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# East Boston

## TIMES-FREE PRESS

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Tuesday, December 31, 2024

### EAST BOSTON CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL HOLDS CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Alana, Mia, Luciana, and Mia as angels, Sophie as Mary, Sebastian as Joseph, and Keilen, Nathalia, and Nicolas as the Magi. See Page 3 for more photos.



Samuel as the little drummer boy.

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA

East Boston Central Catholic School (EBCCS) presented its Christmas concert, "The Little Drummer Boy," on December 13 in celebration of unity and friendship.



Nicolas singing "Hear the Bells."

### Wu, Cox highlight reduction in murders, shootings in 2024

Special to the Times-Free Press

Boston Mayor Michele Wu and Police Commissioner Michael Cox, along with Isaac Yablo, a senior city advisor for public safety in the mayor's office, held a press conference at Boston Police Dept. (BPD) headquarters this past Friday to highlight the significant reduction in the murder rate and shootings in the city in 2024.

Cox began the session by noting that the 2024 statistics represent "an historic run" (which has resulted in Boston being named the safest big city in America by the Economist magazine and the Gallup poll survey), highlighted by a 33% reduction in homicides year-over-year to a record-low total of 24 and a 14% reduction in total incidents of gunfire to 307, which also is a record-low.

"We thought it important to lay out what we have done and what we plan on doing about crime and safety in the city," said Cox. "Our mission is to partner with the community to reduce crime -- our mission is community policing. The goals of the Police Department are to build trust through community partnerships, improve professionalism among the Police Dept., and to engage the community to find out the



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTOGRAPHER JOHN WILCOX

Senior city advisor Isaac Yablo talks about the drop in Boston's crime.

best way to use our resources to improve public safety."

Cox then recited a number of statistics, including the 14 percent decrease in gunfire incidents year-over-year and a 37 percent decline over the past five years. He said 2024 saw the lowest number of gunfire incidents since 2011 when the city began tracking those stats. In addition, shooting victims have declined by seven percent compared to 2023, by 18 percent compared to the five-year average, and by nearly 40 percent compared to the 10-year average.

Over the previous 20 years, the city has averaged 260 shooting victims per year, but over the past three years this has de-

See CRIME Page 2

### ZUMIX Latin Ensemble to perform at Panama Jazz Festival

Special to the Times-Free Press

An ensemble of young musicians from ZUMIX, a local nonprofit providing

creative opportunities for young people, will return to perform at the Panama Jazz Festival, which will take place January 12-18,

2025. Founded by Danilo Perez, a Grammy-winning local musician, ZUMIX parent, and president of

the Berklee Global Jazz Institute, the festival is one of the preeminent jazz festivals in the world. The students from ZUMIX's Latin ensemble, ¿Porque Puma?, attended the festival in 2024. They have been invited back this year to perform, present a music workshop for young artists from Panama, attend jazz master classes, and participate in an educational field trip to learn about the country's rich history.

"We're thrilled to be returning to Panama this year," said Madeleine Steczynski, co-founder and executive director of ZUMIX. "Our students had an amazing experience last year, and they're excited to go back to the festival and perform again." Several new stu-



Local young artists will perform, network and learn from renowned jazz musicians during the Panama Jazz Festival, which will take place January 12-18, 2025.

See ZUMIX Page 2



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTOGRAPHER JOHN WILCOX

Boston Mayor Michele Wu, (right) along with Police Commissioner Michael Cox, comment on Boston's crime dropping.

Our Offices will be closed on **WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1** in observance of the New Years Day holiday See you again on the 2<sup>nd</sup>

happy new year

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# East Boston

Times-Free Press

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# Forum

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

It's hard to believe that another year has passed and that 2025 is here -- and that we now are entering the second quarter of the 21st century.

For those of us who are close to three-quarters of a century in age, as we look back at the quarter-century markers of our lifetime, we realize that when we were young, everything from the past seemed like very, very long ago.

For example, when we'd be watching WWII movies such as *The Longest Day* or *The Battle of the Bulge* in the 1960s, that war seemed to be entirely of another era. But those events had occurred less than 20 years previously.

That's about the same length of time, for example, that separates the start of the war in Iraq, which was in 2003, to today. Yet as we look back on that war, it seems like it was only yesterday that we were glued to our TV sets watching the U.S. forces advance to Baghdad.

Thoughts such as these make us realize that the one thing we've discovered about aging is that the older we get, the faster that time seems to go by.

We often quote a verse from Alfred Lord Tennyson's "Ring Out Wild Bells" when we write our annual New Year's editorial.

