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SHAMROCK SPLASH

(Above) Despite a bone chilling water temperature of 38.1 degrees, residents from all over took part in Sunday's Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Annual Harpoon Shamrock Splash at Constitution Beach in East Boston to raise money for the Better Beaches Grant Program. (Right) Dozens took the plunge Saturday at Constitution Beach during the Shamrock Splash. Costumes were plentiful and encouraged with prizes awarded for the best dressed plungers. See Page 7 for more photos.



Eastie's Rashaun Martin honored with State's Black Excellence Award

By John Lynds

In honor of Black History Month East Boston resident and longtime educator Rashaun Martin received the state's Black Excellence on the Hill during a State House ceremony at the end of February.

The Black Excellence on the Hill award celebrates black culture, excellence, and achievement in the Commonwealth. The award by the Massachusetts Black and Latino Caucus honors the unsung heroes that make our communities thrive.

Martin was nominated for the award by East Boston State Rep. Adrian Madaro.

"I was proud to nominate Rashaun Martin for this award," said Representative Madaro. "He is an experienced leader in the field of education whose contributions to Massachusetts school districts are marked by a deep commitment to public service."

Martin was Madaro's eighth grade history teacher at Boston Latin School



Eastie's Rashaun Martin was honored with State's Black Excellence Award

and the two have remained close friends. Madaro said Martin continues to be a mentor.

"He instilled in me and many others a love of history, government, and community service," said Madaro. "It is a privilege to be able to honor him with this recognition."

Martin, a longtime teacher, administrator, and youth mentor, has over 20 years of experience in the classroom, the principal's office, and school districts.

Through his work he has impacted the lives of countless students throughout his career.

See MARTIN Page 2

Wu recommends CPA funding for three Eastie projects

By John Lynds

Last week, Mayor Michelle Wu and the City of Boston Community Preservation Committee (CPC) announced their recommendation for the latest Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding round that includes funding for three East Boston projects.

With 52 projects totaling \$27 million recommended for funding this round, Wu recommended Eastie receive approximately \$317,000 for historic preservation and open space and recreation in the neighborhood.

"The Community Preservation Act helps us invest in our communities by empowering residents

and local organizations to put funding to important priorities across our neighborhoods," said Mayor Wu. "I am grateful to the Community Preservation Committee and all of the applicants for their commitment to expanding affordable housing, historic preservation and open space and recreation to benefit Bostonians across

our city."

If approved by the City Council, the three projects in Eastie that will be funded through CPA money will be the East Boston Bennington Street Cemetery, the Nantucket Lightship LV-112 and the 6 Chelsea Terrace Secret Garden.

See FUNDING Page 2

Brooke Charter looking to expand footprint of Horace Street building

By John Lynds

At Monday night's Harbor View Neighborhood Association (HVNA) meeting, Brooke Charter

School COO Mark Loring pitched the school's plans to expand the footprint of its Horace Street building into the small courtyard between the existing

school building and a residential home at 84 Horace St. The courtyard also abuts several rear yards of homes along Bennington Street.

"We're looking at doing a slight addition into the rear of our building," said Loring Monday night. "We are in a very early phase of this discussion and just wanted to share. I gave a very brief update at the last HVNA meeting and have just a little bit more information to share."

Loring said the paved courtyard that is behind

the building is currently used for storage.

"We have a shed back there where we keep a snowblower and that's about it," said Loring. "We're hoping to enclose that (courtyard) and continue the building in that back area and have it match the rest of the building."

Loring said this would allow the Brooke to add more indoor classroom space and additional programming.

"We're still trying to

See FOOTPRINT Page 2

East Boston Democratic Ward Committee elects delegates to state convention

By John Lynds

On Saturday at the BCYF Paris Street Community East Boston Democrats elected 12 female delegates, 10 male delegates and one female alternate for the Democratic State Convention during the Ward 1 Democratic Caucus.

The 23 Eastie delegates elected Saturday will gather virtually, as well as at the DCU Center in Worcester, to endorse candidates for statewide office, including Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary, Attorney General and Auditor on Friday, June 3rd and Saturday, June 4th during the convention.

The female delegates elected are Narda Pena, Heather O'Brien, Lisa Melara, Gloribel Rivas, Bessie King, Liana La-Mattina, Ashley McCar-

thy, Giordana Mecagni, Rita Lara, Jo Ann Fitzgerald, Sandra Nijjar and Zaida Adames. Tricia Briand was elected as a female alternate during the caucus.

The male delegates elected are Brian Gannon, Steve Gingras, Jordan Frias, Angel Donhue Rodriguez, Anthony Gesualdi, Ricardo Patron, Owen Kane, Zach Holloper, Luis Garcia and Jesse Purvis.

During Saturday's Caucus Eastie Democrats got the chance to hear from the two Democratic Candidates for Governor, Maura Healey and Sonia Chang-Diaz, who both attended virtually.

"As the 'People's Lawyer' I have worked hard to center the work of the people of this state," said Healey who is currently the state's Attorney General.

See DELEGATES Page 6

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Positive COVID tests decrease

By John Lynds

Two weeks after Mayor Michelle Wu and Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) Executive Director Dr. Bisola Ojikutu announced that the City’s “B Together” policy, which requires patrons and staff of certain indoor spaces to show proof of vaccination against COVID-19, would be lifted—new infections remain low in East Boston and the rest of the city.

New infections are so low in fact that the BPHC voted unanimously last Tuesday to lift the city’s indoor mask mandate for indoor venues, which began Saturday.

