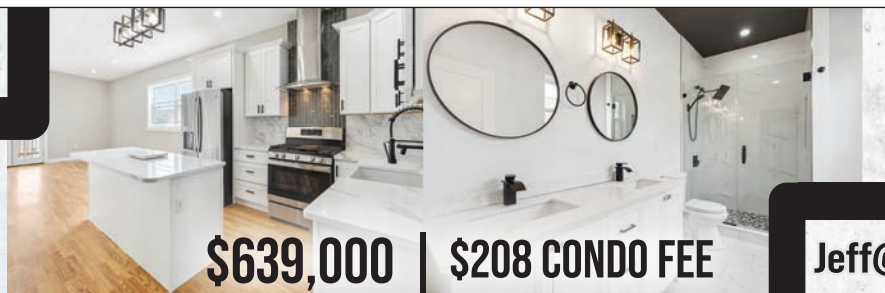


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# East Boston

## TIMES - FREE PRESS

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**Wednesday, September 11, 2024**

### REMEMBERING SEPT. 11 ATTACKS IN CEREMONY AT PIERS PARK



First Responders from the Boston Police, Boston Fire, and Massport were on hand for the ceremony. See more photos on Pages 8 and 9.



Shown above, a special chair placed next to the podium during the ceremony, remembering Fran Rowan. Shown left, East Boston High School JROTC Honor Guard, Sophia Moran, Brian Rodriguez, Lily Moran, and Janiya Pettway, under the leadership of Sgt. Major Charles Hornbuckle.

## Open Streets event set for Sunday in Eastie

By Cary Shuman

Open Streets, a community event led by Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, will be held in East Boston this Sunday, Sept. 15 from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The event will be held between Meridian Street from Maverick to Porter and Bennington from Porter to Day Square.

The streets will be temporarily closed to vehicular traffic to create room for community and play. The half-day event will allow local businesses to expand into the street, and to safely make space for music, games, bicycling, community tabling, and more.

The pedestrian-focused

event builds on Mayor Wu's commitment to re-imagining our streets and making Boston the best city in the country for families.

"Over the last two years, we have seen Open Streets events transform public streets into shared community spaces where residents can experience the full liveliness of our neighborhoods and small businesses can be supported," said Mayor Wu. "We're thrilled to keep this going this year."

The timing of the Open Streets series has been extended from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This year, streets will

See OPEN STREETS Page 3

## Rep. Madaro 'honored' by his nomination in the primary

By Cary Shuman

Rep. Adrian Madaro was unopposed in the Mass. House of Representatives First Suffolk District Democratic primary Sept. 3.

There is no Republican opponent for the seat in the November election.

Madaro has served as East Boston's state representative since 2015 when he won a special election. He has been unopposed in each of the ensuing biennial elections since that time.

"I am incredibly honored to have been chosen by the voters of East Boston in last week's primary to continue my work as our neighborhood's

state representative," said Madaro. "I look forward to continuing to engage with residents and hope to earn their vote again in November."

State Rep. Adrian Madaro

state representative," said Madaro. "I look forward to continuing to engage with residents and hope to earn their vote again in November."

## Annual Swing Fore Kids Golf Tourney fundraiser set for September 23

Special to the Times

The Salesian Boys and Girls Club will host their 6th Annual Swing Fore Kids Golf Tournament on Monday, September 23, 2024, at the Winthrop Golf Club, 453 Main Street, Winthrop

The annual golf tournament is a major Salesian Boys & Girls Club fundraiser. Please join them for this excellent opportunity to help fulfill the Club's mission of improving the lives of children and fam-

ilies. "Swing FORE Kids" is well known for being a fun golf outing. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned pro, you will surely have a great day golfing for this great cause. We promise you a day filled with fun, laughter, and camaraderie, making it an event you wouldn't want to miss.

Every day, after school and in the summer, the Club provides age-appropriate programs to

See SALESIAN Page 3

## Massport lends a hand to students returning to school

16th annual Backpack Project benefited over 100 children

Special to the Times

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) is helping some students return to school with gifts from employees. Over 100 children at the 21st Century Afterschool Program in Winthrop, Condon Com-

munity Center in South Boston, Crossroads Family Center in East Boston, East Boston YMCA and the South Boston Neighborhood House, are starting the school year with new backpacks, new school supplies, and new clothes donated by Massport employees through the 16th annual Backpack Project. The Backpack Project is Massport's an-

nual back-to-school drive aimed at assisting local families in need.

"We are thrilled to host the annual Backpack Project which directly benefits local students" said Alaina Coppola, Massport Director of Community Relations & Government Affairs. "Ensuring that students have the necessary supplies to start the school year off right is crucial to

their success, and we're proud that Massport can play a part in that. Thank you to our employees who participated in this initiative and to the partner organizations for giving us an opportunity to support local families."

"The backpack project is a special day here for our kiddos at the Y," said Joe Gaeta, Executive Director of the East Boston YMCA. "Many families face uncertainty as they enter the school year, but that stress is alleviated by the generosity of the team at Massport. A full backpack is a great kick start to a successful school year in ensuring our youth hit their goals in school."

This year, over 150 Massport employees participated in the Backpack Project by sponsoring children individually or as a group, providing school supplies and new outfits for children, ages 4-18.

Powering What's Possible. The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) owns and operates Boston Logan International Airport, public terminals in the Port of Boston, Hanscom Field, and Worcester Regional Airport. For more information, please visit [www.massport.com](http://www.massport.com).



Members of the East Boston YMCA with Massport volunteers of the Backpack Project and shown with the backpacks donated to Eastie students this year.

**For the latest news in East Boston that you need to know, check [eastietimes.com](http://eastietimes.com)**



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# East Boston

Times-Free Press

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## REMEMBERING 9/11

For anyone who is old enough to remember September 11, 2001, all of us know exactly where we were and what we were doing when we heard the terrible news. For this generation of Americans, that day was as memorable as was the assassination of John F. Kennedy for a previous generation. On both occasions, time seemed to stand still for all Americans as we processed the tragic events.

The replays on TV this week of the hijacked jets crashing into the twin towers still seem like a nightmare -- did it really happen or was it all just a dream? But as much as we'd like to unwind the past, the reality is that 23 years later, the events of 9/11 clearly have changed all of our lives and have had a dramatic impact on the course of world history.

The invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq, and the long and costly wars that followed, never would have occurred. Those wars forever changed the trajectory of our world in so many respects: The deaths and injuries of thousands of our brave members of the American armed services; the destruction of Afghanistan and Iraq, and the deaths of tens of thousands of civilians in those countries; the destabilization of Syria and other nations in the Middle East and Africa that gave rise to a new terrorist organization, ISIS, that resulted in the greatest number of displaced persons in the history of the world, an exodus that has led to the rise of right-wing groups in democracies world-wide that threatens to destabilize our long-standing alliances; and the rise of Iran, which has partnered with Russia, to bring death and destruction to Israel, Ukraine, and beyond.

However, amidst the discussions by historians and analysts of the global effects of 9/11, we must never forget the impact that 9/11 had on the families and loved ones of those who perished that day, many of whom were from our area and who were passengers on the planes that left from Logan Airport.

Nearly 3000 Americans died in the attacks on the Twin Towers and the Pentagon and on the flight of a fourth plane in which the passengers of the plane overwhelmed the hijackers before they could reach their target, the U.S. Capitol.

In addition, the heroism of New York City firefighters, of whom 343 died when the towers collapsed as they were racing inside to rescue occupants, as well as another 71 law enforcement officers (and one National Park Service officer who died when the fourth plane crashed into national parkland in Pennsylvania), must never be forgotten. In addition, another 360 firefighters have died from diseases since that time because of the toxic fumes they inhaled.

We recently had occasion to visit the 9/11 memorial in downtown Manhattan where there is now a beautiful building, known as the Oculus, and the soaring Freedom Tower.

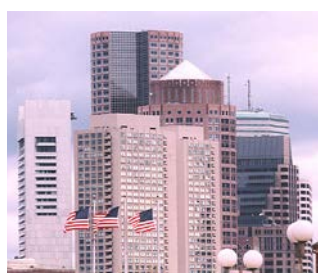
But despite the passage of more than 20 years, the memories invoked by that terrible day brought us a deep sense of grief, not only for those who perished and their families, but also for the world as we knew it that existed before 9/11.

9/11 changed our lives forever. We can only hope that we will be able to navigate the treacherous world we are facing with the necessary strength and wisdom equal to that task, both for ourselves and future generations.

