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Wednesday, December 10, 2025



Mayor Michelle Wu with Santa and State Representative Adrian Madaro and his children, Nico and Matteo.

Right, Rudolph led the way for the arrival of Santa.

Last Sunday evening Maverick Square was filled with residents enjoying the holiday festivities. Local restaurants and businesses offered food and treats to all comers. See Pages 8 and 9 for more photos.



Coletta Zapata holds hearing regarding utility-related hazards

Special to the Times-Free Press

Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata (District 1) held a hearing to examine the maintenance and safety protocols of overhead electrical equipment to keep communities safe from utility-related hazards. The hearing brought together City officials, utility companies, and residents to discuss ongoing concerns, current practices, and opportunities to strengthen emergency notifications and ensure multi-agency response systems function effectively. Councilor Coletta Zapata sponsored the hearing to review utility companies' maintenance protocols, inspection schedules, and emergency response plans, and to evaluate long-term infrastructure solutions that better protect residents especially in high-density neighborhoods. The hearing was called in response to the July 29 incident on Bartlett Street in Charlestown, where overhead electrical wires caught fire, igniting parked vehicles and causing a power outage for dozens of residents.

See HEARING Page 15

Massachusetts Houses passes higher education bond bill

Special to the Times-Free Press

The Massachusetts House of Representatives today passed the BRIGHT Act, authorizing approximately \$3.65 billion in capital investment to modernize Massachusetts' public colleges and universities and support the state's academic, research, workforce and climate goals. Originally filed by Governor Healey, the bill is financed by

10-year special obligation bonds that are backed by Fair Share surtax revenue. These funds will be used to address deferred maintenance, modernization projects, and decarbonization across higher education institutions.

"The BRIGHT Act will ensure that students across the state learn and train in modern,

See EDUCATION Page 14

MEET SANTA Buggiero Family Memorial Home + East Boston Chamber's
Orient Heights Tree Lighting!
Sunday December 14 — 5pm • Tree lit @ 6pm

East Boston

Times-Free Press

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley **PUBLISHER:** Debra DiGregorio

EDITOR: Cary Shuman **PUBLISHER EMERITUS:** John A. Torrione



Forum

THE MAHA MOMS ARE

RIGHT ABOUT TOXIC WASTE

As our regular readers know, we have been highly-critical of the so-called Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) movement led by Robert F. Kennedy Jr., the least qualified and least knowledgeable person ever to lead the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), whose policies regarding vaccines and scientific research threaten the health of millions of Americans.

However, last week some prominent MAHA activists sent a petition to President Donald Trump urging him to fire Lee Zeldin, the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, over a series of recent decisions by Zeldin that will pave the way for the use of proven harmful chemicals that ultimately will contaminate our air, our water, and our food.

"Rather than supporting your initiative to 'Make America Healthy Again', which millions of Republicans and independents alike embraced, Administrator Zeldin has prioritized the interests of chemical corporations over the well-being of American families and children," the petition reads.

Also supporting the petition is the group Moms Clean Air Force (MCAF), which seeks to protect children from the effects of air pollution and climate change.

"With every proposed deregulation, he (Zeldin) is allowing families and children to be exposed to more soot, more mercury, more methane, more toxic chemicals, more tailpipe pollution, and more climate pollution," said MCAF founder and director Dominique Browning. "Lee Zeldin must go."

And what have we heard from RFK Jr., the man who says he wants to make America healthy again and who himself was an environmental lawyer, had to say about Zeldin's kow-towing to the chemical industry?

Crickets -- and that says all we need to know about RFK's supposed commitment to Americans' health.

HAPPY HANUKKAH

The eight-day observance of Hanukkah, also known as the Festival of Lights, starts this Sunday evening, December 14, and will culminate on Monday, December 22.

Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days by lighting the candles of the Menorah, one on each day of the eight-day celebration. (The Menorah itself consists of nine candles, one of which typically stands above the rest and is used to light the other eight.)

Hanukkah commemorates the victory of the Maccabees in 166 BCE when the Maccabees liberated the Jewish people from the Greek-based rulers who essentially had outlawed the Jewish religion.

When the triumphant Maccabees captured the city of Jerusalem, they quickly entered the Holy Temple, tossing out the images of the Greek gods that had been installed there by the occupying rulers. When the Maccabees went to light the Menorah candles in the Temple, they thought they only had one day's worth of oil. However, the candles remained lit for eight days -- hence the miracle of the Festival of Lights.

Hanukkah is a joyous occasion for Jews world-wide, marked by gatherings of friends and families and the playing of traditional games such as the dreidel and eating traditional -- and delicious! -- foods such as latkes.

We wish to take this opportunity to wish our friends and readers of the Jewish community a happy, healthy, and joyful Hanukkah season.

