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East Boston

TIMES - FREE PRESS

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ADRIAN MADARO HOSTS ANNUAL MADARO FAMILY COMMUNITY FUND THANKSGIVING DINNER



It's all about family, State Representative Adrian Madaro is with Ariel's mother, Robbie Levy, Jacopo Madaro, Mateo, Debra Cave, Nico, and Ariel Madaro during the annual Thanksgiving dinner hosted by the Madaro Family Community Fund. See more photos on Page 5.



Mayor Michelle Wu helps serve East Boston residents Thanksgiving dinner at the Madaro Family Community Fund's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner held at the East Boston Salesian Boys and Girls Club.



Heather O'Brien delivers delicious turkey dinners to East Boston residents that were dining at the Salesian Boys and Girls Club on Thanksgiving Day.

HVNA discusses 99-105 Addison Street proposal

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

On Monday, attendees at the latest Harbor View Neighborhood Association (HVNA) meeting heard plans for a proposed project at 99-105 Addison Street.

According to Attorney Richard Lynds, who presented the project at Monday's meeting, the proposal includes demolishing the current multifamily dwelling at the property to erect a Coastal Flood Resilience Overlay District (CFROD) compliant residential building with 20 units and 10 parking spaces.

Additionally, Lynds noted that there are plans for four one-bedroom units, 16 two-bedroom units, and 22 bike spaces. The proposal also includes a common roof deck and courtyard.

Further, this project is slated to comply with zoning in the East Boston Residential (EBR)-4 sub-district, and Lynds said it will not require relief from the Zoning Board of Ap-

peal (ZBA).

"We're not seeking variances anymore. We're taking advantage of the tools under PLAN: East Boston, that have been implemented since May 1st, to design projects that meet the zoning code and don't ask for the exceptions under the code," said Lynds.

It should also be noted that this project is undergoing Article 80 Review. "Even though we don't require variances for this project from the zoning board, there is an approval process from the Boston Planning and Development Agency," said Lynds.

"That's not a variance; that's just simply a design process that we go through."

After providing an overview of how the project complies with zoning,

See HVNA Page 3

East Boston Chamber of Commerce 2024 'Deck the Windows' contest

Special to the Times

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce is holding their 2024 "Deck the Windows" holiday window decorating contest on December 9 and 10. Businesses can participate by decorating their storefront windows with decorations of the season, by calling the Chamber and having a Chamber Board member take the photos, by having their decorations photographed by a Chamber Board member, or directly submitting pictures of their decorations.

Awards will include first, second, and third place certificates to the three best decorated windows by an East Boston business along with a congratulatory letter from the East Boston Chamber of Commerce, bragging rights for the year as a

winner of the East Boston Chamber of Commerce holiday window decorating contest and a cash award.

Please contact the Chamber office to register at 617-569-5000 or email eastbostonchamberofcommerce@gmail.com

The Chamber Board will announce the winners on December 17, 2024 at its holiday celebration. Happy Holidays and happy decorating and thank you for your participation!



CHRISTMASTIME IN BOSTON

Wu to host Boston Common Tree Lighting on Dec. 5

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, and title sponsor The Province of Nova Scotia will host Boston's signature holiday celebration, the 82nd annual Boston Common Tree Lighting, on Thursday, December 5, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in

Boston Common, adjacent to the Visitor's Information Center at 139 Tremont Street. Mayor Wu will be joined by friends from Nova Scotia. This celebration marks the 53rd year that Nova Scotia has given a tree to the people of Boston as thanks for relief efforts following the December 6, 1917 explosion of a munitions ship

in Halifax Harbor. Within 24 hours of the disaster, a train loaded with supplies and emergency personnel traveled from Boston to Nova Scotia to aid in recovery efforts.

"Every holiday season we celebrate a special tradition with our friends in Nova Scotia to commemorate the warm and meaningful connection between

our two communities dating back more than a century," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I want to thank Hugh & Liz Ryan and Nova Scotia for donating this beautiful treasure that will shine brightly throughout the holiday season in Boston. The Boston Common Tree lighting brings our

See TREE LIGHTING Page 3

For the latest news in East Boston that you need to know, check eastietimes.com

32nd Annual Christmas Fair

EAST BOSTON CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Saturday, Dec. 7, 2024

12:00 to 4:00

Visit with old friends, There Will be Raffles, Prizes, Great food, and so much more... Santa Pictures till 3:00



69 London St.
E. Boston, MA
(Enter lower level)

NEWS IN BRIEF

ABCC KICKS OFF 'OPERATION SAFE HOLIDAYS'

To ensure safety for everyone in Massachusetts during the holidays, the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) will be conducting alcohol enforcement at local bars in Massachusetts cities and towns through New Year's Eve.

In doing so, the ABCC hopes to prevent accidents caused by impaired driving and other alcohol-related harm that often occurs at this time of year. The ABCC will work with municipal police departments and focus enforcement efforts at bars that have been identified as the last to sell alcohol to a convicted drunk driver and other high-risk locations.

"It is extremely important to deter bars from over-serving and prevent problems before they happen," said State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg, who oversees the ABCC. "We want to keep people safe and make sure everyone can enjoy the holidays with their family and friends, avoiding tragedies before they occur."

The program is run in conjunction with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Impaired Driving Crackdown, from Thanksgiving Eve through New Year's Eve, and is funded through the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security - Highway Safety Division.

According to the NHTSA, from 2017 to 2021, 137 drivers involved in

fatal crashes on Thanksgiving Eve (6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m.), also known as 'Blackout Wednesday,' were alcohol impaired. In 2021 alone, 36 drivers were in fatal crashes on that day. Also, from 2017 to 2021, young drivers ages 21-24 represented the largest percentage of drivers involved in deadly crashes. The message before Thanksgiving is simple – the NHTSA says to stop the blackout trend on Wednesday.

PUBLIC INVITED TO USS CONSTITUTION'S ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

The public is invited to attend USS Constitution's annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, Dec. 6, starting at 3 p.m.

This free event will feature a visit and photo opportunities with Santa Claus, complimentary hot chocolate and cookies, holiday music, ship tours, and remarks from the ship's commanding officer.

Boarding of USS Constitution will begin at 3:00 p.m., and the event will conclude at 6:00 p.m.

Guests can witness the ship's gun firing during evening colors, a ceremony marking the lowering of the American flag at sunset, scheduled for 4:11 p.m.

The tree-lighting ceremony will commence at 4:30 p.m., photos with Santa Claus will be available immediately afterward.

USS Constitution is open for free public visi-

tion Wednesday through Sunday, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

As the world's oldest commissioned warship afloat and America's Ship of State, USS Constitution played a vital role in the Barbary Wars and the War of 1812, safeguarding American sea lanes from 1797 to 1855.

LEARN ABOUT THE LAUNCH OF PHASE 1 OF BUS NETWORK REDESIGN AT LOCAL T STATIONS

The MBTA's Bus Network Redesign is a major initiative aimed at improving bus service reliability, frequency, and connectivity throughout the region. The initiative's first phase will go live on December 15. Phase 1 will launch four new Frequent Bus Routes by increasing service on Route 86, Route 104, Route 109, Route 110, and Route 116/117 in Chelsea, Everett, Revere, Malden, Somerville, Cambridge, Allston, Brighton, and East Boston.

