

East Boston

TIMES - FREE PRESS

BOOK YOUR POST IT
Call Your Advertising Rep
(781) 485-0588

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

FIRST PRIORITY CREDIT UNION HOLDS 'MEET SANTA' EVENT

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA



A red carpet led to Santa at First Priority Credit Union's second Meet Santa event on December 7. The free community gathering featured pictures with Santa, taken by professional photographer, Quinn Barbour.

Shown above, Lucy Atuchwin and her sons, Jadon, 5-months, Jesse, 2, and Joseph, 3.

Right, Jared Melara, 4, mailing a letter to Santa. See Page 5 for more photos.



Madaro set to host 'Eastie's Elves' Friday

By Cary Shuman

Rep. Adrian Madaro and the Madaro Family Community Fund will host the 21st Annual Eastie's Elves Toy Drive and Celebration Friday, Dec. 13 at the Hyatt Regency Boston Harbor. Madaro became the lead organizer of Eastie's Elves in 2016 after former state senator Anthony Petrucci personally asked Madaro to succeed him at the helm of the charitable endeavor. The event has continued to grow under Madaro's leadership, and because of the generous support of small businesses, non-profit groups, and individual donors in East

Boston, Winthrop, and Revere, Madaro said that the Fund will be able to distribute thousands of toys to children in the area and thousands of dollars in gift cards to local families. "We distributed several thousand toys last year, and it was our largest holiday drive to date," said Madaro, who is assisted in the immense effort by his wife, attorney at-law Ariel Glantz Madaro, and his parents, Jacopo Madaro and Debra Cave. "We have a good team. But we cannot do this without all our partners across the community and without the generosity of so many

See EASTIE'S ELVES Page 3



During last year's Eastie's Elves, Mayor Michelle Wu helps adjust Mateo Madaro's holiday necklace.

Beaches Commission hearing focuses on climate adaptations and recreational beaches access

Special to the Times-Free Press

On Monday November 18, at 10am, the Metropolitan Beaches Commission and Save the Harbor/Save the Bay hosted their annual hearing on the state of the beaches at the Massachusetts State House. The hearing featured testimony from Department of Conservation and Rec-

reation (DCR) Commissioner Brian Arrigo on the progress the agency has made toward infrastructure, maintenance and equity recommendations by the Commission, as well as a discussion of the vulnerability of the recreational beaches to storm surge and sea level rise. "I have really appreci-

See BEACHES Page 4



DCR Commissioner Brian Arrigo showcases new multilingual signage to be posted on Metropolitan Beaches to more clearly communicate beach rules and regulations.

Paul's Pals to hold fundraiser for a local 7-year-old battling cancer

By Melissa Moore-Randall

On September 20, a local family received a phone call no one should ever receive. Their 7-year-old son and brother was diagnosed with cancer. The

Baglio family received the call that Paul was diagnosed with Embryonal Rhabdomyosarcoma, an extremely rare, aggressive, fast growing cancer that is mostly found in children under age 5 that affects their soft tissue. October 30th, Paul was further diagnosed with Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma FOXO1::PAX3 Fusion Positive, a much rarer and aggressive form of what the original diagnosis was. Patients with RMS require multidisciplinary treatment, including chemotherapy, surgical resection and radiation therapy (RT). Paul is now in his 9th week of treatment.

Paul, a second grader at East Boston Catholic Central School, has been being treated at Boston Children's Hospital. The son of Robert and Jade Baglio, Paul is part of what his Mom refers to as the "Baglio Brunch" which also includes Paul's

siblings Makyla "KyKy", age 7, Joseph "Joey", age 6, Anthony, age 5, and Coral 17 months. On December 13, a fundraising event will be held at the Malden Moose for Paul and his family which will include a night of food, dancing, drinks, raffles and dancing. Tickets are \$35 per person and can be purchased through Venmo (Kris-Testa). Donations of raffles are also being accepted through The Studio Dance Company. You can follow Paul's journey and find a way to help him and his family on Facebook by joining Paul's Praying Pals & Benny The Dragon Page.



7-year-old Paul Baglio during a recent cancer treatment.

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

Ruggiero Family Memorial Home Presents
Toy Drive
Meet Santa
Snacks

Orient Heights Tree Lighting!

Sunday, December 15 — 5pm-6pm

EAST BOSTON CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL HOLDS CHRISTMAS FAIR

Photos by Marianne Salza

East Boston Central Catholic School (EBCCS) held its Christmas Fair on December 7, with a slew of raffle prizes to take chances on, including the popular toy soldier basket and toy board games.

Families also had their pictures taken with Santa and his elf. Little ones -- with their mouths dyed from eating cupcakes with green frosting -- decorated wooden ornaments, played cornhole toss, and had their faces painted.



Jennifer, Zoey, Kaylee, and Tiffany volunteering at the toy board game.



Hazel Ververa, 6, and her nana, Patricia Sarro, with Santa and his elf.



Sophie Gallego, 5th grade, having her face painted by Keilen Munoz, 8th grade.



Michael, 6, and Emily Rozzi, 4, with Santa and his elf.



Jose, Clara, 4, and Luisa Alvaro.



Families gathering around the toy board game.



Maya Bond, Claire McCleney, and Francesca Mazzone, 4th grade.



Danna, Sam, and Natalia Souri, 6.



Claudia, Marcelo, and Camila DiCampo, placing chances for raffles.



Children enjoying the toy soldier basket chance game.



Victor, Lilian, Luisantonio, Rosamaria, Joseph, Jacob, and Victoria Rivero with Santa and his elf.



Ana, 1, Anayah, 14, Diego, Rosibel, Andrew, 3, and Allen 10.



James, Pablo, and Jose, 2nd grade, with Ayden, 1st grade.

Rose Kennedy Greenway announces the return of Hatchlings winter lights

Special to the Times-Free Press

The Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy is excited to announce that Hatchlings by interdisciplinary design team Studio HHH have returned in November. Hatchlings, which debuted on The Greenway last winter, provide a playful reference to one of Boston's most iconic landmarks, the Hatch Shell on the Esplanade, while envisioning a brighter and more environmentally sustainable future.

Selected as the winning design from the Greenway Conservancy's 2023 Request for Proposals for a Winter Lights Program, Hatchlings was inspired by a whimsical question posed by Studio HHH: What if the Hatch Shell on the Esplanade hatched a cluster of baby "shells" that wandered off down the Charles River Esplanade through The Greenway like adventurous ducklings?

"We loved studying the intricate Art Deco architecture of the Hatch Shell pavilion," said Vanessa Till Hooper, founder and creative director at Studio HHH. "Through the process of working to echo its arches and angles, we discovered many layers of thoughtful design and mathematical elegance.



A look at the Hatchlings winter lights from last year.

PHOTO COURTESY CHRIS RUCINSKI

It's a perfect structure, and we are delighted by the opportunity to draw new attention to this beautiful and historic Boston landmark."

Similar to last year's installation, many of the Hatchlings will be powered either entirely through solar power or through a combination of grid and solar power. "Maintaining consistent solar energy throughout the darkest months of the year was a design challenge we were excited to meet, something that our studio felt was critical to advancing the conversation about sustainability

in Boston," said Teresita Cochran, solar specialist at Studio HHH.

In total, nine Hatchlings dot The Greenway, each featuring vibrant arches in colorful animated lights. The Hatchlings appear in a variety of sizes, with the largest standing at 8.5 feet tall and the smallest at 2.5 feet tall. Throughout the winter months, the pavilions will serve as sites for informal gatherings, photo backdrops, and other activities.

We welcome you to join us in celebrating the re-opening of the Hatchlings at The Greenway's Winter Warmer on Satur-

day, December 21 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Rings Fountain. Come celebrate the Winter Solstice with FREE programming including a hot chocolate bar, holiday toy workshop, bubble house, photo booth, with live music and an instrument petting zoo by Boston Music Project.

Visit rosekennedygreenway.org/hatchlings to find the exact locations of the Hatchlings and to download an interactive walking tour. For more information on upcoming events in connection with the Hatchlings, please check the Greenway Conservancy's events calendar.

Eastie's Elves // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

residents who take time out of their busy lives to drop off toys at our collection locations or show up at Eastie's Elves. Our events are only successful because of the generosity and support of the community."

With the assistance of "Elf Helpers" (student volunteers from East Boston High School), the toys will be distributed Satur-

day.

Madaro said admission to Friday's Eastie's Elves gala consists of one new unwrapped toy for a child in need. Guests will enjoy a buffet-style meal, a performance by 7 Day Weekend band, and a raffle drawing.

Sen. Lydia Edwards, City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata, and Rep. Jeff Turco are among the

Bronze Sponsors of the event. Mayor Michelle Wu and other dignitaries are expected to attend the celebration.