But after re-reading the poem in its entirety, we are printing the whole thing, because it sums up -- better than we ever could express -- our feelings about 2024 and our hopes for 2025.

Although it was published in 1850, its verses are timeless. Indeed, one could apply every stanza to something going on in the world today.

So we hope you take the time to read it and enjoy it, as we did the other day:

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,  
The flying cloud, the frosty light;  
The year is dying in the night;  
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.  
Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:  
The year is going, let him go;  
Ring out the false, ring in the true.  
Ring out the grief that saps the mind,  
For those that here we see no more,  
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,  
Ring in redress to all mankind.  
Ring out a slowly dying cause,  
And ancient forms of party strife;  
Ring in the nobler modes of life,  
With sweeter manners, purer laws.  
Ring out the want, the care, the sin,  
The faithless coldness of the times;  
Ring out, ring out thy mournful rhymes,  
But ring the fuller minstrel in.  
Ring out false pride in place and blood,  
The civic slander and the spite;  
Ring in the love of truth and right,  
Ring in the common love of good.  
Ring out old shapes of foul disease,  
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;  
Ring out the thousand wars of old,  
Ring in the thousand years of peace.  
Ring in the valiant man and free,  
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;  
Ring out the darkness of the land,  
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

We wish all of our readers a Happy and Healthy New Year.

## FRANK BELLOTTI

Massachusetts lost one of its greatest-ever public servants recently with the passing of Francis X. Bellotti, a former Lieutenant Governor and three-time Attorney General, at the age of 101.

Frank, as he was known to everyone, was a brilliant politician and lawyer who dedicated his life to serving the people of the Commonwealth.

His tenure as Mass. AG from 1975-87 is widely regarded as the national model for the modern office of the state attorney general. He brought the AG's office into the forefront on issues such as civil rights and consumer protection in the 1970s, achievements for which he was recognized by the National Association of Attorneys General as the most outstanding attorney general in the United States in 1981.

There are three things that younger readers should know about Frank Bellotti. The first is that he was a man of great humility and integrity. He was just a straightforward, regular guy.

Second, he always stayed in great shape, which helps explain why he lived to be 101. He was a fierce competitor in handball and worked out every day.

The third is that he is just about the last from the Greatest Generation of politicians who served our state so well. Frank served with distinction in WWII in Europe as the commander of a troop of 58 men and was a contemporary of notable politicians such as John F. Kennedy and locally, Andrew P. Quigley.

We know we join with many of our fellow long-time residents in mourning his passing and in extending our condolences to his large family, which includes 11 surviving children, 25 grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren.

## ZUMIX // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dents will also join the trip this year, and Steczynski said the group is working hard to prepare for their workshop and performances.

Learn more about ZUMIX's trip to the festival and support their fundraising here.

ZUMIX's mission is to

empower young people to build successful futures for themselves -- transforming lives and community through music, technology, and creative employment. ZUMIX works with more than 1,000 young people ages 7-18 each year. Free and low-cost programs are

offered out-of-school in instrumental music, songwriting, performance, radio, audio engineering, and audio and video storytelling. ZUMIX partners with local schools to bring more arts education opportunities to Boston's youth. In addition to youth programs, ZUMIX offers

free concerts and events for all ages. For more information, visit [zumix.org](http://zumix.org).

For more information, please contact Alyssa Brassil, Vice President of Advancement, at [alyssa.brassil@zumix.org](mailto:alyssa.brassil@zumix.org).

## Crime // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

clined by more than 100 victims per year; 2024 saw the third consecutive year of declines and the third consecutive year of fewer than 200 persons being shot in the city.

Most significantly, the 24 homicides thus far in 2024 are the lowest number since 1957 and by far the lowest total since in-depth data-keeping began in 2007, representing a decrease of 33 percent compared to 2023 and a 37 percent decrease compared to the average over the past five years.

However, Cox noted that so-called Part 1 crimes, which include aggravated assaults, commercial burglaries, and larcenies, have increased by one percent, but overall violent crimes are down by two percent, despite the three percent increase in aggravated assaults, which is attributable mainly to an increase in domestic violence incidents.

He said property crime has increased two percent, driven mainly by a 30 percent increase in shoplifting. Commercial burglaries are up six percent, but Cox said the data shows the six percent increase is entirely related to shoplifting incidents being reclassified as burglaries by perpetrators who have been previously trespassed. Cox said commercial burglaries actually are down by 17 percent without that quirk in the stats.