## 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](mailto:editor@eastietimes.com). Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

The East Boston Times-Free Press reserves the right to edit letters for space, accuracy and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The East Boston Times-Free Press publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The East Boston Times-Free Press. Text or attachments emailed to [editor@eastietimes.com](mailto:editor@eastietimes.com) are preferred.



# Forum



## LETTER to the Editor

### HELLO FROM FORT MOORE

Dear Editor,

I hope this message finds you well. As many of you know, my commitment to public service extends beyond my role as your state senator. It is with great pride and a sense of duty that I write to you from Fort Moore, where I am completing my Officer Direct Commission Course, also known as "basic training." I look forward to making some of you laugh over some drinks when I get back.

I have met incredible people from all walks of life. I am so grateful for all of the lessons, corrections, and discipline they extended to me. I have grown.

I can assure you it has been the most physically trying and emotionally draining experience of my life. I never knew I could cry, curse, and do push ups all while chanting cadence. I have passed

land navigation and rifle marksmanship by the skin of teeth. It has been like drinking out of a firehose with all the military vocabulary and regular 3 am wake ups. I have just a little gas chamber and a 6 mile ruck march to go. It will take all I got to rally.

I appreciate serving as your senator even more now. I also deeply miss the good food of our district. When I get back I will continue to campaign and work for you. I have

told my fellow battle buddies they will be welcome if they ever want to visit.

In the meantime, you can still write to my Senate email. I have occasional access to email, so I recommend contacting my Chief of Staff. Additionally, you can still reach out to my office, where my team will be working every day. Serving as your senator is one of the greatest honors of my life, and I am equally proud to serve in this new capacity. This expe-

rience will undoubtedly enrich my perspective and strengthen my dedication to public service.

Your support and understanding mean the world to me during this time. Thank you for the letters.

Thank you for your continued trust and encouragement. I will be back next week.

Finally, thank you for your votes on September 3, 2024. See you soon.

Onward!

**Senator Lydia Edwards**  
Third Suffolk District

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Sen. Lydia Edwards shown during Basic Training at Fort Moore.

## GUEST OP-ED

### A milestone for Massachusetts housing: new solutions for a growing crisis

By Sen. Lydia Edwards

On July 31st, the Massachusetts legislature passed a groundbreaking \$5.2 billion housing bond bill. Less than a week later, Governor Maura Healey signed it into law, setting the stage for one of the most ambitious efforts in the state's history to address its growing housing challenges. The legislation represents not just a substantial financial commitment, but a bold vision for the future of affordable housing across the Commonwealth.

This bill tackles critical issues that have long plagued our state: deteriorating public housing, a lack of affordable homes, and an urgent need for policy innovation. The housing bond bill allocates \$2 billion toward the maintenance and redevelopment of public housing, which will have a direct impact on the lives of over 70,000 residents. These investments will finally address safety concerns and neglected conditions that have been ignored for far too long.

"For years, we've heard from families in public housing about the dangers

they face from outdated, unsafe conditions," said Senator Lydia Edwards. "With this bill, we're taking action, ensuring people can live in dignity and safety. But it's also about more than fixing buildings—it's about fixing our approach to housing."

The bond bill doesn't stop at repairs. It includes \$200 million for a forward-thinking demonstration program that will transition public housing into mixed-income communities. This shift will reduce the need for state-funded modernization in the future while fostering vibrant, diverse neighborhoods.

"As Senate Chair of Housing, I had a front-row seat to help negotiate, plan, and push this language forward. At the heart of the bill is a comprehensive approach to affordable housing." The legislation pours \$800 million into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and adds hundreds of millions more into other key housing programs, such as the Housing Stabilization and Investment Trust Fund and the Housing Innovations Trust Fund. These funds will fuel projects

that create and preserve affordable housing, helping to close the widening gap between housing demand and supply.

The bond bill recognizes that housing is not just about buildings—it's about people and communities. It includes \$275 million for

environmentally friendly housing projects, ensuring that as we build more homes, we also contribute to a sustainable future. Additionally, \$100 million is designated for homes for first-time buyers, while \$70

See OP-ED Page 3

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### LOCAL PLANET FITNESS FRANCHISEE HOSTS BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVES



COURTESY PHOTO

Planet Fitness franchisee group, The Flynn Group, with Planet Fitness locations in Revere (Northgate and Wonderland), East Boston, Dorchester, Quincy, Weymouth, Hingham, Hanover, and Plymouth, held their annual school supply drive to benefit local Boys & Girls Clubs around the Boston area. From July 22 through August 14, each club location collected new school supplies from their Planet Fitness members to be donated to the Salesian Boys & Girls Club of East Boston, as well as the Boys & Girls Clubs in Dorchester and Plymouth. Planet Fitness is committed to helping provide a Judgement Free Generation® by providing each member at these Boys & Girls Clubs' locations the new supplies needed for a successful school year. Shown above, left to right, Planet Fitness Wonderland (Revere) team members Adryana Doran, David Sanchez, Genesis Ramirez.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### KING RICHARD'S FAIRE RETURNS FOR ITS 43RD SEASON

The 43rd annual King Richard's Faire, New England's largest Renaissance festival, will run weekends to October 20, including Monday holidays, at an 80-acre site in Carver, MA. The Faire offers a wide variety of

entertainment, including jousting tournaments, acrobats, musicians, and unique attractions like live unicorn rides.

During Fandom in the Kingdom Weekend (September 14-15), attendees can enjoy Harry Potter-themed activities, including all-day Magical House Meetups and a Sorting Hat Ceremony at 4:00 p.m. on the King's

Stage, followed by a costume parade to the Tournament Field.

The following weekend, All's Faire in Love and War (September 21-22), features a Vow Renewal Ceremony at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday and a Viking Tug O'War contest on Sunday at 4:00 p.m. on the Tournament Field.

See NEWS BRIEFS Page 4

### Op-Ed // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

million will support housing development for people with intellectual disabilities and people with mental illness.

This bill also introduces meaningful policy changes aimed at making housing more equitable and accessible. Senator Edwards led the charge on a provision creating a process for eviction records to be sealed, allowing individuals to petition for sealing records of no-fault evictions, rent nonpayment due to economic hardship, older fault evictions, records from civil actions related to property misuse, and record from dismissed eviction actions or judgments favoring the defendant. The reform includes protections against the disclosure of sealed records by consumer reporting agencies and ensures applicants can answer "no record" for sealed evictions when applying for housing or credit. "Eviction should not be a life sentence," Senator Edwards stated. "This reform is about fairness and giving people a second chance." Moreover, the provision reflects the input of a wide coalition, including the Greater Boston Real Estate Board, who endorsed the original bill in 2023.

In a creative approach to addressing vacant commercial spaces, the bill supports a Commercial Property Conversion Program that will transform underutilized properties into much-needed housing units. This not only addresses the housing shortage but also breathes new life into struggling commercial districts.

Other notable reforms include:

- Making it easier to build Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) on single-family lots.
- Local Option for Veterans Preference in affordable housing programs. Municipalities may opt to reserve up to 10% of affordable units for veterans.
- Ensuring that state-funded housing projects comply with responsible contractor standards to protect workers' rights.
- Creating seasonal communities definition

and policies to protect communities with extensive population growth during the touring season. One such policy is the municipal worker preference.

- Creating a policy on Social Housing.
- Creating a commission on Senior Housing.
- Creating an Office of Fair Housing.

The housing bond bill is a testament to the power of innovative policy paired with serious investment. It's a reflection of our commitment to ensuring that housing is a right, not a privilege, and that no one is left behind in the push for more affordable homes. As Senator Edwards put it, "This bill is more than a financial investment—it's an investment in the future of Massachusetts. A future

where housing is stable, accessible, and equitable for all. I am grateful for the opportunity to lead as a freshman Senator in a conference committee on one of the leading issues of our time, contributing to a bill that tackles such critical challenges head-on."

With the enactment of this historic legislation, Massachusetts is not just responding to today's housing crisis but also laying the foundation for long-term solutions that will benefit generations to come. This is more than just a victory for housing advocates—it's a win for everyone in the Commonwealth.

Lydia Edwards is a State Senator representing the Third Suffolk District.

## Fiesta en la Plaza welcomes Latinx Heritage Month Sunday

Special to the Times

This Sunday, Fiesta en la Plaza will welcome Latinx Heritage Month to Boston's City Hall Plaza and Pavilion with a diverse artistic lineup, announced Ágora Cultural Architects.

