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# East Boston

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BOOK'YOUR

TIMES-FREE PRESS

Wednesday, July 14, 2021

# **Boncore** may leave **State Senate** for position at Biotech Council

Special to the Times-Free Press

When Lisa Kashinsky of Politico Massachusetts Playbook first reported last week that State Sen. Joe Boncore was letting his colleagues know that he "plans to leave for a job at MassBio [Massachusetts Biotechnology Council]," it set off a lot of speculation and political activity in the senatorial district that includes East Boston.

The Boston Globe followed with a story stating that "Boncore, 39, still has more interviews for the leadership job, according

See BONCORE Page 4

## South End State Rep. Jon Santiago ends mayoral campaign

By Seth Daniel

Though he has a gleaming resume for the job of mayor, South End State Rep. Jon Santiago's campaign never took a strong foothold citywide and never caught the momentum needed to show strong in September, and as a result he ended his campaign for mayor on Tuesday morn-

His move to end the campaign leaves four announced major candidates still in the race.

Santiago has had a great run as a state representative in the South End, and was a natural fit when he

See SANTIAGO Page 2

#### **ZUMIX WALK FOR MUSIC**



Zumix held its annual Zumix Walk for Music fundraiser on Sunday, July 11. Hundreds walked from the Zumix Firehouse on Sumner Street to Piers Park for live music. See Page 12 for more photos.

### Update on the Ohabei Shalom Cemetery restoration

By John Lynds

At a community meeting last month Lisa Berenson, Director of Development for Jewish Cemetery Association of Massachusetts (JCAM) Charitable Foundation said the foundation is continuing to restore the historic Ohabei Shalom Chapel on Wordsworth Street with several projects in the works.

Built in 1903 the Ohabei Shalom Chapel served as a mortuary chapel for the adjacent Jewish Cemetery. The cemetery was established in 1844, and was the first Jewish Cemetery in Massachusetts that served Boston and Mystic Valley's Jewish popula-

According to plans the JCAM will complete a historic restoration of not only the chapel to create the neighborhood's first immigration center but also the cemetery's perim-

We're in the process of doing a lot of restoration at the cemetery," said Berenson. "We've completely restored the exits to the cemetery. We've completely renovated the exterior of the chapel and the entire exterior of that building and repointed it



The historic Ohabei Shalom Cemetery Chapel on Wordsworth Street. The Jewish Cemetery Association of Massachusetts (JCAM) Charitable Foundation is continuing to restore the cemetery's chapel and launched other restoration projects at the cemetery.

completely. We've been able to do this with funds from the Mass Historical Commission, private foundations and donations."

Berenson said JCAM's latest project right now is the fence at the back of the cemetery that borders Byron Street.

"It's kind of an eyesore and we realize that and it's just been a matter of raising money to be able to do some work on that retaining wall that is crumbling," said Berenson. "The chainlink fence is rusted and that is an eyesore as well. So, thankfully, we have been writing grants and we've been doing pretty well with getting some funding. We're very excited about starting the wall restoration and the replacement fence at the back of the cemetery. We're hoping to have this completed sometime in the fall. We're going to aggressively start working on that very shortly, and it's not only going to be good for the Byron Street neighborhood but for us as well."

explained Berenson over the years the cemetery has had its fair share of vandalism.

**See RESTORATION Page 2** 

# **Eastie's Constitution Beach** scores high marks on water quality report card

With summer in full swing and beach goers enjoying sun, surf and sand Save the Harbor/Save the Bay released its annual report on the water quality at Constitution Beach in East Boston.

According to Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Annual Beach Water Report Card, Constitution Beach scored an A+ and the beach's water quality increased eight points in the summer of 2020 since posting one of its lowest grades during the summer of 2019.

Constitution Beach scored a 98 percent last summer after posting a 90 percent in 2019. In 2018 Constitution Beach scored a 94 percent; a 95 percent in 2017; a 96 percent in 2016; and an 89 percent in 2015--the beaches lowest grade in six years.

Overall Constitution Beach's six year average for water quality is 94 per-

Rainfall can have a significant impact on beach water quality and can vary greatly from year to year. Changes in the summer storm intensity and frequency can often explain the variations. Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Bruce Berman said 2020 was a relatively dry year, with only a few large summer storms and relatively fewer wet weather impacts, hence the increase in score at Eastie's beach.

The drop in some scores at beaches like Constitution Beach in 2019 was not surprising. Though places like Lynn, Swamp-

See BEACHES Page 2

#### Nine East Boston residents to participate in Pan-Mass Challenge

By John Lynds

East Boston resident Nicole Azero said she signs up each year for the Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC) bike-a-thon because she knows she's part of an event that has one of the largest impacts on the cancer research community in the world but the pandemic has hampered many fundraising efforts.

"Over the past year, most fundraisers have not raised the amount of money they normally see through their events, including the PMC," said Azero. "However, I know this year will be a turnaround year for many and I hope to help those who need it most through my ride in 2021. You don't hear of many events where 100 percent of rider-raised revenue goes directly to a cause. But for the PMC. 100% of the proceeds support the Jimmy Fund and Dana-Farber Cancer Insti-



Eastie's Nicole Azero will be one of nine Eastie residents to participate in this year's Pan-Mass Challenge bikea-thon with the goal of raising \$52 million for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

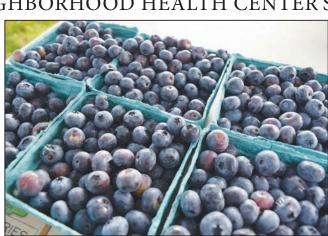
tute located in Boston."

On Aug. 7 and 8, Azero will join eight other East

See PAN-MASS Page 2

#### EAST BOSTON NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CENTER'S FARMERS MARKET







On July 7, the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center kicked off another season of farm fresh produce and other treats with its farmers market in Central Square. The market will be open each Wednesday until 6:30 p.m. See Page 6 for more photos.



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# ParkARTS neighborhood concerts, golf course concerts begin July 21

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department's 2021 ParkARTS Citywide Neighborhood Concert Series offers musical entertainment in local parks from July 21 through August 12, as well as a series of summer evening concerts on the patios at the City of Boston's two golf course clubhouses from July 21 through Sept. 1.

The ParkARTS outdoor neighborhood summer concerts and golf course concerts are made possible by presenting sponsor Bank of America. Concerts at William J. Devine clubhouse are offered with support from the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, reflecting Franklin Park's location within Boston's historic Emerald Necklace system of parks.

The ParkARTS Citywide Neighborhood Concert Series begins on Wednesday, July 21, with The Woo Factor at Almont Park, 40 Almont Street, Mattapan, and continues Thursday, July 22 with Northeast Groove at Billings Field, 369 LaGrange Street, West

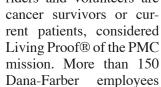
Wednesday, July 28 with the Soul City Band at Dorchester Park, 2180 Dorchester Avenue, Dorchester; and Thursday, July 29 with Tom Petty tribute band The Rebels at Medal of Honor Park, 775 East First Street, South Boston.

The August schedule kicks off with Veronica Robles on Wednesday, August 4, at LoPresti Park, 33 Sumner Street, East Boston; Thursday, August 5, with the Soul City Band at Smith Playground, 235 Western Avenue, Allston; and Wednesday, August 11, with Jah Spirit Reggae at Horatio Harris Park, 58 Beech Glen Street, Roxbury. The series ends on Thursday, August 12, with Joaquin Santos at Blackstone Square, 1530 Washington Street, South End. Shows in neighborhood parks begin at 7 p.m.

ParkARTS golf course performances are offered on alternating Wednesdays on the clubhouse patios of the William J. Devine Golf Course (1 Circuit Dr, Dorchester) and George

Wright Golf Course (420 West St, Hyde Park) throughout July and August and into September: the Jamaica Plain Saxophone Quartet will perform on July 21 at Franklin Park; It's a J Thing on Wednesday, July 28 at George Wright; Shane Wood Jazz Trio on August 4 at Franklin Park; Mike Tarara on August 11 at George Wright; Andres Guerra on August 18 at Franklin Park; Woundikin on August 25 at George Wright; and wrapping up with The Pat Gaulin Trio on September 1 at Franklin Park. All golf course performances begin at 6:00 pm.

All ParkARTS performances are free of charge. For more information, please call (617) 635-4505 or visit Boston.gov/Park-ARTS. Stay up to date with news, events, and design and construction work in Boston parks by signing up for our email list at bit.ly/ Get-Parks-Emails and follow our social channels @ bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Insta-



"We couldn't be more



Old combined outfall hookups mix stormwater and sewage together after a big storm and pump it out into the harbor.

Berman has long said that there are two ways to fix an urban beach problem. One way is to sever every pipe that goes into the beach like the city did in South Boston years ago but that is very expensive.

The other way to ensure cleaner water is for residents to look at their own water and sewer hook ups and make sure they are not old hook ups that lead out into storm water drains.