"In the entire time I've been a police officer, the city has never been safer from violent crime. I've never been more proud of the city and our leadership in terms of crime and crime reduction," Cox concluded.

Mayor Wu (who began her remarks by speaking in Spanish) said, "Boston is recognized as a national leader in community safe-

ty with numbers far lower than comparable cities.

"Safety is the foundation of everything we do in making Boston a home for everyone," Wu continued. "Safety is not merely the absence of harm or fear or violence. It is the positive affirmation of belonging, of people feeling excited to be part of a community where they are welcome and able to use every opportunity and every part of every neighborhood."

Wu then highlighted some of the innovations undertaken by the BPD including: the sharing of data (that previously had been privy only to the police) with the local communities that provide a shared understanding of the trends in the city, which in turn has resulted in suggestions from the community that have been helpful to the police; the largest and most diverse academy-training classes in many years; a new contract that adheres to the highest-professional standards; the deployment of community intervention teams that increase visibility and presence; and the reinstatement of weekly youth safety meetings to prevent violence.

Wu also emphasized the interconnection between the reduction in crime and violence with programs involving other city departments, particularly those conducted under the auspices of the Boston Center for Youth and Families. Wu also mentioned paid summer jobs for youth that reached a highest-ever level of 10,000 this past summer; more programming in the parks; a doubling of the level of universal pre-K; expanded early college through the school system; investments in small businesses; the increase in enrollment in the public schools for the first

time in more than a decade; and the reduction in chronic absenteeism in the schools.

"It has been an all-hands-on-deck effort," said the mayor. "This is about saving lives. The most important investment of all is to stop cycles of trauma and violence. When we do well at keeping violent crime down, we do well at doing everything else."

"But most of all," Wu concluded, "we know there is more work to do. Today is not a victory lap. It is a report out, a reflection of the type of results we can see when we all view community safety as a collective responsibility that we share together and that everyone has a part in."

Yablo emphasized some of the points made by Cox and Wu. "This has been a tremendous year of success, particularly in the reduction of firearm violence," said Yablo. He said that the city has adopted three strategies: Focusing on individuals who engage in firearm crimes; looking at how a person's environment contributes to crime; and positive policing initiatives.

"We have done constant monitoring of what the problem is," said Yablo. "We don't go into any solutions without a constant and up-to-date understanding of where the problems lie. But we are not done. We will continue to get better. We cannot rest well until we are at zero."

In response to a question from a reporter about the single-biggest reason for the good numbers, the mayor replied, "Strong coordinated leadership, the dedication of everyone moving in the same direction on the cityside and in the community, and having that commitment every day of the year to make this the focus."

In response to a question about the open drug use that is evident in many communities, Cox responded, "We

do drug investigations all the time and have become highly-responsive to our communities." However, he added, "We're not going to criminalize mental health issues. But we are doing more with the DA's office and through the courts to get help for individuals. We didn't invent the opioid crisis and we cannot arrest our way out of it, but we do need to do more to make people in our communities feel safer and we are trying to do that by becoming more agile with these teams of officers going into places to make sure that individuals know they will be held accountable."

Cox also noted that repeat offenders are responsible for committing an outside number of violent crimes. Yablo added that there is a dedicated unit -- whom he labeled, "The 'stop shootings team'," -- that is focused on preventing firearm crimes by certain individuals. He said the unit has been tasked with reaching out to young people, typically ages 18-24, who have been involved with firearm crimes in the hope of reaching them while they're still young. He noted that this is important because the typical age for both firearm-related criminals and their victims is between 27-30 years old.

"Boston's steady decline in violent crime reflects the collective efforts of the Boston Police Department, the Office of Public Safety, community organizations, and strategic investments, including historic funding for youth summer jobs. Community safety requires an all-hands-on-deck approach, addressing cycles of trauma and violence through every facet of city services. Thank you to our police officers, first responders, and advocates for their unwavering commitment to protecting our communities," said District 1 Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata.

## Atlantic Works Gallery announces January exhibition

Dark and Light address member interpretation of the theme within their chosen medium

For its January exhibition, Atlantic Works Gallery (AWG) is inviting its members to submit work exploring the theme of light and dark. This exhibit fosters artists' interpretation of what light and dark mean within their discipline.

The exhibition will open at the East Boston gallery on January 4, 2025, with an opening reception at the gallery on the same day from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. There will be a Third Thursday reception with artists' talks on January 16, 2025, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. The show will close on Saturday, January 25, 2025.