Through December 20, MBTA staff will be available at many bus stops along the routes that will be experiencing changes and at the following stations:

- Malden Center
- Wonderland
- Maverick
- Airport
- Sullivan Square
- Harvard

Staff will assist riders by answering questions and helping them navigate their routes, stops, and schedules as well as distributing materials

available in 12 languages. MBTA teams will be at locations generally Monday through Friday from 7:30 to 9:30 AM and 3:30 to 5:30 PM with additional timeslots to be determined. Interpreters will be available at many stations.

Many Phase 1 Materials Are Available

The MBTA's December outreach builds on engagement in November to bring awareness and information

to riders at key bus stops impacted by the improvements. More than 25 tabling and station events provided answers to thousands of rider questions and shared resources in multiple languages. Schedules for specific bus routes impacted by these changes are now available online as a PDF at mbta.com on the Phase 1 Service webpage.

In addition, the MBTA has developed a number of community and individual

resources to assist riders in navigating these changes, including rider booklets and flyers.

The Phase 1 Rider Booklet is available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Arabic, Simplified Chinese, Russian, Italian, Vietnamese, and Khmer. The graphic booklet describes why and how routes are changing and improving. It includes easy-to-read route maps and schedules

SPINELLI'S DONATES TO THE EAST BOSTON HOLIDAY LIGHTS



The East Boston Holiday Lights committee is grateful to Spinelli's Bakery and Function for their generous donation of \$2,500 to sponsor Day Square with Christmas wreaths and lights this holiday season.

From left to right: Celeste Hewitt, Spinelli's Operation Specialist, Shirley Fabbo, President of East Boston Chamber of Commerce, Lisa Cappuccio Co-Chair of the Holiday Lights Committee, Matthew Roberto of Spinelli's and committee member Yesenia Martinez.

'Jingle Bells, Batman Smells' at the Atlantic Works Gallery

Special to the Times

Atlantic Works Gallery announces that its December will be an exhibition by Eric Hess and elfin friends called Jingle Bells, Batman Smells. The exposition is a subjective and kitschy look at the objectivity of Christmas in the early 21st century. Objects are great!!!

Work will be photography, installation, conceptual art and objects from Hess's unusual holiday collection. During the opening reception there will be a performance piece involving a 6ft mischievous living Christmas Duck that is inspired from one of Hess's most beloved and somewhat creepy holiday ornaments. The duck will be more naughty but still nice. There will be a station for people to pose for portraits inspired by The Awkward Family Christmas Photos series. Tacky sweaters, turtle necks and hats will be provided. Screw the nice list this year, let's go crazy!"

As a child I, Eric Hess, had a stern and scary Marine captain, corporate-leader father. Living with him could be like walking on eggshells, you didn't know what mood he would be in. He could be great fun but a lot of the time he was mean. His fun could mean as well. Once a year Dad, who we called The Great Santini, would melt away and this cross man would hoist all the glittery, plastic, cheap ornaments from Caldor's and scatter them all over the house. This was much to the chagrin of my architect mother, who designed our modern, 1970's home. It was like he was Scrooge after the ghosts, and I was Tiny Tim with a fat goose to eat. He was The Grinch and I was the hurt little dog riding into Whoville. It always felt joyous and festive to his fantastical, gay son(me). To this day I still have a love of the chaos and fascination with weirdness of the holiday season. This show is for my Dad who

passed away 15 years ago.

Eric Hess has been a photographer living in Boston since 1999. He came to Beantown from New York City to attend The New England School of Photography. He has had his studio in East Boston for 23 years and is one of the founding members of Atlantic Works Gallery established in 2003. He works professionally as a photographer and makes art in several mediums. He has been a member of The Biennial Project, a humorous, conceptual art and performance collaborative that has shown and performed in places like Venice, Havana, New York City but not Worcester.

In conjunction with the holiday theme of this show Atlantic Works, in conjunction with Eastie Elves, is asking that visitors bring unwrapped toys for kids in our neighborhood.

We are also asking peo-

ple to enter our East Boston Holiday Decoration contest. Any home that wishes to enter should email Eric Hess at erich essphoto@gmail.com. We will go to the homes listed during the week of December 9th and award what we feel are our favorite homes. Winner will be announced at our Third Thursday reception on December 19th. Winners will be highlighted on our social media.

Atlantic Works Gallery, Jingle Bells, Batman Smells (details)

• Show opens Saturday, December 7, 2024

• Opening Reception: December 7, 2024, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

• Third Thursday December 19, 2024, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

• Show closes Saturday, December 28th

Atlantic Works Gallery, 80 Border Street, Boston, MA 02128

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SAVE THE DATE!

NOAH's Annual Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, December 18th at 6PM Spinelli's in East Boston



NOAH's 37th Annual Dinner Meeting will be taking place on **Wednesday, December 18th, 6PM, at Spinelli's in East Boston.** We hope you will be able to join us to express our appreciation for local allies, volunteers, supporters, and residents as we celebrate the collaborative efforts that make a positive impact on our community!

Award-winning meteorologist and journalist, **Cecy del Carmen, pictured top right above, will be a featured guest speaker.** Del Carmen is a trusted voice in many communities across New England, and, in addition to her work in television and radio, is committed to neighborhood community development and climate resiliency. She is an experienced community organizer and liaison and has formed her own Boston non-profit focused on Central American civic and cultural issues. Del Carmen is well connected in the Latino community and continues to foster relationships across many sectors.

The evening will include Spinelli's fabulous dinner buffet, along with the ever-popular 'Death by Chocolate' dessert, and a chance to win some amazing prizes in our raffle.



Spinelli's Pasta And Pastries
282 Bennington St, East Boston, MA 02128
[View on map](#)



Dec 18, 2024 06:00pm

FRESH AND LOCAL

Cooking and mental health

by Penny & Ed Cherubino

Researchers and doctors are slowly looking to food to improve mental, emotional, and brain health.

Research points to ways cooking can improve executive and cognitive function in those with mild cognitive impairment.

Benefits of Cooking

It's often suggested that you keep learning to improve your brain health. You might learn a new language, practice meditation, yoga, or tai chi, play word games, volunteer, or become physically and socially more active.

Food and Wine magazine quoted Hillary Ammon, Psy.D., a clinical psychologist at the Center for Anxiety & Women's Emotional Wellness. "Cooking can serve both purpose and pleasure, Ammon says. "It is a hobby that can provide a sense of purpose — nourishing your body or cooking for others — and a sense of pleasure, in that it brings you joy or satisfaction," she explained. "When we consider some of the basic

tenets of treating depression in therapy, we are often looking to ensure people have both purposeful and pleasurable activities in their lives."

Cooking Therapy

Other findings show that the steps you take in cooking, such as planning what to cook, following a recipe, and being creative, improve your executive function capacity. Initial

See FRESH & LOCAL Page 7



PHOTO BY YUNUS TUG

Cooking is good for your mental health and brain health. Cooking with others increases the benefits.

HVNA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lynds expanded on one aspect: the height.

Lynds noted that while the building appears to be five stories tall, there are exceptions under new zoning for measuring the height of buildings in the CFROD. He explained that the building is classified as a CFROD-compliant four-story building because, in the CFROD, height is measured from design flood elevation rather than grade, and the bottom level is considered ground level rather than the first story.

As the presentation progressed, Lynds outlined floor plans, elevations, renderings, and more before the floor was open to residents to comment and ask questions.

One resident asked if the project would include rental units or condomini-

ums, to which Lynds said the plan is for rentals.

Another resident asked about the total height of the building, which Lynds indicated was about 54 to 55 feet to the top of the roof, measured from the sidewalk.

There was also a question regarding the design of the structure, as it looked like three separate buildings. Lynds indicated that the design has been vetted with the Planning Department and is being done to break up massing.