However, things are a lot better than they were 25 years ago when the Deer Island treatment facility was in disarray and a broken outflow just off the harbor beaches was pumping 200 million gallons of raw sewage back into the water after heavy storms.

Save the Harbor/ Save

about the accuracy of the beach flagging and posting protocols, where bacteria testing triggers swimming advisories.

Berman said one problem is that postings are always a day late because beach managers must wait up to 36 hours to obtain test results. Beach water quality may have already changed significantly during this period, so the prior day's tests often do not reflect current condi-

Moreover, in 2019, The Department of Public Health made additional changes to the beach posting and flagging protocols, which has resulted in additional days where beaches are unnecessarily posted with swimming advisories when they are in fact safe for swimming.

"While Save the Harbor recognizes the importance of protecting public health, the current system is often inaccurate and sometimes overly restrictive," said Berman. "Over the coming months we

plan to work with consultant Kelly Coughlin of Stony Brook Partners, and with the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, MADEP, USEPA, and MADPH to develop new rainfall thresholds and protocols to improve flagging and posting accura-

Weekly water quality testing at Boston's regional beaches began in late May of 2020. Additional daily testing of Constitution Beach, King's Beach, Malibu Beach, Tenean Beach, and Wollaston Beach began in early June and concluded on Labor Day weekend, September 6, 2020.

These beach safety scores are calculated as the percent of water samples that comply with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health single sample limit for bacteria, a straightforward way to evaluate seasonal beach water quality and potential impacts on public health.

#### Boston residents and more "Although I never got to know him because of

Pan-Mass // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

than 6,000 riders for the two-day 211-mile bikea-thon across Massachusetts, with the goal of raising \$52 million for cancer research and patient care at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (Dana-Farber).

PMC is the nation's single most successful athletic fundraiser, donating 100 percent of every rider-raised dollar to Dana-Farber as its largest single contributor, accounting for 64 percent of its Jimmy Fund's annual revenue. For the first time since 2019, more than 6,000 riders from 47 states and 11 countries will once again hit the road together during the first weekend of August with the common goal of making an impact in the fight against cancer. In 2020, the PMC raised an impressive \$50 million through its summer-long Reimagined campaign, bringing its 41-year contribution to \$767 million.

Another rider from Eastie, Kenny Zarrilli, said he got involved because he lost his father to

cancer as a young boy.

this terrible disease, I have observed the effects his loss has had on my family members over the years, from my mother and brother, to my grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and family friends," said Zarrilli. "No doubt, it has been a long, difficult journey for myself as well. At times I have felt lost, not knowing where to turn because I didn't have available to me the stalwart influence and sage wisdom only a father can provide. I want to ride to raise money so that no

other family has to expe-

rience this and so no other

young boy has to grow up

without a father because

of cancer.' PMC 2021 will include 16 routes – from 25 to 211 miles - designed to cater to all levels of cycling and fundraising ability, including Reimagined options for those who prefer to complete their PMC ride on their own. Most participate in honor of a family member or friend fighting cancer and more than 950

riders and volunteers are are committed to the cause as riders and volunteers as well, in some cases to fund their own cancer research.

excited to bring our passionate PMC riders, volunteers, donors and sponsors back together in person for PMC Ride Weekend this year," said Billy Starr, founder and executive director of the PMC. "With fully supported routes and Reimagined options, everyone can customize their PMC experience to join us in the fight against cancer. Cancer doesn't stop for anything, even a global pandemic, and funding for research, treatment and

care is as critical as ever." Riders from Eastie in this year's PMC are: Nicole Azero; Joseph Frasso; Becca Patnode; Erin Phinney; Shawn Ray; James Rogers; Colin Smith; David Tritto and Kenny Zarrilli.

# Restoration // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Over the course of many years we have had lots of vandalism," she said. "Kids go into the cemetery to drink and just throw trash all over the place and knock down monuments. We had some graffiti about two years ago on the wall on Byron Street. We've had some antisemitic incidents at The Chapel that we've had to deal withas well. The thing is these monuments at the back of the cemetery are the oldest monuments and date back to 1866. These are the most fragile

them are made out of unpolished marble so they're very very fragile. So for somebody to come into the cemetery and do damage to those monuments is reprehensible. In order to secure the

out of granite, a lot of

cemetery and keep unwanted visitors away, Berenson said fixing the wall and adding a new fence will be a good start.

"We actually just submitted a grant to the East Boston Foundation because what we're hoping to do is not just replace the chain link fence with another chain fence," said Berenson. "We would like to get a historically accurate fence that would mimic the fence at the front of the cemetery on Woodsworth Street so it looks very historically ac-

curate and beautiful." The JCAM also received funds from Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding last year. Under Historic Preservation \$40,000 went towards helping restore the wall on Byron Street that Berenson said was crumbling.

# Santiago // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

announced for mayor. However, polls continued to indicate that he was running too far behind other candidates to likely catch

"When I announced my campaign for Boston Mayor, it was with optimism, energy, and a sincere desire to serve the people and families I see every day across our city," he said. "Today, I announced that I am ending my mayoral campaign. But my intention to serve remains as strong as ever. Service has taught me so much about life, Boston, and myself. That drive to give back led me to serve my country in

the Army and as a Peace Corps volunteer. It gave me an opportunity to provide medical care for patients in the most difficult of times. And it inspired me to represent my community as a state representative in the Massachusetts Legislature. These experiences in service are what drove me to launch my campaign for mayor.

because they are not made

"I'm deeply proud of the impact our campaign was able to have, the relationships we've built, and the race we've run," he continued. "It was a true honor to join a historic field of candidates, and I look forward to supporting the

first elected woman of color to lead Boston."

Santiago sent out a letter

to his campaign team and supporters thanking them for their work and contributions to the campaign over the last six month. He also thanked his wife, Alex, for standing by him since day one. Beyond that, Santiago – having been re-elected last year to the state rep seat - will return to the State House to resume his duties there having learned a great deal about the residents outside his district. He said he would be a tireless advocate for issues such as the

opiate epidemic at Mass and Cass and other inequities even though his mayoral race has concluded. "My campaign for mayor may be ending, but let

me be clear: The work to address our systemic inequities and crises like Mass and Cass has never been more urgent," he said. "You have my commitment to remain a tireless advocate on these issues as we move forward. But, for now, my message is simply thank you. I'm full of gratitude and optimism, and I look

forward to talking soon." Councilor and mayoral candidate Andrea Campbell – formerly his opponent in the mayoral race - issued a statement immediately thanking him for his advocacy.

"I am grateful for the unique experience and passion for service that Representative Santiago and his team brought to this race," she said. "I look forward to continuing to work in partnership to move our city forward."

Many wonder where Santiago's supporters might turn in the wake of him leaving. In the South End, many have already turned support to Councilor Annissa Essaibi George due to her long-time advocacy for Mass and Cass issues. Meanwhile, other support is likely to go to Campbell and Wu and Janey.

Pursuant to G. L. c. 30A, §18-20 The East Boston Project Advisory Committee, Incorporated

Notice is hereby given that on **Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.** a public meeting of the East Boston Project Advisory Committee, Inc., (**aka PIERPAC**) will be held at: Cathy Leonard-McLean Community Roon Located on First Floor of the Rental Car Center

It is the intention of the Committee to discuss in open meeting the following matter(s):

REGULAR MEETING

Old Business

a. Attendance 6:30 pmb. Approval of Minutes, June 30 2020 6:35 pm

a. -7:00 pm – Anthony Guerriero, Massport Updates b. -7:40 pm - Review and consideration of Draft Recommendation of Membership Subcommittee (Public Comment) c. -8:00 pm - Treasurer's Report (Month Ending June)

8:05 pm - Update - Amendment to Operations, Security and
Maintenance (OSM) Agreement (continued discussion)
 8:10 pm - Update - Massport annual financial commitment (continued)

c. 8:15 pm – Anticipated adjournment At the conclusion of its regular business meeting and prior to adjournment, the Board, upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board may hold an Executive Session pursuant to G. L. 30A.s.21 upon the conclusion of which, the Board will not resume its public meeting. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED AND WELCOMED TO ATTEND A copy of this notice has also been posted on the organization's website at www.EBPierPAC.org
and has also been placed on file with the Regulations Division of the Secretary of the
Commonwealth by mailing same via first class mail at least 5 days prior to the scheduled date of

AVISO DE REUNIÓN (REPROGRAMADO) PÚBLICA El Comité Asesor del Proyecto East Boston, Incorporado e da aviso de que el lunes 20 de julio de 2021 a las 18:30 horas. una reunión pública del Comité Aseso el Proyecto de East Boston, Inc., (también conocido como PIERPAC) se llevará a cabo en: Cathy Leonard-McLean Community Room ocated on First Floor of the Rental Car Center La intención del Comité es debatir en sesión abierta los siguientes asuntos REUNIÓN REGULAR a. Asistencia 6:30 pm
b. Aprobación del Acta 18 de mayo de 2021 6:45 pm NUEVO NEGOCIO a. 7:00 pm - Anthony Guerrierro Massport Update
 b. 7:40 pm - Revisión y consideración del proyecto de recomendación del subcomité de membresa (comentario público)
 c. 8:00 pm - Informe del Tesorero (Mes que termina el 30 de junio)