This second edition of Fiesta en la Plaza will showcase the rich diversity of Boston's Latin American communities. On Sunday, the first of three days of activities, an artistic program will include a comparsa and performances of folk, pop, and jazz music.

"We return to this important square in the City of Boston with a party that wants to unite all our communities to celebrate with

the joy and rhythms that characterize us. It is also a great opportunity to continue promoting the great talent of so many Latin American artists who live in this city," said Elsa Mosquera, co-leader of the event's curator and producer, Ágora Cultural Architects.

The Fiesta Welcome will feature award-winning saxophonist Edmar Colón with pianist Alain Mallet, followed by the trio of Puerto Rican singer and cuatro player Fabiola Méndez. The public can dance to different rhythms accompanied by the MetaMovements dance group. The closing of the first day will be in charge of the band of the creative Colombian artist Manuela

Sánchez Goubert.

Fiesta en la Plaza will continue with events at the Civic Pavilion on September 19 and 27. On Thursday, September 19, the evening will open with a panel of Afro-Latin artists hosted by cultural reporter Cristela Guerra and with the support of Boston's Latin Quarter. This will be followed by two documentaries by the Puerto Rican Documentary Filmmakers Association, Santiago de las Mujeres (1:03 hr) and ART21: Daniel Lind-Ramos (13 min). The Fiesta will close on September 27 with a night of dancing to the rhythm of the Cuban group Clave & Blues and the dancers of El Bonche in Boston.

### JPNA hosts Yard Sale and Free Stuff Weekend

Special to the Times

The Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association invites all Jeffries Point residents to participate in the Jeffries Point Yard Sale and Free Stuff Weekend! On Saturday, September 21st, residents are invited to hold Yard Sales in front of their homes from 9 AM to 3PM, and put out items to give away for free on Sunday, September 22nd.

The JPNA has been organizing a Free Stuff Day for the past several years, usually as part of East-

ie Week. This year it was decided to move the event to September, to increase participation and add it to a yard sale day. Residents must ensure the sidewalk remains open for easy passing.

For Free Stuff Day, the JPNA is partnering with the McKay School, located at 122 Cottage Street. Free items can be left in the parking lot, to be picked up as waste on Monday by Public Works. Residents are also welcome to leave items in front of their homes. Everyone is encouraged to mark

items as "free". The goal of the event is to reduce the amount of waste, and to make it easier for those who are car free to dispose of unwanted items.

All are invited to visit Maverick, Everett, Sumner, Webster and Marginal Street to enjoy yard sales and collect free items!

If you would like to have your address publicized, for either the Yard Sale, or items to give away, you can email the JPNA at board@jeffriespoint.org, or post on the Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association Facebook Page.

### Open Streets // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

close to vehicular traffic at 9 a.m. and reopen at 6 p.m.

"Expanding our Open Streets events gives residents more opportunities to explore new neighborhoods in their city," said Jascha Franklin-Hodge, Chief of Streets. "Open Streets bring neighborhoods together to enjoy a safe, fun environment for walking, biking, and recreation."

"Open Streets events are a wonderful opportunity for Boston residents to support small businesses and enjoy their neighborhoods," said Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. "I appreciate the Mayor and colleagues across the Ad-

ministration, our partners in the field, and the women- and BIPOC-led businesses helping to grow the number of safe and successful Open Streets events. I have been a part of this project since the beginning and feel honored to celebrate this year again."

Open Streets programming will include food trucks, face painting, balloon animals, crafts, interactive games, photo installations, exclusive performances and activations, and Pedicabs. New this year, the Boston Fire Department and the Office of Emergency Management are partnering to introduce hydrant-fed misting stations at key locations to help residents

stay cool at Open Streets events.

Open Streets first started in the summer of 2022 with three neighborhoods.

The City is contracting again this year with Shana Bryant Consulting, a Black- and woman-owned small business, to carry out Boston's Open Streets program.

"Shana Bryant Consulting is thrilled that Open Streets Boston is back. We will have programming for all ages, and we are excited to bring back the kids and music hubs, vendor and resource rows, and of course, food from local restaurants and Pedicabs. We look forward to seeing you in East Boston," said Shana Bryant."

### Salesian // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

help its members become productive, caring citizens. Whether teaching members the importance of staying active and eating healthy or providing homework help to achieve academic success, the Club truly impacts the lives of the youth it serves. Your support can signifi-

cantly contribute to this impact, making a real difference in the lives of these children and families.

Your generous support makes this event a Success! For more information, sponsorship opportunities, or register online to play and/or be a sponsor or donor at the event, click on [tionpay.org/salesianclub/swing/ or please visit us at \[Facebook.com/Salesianclub\]\(https://Facebook.com/Salesianclub\)](https://give.dona-</a></p></div>
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If you have questions, don't hesitate to contact Michael Triant at 617-567-6626 x11, michaeltriant@salesianclub.com, or Anita Belmonte @ 617-784-1744, abelmonte@salesianclub.com.

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## HELP WANTED

### – Executive Director –

#### Friends of the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway, Inc.

The Executive Director will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of the organization's operations, with a primary focus on advocacy, fundraising, financial sustainability, community relationships, volunteer growth, effective marketing and communication and visionary leadership. This role requires strong leadership skills, excellent verbal and written communication, the ability to inspire and motivate others and a genuine passion for our mission. The position reports to the Board of Directors and oversees staff, currently consisting of one or more part-time contract Program coordinators and a Director of Finance and Administration. This is a part-time position working remotely. We are committed to establishing diversity and community representation throughout the Friends and encourage candidates from diverse backgrounds to apply.

**Qualifications & Experience**

- Four-year degree or experience in nonprofit management, business administration, public administration or related field preferred.
- Proven track record of success in nonprofit fundraising, with experience in individual, corporate and foundation giving, grant writing, and donor stewardship.
- 3+ years of leadership and management experience.
- East Boston residency desirable

For a full job description, please write to [markwarren@mmwarren.com](mailto:markwarren@mmwarren.com)

**Mary Ellen Welch GREENWAY**

## OBITUARIES

### Robert Helfer

He will be forever in the hearts of his family

Family and friends attended visiting hours on Tuesday, September 10th in the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza Beechwood Home for Funerals, 262 Beach St., Revere for Robert L. Helfer who died on Tuesday, September 3rd at the Massachusetts General Hospital following a brief illness, he was 76 years old. A Funeral Service followed the visitation in the funeral home. Interment will be held privately.

Robert was born on March 26, 1948, to the late Lawrence and Dorothy (Wilson) Hefler and was the youngest of three children. He was raised in Boston's Back Bay and was educated in Boston Public Schools. He married his wife in 1971 and had one child, their son Robert. They later moved to East Boston for many years and to Revere in 1998. Robert spent most of his working career as a Bus Driver for the M.B.T.A. His career spanned over 20 years.

Robert loved being with his family and in his spare time he would have weekly breakfast with his friends. He was a huge wrestling fan and he would tune in to watch Judge Judy. He enjoyed driving and in retirement he would drive all over. He enjoyed meeting new people and finding out about them.

He leaves this world to



join his sweetheart Claire, he will be forever in the hearts of his family.

He was the beloved husband of 52 years of the late Claire N. (Mathison) Helfer, the loving father of Robert M. Helfer and his wife, Teresa and the cherished papa of Brendon T. Helfer and Jamie M. Helfer, all of Revere; the dear brother of Barbara Wilke – Mottram and Virginia “Ginny” Burnham, both of Florida; the treasured uncle of Debra Roux of Buzzards Bay, Lynn M. Wilke – Nason of Methuen and the late Laura Wilke.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in Robert's memory to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284-9168.

To send online condolences, please visit [www.vertucciosmithvazza.com](http://www.vertucciosmithvazza.com).

Funeral arrangements entrusted to the care and direction of the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza, Beechwood Home for Funerals.

### John T. Cataldo

Massport Retiree

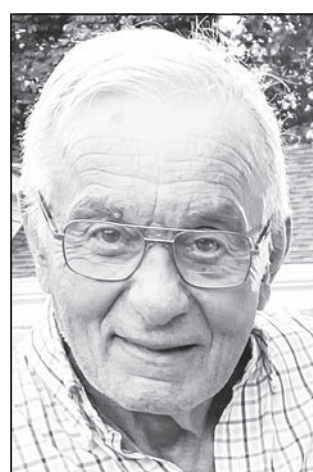
Family and friends are invited to attend Visiting Hours on Saturday, September 14th from 4 to 6:30 p.m., in the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza, Beechwood Home for Funerals, 262 Beach St., Revere, for John T. Cataldo, 83, of Newton, formerly of East Boston, who passed away on September 5th.