"I congratulate Rep. Madaro for another successful Eastie's Elves," said Edwards. "This tradition brings the best out of all of us. I know we are going to make so many children happy this holiday season."

Continuing a Thanksgiving tradition last month, Rep. Madaro organized a successful community dinner, distributing 200 turkeys to residents and preparing more than 1,000 meals for residents at the Salesian Boys and Girls Club.

Madaro was re-elected state representative Nov. 5 and will be inaugurated in January.

Wu announces expansion of the City's annual toy drive

Special to the Times-Free Press

Mayor Michelle Wu announced that the City of Boston is expanding its annual toy drive, and will be distributing more than 1,800 toys to children and families in need. This year, the toy drive is led by the City's Community Engagement Cabinet, Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF), and the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) with support from partners Amazon, The Toy Foundation, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), and Greater Boston Building Trades Unions. Over the course of six days, Mayor Wu will join City leadership and staff, union partners, community volunteers, and The Toy Foundation to distribute toys to children ages 0-17 living in BHA housing or neighborhoods surrounding BCYF centers.

"Every single child deserves to experience the joys of the holiday season," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "We are blessed to have the opportunity to partner with so many businesses and community organizations to bring the holiday spirit and some fun toys to families across our city."

"When you give a child a toy, you are giving hope and joy. We're grateful for our partners within the City of Boston, Amazon, and our toy distribution partner, World Vision, who are helping us place toys into the hands of thousands of children who

need them most," said Pam Mastrotta, Executive Director of The Toy Foundation.

"Delivering smiles is at the core of what Amazon strives to do, which is why we are delighted to support the City of Boston's expanded holiday toy drive," said Jerome Smith, Head of Community Engagement for New England at Amazon. "We're proud to join with the City once again to not just distribute toys, but to deliver hope, happiness, and smiles to families throughout Boston this holiday season."

The first toy giveaway led by the Community Engagement Cabinet, BCYF, and BHA was held at the Bunker Hill Housing Redevelopment in Charlestown on December 5. Mayor Wu will distribute toys directly to residents in Roslindale on Thursday, December 12 at the BCYF Menino Community Center alongside City staff and partners. The toy giveaways are open to Boston residents who live in Boston Housing Authority sites and in neighborhoods surrounding BCYF centers.

"It's wonderful to have so many partners come together to make the holidays a little brighter for BHA families," said Boston Housing Authority Administrator Kenzie Bok. "By delivering toys to children in our communities, we're not only spreading joy and hope but also creating cherished memories that will last a lifetime."

The upcoming 2024

holiday toy giveaway dates are as follows:

Thursday, December 12
BCYF Menino Community Center
125 Brookway Road, Roslindale

Wednesday, December 18

Franklin Field Housing
100 Ames Street, Dorchester

Thursday, December 19
BCYF Gallivan Community Center
61 Woodruff Way, Mattapan

Friday, December 20

BCYF Johnson
68 Annunciation Road, Mission Hill

Saturday, December 21
Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building
2300 Washington St, Roxbury

"AFSCME Council 93 leaders and members feel fortunate to have the opportunity to work with Mayor Wu to make the holiday season brighter for Archdale Families," said Council 93 Executive Director Mark Bernard. "Given the work that the Mayor, her team and the AFSCME Boston leadership has accomplished together to improve the lives of our members, it's nice to work with her directly on something good for our community as a whole."

"Bringing holiday cheer to children and families directly to neighborhoods is essential to continuing to meet constituents where they are," said Community Engagement Cabinet Chief Brianna Millor. "BCYF and BHA have always been a place of gathering for residents. We are

grateful for their partnership to help spread joy this season."

"The Mayor's Toy Drive is truly a community event, and we're thrilled to be part of it," said Boston Centers for Youth and Families Commissioner Marta Rivera. "We're especially grateful to the donors who join with us in making sure all families can bring joy to children this holiday season."

In an effort to ensure all residents who do not live in BHA housing or close to a BCYF community center will have toys for their children during the holidays, the City of Boston's Equity and Inclusion Cabinet will host a Boston Give Back event on Saturday, December 21 in Roxbury at the Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building. Free toys will be distributed to children in the community. This event is supported by partners Fidelity Investments, Boston Public School Custodians, Artists Initiative for Revolution (AIR), Russell Paulding, Ocean State Job Lot, and TD Garden / Delaware North / Boston Bruins.

"The holidays can be a beautiful and complex season for many of our residents, and at the City of Boston we are aware of this reality because many of us have lived it, too. That is why we close the season of giving with an event called Boston Gives Back, a day filled with holiday magic, food, and toys," said Equity and Inclusion Cabinet Chief Mariangely Solis Cervera.

dar: rosekennedygreenway.org/calendar.

Follow the Hatchlings' winter fun on social media (@rosekennedygreenway) and share your own posts using the hashtag #HatchlingsOnTheGreenway

The Greenway Winter Lights Program is exclusively funded through private sources. Hatchlings by Studio HHH (2023-2024) was made possible through the generous support of Meet Boston.

Studio HHH is an interdisciplinary design studio specializing in creative interventions within the built environment and public realm, led by founder/creative director Vanessa Till Hooper and art production manager Emily Castro. The studio team of all-women designers and artists, including sus-

tainability specialist Teresita Cochran, develops meaningful and engaging experiences at the intersection of art, architecture, and technology. Studio HHH was founded in 2018 in Somerville, MA. They currently operate in Boston, The Berkshires in western MA, and Brooklyn, NY.

The Greenway is a contemporary public park in the heart of Boston. The Greenway welcomes millions of visitors annually to gather, play, unwind, and explore. The Greenway Conservancy is the non-profit responsible for the management and care of The Greenway. The majority of the public park's annual budget is generously provided by private sources.

PUBLIC NOTICE

As a part of East Boston Cannabis Company's "Positive Impact Plan" EBCC has made the following educational classes available on ZOOM.

<https://princelobel.zoom.us/j/86231183261?pwd=UDKNpHPuai9Y5CyhxlDaO4l3euuONq.1>

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

6:00 PM

East Boston Cannabis Company is committed to providing educational programs and informational sessions geared towards individuals from the Target Areas and/or Massachusetts Residents who have, or have parents or spouses who have, past drug convictions that are interested in the cannabis industry, with specific focuses on marijuana retailers and entrepreneurship.

Such educational events will specifically include, but not be limited to, information on **licensing workshops (i.e., guidance on filing applications with the Commission), preparation of standard operating policies and procedures, Massachusetts cannabis market overview and METRC best practices.**

¡La temporada de gripe y COVID está aquí!

Las vacunas están disponibles para todos, a partir de los 6 meses de edad, en las clínicas de NeighborHealth ubicadas en East Boston, South End y Winthrop.

Llama al 617-568-4500 o ingresa a tu cuenta de MyChart para programar tu cita hoy.

NeighborHealth

It's 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

Photos on your phone? Just scan here and attach the photo to the email that is generated!

PHOTOS PUBLISHED TUESDAY DEC. 24th CHRISTMAS EVE

East Boston

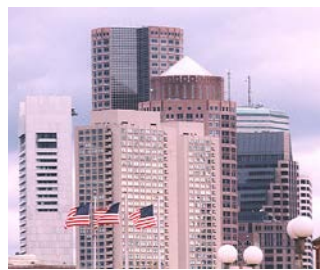
Times-Free Press

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley

PUBLISHER: Debra DiGregorio

EDITOR: Cary Shuman

PUBLISHER EMERITUS: John A. Torrone



Forum

Beaches // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ated the responsiveness from DCR over the past year under Commissioner Arrigo,” said MBC Co-Chair, Senator Brendan Crighton. “While we continue to make progress on our water quality issues on the North Shore, our district regularly sees the impact of storms on our coasts, seawalls and beaches. MBC looks forward to supporting DCR in understanding the vulnerabilities our beaches face.”

I’ve seen first-hand how much people in my district in East Boston rely on Constitution Beach for recreation, especially in the hottest summer on record,” said MBC Co-Chair Rep. Adrian Madaro. “I know East Boston residents are eager for infrastructure updates to this critical natural resource, so I look forward to learning about the progress that DCR has made under Commissioner Arrigo. In addition, I am interested in their accomplishments towards the equity recommendations in last year’s Breaking Barriers report and hearing about goals for the coming beach season.”

Arrigo testified to the Commission, highlighting the actions DCR took in 2024 to address the MBC’s recommendations for improved beach access for non-English speakers, people with disabilities and people of color.