Affordability was also a topic of discussion during the meeting. Regarding this, Lynds said that the project does not require any Inclusionary Development Policy (IDP) units since the proposal does not require zoning relief and was filed before the changes to the IDP policy.

Thus, it will not have an affordability component.

As the conversation continued, Lynds and residents discussed topics such as parking, the location of mechanicals, and more before the meeting eventually moved to another topic.

For more information about the project and to follow along with the Article 80 process, visit https://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/99-105-addison-street.

The next HVNA meeting is scheduled for January 6th. For more information about the HVNA, visit its Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/groups/harborviewna/ or its website at https://harborvieweastboston.com/.

SEN. EDWARDS, REP. MADARO SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



Senator Edwards with Rep Madaro joined Suffolk Construction, Massachusetts Port Authority, and USO New England today at the Care Packaging Event, where 1000 care packages were assembled and sent out to our nation's troops. It's essential to support our troops and express our gratitude for their service, especially during the holiday season.



Tree Lighting // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

residents together through compassion and holiday cheer each winter, and we're excited to continue the tradition."

WCVB Channel 5's Chronicle co-anchors Anthony Everett and Shayna Seymour will host Channel 5's live broadcast of the event beginning at 7:00 p.m. American Authors, 5x platinum recording artists, and 2x Grammy nominees who got their start in Boston at Berklee College of Music, will headline with hit songs like "Best Day of My Life" and "Christmas Karaoke". This year's entertainment includes Halifax pop singer-songwriter Ria Mae, songs from A Christmas Carol performed by the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, the soulful melodies of Mi'kmaq folk artist and fiddler Morgan Toney, the legendary vocals of Boston-based jazz and gospel icon Renese King, a heartwarming performance by the Boston Children's Chorus, and more.

The official holiday season kick-off in Boston includes the lighting of the City of Boston's official Christmas tree with approximately 5,000 lights, and the lighting of more than 50,000 lights throughout the Boston Common and Public Garden. This year's tree is a 48-year-old, 45-foot-tall white spruce donated by Liz and Hugh Ryan of Mattie Settlement, Nova

Scotia.

The holiday lights throughout both parks will light up in sequence shortly before 8:00 p.m. when Mayor Wu is joined onstage by Santa Claus and Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. The show will close with a pyrotechnic display by Pyrotecnico.

The event is supported by title sponsor Province of Nova Scotia, presenting sponsor Amazon, signature sponsors JetBlue and Meet Boston, community sponsors Bank of America and Constellation, and media partners WCVB Channel 5 and The Boston Globe. A sampling village will feature giveaways and refreshments from JetBlue, H.P. Hood, New England Coffee, Harry Potter, The Exhibition, and Raising Cane's while supplies last. Sponsors of the "Make the Common Glow for the Holidays" who make the lighting of the Common and Public Garden possible include The Lynch Family Foundation, the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, the Friends of the Public Garden, and Gilbane Building Company.

Immediately following the celebration on the Boston Common, the Friends of the Public Garden and the Committee to Light Commonwealth Avenue Mall will flip the switch to light up Commonwealth Avenue Mall in the Back Bay. This event marks

the second year that the lights on Commonwealth Avenue Mall will extend all the way to Kenmore Square.

Please call (617) 635-4505 or visit boston.gov/boston-common-tree-lighting for more information about the festivities. To stay up to date with news and events in Boston parks, sign up for the email list at bit.ly/GetParks-Emails and follow the social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

ENCHANTED TROLLEY COMES TO EASTIE DEC. 8

For the 28th year, the Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour will continue the festive tradition of lighting holiday trees while bringing holiday spirit to children across Boston. The event is sponsored by Bank of America, and includes visits with Santa, tree lightings, and more.

This year, the Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour will start on Saturday, December 7, and end on Sunday, December 8, in neighborhoods throughout Boston.

Sunday December 8

- 4 p.m. - Paul Revere Mall, North End
• 5 p.m. - Winthrop Square (the Training Field), Charlestown
• 6:15 p.m. - Maverick Square, East Boston

Real Estate Transfers

Table with 4 columns: BUYER 1, SELLER 1, ADDRESS, PRICE. Row 1: 6-8 Noble Court LLC, Grady, Lillian, 6 Noble Ct, \$600,000.

Advertisement for 'East Boston Christmas Kids' featuring photos of children and a QR code. Text includes: 'Tis the Season for East Boston Christmas Kids', 'Share your photo to be included in this year's SPECIAL PAGES BY THURS. DEC. 19', 'Email your photos to PROMO@REVEREJOURNAL.COM', 'Please include names with your photo.', 'PHOTOS RECEIVED WITHOUT INFO WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED'.

Advertisement for 'Photos on your phone?' featuring a QR code and text: 'Just scan here and attach the photo to the email that is generated!', 'PHOTOS PUBLISHED TUESDAY DEC. 24th CHRISTMAS EVE'.

East Boston

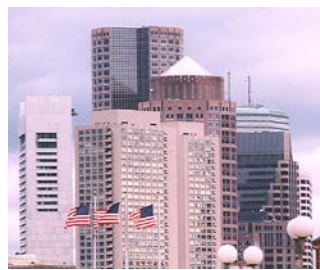
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Forum

City of Boston receives \$9.8 million to build a climate-ready workforce

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu yesterday joined Senator Ed Markey, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) officials, state officials and local partners to announce that the City of Boston has been awarded \$9.8 million from the Inflation Reduction Act to develop the workforce needed to enhance climate and coastal resilience across Boston neighborhoods. The grant will assist City departments in developing training programs that build in-demand and emerging climate resilience skills, offer wraparound services to ensure workers' success, and place workers in good jobs and career pathways. The Office of Workforce Development (OWD), under the leadership of the Worker Empowerment Cabinet (WE) and in collaboration with the Environment, Energy, and Open Space Cabinet (EEOS), Green New Deal Office, and the Office of Green Infrastructure applied for the grant.

"Boston is the economic engine of New England. We are the national leader in education, healthcare and biotechnology. If we want to continue being the best home for innovators, entrepreneurs and working families, we need to not only invest in creating more jobs but protecting our coast and our residents from the effects of climate change," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "This nearly \$10 million dollars in funding from NOAA is going to help us do all of that in partnership with dozens of community partners across labor, academia, non-profit and the private sector. This Alliance will create a pipeline of highly skilled workers ready to fill the good paying jobs it'll take to protect our communities from higher tides and stronger storms. Thank you to all of our partners across industries who are forging this alliance with us and to NOAA for helping execute on our responsibility as a city to keep our community safe with a once in a generation opportunity for Boston's workforce."

This funding comes from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Climate-Ready Workforce initiative. This represents a \$60 million investment to support sectoral partner-

ships that will develop and implement job training programs to help train and place people in jobs that advance a climate-ready workforce for coastal and Great Lakes states, Tribes, and Territories as part of President Biden's Investing in America agenda under the Inflation Reduction Act. The City of Boston received the largest grant among the nine projects selected for funding through a competitive process. Modeled after the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration's successful Good Jobs Challenge, the Climate-Ready Workforce initiative is uniquely focused on preparing and placing people in good jobs that will advance climate resilience nationwide, ensuring coastal communities are prepared for the worst impacts of climate change. The program will also assist employers in developing a 21st-century workforce that is climate literate and skilled at addressing climate challenges.