A Funeral Service will be conducted in the Funeral Home at 6:30 p.m.

John was born and raised in East Boston and was the son of Victor T. and Rose (Zona) Cataldo. He attended East Boston schools and graduated from East Boston High School. He then continued his education at Cornell University earning a certificate in the Hospitality Program. He first worked in the food service industry working for Sweet Life, but later in life switched careers and began working for Massport as a leasing manager. He retired from Massport in 2007 after 20 plus years.

When he married Noreen (Caraglia) and began his family, the couple remained in East Boston for many years, eventually relocating to Newton in 2009 to be closer to their children.

John enjoyed being with his family, was an avid Red Sox fan and liked playing golf in his spare time. He was also a fan of the Cleveland Browns, though he was never fortunate enough to witness a championship. John enjoyed trav-



eling with his wife, but they most enjoyed their summer home in Maine, where they made wonderful memories with their grandchildren and hosted many family reunions.

He was the beloved husband of Noreen M. (Caraglia) Cataldo of Newton, devoted father of John A. Cataldo and his wife, Kristin of Pittsboro, NC, Kathy Frappier and her husband, Bill of Cape Elizabeth, ME, Joanna Cataldo and her husband, Kenny Weill of Brookline and Deanna Sablemme and her husband, John of Newton. He was the cherished grandfather of Christopher, Nicolas, Victoria, Michael, Daniel, Ilana, Ava, Juliana, Gabriela, and Zy'here and dear brother of Rosanne Interbartolo and her husband, Michael, Victor Cataldo and his wife, Susan and Michael Cataldo and his wife, Jane. He is also lovingly survived by many nieces, nephews, in-laws, and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation New England Chapter, Attn: Donor Services, 5757 Waterford District Drive, Suite 310, Miami, FL 33126.

To send online condolences, please visit [www.vertucciosmithvazza.com](http://www.vertucciosmithvazza.com). Funeral arrangements entrusted to the care and direction of the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza, Beechwood Home for Funerals.

### News Briefs // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

with 50 participants max.

For tickets and full event details, visit [kingrichardsfaire.net](http://kingrichardsfaire.net).

### BOSTON MOVING ARTS PRESENTS 'WELCOME HOME' DANCE CONCERT

Boston Moving Arts will host the “Welcome Home” dance concert on October 18 and 19, 2024, at Boston University Dance Theater. This performance, highlighting homecoming and connection, features choreographers from Boston, Montreal, and Washington State. Boston-born Andrew Skeels makes his local debut with “Unkempt,” a raw look at relationships, while FLOCK, a German-American company, showcases “Somewhere Between,” a piece exploring childhood myths. Tickets are \$30, available at [bostonmovingarts.com](http://bostonmovingarts.com).

### SUMMER SHACK CELEBRATES SEPT. BIRTHDAYS WITH FREE 1LB LOBSTER

Summer Shack, located in Back Bay and Allston, is offering a special birthday treat this September at its Boston and Cambridge locations. Guests celebrating a birthday in September can enjoy a complimentary 1lb lobster by showing proof of ID. The offer is valid for dine-in customers from September 1st to September 30th, with no purchase necessary. Reservations are recommended as spots are limited. Gratuity is not included.

For more information or to make a reservation, visit Summer Shack's website at [summershackrestaurant.com](http://summershackrestaurant.com).

### USS CONSTITUTION TO GO UNDERWAY FOR 2024 CNO CHIEF HERITAGE WEEKS

USS Constitution is scheduled to get underway for the 2024 Chief of Naval Operations' Chief Petty Officer Heritage Training Weeks on Friday, September 13, at 10 a.m.

The ship will remain closed following the underway.

USS Constitution Sailors, alongside 120 Sailors selected for promotion to chief petty officer, will

sail in Boston Harbor. During Chief Petty Officer Heritage Weeks, the crew of USS Constitution will train over 220 newly selected chief petty officers in the same skills as 19th-century Sailors, including gun drills, pike drills, sailing, and musket drills, to foster meaningful leadership development.

For over 20 years, select Sailors advancing to chief petty officer have come to USS Constitution to spend a week living aboard “Old Ironsides,” fully immersed in naval heritage.

A 21-gun salute will be fired, which can be viewed from Fort Independence on Castle Island at approximately 11:30 a.m. Additionally, USS Constitution will fire a 17-gun salute as she passes the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Boston, the former site of Edmund Hartt's Shipyard, where she was built and launched on October 21, 1797.

The cruise will be visible from the Boston Harborwalk, Castle Island, and the Charlestown Navy Yard.

USS Constitution is open Tuesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. for public visitation.

USS Constitution is the world's oldest commissioned warship afloat and America's Ship of State. She played a crucial role in the Barbary Wars and the War of 1812, actively defending sea lanes from 1797 to 1855.

### FREE PRESENTATION ON SEA-LEVEL RISE BY MIT PROFESSOR KERRY EMANUEL IN WINTHROP

Local residents are invited to a free presentation by Kerry Emanuel, a meteorology professor at MIT, about the realities of sea-level rise and its potential impacts on homes, budgets, and families. The event will take place on Thursday, September 19, at 6 pm in the Lyceum Room at the EB Newton Building, 45 Pauline Street. The presentation will also include a brief legislative update from the Winthrop chapter of Mothers Out Front. All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact [winthropttogether@gmail.com](mailto:winthropttogether@gmail.com).

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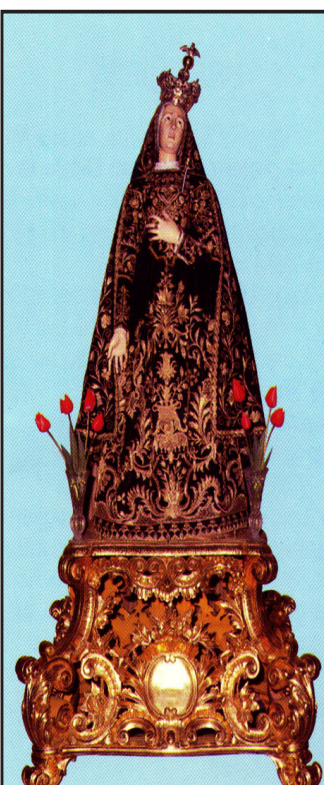
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### 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Blessed Mother of Sorrow

Blessed Mother of Sorrow Mass this year will be celebrated September 15 at 11 a.m. at the Madonna Queen of the Universe Shrine (Don Orione Fathers) at 150 Orient Ave., East Boston.

Please come and honor the Blessed Mother on this special day. Help us continue this beautiful tradition, which began in 1932

at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in East Boston.



To place a memoriam in the Times-Free Press, please call 781-485-0588

### OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper. Includes photo.No word Limit. Please send to [obits@reverejournal.com](mailto:obits@reverejournal.com) or call 781-485-0588

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### PIERS PARK PICNIC SPONSORED BY SENATOR LYDIA EDWARDS, STATE REP. ADRIAN MADARO, AND COUNCILOR GABRIELA COLLETTA



Coffee and donuts for everyone, Rosalie Petralia, Marie Zinna and Fran Riley enjoying the picnic at Piers Park.



Mackenzie Cunningham and David Kelliher at Piers Park, representing Neighborhood Pace by NeighborHealth.

Monday was a beautiful day to spend at Piers Park in East Boston, especially when you were treated to a picnic lunch courtesy from Senator Lydia Edwards, State Representative Adrian Madaro and Councilor Gabriela Colletta. Coffee and donuts was served earlier in the day, before a wide variety of sandwiches was brought to the party by Sammy Carlos Catering located in East Boston. Music and raffles was also added to the venue, making it a perfect day in the park for all.



First Priority making East Boston their first priority at Piers Park, shown Molly Roark and Sophia Vesiroopoulos.



Passing out plenty of important information to the seniors, Edzani Kelapile, Sophia Wang, Jordan Rich and Kim Cruciol.



Hillary Hughes and Hannah Bolster with lots of free stuff at Piers Park.



Executive Director of the EB Social Center Justin Pasquariello making his rounds greeting the vendors, shown is Diana Beltrao from the Boston Public Library.



State Representative Adrian Madaro and sponsor of the picnic with Theresa Tannetty, Rosemarie Yannetty, Beatris Doran and Dolores Urciuoli.



Bringing in the delicious picnic lunch, Stephen Scire and Juan Jose from Sammy Carlos Catering.