According to the BPHC 12,478 residents were tested citywide last week and 2.3 percent were COVID positive--this was a 36 percent decrease from the 3.6 percent that reportedly tested positive for the week ending on February 28. The weekly positive

test rate has now decreased 50 percent in Boston since February 21.

“I’m grateful that our city is ready to take this step in our recovery thanks to the hard work and commitment of residents keeping our communities safe over many, many months,” said Mayor Wu. “As we continue to make progress even while living with COVID, Boston will continue leading on public health to keep our communities safe, healthy, and prepared.”

Last week, 675 Eastie residents were tested for the virus last week and 2.1 percent were positive--this was a 49 percent decrease from the 4.1 percent that tested positive as reported by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) on February 28. The weekly positive test rate has now decreased 59 percent in Eastie since February 21.

Fourteen additional

Eastie residents contracted the virus between February 28 and March 4 and there are now 14,192 confirmed cases in the neighborhood since the start of the pandemic.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 0.52 percent last week and went from 165,226 cases to 166,087 confirmed since the start of the pandemic.

There were 9 additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total COVID deaths is now at 1,727. Deaths decreased 57 percent in Boston last week with 12 less deaths compared to the 21 deaths reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

USS Constitution opens lottery for Easter egg hunt

USS Constitution opened a lottery for the chance to participate in an Easter egg hunt aboard the ship from 8 to 10 a.m. Saturday, April 16.

The Easter Egg hunt is intended for children ages 12 and below and can be entered through the following link: <https://einventions.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=631421&k=0462430D7956>.

The deadline to enter the lottery is March 28 with the winners notified on April 1.

25 winners and their immediate families will be selected to join Old Ironsides’ crew in an Easter

Egg Hunt across the ship’s decks.

Children and their families will be able to hunt for six eggs to turn into USS Constitution Sailors for a candy reward with alternates provided in case of allergies.

Additionally, five wooden eggs, made from USS Constitution wood, will be hidden for children to find and keep as souvenirs.

USS Constitution is the world’s oldest commissioned warship afloat and played a crucial role in the Barbary Wars and the War of 1812, actively defending sea lanes from 1797 to

1855.

The active-duty Sailors stationed aboard USS Constitution provide free tours and offer public visitation as they support the ship’s mission of promoting the Navy’s history and maritime heritage and raising awareness of the importance of a sustained naval presence.

USS Constitution was undefeated in battle and destroyed or captured 33 opponents.

The ship earned the nickname of Old Ironsides during the war of 1812 when British cannonballs were seen bouncing off the ship’s wooden hull.

Footprint // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

figure out programming where we put everything,” said Loring. “It will either be two classrooms or a larger music space or some offices for special education teachers to support students. Those are still internal conversations and we are in the early stages of a feasibility study that a group did for us to kind of let us think about what we might be able to put there if we’re lucky enough to move forward with the project.”

Loring explained the Brooke has five schools spread over four campuses but Eastie remains the

smallest campus in the Brooke family of schools.

“Naturally we kind of have been dealing with the space we have and we’re always looking for ways of improving programming, expanding programming, improving the educational experience for the kids at our school,” said Loring. “We have been trying to be creative internally with ways and this project has been on our mind for a while and now we have the resources to potentially do it.”

However, not everyone at Monday night’s

meeting was crazy about the idea, especially the school’s direct abutter on Horace Street who said she enjoys not only the courtyard buffer between her home and the school but also the aesthetics of having that buffer.

“I hate to see you filling in that courtyard,” she said. “I’m right next door and I love to see the kids in the courtyard sometimes and I call them my neighbors. They all know who I am. I love having them there and I’d hate to see you fill it in with a building.”

Funding // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Two of the projects, the East Boston Bennington Street Cemetery and the Nantucket Lightship LV-112 fall under the category of historic preservation CPA funding.

Wu recommended the Bennington Street Cemetery receive East Boston \$67,000 to repair and re-point the historic cemetery’s cobblestone wall and fencing.

The Bennington Street Cemetery is one of the earliest planned open spaces in Eastie. Founded in 1838, its physical layout and gravemarkers reflect the growth and diversity that has characterized the neighborhood. The land-fill projects of the 1830s and the shipping-associated industries attracted countless laborers to this area. The gravestones and monuments represent their numbers and ethnic backgrounds. Immigrant groups represented here were from Germany, Norway, Ireland, England, Scotland, and New Brunswick. One of the exceptional features of this cemetery is the number of epitaphs inscribed in a foreign language. For example, of the remaining legible stones, eleven have inscriptions written in German. In addition to detailing the growth of the immigrant community, the markers also recount the process of nation-building and the role East Bostonians played in it. Local participation in the Civil War is illustrated by the thirty-seven marble markers commemorating members of the Massachusetts Infantry, Navy, Cavalry, and Artillery. In addition, there is one free-standing G.A.R. Post 23 monument and two headstones commemorating World War I veterans.

Under historic preser-

vation Wu also recommended the Nantucket Lightship LV-112 receive \$250,000 to repair interior elements of the historic 1936 lightship critical to the museum vessel’s structural integrity.

Over the course of the pandemic the Nantucket underwent extensive repairs at the historic Fitzgerald Shipyard in Chelsea. After the comprehensive structural restoration the ship was retired to its home at the Boston Harbor Shipyard and Marina on Marginal Street in Eastie in 2021.