NEWS IN BRIEF

EAST BOSTON ANNUAL WINDOW DECORATING CONTEST

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce invites the businesses of East Boston to participate in its annual Window Decorating Contest "Deck the Windows." To participate, local businesses decorate their windows or facades with seasonal decorations, take photo(s), and email them to the East Boston Chamber of Commerce at eastbostonchamberofcommerce@gmail.com between 12/10/25 and 12/12/25. First place, second place, and third place prizes and recognition will be awarded by vote of the Chamber Board of Directors on 12/13/25. Prizes will include announcement at the Cham-

ber's annual holiday gathering on 12/16/25 at 464 Bremen Street, certificates will be issued along with a cash prize and recognition at the individual business locations with announcements made in the local press. We look forward to your participation and the holiday cheer of decorations around our community.

La Cámara de Comercio de East Boston invita a las empresas de East Boston a participar en su concurso anual de decoración de escaparates "Decora las Ventanas". Para participar, las empresas locales deben decorar sus escaparates o fachadas con adornos de temporada, tomar fotografías y enviarlas por correo electrónico a la Cámara de Comercio de East

Boston a eastbostonchamberofcommerce@gmail.com entre el 10/12/25 y el 12/12/25.

Los premios y reconocimientos de primer, segundo y tercer lugar serán otorgados por votación de la Junta Directiva de la Cámara el 13/12/25. Los premios incluirán un anuncio durante la reunión anual de fin de año de la Cámara el 16/12/25 en 464 Bremen Street, la entrega de certificados, un premio en efectivo y reconocimiento en las ubicaciones de cada empresa participante, además de anuncios en la prensa local.

Esperamos contar con su participación y disfrutar del espíritu festivo que las decoraciones traerán a nuestra comunidad.

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

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Printer – Concord Monitor

Boston Public Art Triennial concludes inaugural exhibition

Special to the Times-Free Press

On October 31, 2025, the Boston Public Art Triennial (The Triennial) officially concluded its inaugural citywide exhibition, Triennial 2025: The Exchange. Presented in partnership with the City of Boston, Triennial 2025 marked a triumphant success in transforming Boston's historic public spaces into vibrant venues of creativity, collaboration and civic dialogue.

Triennial 2025 achieved a first-of-its-kind exhibition between May 22 and October 31, bringing 24 large-scale artworks to outdoor and publicly accessible sites across eight Boston neighborhoods, including East Boston, Charlestown, Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, Downtown, Back Bay and Fenway, as well as Cambridge. Focusing on neighborhoods and populations not typically included in conversations about contemporary art, The Triennial, the 501(c)(3) organization behind the exhibition, overcame narrative and logistical challenges by tapping into the City of Boston's relationships with community liaisons and building over 75 unique partnerships with cultural and community organizations that would make their facilities, resources and representatives available for public programming.

Over six months, Triennial 2025 connected artists, communities, and partners across sectors, all with a shared mission to build a more vibrant, bold and equitable city through public art that opens minds, conversations, and spaces. Over six months, the \$8 million initiative reached over 2.7 million views from people of all backgrounds and ages, ranging from local Bostonians to tourists visiting from far-flung locations. The effort also garnered local, national and international attention from leading cultural keepers, critics and media, reinforcing Boston's growing reputation as a contemporary art city and expanding its status as a global leader in cultural innovation.

"With Triennial 2025, we set out to expand what public art can mean for Boston. With the City of Boston, phenomenal artists, dedicated community leaders and extraordinary partners, we did just that—we created something as dynamic as

the city itself and truly reflective of Boston's cultural legacy and its diverse voices," said Kate Gilbert, Executive Director of the Boston Public Art Triennial. "Triennial 2025 showed that Boston is ready to embrace big ideas and lead nationally in public art. We're proud to carry the momentum into the next phase of building a vibrant, open and equitable arts landscape."

Co-curated by Artistic Director Pedro Alonzo and Curator Tess Lukey, The Exchange invited dialogue around pressing global and local issues through themes of Indigeneity, climate and biodiversity, health and recovery and shared humanity. The Exchange brought the work of 19 artists to Boston, spanning 16 new commissions and five temporary and permanent projects throughout Boston art museums and institutions, including the Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, MassArt Art Museum, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA) and MIT List Visual Arts Center.

The Exchange, featured renowned global, national and

local artists including Beatriz Cortez, Julian Charrière, Adela Goldbard, Nicholas Galanin, Stephen Hamilton, Ekene Ijeoma, Laura Lima, Cannupa Hanska Luger, Patrick Martinez, Alan Michelson, New Red Order, Chiharu Shiota, Gabriel Sosa, Swoon, Lan Tuazon and Yu-Wen Wu. Three additional local artist contributions were made possible by the Triennial's Public Accelerator Program; cultivated by Assistant Curator Jasper Sanchez, they included Andy Li, Alison Croney Moses and Evelyn Rydz, whose works transformed a National Park site in Charlestown. Croney Moses was subsequently named an ICA 2025 Foster Prize winner, underscoring the Accelerator's role in propelling Boston's homegrown talent.