“Having access to beaches, parks, and green spaces is a matter of equity,” Arrigo affirmed. “As we experience more and more periods of climate-change driven extreme heat during our summers, it’s vitally important that all of our residents and families feel welcome at and can safely enjoy our beaches to cool off. These spaces build healthy communities. We are grateful to the Commission and Save the Harbor/Save the Bay for their continued partnership in our work to break down accessibility barriers to our Metro



MBC Commissioners and Staff (from L to R) Mercy Robinson, Margaret LaForest, Rep. Joan Meschino, Sen. Brendan Crighton, Rep. Adrian Madaro, John Allen, Susan Hamilton, Christian Krahforst, Chris Mancini, and Jason Rundle hosted the hearing from the State House while others, including Rep. Jessica Giannino, Robert Tucker, Christopher Byner and Dan Kenary participated by Zoom.

Beaches.”

To that end, in the past two years, DCR has introduced new water safety and shorebird protection signs, featuring QR codes that offer translations into nine additional languages. Additionally, every Metropolitan Beach now hosts welcome signage in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Haitian Creole, Cape Verdean Creole, Arabic, Mandarin, Traditional Chinese, and Russian. DCR will also be installing new easier to understand English and Spanish beach rules signs at all beaches, ahead of the 2025 summer season. The new signs, which will be available in the nine languages via a QR code, feature logos reminding beachgoers not to engage in certain activities for their safety.

DCR also invested more than \$300,000 on new beach wheelchairs and over 1,000 feet of mobility mats. Over the last two years, DCR has added 44 new beach wheelchairs to the Metro Beaches. The DCR Universal Access Program, tasked with providing adaptive and accessible recreation opportunities, worked alongside Save the Harbor staff to conduct an accessibility audit of public beaches in

2023, and this data is being used to plan future capital projects. Save the Harbor also established the Beach Accessibility Advisory Committee to help update DCR lifeguard training.

Finally, Save the Harbor’s Executive Director Chris Mancini commended Commissioner Arrigo’s continued support for the Better Beaches Partnership, which aims to give decision-making power directly to community members over community spaces. This year, Save the Harbor distributed \$315,000 in grants to 83 community groups, artists, and coalitions to host free events all summer long on DCR beaches. “72% of our 2024 Better Beaches grantees are led by or directly serve people of color,” Mancini reported.

Following Commissioner Arrigo’s testimony, Save the Harbor Policy Manager Jason Rundle presented an update on the Commission’s work around coastal resilience, which featured 11 community climate workshops in 2024. “Understanding that the vast majority of community members value their beaches as spaces for rest and recreation emphasizes the importance of preserving these resources,” said Rundle. “We need to take a look at both

short-term vulnerabilities to storm surges and long-term beach migration and sea level rise so that we can support the state in developing interventions that can protect our beaches.”

Finally, the hearing opened to public comment during which residents from across the region brought attention to instances of poor water quality on some beaches, improvements to bathhouses and public bathrooms, and the need to reevaluate the state testing and flagging protocols that communicate when beaches are open and closed to the public.

Looking ahead, the MBC intends to prioritize better understanding of the beaches’ vulnerability, consistent efforts to improve equity and accessibility, as well as ongoing maintenance and infrastructure improvements to playgrounds, seawalls, plantings and other needs as identified by beachgoers in each community. The MBC Commissioners agreed that each of the 13 Metropolitan beaches needs its own vulnerability assessment to plan adaptations in the face of increasing climate impacts. Save the Harbor is looking forward to supporting DCR in this effort in 2025.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: THE SCOURGE WITHOUT END

When we heard the news last Friday morning that a 32 year-old woman had been shot and killed in broad daylight on a busy Chelsea street, the first thought that immediately crossed our mind was: The husband or boyfriend did it. Just a few hours later, police announced that they had arrested a suspect, the victim’s 31 year-old estranged husband who, according to news reports, had called police to turn himself in.

We’ve been in the news business for longer than we care to remember and the world has changed in ways that were unimaginable when we began our career in journalism more than 50 years ago. But despite the changes in technology and societal attitudes regarding countless issues, the one constant that has remained is the pathology of domestic violence.

It still is the case today, just as it always has been, that a woman is more likely to suffer violence by a partner than from any other source. The statistics tell the tragic story: Nearly half of all women murdered in the United States are killed by a current or former intimate partner; 1 in 4 women will experience physical violence from an intimate partner in their lifetime; 1 in 3 women will experience some form of sexual violence from an intimate partner in their lifetime; and 1 in 6 women will experience stalking from an intimate partner in their lifetime.

It also has remained true that the most dangerous time for a woman in a relationship is the period when she first decides to leave her partner. The victim in the shooting this past week had been married to the suspect for 10 years, but they had become estranged only within the past two weeks.

In addition, an article in this week’s New York Times has highlighted another dangerous time period for women: According to the Times, the second-leading cause of death (other than from the pregnancy itself) for women who are pregnant or recently postpartum is domestic violence.

What also was not surprising about Friday’s tragic event is that a gun was used by the perpetrator. The mere presence of a firearm in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of homicide by 500% and more than half of intimate partner homicides are by firearm.

Fortunately, the U.S. Supreme Court recently let stand laws that exist in every state that require a person with a domestic violence restraining order to turn in his guns. However, there had not been a restraining order between the parties involved in Friday’s tragedy.

Domestic violence cuts across all racial and economic lines. Just the week before Friday’s incident (in which the victim and the suspect, both of whom are Haitian immigrants and are Black), it was announced that the Cohasset man who allegedly murdered and dismembered his wife -- both of whom are white -- at Christmas time two years ago will stand trial next year. We also would note that today’s Massachusetts domestic violence laws stem from the 1970s after an incident in that wealthy suburb of Cohasset in which the husband shot and killed his wife and then shot and wounded his children before turning the gun on himself.

We generally conclude our editorials by offering our view on what lawmakers or individuals can do in order to bring about societal change. However, when it comes to domestic violence, we have no ready solution to this long-standing problem. We can only recommend to women and anyone who is in an abusive relationship to end it immediately and seek help from law enforcement, the courts, and the many services available to victims of domestic violence in our communities. (In Chelsea, HarborCOV offers services for victims of domestic violence. Its 24 hour hotline number is 617-884-9909.)

ANOTHER DICTATOR BITES THE DUST

The demise of the dictatorship in Syria this weekend that brought to an end 50 years of brutal rule by the Assad family -- Bashir al-Assad had succeeded his father, Hafez al-Assad -- was startling to most observers. The Assad regime had successfully fought off a rebel army more than a decade ago, and though Syria had been divided into areas of control by various rebel groups and the government, the Assad regime, bolstered by the Russians and the Iranians, seemed secure.

However, the denigration of Iran’s military capabilities by Israel this past year and Russia’s weakened position because of its war in Ukraine left the Assad regime vulnerable to the rebel factions who never had gone away over the past decade.

What caught everyone by surprise, including Bashir al-Assad himself, was the rapidity of the rebels’ advance from their stronghold in a tiny portion of northwestern Syria in the city of Idlib to the capital of Damascus, hundreds of miles away.

The images of Syrians rejoicing in the streets amidst the toppled statues of Hafez al-Assad were reminiscent of what happened in the immediate aftermath of the fall of so many other Middle East dictators, including Saddam Hussein in Iraq and Muammar al-Gaddafi in Libya.

The quick end to the al-Assad regime brought to mind a phrase by a character in the novel, *The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway, about how bankruptcy befalls someone: “Gradually and then suddenly.”

We join with the Syrian people in their joy and pray that their future, whatever path it may take, will be peaceful.

Your opinions, please

The Times welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@eastietimes.com. Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

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

TIMES-FREE PRESS DIRECTORY

617-567-9600 • 781-485-0588

FAX: 781-485-1403

President

Stephen Quigley
stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com

Advertising and Marketing

Debra DiGregorio – deb@reverejournal.com

Assistant Marketing Director

Maureen DiBella – mdibella@winthroptranscript.com

Senior Sales Associates

Sioux Gerow – charlestownads@hotmail.com

Legal Advertising

Ellen Bertino
ebertino@eastietimes.com

Editorial

Reporters, Regular Contributors
Cary Shuman – cary@lynnjournal.com

Copy Editing, Layout

Scott Yates – scott@chelsearecord.com
Kane DiMasso-Scott – kdscott@theboston.sun.com

Business

Accounts Executive
Judy Russi
judy.russi@eastietimes.com

Printer

Gannet Publishing

FIRST PRIORITY CREDIT UNION HOLDS 'MEET SANTA' EVENT

Photos by Marianne Salza

A red carpet led to Santa at First Priority Credit Union's second Meet Santa event on December 7. The free community gathering featured pictures with Santa, taken by pro-

fessional photographer, Quinn Barbour. Every child received a free gift and had the opportunity to write and mail letters to Santa. Families enjoyed a hot cocoa bar beside a virtual yule log, and learned about Excel Academy,

that's representatives provided information about the 5th-8th grade charter school.

"We feel that we have a responsibility to help folks in the community, share, and get to know them," said Tony Paciulli, Presi-

dent/CEO, First Priority. "This is a great day. You see families coming here in matching pajamas. It's so cute. The kids have a great time and everybody is smiling. What better way to get ready for the holidays?"