Restoration on the ship was inside the bow section and included rebuilding the anchor manger, the forward port and starboard ballast tanks, bulkheads, hull frames, lower forward floor frames, and various other structural sections throughout the ship including the mooring capstan on the bow weather deck. Also, more than a dozen sea-valves from the auxiliary engine room sea-chest were completely rebuilt, in addition to valves and piping associated with the ship trim and bilge pumping system.

It is estimated that approximately \$2.3 million will be needed to virtually complete LV-112’s restoration and preservation.

Under the category of open space and recreation Wu recommended that \$225,000 go to Eastie Farm’s 6 Chelsea Terrace Secret Garden project. The project will create recreational space, fund critical improvements to a blighted lot and make the space a functional community garden with seating and a public path.

Last year Eastie Farm received \$332,400 in Grassroots and CPA funding that was spread across the farm’s sites on Sum-

mer Street and Meridian Street. The money was also used to expand the farm as part of a recent land conveyance on Chelsea Terrace from the City of Boston’s Grassroots Program.

The expansion to 6 Chelsea Terrace will also create a community gathering space and a geothermal greenhouse for growing food and engaging school children in experiential learning.

“With appreciation to the CPA staff, the Boston CPC is pleased to recommend 52 projects to Mayor Wu for funding consideration by the City Council under the leadership of Michael Flaherty, Council Committee Chair,” said Felicia Jacques, Chair of Community Preservation Committee. “This recommendation fully commits over 50% of funds to housing with the remaining funds supporting 42 historic preservation and open space projects. These projects address a variety of uses and a bounty of worthy community projects spanning the city in virtually every neighborhood.”

The CPA’s Community Preservation Fund was created following voters’ passage and adoption of the Community Preservation Act in November 2016. It is funded by a 1 percent property tax-based surcharge on residential and business property tax bills, which took effect in July 2017, and an annual state funding from the Massachusetts Community Preservation Trust Fund. The Mayor and Community Preservation Committee recommend funding use and the City Council must vote to approve.

Martin // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Martin began career as a history teacher at Boston Latin School and later went on to be named Principal of Cathedral High School in the South End.

After his tenure at Cathedral Martin became District Supervisor for Social Studies and World Languages at Haverhill Public Schools, Interim Principal of City on a Hill Charter Public Schools,

and an educator at the USS Constitution Museum.

He currently works as the Educators of Color Cultivation & Retention Specialist at Boston Public Schools. At BPS Martin works to ensure that students attending BPS can learn from and look up to a diverse community of teachers whose backgrounds more closely reflect their own.

Encore Boston Harbor Spa offers marathon relief massage to runners

Encore Boston Harbor will be offering a massage to help those training for the Boston Marathon and also those runners who complete the marathon and would like to realign and are in search of pain relief. Starting Thursday, April 7, and lasting through April 22, anyone needing to revive and rejuvenate their muscles can do so with this signature 90-minute or 120-minute treatment.

The Encore Boston Harbor Spa’s Myofascial Release Massage is available starting at \$270 and is a hands-on therapeutic technique that works to relax, lengthen and realign your fascia. The goal is to bring pain relief, as well as give back the full range of motion. Myofascial release applies stretches and sustained pressure on targeted areas of connective tissue (fascia) that surround muscles and bones. This pressure is meant to release the restriction in the connective tissue so

that runners have greater range of motion and less pain. This massage is ideal to release stubborn muscle knots and general chronic muscle tension and is perfect post-marathon.

Spa guests are invited to come one hour before the treatment to enjoy the heat and water facilities that comprise a hot and cold plunge uniquely designed for runners and muscle assistance. The cold plunge helps control joint inflammation and enhances muscle recovery, while the hot plunge helps to relax tight muscles and stimulate the release of endorphins.


The eucalyptus steam room, a dry heat sauna that improves overall cardiovascular health, increases blood flow to skeletal and muscle and increases efficiency of oxygen transport to muscles. Lavish relaxation heated seats complete the therapeutic experience. For reservations, log onto www.encorebostonharbor.com or call (857) 770-3900.

Encore Boston Harbor is an integrated gaming destination consisting of a 210,000 square foot casino, 671 spacious hotel rooms, spa, salon and fitness center, specialty retail shops, 15 dining and lounge venues and more than 50,000 square feet of state-of-the-art ballroom and meeting spaces. Situated on the waterfront in Everett, MA and connected to Boston Harbor, Encore Boston Harbor’s grounds feature a six-acre Harborwalk with pedestrian and bicycle paths that provide access to the Mystic River, an events lawn, public art and ornate floral displays. It is the largest private, single-phase development in the history of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The resort offers free self-parking for Red Card members from 5:00 a.m. on Monday through 5:00 p.m. on Friday, or for one COMPDOLLAR on weekends and at the resort valet.

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Edwards holds second meeting with Community Transition Committee

By John Lynds

Nearly 50 people turned out for Sen. Lydia Edwards’s second Community Transition Committee virtual meeting last week to discuss transportation. Edwards kicked off the series of meetings last month with the first being on the topic of housing. At each meeting Edwards is asking residents to advise her on constituent and public policy issues impacting the Senate district.

While last week’s meeting focused on transportation, the committee will cover issues including addiction and recovery, Massport, seniors, education/youth services, public safety, and environmental justice throughout 2022.

“I can’t believe we have 46 people on the meeting tonight,” said Edwards as she kicked off the meeting. “That’s almost 16

more people than we had on housing. So this is a growing conversation.”