VIEJO NEGOCIO

7:45 pm - Actualización - Acuerdo de Modificación de Operaciones, Seguridad y Mantenimiento (OSM) (discusión continua) 7:55 pm - Actualización - Compromiso financiero anual de Massport (discusión continua) 8:00 pm - Aplazamiento anticipado

Al término de su reunión ordinaria de negocios y antes de la suspensión de la sesión, la Junta, previa moción debidamente presentada y secundada, la Junta podrá celebrar una sesión ejecutiva de conform con G. L. 30A.s.21 una vez concluida, la Junta no reanudará su reunión pública. INVITAN A MIEMBROS DEL PÚBLICO Y BIENVENIDO A ASISTIR

También se ha publicado una copia de este aviso en el sitio web de la organización en: www.EBPierPAC.org y también ha sido puesto en expediente ante la División de Reglamentos del Secretario de la Commonwealth por correo electrónico a través de correo de primera clase al menos 3 días antes de la fecha programada de la reunión. Comité Asesor de Proyectos del Este de Boston, Inc.

Por: Louise Montanino, Presidenta

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# Janey celebrates grand opening of new mixed-income housing

Acting Mayor Kim Janey on Monday joined the Boston Housing Authority (BHA), WinnCompanies and MassHousing to celebrate the opening of a new mixed income community on the East Boston waterfront.

The \$30 million Harborwalk development replaced 20 units of aging Boston Housing Authority public housing at Clippership Apartments on Lewis St. with 22 affordable modern apartment homes at Harbor125 Apartments and Harborwalk Residences, also featuring 30 condominiums available for sale to middle-income and market-rate households.

"The Clippership Apartments, housing 22 rental units, will be welcoming back many families who were living here before the development plans were fully realized. Now those families are returning to newly constructed high quality modern living spaces," said Mayor Janey. "I am proud to be a part of powerful investment in the people and the community of East

Boston." Original public housing households who previously lived at the Clippership property have returned to new modern apartments. Of the 30 new condominiums, 14 will be sold to middle-income homebuyers at subsidized prices. The remaining 16 condos are being sold to buyers at market rates.

"These new homes will be an essential part

of the East Boston neighborhood, securing Clippership's affordable housing promise for the future," said BHA Administrator Kate Bennett. "This new development ensures that low income families can continue to have access to the East Boston waterfront and enjoy a better quality of life in new modern homes."

Located one block from the MBTA Blue Line station at Maverick, the oneacre property offers a stunning view of downtown and pedestrian access to the Harborwalk. The new two-building development includes ground-level retail space, a management office, a bicycle storage room, and a community room available to East Boston civic groups.

"This project is a great example of a public-private partnership to preserve and expand public housing while also creating new ownership opportunities for working households who otherwise would be priced out of the market," said Gilbert Winn, CEO of WinnCompanies. "It's very satisfying to replace 20 units of aging public housing with 52 modern homes available at the entire range of incomes."

Financing sources included Inclusionary Development Program funding facilitated by the Boston Planning and Development Agency and contributed by Lendlease, Inc., in connection with the company's Clippership Wharf apartment and condominium project located next door.



Acting Mayor Kim Janey and joined state officials, Boston Housing Authority and WinnCompanies officials to cut the ribbon on the new mixed-income Clippership Apartments redevelopment on Monday.

The Harborwalk project is part of the BHA's continuing effort to preserve, expand and modernize public housing in the City of Boston. The agency kicked off the development process in April 2016 and holds the ground lease for the rental site. WinnCompanies owns Harbor125 Apartments and developed Harborwalk Residences with a deed restriction requiring the 14 middle income home ownership condos to remain affordable.

"By transforming the former Clippership Apartments into a dynamic, new mixed-income development, this project is preserving much-needed

affordable rental housing and creating new homeownership opportunities for first-time homebuyers," said MassHousing Executive Director Chrystal Kornegay. "We congratulate WinnCompanies and the Boston Housing Authority for reaching this milestone. MassHousing is pleased to be a partner in this important work."

The 22 rental apartments at Harbor125 include one one-bedroom unit, six two-bedroom units, 10 three-bedroom units and five four-bedroom units. The apartments are supported by federal Section 8 project-based vouchers administered by the BHA.

Of the 14 condos to be sold through a lottery process, five one-bedroom units are for households earning at or below 80% of Area Median Income (\$85,700); five one-bedroom units are for households earning at or below 120% AMI (\$142,800); one two-bedroom unit is for a household earning at or below 80% of AMI; and one two-bedroom unit and two three-bedroom condos are set aside for households earning at or below 120% of AMI.

MassHousing, the independent, quasi-public agency that provides financing for affordable housing in Massachusetts, provided a \$6.6 million

permanent mortgage and \$3.6 million in bridge loan financing for the development of Harbor125 Apartments and \$1 million from the agency's Workforce Housing Initiative to subsidize the cost of the 14 workforce condos at Har-

borwalk Residences. Additional funding was provided by Bank of America and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta through the competitive Affordable Housing Program. BlueHub Capital provided subordinate construction and permanent financing to both projects.

# **NOAH receives Cummings Grant**

By John Lynds

East Boston's Neighborhood of Affordable Housing (NOAH) recently received a \$100,000 grant from the Cummings Foundation's \$25 Million Grant Program. NOAH was one of 139 local nonprofits to receive grants ranging from \$100,000 to \$500,000 and will receive \$100,000 over a two year

period. "We are grateful to the Cummings Foundation and their steadfast commitment to the non-profit community," Philip Giffee, Executive Director at NOAH. "This grant, in support of the Homelessness Prevention project, will strengthen NOAH's ability to provide no-/ low-income households bilingual homelessness prevention services."

NOAH, a community development corporation, promotes equity, community cohesion, environmental justice, and economic resiliency.

"We increase access to affordable housing, create social and economic opportunities, and empower residents to be leaders of change," added Giffee.

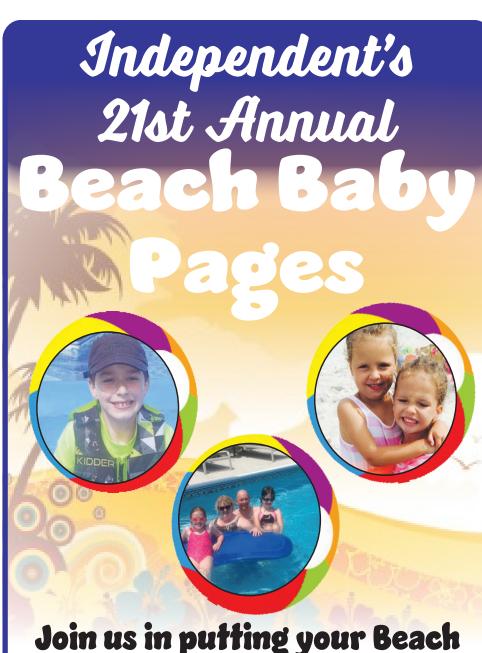
During a highly competitive grant application process that included several rounds of applications, presentations and interviews, NOAH was chosen from a group of 590 applicants during.

The Cummings \$25 Million Grant Program supports Massachusetts nonprofits that are based in and primarily serve Middlesex, Essex, and

Suffolk counties. Cummings Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Woburn-based Cummings Properties. The grant program aims to give back in the area where Cummings Properties owns commercial buildings.

"We aim to help meet the needs of people in all segments of our local community," said Cummings Foundation Executive Director Joel Swets. "It is the incredible organizations we fund, however, that do the actual daily work to empower our neighbors, educate our children, fight for equity,

and so much more." The Cummings Foundation has now awarded more than \$300 million to greater Boston nonprofits since its founding.



# Join us in putting your Beach Baby in our 21ST ANNUAL **BEACH BABY PAGES!**

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the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**New England** BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL BOSTÓN MEDICAL All of Us and the All of Us logo are service marks of

# East Boston

Times-Free Press

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#### SORRY FOLKS --**BUT THE PANDEMIC** IS FAR FROM OVER

We in Massachusetts are living in a bit of a pandemic bubble right now, both literally and figuratively.

The high vaccination rate in our state, as well as in neighboring states throughout New England, has contributed to a dramatic drop in the number of COVID-19 infections, deaths, and hospitalizations in our part of the country.

The successful reopening of our economy serves as a testament to the value of having a highly-vaccinated -- and highly-educated -- population.

It's as if our region of the U.S. is equivalent to an island nation such as New Zealand, where COVID-19 has not made a dent in economic or other activity since the beginning of the pandemic because its prime minister, Jacinda Ardern, sealed off its borders to foreigners from the very beginning of the pandemic.