This exhibition is a collection of members' work that explores mediums and experiments with the theme

of this exhibit. Artist members' works range from representational themes, abstraction and conceptually inspired works. Members' works range from charcoal to paint and digital works.

Atlantic Works Gallery Light and Dark (details)

- Show opens Saturday January 4.

- Opening Reception on January 4, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

- Third Thursday on January 16, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

- Show closes Saturday, January 25.

Atlantic Works Gallery, 80 Border Street, Boston, MA 02128, now in its twenty-first year, is an artist-run collaborative space for art and ideas located in East Boston. The gallery is open to the public every Friday and Saturday, 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. For more information, visit <https://atlanticworks.org/>.

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# EAST BOSTON CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL HOLDS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

Photos by Marianne Salza

East Boston Central Catholic School (EB-CCS) presented its Christmas concert, "The Little Drummer Boy," on December 13 in celebration of unity and friendship. The performance featured a reenactment of the Nativity by eighth grade students, including the child who played his drum as a gift to baby Jesus.

"The kids knocked it out of the park," beamed Jacob Britton, music teacher.



Mia narrating the story of the Little Drummer Boy. See Page 4 for more photos.



Kaitlyn, Luke, Giovanni, Anastasia, and Alessia singing "Hear the Bells."



Angels, Cherubs, and K2 singing "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."



Adrian, Ruhi, and Pablo dancing to "Rocking Around the Christmas Tree."



Kindergarteners: Vittoria, Steven, Mariana, Samantha, and Aurora.



Grade 8 Nativity.



Third graders: Makyla, Alayna, Miranda, and Mariangel.



First graders: Angelo, Bodhi, Joseph, David, and Ronald.



Cherubs singing "Hear the Bells."



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### EAST BOSTON CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL HOLDS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



Kindergarteners singing "Simply Having a Wonderful Christmas Time."



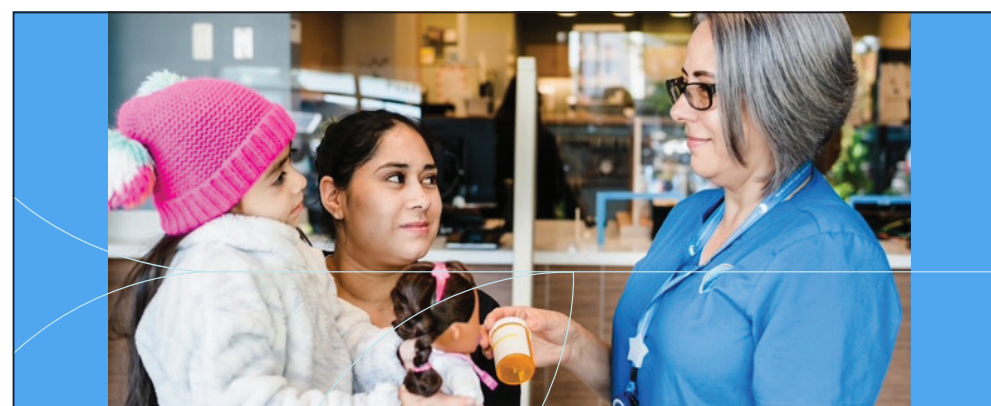
Grades one through three, and eighth grade singing "Feliz Navidad."



First grade singing "Here Comes Santa Claus."



Third grade singing "The Most Wonderful Day of the Year."



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## EBHS BOYS BASKETBALL 53-41 OVER REVERE IN TORNADO CLASSIC TOURNAMENT

PHOTOS BY BOB MARRA

Neighbors Revere and East Boston battled in the opening round of the Tornado Classic basketball tournament held at Mal-

den High School December 27 and 28 in honor of Malden Police Lieutenant Scott Carroll, who died suddenly on November 3,

at age 56. East Boston got the best of Revere, 53-41 in the opening round but the Jets lost to Stoughton in the championship.



Robin Cartegena looks to get off a pass as he is defended by Revere's Erick Mayorga (12) and Nico Cespedes (13). See Page 6 for more photos.



East Boston's Giovanni Angelico (20, left) and Justin Aiken (11, right) put the squeeze on Revere's Gio Alexandre who tries to get between chasing a loose ball.



Robin Cartegena looks for some open space around Revere's Gio Alexandre.



Giovanni Angelico gets a pass away as he is guarded by a pair of Revere defenders.



Justin Aiken controls a rebound.