Santa with his elf, Sophia Vessiropoulos.



Estevan Puerta and Alexandra Morillo, of Excel Academy Charter School, sharing information about the school and how to apply.



Sisters, Widad, 9, and Razan, 4.



Ranya and Mohammed Moutaki with their cousins, Widad Fakhreddine and Noura Adel at the hot chocolate bar.



Artur Kaja, Anisa Joshari, and Ohana Kajam, 2, with Santa.



Ranya Moutaki, Camilla Fuentes, Miranda Ramos, and Ashley Ochoa, writing letters to Santa.



Camilla Fuentes, 7, Gael Ramos, 8, Michelle Cruz, Miranda Ramos, 10, and Christopher Fuentes, 10.



Tony Paciulli, First Priority Credit Union President/CEO, with his team, Brian Spehar, Molly Roarke, and Leanne Borrelli.



Dariana, 3, opening her gift.

HOMEOWNERS!

ARE YOU HAVING A TOUGH TIME PAYING YOUR MORTGAGE OR KEEPING UP WITH RISING COSTS? WE CAN HELP!

The **BOSTON HOME CENTER** and our partner agencies (ABCD Mattapan Family Services, ESAC, and Urban Edge) can:

- Look at your budget and finances to find cost savings
- Ensure you are taking advantage of abatements and saving programs
- Work with your lender for a loan modification

The Boston Home Center's Foreclosure Prevention & Intervention Services are **FREE** and **CONFIDENTIAL**.



Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/foreclosure_prevention for more information.

CALL US AT 617-635-4663 AND PRESS OPTION 3
EMAIL: homecenter.boston.gov

CITY of BOSTON  Housing

EASTIE FARM CELEBRATES YOUTH GREEN JOB PROGRAM

Photos & Story by Marianne Salza

Eastie Farm celebrated the completion of its year-long Climate Corps Program on December 3 in its greenhouse. Supported by a \$1 million National Science Foundation Civic Innovation Challenge grant, Climate Corps is a paid fellowship program for youth, ages 15-22, who are interested in environmental sustainability.

"I think the most successful part of this is how seeds have been sewn in people's hearts and minds," said Kannan Thiruvengadam, Executive Director, Eastie Farm. "I am curious to see where they will go. If they take these ideas and build solutions of their own, then that's good. The kind of problems that we have are global."

Forty participants from surrounding communities immersed themselves in applied research focused on climate resilience solutions in coastal areas, such as East Boston, Chelsea, and Revere, which Thiruvengadam described as culturally, economically, demographically, and ecologically similar.

The young environmental advocates devel-

oped skills in topics such as urban farming and environmental policy. One endeavor, in collaboration with Emerald Tutu, involved constructing coastal protection infrastructure that utilized phragmites, an invasive coastal reed, to help reduce flooding and erosion on the urban coastline along 102 Border Street.

"A lot of experiences that the youth had will stay with them beyond this past year," acknowledged Northeastern University PhD student, Kalaina Thorne, who has been researching coastal restoration and ecology at the Marine Science Center & School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, in Nahant. "Our piece in this

project has been engaging young adults on topics like living shorelines, the anatomy of a salt marsh, how to tell the different species apart, and what might influence their growth. It ultimately culminated in them helping us plant salt marsh seedlings in the field over the summer."

Eleven cohorts at the gathering received citations of congratulations from the Massachusetts House of Representatives in recognition of their hard work and commitment to the Climate Corps Program.

"They've become an integral part of the group," added Thiruvengadam, who observed the bonds formed by participants. "They share a future."



Charles Roeger and Daniel Diaz.



Eastie Farm Climate Corps fellows, members of the community, and local officials gathering in celebration of the completion of the civic project on December 3



Kannan Thiruvengadam, Executive Director, Eastie Farm, expressing his gratefulness to participants and contributors of the Climate Corps Program.



Climate Corps fellows, Christian Gutierrez and Sofia Dennis, preparing a presentation about the year's civic program, with Kayla Sklar, and Noa Randall, of The Emerald Tutu.



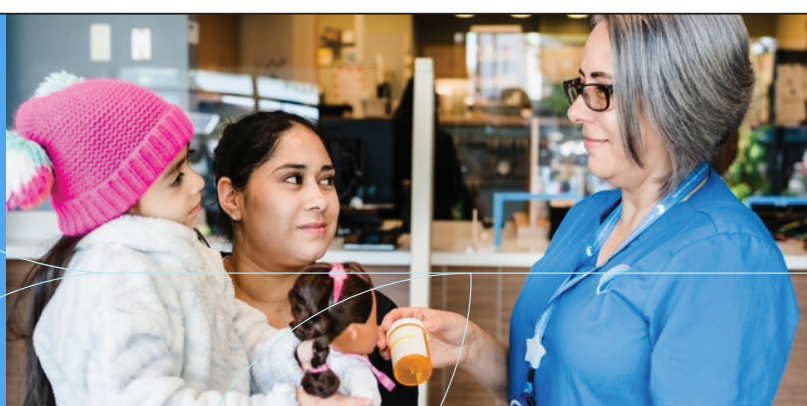
Climate Corps fellows and Eastie Farm friends enjoying a Latin American fusion dinner catered by Bono Restaurant.



Jenny Wechter, Director of Operation and Education, Joel Seidner, Food and Farming Manager, Kalaina Thorne, PhD student at Northeastern University, Kannan Thiruvengadam, Executive Director, and Randall Hughes, professor of marine and environmental science, Northeastern University.



Climate Corps fellow, Ilaria Moore, Jenny Wechter, Director of Operation and Education, Isis Pineda, Climate Corps fellow, José Manuel Zapata, Climate Corps fellow, Yared Martinez, Climate Corps fellow, and Kannan Thiruvengadam, Executive Director.



Pick up your prescriptions –
or get them delivered!

- Refill prescriptions online via MyChart
- Home delivery
- Friendly, helpful staff
- Short wait times
- Pharmacies at 10 Gove St. and Maverick Square



617-568-4781

NeighborHealth
FORMERLY EAST BOSTON NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CENTER

neighborhealth.com

MADARO FAMILY
Community Fund

presents the

21st Annual

Eastie's Elves

Friday, December 13, 2024

6:00pm - 10:00pm

Hyatt Regency Boston Harbor

101 Harborside Drive Boston, MA 02128

Admission is one gift for a child.

Event includes dinner at 6:30 PM, raffles, a cash bar, live music and entertainment.
Cocktail attire encouraged, festive spirit required!

This toy collection serves children of all ages ranging from toddlers to teenagers.
When dropping off a gift, please make sure it is a new and unwrapped toy.

Please visit www.madarocharity.org
for more information!



ALL STAR FOOTBALL

PHOTOS BY PATRICK O'CONNOR



All star group photo before the game between the two BPS teams was played at English High's field on Friday evening, December 6.



Above, representing East Boston High School at the first all-star football game were #78 Francisco DeBlas, #50 Sebastian Artunduaga and #71 Abel Pires.

4 GENERATIONS OF OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE DIGREGORIO FAMILY SINCE 1947

CAR CARE & REPAIR



MOTOR SERVICE

TOM DIGREGORIO | JOHN DIGREGORIO



- ✓ Inspection Station
- ✓ Winterize Your Vehicle
- ✓ Auto Repair
- ✓ Tires

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE
REPAIR AND PARK SERVICE
CALL JOHN FOR DETAILS

88 BROADWAY, REVERE | (617) 996-8371

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA HELD AT HILTON GARDEN INN BOSTON LOGAN AIRPORT

The Hilton Garden Inn Boston Logan Airport, in partnership with the East Boston Holiday Light-

ing Committee, hosted a Breakfast With Santa Saturday, Dec. 7 at the hotel.



Alonso Mejia and Diana Munera, with children, Santiago Mejia and Sofia Mejia. See Page 8 for more photos.



Ciro Franzese (back row, right) and family, including (front row) Liana, Ella, and Olivia, (back row) Tommy, Christina, and Andrew.



Beverly Richards (far right) and Amanda Roman (second from left) and dancers from the Beverly Richard Dance Center, who performed three dances at the Breakfast With Santa.