However, New England is not an island. Millions of our own citizens are traveling to other places and returning, and millions of non-residents are coming here to visit this summer.

The Delta variant of COVID-19 is now the dominant strain of the virus both in this country and throughout the world. The troubling aspects of Delta are that it is much more highly-transmissible than the original, it is more lethal, and the vaccines are slightly less-efficacious against it compared to the original strain of the virus for which the vaccines specifically were developed.

In Australia (where vaccination rates are very low), the Delta variant has shown itself to be a whole new ballgame, so to speak, in terms of how contagious it is. The virus has been transmitted among people who simply came fleetingly into contact with each other and shared the same airspace in an indoor mall.

"It is the most hyper-transmissible, contagious version of the virus we've seen to date, for sure — it's a superspreader strain if there ever was one," said Eric Topol, a professor of molecular medicine and an executive vice president at the Scripps Research Institution, in a recent interview in Scientific American.

The Delta variant is being blamed for the huge increases in infections and deaths throughout the world, particularly in places where vaccination rates are in the low single digits.

There also are many areas in the U.S., such as parts of Texas, Missouri, and Arkansas, where vaccination rates are low, that predictably now are seeing large increases in COVID-19 cases caused by Delta.

The Delta variant is concerning enough on its own, but the real problem is this: The more people who become infected with COVID-19, the more likely that the virus will mutate into additional variants, with the possibility that vaccination efficacy could begin to drop significantly if one of these strains develops an ability to evade the vaccines' protective effects.

It is nothing less than tragic -- and despicable, really -- that there are some in public life who are urging Americans NOT to get vaccinated. That mindset was on display this past weekend at the Republican-dominated CPAC conference, where some clown on a panel who spoke out against the nation's vaccination program was actually applauded by those in attendance.

There is a strong and vocal minority in this country who strive to create chaos -- that's what makes them

Whether we as a nation can overcome the combination of venality and stupidity that was on display at CPAC this past weekend will determine whether we can beat the pandemic in the short term and whether our democracy and our way of life can survive in the long term.

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# Forum

# GUEST OP-ED

Financial suicide is not necessary

Dr. Glenn Mollette

There is some risk to all of life.

A friend and his wife had a house paid for and a substantial savings account. At the age of 65 he was retired and bored and bemoaned he had never been a business owner. He was aware of a family who had recently closed a business so he offered to buy it from them and even employed a family member to run it. He knew nothing about the business but was confident all would be well. The cost of the investment, his lack of understanding the business and the monthly outgo spelled disaster. Within two years he had lost his house and his entire retirement savings trying to make his dream business endeavor sustainable.

Another acquaintance had worked hard at an auto plant for twelve years but retired and took his \$150,000 retirement

savings and sunk it into a restaurant endeavor. He had never run a restaurant before and within one year

the restaurant had failed. His money was gone and he had a sizable debt. Another acquaintance

retired and wanted something to do. He got into a cookie business that lasted three months. He spent \$30,000 a month for three months in a cookie franchise before he was able to get out of the venture. Neither of the prior per-

sons had any prior business ownership experience.

Life is filled with lessons. Education is often very expensive. You must decide if you are still young enough or too old to take on such a business venture. This is especially true if you could end up losing all your investment and further financially obligating yourself.

If you want or need something to do, then get into something that you can afford and know something about. Being informed and applying as much research to any endeavor is crucial. If you can afford a large franchise fee, other investment costs and you can make the business successful, then by all means enjoy your endeavor. If you are risking being homeless then you should probably reconsider.

Years ago, an old friend was almost financially broke at 50. He had worked in various restaurants with others but had little to show for his efforts. He rented an old hamburger restaurant that had been closed and his rent and overhead were cheap. He went to work making the best hamburger in town. For 16 years his burger business netted him an annual salary of over \$300,000. He retired

Sometimes we simply need to be content with what we have. If you need to work, consider what you know, what you have and how you can make it work for you. It could require a minimal amount of advertising. Or, it might simply require letting acquaintances know what kind of work you are doing and building your business by word of mouth. You may be able to use space or land that is sitting dormant and can be rented or bought reasonably.

Life's pursuits can be, and should be, approached with reasonable caution. Financial suicide is not necessary.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist - American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week In over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

#### Boncore// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to a person familiar with the hiring process."

The East Boston Times-Free Press has been unsuccessful in its efforts to secure a statement from Sen. Boncore about the job offer. However, Mass. State Senate Clerk

Michael Hurley has confirmed to the East Boston Times-Free Press that Sen. Boncore has filed disclosure forms stating that he is a prospective employee of the Massachusetts Biotechnology.

Boncore has served as state senator for East Boston since 2016 when he won a special election for

the seat previously held by Anthony Petruccelli.

#### **Potential candidates** emerge for **State Senate seat**

The recent new items about Sen. Joseph Boncore being considered for a high-level position at the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council has led to candidates considering a run for the position in what would be a special election.

Boston District 1 City Councilor Lydia Edwards said in a statement Tuesday to the East Boston Times-Free Press: "It is

an opportunity. It's a rare one, and I'm looking at it. I'm going to talk with my friends and family and of course my supporters throughout the district to see what they think. Ultimately, I will have to make a decision and I'm not there yet."

Rep. State Adrian Madaro has been mentioned as a potential candidate for the state senate Revere School Com-

mittee member Anthony

D'Ambrosio is strongly

considering a run for the

seat. Revere Councilor-at-Large Steven Morabito, who ran for the seat in the 2016 special election, said, "Team Morabito is exploring the option to run for Senate if Sen. Boncore leaves. I will resign as Councilor-at-Large and remove my name from the ballot if I pursue a run for State Senate."

Revere resident Juan Pablo Jaramillo, who ran for state representative in the special election to fill the Winthrop-Revere seat previously held by Speaker of the House Robert A. DeLeo, is also considering a run for the state senate

#### Amtrak to transform rail travel with \$7.3 billion investment

Staff Report

Amtrak is contracting with California-based Siemens Mobility Inc. to manufacture a new fleet of up to 83 multi-powered modern trains that will be leveraged for state and northeast services, with further options for up to 130 additional trains to support Amtrak growth plans. The new fleet will offer modern rail amenities that better serve Amtrak customers. "These new trains will

reshape the future of rail travel by replacing our aging 40-to-50-year old fleet with state-of-the-art, American-made equipment," said Amtrak CEO Bill Flynn. "This investment is essential to preserving and growing our Northeast Regional and state-supported services and will allow our customers to travel comfortably and safely, while deeply reducing criteria pollutants." The new equipment

will operate on the Northeast Corridor, long distance Palmetto and various state-supported routes that will replace Amtrak-owned Amfleet, Metroliner, and state-owned equipment on certain routes throughout the country. In addition to

the Northeast Regional,

other routes will include

the Adirondack, Carolinian, Cascades, Downeaster, Empire Service, Ethan Allen Express, Keystone Service, Maple Leaf, New Haven/Springfield vice (Amtrak Hartford Line and Valley Flyer), Pennsylvanian, Vermonter and Virginia Ser-

"Amtrak's procurement of new rolling stock is historic. These state-of-the-art trainsets will allow Amtrak to operate and provide services more safely, efficiently, and reliably," said FRA Deputy Administrator Amit Bose. "More importantly, doing so will give riders the modern passenger rail accommodations, amenities and comforts they want and deserve." The \$7.3 billion invest-

ment includes the purchase of equipment and a long-term parts supply and service agreement, facility modifications and upgrades, and other program expenses. A long-term service

agreement for technical support, spare parts and material supply will accompany the contract to manufacture the trains. The new trains include remote monitoring and fully inte-

grated digital diagnostics

for increased reliability.

These advanced features

will enable Amtrak to test and develop new technology and introduce new maintenance approaches to drive efficiency, increase availability and reduce long-term costs.

The latest trains will feature more comfortable seating, individual power outlets and USB ports, onboard Wi-Fi, enhanced lighting and panoramic windows, larger vestibules, a more contemporary food service experience, including self-service options, as well as state-ofthe-art customer trip information, digital seat reservation system and navigation display systems. The trains were designed with the latest health and safety standards, including enhanced HVAC, touchless restroom controls, and automated steps. The trains meet all the latest safety regulations and standards, providing improved structural safety. With expanded capacity and the ability to shorten trip time, Amtrak expects the new equipment to add

York's Empire Service,

these trains will also pro-

vide a substantial envi-

nually.

over 1.5 million riders, an-Using multi-power systems, including hybrid battery operation for a portion of the fleet used for New

ronmental benefit through reduced criteria pollutants compared to the existing fleet. They will be designed with Amtrak's new standard of enhanced accessible features, including inductive hearing loops, accessible restrooms and vestibules, an accessible Food Service car, and lifts for customers with reduced mobility, including wheelchair users.