Piers Park Sailing Center Executive Director Alex DeFronzo kicked off the community conversation on transportation with an emphasis on adding more designated bike and bus lanes in the area.

“The developments that have happened downtown with dedicated bus lanes and new bike infrastructure with protected bike lanes is excellent,” said DeFronzo. “It would be so incredible to see here and I think it will really help East Boston’s congestion and traffic issues. So whatever we can do to keep equity there and have the same sort of stuff that’s happening downtown happening here in East Boston would be great.”

DeFronzo also added that adding more bus

lanes, increasing funding to the MBTA for more rapid transit as well as funding the Red-Blue Line Connector will all help reduce traffic and congestion on the neighborhood’s streets.

GreenRoots’s John Walkey said there needs to be more transparency when it comes to increasing capacity at Logan Airport. While the state and the Port Authority year after year commissions studies and reports that call for increasing flights and passengers under the argument that Logan is the state’s ‘economic engine’, more needs to be done to protect communities surrounding the airport.

“There are tremendous benefits and there are lots of very expensive reports that have been produced to show what the benefits are to the region,” said Walkey. “What they don’t

do is say who gets those benefits? And what they don’t do is say what are the costs and who bears those costs? I think if we were to actually do a cost benefit analysis of the airport and take a look at who is getting the benefit of having international flights coming in here—and there are some benefits for local residents who have jobs and we want to see those jobs increase—there are some downsides. And those downsides are the noise pollution, the air pollution and the health impacts of those downsides.”

AIR, Inc. Vice President Chris Marchi added that the same sort of tenacity from elected officials that went into fighting the Eversource Substation needs to be applied to focusing on Massport’s recent expansion. Marchi argues that no other enti-

ty will contribute more to traffic woes and transportation issues in the neighborhood than an increase in flights and passengers coming and going at Logan.

“We will need you (Sen. Edwards) and we will need Rep. Madaro and Mayor Wu to use this opportunity now to begin to pressure the Port Authority on every front,” said Marchi. “I would ask that what you began with the utility companies extends to Massport. Massports 2018-2019 environmental data report disclosed that the airport emitted 35,481 pounds of pollution every

single day into the air in East Boston. They also disclosed that as far as greenhouse gasses, the airport emitted 810,000 metric tons—and that’s just one year in 2019. The most important thing is that the City of Boston has not provided a comment on any of these environmental disclosure documents since 2015. So it’s so important to me— and I’m really grateful that you’re having this session—that we really strengthen the relationship between our elected officials and our community’s perspectives on airport issues.”

MassDOT hosts meeting on Route 1A study

By John Lynds

MassDOT project manager Doug Johnson was at Monday’s Harbor View Neighborhood Association meeting to discuss the ongoing study the state’s transportation department is conducting to assess the potential uses of the MassDOT and MBTA rail parcels located between Route 1A and the Chelsea Creek.

The study will also evaluate the Route 1A corridor between Bell Circle in Revere and Day Square in East Boston and identify opportunities to improve connections for people walking, biking and taking transit as well as address safety issues and potential impacts of climate change.

“So the reason why we’re really doing this study is because there’s a piece of land that the MBTA owns that’s an inactive railway corridor,” said Johnson. “It’s basically on the bank of the Chelsea Creek in East Boston and into Revere. Back in 2019, before the pandemic, a private property owner approached the MBTA and MassDOT about leasing the rail cor-

ridor and using it for a different use. So we received feedback from the community and people asked us to do a planning study to figure out what should actually be done with that corridor.”

The private property owner Johnson was referring to is owner of Cargo Ventures Jacob Citrin. Citrin tried to acquire the unused stretch of land that once served as a railroad along the Chelsea Creek behind several current freight forwarding and rental car facilities. The state put out an Invitation to Bid (ITB) for the land that runs parallel to McClellan Highway in the form of easements through the ITB process. Cargo Ventures was the only reported bidder.

However, a lack of community process had elected officials, residents and neighborhood activists calling for a more transparent process.

In July 2019 the MBTA’s Fiscal Management Control Board Chair Joe Aiello said the state was shelving the ITB process until a review of the corridor and alternative uses for the land could be explored. At a Control Board

meeting Monday Aiello said the state would look at possibly using the easements to improve mobility in and around Eastie.

With the ITB shelved, Citrin kicked off the community process to sell his ideas for redeveloping the stretch of industrial land on McClellan Highway along the Chelsea Creek his company owns. Citrin is still lobbying to gain access to the railway corridor. If the state did not pull the ITB, Cargo Ventures would have developed the land to give his company’s truck drivers direct access to Logan Airport via the Marty Coughlin Bypass Road along the Creek.

“That’s why we’re looking at it,” said Johnson. “We also understand that any kind of transportation use of that corridor is going to impact Route 1A and we know that Route 1A has a lot of problems and safety issues—not just traffic. So we’re looking at this rail corridor trying to figure out what to do with it, what the impacts would be on Route 1A and also how to address the issues that exist now.”

Johnson said the study would look at improving safety for people using all

modes of transportation and enhance connectivity for users of all modes of transportation along and across the Route 1A corridor.

These improvements would look to balance local and regional transportation needs and improve the reliability of freight transportation.

There is also a focus on sustainability and climate change resiliency as part of the study with MassDOT looking to Improve air quality and access to public and natural resources as well as enhancing the resiliency of the corridor’s infrastructure and surrounding areas.

Johnson added that enhancing the corridor’s benefits while reducing the corridor’s burdens would be paramount given Eastie’s status as an Environmental Justice Community.