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Fresh Zucchini.....	¢1.39/lb
Natures Finest Yukon Gold Potatoes 5 lb bag .....	2/¢8.00

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Dietz & Watson Low Salt Cooked Ham .....	¢7.99/lb
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Genoa Salami.....	¢8.99/lb
Hans Kissle Red Bliss Potato Salad.....	¢4.99/lb

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Third Thursday Reception: January 16, 6:00-9:00 pm  
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### DECK THE WINDOWS HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce announces the winners of their 2024 Deck the Windows holiday decorating contest.

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce held their 2024 Deck the Win-

dows holiday decorating contest. The Chamber's President, Shirley Fabbo presented certificates, letters of congratulations, and prizes to the three winners.

Congratulations to:  
First Prize winner –

Bono at 271 Meridian Street.

Second Prize winner – La Chiva at Day Square.

Third Prize winner – Mario Real Estate Century 21 at 620 Bennington Street.



Second place, La Chiva with Hector Yepes.



COURTESY PHOTOS

First place, Bono with Andrea Granados, Fernando Rosas, Margarita Rosas, and Chef Pedro Granados.

### EBHS BOYS BASKETBALL 53-41 OVER REVERE IN TORNADO CLASSIC TOURNAMENT

PHOTOS BY BOB MARRA



Third place, Century 21 Mario Real Estate with Mary Ann Zaluski.



East Boston's Islam Mohammed leans into a drive against Revere's Adnane Amine.

## Real Estate Transfers

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Maher, Joseph	Roberta E Marchi RET	190 Orient Ave	\$1,250,000
Mcgee, Kian	272 East Eagle Street LL	272 E Eagle St #4	\$1,000,000
Harris, Liam	Webleans Development LLC	32 Orleans St #1	\$499,000
Wu, Tatiana Y	Webleans Development LLC	32 Orleans St #2	\$499,000
Bally, Elizabeth	Labbe, Brendan	325 E Eagle St #3	\$460,000
Alper, Ekin	34 Morris Street LLC	34 Morris St #1	\$519,253
Alzate-Fernandez, A L	34 Morris Street LLC	34 Morris St #3	\$550,000
4-6 Haynes Street LLC	Couldren, David	4-6 Haynes St	\$725,000
Christophersen Jr, Thomas	Caboose Properties LLC	40 Everett St	\$939,000
Gault, William	Barisano, Eleanor	441 Bennington St	\$603,000
Locks, Ryan	76 Webster Street LLC	76 Webster St	\$1,789,000
8 Haynes Street LLC	Couldren, David	8 Haynes St	\$675,000
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Anthony Torres (middle) and Xander Boutros (3) reach for a rebound in front of Revere's Ethan Day (11).



NEWS IN BRIEF

**HARBOR VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING AGENDA**

The next meeting of the Harbor View Neighborhood Association will be on January 6, 2025, at 6pm. The meeting is In Person only but will be streamed via Facebook for archival purposes. Attendance on Facebook does not qualify for voting. The meeting will be held in the

Salesian Boys and Girls Club cafeteria, across from the Brooke Charter School on Byron Street. You can access the meeting from the front door on Byron Street or from the rear door on Wordsworth Street, which is the handicap entry, to avoid the stairs. We also have an elevator available from the front door. Since we are indoors, masks are optional for those in attendance. La proxima reunion de

Harbor View Neighborhood Association esta en 6 de enero a las 6pm. La reunion esta en persona y via Facebook. La asistencia en Facebook no califica para vota. Llegar a la cafeteria del Salesian Boys y Girls Club por la calle Byron al otro lado de Brooke Charter School. Pueda usar la entrada principal por la calle Byron o la entrada en calle de Wordsworth. La entrada de calle Wordsworth no tiene

escaleras por personas con discapacidades. El cubre bocas sera opcional pues- to que estaremos adentro. **Agenda**  
Welcome/Introduction (5min)  
ONS Roberto Gomez (5min) Neighborhood announcements.  
Announcements (5min) Greenway, Tree Eastie, Eastie Farm, CPA Funding for 2025 will be announced in February, (McLean Park). Neigh-

borhood Housing Virtual Meeting January 13, 2025 at 6-7:30pm. The initial presentation of El Parche Restaurant/Bar, 636-638 Bennington Street, that was scheduled for the January 6, 2025, meeting, has been changed once again to the February meeting.  
Station 7 Police Report (15min) Captain Bickerton, Sgt. Cintolo, Officers Mosley, Alvarez and Figueroa.  
206 Byron Street (5min) Informational report on the status of this development.

postpone the initial presentation of this project until our February 3, 2025, HVNA meeting. If this presentation occurs, the next step will be for a vote on the project at a future meeting. Once the community requirements are met, then the project can go before the Licensing Board and the Zoning Board. Further discussion. Cookie Night at HVNA. Please bring any cookies that you would like to share with your neighbors as a special treat while we meet or to take home.