The trains will be man-

ufactured at Siemens Mobility's rail manufacturing facility in Sacramento, California, and will comply with the Federal Railroad Administration Buy America Standards. The facility is celebrating its 30th anniversary of operations this year as it continues to add to its more than 2,100 team members. It is one of the largest plants of its kind on the continent, and also one of the most sustainable, using a 2.1 MW solar panel installation to provide the majority of its power coming from the strong, reliable Californian sun. Siemens Mobility designs and manufactures across the entire spectrum of rolling stock including passenger trains, light rail and streetcars, locomotives, and passenger coaches in Sacramento.

#### East Boston's Sarah deSouza crowned Miss Massachusetts

By John Lynds

Last month, the Miss Universe Organization crowned East Boston resident Sarah deSouza the winner of Miss Massachusetts USA 2021.

Born and raised in Dracut, Massachusetts, the 25-year-old deSouza has lived in Eastie for the past seven years and is the oldest of four sisters.

The competition, which was held at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium was one of the year's most anticipated pageant events according to Laurie Clemente, Executive Director.

"After many years of working in the pageant industry, I feel confident that Sarah will be a wonderful representative of the state of Massachusetts," said Clemente. "I know she will make us proud as she goes on to compete for the title of Miss USA in November."

deSouza said her stud-



The Miss Universe Organization crowned East Boston resident Sarah de-Souza the winner of Miss Massachusetts USA 2021. deSouza will now compete for the title of Miss USA in

ies have always been extremely important to her as she graduated from Dracut Senior High School in 2014 with High Honors and graduated from Suffolk University Cum Laude in 2018.

After receiving her Bachelor's Degree in In-

terior Design, deSouza began working for a small residential interior design company as a junior designer, where she helped turn clients' visions into reality. She had her first art show in Somerville in 2019, where she debuted multiple paintings that she created over the years.

"Creating art in any way, shape, or form is one of my greatest passions and being able to share that gift to the world makes it even more fulfilling," she said.

As a first generation Brazilian-American, de-Souza speaks Portuguese and Spanish. With both parents being born and raised in Brazil, speaking about immigrants and immigration reform is one of her greatest passions.

deSouza recently created a podcast called 'ismimmigrant stories matter', where she sits down with immigrants and children of immigrants and has them tell their unique stories about their struggles and successes in this country.

She hopes to use her platform as Miss Massachusetts USA to continue to speak on immigration, "so that together we can change the negative stigmas around immigrants and instead, embrace our differences".

deSouza said she hopes to one day turn ism into a non-profit, where she can help immigrants in this country by providing them with funds, connections, and resources to hopefully guide them towards their American Dream.

"I'm extremely proud of being from Massachusetts and I'm honored to be able to represent the state I love," she said of her win.

deSouza lives in Eastie with her two French bulldogs, Prince and Penelope, which she considers her children.



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# A new look for East Boston, luxury homes now for sale at Mira

Gansett Ventures and City Realty Group, both real estate development firms active in Boston, are pleased to announce homes are now available for purchase at Mira in East Boston.

Located at 301 Border St., Mira is a style-forward luxury condominium development built to connect residents with the diverse cultural and international flavor of life in East Boston. Mira boasts a spectacular roof deck with stunning city and water views and offers a mix of one, two, and three-bedroom condos, some with private balconies and roof decks. An easy walk from the MBTA Blue Line with direct access to downtown Boston in minutes, Mira also has ground-level interior parking and several electric car charging stations. Mira residences are marketed exclusively by Charlesgate.

"After 2020 saw an understandable slowdown in condo sales, this year has



Pictured from the roof of Mira (left to right) Caleb Manchester, President of Gansett Ventures; P.T. Vineburgh, Founding Partner at Charlesgate; Fred Starikov, Managing Partner at City Realty Group; Stephen Whalen, Managing Partner at City Realty Group.

seen an amazing resurgence of people excited to enjoy the kind of vibrant urban lifestyle that Mira can provide," said P.T. Vineburgh, Founding Partner at Charlesgate. "We have seen an unprecedented level of interest in this building's unique features and have already sold 20% of the units in the first two days on the

Mira is a 'new look for Boston', created by one of city's premier design

firms, Embarc. The design features heightened sophistication throughout, from the in-unit finishes including quartz countertops, to the wood flooring, cabinets, Metropolitan Carrara marble bathrooms and more. In addition to Boston's most spectacular roof deck, Mira features a residents-only club room, work-from-home space, 70+ bike storage spaces, and a state-of-the art fit-

ness center, among other

amenities. Retail space on the first floor will include an East Boston Museum Gallery and a cafe concept.

"Mira provides luxury living never seen in East Boston before," said Caleb Manchester, President of Gansett Ventures. "Each unit reflects countless hours of careful design to provide the perfect next home. The spectacular roof deck and views will make owners the envy of all their friends and family."

"Mira provided a great opportunity to connect East Boston's storied past with its exciting future," said Stephen Whalen, Managing Partner at City Realty Group. "Mira will be steeped in local history and culture, including an East Boston Museum display and space for local artists to display their work. Mira is designed to compliment and celebrate East Boston.'

To learn more about purchasing a home at Mira, please visit https:// miraeastie.com/

# Dangerousness hearing held in alleged kidnapping

Staff Report

A man accused of allegedly grabbing and trying to drag away a woman in East Boston at 4 a.m. was ordered held without bail pending the outcome of a dangerousness hearing, Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins said.

Korey David, 21, most recently of East Boston and previously of Lowell, was arraigned Monday in the East Boston Division of the Boston Municipal Court on charges of kidnapping, assault and battery and witness intimida-

At the request of Assistant District Attorney Bader Abueid of the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Unit, Judge Tracy-Lee Lyons scheduled the dangerousness hearing for 2 p.m. on Wednesday, July 14, 2021.

ADA Abueid told the court that on Wednesday, July 7, 2021, an unknown male approached the victim as she was walking to work at 4 a.m. under the Callahan Tunnel approach road. The man grabbed the woman by the waist and attempted to drag her away, while telling her, "Come with me." He forcibly prevented her from using her cellphone to call for help. The assailant ultimately fled after another

man approached on foot. The victim reported the incident to the Boston Police Department. Detectives found video footage of the suspect in the area of the assault that depicted him wearing what appeared to be a GPS monitoring bracelet. After consultation with Suffolk prosecutors, detectives sought GPS data from the Department of Probation. The data placed David at the location and time of the assault. David had been released on GPS monitoring in February 2021 in a pending Middlesex Superior Court case in which he faces multiple charges of rape of a child. At the request of Middle-

sex County prosecutors,

David had been held without bail under the state's dangerousness statute but was granted release over Middlesex County prosecutors' objection with the condition that he remain under house arrest. In May 2021, the court allowed him to change his residence from a Lowell address to one in East Boston only yards from where last week's attack occurred.

On July 9, 2021, Boston police detectives observed David walking outside his residence, in apparent violation of his house arrest, wearing a shirt consistent with the one worn by the assailant in the surveillance footage two days earlier. The detectives immediately arrested him.

"This individual is accused of preying on and attacking a woman walking to work alone in the early morning hours. We will assist probation in any way possible regarding this blatant and significant probation violation. Further, we intend to meet

our higher burden at the upcoming dangerousness hearing. This individual will be removed from our community because he has made very clear he cannot comport with the public safety requirements and conditions the Court imposed," District Attorney Rachael Rollins said. "I'm grateful to the witness who observed the assault and ultimately helped scare away the attacker. I commend that witness for getting involved. When they saw something they got involved. Assaults on women are not a women's issue. These types of violent crimes are overwhelmingly committed by men, and we need male voices and allies loudly proclaiming that this type of behavior is unacceptable and will not be toler-

ated." Alexander Jaramillo is the assigned victim witness advocate. Mr. Korey was represented for arraignment only by attorney Jillise McDonough.

#### SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Times encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403.

We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to deb@reverejournal.com

#### EAST BOSTON NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CENTER'S FARMERS MARKET

On July 7, the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center kicked off another season of farm fresh produce and other treats in Central Square.

The EBNHC Let's Get Movin Farmers Market in Central Square is now open until October.

The market will be open each Wednesday until 6:30 p.m. (weather permitting)

The Farmers Market accepts cash, debit, cred-

it cards, and phone apps. Other acceptable forms of payment include WIC coupons, Senior coupons, SNAP/food stamps/EBT, and P-EBT.

SNAP/EBT customers receive a 100 percent incentive (a dollar-for-dollar match up to \$40-\$80, depending on household size) for each SNAP dollar spent on targeted fruits and vegetables purchased at the Farmers Market.



Welcome and registration table.



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#### The Joys and Challenges of the "Sandwich Generation"

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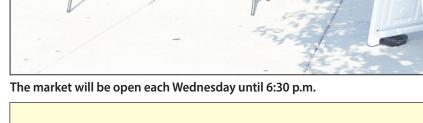
The term Sandwich Generation refers to people who are "sandwiched" between managing a career, caring for their parents, and raising children. Multigenerational caregiving has many advantages, yet it is also demanding. Caregiver Solutions, a program offered by Boston Senior Home Care at no-charge, can help.