WINTHROP MARKETPLACE

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Your Independent Grocer, Where Old Friends Meet And New Ones Are Made

SALE DAYS FRIDAY, DEC. 12TH THROUGH WEDNESDAY DEC. 24TH

Grocery

Great grocery specials

Duncan Hines Brownie Mix.....	10/¢10.00
Chobani Greek Yogurt & Flips.....	10/¢10.00
Ocean Spray Cranberry Sauce.....	3/¢5.00
Ocean Spray Cranberry Juice 64 oz.....	2/¢6.00
Prince Pasta.....	4/¢5.00
(ex: lasagna-jumbo shells-gluten free)	
Hellmann's Real Mayonnaise 30 oz.....	¢5.99
Tuttorosso Canned Tomatoes.....	3/¢5.00
Nestles Morsels.....	2/¢8.00
Campbell's Canned Gravies.....	4/¢5.00
Duncan Hines Cake Mixes.....	2/¢3.00
Dunkin' Donuts Ground Coffee.....	¢7.99
Ragu Pasta Sauce.....	2/¢5.00
Dole Canned Pineapple 20 oz.....	2/¢3.00
Duncan Hines Frosting.....	2/¢5.00
Ore Ida Frozen Potatoes.....	2/¢7.00
Cool Whip 8 oz.....	2/¢4.00
Delizza Eclairs or Cream Puffs.....	¢4.99
Eggo Waffles (ex: Thick & Fluff).....	2/¢6.00
Mama Rosie's Stuffed Pasta 19-25 oz.....	¢5.99
Land O' Lakes Butter Quarters (1 lb only).....	¢3.99
Cracker Barrel Cheese (ex: Cracker Cuts) ..	2/¢7.00
Philadelphia Brick Pack Cream Cheese.....	2/¢5.00
Pillsbury Cinnamon Rolls.....	2/¢7.00
Pillsbury Pie Crust.....	¢3.99

Deli

Best Yet Roast Beef.....	¢11.99/lb
Finlandia Imported Swiss Cheese.....	¢7.99/lb
Butterball Oven Roasted Turkey Breast.....	¢7.99/lb
Margherita Genoa Salami.....	¢8.99/lb
Smithfield Domestic Ham.....	¢5.99/lb
Hans Kissle Seafood Salad.....	¢8.99/lb

Meat

"Meat Cut Fresh Every Day"

We will have Beef Bone In Rib Roast and Turkeys Available on Dec. 16

Carando Half Boneless Spiral Ham.....	¢4.99/lb
Carando Bone In Half Hickory Spiral Ham..	¢3.69/lb
Boneless Center Cut Pork Roast.....	¢2.99/lb
Boneless Sirloin Strip Steaks.....	¢8.99/lb
Fresh Grade A Chicken Wings.....	¢3.99/lb
Grade A Whole Chickens.....	¢1.99/lb
Best Yet Raw Shrimp 31-40 ct.....	¢5.99
Oscar Meyer Bacon 12 oz.....	¢7.99
Bob Evans Side Dishes.....	2/¢9.00
Kayem Kielbasa 14 oz.....	¢4.99

Bakery

Our Own Bagels.....	¢2.99
Our Own Chocolate Chip Cookies.....	¢2.99
Assorted Danish.....	¢5.99
Dinner Rolls 12 pk.....	¢3.99
8" Single Layer Carrot Cake.....	¢10.99
8" Apple Pie.....	¢5.99

Produce

Creamy Smooth Avocados.....	2/¢4.00
Fresh & Juicy Lemons.....	59¢
Fresh & Tangy Limes.....	59¢
Fresh Cluster on the Vine Tomatoes.....	¢1.79/lb
Premium Golden Sweet Yams.....	89¢/lb
Green Giant Baby Cut Carrots 1 lb bag.....	2/¢3.00
McCain's All Purpose Russet Potatoes 5 lb bag.....	2/¢4.00
Giorgio Fresh Whole White Mushrooms.....	2/¢4.00
Giorgio Fresh Sliced White Mushrooms.....	2/¢4.00

35 REVERE ST., WINTHROP • (617) 846-6880
WWW.WINTHROPKTPPLACE.COM
 Store Hours: Mon-Sat 8am-8pm;
 Sun: 8am-7pm
 Not responsible for typographical errors.
 We have the right to limit quantities.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA HELD AT HILTON GARDEN INN BOSTON LOGAN AIRPORT

The Hilton Garden Inn Boston Logan Airport, in partnership with the East Boston Holiday Lighting Committee, hosted a

Breakfast With Santa Saturday, Dec. 7 at the hotel. Children and their families enjoyed a buffet breakfast, a visit by Santa

Claus, and a performance by the Beverly Richards Dance Center. Each child received a gift bag from Santa.

Santa Claus did a great job bringing joy and happiness to the children and listening to their wishes for gifts for the holiday

season. Special thanks go to: East Boston Chamber of Commerce, McDonald's, Balloon City,

Beverly Richards Dance Center, Lisa Capogreco, Pat Capogreco, and the Guange Family.



Santa Claus joins Fiona Urban and David Urban for a holiday photo at the breakfast.



Samantha Wu Topolski and son, Lucas Topolski.



Public relations person extraordinaire Lisa Capogreco Capuccio, with her son, Christine Capuccio, enjoying a visit with Santa Claus.



Yesenia Martinez, with Adrian Martinez, Genesis Martinez, and Emanuel Martinez, visiting Santa Claus.



Bianca DiAngelis and son, Jaxon DiAngelis, spending some time with Santa Claus.



Eric Doherty and Christine Doherty, with their sons, Nathan Doherty and Jack Doherty, greet Santa Claus at the breakfast.



Oscar Morales and Odilia Vasquez, with children, Amy Morales, and Alexander Morales.



Front row, from left, are Christine Mazzarella Doherty, Biance DeAngelis, and Yesenia Martinez. Back row, from left, are Hilton Garden Inn Sales and Events Manager Gina Guange, Lisa Cappuccio, and Samantha Wu Topolski.



Leon Silva and Guiza Araujo and daughters, Daniella Silva and Gabriella Silva.



Breakfast leaders and children are pictured at the Breakfast With Santa Dec. 7 at the Hilton Garden Inn Boston Logan Airport.



Skip Marcella and Dottie Marcella, with Emilia Marcella, Jameson Marcella, and Teddy Marcella.

The Platters return to the Regent Theatre with acclaimed 'Very Merry Christmas Show!'

Special to the Times-Free Press

The Rock n' Roll, Vocal, and Grammy® Halls of Fame culture icons, The Platters® (theplatters.com), defacto members of the Marvel® Cinematic Universe® (MCU) music family, bring their critically acclaimed Very Merry Christmas Show back to The Regent Theatre, 7 Medford Street in Arlington for one show only on Thursday, December 19, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

The Platters, founded and named by Herb Reed in the mid-50s, continues today with Lance Bernard Bryant, Omar Ross, Jovian K. Ford, and Brittney Necole Bellamy. Collectively, they lend their harmonically smooth voices to taking audiences on a festive holiday-themed soiree via a magical, interactive, sonic-driven sleigh ride fueled by music from across the decades. The Platters weave many of their major evergreen hits, including "The Great Pretender," "My Prayer," and "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes," together with family fun holiday classics geared toward a night of joyful memories and family fun accompanied by their band Sonic Evolution. At the invitation of former East Boston and

Revere native Frederick J. Balboni, Jr. (bcg-hre.com), the successor to Herb Reed, asked Everett Public Schools national award-winning

Music Director Gene O'Brien to join the group on stage during their only Boston area date. Accepting the invitation, Everett High School choral director Corey Crofoot was tasked by O'Brien to create an all-inclusive school and community choir to showcase the diverse talents of the students of the performing arts community. Members of the choir from the First Parish in Lexington will also be join the choral ensemble. The Platters became citizens of the MCU in 2021, with one of their timeless hits, Twilight Time, placed on the breakthrough Marvel® — Disney+® streaming television series WandaVision. This past July, Only You (and You Alone), the song that first launched the vocal group onto the national music charts, recently took the top spot on the critically acclaimed soundtrack of Marvel's international blockbuster Deadpool & Wolverine. According to Balboni, Jr., Reed's hand-picked, direct successor and international keeper of his legacy, "We look

forward to involving talented students and community members to come together and share the stage with us to showcase their talents. It helps us entertain the greater community so they can take time out of their busy lives to enjoy the season's spirit." He continued, "Our family show will have plenty of surprises, including a special guest appearance by Santa himself."

Winthrop-based classic rock and soul group Smokin' Joe and The Henchmen will open the holiday show.



Shown (left to right) Jovian Ford, Omar Ross, Brittney Nicole Bellamy, and Lance Bernard Bryant.

OBITUARIES

Bruno Victor Dello Iacono

January 8, 1945 ~ December 7, 2024

Bruno Victor Dello Iacono of East Boston passed away at his home on December 7, 2024 surrounded by his family while in hospice care from Care Dimensions Danvers, MA.

Born in the town and commune of Montemiletto in the province of Avellino, Campania, Italy, he was the son of the late Gennaro and Adelina (Censale) Dello Iacono, loving father of Anthony Dello Iacono and his companion, Stephanie Facchini of East Boston and Valentina Dello Iacono of East Boston; former husband to Giulia (Sirignano) Dello Iacono of East Boston; loving brother to the late Eva (Brogna) Dello Iacono of East Boston and brother to the late Valentina Dello Iacono of Montemiletto, Avellino.