"Thanks to this grant funding, Boston's Office of Workforce Development is uniquely positioned to implement climate resilience plans for the City of Boston," said Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Deputy NOAA Administrator, Jaimey Bavishi. "The cohort they will be a part of highlights the importance of regional public and private partnerships in climate careers, and will ultimately strengthen efforts to build a community that is more ready, resilient, and responsive to the impacts of climate change."

Boston is uniquely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. According to the 2016 Climate Ready Boston Report, by the 2070s annualized losses from coastal and riverine flooding could amount to \$1.4 billion. To reach our climate goals, the public, private, and institutional sectors must make unprecedented investments that will require a larger, more diverse workforce. Boston has become a leader in coastal resilience planning and implementation. Since the 2016 Climate Ready Boston report, the City of Boston has worked with community partners to complete coastal resilience solutions plans for all 47 miles of Boston's coastline, pre-

senting district-scale and nature-based solutions to reduce coastal flood risk while simultaneously improving connectivity along and access to the waterfront, enhancing public open space and recreation, and restoring natural ecosystems.

In addition, Mayor Michelle Wu established the Green New Deal as a framework for tackling the climate crisis in Boston — with policies that address economic, social, and racial inequities, while advancing health, livability, and justice throughout our neighborhoods for all Boston residents. Through a series of ambitious policies and city-wide investments, Boston has been steadily advancing towards its climate and equity objectives, striving to achieve carbon neutrality in our built environment, promote economic vitality, and enhance climate resilience across the city for all our residents.

"Building climate resilience is not just about infrastructure and innovation — it's about people. This funding from NOAA enables Boston to lead in creating a workforce that is both climate-ready and equity-driven," said Oliver Sellers-Garcia, Environment Commissioner and Green New Deal Director. "By investing in training programs and job opportunities that prepare individuals for high-demand resilience roles, we're not only fortifying our city against climate impacts but also breaking down barriers to economic opportunity for historically underserved communities. The Greater Boston Climate and Coastal Resilience Workforce Alliance is a testament to our commitment to a just, inclusive, and sustainable future."

Boston cannot have a climate-ready city without a climate-ready workforce. The funding announced today creates the Greater Boston Climate and Coastal Resilience Workforce Alliance, an equity-based initiative that will advance new sectoral workforce development systems aligned with achieving the objectives of a green economy and growth. By creating workforce development programs centered on equity and engaged employers, this generational green investment can address age-old inequalities in the city.

The Alliance brings together 30+ key stakeholders, including employers, training providers, community engagement partners, climate policy practitioners, adult basic education programs, and wraparound service agencies to develop and implement training pathways aimed at filling over 1,200 committed jobs in coastal and climate resilience occupations over four years. Workers trained through the grant will be placed in jobs that help advance coastal resiliency strategies, especially in the municipal and public sector including:

- Installation of green infrastructure and other nature-based solutions which are key strategies for flood protection and water quality.
- Working to ensure our water and wastewater systems are reliable.
- Building critical flood and coastal protection infrastructure.
- Strengthening the City's emergency preparedness and response capabilities.
- Climate and coastal resilience community education and outreach.

"To create a climate resilient city for all, we must create a trained, well-paid, diverse talent pool to tackle these pressing issues with a focus on equity and engaged employers," said Trinh Nguyen, Chief of Worker Empowerment. "We are incredibly grateful to NOAA for providing this funding to create the Greater Boston Climate and Coastal Resilience Workforce Alliance that will allow us to address critical workforce development needs to support Boston's coastal climate and coastal resilience goals."

"Developing a workforce with climate-informed skills is essential for building statewide capacity for advancing climate adaptation and resilience," said Rebecca Tepper, Massachusetts Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary. "The City of Boston's leadership on equitable workforce development for regional climate resilience is commendable, and this collaboration among municipal, state, and private sector partners underscores the City's and the state's dedication to creating climate career and ed-

See CLIMATE Page 5



Mayor Michelle Wu with City and State officials and leaders, celebrating the award.

REMEMBER THE NEEDY ON YOUR SHOPPING LIST

Americans already have been spending a record amount of money thus far this holiday season, spurred on by the extended "Black Friday" (we are using air quotes because Black Friday sales began in early November), Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday shopping days.

However, amidst our zeal to find the "perfect" gifts for our family members and friends, we hope that our readers make the effort, no matter how small, to remember those in need this holiday season.

As we noted in this space two weeks ago, homelessness is at an all-time high in this country. For example, almost one-in-eight New York City school children experienced homelessness during the most recent school year.

The simple reality is that for far too many of our fellow Americans, the holidays bring little or no joy.

There are countless ways by which each of us can make the holidays brighter for those who are less fortunate, ranging from toy drives to food banks to Salvation Army Santas. With Christmas fast approaching because of the shortened holiday season, we urge everyone who has the ability to do so to make that small effort to help those for whom the holidays are just another day.

HOPEFULLY, MUSK WILL BRING US SELF-DRIVING CARS

Everyone concedes that Musk unquestionably is a visionary who already has revolutionized the automobile industry. He was named Time Magazine's Person of the Year for the success of Tesla, which made electric vehicles available to the mass market. Tesla has done more than any other company in the world to address the existential threat of climate change caused by fossil-burning fuels.

Two months ago, Musk held a publicity event for the press and investors to showcase his plans for self-driving robo-taxis, which he said will be available by 2027. Self-driving vehicles will be powered by AI and Musk's companies have committed to buying billions of dollars of AI computer chips from Nvidia, the American chip company founded by another visionary, Jensen Huang.

A few months back, we wrote of our visit to San Francisco and mentioned that we drove in autonomous electric taxis operated by Waymo, which was founded by Google. Our experience, as has been the case with everyone who has used Waymo, was amazing.

Waymo is now expanding to Los Angeles, Phoenix, Austin, Atlanta, and Florida and clearly is the industry leader in robo-taxis.

Self-driving electric vehicles represent the future -- and it is coming faster than anyone ever expected thanks to Nvidia, whose AI chips will be key to the revolution. Self-driving electric vehicles not only will be good for the planet, but they also will benefit each of us in our everyday lives -- they will be safer (all but eliminating the carnage that exists on our highways today), they will reduce our auto insurance and repair costs, and they will allow for greater independence for both the young and old for whom driver's licenses are iffy propositions.

Although Waymo is doing great things with robo-taxis, a car manufacturer such as Tesla can scale-up production to meet the mass market. We would note here that GM tried the robo-taxi field with its Cruise fleet, but it presently is on hold because of safety issues.

Although Waymo already has a huge lead on Tesla, we have no doubt that once Elon Musk sets his mind to it, Tesla will catch up to -- and surpass -- Waymo. And, we hope, the sooner the better.

TIMES-FREE PRESS DIRECTORY

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE ADRIAN MADARO HOSTS ANNUAL MADARO FAMILY COMMUNITY FUND THANKSGIVING DINNER



The "to go" crew, Aziz Essafi, John Zirpolo, Kristina Pizzicannella-Murphy, Luigi and Christine Pizzicannella.

Thanksgiving morning was not the usual quiet business as usual morning for volunteers at the Madaro Family Community Fund Thanksgiving Dinner. In fact, it was just the opposite, State Representative Adrian Madaro and his family and crew geared up to serve 800 individual Thanksgiving dinners, to all that needed a hot meal on this day of giving thanks. Boxes filled with cheese and crackers, pie, and of course hot turkey, vegetables and lots

of gravy were readied for delivery, pick-up or eat in. State Representative Adrian Madaro passed out 200 turkeys earlier in the week to those families wishing to cook their own dinner in the comfort of their home, the 800 went to families that showed up at the East Boston Salesian Boys and Girls Club between 11-1 pm on Thanksgiving Day. All the hot food was prepared at East Boston's Spinelli's Catering Service in Day Square.