“Obviously, East Boston is an Environmental Justice Community and we want to understand how it has been impacted by the transportation infrastructure and how we could potentially address those impacts,” said Johnson.

Coalition calls for swift action on low-income MBTA fares

In the wake of the failure by the MBTA board to create a Low-Income Fare for MBTA riders, a popular proposal that garnered overwhelming support in public testimony, the Public Transit Public Good Coalition calls for swift action on providing a Low-Income Fare for MBTA riders.

Despite long-standing calls from environmental justice communities, labor groups and others for a low-income fare, the MBTA has refused to advance the Low-Income Fare program, citing budgetary constraints. The Public Transit Public Good Coalition calls on the MBTA to use a portion of the \$500 million it recently reallocated for use on a range of one-time uses to fund a low-income fare pilot. We estimate a year-long pilot would cost \$42 million dollars.

“The idea of a Low-Income Fare began for a simple reason: folks were struggling to pay the cost

of riding,” said Collique Williams, an organizer with Public Transit Public Good Coalition, convened by Community Labor United, in his testimony to the Board. “The fare had gone up in 2012, in 2014, in 2016, and in 2019. People needed some help to pay the fare and some assurance that the spiraling costs would not continue. Then, in 2020, the pandemic hit, bringing new economic hardships and health risks. The power to bring riders relief lies here with this body.”

“We know that T can afford a Low-Income Fare and it’s a matter of will to support the low-income riders who have been carrying the burden of T funding. We know that this board can make it happen,” said Karen Chen, Executive Director of the Chinese Progressive Association, a member of the Public Transit Public Good Coalition, in her testimony to the Board.

While delaying action

on a low-income fare, the MBTA is rushing to a decision on a new \$3 fee on the Charlie Card. The proposed surcharge is part of a move to the controversial, expensive, and much-delayed ‘automated fare collection’ system outsourced to billionaire corporations Cubic and John Laing. The MBTA is set to pay close to a billion dollars, including \$288 million in profit and overhead, for this privatized fare collection system.

“MBTA staff could not answer Board Chair Taylor’s question as to when the new fare collection technology is expected to come online,” said Williams. “Before deciding to impose new fees on riders, the MBTA should re-examine its fare collection contract, and adopt a Low-Income Fare that would save low-income people millions. We also call on the Massachusetts Legislature to advance legislation that would create a Low-Income Fare at

the MBTA and provide assistance to RTAs to do the same.”

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Madaro-sponsored bill to further protect veterans passes the House

By John Lynds

A bill sponsored by Rep. Adrian Madaro to ensure greater accountability on behalf of veterans and their families passed in the House of Representatives last week.

Madaro said the bill makes key reforms to the governance structure of the veterans’ homes, like the Chelsea Soldiers Home that houses veterans from Eastie and surrounding communities, and en-

sures that homes are federally licensed as health care facilities. The bill also mandates increased state management and provides independent oversight and accountability of veterans’ homes management.

The bill was in direct response to the tragedy at the Holyoke Veterans’ Home in 2020, which resulted in the COVID-19 related deaths of 77 veterans. Following the tragedy the Legislature established the Special Joint Over-

sight Committee on the veterans’ Home in Holyoke COVID-19 Outbreak to investigate and make legislative recommendations.

“Our veterans deserve high quality treatment, care, and living conditions,” said Madaro. “Massachusetts owes it to our veterans, who served and sacrificed for our country, to ensure that our Veterans’ homes are managed with diligence and accountability. I was

proud to vote in favor of this bill to reform our Veterans’ homes in order to best serve the needs of Massachusetts’ bravest.”

The bill, H.441, An Act relative to the governance, structure and care of veterans at the Commonwealth veterans’ homes will require home superintendents to be licensed as nursing home administrators and either be a veteran or someone with experience managing veterans in a nursing home or long

term-care facility.

Other highlights of the bill includes establishing a 17-member statewide Veterans’ Homes Council to manage and control the veterans’ homes, promulgate regulations to the local boards, and confirm and remove superintendents as well as an Office of the Veteran Advocate, an independent office that will be led by a Veteran Advocate appointed by the Governor, Attorney General and State Auditor.

The bill would require the Veteran Advocate to submit an annual report, which will be made public, to the Governor and the Legislature with an analysis of the delivery of services to veterans and recommendations for changes in agency procedures.

If signed into law the Department of Public Health (DPH) will conduct and report on inspections of veterans’ homes twice a year, or as often as they see fit, and establish a maximum time of 30 days

for a veterans’ home to correct any violation that DPH identifies.

“Today, with the best interests of our veterans and their families in mind, the House took action to ensure greater accountability and oversight for veterans’ homes in Massachusetts,” said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). “This legislation takes significant steps to change how our veterans’ homes are governed and managed, and establishes protocols that are designed to identify and correct any examples of mismanagement or inadequate care as quickly as possible.”

In May 2021, the House approved \$400 million for the construction of an updated Holyoke Veterans’ Home facility and \$200 million to increase geographic equity and accessibility for veterans not primarily served by the veterans’ Home in Chelsea or Holyoke.

The bill now goes to the Senate for approval.