"The Boston Public Art Triennial has showcased the very best of what our city's public spaces represent — joy, community, and dialogue," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "The citywide artscape was a vibrant and bold opportunity for our communities to gather in neighborhoods across the city to share in reflect-

ing on these incredible pieces. From historic public buildings like the Boston Public Library and City Hall to our parks, and waterfront sites, Triennial 2025 turned Boston into a living gallery that reflects our city's rich, layered history and cultural legacy."

The closing week was marked by Making Public: Triennial 2025 Convening, a day-long gathering on October 24 at Roxbury Community College (RCC), supported by the New England Foundation for the Arts with support from the Barr Foundation, that brought together artists, curators, community leaders and cultural practitioners for a robust exploration of the role of public art in shaping a more open and equitable city. Over 200 attendees joined the ongoing conversation about how art shapes shared space and celebrated the long-term installation of Ekene Ijeoma's project, Stone Circle Bench, which will remain on view at RCC through 2026.

At the convening, Gilbert announced the Triennial will continue its commitment to

supporting contemporary artists and fostering community engagement in Boston's throughout 2026 and 2027 as it begins preparations for its next citywide exhibition in 2028. The Triennial will commission new public art projects across neighborhoods; host interdisciplinary programs focused on art, civic engagement and more; and fund the annual Public Art Accelerator, a skill-building and grant-funding program supporting early-to-mid-career Boston-based artists in creating temporary public projects.

To learn more about Triennial's continued work visit thetriennial.org

Boston Public Art Triennial is the city's first and only public art organization dedicated to supporting artists and communities in bold, contemporary, public art. The Triennial's mission is to foster relationships between artists and the public to create bold public art experiences that open minds, conversations, and spaces across Boston, resulting in a more open, equitable, and vibrant city.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
PROJECT: Saratoga Street Shoreline Restoration Project
LOCATION: 1257-1263 Saratoga Street, East Boston, MA 02128
PROPOSER: Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport)
 The undersigned is submitting an Environmental Notification Form ("ENF") to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs on or before 12/10/25. This will initiate review of the above project pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act ("MEPA," M.G.L. c. 30, ss. 61-62L). Copies of the ENF may be obtained from:
 Fiona Vardy (Foth): Fiona.vardy@foth.com; (401) 910-7720, or
 Chris Busch (Massport): cbusch@massport.com;
 (617) 568-3524

Electronic copies of the ENF are also being sent to the Conservation Commission and Planning Board of Boston, Massachusetts. The Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs will publish notice of the ENF in the Environmental Monitor, receive public comments on the project, and then decide if an Environmental Impact Report is required. A site visit and/or remote consultation session on the project may also be scheduled. All persons wishing to comment on the project, or to be notified of a site visit and/or remote consultation session, should email MEPA@mass.gov or the MEPA analyst listed in the Environmental Monitor. Requests for language translation or other accommodations should be directed to the same email address. Mail correspondence should be directed to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA Office, referencing the above project.
 By: Massachusetts Port Authority

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ATLANTIC WORKS GALLERY HOLDS EBHS STUDENT ART EXHIBIT ‘ENTERING ART’

Photos by Marianne Salza

Atlantic Works Gallery (AWG), in collaboration with East Boston High School

(EBHS) presented its opening reception for the student exhibition, “Entering Art,” on December 5. Thirteen young artists displayed drawings and photographs inspired by sports, anime, and places they love. In an effort to deepen relationships with the community, AWG members had been mentoring students over the past semester in preparation for the exhibition. “Entering Art” will be on display at Atlantic Works Gallery, located on the first floor of 80 Border Street,

East Boston, through December 20. View “Entering Art” during its third Thursday reception on December 18, 5-7pm, and Fridays and Saturdays, 2-6pm.



June Fabian, 11th grade, describing her photographs to friends, Ava and Peyton McLaughlin.



Ricky Morales and Susan Takis discussing the challenges of composing digital art compared to drawing on paper.



Laury Ruiz, 8th grade, with her pencil sketches, and mother, Loly Monterroza.



Savannah Simcock, with her pencil and marker piece, “La La Land,” and her mother, Winnie Gelin.



Attendees enjoying the opening reception for “Entering Art,” at Atlantic Works Gallery on December 5.



Lily Moran, 11th grade, with her graphite pencil sketches.



Em Petersen, 9th grade, with her piece, “Aurora.”

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PRESENTS

ENTERING ART

An East Boston High School Student Exhibit

Yanett Alvarez, Dennis Antrim, Feruz Beyan, Daniela Colindrez,
Andrea De Leon, June Fabian, Gary Hernandez,
Jackie Hernandez, Lily Moran, Emily Petersen, Laury Ruiz,
Savannah Simcock, Marisa Venuti

December 5 – 20, 2025
Third Thursday Reception: Dec 18, 5:00-7:00 pm
Open Friday and Saturday, 2:00-6:00 pm
www.atlanticworks.org



Marisa Venuti, 11th grade, with her pencil sketch, “Eclipse.”