Volunteers served a drive-up area, a walk in service desk, and had a dining room set up for families that wanted to sit down and enjoy a delicious Thanksgiving dinner. Boston Mayor Michelle Wu made a special visit to the Salesian Boys and Girls Club to offer her assistance in serving some of the special dinner guests, and thanks Representative Madaro and his family of volunteers for their outstanding work.



Boston Police Officers, PO Hugo Alvarez, Sgt. Joseph Cintolo and PO Christian Hernandez with Representative Madaro.



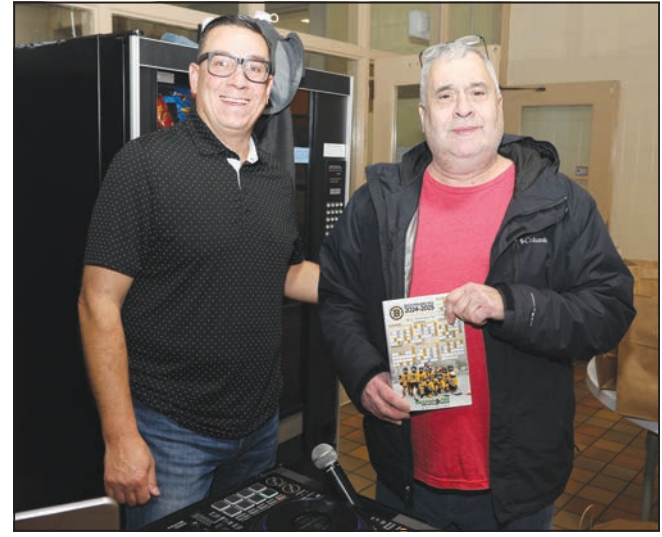
Boston Mayor Michelle Wu with State Representative Adrian Madaro and family.



Always helping a great cause, Joe Ruggiero.



Hot meals were served by Ana Alonzo, Adje Burnett, and Jalyse Urbaez.



Keeping the spirit high in the kitchen DJ Damien Margardo, shown with volunteer Vinny Ieni.



Volunteer Lissi Guerrero packs desserts on Thanksgiving morning.



Everyone worked hard Thanksgiving morning, Mateo Madaro helps his dad Representative Madaro with packing up dinners.



A job for everyone, folding boxes Osdir Claro, Ross Cochran and Troy Ratzer.



State Representative Adrian Madaro with his family, Mateo, Nico, Ariel gets ready to welcome the hundreds of guests coming for a delicious Thanksgiving dinner, courtesy of the Madaro Family Community Fund. This day will see 800 East Boston residents get a delicious hot Thanksgiving meal.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu with volunteers Karla Torres-Welch and Heather O'Brien.



Bob Haas representing Senator Lydia Edwards stopped by Thanksgiving morning to offer Representative Madaro congratulations for a wonderful event and helping the East Boston community.



Former East Boston City Councillor Sal LaMattina was on hand to help with the morning work at the Salesian Boys and Girls Club, shown with host State Representative Adrian Madaro.

Climate // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

education pathways for people from underrepresented populations. We are proud to support this initiative through positions at the Department of Conservation and Recreation, and we deeply appreciate NOAA's support."

The Alliance is employer-driven with employer engagement in the curriculum, assessment, pre-hiring, and support services for graduates. Unlike other employer-driven approaches, this initiative is unique in that the City of

Boston is leading the way as a model employer. In addition, the Alliance will benefit individuals from historically underrepresented communities and incorporate wrap-around services like childcare, career coaching, and training

stipends to ensure their success. "Parterre Ecological Services is proud to partner with the City of Boston to help prepare our company and our city for the ever-advancing impacts of climate change," said Ja-

son Harris, Owner of Parterre Ecological Services. "The Alliance will assist us greatly in finding the people we need to grow and rise to this challenge. As an employer, this presents us with a rare chance to add skills and talent to

our base while working closely with local government and non-profits to impact our local communities while improving our business prospects."

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EAST BOSTON ARTIST GROUP HOSTS ANNUAL ART EXPO AT EAST BOSTON SHIPYARD AND MARINA

Recently the East Boston Artist Group (EBAG) hosted their annual art expo at the East Boston Shipyard and Marina. This annual event gathered 46 local artists, with a collection of all techniques and styles, inspired by the artist. From photography to

sculpturing, to painting, and including clothing designs, they were all accounted for and for sale by the artist.

This is just not a show and tell, art lovers got to speak to the artist, maybe gathering some inspiration insight on the piece,

or maybe ordering a slight variance of the work itself.

The EBAG offers all local artists a chance to do what they love, no matter the skill level or type of art, opening them and the world to the beautiful world of art and expression.

It takes lots of effort, and generosity of sponsors to put this show on, and the East Boston Artist Group publicly thanked them all, and offered a great collation at the end of the Saturday afternoon's exhibit open to all in attendance.



Producer Mindy Fried describes her film to those in attendance, prior to the showing of it at the EBAG Art Exhibit.



Artist Chris Chow with Yi-ling Shen, Yizhen Wong, and Stephanie Osser.



The Seavers, Courtney, CJ and Sara.



Painter Chris Rose talks with Charlene Liska about his paintings.



EBAG Board member and former Boston City Councillor Diane Modica (center) with Robin DeMarco, Loreem DeMarco, Alice Christopher and Allyn Christopher.



Joining artist Diane Modica is Boston City Councilor and sponsor Gabriela Coletta Zapata and former Boston City Councillor Sal LaMattina.



Artist John Keys.



Sunset Studios with Kristien Audette and Kayla, Melania and Richie Hudson.



Local photographer Jean Bernstein was a sponsor of the event.



Sandrine Coleson with fine art and jewelry.



Artist Daniel Gaviani had lots of terrific art on display.



Harbor Arts artist, Matt Moyer Bell talks with customers about his work.



Isabella Frontado from the City of Boston offering alternative green space while the city continues to grow.



Josh and Alicia Wilson with their purchase from artist Wyatt Fried.



A big supporter of the annual art exhibit and sponsor Adrian Madaro is shown with local artists and sponsors, Ann Lagasse, EBAG Committee member and artist Diane Modica, Kelly Gifford, Jean M Bernstein, Sal LaMattina, and Janet Knott.

Fresh & Local // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

research on the topic has led to programs of "Cooking Therapy." There are many versions of cooking therapy, which is a new approach. Ammon explained that it can involve a patient cooking with their therapist. While cooking, the therapist can lead a relaxed discussion of the patient's mental health issues.

Side Benefits

One side benefit of cooking is improved nutrition. When you shop for good ingredients, choose recipes that will improve your health conditions, and cook the food yourself, you make a big step towards eating what's good for you.

As more links between your brain health and microbiome are proven, cooking at home will enable you to add more fiber, fermented foods, and foods rich in Omega-3 fatty acids and antioxidants to your menus. Even learning what these are is a benefit.

Cooking can be a form of self-expression and a creative outlet for many. It can also promote mindfulness, enhance self-esteem, and promote self-care. Cooking with and for oth-

ers is an excellent form of socialization. People have always bonded through food. For those who have always cooked, teaching and supporting those who could benefit from learning to cook can be mutually beneficial.

Today, physicians are happy to refer patients with specific health conditions to registered dietitians who can provide food guidelines as a control factor. We were recently prescribed the MIND Diet as one that would be great for our brains. It combines the Mediterranean and DASH diets and is recommended for seniors as a preventative measure against cognitive loss.