Bruno came to the United States in 1963 and for forty years worked at the Boston shipyards in the area as a laborer and later worked for the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center in the facilities department and retiring from there. Throughout his work, Bruno became well known to the co-workers and staff and within the East Boston community. He was awarded and recognized as the employee of the year while employed at the EBNHC.

Bruno resided at the former Lyman School building on Gove Street where many friendships were formed and the family would also like to extend their gratitude to the many friends he made while Bru-



no lived there. The family would also like to extend a special and heartfelt thank you to the wonderful staff at East Boston Neighborhood Health Center Pace Program of East Boston for their devotion and care of Bruno.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Bruno's visiting hours at Salvatore Rocco & Sons Funeral, 331 Main Street, Everett, on Friday, December 13 from 9 to 10:15 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to East Boston Neighborhood Health Center Pace Program, East Boston, MA 02128. Link and info below:

There is a drop-down menu where individuals can select where to designate their funds, including Neighborhood PACE.

<https://www.classy.org/give/628601/#!/donation/checkout>.

Mailing address: Attention: Development Department 10 Gove Street, East Boston, MA 02128

For more information, please visit www.roccofuneralhomes.com.

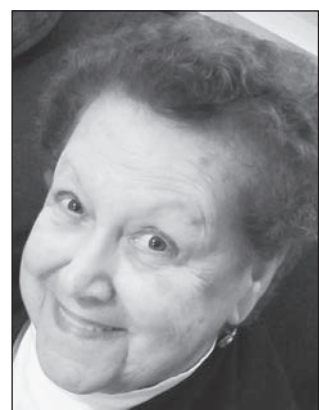
Diane Carol Petty

Longtime John Hancock Employee

Diane Carol Petty, 87, passed away on November 25, 2024. Born in Boston on November 19, 1937, she was the daughter of the late William and Anna (Giunta) Drago. Diane spent her younger years living in the Boston area. She raised her family in East Boston and later resided in Revere. She was a longtime employee at John Hancock, working in the food service and retail departments.

Wanting to live her life to the fullest, she retired in her early fifties and moved to New Hampshire, where she cherished every moment spent with her family and enjoyed being a doting grandmother. Diane resided in Hooksett for over twenty years and was active in local senior social groups, participating in many community events with her friends.

Diane is survived by her sons, Michael Petty and his wife, Marilou of the Philippines and Richard Petty and his wife, Mary of Manchester; her grandchildren: Richard Petty Jr. and his wife, Colleen of Derry, Lauren Petty of Manchester, Daniel Petty



and his wife Stephany of Allenstown and Julianne (Petty) Riley and her husband, Shane of Manchester; three great-grandchildren, Emma, Charlotte and Owen; as well as extended family members and friends. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her brother, Frank Drago.

Services will be held on Thursday, December 5th at Phaneuf Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 243 Hanover Street, Manchester, NH. A Memorial Gathering will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. with a Memorial Service at 6 p.m. To view Diane's online tribute, send condolences to her family, or for more information, visit <https://phaneuf.net>

Extend your Business's reach with Online Advertising!

Clients and Customers are just a click away!

\$300⁰⁰ per month per site



THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS

- REVEREJOURNAL.COM • WINTHROPTRANSCRIPT.COM
- LYNNJOURNAL.COM • EVERETTINDEPENDENT.COM
- EASTIETIMES.COM • CHELSEARECORD.COM
- CHARLESTOWNBRIDGE.COM • BEACONHILLTIMES.COM
- NORTHEASTREGIONALREVIEW.COM • THEBOSTONSUN.COM
- JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM • MISSIONHILLGAZETTE.COM

Combo Rates available! Buy any 3 sites, get 4th FREE

Call 781-485-0588 to get started!

AD SIZE

in pixels
W: 160px
H: 600px

please send in "png" format



Flu and COVID season is here!

Vaccines are available for everyone ages 6 months and older at NeighborHealth clinic locations in East Boston, South End, and Winthrop.



Call 617-568-4500 or log into your MyChart account to schedule your appointment today.

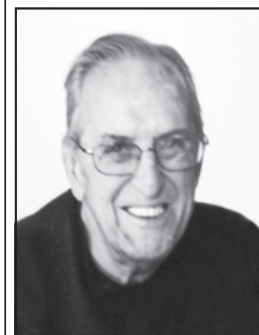
NeighborHealth



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

In Loving Memory Paul I. Brown

10th Year Anniversary December 10, 2014 - December 10, 2024



It's hard to believe it's ten years since we lost you We knew it had to come, there was nothing we could do, You were loved, I think you knew this was so But God wanted you and you had to go

Lovingly Remembered, & Sadly missed, Wife, Children, Grandchildren, and family

Magrath FUNERAL HOME

336 Chelsea St., East Boston 617-567-0910 | www.magrathfuneralhome.com



Vertuccio Smith & Vazza Beechwood Home for Funerals

"Honoring Memories & Traditions, One Family at a Time"

262 Beach St., Revere, MA 02151 www.VertuccioSmithVazza.com

617-567-0955 781-284-1127

140 years of faithful & trusted service to East Boston and the surrounding communities

BPS elementary schools honored as national 2024 distinguished school

Special to the Times-Free Press

Boston Public Schools (BPS) is delighted to announce that the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has honored Bradley Elementary School as a 2024 National ESEA Distinguished School in the category of exceptional student achievement. Each year, DESE nominates just two schools across the Commonwealth for this national recognition.

“It is always an honor to have one of our schools nationally recognized,” said Boston Public Schools Superintendent Mary Skipper. “This achievement is a reflection

of the Bradley Elementary School’s leadership and staff and their deep commitment to our students. It is also a reflection of the hard work that happens every day in our school and community-at-large and a proud achievement for the district.”

The Distinguished School program recognizes schools, which receive federal funds, whose students perform at very high levels, make significant progress in closing the achievement gap, or demonstrate excellence in serving special populations of students. Principal Claire Carney attributes the school’s success to several factors, including:

- A focused commit-

ment to implementing high-impact instructional strategies, underpinned by the belief that all children bring inherent value and contribute meaningfully to their classroom communities;

- A culture of staff collaboration aimed at enhancing student learning outcomes, with a particular focus on the implementation of tiered support systems to address the diverse needs of our students; and
- A welcoming environment that values parental input and ensures clear, consistent communication between the school and families, facilitating the recognition of successes and the identification of

areas requiring improvement.

“The Bradley school community is honored to be a National ESEA Distinguished School,” said Carney. “I extend sincere gratitude to DESE and the National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program for recognizing our school in this way. Our staff have worked together with our families to create an exceptional environment where our students can thrive. Thank you to every member of the Bradley team.”

Regional School Superintendent Dr. Tommy Welch added that, “this accomplishment shows what is possible in a diverse public school when

staff members, families and caregivers, and district leaders see each other as partners and work together to make sure that every child experiences high-quality instruction with an emphasis on inquiry-driven learning.”

Bradley Elementary School will be recognized alongside up to 100 other schools from across the country at the National ESEA Conference in February in Austin, TX. Schools are honored with a commemorative award package, a dedicated section on the ESEA Network website and a special presentation at the conference. Additionally, select sessions at the conference will feature stories of suc-

cess from Distinguished Schools and highlight the notable work they do for students.

The Boston Public Schools (BPS), the birthplace of public education in the United States, serves more than 48,000 pre-kindergarten through grade-12 students in 121 schools. BPS is committed to transforming the lives of all children through exemplary teaching in a world-class system of innovative, welcoming schools. We partner with the community, families, and students to develop in every learner the knowledge, skill, and character to excel in college, career, and life.

Old North Church undergoing paint conservation and restoration project

Special to the Times-Free Press

An interior revolution is underway at Boston’s Old North Church and Historic Site. On Sept 30, a 6-month paint conservation and restoration project began to uncover 18th-century painted angels hidden beneath layers of white overpaint on the balcony arches in the church’s sanctuary. I invite you to join renowned paintings and murals conservator Gianfranco Pocobene for the multi-step process that has begun at Old North Church in Boston’s North End and will continue through late March.

The angels at the center of this work were painted by John Gibbs, an accomplished decorative painter and congregation member, who completed Old North Church’s first major interior decoration, including the painting of 16

angels, between 1727 and the 1730s. The angels are depicted as cherubs, with round childlike faces and wings.

While Old North Church once boasted a colorful interior filled with intricate and ornate designs, all of this artwork – including Gibbs’s angels – was painted over with white paint in 1912. However, a paint study conducted in 2017 revealed that the lost cherubs still exist. Expert craftspeople painstakingly removed layers of white paint to partially uncover one of the angels painted in 1727. Old North’s team nicknamed this angel “Howard” in honor of a beloved advocate and supporter of the church.