Gary Hernandez with his photography, “Borderless Canvas.”

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ATLANTIC WORKS GALLERY HOLDS EBHS STUDENT ART EXHIBIT ‘ENTERING ART’



Photographer, Dennis Antrim, 12th grade, with his parents, Michael and Lisa Antrim.



“Entering Art” young artists from East Boston High School with their science teacher, Katie Kimbrell, and Atlantic Works Gallery coordinator, Kristen Freitas.



Artist, Yanett Alvarez, with her piece, “The Shining Star,” and friend, Victoria Julien, both 11th grade students.



Jackie Hernandez, EBHS Class of 2023, and freshman at Suffolk University, with her family and photographs.



Boston Public Schools Regional Superintendent Tommy Welch with his son, Samuel, and daughter, Emi, who was photographed on the soccer field by EBHS senior, Dennis Antrim, accompanied to the “Entering Art” exhibition by his parents, Michael and Lisa Antrim, with AWG member Diane Modica



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EAST BOSTON HOLIDAY LIGHT COMMITTEE AND HILTON GARDEN INN HOST BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The East Boston Holiday Light Committee and event sponsor Hilton Garden Inn hosted a Breakfast With Santa Saturday in the hotel's function room.

Lisa Cappuccio, a leader of the Holiday Light Committee, was the coordinator of the breakfast.

Children and their families enjoyed a complimentary buffet-style breakfast that was served by Hilton Garden Inn Catering Sales Manager Gina Guange and the culinary operations team.

Students from the Beverly Richards Dance Center performed dances. There were prize giveaways and most importantly, a special visit by Santa Claus.



Hilton Garden Inn Catering Sales Manager Gina Guange and East Boston Chamber of Commerce President Shirley Fabbo.



Enjoying a visit with Santa Claus at the breakfast are Linh Pham, Manh Nguyen, and children Benjamin Nguyen and Mila Nguyen.



The Ortiz, Torres, and Santana-Fernandez families enjoying the Breakfast With Santa.



East Boston Chamber of Commerce President Shirley Fabbo and Ed White.



Parents Jhon and Yuli with children Emilia and Emanuela.



Parents Diana and Alonso with children Sofia and Santiago.

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/82613244092?pwd=nIEvx1Y9FEa2asTWu7ZNOEAIPPtLas.1>

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

7:00 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.**

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/85241689346?pwd=mE65VK4a3IFTkilUQB6XqrbBjTsbVy.1>

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:00 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.**



Maggie Mazzarella, pictured with her daughters, Maria and Lucia.

EAST BOSTON HOLIDAY LIGHT COMMITTEE AND HILTON GARDEN INN HOST BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



Morgan George and Miles George.



Santa Claus reads the famous poem, "Twas The Night Before Christmas" at the breakfast.



Breakfast Coordinator Lisa Cappuccio (left) and Mary Ellen Welch Greenway Executive Director Keeley Fanuele (right) welcome Santa Claus to the Breakfast With Santa.



The culinary operations' breakfast-serving team, Ann Guange, Theresa Raphanella, Coreen Cinelli, and Hilton Garden Inn Catering Sales Manager Gina Guange.



Santa Claus, pictured with students from the Beverly Richards Dance Center, who performed a dance at the breakfast.



Santa Claus welcomes Emma Buckley and Tanner Buckley, grandchildren of Beverly Richards Buckley, for some Merry Christmas wishes.



Dancers and instructors from the Beverly Richards Dancer Center, led by legendary studio owner and former New England Patriots cheerleader Beverly Richards Buckley (back row far right), are pictured at the Breakfast With Santa event.



The Russos, Audrey, Aria, Ava, Richie and Aella.



Scott Heigelmann, pictured with Mila Heigelmann and Ronnie DiMarzo.



Helen Romero and her daughter, Maya, visit with Santa Claus.

MAYOR WU’S ENCHANTED TROLLEY ARRIVES IN MAVERICK SQUARE FOR CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Last Sunday evening Maverick Square was filled with residents enjoying the holiday festivities. Local restaurants and businesses offered food and treats to all comers. Zumix singers led by Brandon Alex performed an array of festival favorites, while waiting for the arrival of the Enchanted Trolley with Mayor Michelle WU and Santa.



Santa begins the countdown to light the Christmas Tree in Maverick Square.



Jacki Rehlinger, Ed White, and Mila Mendez from Brasil Brasil.



Ixchel Garcia enjoys a hot chocolate in Maverick Square.



Liliana Mozo is in the holiday spirit.



Rita Lara from Maverick Family Community Services, and Shirley Fabbo, President of the East Boston Chamber of Commerce.



Maria and Michelle Vasco from Taco Mex.

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Spread holiday cheer this season by participating in our upcoming events!