Since it is always a good idea to check in with your primary care physician before you make any lifestyle changes, make an appointment and ask for guidance on how you might use this new research on the value of cooking and cooking therapy to help manage any brain-related issues you would like to discuss.

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

Officer Matthew Flynn among those honored at Hanna Memorial Awards for Extraordinary Valor

Special to the Times

Governor Maura Healey, Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll, and Public Safety and Security Secretary Terrence Reidy honored the bravery and sacrifice of Massachusetts law enforcement officers at the 41st Annual Trooper George L. Hanna Memorial Awards for Bravery. Held at the State House, the ceremony recognizes exceptional acts of courage by law enforcement and commemorates the legacy of Trooper George Hanna, who was killed in the line of duty in 1983. Included among the honorees was Officer Matthew J.T. Flynn, who received a Medal of Honor. Flynn is at the Massachusetts Port Authority Police Department.

Since the award's inception in 1983, 177 individuals have received the Hanna Award Medal of Honor, the highest commendation for law enforcement officers in the Commonwealth. This year's honorees include 11 members of law enforcement from the Acushnet, Berlin, Oxford, Lakeville, and Boston Police Departments, as well as the Massachusetts State Police and the Massachusetts Port Authority, whose actions demonstrated extraordinary valor in the face of extreme danger.

"Massachusetts' most prestigious law enforcement award honors the remarkable courage and



Officer Matthew J.T. Flynn, Medal of Honor, Massachusetts Port Authority Police Department.

dedication demonstrated by our law enforcement officers statewide, who selflessly put their lives on the line to protect our communities," said Governor Healey. "Today's recipients reflect the enduring legacy of Trooper George Hanna, whose life and service continue to inspire us all. Their stories remind us of the immense bravery required in this profession and the sacrifices officers and their families make to keep our communities safe."

"Hanna Award recipients exemplify the exceptional dedication, training, and bravery that define the very best of law enforcement," said Lieutenant Governor Driscoll. "As we honor these heroes, we also extend heartfelt gratitude to their families, whose love and support makes their service possible. We acknowledge the significant sacrifices made

by the families of first responders and the emotional burden of awaiting their loved one's safe return after each shift."

"Every day, law enforcement officers across Massachusetts confront life-threatening situations with remarkable courage and selflessness," said Public Safety and Security Secretary Reidy. "Today's honorees embody the heroic legacy of Trooper George Hanna, serving as a powerful reminder of the risks and dangers law enforcement officers face each day and with every call."

The ceremony also featured members of the Hanna Award Selection Committee and the family of Trooper George Hanna. Trooper Hanna's daughters, Deborah and Kimberly, participated in the program by presenting awards alongside Governor Healey, ensuring their

father's legacy continues to inspire future generations of law enforcement.

Each year, state and local agencies submit nominations for the Hanna Awards, which are reviewed by a selection committee of public safety and law enforcement leaders. Upon selecting individuals or teams as recipients, the committee considers the facts of each nomination to classify the award as either a medal of honor or valor. The Medal of Honor is the highest award for those who demonstrate extraordinary bravery and courage in the face of extreme risk and certain and imminent danger to life or limb. Valor is awarded to those whose valor in a single incident goes above and beyond the call of duty, and who demonstrate selfless bravery despite the potential for danger to themselves.

The awards are named in memory of Trooper George L. Hanna, who tragically lost his life in the line of duty on February 26, 1983. While conducting a routine motor vehicle stop in Auburn, Trooper Hanna was fatally shot by a suspect. He left behind his wife, Marilyn, and three children, Deborah, Kimberly, and Michael.

On Saturday, March 26, 2022, at approximately 8:00 p.m., Officer Matthew Flynn was conducting a foot patrol in Piers Park, East Boston, when

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Bays English Muffins	\$3.49

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Legislature passes comprehensive economic bond bill

Special to the Times

The Massachusetts State Legislature passed an economic development bond bill that authorizes \$3.96 billion in capital authorizations and a robust set of policy changes to support businesses and communities alike.

Key Highlights for the District

Policy: Liquor License Equity: Removes the archaic requirement that restaurant liquor license holders must be a United States Citizen, in doing so, this provision will create a pathway for lawfully present and vetted immigrants to also apply for licenses for their small businesses.

This policy was originally filed as a stand-alone bill by State Senator Patrick M. O'Connor (R-Weymouth). The legislative effort was later led by a bipartisan collaboration between Senator Edwards (D-East Boston) and Senator O'Connor.

"This provision is essential in promoting equity in the service industry, the nation's largest employer of immigrants," said State Senator Patrick O'Connor (R-Weymouth) "permitting all lawful residents of the commonwealth to rise within the managerial ranks not only alleviates staffing challenges, but provides economic mobility for individuals who were previously disenfranchised."

Project Labor Agreements (PLAs): This provides a clear affordable pathway for municipalities to require a PLA if in the common good and best interest of the community. A PLA assures high standards and great wages.

Targeted Toxicity: It requires the Massachusetts Commissioner of Agriculture to conduct a study on the presence of harmful substances—such as mercury, parabens, and other endocrine disruptors—in cosmetic products, and their potential negative effects on minors. The study will examine the health impacts of these substances on people under 18, how advertisements encourage minors to buy products containing these substances, and the use of minors in advertisements for such products, including images of children marketing hair relaxers and skin-bleaching products.

It will also analyze how these images vary by age, race, and sex, and include a list of cosmetic products that use child-like images or children to market these products, as well as a geographic analysis of where these products are sold in the state. The commissioner must submit a report with findings and recommendations to the joint committee on public health, the joint committee on racial equity, civil rights and inclusion and the senate and house committees on ways and means by May 1, 2025

Support for Small Businesses: The bill also authorizes a five-year pilot program for the Commonwealth to assist small businesses in acquiring surety bonds. Large capital projects, whether public or private, often require retention of a surety bond by the contractor as financial security. Historically, economically and socially disadvantaged businesses often cannot acquire these bonds because of a lack of credit history or collateral. This program creates a self-sustaining state assistance program to open doors for more of these businesses.

Capital Authorizations:

Suffolk Downs: It authorizes \$19M to support the mixed use and creation of affordable housing in the redevelopment project at Suffolk Downs in the Cities of Boston and Revere.

This is a joint effort by State Senator Lydia Edwards (D-East Boston) and State Representative Jessica Giannino (D-Revere) to continue to push for this milestone project that will create thousands of new affordable housing units. "I am grateful for Speaker Mariano's leadership and the hard work of my colleagues in passing this critical legislation to strengthen the Commonwealth's economic leadership. This legislation makes key investments in significant economic development projects across Massachusetts. I'm proud to have secured funding for several important initiatives in the 16th Suffolk district, including the Suffolk Downs project, the conversion of Revere's former McKinley School into a food hub, and a master planning exercise for the Squire Road Corri-

See BOND BILL Page 11

Carmela Giubilo

She will be remembered for her immense love, kindness, strength and unwavering devotion to her family

With deep sadness, we announce the passing of Carmela (Patania) Giubilo, beloved wife of the late Pasquale Giubilo, who peacefully left us on November 28th 2024, surrounded by the love of her devoted family.

Born in Augusta, Sicily on September 11th 1932, Carmela was one of eight children of Domenico and Teresa Patania.

From the age of three, she showed a passion for music, and her beautiful voice was often heard in local schools, where her mother would take her to sing folk songs. However, during World War II, the bombings in Augusta interrupted her education, and the priority became keeping the family safe. After the war, Carmela began sewing lessons and quickly became the family seamstress, she was extremely talented with a needle and thread.