Jordan Rich, from Senator Edward's office Bob Haas, State Representative Adrian Madaro and Councilor Gabriela Colletta also both sponsors of the event, Executive Director of East Boston Senior Center Justin Pasquariello, and event organizer Dawn Panos.

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### FRESH AND LOCAL

## Mindful vs Mindless Eating

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Think about the food you've consumed over the past 48 hours. How much of it did you sit at a table and savor without distractions other than quiet and relaxed conversation with your dining partners? What meals or foods did you truly en-

joy? What were your outstanding dining moments? Did you do any mindful eating? Would it make a difference in your life and health if you did more mindful eating?

How much mindless eating did you do? How much did you eat at your desk, walking down the street, scrolling on your

phone or computer, watching media, or as bites you grab while doing another chore? Today, most of us do far too much mindless eating.

#### From Mindless to Mindful

The transition to more mindful eating can be a slow, step-by-step process. Here's an exercise to help you experience various aspects of mindful eating.

Plan a trip to a farm-stand or farmers market and purchase two varieties of local apples. For some mindful eaters, the process begins with a thoughtful selection of the food they purchase.

Then, invite someone to taste the apples to compare the look, flavor, texture, and aroma with you. Some people find that sharing a meal and talking about their food results in more mindfulness about

the food as they eat it. We love sharing apples this time of year and know this process results in more apple enjoyment than just eating an apple alone.

Compare the apples, enjoying their shape, colors, markings, and aroma, if any. Next, slice them and compare their crunch, sweet-to-sour balance, texture, and flavor. Finally, describe what you discovered about the apples. Think about the difference between eating an apple mindfully and grabbing one to chomp down while running to catch your bus. This is the difference between mindless and mindful eating.

#### Steps for Mindful Eating

Step one is eating slowly, without distractions, and enjoying what you're eating. Next comes a very good suggestion for over-

all health and weight control: take smaller portions and learn to recognize when you're full. It takes time for your brain to register that you are full. The faster you eat, the more likely you are to eat past the point where real hunger is satisfied.

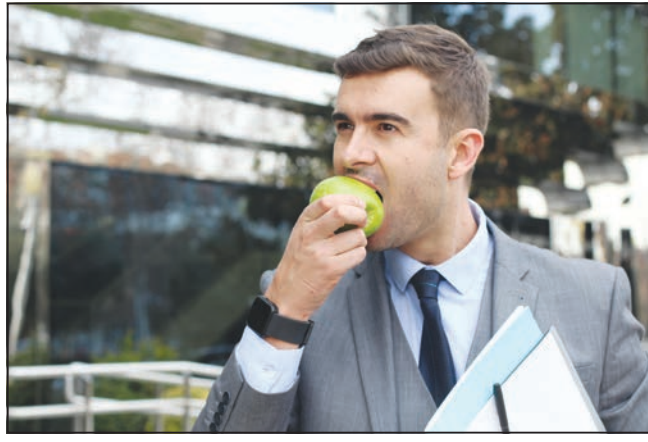
Before you decide to eat something, ask yourself if this is to answer a hunger pang or another trigger. Are you craving food or comfort, fighting depression or anxiety, or rewarding yourself with a treat?

Try to become aware of your triggers. This can be something as simple as turning on your favorite media and sitting on the sofa. Your sofa may be the place where you routinely allow yourself to snack, and you are now craving snack food.

Thích Nhất Hạnh, a Vietnamese Buddhist monk

known as the "father of mindfulness," wrote a great book on this topic, "How to Eat." We'll let him have the last word. "When you put a piece of fruit into your mouth, all you need is a little bit of mindfulness to be aware: 'I am putting a piece of apple in my mouth.' Your mind doesn't need to be somewhere else. If you're thinking of work while you chew, that's not eating mindfully. When you pay attention to the apple, that is mindfulness. Then you can look more deeply and in just a very short time you will see the apple seed, the beautiful orchard and the sky, the farmer, the picker, and so on. A lot of work is in that apple!"

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.



Consider the difference between eating an apple mindfully and grabbing one to chomp down while running to catch your bus.

## Annual ALS & MS Walk for Living set for Oct. 6; honors Jeffrey Siegal

Special to the Times

Despite devastating diagnoses, the ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) and MS (multiple sclerosis) residents at the Leonard Florence Center for Living face each day with

optimism, courage, determination and humor. ALS resident Martha Waite is a perfect example. Martha was diagnosed with ALS in October of 2018 at the age of 67. She first experienced "drop foot," losing the use of her right leg,

and then her left.

Martha graduated from Gordon College with a Bachelor of Science degree in both Elementary and Special Education and taught in private and public schools for over 30 years. She was ordained as a pastor in December of 2016 and worked as a children's pastor with House of Hope Church for the homeless in Lynn. Today, Martha continues to work as the children's pastor at First Baptist Church on the North Common and serves as the Director for House of Hope.

As Martha notes, living with other residents who have ALS helps her tremendously. "We have the unique opportunity to get to know others with this disease - people who understand exactly what we are going through," says Martha. "We encourage each other." Martha recalls her first days after moving into the Leonard Florence Center. "What really impressed me the most was the fact that there were none of the smells that you typically encounter in most nursing homes. I had my own room, my own bathroom and access to the café, spa, deli, chapel and library. The Center is genuinely my home."

The ALS & MS Walk for Living enables residents as well as other attendees to participate in wheelchairs, ventilators or by foot. The two-mile walk, now in its 16th year, has become a much anticipated event in the local community. The Leonard Florence Center is operated by non-profit Chelsea Jewish Lifecare, an affiliate of Legacy Lifecare.

This year's Walk for Living will honor Jeffrey Siegal, President & CEO of Geriatric Medical & Surgical Supply and its employees. Headquartered in Woburn, the company is the largest LTC focused distributor in New England and the fourth largest nationwide.



Walkers making their way along the route during the 2023 ALS Walk for Living.

With its mission to improve long-term care, Jeff and the Geriatric Medical family have close ties with

Chelsea Jewish Lifecare. "We are thrilled to pay tribute to Jeffrey Siegal and the wonderful em-

ployees in his company," says Barry Berman, CEO See WALK FOR LIVING Page 9

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SCENES FROM EAST BOSTON HIGH GIRLS VOLLEYBALL VS. CHELSEA HIGH SCHOOL

Bob Marra Photos

East Boston battled neighboring rival Chelsea in girls volleyball action at Chelsea High School

Tuesday, September 3. Chelsea won the match 3-0 but the Jets' performance was an encouraging sign of improvement for the team as it began

its third season of varsity competition. East Boston topped Kipp Academy in an August 29 pre-season game.



Jordynn Copeland (21) reaches for an incoming volley.



Jenna DaSilva (10) makes a play at the net in front of teammates Jordynn Copeland (21) and Mareyli Figueroa.



Kelren Fernandes Dias gets a leg up as she two-hands a return volley.



Devani Taylor (2) has her eyes on the ball.



Jordyn Vasquez makes a play at the net.



Alexandria Brangiforte lines up for a return.



Kelren Fernandes Dias goes to the floor to make a save.



Samantha Martinez Mendoza makes a play as teammate Devani Taylor (2) looks on.

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# THE 23RD ANNIVERSARY SERVICE OF THE SEPTEMBER 11TH ATTACKS ON AMERICA HELD AT PIERS PARK IN EAST BOSTON



Starr Desmond performed the National Anthem.



Master of Ceremonies Dave Arinella starts the program at Piers Park and welcomes everyone.

On Sept. 11, 2001, tragedy struck America with planes hi-jacked and flown into New York's World Trade Center towers, the Pentagon and because of the bravery of passengers a plane crashed into a field in Pennsylvania, saving hundreds of lives of innocent Americans.

Three thousand Americans died that day, hundreds still suffer from the effects, both physical and emotional. Coming upon the 1st Anniversary of this tragedy, East Boston's Fran Rowan put together a remembrance ceremony with the help of family and friends, held at Piers Park. That was 23 years ago, lots has happened in the world, and East Boston. This service continues today, at Piers Park where it all

began with an idea from Fran Rowan. The essence of remembering all those souls lost, hurt and those left to put their lives back together, still haunts us all after 23 years. Another change in the lives of the community of East Boston, Fran (Frances Brown) Rowan passed away on September 3, 2015, but her love for family, community, and our country remains. Every year at the 9-11 services a chair with a wreath and photo of her is placed front and center in her honor.