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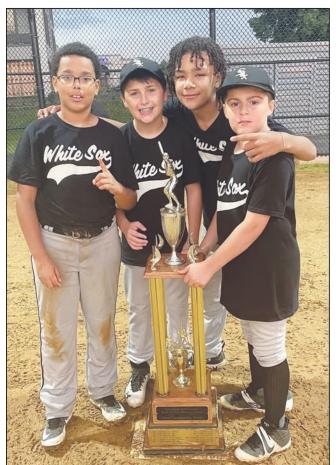
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#### WHITE SOX WIN EAST BOSTON LL MAJOR DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP



The leaders of the 2021 Major Division championship White Sox are coaches, from left, Pat Aiken, Nick Surrette, Edwin Cosme, and Tom Granara.



White Sox players Tyler Rodriguez, Gio Shire, Justin Aiken, and Cam Testa are pictured with the team's Major Division championship trophy.

#### FUTURE BIG LEAGUER



Steven Walsh and daughter, Isabella, enjoyed a night of T-ball in Revere Monday evening.



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League concluded another successful season with the White Sox winning the Major Division championship.

The East Boston Little

The White Sox, managed by Pat Aiken, had contributions from many players throughout the year.

On the mound Sox ace

Cam Testa was solid all year, while the offense to continue last year's sucwas provided by Justin Aiken, Lourdys Suriel, Caden Pelosi, and Tyler Rodriguez.

EBLL will now move cessful addition of a fall league.



The White Sox, East Boston Little League's Major Division 2021 playoff champions, are pictured with the championship



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Wednesday, July 14, 2021

#### EAST BOSTON MEN'S HOCKEY LEAGUE'S BASH ON THE BEACH

The East Boston Men's Hockey League hosted the fourth annual "Bash at the Beach" tourney, last weekend, July 9-11. Eight teams played three games prior to the playoffs for elimination. The tournament was organized by John Poto and Dom DiMarzo and because of their hard work and determination the event was a huge success. The organizers wish to thank their sponsors for the generous donations they made to make the tournament possible every year. Stepping up for the EBMHL, Kelly's Pub, Renegades Pub, the Reel House, the Civic Club, Sunshine Landscaping, Ruggiero's Funeral Home, Century 21, Woody's Liquors, Mi-

lano's Deli, Little Asia,

Greg Huffey.

Meridian Market, the Winthrop Pro Shop, Blackstrap BBQ, Swett's Liquors, and JW's restaurant. These generous donors from East Boston and Winthrop are acknowledged for their endless contributions to this and other community events between East Boston and Winthrop that are much appreciated.

Saturday afternoon the "Bash" was held behind Porrazzo Rink on the Constitution Beach. Everyone enjoyed the hockey games and the delicious BBQ that was served outside. By tradition, everyone was served, the players, their families and including the spectators as well.

On Sunday the finals were played and when the last slap shot was takchampionship. With a final score of 5-2, Little Asia emerged the victor for the 2021 Bash on the Beach Tournament. Little Asia has bragging rights

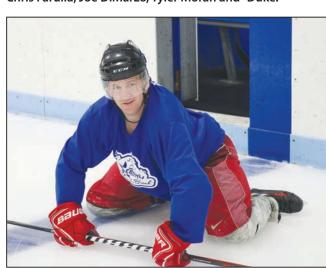
en, it was the Reel House

versus Little Asia for the

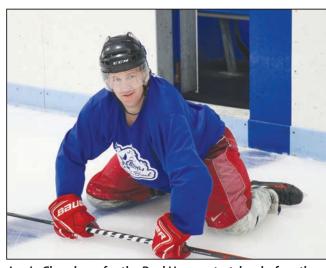
for the year, and everyone had a great time on, and off the ice. Congratulations to the champions Little Asia, hope see you all next year, for "The Bash on the Beach 2022."



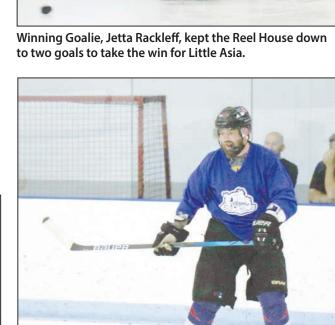
Cheering from the sidelines, Dom DiMarzo, Ryan Luongo, Chris Farulla, Joe DiMarzo, Tyler Moran and "Duke."



Jamie Chambers, for the Reel House, stretches before the



final game.





Dave Chiara waits for his line to hit the ice.



Tony Di Paulo in for a shot for Little Asia on goaltender

The Bash Brothers, tournament directors, Dom DiMarzo and John Poto.



Captain Pickles for Little Asia (center) Referee Ken Capozzi and Dom DiMarzo.



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The Bash Champions, Little Asia took the title with a score of 5-2, defeating the Reel House on Sunday afternoon.



The Reel House, came up short in the final score, but everyone had a terrific time playing hockey in July, with their friends.



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#### CITY PAWS

# How to pat a dog

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Do you know the signals a dog will give you if he loves how you are touching him or when he would prefer you leave him alone? Only by careful observation can you be sure the dog enjoys the interaction as much as you

With a strange dog, always introduce yourself (with the guardian's permission) by gently moving the back of a hand for the dog to sniff. That hand should come from the side or below the head, not from above, and until you know the dog, try not to make direct eye contact.

The website Vetstreet suggests that you slowly extend your hand, "... and pet a neutral area, like his chest; if he backs up, turns away, cowers or stiffens, he does not want you to pet him."

A dog enjoying your touch will lean in, not move away when you pause, and will maintain a relaxed and contented posture.

#### Massage Anyone?

If your dog loves a good pat, consider learning canine massage techniques. Massage can be as simple as some nice long, relaxing strokes down the pup's body when you're sitting near one another. Or, it might be a specific form of physical therapy for a dog recovering from an injury or an aging critter who has arthritis.

Bark Magazine pub-

lished the following guidelines for dog massage:

- "Be gentle, patient, and attentive.
- Set your intention on healing.
- Watch for signs of discomfort and adjust your approach accordingly.
- Provide a safe, quiet environment when using "hands-on" modalities. • Take note of bumps,
- areas of heat and sensitivity, and changes in the skin and fur.
- Discuss all abnormal findings with your vet.
- Follow your dog's lead."

We recommend that you check with your vet first. You could also work with a veterinary physical therapist to learn the specific movement that would most benefit your dog. There is also a form of

massage, called Tellington T-Touch, for dealing with anxiety and behavioral issues. Trained experts in T-Touch can work with reluctant and highly agitated dogs, but most of us have to choose which dogs we massage with foresight and knowledge of their personality.

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However, her son, who had never had a dog, suddenly offered to step in as the pup's future guardian. Our friend asked Penny to meet her son and help her decide. Within a few minutes, Penny had evidence that it might be best for her and the dog to go west together.

As we sat and chatted, the dog jumped up on the sofa and settled near the son. Then, without a moment's hesitation, he reached over and began gently scratching the pup's back. He couldn't resist touching her; the dog was very relaxed, and



PHOTO BY: ADAM GRIFFITH

This dog's relaxed posture shows that these pats are most welcome!

their connection was evi-

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ianship would be the best decision. And, we agreed that if it didn't work out, our offer to adopt the dog

would remain open. For-

tunately, he never took us

up on our offer.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@ BostonZest.com with your request.

#### **EAST BOSTON COMMUNITY** DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**2021 Annual Election of Directors** 

#### **ELECTION TIMETABLE**

Nominations Open **July 19, 2021** @ 9:00 a.m. Nominations Close August 3, 2021@ 5:00 p.m.

Annual Meeting of the Corporation & Election of **Directors 4:00 p.m. – September 20, 2021 East Boston Community Development Corporation** Office: 72 Marginal Street, Penthouse, 6th Floor

Persons interested in filing nomination papers may pick them up in person at the: **East Boston Community Development Corporation** 72 Marginal Street, East Boston, MA

Those members of the corporation entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting are those Class C stockholders of record as of 5:00 p.m. August 31, 2021.

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## **OBITUARIES**

#### Francesco "Frank" Diano

Well-known youth hockey coach and Salesian Boys and Girls Club member

Francesco "Frank" Diano of Revere, formerly of East Boston, passed away on July 9.

Frank was an active member of the Salesian Boys and Girls Club. He was also active in coaching youth sports in Revere and local neighborhoods.

Frank was a former employee of the City of Boston. He will be missed by all who knew him. May he rest in peace.

The beloved husband of Nicole (McNeil) Diano of Revere, he was the loving son of Domenico and Maria (Mazzaferro) Diano of Winthrop, adored son in law of Patricia McNeil; devoted father of Domenic and Giana Diano: cherished brother of Marianna Cincinnato and her husband, Antonio of Revere, Lilliana Schiavuzzo and her husband. Leo of Middleton. He is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles,



cousins and many cherished friends.