At the age of 23 she was starting her own sewing business, but God had other plans for her. Fate (family members) introduced her to Pasquale, who gave her three days to accept his wedding proposal and move to the United States. She accepted and they married shortly after on July 21, 1956. Together, they embarked on a journey that would shape a loving, close-knit family.

In 1957, she gave birth to her first child and in 1958 they left Italy and sailed to America where her husband, Pasquale was waiting for them. Yet, despite the hardships, her determination shone through as she built a life full of love, care, and unwavering devotion.

The family grew and the couple welcomed three more children. At times she missed her family back in Sicily terribly, but she met many people who not only became her lifelong friends but also her family.

As a mother, Carmela was a pillar of love and strength. She gave her all to raise her children, constantly showing them her endless devotion. She not only sewed clothes with love for each of them including the most beautifully detailed and intricate wedding gown, but she also created a home filled with warmth, where family was everything. As years passed and the family grew through generations she would sew clothes for her grandchildren as well. Her cooking and baking also brought delight to the palate, especially her most delicious biscotti of many varieties. It is difficult to capture in words just how profoundly Carmela's life was dedicated to caring for her family, including in her later years when she took meticulous care of her beloved husband, Pasquale, after his life altering accident in 2004, supporting him for seven years until his passing in 2011. Her love for him, and for all her children, was truly boundless.

Carmela's role as



a grandmother and great-grandmother was something that brought her immense joy and watching them grow brought her immeasurable happiness. They were the lights of her life. She was indeed a perfect nonna!

A proud and loving member of the St. Dominic Society and the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Society, Carmela remained deeply connected to her faith and her community throughout her life.

Carmela is survived by her children: Domenica Coughlin and her husband, Kevin of Quincy; Teresa Giubilo-Strazzulla and her husband, Domenico of Augusta (Italy), Carmen Giubilo and John Giubilo and his wife, Rosana, all of East Boston; loving grandmother to Maria, James, Alessio, Matthew, Cristian, Christopher, Francesca, Gabriela and Isabella and her great-grandchildren, Cristina, William, Abigail and Burton who brought her great joy in her later years. She was predeceased by her six siblings and is survived by her brother, Vittorio Patania of Augusta (Italy).

Carmela is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and sisters in law, all of whom will miss her warmth, kindness, and devotion.

She will be remembered by all who knew her for her immense love, her kindness, her strength, and her unwavering devotion to her family.

Ti porteremo sempre nel nostro cuore, ti vogliamo bene!!!

Family and friends will honor Carmela's life at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home in East Boston today, Wednesday, December 4th from 3 to 7 p.m. and again on Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m. before a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph - St. Lazarus Church in East Boston, with a procession to follow to Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Carmela's name to St. Anthony Shrine, 100 Arch Street, Boston MA 02110 or donate online at stanthonyshrine.org. To leave an online condolence visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Donna M. DeFronzo

She had a heart that was pure and kind

Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend visiting hours on Thursday, December 5th from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza Beechwood Home for Funerals, 262 Beach St., Revere for Donna M. DeFronzo who died on Sunday, November 30th at home, she was 69 years old. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. in St. Anthony of Padua Church, 250 Revere St., Revere. Interment will immediately follow in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

Donna was born in Boston on January 13, 1955 to her late parents, John "Jake" DeFronzo and Lena M. (Adreani) DeFronzo. She was raised in East Boston, educated in Boston Public Schools and attended East Boston High School.

Donna was disabled from an early age, but she enjoyed her life by embracing the little things that made her happy. She was surrounded by a family who loved her tremendously, and she loved them back. She enjoyed taking long rides along the ocean. She loved to have lunch with her siblings on a regular basis and, of course, having ice cream whenever she could.

Donna enjoyed dancing and listening to R & B music. She always read



her horoscope every day. Most of all, Donna had a heart that was pure and kind, she will be forever missed by her family.

She was the beloved daughter of the late John "Jake" DeFronzo and Lena M. (Adreani) DeFronzo, the loving sister of Constance "Connie" Lopilato of Lynn and her late husband, Anthony "Tinny", Margaret A. "Peggy" Vitale-Intraversato of Revere and her late husband, David, Denise Thompson and her husband, Dennis of New Hampshire and John J. DeFronzo and his wife, Debra of Lynn. She is also lovingly survived by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to North Suffolk Mental Health, 301 Broadway, Chelsea, MA 02150 Attn: Harborview Home. For online condolences please visit: www.vertuciosmithvazza.com

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SALESIAN BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB HOLDS PASTA DINNER FUNDRAISER

Photos by Marianne Salza

The Salesian Boys & Girls Club of East Boston held its 18th Annual Pasta Dinner Fundraiser on November 22 with catering by Sammy Carlo's Delicatessen, and dessert provided by Muffin Town. Family and friends were served rigatoni and meatballs by Salesian members, and took chances on gift baskets and raffle prizes.

Attendee and long-time sponsor, David Surface, a

Savio graduate, believes it is vital to support organizations that serve youth. A club member in the 1960s, Surface fondly remembers playing street hockey and exercising in the gym.

"I'm from East Boston. I never forget my roots," said Surface, CEO, St. Jean's Credit Union. "Programs like this are essential to the fabric of the community of East Boston. It's part of the ecosystem. It's a place for young kids to get involved."



Sean Nelson and Saniya Krause Nelson, Salesian member.



Stephanie Leon and Fernanda Mendoza.



Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata, Marie and Alessandra Conte.



Dotti and Skip Marcella with their granddaughter, Emilia Marcella, Karen Pearson, and Jane Manning.



First Priority Credit Union: Fatima Jawhan, Genthena Hoxha, Alisia Myftaci, Andrea Mendez, and Sophia Vessiropoulos.



Kendra Gomez, Alani Kilgoe, and Janyla Andrews.



Mike and Lisa Migliozzi, Kathy Welch, Bill and Mike Chisholm, and Vickie Stringfellow.



Liliana Arteaga, Luciana Rengifo, Gloria Gaviria, Sebastian Perez, Erica Acavedo, Thomas Jaramillo and their families.



Tiffany, Nick, Phoebe, Catcher, and Holden Free, with Karla Torres-Welch and her family, Tommy, Emi, and Samuel Welch.



Eddie and Lynn Ardolino, Ben Berlangieri, Anthony Mirabelli, and Joe Weddleton.



Ada Mezas, Salesian members, Josue and Isabella Torres, Cesar Torres, Daphne Jackson, and Salesian member Sa'Riyah Jackson.



Yeliany, Jonathan, Jr., Kennedy, Rhaelynn, Melissa, and Jonathan Stallworth



Salesian Boys and Girls Club Executive Director Michael Triant and staff.

Bond Bill // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

dor," said State Representative Jessica Ann Giannino (D-Revere).

Water Transportation: It authorizes \$900,000 for the purchase of a water transportation vessel for the town of Winthrop to expand waterways between Winthrop and the inner Boston Harbor.

Since being elected to the Massachusetts State Senate, Senator Edwards has prioritized access to public transportation by expanding ferry services to alleviate traffic congestion in and out of Winthrop and the surrounding areas.