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Wednesday, November 27th - Thursday, December 11th

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856 Bennington Street

Salesian Boys & Girls Club
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Paris Street Community Center
112 Paris Street

22ND ANNUAL EASTIE'S ELVES CELEBRATION

Friday, December 12, 2025
5:00pm - 8:00pm

Hyatt Regency Boston Harbor
101 Harborside Drive Boston, MA 02128

Admission is one new, unwrapped children's toy.

Join us for a family event with kids music, entertainment, raffles, & cash bar.
Cocktail attire encouraged, festive spirit required!



Rockland Trust was a big part of the holiday event in Maverick Square.

ENCHANTED VISIT



Bank of America volunteers Sonia Chiarella (left) and Kate Grier hand out gifts at the Paul Revere Mall in the North End on Sunday, Dec. 7, during the 29th annual Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour.

MAYOR WU’S ENCHANTED TROLLEY ARRIVES IN MAVERICK SQUARE FOR CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING



Neighborhood Health was at the holiday event.



Director Brandon Alex and the Zumix holiday singers.



The Enchanted Trolley arrived in Maverick Square with Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, Senator Lydia Edwards, Councillors Gabriela Coletta Zapata and Julia Mejia.



After a Santa countdown the Christmas Tree in Maverick Square was lit up in grand fashion.

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A celebration of accomplishments reception held in support of Councillor-at-Large Juan Jaramillo

Outgoing Revere City Councillor at-Large Juan Pablo Jaramillo celebrated his accomplishments on the council this past Thursday and emphasized the importance of local government at this moment in our history.

He was joined by leaders from Revere, Boston, and across Massachusetts and there was even a message sent to the group by U.S. Senator Ed Markey. Present at the event were Boston Council President Ruthzee Louijeune, Councilwoman Gabriela Coletta-Zapata (who reportedly has the votes to become the next City Council president), State Senator Sal DiDomenico, Revere Councillor Paul Argenzio, and Winthrop Councilman Joe Aiello. Former president of the AFL-CIO and former state senator Steve Tolman was also present in the crowd.

Jaramillo, a union organizer, spoke after words from State Senator Lydia Edwards and the message from U.S. Senator Ed Markey. He thanked the guests assembled in the packed downtown Boston office for their support of him and his wife, Crystal, who was present and reminded people of the victories he attained while on the Revere City Council around workers' rights,

affordable childcare and early education, feminine hygiene products, climate alluding to his first in the city municipal composting program, and affordable housing units in new development. The victories, he said,

were collectively won by him and the supporters who have long believed in his vision for a pro-working family city.

Councillor Jaramillo made history after becoming the first immigrant to be elected to local

office in Revere and missed his reelection by a margin of votes which can only be characterized as a statistical tie. Instead of opting for a gruesome recount he said in a statement later in November "Revere's history has

been marked by bitter recounts and infighting which ultimately has stymied progress," and that he was "choosing to repurpose our energy into organizing for the future not agonizing."



Attending the reception honoring Councillor-at-Large Juan Jaramillo for his accomplishments on the council, Boston City Council President Ruthzee Louijeune and guests including Tosin Cole (right).



Sen. Sal DiDomenico, Councillor-at-Large Juan Jaramillo, Sen. Lydia Edwards, and Ward 4 Councillor Paul Argenzio.



Councillor-at-Large Juan Jaramillo thanked his wife, Crystal Jaramillo (right), for her support during his tenure as a city councillor in Revere.



Sen. Lydia Edwards, Councillor-at-Large Juan Jaramillo, and Mela Villa Gomez, District Director for Sen. Edwards' Office.



Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta-Zapata, Sebastian Zapata, Revere Councillor-at-Large Juan Jaramillo, and Crysall Jaramillo.



Revere Councillor-at-Large Juan Jaramillo welcomes Robert Baglio to the reception in Boston.



Councillor-at-Large Juan Jaramillo delivers his remarks at the reception held at the Boston offices of Risky Partners.



Sen. Lydia Edwards lauded Councillor-at-Large Juan Jaramillo for his outstanding accomplishments on the Revere City Council and said he will continue to be a positive voice for the people of Revere.

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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. SU25P2427EA
Estate of: Jacqueline A. Bossi
Date of Death 02/06/2025
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Joseph A. Bossi, Jr. of Hartford CT and Karen A. Cornell of Danville NH requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
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 01/08/2026. 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 (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. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 08, 2025
Stephanie L Everett, Esq., Register of Probate


12/10/25
EB

LEGAL NOTICE
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of: Rocco Andrew Telese
Also known as: Rocco A Telese
Date of Death: 10/01/2025
To all interested persons:
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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
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Probate and Family Court
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
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Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by John A. DeFronzo, Sr. of Weston, FL requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: John A. DeFronzo, Sr. of Weston, FL be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/14/2026. 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 (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
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WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 03, 2025
Stephanie L Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

12/10/25
EB

OBITUARIES

Philip A. Imperato
Italian American Club Officer and longtime member
and Past Commander of the American Legion,
Post #61

 Philip Anthony Imperato of Revere, formerly of East Boston, passed away peacefully on Friday, December 5, 2025, at the age of 92. Philip was born on June 12, 1933, in East Boston to his late parents, Louis and Marguerite (Passananti) Imperato. He graduated from Boston English High School, Class of 1951. He started playing drums at an early age and joined the Boston English Drum & Bugle Corps. "Phil Stixx" was a percussionist and enjoyed playing drums with many marching bands, orchestras, and for many private events.