**Wu announces First Night public safety preparations**

Special to the Times-Free Press

Mayor Michelle Wu, City of Boston public safety officials, and First Night representatives gathered to share the City's preparations for First Night 2025, Boston's annual New Year's Eve celebration. The free and family-friendly event is returning to City Hall Plaza for the second year, and will feature performances, ice sculptures, fireworks, and more. The City is a partner of the New Year's Eve event, which is formally run by Boston Celebrations, Inc., and managed by Conventures, Inc. All parties are taking steps to ensure public safety as Boston celebrates the New Year.

"First Night is a special tradition in our community, bringing family and friends together across Boston to celebrate a fresh start," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "We are grateful to welcome residents and visitors from all over to City Hall Plaza again. I encourage everyone to keep safety in mind as we ring in the new year."

First Night will feature more than 12 hours of free programming on City Hall Plaza and around Boston. The decades-old tradition first moved to City Hall last year from its usual hub in Copley Square due to the park's reconstruction. The northeast triangle of Copley Square Park, located between

Trinity Church and Boylston Street, will open on New Year's Day 2025, with the other areas of the park set to reopen later in the winter and spring. New this year to First Night are indoor performances at Boston Public Market, CanalSide Food + Drink, and new faces on the event's main stage at City Hall Plaza. Also in the plaza, ice sculptures will celebrate the 250th anniversary of Massachusetts, which will be commemorated throughout 2025.

The Boston Police Department will be present at First Night to support this family-friendly event. Additionally, Boston Police are reminding attendees not to consume alcohol or marijuana in public spaces or prohibited private spaces, not to fly drones at any First Night activities, to dress accordingly for the weather, and to report any suspicious activity.

"Families participating in the official First Night celebrations, as well as residents celebrating in our neighborhoods, will see a strong police presence," said Commissioner Michael Cox, Boston Police Department. "We are working with our public safety partners to make this family friendly event safe and secure for all. If you see something concerning at the events, in one of our neighborhoods, or if you need to report a party or disturbance,

please report it to a nearby officer or call 911."

A parade from City Hall Plaza to the Boston Common at 6:00 p.m. will lead up to the Family Fireworks over Boston Common starting at 7:00 p.m. Midnight Fireworks over Boston Harbor presented by Meet Boston will cap off the night. More information on programming for Tuesday, December 31, can be found at [firstnightboston.org](http://firstnightboston.org).

"For the 49th time, First Night Boston will unite the residents and visitors of Boston in a night of celebration," said Dusty Rhodes, the executive director of First Night Boston. "We're proud to produce this event, and to keep it entirely free for all to enjoy. We're immensely grateful to the City of Boston and our event sponsors for their ongoing support of the event."

"The Boston Fire Department will have additional personnel on duty and resources on hand to ensure the public's safety during the fireworks shows and other outdoor activities. We wish to remind everyone that the private use of fireworks is prohibited in the city of Boston," said Boston Fire Commissioner Paul Burke. "Please leave the fireworks to the professionals! As always, we are ready to respond to any emergency. We can be reached by calling 911 or by visiting any firehouse.

The Boston Fire Department wishes everyone a happy and safe new year."

Boston EMS will be deploying additional personnel at dispatch operations and in ambulances across the city to support emergency medical needs on New Year's Eve.

"Whether you are celebrating with us at First Night in Boston or somewhere else, take steps to ring in the New Year safely. Dress appropriately for the weather, have a transportation plan, and look out for each other. Let's make sure everyone gets home safely," said Boston EMS Chief of Department, Jim Hooley. "Boston EMS personnel are posted throughout the City. If anyone requires emergency medical services, please call us. We are incredibly grateful for our EMTs and Paramedics, as well as all members of public safety, healthcare and other industries, working through holidays."

First Night festivities will impact traffic and parking in Downtown Boston. People coming into the City to celebrate are strongly encouraged not to drive and to instead use public transportation. Details on parking and traffic restrictions can be found here.

MBTA General Manager Eng announced that the MBTA will not be collecting fares after 8:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve.

