket No. SU24P1469GD Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 In the matter of: Luz F. Gonzalez Of: Boston, MA

RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Benerada Wahlberg of Cooper City, FL in the above captioned matter alleging that Luz F. Gonzalez is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Benerada Wahlberg of Cooper City, FL (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 08/15/2024. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you.

In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: July 16, 2024 Stephanie L. Everett Register of Probate 08/07/24 EB

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Alzheimer's Foundation of America offers safety information to families caring for someone with dementia

Special to the Independent

Wandering is a very common and potentially dangerous behavior for those living with dementia, but it is even more hazardous during the hot summer months. High temperatures and prolonged sun exposure can very quickly cause heat stroke and dehydration. To help caregivers protect their loved ones over the summer months, the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) is providing tips to reduce the chances of wandering and help prepare them to respond quickly if their loved one goes missing.

"Hot summer months create additional safety risks if someone with dementia wanders from home, which is why their family caregivers need to

be proactive," said Jennifer Reeder, LCSW, AFA's Director of Educational and Social Services. "Creating a setting where someone with dementia can maintain the benefits of walking by being active and stimulated in a safe environment, while also meeting basic needs, and having an emergency plan in place, are the best ways to protect the person's well-being and quality of life."

Tips for families:

Examine the motivations for wandering. There can be many reasons why someone with dementia wants to walk outdoors; it can provide a feeling of purposefulness, excitement, or pleasure. This is especially true if the person lived an active lifestyle prior to the onset

of their illness. Identify consistent and sustainable ways to support physical activities and stimulation in a safe environment: create walking paths around the home with visual cues and engaging objects; involve the person in simple tasks; and offer enjoyable activities (i.e., exercise, music, crafts). Ensure the basic needs (i.e., thirst, hunger, a need to use the bathroom) are met, as wandering can also be an expression of an unmet need.

Safeguard the home. Facilitate safe movement by avoiding clutter and eliminating tripping hazards. Be mindful of how objects like car keys, jackets, and purses might trigger the person to leave suddenly. Install electronic chimes or doorbells on doors so someone is alert-

ed if the individual tries to exit. Consider using a smart doorbell with an app that can notify you when someone is entering or exiting the home.

Be aware of your loved one's patterns. Know what times of the day may be more activating than others and try to offer stimulating activities during those times. Encourage healthy sleep habits to reduce the chances of the person leaving during the middle of the night. If your loved one does wander, document their patterns (frequency, duration, time of day, etc.) to help guide you in the future.

Develop a safety plan. Keep a list of places the person may go (i.e., previous home or place of employment, favorite spots around town). Have a recent close-up photo

and medical information readily available to give to first responders, if needed. Keep a list of people to contact if the person goes missing and ask neighbors to call you if they see the person out on their own. See if your community has a safety program for families affected by dementia, such as Project Lifesaver, which allows you to voluntarily enroll your loved one to receive locating technology which first responders can activate if the person goes missing. To the greatest extent possible, get input from the person when developing the safety plan.

Mitigate risks by taking precautions. Caregivers should take extra precautions during the summer, such as ensuring the person is properly hydrated, dressed in light clothing,

protected from the sun, and always supervised when outdoors. Keep a hat handy to protect your loved one's eyes and face. Using tracking devices or alarms, and educating neighbors about your loved one's condition, can also help quickly locate an individual if they do wander.

AFA's Helpline is staffed entirely by licensed social workers who are specifically trained in dementia care and can provide additional information about wandering prevention tips. The Helpline is available seven days a week by phone (866-232-8484), text message (646-586-5283), and web chat (www.alzfdn.org).

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The HYM Investment Group unveils mural at Amaya by prominent international artist

Special to the Times

The HYM Investment Group (HYM) and National Real Estate Advisors, LLC (“National”), have unveiled an 2,700 square foot mural by internationally acclaimed French artist Julien Colombier at Amaya, the first residential building to deliver at Suffolk Downs. The piece was commissioned in partnership with JUSTKIDS, an award-winning art consulting firm who

specializes in propelling place-making and public art. Colombier drew inspiration for the mural from the rich biodiversity and natural beauty of the Suffolk Downs neighborhood, including Belle Isle Marsh and Revere Beach. The mural, Colombier’s first in the United States, integrates themes of climate resiliency and ecological preservation, aligning with HYM’s commitment to prioritiz-

ing sustainable design at Suffolk Downs. Colombier’s mural will enhance the vibrant and enriching living experience enjoyed by residents of Amaya and serve as an extension of nearby arts and cultural spaces, including The Stage at Suffolk Downs.

Colombier’s mural at Amaya is located on the ground floor facade of the building, lining the new Beachmont Plaza and turning the corner onto a brand new Salt Street, well-positioned to welcome visitors to Beachmont Square and residents to their new home at Amaya. The artwork prominently features bright colors and local florals such as Cardinal Flowers, Bird’s Foot, Coral Honeysuckle, Great Blue Lobelia and Wild Indigo, that are native to Massachusetts. The mural’s blue background was inspired by the many water sources located near the Suffolk Downs site as well as the creative measures that HYM has implemented to mitigate the effects of climate change and rising sea levels. In planning the Suffolk Downs development, HYM commissioned a highly advanced hydraulic model, which informed the inclusion of the site’s floodable parks and purposeful infrastructure, designed to embrace many inevitable impacts of climate change.



Muralist Julien Colombier, pictured above in front of his completed mural, Integrates Themes of Climate Resiliency and Ecological Preservation into his United States Debut at Suffolk Downs.