Philip enlisted in the United States Army during the Korean War serving from 1953 to 1955. He proudly served his country as a Private First Class and was honorably discharged. Philip married the love of his life Patricia Favazza of Gloucester, on October 2, 1955. They were married for 64 years until her passing in 2019.

Philip was a store manager for Liberty Market in East Boston for many years and worked for the Department of Revenue for over 30 years. Philip was an officer of the Italian American Club and a longtime member and Past Commander of the American Legion, Post #61. He cherished the time with his friends at the Legion. Philip loved music and watching wrestling. He was a lifetime Red Sox fan and avid follower of the Patriots games. He loved visiting friends in Las Vegas and trying his luck at Foxwoods. His greatest joy was spending time with his family and friends.

Philip was predeceased by his wife, Patricia Imperato and his daughter, Lenamarie Smith. He was a loving father to his daughters: Marguerite Imperato and Lois Bunker, his son-in-law, Robert Bunker, and his brother, Michael Imperato. He was the cherished grandfather to: Philip Smith and his partner, Jessica Smith, Alex Flores,




Petrina Flores, Nicholas Bunker, Joseph Bunker, and Vincent Bunker. Philip was also the proud great-grandfather to: Philip Smith, Jr., Bentley Smith, and Jayla Smith. He is survived by his sisters-in-law, Bedy Ciulla and J.J. Pramas and brothers-in-law, Peter Pramas and Richard Davis. Philip is also survived by many wonderful nieces and nephews.

Family and friends are invited to Visiting Hours on Thursday, December 11th from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Vertuccio, Smith & Vazza, Beechwood Home for Funerals, 262 Beach Street, Revere. His Funeral will begin from the Funeral Home on Friday, December 12th at 10 a.m., followed by a Funeral Service conducted in the Funeral Home at 11 a.m. Interment in Woodlawn Cemetery will be held privately.

Special thanks to the staff at Mass General Hospital and South Shore Hospital, along with outstanding care from the dedicated staff and administrators of Alliance Health at Braintree and Serenity Hospice.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in Philip's honor to the American Legion, Post #61, 249 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. To send online condolences, please visit www.vertucciosmithvazza.com. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the care and direction of the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza, Beechwood Home for Funerals.



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EBCCS HOLDS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR



Maryann Manfredonia, principal emeritus, with her family.



The Robles Family.

Photos by Marianne Salza

East Boston Central Catholic School (EBCCS) held its Christmas Fair on December 6, featuring pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, homemade lunch, and holiday gift raffles. Children and their families had their faces painted, played games to win toy prizes, and shopped for Christmas decorations.



Debbie, Danae, and Danielle Pieroni.



Victoria Rodriguez, 6th grade, Janelle Avila, 6th grade, and Ibelis Diaz, 7th grade



Cathy Quigley, Alex Quigley, EBCCS Class of 2011, Kathleen Furey, and Joe Quigley.



Kitchen volunteers, parents, Yohana Velasquez, Victor Chavarria, and kindergarten teacher, Marcela Sanchez.



Mary, Jameson, Emilia, Skip, and Jameson Marcella, EBCCS angel.



Tiffany Herrera with her daughter, Zoey Guzman, EBCCS 4th grade, Officer David Hale, and June Comeau, 4th grade teacher.

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EBCCS HOLDS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR



East Boston Central Catholic School alumni, Steven Cellante and Anthony Herrera, with Stephanie Chow, and Mishaune and Giacomo Graziani.



Families taking chances on the snowman game to win toys.



Kitchen volunteers, Michele Borriello, Maria Pizzicannella, and Michelle Talluto.



Carol Baglio, EBCCS business manager/development director, with her son, Robert Baglio, and his children, Paul, Joey, Ky, and Anthony.

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Education // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

high-quality campus facilities, while strengthening Massachusetts’ competitiveness in research and innovation,” said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). “Building on the Commonwealth’s increases in student financial aid, and on our commitment to making higher education more accessible and affordable, especially for low-income students, Massachusetts is undertaking a generational reinvestment in educating our residents and strengthening our higher education system. I would like to thank Representatives Michlewitz, Rogers and Finn for their work on this bill, my colleagues for supporting it, and Governor Healey for her commitment to this effort.”

“This legislation passed by the House will revitalize and modernize higher education across the Commonwealth’s public colleges and universities,” said Representative Adrian Madaro. “By upgrading college campuses, addressing deferred maintenance and sustainability, and ensuring facilities are being updated to align with our educational and workforce goals, we are building on the House’s work on free community college and improved financial aid to ensure that higher education in Massachusetts has the resources to thrive”.