Malden Catholic names Joe Gaff as head football coach

Malden Catholic announced that Joe Gaff has been hired as the Head Football Coach. Joe Gaff brings an extensive football coaching background that includes thirty years of total coaching experience, with fifteen of those years in the position of head coach. Gaff has successfully served as Head Varsity Coach in the past at Malden Catholic from 2005 to 2008. Subsequent to his tenure at MC, Joe served as both Defensive Coordinator and Head Coach at Boston College High School, and helped lead the team to Super Bowl championships in 2008 and 2011. Prior to his time in the Catholic Conference, Joe had a successful run as Head Coach at Chelsea High School leading them to a Super Bowl as well. To complement his high school experience, Gaff also coached football at the college level at Tufts University.

“Coach Gaff’s strong ability to connect with others, demonstrated drive to succeed and skills for



Joe Gaff.

developing talent the right way made Joe really stand out during the search for a coach. As we went through the process, Gaff checked off all the boxes and he is a perfect fit for Malden Catholic,” stated MC Athletic Director Bill Raycraft. “This is an exciting time for MC’s Football Program and there has been quite a buzz in the community regarding his hiring,” Raycraft added.

Gaff is a thirty-two-year veteran of the Everett Police Department and currently a Police Sergeant for the city. Gaff stated, “I am looking forward to honoring the successful

tradition of Malden Catholic and continuing to build on the current football program. The pieces are in place for us to grow the program to the next level - where our students, staff and alumni expect to be. We will work hard to develop a physical football team that is dominant on both lines of scrimmage and has a dynamic balanced offense and an assertively stout defense.”

“Joe Gaff has not only proven himself an excellent football coach, but he has also shown both in his time at Malden Catholic in various coaching roles and through this hiring process, that he understands MC’s mission and deeply cares about our student-athletes. He is committed to their success both in the classroom as well as the field,” commented Malden Catholic Headmaster, John Thornburg.

Since 1932, Malden Catholic High School has shaped emerging leaders in our community, claiming a Nobel Laureate, a

Senator, two ambassadors and countless community and business heads among its alumni. Annually, graduates attend some of the nation’s most renown universities including Harvard, Georgetown, Brown, Cornell, Tufts, Georgia Tech, Boston College and Amherst College. Foundational to student success is Malden Catholic’s codivisional model which offers the best of both worlds, single-gender academics during the day and integrated social and extracurricular opportunities after school. Malden Catholic is known in the community for its rigorous academics, SFX Scholars Program and award-winning STEM program. Malden Catholic curriculum is designed to improve individual growth mindset, leadership principles and success outcomes along with integrating the Xaverian values of trust, humility, compassion, simplicity and zeal. <https://www.maldencatholic.org>.



Guide to Obtaining a Plenary Indulgence

150th anniversary of the birth of our Father and Founder St. Louis Orione

WHAT IS A PLENARY INDULGENCE?

“May I never forget that the ministry entrusted to me is a ministry of mercy, and have with my brothers and sisters who are sinners, a little of that untiring charity, which you have shown to my soul, Oh great God.” ~Don Orione*

**Don Orione, Net name delta Divina Prowidenza (In the Name of Divine Providence), Ed. Piemme, Casale M, 2004, 3rd ed., p. 27.*

“The starting-point for understanding indulgences is the abundance of God’s mercy revealed in the Cross of Christ. The crucified Jesus is the great ‘indulgence’ that the Father has offered humanity through the forgiveness of sins and the possibility of living as children in the Holy Spirit.” ~Saint John Paul II

God desires to forgive sins and bring us to eternal life. He also desires to free us from the conditions of suffering that arise because of sin. The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us that the effects of sin are twofold: Sin breaks communion with God and creates an unhealthy attachment to worldly things. (See CCC 1472)

“Temporal punishment expresses the condition

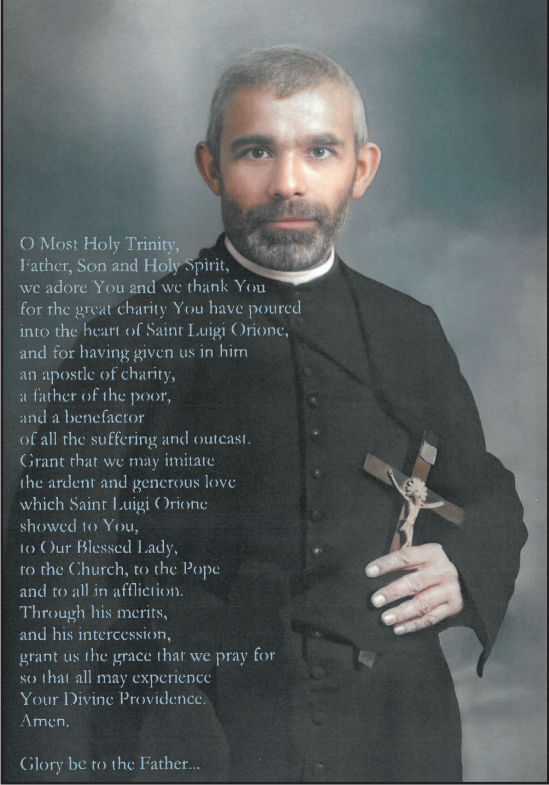
of suffering of those who, although reconciled with God, are still marked by those ‘remains’ of sin which do not leave them totally open to grace.” (Saint John Paul II) These remains of sin “must be purified either here on earth or after death in the state called Purgatory.” (CCC 1472)

“An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins, whose guilt has

already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions.” (CCC 14 71) A “plenary” remission means that it is applied to all of the temporal punishments of sins. The giving of indulgences is an extension of the Church’s vast treasury of grace, which like a medicine heals a person over time.