**OBITUARIES**

**Leonard "Lenny" Ciaccio**  
Former Building Engineer at Boston's World Trade Center

A Funeral Service was conducted in the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza, Beechwood Home for Funerals in Revere on Monday, December 30 for Leonard "Lenny" Ciaccio who died on Christmas Day at his home surrounded by the love and care of his family, following a long illness. He was 66 years old. Interment was in Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.



Lenny was born in Boston on February 22nd, 1958, to his late parents, Frank and Edith (Gioia) Ciaccio. He was proudly raised in East Boston and was educated in Boston Public Schools. He was an alumnus of East Boston High School, Class of 1978. Lenny worked as a Union Painter in Boston Local #402, for about 10 years. He then took a position as a building engineer for the World Trade Center in Boston, where he was working for the past 12 years until his health declined.

house. Lenny was a true homebody and enjoyed nothing more than being in his home surrounded by the people he loved the most, his family.

On October 4th, 1986, he married Marie (Videtti), the couple remained in East Boston and raised their two sons, Brandon and Jarred. Lenny was a hard working man who provided for his family. In his spare time, Lenny enjoyed watching Western movies and TV Shows. He loved hockey and watching the Boston Bruins as well as watching the New England Patriots. He was also a very talented carpenter and enjoyed working on projects around the

He was the beloved husband of 38 years to Marie A. (Videtti) Ciaccio of East Boston, the loving father of Brandon Ciaccio and his wife, Gina of Peabody and Jarred Ciaccio of East Boston; the cherished grandfather of Amelia Giuliana and Zachary Charles; the treasured brother of Mary Grace Carini and her husband, Robert of Revere, Joann Socci and her husband, Stephen of Wakefield and Andrew Ciaccio of New Hampshire and he is also, lovingly survived by his faithful canine companion, Zoey and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews.

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

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# Keeping Resolutions *WHILE ON THE GO*

## Inspiring Recipes by Chef Candice Kumai

FAMILY FEATURES

**Y**ear after year, saving money and eating healthier rank high on the list of New Year's resolutions, but as many know all too well, busy schedules can make it hard to keep these resolutions up.

"Pretty Delicious" author and "Top Chef" alum Candice Kumai has partnered with The Glad Products Company to create delicious recipes that help bring healthy food out of the kitchen, and in turn, help to save you both the cost and calories associated with eating lunch out.

Chef Kumai's recipes are inspired by Glad To Go reusable lunch and snack containers, which feature a detachable 1.5-ounce "To Go" cup that snaps into the lid — allowing you to confidently transport foods that you haven't been able to before. Just imagine — no more dressing leak disasters when bringing a salad to work.

"Now there's no excuse for us to break our New Year's resolutions," says Kumai. "My recipes are not only healthy, delicious, convenient meal time options, but they fit into our everyday lives while helping to save money, time and calories and reduce waste."

For additional recipes, lunchtime tips, coupon offerings and more, visit [Facebook.com/Glad](https://www.facebook.com/Glad).

### Spicy Tequila Lime Shrimp Salad

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Cooking Time: 5 minutes

Serves: 4

#### For the shrimp

- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- Pinch red pepper flakes
- 1 pound medium shrimp, deveined
- 3 tablespoons high-quality tequila
- Salt, to taste
- 1 teaspoon dried chipotle powder
- 2 to 3 tablespoons fresh cilantro, chopped

#### For the salad

- 4 cups dark, leafy mixed greens
- 1/2 cup roasted red peppers, sliced thin
- 1/2 cup black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 avocado, sliced thin

#### For the dressing

- 1/2 cup nonfat plain Greek yogurt
- 3 tablespoons high-quality tequila
- 1 tablespoon grated lime zest
- 1 teaspoon hot sauce
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
- Pinch of sea salt to taste

Add olive oil to a large skillet over medium heat. Once oil is hot, add chopped garlic and cook for about 1 minute. Add cumin and red pepper flakes, and let flavors blend together.

Add shrimp and toss. Carefully add tequila and cook until alcohol burns off. Season with salt, and add dried chipotle powder. Once shrimp are cooked, add chopped cilantro, toss and put aside on a plate.

Toss mixed greens in a large salad bowl and add in roasted red peppers and black beans. In medium bowl, whisk all of the dressing ingredients together and alter to desired taste by adding additional hot sauce and salt. Top with avocado slices and sautéed shrimp.