We all vowed to never forget what happened on the tragic day, we will also never forget what Fran Rowan has done to help her beloved community heal and move forward.



The East Boston YMCA singers with several musical selections, led by Paul Racki.



Devon Sherman with the reading of the poem "One."



Buddy Mangini with a special prayer for those lost and remembering his friend Fran Rowan.



East Boston City Councillor Gabriela Colletta with her remarks and childhood remembrances' from 9-11-2001.



God Bless America sung by Giana Ribeiro.



Ryan Sherman recited "Into the Fire".



State Representative Adrian Madaro with his remarks.

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# THE 23RD ANNIVERSARY SERVICE OF THE SEPTEMBER 11TH ATTACKS ON AMERICA HELD AT PIERS PARK IN EAST BOSTON



Fran Rowan's family, Ismael and Souad Saib, Jim Lori, and Dan Rowan.



Buddy Mangini is shown with a special edition 2002 Fire Fighters Harley Davidson Motorcycle built in memory of 9/11.



Gabriella and Marina Ribeiro placing the memorial wreath.



Lianne Sherman carries on the work and memory of her friend, Fran Rowan. It takes a village, and lots of work, but each year Lianne finds a way. Shown here welcoming everyone and thanking everyone that makes this memorial possible every year.



Gabriella and Marina Ribeiro with the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Walk for Living // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

of Chelsea Jewish Life-care. "Everyone at Geriatric Medical has been extremely supportive of our organization. Their passion, dedication and generosity are truly remarkable."

"I am so proud to be involved with the Leonard Florence Center for Living and the 2024 Walk for Living," says Jeffrey Siegal. "The Center's residents continuously inspire and amaze me. It is my fervent hope that this event will increase awareness about living with ALS and MS."

WCVB Channel 5 news anchor Maria Stephanos, this year's Walk Ambassador, will emcee the event. On a recent visit to the Leonard Florence Center for Living, Maria reflected on the word "living" in the center's name. "That word means everything to the residents who call the center home," explains Stephanos. "Walking into the Leonard Florence Center and you immediately see and feel that this is a very special place."

The 2024 Walk for Living will take place at 10am on Sunday, October 6 at 165 Captains Row on Admiral's Hill in Chelsea. Every single dollar raised goes directly back to patient care and programs for ALS and MS residents. To register, go to the Walk for Living website and click on register.

Following the dog friendly walk, there will be a BBQ hosted by Chili's, face painting, live dance performances, a petting zoo and more. The \$20 donation fee includes a Walk for Living tee shirt as well as all food and activities.

ciated donation, please visit [www.walkforliving.org](http://www.walkforliving.org) or contact Walk Director Maura Graham at [mgraham@chelseajewish.org](mailto:mgraham@chelseajewish.org) or 617-409-8973. All donations are tax deductible.

Chelsea Jewish Life-care is redefining senior care and re-envisioning what life should be like for those living with disabling conditions. The eldercare community includes a wide array of skilled and short-term rehab residenc-

es, ALS, MS and ventilator dependent specialized care residences, traditional and specialized assisted living options, memory care, independent living, adult day health, and homecare and hospice agencies that deliver customized and compassionate care.

Legacy Lifecare Inc. is a nonprofit management resources collaborative that provides small-to-mid-sized organizations with the infrastructure

needed to succeed in today's complex senior care environment. Affiliates include JGS Lifecare of Longmeadow, Deutsches Altenheim of West Roxbury, Armenian Nursing and Rehabilitation Center of Jamaica Plains, Elizabeth Seton Residence and Marillac Residence of Wellesley, Sophia Snow Place in West Roxbury and Saint Joseph Living Center of Windham, CT.

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## NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

### CHELSEA DAY TO MARK CITY'S 400TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR

CHELSEA— The City of Chelsea recently announced that its Chelsea Day celebration on Saturday, Sept. 21 this year will mark the culmination of a year-long commemoration of the City's 400th Anniversary. The day's festivities will begin with a vibrant parade through Downtown Broadway and conclude with a spectacular fireworks show at Mary O'Malley Park.

Founded in 1624, Chelsea became a town in 1739 and was incorporated as a city in 1857. The anniversary year kicked off with the inauguration of new city councilors, school committee members, and a new City Manager. Since then, the community has enjoyed a variety of events, including participation in Revere's Winter Wonderland, Cary Square Day, the recent General Lafayette Speech reenactment, and the highly successful 400th Gala, a fundraising event supported by the Chelsea Chambers of Commerce, local businesses, residents, and city staff.

This year Chelsea Day will feature:

**Grand Parade:** Starting at 11 a.m. on Broadway, the parade will include over 40 groups, featuring public safety units, youth organizations, marching bands, non-profits, businesses, community stakeholders, city councilors, and schools. The parade will be led by special guest Grand Marshal, Former Heavyweight Champion John Ruiz. Check the parade's route at <https://www.chelsea400.org/chelsea-day-2024>

**Chelsea Day Celebration:** Following the parade, from 3pm to 7pm, there will be a day filled with fun activities and community engagement at Mary O'Malley Park.

**Fireworks:** The festivities will culminate with a spectacular fireworks show at 7pm.

The city invites all residents and visitors to join us in celebrating Chelsea's remarkable milestone. For more information, visit [www.chelsea400.org](http://www.chelsea400.org).

### DIDOMENICO PROUD OF PASSAGE OF COMPREHENSIVE MATERNAL HEALTH BILL

EVERETT— Gov. Maura Healey recently signed a comprehensive maternal health bill into law which creates a state licensure pathway for midwives and lactation consultants, encourages the creation of more freestanding birth centers, establishes a grant program to address maternal mental health and substance use disorder, and expands the statewide universal postpartum home visiting program. Senator Sal DiDomenico proudly supported this legislation which also mandates that insurers provide coverage for postpartum depression and major depressive disorder screenings for perinatal individuals.

"My colleagues and I took decisive action last month to improve and expand maternal health care options for people throughout Massachusetts,"

said Senator Sal DiDomenico. "These changes will narrow racial inequities and improve health care outcomes for parents across the Commonwealth. This will go a long way towards our overall goal of making our state more welcoming and inclusive of families of all backgrounds and income levels. I want to thank Governor Healey, Senate President Spilka, Senator Friedman and Representative Decker for their leadership on these urgent issues."

The legislation creates a state license that certified professional midwives must receive in order to practice midwifery, and requires certain insurance providers, such as MassHealth, to cover doula and midwifery services including prenatal care, childbirth, and postpartum care. The new law creates the Board of Registration in Midwifery within the Department of Public Health (DPH) to license and provide oversight of licensed certified professional midwives. Licensed certified professional midwives would be required to coordinate emergency care if needed and would also be able to issue prescriptions for certain drugs, under regulations to be promulgated by the Board and DPH. This language also ensures equitable reimbursement of certified nurse-midwives by requiring that they receive payment rates equal to those for the same services performed by a physician under MassHealth.

To encourage the creation of more freestanding birth centers, which operate independent from hospital systems, the law requires DPH to promulgate updated regulations governing the licensure of freestanding birth centers to ensure safe, equitable, and accessible birth options.

The legislation also requires that MassHealth cover noninvasive prenatal screenings to detect whether a pregnancy is at increased risk for chromosomal abnormalities for all pregnant patients regardless of age, baseline risk, or family history. The law requires health insurers to provide coverage for medically necessary pasteurized donor human milk and products derived from it, serving as a critical source of nutrition for the growth and development of babies, particularly for vulnerable premature infants. To better support new mothers in their feeding journeys, the law also authorizes the Board of Allied Health Professionals to license lactation consultants to ensure their services are eligible for reimbursement through the patient's insurance.

The legislation provides critical support for birthing people and their families during the postpartum period, including requiring DPH to conduct a public awareness campaign about perinatal mood and anxiety disorders, and to develop and maintain a digital resource center that will be available to the public. It also requires that perinatal individuals be offered a screening for postpartum depression and major depressive disorder, and that those services be covered by health insurance plans. To better address barriers in access to care and reduce racial inequities in maternal health, the law expands

### REENACTMENT OF THE HISTORIC SPEECH OF GENERAL LAFAYETTE IN CHELSEA



City Manager Fildel Maltez, Malik Hawshon, Cheryl Watson Fisher, and Jennifer Hassell welcome members of the American Friends of Lafayette, Alan Hoffman (far left), Peter Reilly (back, right), and Evie Pless (second from right), and General Lafayette (Ben Goldman) to the reenactment event held Saturday in coordination with Chelsea's 400th Anniversary Celebration. See Page 6 for more photos.