“Having received from Christ the power to forgive in his name, the Church is in the world as the living presence of the love of God who leans down to every human weakness in order to gather it into the embrace of his mercy.” ~Saint John Paul II

Out of a desire to bring, complete healing to every sinner, the Church grants indulgences to encourage the faithful in their ongoing journey towards the fullness of the love of God. Indulgences can be applied to either oneself or a soul in Purgatory. To learn more about indulgences, see the Catechism of the Catholic Church 1471-1478.



O Most Holy Trinity,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
we adore You and we thank You
for the great charity You have poured
into the heart of Saint Luigi Orione,
and for having given us in him
an apostle of charity,
a father of the poor,
and a benefactor
of all the suffering and outcast.
Grant that we may imitate
the ardent and generous love
which Saint Luigi Orione
showed to You,
to Our Blessed Lady,
to the Church, to the Pope
and to all in affliction.
Through his merits,
and his intercession,
grant us the grace that we pray for
so that all may experience
Your Divine Providence.
Amen.
Glory be to the Father...

HOW CAN I OBTAIN A PLENARY INDULGENCE?

The Holy Father grants a Plenary Indulgence from **March 12 through August 29, 2022** to man and woman who make

A visit “a church of the Fathers of the “Son of Divine Providence” - Saint Joseph-Saint Lazarus Parish,
59 Ashley St., East Boston, MA

“The elderly, the sick, and all those who, for whatever reason, cannot leave their homes, uniting themselves spiritually to the jubilee celebrations by offering prayers, their sufferings and the difficulties of their lives to the merciful God, praying in front of a picture or statue of St. Louis Orione.”

CONDITIONS To OBTAIN THE PLENARY INDULGENCE (For yourself or for a soul in purgatory)

In a Orionine community or Church

- Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation • Receive Holy Communion • Say a prayer for the intentions of the Pope
- Have an interior disposition of complete detachment from all sin, even venial Sill

Remain for a suitable time before the remains or the image of St. Louis Orione praying for the intentions of the Congregation, the fruits of the Jubilee and for the Holy Father.

- Pray the Lord’s Prayer • Pray the Creed • Pray the Hail Mary • Conclude with the Don Orione’s Prayer

Lastly: “Go home to your family and announce to them all that the Lord in his mercy has done for you.” - MK. 5,19

All pilgrims, reconciled and moved by divine mercy, are encouraged to practice a work of charity

Saint Joseph - Saint Lazarus Parish, 59 Ashley St., East Boston

Delegates // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

eral. "I've never been afraid to take on tough problems and stand up to powerful people whether it was the Sacklers or Exxon Mobil, predatory lenders that preyed on student borrowers and homeowners in neighborhoods throughout Boston and beyond. As Governor, I will be investing in people and infrastructure, transit and housing. I'm going to work to make childcare more affordable because it's holding so many people, especially women back. I'll be the most aggressive governor in the country when it comes to climate change and environmental justice and the work to build a robust workforce. Right now, in a state with so much prosperity, not enough people are sharing in that prosperity. I want to change that for Boston and change that for Massachusetts."

Chang-Diaz, who currently serves as a State Senator, said she is running for Governor because every day it is getting harder and harder for families living in our state.

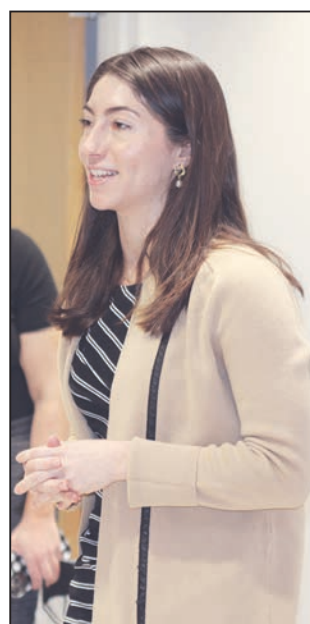
"For 13 years I have been fighting like hell alongside some of you to tackle the biggest challenges that we face as a state in terms of education and funding for our kids' schools, criminal justice reform, police accountability, LGBTQ rights," said Chang-Diaz. "But in the course of that work, I have also seen firsthand that we still have too many folks in government who are more concerned with holding on to power rather than doing something with it. It does not have to be this way because we can



Mayor Michelle Wu during Saturday's Ward 1 Democratic Committee Caucus at the BCYF Paris Street Community Center.



Rep. Adrian Madaro addresses the crowd.

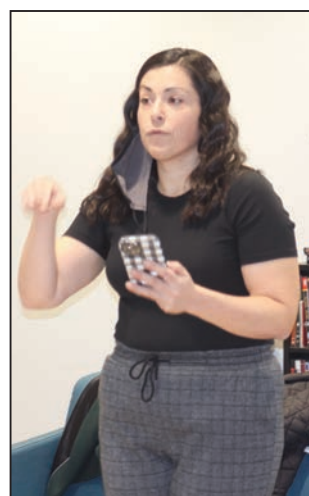


Running for District 1 City Councilor Gabriela Coletta speaks to the crowd.

While the point of Saturday's Caucus was to elect delegates to the state convention there is still a Special Election for the District 1 City Council seat. The Democratic Committee gave both candidates, Gabriella Coletta and Tiana Del Rio, the opportunity to introduce themselves to the crowd of Eastie Democrats.



Elected delegate Heather O'Brien talks with Steve Gingras and Gloribel Rivas. Gingras and Rivas were also elected delegates during the caucus.