“The BRIGHT Act will help usher in a new era for public higher education in Massachusetts,” Representative David M. Rogers (D- Cambridge), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Higher Education. “Under Speaker Mariano’s leadership, the House has created free community college, exponentially increased financial aid, and now the BRIGHT Act invests nearly \$3.65 billion in public higher education campuses statewide. This new investment will: address essential campus infrastructure needs; develop modern learning spaces; and decrease reliance on fossil fuels.”

“The \$3.65 billion BRIGHT Act, bonded through a new special obligation fund and backed by Fair Share revenues, will modernize every public higher education campus in Massachusetts,” said Representative Michael J. Finn (D-West Springfield), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets. “This investment will spur economic development creating good-paying jobs, and deliver

cleaner, state-of-the-art facilities that will prepare our students to lead in a competitive, sustainable future. I thank Speaker Mariano and House Leadership for prioritizing this landmark legislation and ensuring Massachusetts remains a national leader in public higher education.”

The investments included in the bill create a long-term, statewide strategy for addressing aging facilities while aligning campuses with the state’s workforce, economic development, and climate goals. The bill also streamlines capital project delivery, expands the role of the Massachusetts State College Building Authority (MSCBA), and increases flexibility for campuses to manage facilities and property. The BRIGHT Act is estimated to create roughly 20,000 construction-related jobs across the Commonwealth as campuses undergo major capital improvements.

Specifically, the bill:

Invests \$3.65 Billion in Core Campus Infrastructure

Authorizes approximately \$3.65 billion in bond authorizations for investment in public higher education campuses. The Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) will manage most of these investments. Of the approximately \$3.65 billion, about \$3.1 billion will support higher education capital projects related to deferred maintenance, decarbonization, modernization, and planning. The investments at public institutions of higher education are broken down as follows:

- \$1.25 billion for the University of Massachusetts (UMass) System;
- \$1.25 billion for state universities (9 campuses) and community colleges (15 campuses);
- \$275 million for upgrades at MassArt;
- \$100 million for the transition of campus facilities and property into housing and mixed-use developments;
- \$80 million for costs associated with decarbonization and energy efficiency;
- \$120 million for lab modernization, projects at community colleges to support collaboration with vocational technical schools, and projects related to student health and well-being; and
- \$30 million for costs associated with developing required campus master plans.

The remaining \$170 million is authorized for several separate items as follows:

- \$50 million for a grant program administered through the Executive Office of Administration and Finance (A&F) for general improvements and climate-related upgrades at public institutions of higher education;
- \$20 million to the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (EOTSS) for costs associated with facilitating or enhancing remote or hybrid learning at public institutions of higher education; and
- \$100 million for a grant program administered by the Executive Office of Education (EOE) for improvements to upgrade and expand career technical education and training programs (Skills Capital Grants).

Updates to DCAMM Oversight

• Updates DCAMM’s project oversight in campus construction by raising the project delegation threshold from \$5 million to \$10 million for state universities and community colleges, allowing the Commissioner to delegate more projects to the MSCBA for supervision.

• Raises the threshold for schematic design to \$500,000, exempting smaller repairs and upgrades from lengthy design and certification requirements.

Surplus Campus Property Process

• Allows DCAMM to dispose of surplus campus property and directs all proceeds into a new Higher Education Property Disposition Fund. DCAMM needs to provide written notice to the municipalities where the property is located. These revenues can then be reinvested in other capital projects, including deferred maintenance, decarbonization, and other critical repairs, without requiring additional appropriations, giving campuses a sustainable way to reinvest in

their own infrastructure.

• Requires DCAMM to conduct a public hearing to consider restrictions for property that exceeds 2 acres or is 150,000 square feet or greater.

• Anticipates delegating envelope/HVAC projects, which allows for increased decarbonization work.

Improves Education and Transportation Fund Capital Financing

• To support investments, the bill authorizes the State Treasurer to issue special obligation bonds backed by the Education and Transportation Fund, strengthening long-term funding capacity for capital projects.

• Education and Transportation Fund revenues pledged for debt services are protected from diversion, and Fair Share surtax rate cannot be reduced while those revenues are needed for repayment.

• Clarifies and expands allowable uses for the Education and Transportation Innovation and Capital Account to include public education, affordable higher education, transportation infrastructure, and related capital needs, such as rail, bridges, bicycle pathways, and other public transportation assets.

Modernizes Massachusetts State College Building Authority (MSCBA)

• Allows DCAMM Commissioner to delegate campus construction projects costing up to \$10 million to the MSCBA, increasing it from \$5 million.

• Updates MSCBA’s authority to provide expanded services to state universities and community colleges, including financing academic, administrative, and campus infrastructure, as well as managing decarbonization and energy efficiency improvements.

• Adds two ex officio non-voting seats to the MSCBA Board (one state university president

and one community college president), increasing membership to 11 and allowing for enhanced information sharing.