### Roasted Fig and Blue Cheese Salad

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Cooking Time: 20 minutes

Serves: 4

#### For the figs

- 2 cups fresh black mission figs, sliced in half
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 1/4 teaspoon sea salt

#### For the salad

- 1/2 cup blue cheese, cut into elegant wedges or thin slices
- 6 cups mixed salad greens with arugula
- 1/2 cup candied walnuts
- Sea salt to taste

#### For the dressing

- 3 tablespoons honey
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
- 1/4 teaspoon sea salt

To roast figs, preheat the oven to 350°F. Remove stems off end of each fig, then slice fig in half. Roast for approximately 30 minutes or until a bit golden brown. Remove and cool slightly.

In small mixing bowl, mix 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar, olive oil and honey. Add figs and toss to coat evenly. Marinate for 5 to 10 minutes.

Whisk honey, mustard, 1/4 cup balsamic vinegar and sea salt together to create dressing.

Place greens in large salad bowl; toss in candied walnuts. Serve with two fig halves on top of each salad with a blue cheese wedge.



### Spinach Salad with Walnuts, Strawberries and Goat Cheese

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Cooking Time: 10 minutes

Serves: 4

#### For the salad

- 1/2 cup walnuts
- 4 cups fresh spinach, stems trimmed
- 8 large strawberries, hulled and thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup crumbled goat cheese

#### For the dressing

- 3 tablespoons honey
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
- 1/4 teaspoon sea salt

Heat the oven to 375°F.

Place walnuts on rimmed baking sheet and bake until fragrant and toasted, about 8 minutes. Transfer to a plate to cool.

Toss spinach with strawberries in a large bowl.

In small bowl, whisk together honey, mustard, vinegar and salt. Sprinkle walnuts on top of spinach and strawberries mix.

Serve sprinkled with goat cheese, with remaining dressing on the side.





## 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. SU16P1806EA Estate of: Joseph C. Rogowicz Date of Death 07/17/2013

To all interested persons: A Petition for S/A - Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Joseph J. Rogowicz of Rancho Cucamonga, CA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Joseph J. Rogowicz of Rancho Cucamonga, CA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve 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 01/21/2025. 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: December 16, 2024 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate 12/31/24 EB

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# NeighborHealth brings holiday cheer through food distribution

## Volunteers and staff prepare 900 bags of food

On Thursday, December 19, NeighborHealth's Community Resource and Wellness Center buzzed with activity as staff and volunteers prepared 900 bags of food for holiday distribution to families and residents in the community.

The health system's healthcare navigators, social workers, behavioral health team members and leaders were joined by volunteers from AmeriCorps and Union Capital Boston to assemble fresh produce, dry goods and lean proteins like eggs, pork and chicken to distribute ahead

of the holidays.

NeighborHealth's holiday food distribution was a part of their ongoing initiatives through the Community Resource and Wellness Center, where they provide food and other necessities to the community year-round to residents. The food program is made possible through the support and partnership of NeighborHealth's food suppliers, Red Cross Food Pantry, Spoonfuls, and the Greater Boston Food Bank, as well as the dedicated staff, volunteers and community members whose continuous contri-

butions enable NeighborHealth to provide more than 10,000 pounds of food weekly to the community.

To sign up for this program and learn more about the Community Resource and Wellness Center at 282 Meridian Street in East Boston, visit: Community Resource and Wellness Center at NeighborHealth.

About NeighborHealth, formerly East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, is one of the nation's largest Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and the largest community-based primary care health system in Massachusetts, serving over 120,000 people and recognized by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as a National Quality Leader. For more than 50 years, NeighborHealth has offered access to comprehensive primary care, specialty care and emergency care for patients in the Commonwealth. In a first-of-its-kind merger in 2020, East Boston Neighborhood Health Center joined forces with the South End Commu-

nity Health Center and expanded services to patients who live and work in Boston's South End and Roxbury neighborhoods. NeighborHealth cham-

pions innovative care models to actively bridge health equity gaps in our low-income and immigrant communities with services unique from oth-

er healthcare providers in our state. For more information, visit [www.neighborhealth.com](http://www.neighborhealth.com).



NeighborHealth Chief Operating Officer Ryan Boxill and volunteer Jehova Hernandez working to prepare fresh produce for distribution to NeighborHealth community.



Bags of food, prepared by NeighborHealth team members, ready to go to families for the holidays.



NeighborHealth President and CEO, Greg Wilmot, joined NeighborHealth staff and volunteers to help prepare holiday food for the community.



NeighborHealth Chief of Human Resources Steven Snyder assembles holiday food bags for the community.




NeighborHealth's Community Resource and Wellness Center as staff and volunteers prepared for holiday food distribution.



NeighborHealth AmeriCorps member Eve Feuerbach bagging food to distribute to local families for the holidays.

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