The 2024-2025 paint restoration project is restoring more of Gibbs’s work: the rest of the angels and decorative festoons between them. In order to uncover the an-

gels, lead conservator Gianfranco Pocobene and his team apply a solvent gel similar to a paint stripper that softens the layers of white paint, manually remove the overpaint with a plastic scraper, and then do additional cleaning with a cotton swab covered in solvents. An exciting discovery has been that Gibbs’s angels do not have identical faces; each one was designed to be unique. Watch this video interview with Gianfranco to learn more.

“The timing of this project is particularly exciting. As we approach the 250th anniversary of Old North’s signal lanterns and Paul Revere’s midnight ride in April 2025, visitors to the church will get a glimpse of the sanctuary as Revere knew it,” said Nikki Stewart, Executive Director of Old North Illuminated.

This project will be done in two phases:



A worker painstakingly removes layers of white paint to partially uncover one of the angels painted in 1727.

- Phase 1 (through Dec.): Gianfranco and his team will work on scaffolding in the rear of the church while they conduct the work and test solvent mixtures on small areas of paint. The winning solution will be used on the surface to swell and dissolve an estimated three to four layers of paint, which will be delicately stripped away to reveal 8 of the hidden angels. The project will then pause as scaffolding will come down for holiday services in the church.
- Phase 2 (mid-Jan. through late March): Scaffolding will go back up in the front of the church to continue the stripping process. Eight more angels will be revealed. In early 2025, visitors will see half of the work complete and the other half in progress, making it an ideal time for media coverage. The grand reveal, when all 16



The angels are depicted as cherubs, with round childlike faces and wings.

angels will be uncovered, will be in April.

“The step-by-step uncovering of the angels at Old North Church is revealing fascinating aspects of John Gibbs’s painting technique,” said Gianfranco. “Even more intriguing and exciting is the opportunity to conserve and restore some of the earliest paint decorations in America and make them ac-

cessible to the public and scholars alike.”

Born in Italy and raised in Canada, Gianfranco received his Master of Arts in Conservation from Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario in 1984. He first came to Boston in the 1980s to earn a Certificate of Advanced Training from the Center for Conservation and Technical Studies at Harvard Art Museums. He then spent the next 15 years working for the Straus Center for Conservation, Harvard Art Museums where he oversaw the restoration of mural cycles at the Boston Public Library by Puvis de Chavannes, Edwin Austin Abbey, and John Singer Sargent. In 2004, he was appointed Chief Conservator at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum where he carried out treatments and technical studies on the paintings collection. Early this year he left the Gardner Museum to focus exclusively on his private practice, Gianfranco Pocobene Studio which was established in 1991. Some of the Studio’s significant mural projects include the restoration of the John LaFarge murals at Trinity Church, Boston, the Women’s Gallery mural at Vilna Shul, Beacon Hill, Puvis de Chavannes’ Philosophy mural at the Boston Public Library, and Benjamin Constant’s mural at the Ames-Webster Mansion, Boston.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
111 Orient Propco LLC	111 Orient Ave Ma LLC	111 Orient Ave	\$11,000,000
Bne Reo LLC	Frankfort Mt Carmel LLC	115 Gove St	\$9,000,000
Bne Reo LLC	Frankfort Mt Carmel LLC	120 Gove St	\$9,000,000
Bne Reo LLC	Frankfort Mt Carmel LLC	128-134 Gove St	\$9,000,000
111 Orient Propco LLC	111 Orient Ave Ma LLC	147 Orient Ave	\$11,000,000
Bne Reo LLC	Frankfort Mt Carmel LLC	21-47 Frankfort St	\$9,000,000
Santini, Michael	Mcguire, Michael P	250 Meridian St #506	\$670,000
Sethi, Rahul	Border Development LLC	301 Border St #503	\$699,000
Garay-Lopez, Richard M	Ray, Benjamin N	573 Bennington St #2	\$549,000
Baldeos, Mirian G	Lezerowich, Jeff	678 Bennington St	\$1,050,000

tony's realty
MAVERICK SQUARE ■ EAST BOSTON ■ 617-834-4775

HOME SERVICES 2024

Now is the time to get your service in the eyes of thousands of readers in Print & Online

GET 6 MONTHS OF EYES ON YOUR AD ONLY \$175*

CHOOSE FROM 5 COMMUNITIES TO ADVERTISE IN!

2.19-BY-1-INCHES BLACK-AND-WHITE
*Per Paper. Must be paid in advance.

Buy 4, Get the 5th Free!

REVERE JOURNAL
Everett Independent
CHELSEA RECORD

East Boston TIMES-FREE PRESS
WINTHROP

Call (781) 485-0588 or email your advertising rep to get started

SPINELLI'S
FUNCTION FACILITY

Specializing in the art of celebration
Wedding, Anniversary, Quinceañera, Reunion, Birthday, Social and Corporate Events.

Convenient location and valet parking makes Spinelli's East Boston the perfect location. We are dedicated to the highest level of service and professionalism to ensure the success of your special occasion.

280 BENNINGTON STREET, EAST BOSTON, MA
PLEASE CALL 617-567-4499 SPINELLIS.COM

• Revere • Everett • Winthrop • Lynn • East Boston • Chelsea • Charlestown

Independent Newspaper Group Classified

Call: 781-485-0588
Fax: 781-485-1403

REAL ESTATE
Sales • Rentals
Land • Commercial
RECRUITMENT
Professional • Medical
General • Services
• Auto Sales • Yard Sales
• Miscellaneous

7 COMMUNITIES
More Than 100,000 Readers Each Week

APT FOR RENT **PCA WANTED**

BEACHMONT; 1 Bedroom in a six unit building. SECTION 8 accepted, Recently updated, 1 off street parking, w/d in building. Available now. First/last \$2100. No utilities. Call 781-864-7596. 12/4

Personal Care Attendant needed in **EVERETT**
Monday-Friday 9a.m. to 2 p.m.
Call Susan 617-389-6190
Hablo Español.
11/28

DEADLINES: For classified line ads, deadlines are Monday by 4 p.m.

SELLING YOUR AUTO? Call for our 4 week special! Call 781-485-0588.

JOIN THE SELF ESTEEM TEAM
PT Weekday Morning/Afternoon
Self-Esteem Group Facilitator

Self Esteem Boston is seeking an experienced, reliable, psycho-educational group leader to work 2 or 3 days per week for up to 28 hours weekly to facilitate self-esteem educational programs for women in transitional recovery programs across greater Boston.

Group leader experience required: BA + 10 yrs exp, or MA + 5 yrs exp. Car required. 2 year commitment preferred. Must enjoy driving in diverse Boston neighborhoods. M.Ed, LICSW, LMHC, LADC, or CADAC a plus.

Passion and commitment for helping women to rebuild their lives, a must.

SELF ESTEEM BOSTON
The Foundation for Success

Resume to: Marion B. Davis, President, Self Esteem Boston
P.O. Box 301155, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 (EOE) or email to: empowermail@selfesteemboston.com

HELP WANTED

Administrative Assistant Needed
I'm seeking a detail-oriented Administrative Assistant to work with me. The ideal candidate will provide administrative support and ensure efficient operation of official administrative activities. Most possess strong organizational skills with a keen eye for details with proficiency in MS Office (Word, Excel, Outlook). \$500/25hrs Weekly. Email resume to applyandresumes@gmail.com or text (213) 935-0504.

FHAP AGENCIES & OTHER STATE/ LOCAL REFERRAL AGENCIES

BOSTON FAIR HOUSING COMMISSION
One City Hall Plaza, Suite 966
Boston, MA 02201-1054
617-635-4408

CAMBRIDGE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
51 Inman Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-1732
617-349-4396

CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS & OPPORTUNITIES
21 Grand Street, 4th Floor
Hartford, CT 06106-1561
860-541-3400

MAINE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
51 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
207-624-6050

MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION
One Ashburton Place, Room 601
Boston, MA 02108-1599
617-994-6000

RHODE ISLAND COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
180 Westminster Street, 3rd floor
Providence, RI 02903-3768
401-222-2661/62

VERMONT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
135 State Street, Drawer 33
Montpelier, VT 05633-6301
802-828-2480

NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
2 Chenell Drive
Concord, NH 03301-9053
603-271-2767

NEW HAVEN COMMISSION ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES
200 Orange Street, Room 402
New Haven, CT 06510
203-946-8160/8165

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Do You Want To Sell Your Home?

Our Advertisers have clients waiting to buy!

List your property with one of the fine realtors who advertise regularly in the...