"I am eager to continue working on expanding public transportation for Winthrop residents," said State Senator Lydia Edwards (D-East Boston). "The ferry service in Winthrop was an invaluable resource for daily commuters traveling in and out of the town during the weekend and summer closures of the Sumner Tunnel, and I am committed to expanding this mode of transportation into a full,

year-round service." Enhancing Development in Winthrop: It authorizes \$1,000,000 for infrastructure improvements at the "Old" Winthrop middle school on 993 Pauline Street in the town of Winthrop;

"The allocation of \$1 million to the old middle school in Winthrop marks the beginning of a transformative process to demolish the aging structure and create a vibrant, usable space for the community to enjoy. This funding will kickstart the long-awaited redevelopment of a site that has remained dormant for far too long, paving the way for future growth and opportunity," said State Representative Jeffrey Rosario Turco (D-Winthrop). "We have so much to be proud of and to support in our small businesses. I want to thank my colleagues in the state house, especially those on the conference committee that continued to negotiate and fight for this bill," said State Senator Lydia Edwards (D-East Boston).

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU24P2441EA Estate of: Karla Christa McCadden Also known as: Karla Christa Carbone Date of Death 04/02/2024 To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative had been filed by Karen A. Golden of Winthrop, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such

other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Karen A. Golden of Winthrop, MA 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 12/25/2024. 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: November 18, 2024 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate 12/04/24 EB

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Veronica Robles Cultural Center celebrates 11 years of its transformative impact

Special to the Times

On Saturday, November 23, the Veronica Robles Cultural Center (VROCC) successfully held its Second Annual Fundraising Gala at the ICA Watershed in East Boston.

Councilmember Henry Santana, Julia Mejia, and Gabriela Coletta offered an official resolution to VROCC for empowering the community for over a decade and for the effort to create a welcoming and safe space where community members can gather to celebrate their cultural roots. The evening included keynote speaker Liseth J. Vélez, Founder and CEO, LJV Development, an awards ceremony, and a cultural presentation and live music by the VROCC team of artists, hosted by Omar Clavijo and his Son

Latino. Notable guests included Peggy Fogelman, Museum Director Isabella Stewart Gardner, and Consul General of Mexico in Boston Alberto Fierro, Kathy Abbot President and CEO of Boston Harbor Now, and Kelly Gifford Deputy Director of the ICA.

If you were unable to attend, you can still help by making a donation. Your contribution will help meet the growing demand for VROCC programs in 2025. <https://veronicaroblesculturalcenter.org/donate/> <https://www.facebook.com/share/17r5xe-u5HZ/>

The following awardees receive certificates and citations by VROCC, The Mayor of Boston Michelle Wu, the City Council and The State House of Representatives.

Josué Monterroso and Samuel Gaviria; entrepreneurs Fernando Rosas from Bono Rest. Catering and Felipa Celaya from Oaxaqueña Catering; the Castillo Families from Castillo Liquors, Tortilleria Cinco de Mayo; volunteer Daniela Miranda and our allies Piers Park Sailing Center and Boston Harbor Now.

This year, VROCC has distributed \$100,000 among 38 youth who have helped serve 472 children and seniors through 32 weekly classes. Through our leadership and entrepreneurship workshops, VROCC has created opportunities for 190 Latino cultural entrepreneurs through 11 festivals, each drawing attendances of up to 10,000 people, and more than 100 cultural enrichment activations.

VROCC's programming has been made possible with the support of over 750 volunteers, fulfilling our mission of promoting Latin American cultures as an engine for stronger communities and economic growth. Over the past three years, our programs have grown exponentially, increasing the number of students from 50 to 472. By supporting this gala, you can help us meet the growing demand for our programs in 2025.

Special thanks to our sponsors for their generous support of this celebration: ICA Watershed, HYM Investment Group LLC, Channel Fish, Eastern Bank, Santander Bank, Downeast Cider House, LJV Development, Anabel Balloons, H. War Design, Peka Restaurant, and Los Compadres Taqueria Boston.

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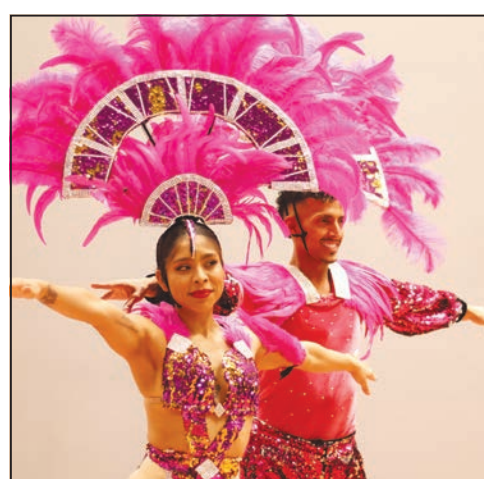
Alberto Fierro, Consul of Mexico.

1030 AM, East Boston Times.

VROCC staff: Veronica Robles, Adriana Zubieta, Karina Barreto, Daniela Fernandez, Daniela Miranda, Diana Casas, Yeyson Romero, Alejandra Ramos Gomez, Yamileth Paz, Luis Arango, Luis Pacheco, Maygel Navarro, Carolina Caña Dulce, Diego Arias, Cassandra McDonald, Nicholas Ostemberg, Jeffrey Delgado, Lucia Gutierrez, Jhon Cardona.

Dancers, and parents: Alexa Merlos (Rosa Merlos), Camila Millan Alcerrecas (Fabiola Alcerrecas), Hazel Mendez (Evelyn Alarcon), Kimberly Peña (Morena Peña), Martina Pachon (Laura Rodriguez), Pamela Pineda (Yesenia Salinas), Sandra Payan (Pamela Payan), Thiommy Caraballo (Zaid Urrego), Valentina Basulto (Claudia Basulto), Valentina Caballero (Margoth Valencia), Valeria Santillan (Katherine Menacho), Zara Serrano-Finet (Rosa Serrano), Alejandra Conte-Contreras (Beatriz Contreras), Cassandra Cardenas, Yaritza Lopez.

Volunteers: Angie Nuñez, Daniela Priscila, Mayra Gutierrez, Jennifer Fernandez, Sonia Castillo, Erwin Castillo, Jainer Corrales, Valentina Villablanca, Cesar Campos, Diana Melgar, Orlando Rosario, Omar (esposo de Linda), Sebastian Gavira.



VROCC dance instructors and dancers.



VROCC staff.

Flynn // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

he encountered a woman in severe emotional distress. The woman was perched on the outside railing threatening to jump into Boston Harbor. Flynn made several attempts to persuade the female to return to the inside of the railing, but she ultimately made the decision to jump into the water.

Recognizing the urgency of the situation, Officer Flynn immediately radioed his location and, without hesitation, made the courageous decision to dive into the freezing wa-

ter to save her. Reaching the woman, he managed to grab hold of her and swim to the harbor wall. However, due to the height of the seawall and the tide, Officer Flynn was unable to exit the water. Instead, he clung to the wall, holding the woman afloat and ensuring her safety.

Responding officers provided flotation devices while awaiting the Massachusetts State Police Marine Unit. Upon their arrival, both Officer Flynn and the woman were pulled to safety. They

were subsequently transported to Massachusetts General Hospital for evaluation and treatment.

Officer Flynn's selfless actions, undertaken with complete disregard for his own safety, exemplify extraordinary bravery. By acting swiftly in the face of darkness, freezing water, and adverse weather conditions, Officer Flynn transformed what could have been a tragic recovery operation into a successful rescue, saving a life in the process.



Veronica Robles pictured with members of her dance troupe.

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Advocate Healthcare 111 Orient Avenue	Paris Street Community Center 112 Paris Street	Milano's Deli 978 Saratoga Street	EBO & Co. Grocery 110 Meridian Street
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