Bond Issuance & Debt Structure

• To finance capital improvements, the bill authorizes the State Treasurer to issue up to approximately \$3.1 billion in bonds for campus upgrades and \$170 million for grants and technology services.

• Bonds are backed by Education and Transportation Fund revenues, not the state’s general obligation capacity, and are therefore exempt from statutory debt limits.

Enhances Reporting, Oversight & Accountability

• Requires annual reporting from DCAMM, A&F, EOE, UMass, the state universities, and the community colleges detailing project status, expenditures, emissions reductions, deferred maintenance addressed, square footage impacted, and alignment with campus master plans.

• Requires additional reporting for all deferred maintenance projects over \$50 million within 90 days of the bill’s passage.

Increases Access to Higher Education Opportunities

• Provides private nonprofit institutions of higher education who are designated as federal minority serving institutions, or as municipally owned colleges, access to grant programs that are currently available to community colleges.

• Programs include Mass-Reconnect, the SUCCESS program, and other grant programs that are run by the Department of Higher Education.

• Directs DHE to promulgate regulations accordingly.

The bill passed the House of Representatives 148-5. It now goes to the Senate for consideration.

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Hearing // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“This hearing is a step towards trying to understand how to move forward in an effective way where we have broad buy-in from all stakeholders of the community if there are going to be impacts to their quality of life and financial impacts. Residents deserve to know that when they walk down their block, the wires above them are safe, inspected, and capable of withstanding increasingly volatile weather patterns,” said Councilor Coletta Zapata. “I look forward to future conversations. Thank you to everyone who joined to provide their perspectives and experiences.”

The Councilors heard from an administration panel who provided an overview of the City’s coordination efforts with utility companies and the challenges of undergrounding infrastructure in densely populated

areas. The Public Improvement Commission clarified that its role is limited to reviewing the location of utility infrastructure and not determining its appropriateness, viability, or necessity. Those assessments fall to the utility companies and the State’s Department of Public Utilities (DPU). Councilor Coletta Zapata emphasized the need for clearer communication, timely responses, and critical infrastructure upgrades.

Utility companies present discussed the challenges of coordinating multiple utility projects in the same area and the importance of clear communication with city agencies. Eversource and National Grid shared that undergrounding wires could cost millions per mile, with additional costs for conduits, permits, and excavation. They emphasized the

complexity and high costs involved, noting that municipalities would bear the initial costs. During the hearing, the utility companies also addressed the impact of undergrounding on utility companies and their operations such as the complexity and cost of undergrounding, including the need for additional manholes and engineering costs.

This docket will remain in the Committee on City Services and Innovation Technology. A recording of the hearing can be found at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tCvk_co6PIQ

For additional information please contact the Office of Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata by phone at (617) 635-3200 or by email at gabriela.ramirez@boston.gov.

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THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP

Madaro Family Community Fund hosts annual Thanksgiving Day community dinner

Special to the Times-Free Press

Representative Adrian Madaro, family, and volunteers with the Madaro Family Community Fund had an eventful Thanksgiving morning preparing and distributing 850 meals for neighbors across the East Boston community.

The halls of the Salesian Boys and Girls Club bustled with activity as volunteers prepared hundreds of meals for pick-up while delivery teams dropped off over 350 meals to community seniors. Working both Wednesday and Thursday, the team assembled meals including a full Thanksgiving plate with turkey, fixings, and dessert.

“In a day and age where food bills are only going up, I’m proud to continue this East Boston tradition that brings together our neighbors and provides meals for members of our community,” said Representative Adrian Madaro. “Our Thanksgiving Day event has become a tradition for not only my family, but families and individuals across the neighborhood. I am incredibly thankful for the East Boston community, and I can

think of no better way than this to truly get into the spirit of the holiday.”

Volunteers at the annual event included State Senator Lydia Edwards, City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata, and Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, who thanked volunteers and helped the team greet and hand out meals to members of the community.

In addition to the Thanksgiving Day meals, earlier in the week the Madaro Family Community Fund organized the distribution of over 540 turkeys throughout the neighborhood. Distributed by volunteers and local non-profit groups, the turkeys were given out to neighborhood families to give them the option of preparing their own holiday dinner from the comfort of home with their loved ones.

“Among the many things I’m thankful for this season, none of this could have happened without the hard work of my team, our volunteers, and the many businesses and community organizations that stepped up to donate and help out,” said Representative Adrian Madaro. “Thank you all for



Shown are scenes from the annual Madaro Family Community Fund Thanksgiving Day community dinner that was held at the Salesian Boys and Girls Club.

your hard work and generosity
this holiday season!"

The holiday season isn't over for the Madaro Family Community Fund yet, however. On Friday, December 12, the festivities continue with the annual Eastie's Elves Toy Drive! Hosted from

5-8pm at the Hyatt Regency Logan Airport. Admission to Eastie's Elves is one unwrapped new toy. Come join the festivities and help make the holiday a little brighter for local kids!



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