East Boston
Times-Free Press

Eastie's Professional Service Directory

ELECTRICIAN

Delco Utilities, Inc.
P.O. Box 2111
Peabody, MA 01960
delcomail238@gmail.com
MA #E32101
David F. Delaney | 617-803-3812
Al Peters | 781-258-9140

NO JOB TOO SMALL
BUCKET TRUCK SERVICES

2 col. x 1 inch
\$120.00 for
3 Months
(\$10.00 per week)

CLEANING SERVICES

SPARTAN CLEANING SERVICE
Since 1978
COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL
CARPET AND UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
Satisfaction Guaranteed
Call
617-593-4532
617-567-2926
Removes Dirt • Cleans • Deodorizes
Complete Office Cleaning

CONTRACTOR

L. P. CONTRACTING
Building & Remodeling
Kitchen ↔ Bathroom
Additions ↔ Porches
Replacement windows
Garages ↔ Decks
Siding - All Types
LUIGI:
(617) 846-0142
FREE ESTIMATES
... LICENSED ...
INSURED

LANDSCAPING

2 col. x 3 inch
\$360.00 for
3 Months

HOME REPAIR & IMPROVEMENT

DH HANDYMAN

- Painting & Decor
- Light Carpentry
- Finish Carpentry

More than 30 years experience

Call Dennis
781-307-0947

HOME REPAIR?
Call **AL COY**
617-539-0489

Masonry & Chimney Pointing, Carpentry & Odd Jobs

We Clean & Repair Gutters

MOONEY ELECTRIC, INC.

Residential & Commercial
Fully Licensed & Insured

KEVIN MOONEY
781-799-1862

1 col. x 1 inch
\$60.00

PAINTING

JOHN J. RECCA PAINTING
Interior/Exterior
Commercial/Residential

Fully Insured
Quality Work
Reasonable Rates
Free Estimates

reccapainting@hotmail.com
781-241-2454

Bertino Painting Company
Call For Free Estimates!

Joe Bertino Owner
978-376-6661
Interior and Exterior Painting
Bertinopaintingcompany@gmail.com

Domenico PAINTING
SMALL EXTERIOR FULL INTERIOR

TOMMY DOMENICO 617-365-5451

SPECIALTY PAINTING & REMODELING SERVICES
Call Don Falzarano
617-846-6553

Specializing in Home Renovations
Kitchen • Bath • Cabinets, Granite Counters • Doors • Window • Decks
Enclosures • Pavers • Blockwalls • Additions • Interior • Exterior Painting
ALL YOUR HOME OWNER NEEDS

Nick D'Agostino
Professional Painter

Cell:
617-270-3178

Fully Insured
Free Estimates

2 col. x 1 inch
\$120.00 for
3 Months
(\$10.00 per week)

ROOFING

SONNY'S IMMEDIATE ROOFING
781-248-8297

sonnysimmediateservices.com

Residential - Commercial
All types of roofing & repairs
Painting & Carpentry
Licensed Insured
Free estimates

1 col. x 2 inches
\$120 for
3 months
(\$10/wk)

Best Boston Roofing & Masonry Corp.
Chimney Repairs
Gutters
Carpentry
Roof Repairs
Replacement
Painting • Siding
Foundations
617-377-0527
Call for a FREE Estimate!

TO ADVERTISE IN OUR SERVICE DIRECTORY PLEASE CALL 781-485-0588 OR EMAIL DEB@REVEREJOURNAL.COM

Please Recycle This Newspaper

12 WEEKS & 1 PRICE

ONE 2X2 AD → NOVEMBER - JANUARY ← ONLY \$180⁰⁰*

CHOOSE FROM SIX COMMUNITIES TO ADVERTISE IN! *\$180 PER PAPER

REVERE JOURNAL CHELSEA RECORD East Boston Times-Free Press Everett Independent THE LYNN JOURNAL WINTHROP SUN-TRANSCRIPT

2X2 CLASSIFIED AD SIZE SHOWN TO SCALE

12 WEEKS OF EYES ON YOUR AD

Welcome the new season with new customers

Our Winter Service Directory offers 12 weeks of exposure for one single payment

Leaves fall and Savings rise

Call the Office @ 781-485-0588

OR EMAIL YOUR REP
MDIBELLA@WINTHROPTRANSCRIPT.COM
DEB@REVEREJOURNAL.COM
CHARLESTOWNADS@HOTMAIL.COM

La Colaborativa deploys \$2 million climate future initiative to empower young adults

Special to the Times-Free Press

La Colaborativa recently announced the launch of its Climate Future Initiative, the largest climate-tech workforce training, career readiness, and economic development program in the Metro North Region.

“We’re grateful to the Healey-Driscoll Administration, MassCEC, and Senators Warren and Markey for catalyzing meaningful strides towards ensuring the clean energy transition uplifts, rather than exploits, Latinx and

immigrant communities.” said Gladys Vega, President/CEO of La Colaborativa.

In total, the multilingual program represents a \$2 million investment overseen by La Colaborativa, with financing provided by the U.S. Department of Labor through Senators Warren and Markey, coupled with major grants through the Mass. Clean Energy Center (MassCEC), the Executive Office of Economic Development (EOED), and MassHire Metro North Workforce Board. It sets

the stage for the development of La Colaborativa’s Center for Economic Development at 50 Heard St.

“Through a cross-sector partnership convened by La Colaborativa, this approach recognizes that we can only overcome the displacement crisis, poverty, and community violence by deliberately empowering our youth and young adults.” said Dinanyili Paulino, EVP of La Colaborativa.

Centered on galvanizing an equitable, dynamic 21st century economy, the

program aims to diversify the next generation of climate-tech leaders.

“With a forecasted shortage of over 38,000 climate-tech jobs across the Commonwealth, La Colaborativa is committed to fostering the advancement of our young people through high-paying jobs in the HVAC, electrical, energy efficiency, and green construction realms,” said Alex Train, COO of La Colaborativa.

In turn, developing an adept, agile climate-tech workforce will accelerate



COURTESY PHOTO

La Colaborativa recently announced a \$2 million climate future initiative that will focus on climate-tech workforce training, career readiness, and economic development in the region.

the decarbonization of the Metro North Region, foster climate preparedness, and achieve an unmatched quality of life by lowering household costs, mitigating air pollution, and generating tangible economic benefits for low-income residents.

With La Colaborativa spearheading the effort, the multilingual program will be implemented in partnership with Franklin Cummings Institute of Technology, the Green Jobs Academy, TNEC-UMass Lowell, and the North Atlantic Regional Council of Carpenters. This multifaceted approach will directly train and equip over 143 young adults, ages 18 to 24, and mid-career adults for careers in a variety of fields. Moreover, through its Youth Development Department, La Colaborativa will carry out a career exploration and job readiness program, enabling 15 youth, ages 16 to 18, to gain exposure to the host of post-secondary and career opportunities in the sustainability, clean energy, and climate resilience sectors. Simultaneously, over 1,000 residents will be positioned to thrive in the climate-tech

space through contextualized ESOL classes, career readiness, and job search assistance.

As workforce training progresses, La Colaborativa will institute intensive career counseling, job readiness, financial education, and leadership development programming. Distinguished by an emphasis on integrative wraparound services for all participants in the workforce training and youth career exploration pathways, the program will encompass intensive case management, living wage stipends to reduce economic barriers, transportation, food and clothing assistance, and access to childcare.

Interested residents of Chelsea, Everett, Revere, East Boston, and Lynn can apply directly by visiting La Colaborativa’s website at <https://www.la-colaborativa.org>, calling (617) 889-6080, or stopping by 63 6th St. in Chelsea between 10:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

La Colaborativa, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the empowerment of Latinx and immigrant communities.

CHRISTMAS TRASH & RECYCLING COLLECTION SCHEDULE



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

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

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

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

**All delays in service begin on Wednesday 12/25*

CITY of BOSTON Public Works WASTE REDUCTION boston.gov/trash-day

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Bus Route Changes

The first phase of MBTA’s Bus Network Redesign starts December 15, 2024.

Bus Network Redesign: Phase 1 Changes

Beginning **December 15, 2024**

Get ready! Learn how these routes will change:

86 **104** **109** **110** **116** **117**

Frequent Bus Route
Every 15 minutes or better, 5 AM to 1 AM (Sundays may start as late as 6 AM)

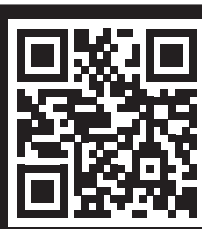
Future Route
Route 86
Route 104
Route 109
Route 110
Route 116

Discontinued Route Segment
Route 86
Route 104
Route 117

Route 104 will turn east toward the airport. **Route 109** will still run between Everett Square and Sullivan Square.

Route 109 will be extended from Sullivan Square to Harvard Station, replacing this part of **Route 86**.

Routes 116 and 110 will continue to serve these streets. **Route 117** will be discontinued.



Learn More at MBTA.com/BNRPhase1
Sign up for T-Alerts at MBTA.com/SignUp

Better Bus Project
Making transit better together