Family and friends will honor Frank's life by gathering at St. Joseph- St. Lazarus Church, 59 Ashley Street (Orient Heights) East Boston for a Funeral Mass today, Wednesday, at 10 a.m. Services will conclude with Frank being laid to rest at Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden.

In honoring Frank's life and in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Nicole Diano FBO The Diano Children Educational Fund. Details will be announced shortly.

# Baker proclaims "Hurricane Preparedness Week"

Governor Charlie Baker has proclaimed July 11 - 17, to be Hurricane Preparedness Week to emphasize both the Commonwealth's vulnerability to tropical storms and hurricanes and the importance of preparing for their impacts.

"As we saw during our recent experience with Tropical Storm Elsa, planning and preparing in advance for a tropical storm or hurricane can help protect individuals and families and limit damage to property,"said Governor Charlie Baker. "We encourage residents in every part of the Commonwealth to develop an emergency plan, prepare emergency supplies and stay informed throughout hurricane season."

While hurricane season in Massachusetts runs from June 1 to November 30, historically, most tropical storms and hurricanes have hit New England during August and September.

"Our administration continues to work with cities and towns across the Commonwealth

enhance their preparedness before the next hurricane or tropical storm," said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito."As shown during Tropical Storm Elsa, that collaboration and coordination is key to keeping our residents and communities safe. We join MEMA is encouraging all residents to take the time to prepare this hurricane season."

"Tropical storms and hurricanes don't often happen in New England, but it only takes one storm to cause major damage," said Public Safety and Security Secretary Thomas Turco, "Every corner of the state is at risk and we remember especially Tropical Storm Irene, which caused significant flooding damage in Western Massachusetts ten years ago. As first responders prepare for these events, we're asking everyone to take time make a household safety plan."

Earlier this month, MEMA updated its annual Massachusetts Tropical Cyclone Profile, which includes information about tropical storms and hurricanes, associated hazards, and a seasonal outlook for what is expected to be an above-normal hurricane season.

"MEMA and more than 70 Emergency Support Function organizations continue to prepare for disasters such as tropical storms and hurricanes," said MEMA Deputy Director Pat Carnevale. "Hurricane Preparedness Week is a reminder for residents to prepare by learning if you live in a hurricane evacuation zone, developing an emergency plan, building an emergency kit, and staying informed before, during, and after the storm."

How Residents Can Prepare

• Know Your Evacuation Zone - Learn if you live or work in a hurricane evacuation zone:www. mass.gov/knowyourzone

• Make an Emergency Plan - Have an emergency plan of how your family would communicate, evacuate, and shelter in place that addresses the needs of all of your family members, including seniors, children, individuals with access and

functional needs, and pets. https://www.mass.gov/ info-details/make-a-family-emergency-plan

• Build an Emergency Kit - Build or customize an emergency kit that will sustain your household for three to five days without power. https://www.mass. gov/info-details/build-anemergency-kit.

• Stay Informed - Every family should have multiple methods for receiving emergency alerts. Learn more about different types of alerting and information tools, including the Emergency Alert System, Wireless Emergency Alerts, NOAA Weather Radio, social and traditional news media, 2-1-1 hotline, and local notification systems: https://www. mass.gov/info-details/ be-informed-and-receiveemergency-alerts

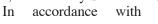
For more information, including interactive evacuation zone maps, a social media toolkit, flyers, and more, visit MEMA's Hurricane Preparedness Week webpage.

#### Livercina Bakunowicz

Loving wife, devoted mother, cherished grandmother and great-grandmother

Livercina (Dos Santos) Bakunowicz passed away on July 8.

She was the loving wife of the late Anton Bakunowicz, devoted mother of Paul Bakunowicz and Maria of Boca Raton, Sonia Santilli and Pat of East Boston and the late Ronny and Stan Bakunowicz and cherished grandmother of Christopher Santilli, Nicholas Santilli, Dante Santilli and Paul Bakunowicz Jr. and adored great grandmother of Kateri, Aubreyana, and Maisley Santilli.





the family's wishes, all services are private. For more information or to leave an online condolence, please visit www. ruggieromh.com.

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF** SATISFACTION AND VERIFICATION OF MORTGAGE This is a NOTICE to hereby verify Satisfaction of Mortgage and title free of encumbrances of the LIVING TRUST OF DES-MOND ROY DEMONTEGNAC OPERATING AS HELION PRIME FINANCIAL TRUST, Desmond Roy Demontegnac, Trustee, residing at 36 Wentworth St, Boston, MA County, Massachusetts 02124 of the following described real estate, situated in Boston, in the County of MA, State of Massachusetts It Is by freewill and deed, that the LIVING TRUST OF DESMOND ROY DEMONTEGNAC OPERATING AS HELION PRIME FINAN-CIAL TRUST, Desmond Roy

Demontegnac, Trustee, hereby acknowledge acceptance of the deed and lawful ownership of The property under the terms of the deed. Legal Description:,

The land, with the buildings thereon, if any, numbered thirty-six(36) in the numbering of Wentworth Street, being Assessor's parcel number 1386 and supposr to contain about thirty-five hundred seventy one (3571) squar feet. Said land is situated in Ward 17 in the Dorchester-Codman Square District shown on the Boston Assessor's Plans of said City filed in the office of the board of

Assessors. All Parties of any interest of 36 Wentworth St, Boston, MA County, Massachusetts 02124

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of the following described real estate, situated in Boston, in the County of MA, State of Massachusetts that has initiated or is initiating any actions including Assignments, Sale or Transfer of Mortgage Loan, foreclosure, litigations any and all transactions must be voided and discontinued nunc pro tunc and ab initio for the reasons set forth herein. A Discharge/ Satisfaction Of Mortgage was recorded on the public record at Suffolk County Registry of Deeds, there is proof of its execution by credible evidence in the form of corroborating documents or affidavits establishing the authenticity of the discharge which has been acknowledged and proven. Under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act "FDCPA" 15 USC

1692g this Discharge/Satisfaction as provided herein shall be conclusive evidence that the mortgage has been discharged. In the public filling Masslandrecords/Suffolk County which includes The discharge/Satisfaction this contains the street address of the mortgaged property which is 36 wentworth street, Boston, MA, 02124, the book number 62381 and page number 172 these land court document number and recording date of the mortgage, and the name of the original mortgagor including the documents and communication displaying that this debt has been efficiently disputed free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in

respect of this notice, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the undersigned at P.O. Box 240474 within (30)Thirty Days from the date of publication hereof, failing to do so within the given time without any reference to such claims and the claims if any of any form judicial and non-judicial, shall be deemed to have been given up or waived forever Ad Infinitum. By Desmond Demontegnac Trustee of Helion Prime finan-

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#### Rosemarie (Mona) Leone



It has been 6 long years Since you were taken from us. The days are so long and hard not hearing your beautiful voice and seeing your beautiful face. We miss seeing you siting in Nonny's Chair enjoying your Dunkin Donuts ice coffee and scratching tickets. We will always continue to love and miss you every day of our lives. Please keep watching over us.

We Love You, Rest in Peace Our "Beautiful Guardian Angel" With all our Love, Your Loving Husband, Children & Grandchildren

#### 7 COMMUNITIES

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#### **LOCAL STUDENTS**

EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

#### **MUYSKENS EARNS** DEGREE FROM **CLARK UNIVERSITY**

Isabella E. Muyskens, of East Boston, received a degree from Clark University during the University's 117th Commencement exercises on Saturday, June 12, and Sunday, June 13. Muyskens graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology.

The University awarded 490 bachelor's degrees, 501 master's degrees, and 10 doctorates, and conferred three honorary degrees during the two ceremonies. Graduates were urged to ask the hard questions, drive change, and even occasionally stir some trouble.

The weekend's events marked President David Fithian's first Clark Commencement ceremony since he himself graduated from the University in 1987. In his remarks, Fithian praised the persistence shown by this year's graduating class in transcending the many disruptions posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"When you began your Clark journey, you could not have imagined what your junior and senior years would entail. Your grace, resilience, and adaptability throughout has been remarkable," Fithian told the Class of 2021. "While I certainly would never have wished this experience on you, I do believe you may nevertheless extract from it a strength of spirit and resolve that is remarkable, and that may reinforce your own sense of what you are capable of overcoming."

President Fithian said the Clark degrees that the students earned represented more than the culmination of formal study. They were also a "gateway to a life of learning."

"Every opportunity to question - whatever the motivation: curiosity, confusion, uncertainty, defiance - is an opportunity to hear something you may not have heard before," he said.

"At the end of each day, ask yourself, in the quiet of your own counsel, what did I learn today? And then do it again tomorrow and the next day."