General Lafayette stands adjacently to the historic sign located across from City Hall that honors his visit to Chelsea on August 31, 1824.

The Chelsea 400th Anniversary Committee held a reenactment of the historic speech given by General Lafayette in Chelsea on Aug. 21, 1824.



Emily Crespo and Chelsea Black Community President Joan Cromwell, pictured at the General Lafayette reenactment event.

the universal postpartum home visiting program administered by DPH and provides coverage for the program's services.

Additionally, the law requires DPH to develop and disseminate public information about pregnancy loss to the public and perinatal health care workers to prioritize the physical and mental health care of patients affected. It also requires DPH to establish a program to conduct fetal and infant mortality reviews (FIMR) to identify social, economic, and systems level factors associated with fetal and infant deaths and inform public health policy programs. The legislation also includes a provision that will allow Massachusetts residents to use earned paid sick time in the event of a pregnancy loss.

The law ensures that the Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee will have access to essential records required to conduct thorough and timely reviews of maternal deaths and pregnancy complications. This will enable the Committee to formulate comprehensive recommendations to improving maternal outcomes and prevent mortality. The law's language also establishes a grant program under the Executive Office of Health and Human Services aimed at addressing maternal mental health. This program will support the establishment or expansion of initiatives serving perinatal individuals, particularly those in underserved populations, to improve mental health, behavioral health, and substance use disorder.

The law establishes a nine-member task force to study the current availability of, and access to, maternal health services and care, as well as essential service closures of inpatient maternity units and acute-level birthing cen-

ters. The task force will identify methods of increasing financial investment in, and patient access to, maternal health care in the Commonwealth.

### STUDENTS FACING DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOLLOWING FIGHT AT RHS

REVERE— About one dozen students face disciplinary action following a fight that broke out at Revere High School last Thursday.

During the fight, one staff member was struck and transported to the hospital out of an abundance of caution. That staff member was reported to be at home and feeling fine.

"Revere Public Schools is among the highest achieving school districts in the state and we work every day to provide a safe learning environment for every student," district officials said in an official statement on the incident. "At Revere High School on Thursday, a physical altercation involving several students occurred during the transition to lunch period. We have zero tolerance for violence in our schools and are coordinating closely with our teams at Revere High School and Revere Police to ensure all parties involved are held accountable."

The disciplinary action for the students involved could include suspensions or expulsion.

Jane Chapin, co-president of the Revere Teachers' Association told the local CBS News affiliate that the union is asking for more guidance counselors and social workers for the districts as well as a health and safety team to be formed to help deal with incidents in the schools. RTA co-president Michelle Ervin stated that fights have become common at the school, although not to the level of what transpired last Thursday.

### WINTHROP POLICE WARN RESIDENTS ABOUT BITCOIN SCAMS, OFFER SAFETY TIPS FOR AVOIDING THEM

WINTHROP— Police Chief John Goodwin and the Winthrop Police Department would like to warn the public about an increasing number of scams involving Bitcoin ATM machines, and offers the public safety tips to help avoid scams.

Bitcoin scams are particularly challenging because it is extremely difficult to retrieve any money that is deposited into Bitcoin ATM machines, which scammers often demand. The Winthrop Police Department advises residents to ignore any calls or emails that demand they deposit money into Bitcoin ATM machines.

"Bitcoin scams are particularly difficult for us to investigate and help with, because once money has been deposited into a Bitcoin ATM it is almost impossible to get the money back," said Chief Goodwin. "These scams seem to target the elderly in particular. The Winthrop Police Department urges residents to call us immediately if anyone calls you asking for money, gift cards, or directs you to withdraw money or provide financial information. Please call the police before engaging in those types of transactions."

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) offers the following four signs to help people recognize possible scams:

- Scammers pretend to be from an organization you know. They might use a real name, like the Social Security Administration, the IRS, or Medicare, or make up a name that sounds official. Some pretend to be from a business

you know, like a utility company, a tech company, or even a charity asking for donations.

- Scammers say there's a problem or prize. They might say you're in trouble with the government, that you owe money, that someone in your family had an emergency, or that there's a virus on your computer. Some scammers say there's a problem with one of your accounts and that you need to verify some information. Others will lie and say you won money in a lottery or sweepstakes but have to pay a fee to get it.

- Scammers pressure you to act immediately. They might tell you not to hang up so you can't check out their story. They might threaten to arrest you, sue you, take away your driver's or business license, or deport you. They might say your computer is about to be corrupted.

- Scammers tell you to pay in a specific way. They often insist that you pay by sending money through Bitcoin, a money transfer company or by putting money on a gift card and then giving them the number on the back. Some will send you a check (that will later turn out to be fake), tell you to deposit it, and then send them money.

The FTC also recommends that if you get an email or text message from a company you do business with and you think it's real, it's still best not to click on any links. Instead, contact them using a website you know is trustworthy, or look up their phone number. Don't call a number they gave you or the number from your caller ID.

Residents who believe they may have fallen victim to such a scam, or who believe they may be communicating with would-be scammers, are encouraged to contact the Winthrop Police Department at 617-846-1212.

# Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata announces launch of Boston's Food Cart Pilot Program

Special to the Times

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata is proud to announce the launch of the Food Cart Pilot Program, following a year of advocacy and collaboration with the Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. The program is designed to simplify the street vending process, allowing entrepreneurs to comply with city regulations while reducing high startup costs.

Under the new pilot program, the city has introduced several key initiatives, including a concierge service to assist vendors with the permitting process, a streamlined application system, and a clear roadmap to guide vendors through City Hall. All materials have also been translated into Spanish, Haitian Creole, Vietnamese, and Mandarin Chinese.

Designated vending zones have been established in various neighborhoods across Boston, including:

- Maverick Square, East Boston
- City Hall Square, Downtown
- Phillips Square, Chinatown
- McKim Branch and

Adams Street Branch, Boston Public Library

"I'm excited to see the Food Cart Pilot Program come to life, making street vending more accessible to our small business entrepreneurs," said Councilor Coletta Zapata. "Previously, street vendors faced a maze of bureaucracy. This program simplifies the process, helping vendors quickly establish their businesses without the burden of expensive brick-and-mortar costs or food trucks. This initiative creates economic opportunities and pathways to generational wealth, and I encourage all interested residents to take advantage of it."

In August 2023, Councilor Coletta Zapata proposed an ordinance to streamline the creation of small vending businesses. This ordinance established guidelines for street vending zones, improved oversight by city departments, and reduced permit fees and fines. The launch of the

pilot program marks the first step in these efforts. The Councilor is committed to further reducing costs and expanding access so all Bostonians can participate and benefit.

Streamlining the street vending process is expected to boost neighborhood economies by providing more business opportunities to residents and increasing foot traffic. Several cities around the United States have developed and implemented similar regulations with favorable outcomes for residents and business owners alike. Moreover, studies have shown that when street vendors were removed in Brooklyn, New York, local businesses saw a 20% decline in revenue due to reduced foot traffic.

Vendors interested in applying to the Food Cart Pilot Program can do so at [bit.ly/FoodCartPilot](http://bit.ly/FoodCartPilot). For assistance in starting a food cart business, vendors can contact the Office of Small Business at [smallbiz@boston.gov](mailto:smallbiz@boston.gov) or (617) 635-0355.

For further information, please contact Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata's office at (617) 635-3200 or by email at [gabriela.ramirez@boston.gov](mailto:gabriela.ramirez@boston.gov).

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This is a part-time position working remotely. We are committed to establishing diversity and community representation throughout the Friends and encourage candidates from diverse backgrounds to apply.

#### Qualifications & Experience

- Four-year degree or experience in nonprofit management, business administration, public administration or related field preferred.
- Proven track record of success in nonprofit fundraising, with experience in individual, corporate and foundation giving, grant writing, and donor stewardship.
- 3+ years of leadership and management experience.
- East Boston residency desirable

For a full job description, please write to [markwarren@mmwarren.com](mailto:markwarren@mmwarren.com)

## 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 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME Docket No. SU24CO217CA In the matter of:

William Antonio Beltran Vazquez A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by William Antonio Beltran Vazquez of Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Yadiel Angel Vazquez IMPORTANT NOTICE Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at:Suffolk Probate and Family

Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/26/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: August 30, 2024 Stephanie L. Everett, Register of Probate 09/11/2024 EB

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# Explore the Bay State's skeletons beneath Old North Church

Special to the Times

Massachusetts is the hub of haunted happenings centered around tales of old Revolutionary War heroes, the Salem Witch Trials, paranormal activity, and so much more. But, perhaps one of the lesser-known attractions with arguably the most Bay State skeletons in its closet – an estimated 1,100 to be exact – is the crypt underneath the Old North Church & Historic Site. After-Hours Crypt Tours beneath Boston's oldest surviving and operational church begin Sept. 13 and will run through Halloween weekend.