The mural at Amaya.

“The addition of Julien Colombier’s mural at Amaya further solidifies Suffolk Downs as an accessible, sustainable, and dynamic neighborhood that prioritizes art and creativity,” said Thomas N. O’Brien, Managing Partner and Chief Executive Officer of HYM. “We are honored that Julien chose to make his United States debut with us in Revere, and we look forward to seeing residents and visitors enjoy Julien’s mural for years to come.”

“We are proud to see our vision come to life at the Amaya project, enhancing the Suffolk Downs community with this expansive public art installation,” said Jeffrey Kanne, President and CEO of National Real Estate Advisors, LLC. “We look forward to the positive impact this mural will have on visitors and residents of Amaya.”

“The inspiration for this work was the rich variety of local flowers and how to express them artistically, while harmoniously adapting to the architecture as the canvas for this giant painting. For this project I wanted to con-

sider viewers from various distances, and finding the right scale was essential to create something vibrant and groovy, yet still poetic.” said artist Julien Colombier.

“We’re thrilled to collaborate with HYM, a visionary team that truly understands the profound value of art and culture in creating memorable spaces,” said Charlotte Duoit, Founder and Director of JUSTKIDS. “Julien’s design perfectly captures the essence of the surrounding area, infusing it with a local flair that invites people to connect, experience and come back!”

First move-ins at Amaya, which was developed in partnership by National and HYM, began in June, with leasing for the property managed by Bozzuto. Amaya features over 34,000 square feet of state-of-the art amenities and 24,000 square feet of dynamic ground-level retail offerings, putting residents in close proximity to a diverse array of shopping, food and beverage options. Situated in Beachmont Square, residents will be connected to

a lively community hub of neighborhood retail, open space and civic spaces within the 1.7M square feet, vibrant mixed-use neighborhood serving as a gateway to all of Suffolk Downs. Residents can also enjoy the nearby access to The Track at Suffolk Downs, including The Dog Park, community events, and concerts hosted at The Stage at Suffolk Downs.

Amaya also offers quick, easy connections to Downtown Boston and major transit hubs, and is located approximately 200 feet from the Beachmont Square Blue Line MBTA station, five minutes from Logan Airport, and 10 minutes from Downtown Boston.

“We’re thrilled to have Julien Colombier’s new mural adding more color and excitement at Amaya,” said General Manager at Amaya, Jennifer Soto. “The artwork further enhances our community of creativity and connection. It is a welcome addition to the property and serves as a great representation of all that Amaya has to offer.”

Mayor's Cup Tennis Tournament set to kick off on Aug. 12

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department are excited to announce the 2024 Mayor's Cup Tennis Tournament. Athletes ages 8-18 will have the opportunity to compete for the title of “Boston’s Best” in singles and doubles tennis.

“We are proud to continue this tradition and celebrate the talent and sportsmanship of the young athletes in our city of champions,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “The Mayor's Cup Tennis Tournament is a wonderful opportunity to activate our parks with healthy competition and friendly rivalry.”

The tournament will kick off on Monday, August 12, at 9:30 a.m., with games concluding on Thursday, August 15. Matches will take place

at Carter Playground Tennis Courts, 709 Columbus Ave. The divisions are as follows:

- 8U singles
- 10U singles
- 12U doubles and singles
- 14U doubles and singles
- 18U doubles and singles

Registration is now open on <https://boston.gov/parks-sports>.

The Mayor’s Cup Tennis Tournament is presented by the Boston Parks and

Recreation Department in partnership with the Sportsmen's Tennis Club and Tenacity. P&G Gillette is the official sponsor of this year’s tournament.

“Youth sports are such a meaningful part of summer in Boston,” said Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods. “We are thrilled to host this year’s Mayor’s Cup Tennis Tournament and hope you will come to cheer on the young athletes at Carter Playground.”

For more information about Boston’s parks, please visit <https://Boston.gov/parks>. Stay updated with news, events, and design and construction work in Boston parks by signing up for our email list at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails and following our social channels @boston-parksdept on X, Facebook, and Instagram.



Scan here to register online

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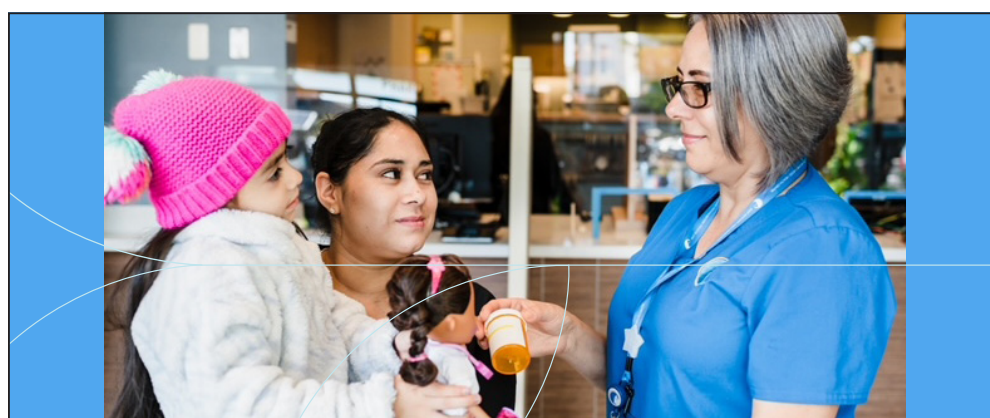
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