McGovern, James United States Representative for the Massachusetts 2nd Congressional District, delivered the Com-

mencement address and urged graduates to speak up for what they believe in, even when it's hard to do so. McGovern recalled the accomplishment of his friend, the late Congressman John Lewis, to lead 600 peaceful protesters on a 50-mile march from Selma to Montgomery in 1965 to bring attention to Alabama's discriminatory voting policies. Despite being beaten and barely escaping with his life, Lewis marched again a few weeks later. Subsequent demonstrations captured the awareness of the nation, and just four months later, Congress passed the Voting Rights

McGovern stressed that issues like climate change, gun violence, racial injustice, and inequality will never improve unless like-minded people come together to demand change. He urged the Class of 2021 to become the "biggest class of troublemakers that Clark University has ever graduated" in service to a better nation and world.

"When the historians pick up their pens to write the story of this century, I know you'll give them something to write about. That you'll challenge convention. That you'll change our world."

Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees were conferred on Mc-Govern; Liberat Mfumukeko, MBA '94, former secretary-general of the East African Community; and Naomi Oreskes, the Henry Charles Lea Professor of the History of Science and affiliated professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Harvard University.

In his concluding remarks to the graduates, President Fithian told the graduates, "Take pride in who you are and what you are capable of. You have unlimited potential to do good, be compassionate, and shape those around you."

For more about Clark's Commencement visit the

Founded in 1887, Clark University is a liberal artsbased research university that prepares its students to meet tomorrow's most daunting challenges and embrace its greatest opportunities. Through 33 undergraduate majors, more than 30 advanced degree programs, and

recognized nationally community partnerships, Clark fuses rigorous scholarship with authentic world and workplace experiences that empower our students to pursue lives and careers of meaning and consequence.

#### LOCAL STUDENTS NAMED TO **EMERSON COLLEGE** DEAN'S LIST

The requirement to make Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for that semester. The following students have been named to Emerson College's Dean's List for the Spring 2021 semester:

Maximo Lawlor of East Boston - Journalism, Class of 2022 Anna Moon of East

Pub: Publishing, Class of Beatriz Andrade of East

Boston - Writing, Lit &

Boston - Media Arts Production, Class of 2022 Ana Hein of East Bos-

BFA, Class of 2022 Rebecca Moore of East Boston, - Theatre Edu and Performance, Class of

ton- Creative Writing

Maria Suevo of East Boston - Media Arts Production, Class of 2022

About Emerson Col-

Based in Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has 3,700 undergraduates and 1,400 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-ofthe-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups.

Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic as well as its new Global Portals. The College has an active network of 51,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit emerson.edu.

# Cities and towns applaud increase in state climate resilience funding

Cities and towns involved in the Resilient Mystic Collaborative applauded the doubling of annual funds for the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Grant Program to \$21 million in the Baker Administration's FY2022 Capital Plan. "Chelsea has already

suffered through two debilitating heat waves and a dozen days over 90 F even before July 1st," said Alex Train, Director of Housing and Community Development. "Our same residents who suffered disproportionately through COVID are now at risk from heat-related illnesses. We need to upgrade our infrastructure and services for the summer of 2050, not

In the latest MVP grant round, the Commonwealth received 92 applications requesting a total of \$28 million for action grants out of \$10 million available. "Extreme heat, storms, drought, and flooding are no longer a thing of the future. Climate resilience needs to become a core government function, just like schools and roads," said Julie Wormser, deputy director of the Mystic River Watershed Association. "This funding increase is a critical down payment." Below are some of the projects in Greater Boston's Mystic Watershed seeking MVP funding this

"Twelve municipalities depend on the Charles River and Amelia Earhart Dams to prevent catastrophic coastal flooding of residential neighborhoods and businesses," said Owen O' Riordan, Commissioner of Cambridge's Department of Public Works. "It is of critical importance that these dams and portions of our shoreline be elevated to ensure we protect tens of thousands of people and billions in property from harm. We could use every penny in the MVP program over the next decade just to solve this one issue."

"Belle Isle Marsh is by far the largest remaining salt marsh in Boston Harbor providing a crucial buffer for flooding to neighboring communities and critical habitat for over 250 bird species, mammals and marine animals, said Mary Mitchell, president of Friends of Belle Isle Marsh. "Funding for restoration projects and nature-based resiliency projects within the marsh is needed now to best protect against climate change and sea level

"One of Winthrop's most valuable resources is Ingleside Park, a vast green space enjoyed by the entire Town," said Rachel Kelly, Director of Planning and Development. The Park floods after heavy rains and snowmelt. Winthrop would greatly benefit from additional MVP funding to mitigate flooding with improved drainage and green infrastructure."

The Resilient Mystic

Collaborative includes 20 of 21 communities (Arlington, Belmont, Boston, Burlington, Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Lexington, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Reading, Somerville, Revere, Wakefield, Stoneham, Watertown, Winchester, Winthrop, and Woburn) and over 98 percent of the population and land base in the Mystic River Watershed. Together, RMC municipalities represent one percent of the state's land base and 10 percent of its population. The partnership focuses on fresh water and coastal flooding, and protecting vulnerable residents and workers from extreme weather, including heat.

"The Resilient Mystic

Collaborative and MVP Program has brought together cities and towns in ways that we could not foresee," said Alex Rozycki, senior civil engineer for the Town of Reading. "As these communities continue to work together and evaluate shared MVP grant possibilities the scope and breadth of these complex projects quickly expands as well. Regional MVP funding is supporting a revitalized trail system and green stormwater treatment systems to increase storage and water quality in Reading, which provides similar benefits to downstream communities. The estimated cost to complete this project alone is over two million dollars."

"Climate change is bringing intense rainfall that overwhelms our aging stormwater systems with increased frequency," said Elena Proakis Ellis, Melrose Director of Public Works. "We are working with 16 other communities to manage local and regional flooding through expanded wetlands and other nature-based solutions. With enough small projects combined, we can make a real difference in our region. These projects are too costly for communities like Melrose to afford with local funding alone, however. This work is essential to the

Real Estate Transfers

region and brings other habitat and social benefits along the way."

"The industrial district that spans Chelsea and Everett provides thousands of good-paying jobs and billions in annual economic activity," said Chelsea's Alex Train. "It was unfortunately also built by filling in the Island End River, which is now chronically flooding during heavy storms. The price tag for protecting this area from flooding over the next fifty years is north of \$50 million."

#### **Mystic River** Watershed at a Glance

76-square-mile Mystic River Watershed stretches from ing through the northern shoreline of Boston Harbor to Revere. An Anglicized version of the Pequot word missi-tuk ("large river with wind- and tide-driven waves"), it is now one of New England's most densely populated, urbanized watersheds.

The seven-mile Mystic River and its tributaries represented an early economic engine for colonial Boston. Ten shipyards built more than 500 clipper ships in the 1800s before roads and railways replaced schooners and steamships. Tide-driven mills, brickyards and tanneries along both banks of the river brought both wealth and pollution.

In the 1960s, the Amelia Earhart Dam transformed much of the river into a freshwater impoundment, while construction of Interstate 93 filled in wetlands and dramatically changed the river's course. Since then many former industrial sites have been cleaned up and redeveloped into new commercial areas and residential communities.

The Mystic is facing climate-relatgrowing challenges: coastal and stormwater flooding. extreme storms, drought and unpredictable seasonal weather. watershed is relatively low-lying and extensively developed, making it prone to both freshwater and coastal flooding. Its 21 municipalities are home to a half-million residents, including many who are disproportionately vulnerable to extreme weather: environmental justice communities, new Americans, residents of color, elders, low-income residents and employees, people living with disabilities and English-language

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#### ZUMIX HOLDS ITS ANNUAL WALK FOR MUSIC FUNDRAISER



Zumix walkers on their way to Piers Park.



PHOTO BY WAYNE EARL CHINNOCK

The 'Hot Tamale' band performed as they walked.



A joyful mood spreads throughout the walkers.



PHOTO BY WAYNE EARL CHINNOCK



Zumix held its annual Zumix Walk for Music fundraiser, celebrating 30 years in the community. Hundreds walked from the Zumix Firehouse on Sumner Street to Piers Park for live music that started the first of the series

Zumix held its annual Zumix Walk for Music fundraiser on Sunday, July 11. The event also kicks off its Summer Music Concert Series at Piers Park. The walk started at the Zumix Firehouse on Sumner Street and ended in Piers Park (pictured above) with live music.



PHOTOS BY MARCELA CHACON Live music at Piers Park after the walk.



City Councilor Lydia Edwards, Zumix Executive Director, Madeleine Steczynski, Boston Harbor Now Director of Programs, Rebecca Smerling, City Councilor, At Large Michelle Wu.



**Zumix Summer Concert Series attendees.** 

PHOTOS COURTESY BOSTON HARBOR NOW

The Don't Be Denied Band with Biggie.





PHOTOS COURTESY BOSTON HARBOR NOW

This event kicked off Eastie Week. Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards giving some remarks. After the speaking program, Zumix started the first of the series of Summer Con-