These 45-minute guided adventures are jam-packed with fascinating stories about the people buried in

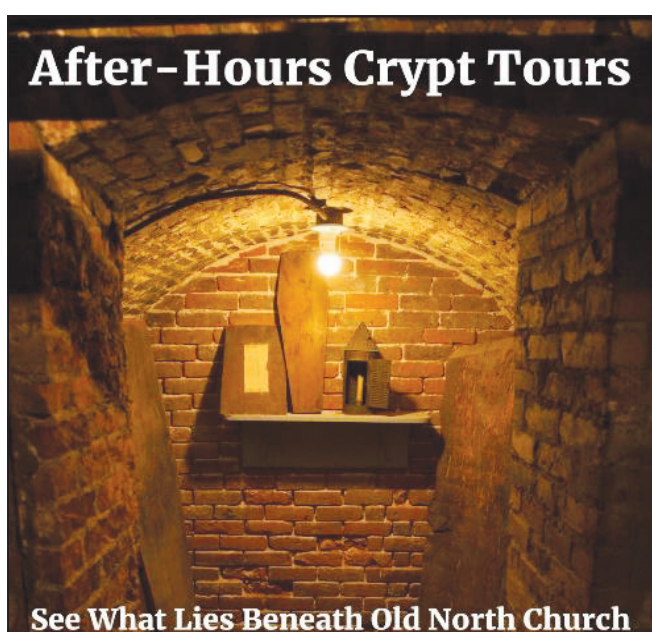
the crypt, colonial death practices, and the latest archeological discoveries. This hidden piece of history is the final resting place of prominent colonial figures, like Captain Samuel Nicholson, first commander of the USS Constitution, and Major John Pitcairn, the commander of the British marines who made the ultimate sacrifice at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Forgotten generations, those whose stories are lost to time, are also accounted for as they were laid to rest together in The Strangers' Tomb.

Beyond the bones, the Old North Church basement is dark and narrow and lined with 37 brick tombs sealed with wooden or slate doors that were constructed nearly 300 years ago. After-Hours Crypt Tours

participants should be comfortable in a basement setting and navigating tight spaces. With low lighting and uneven surfaces, the space is not wheelchair or stroller accessible. Old North Church is an active place of worship, and visitors are asked to respect the sacred space.

After-Hours Crypt Tours will run Friday and Saturday nights at 5:30 and 6:15 p.m. starting Sept. 13. In anticipation of the spooky season, tours will increase to run every night from Oct. 18 through Nov. 2. Tickets are \$20 per person and may be purchased in advance. The brave souls who dare to join Old North can purchase tickets to reserve their spots today: <https://www.oldnorth.com/admission-pricing/>

Established in 1991 as the Old North Foundation, Old North Illuminated is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that is responsible for historic site operations and interpretative, educational, and preservation programs at the iconic Old North Church & Historic Site. A secular organization that is independent of Christ Church in the City of Boston, Old North Illuminated welcomes approximately 500,000 visitors annually while overseeing the preservation of an enduring symbol of American independence. Old North Illuminated serves a wide audience by creating meaningful experiences through educational outreach, site-specific programming, and historical analysis. ONI works collaboratively



See What Lies Beneath Old North Church

with the City of Boston, the U.S. National Park Service, the Freedom Trail Foundation, and other partners to foster educational and interpretive programs for students and visitors while engaging the public in Old North Church's history and its role in inspiring liberty and freedom. In 2023, Old North Church & His-

toric Site was designated as a Site of Conscience by the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience (ICSC), joining a global network of historic sites, museums, and memory initiatives that connect past struggles to today's movements for human rights. For more information, visit: [www.oldnorth.com](http://www.oldnorth.com).

# Mayor Wu announces applications open for Spooky Streets Grant

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Community Engagement Cabinet's Office of Civic Organizing have announced applications are now open for the Spooky Streets Grant Program. This funding builds on the Mayor's efforts to create a fun and safe environment for kids and families to enjoy community. Residents and community groups who apply and get approved will receive a mini-grant for \$250 to purchase items such as candy, pumpkins, decorations, and face paint, making it easier and more affordable for neighborhoods to host Halloween block parties.

"We're working to make Boston the best place in the country to raise a family," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "These spooky streets

block parties provide safe, fun, and festive opportunities for our families to celebrate Halloween with their neighbors, and that is why we're making it easier for everyone to apply for a grant. I can't wait to see the costumes, decorations, and community gatherings this coming fall!"

This summer, the Mayor's Office of Civic Organizing provided 54 grants to residents and community groups totaling \$31,500 across 14 neighborhoods in Boston through the City's Block Party Grant Program. The Mayor's Office of Immigrant Advancement helped fund two block parties in support of non-profit organizations that serve the immigrant population in Boston.

"We're thrilled to ex-

pand our community-building efforts through the Spooky Streets Grant. Since launching our Summer Block Party Grant initiative in 2023, our office has been dedicated to creating more opportunities for residents to connect and activate their streets," said Director of the Office of Civic Organizing Nathalia Benitez-Perez. "With the Spooky Streets Grant, we hope to support even more events, bringing fun and traffic-free streets to Halloween and Harvest gatherings."

For residents interested in applying, please see below:

- Apply for the Play Street Closing Permit first ([onlinepermitsandlicenses.boston.gov/playstreet/Views/](https://onlinepermitsandlicenses.boston.gov/playstreet/Views/)). Then you will be prompted to apply for the

Spooky Streets grant.

- To be eligible, all block parties must be free and open to the public.
  - Block parties cannot be hosted on parks or private lots, and must be on a public street
  - Block parties must be hosted the week leading up to Halloween from Friday, October 25 - Sunday, November 3.
  - Block parties do not have to be Halloween-themed.
- "Activating our streets in the fall with fun activities that bring joy to our City's youth and families makes me so proud to call Boston home," said Community Engagement Cabinet Chief Brianna Millor. "Supporting individuals and organizations to fund efforts to expand our block

party program is the positive energy we need in our city."

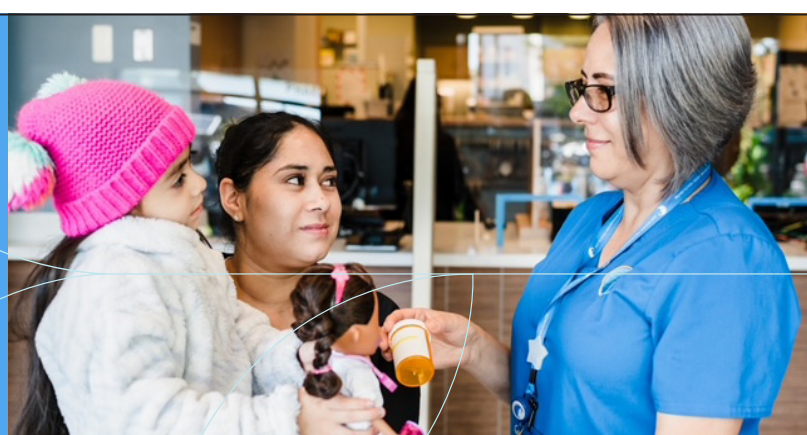
In partnership with the Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics (MONUM), the City of Boston has streamlined the block party permit application process to improve constituents' experience and speed up approvals. The City has also expanded what activities are allowed at block parties without additional permits, including potluck food, tables and chairs, 10 by 10 tents, and more. A Block Party Planning Guide is available to help explain the planning process of hosting block parties in neighborhoods.

"Block parties are one of the best ways for residents to connect and build community with their

neighbors," said New Urban Mechanics Program Manager Nate Lash. "We are so happy to have made the permitting and planning process easier for residents."

The deadline to apply for a Spooky Streets grant is Friday, September 20 at 5:00 p.m. The application can be found here (along with the necessary application for a Play Street Closing Permit), and residents and community groups can visit [boston.gov/spooky-streets](https://boston.gov/spooky-streets) to learn more.

The Office of Civic Organizing is committed to collaborative partnerships and programs that promote engagement, awareness, and service in communities throughout the City of Boston.



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