Ward 1 Democratic Committee Chair Vicki Dzindzichashvili.



Sen. Lydia Edwards during the caucus.

A SHORT STORY ABOUT
GROWING UP WITH AN
UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

POLIO.

As one of the last American children to contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a world of iron lungs and body casts, alone with his imagination. His story would be dramatic enough if it was just about his battle with this dreaded disease.

But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive polio. He went on to a list of achievements in medical research—including being the principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Galpin actively credits his own incurable condition for giving him the focus that made him so passionate in his research. His story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.

Mammograms Save Lives.

All women over 40 should have a mammogram once a year. Breast cancer found early offers the best chance to be cured. Free or low cost mammograms are available.

For more information and answers to any of your cancer questions, contact us any time, day or night.

www.cancer.org
1.800.ACS.2345

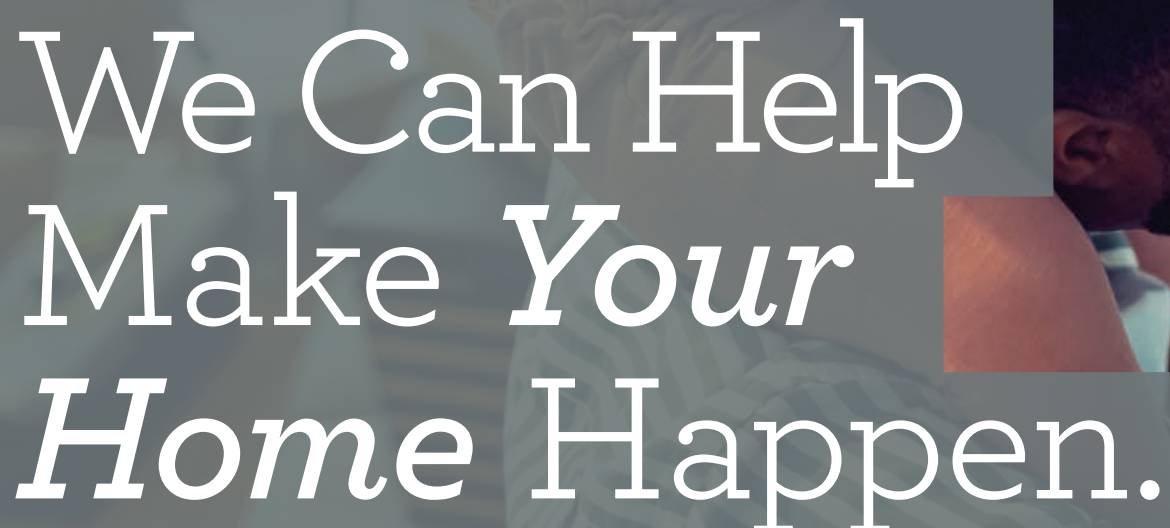


American
Academy of
Orthopaedic
Surgeons

aaos.org/75years

AAOS

CELEBRATING
HUMAN HEALING
orthoinfo.org

A photograph of a woman with dark hair smiling warmly while holding a baby. The woman is wearing a light-colored top, and the baby is wearing a striped shirt. The background is softly blurred, showing what appears to be a window with light coming through.

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SAVE THE HARBOR/SAVE THE BAY’S ANNUAL HARPOON SHAMROCK SPLASH

East Boston’s Constitution Beach hosted Save the Harbor/Save the Bay’s annual polar plunge to raise money for summer beach programs. The annual Shamrock Splash raises tens of thousands of dollars each year for the Better Beaches grant program was held at Constitution Beach this past Sunday and included music, raffles, prizes, and a cold dip into the frigid waters off Eastie.



City Council candidate Taina Del Rio with her son and supporters during Sunday's Shamrock Splash at Constitution Beach.



Teams that raised money for Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Better Beaches Grant Program through Sunday's Shamrock Splash line up and get ready to take the plunge into the cold waters off Constitution Beach.



The fundraising team from Eastie's Harborkeepers. Harborkeepers has historically received grant money from the Better Beaches Grant Program to host an annual Maritime Festival at the East Boston beach.



While some splashers wore costumes others went for the Shamrock Splash's Irish theme.



Splashes register and receive a Save the Harbor/Save the Bay t-shirt.



The shock on the splashers' faces was evident as they entered the 38.1 degree water in Eastie.



Splashers dressed in a wide array of costumes head into the water during Sunday's event.



Jet Blue's Donnie Todd and Rep. Adrian Madaro.



The team from Pier Park Sailing takes part in the annual splash that helps raise money for the sailing program in Eastie.



The event included music, prizes, a raffle and costume contest.



Sen. Lydia Edwards and Theresa Malonek.

WINTHROP MARKETPLACE

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

SALE DAYS THURSDAY, MARCH 10TH, 2022 THROUGH WEDNESDAY MARCH 16TH, 2022

Grocery

Great grocery specials

Rice-A-Roni	10/¢10.00
Best Yet Squeeze Ketchup 24 oz	10/¢10.00
Chobani Greek Yogurt & Flips.....	10/¢10.00
Kraft Barbecue Sauce.....	10/¢10.00
General Mills Cheerios (plain only)	2/¢5.00
Best Yet K-Cups	¢3.99
Tuttorosso Canned Tomatoes 28 oz.....	4/¢5.00
Tide Simply Laundry Detergent 31 oz	2/¢6.00
Heinz Plastic Jar Mayonnaise 30 oz.....	2/¢7.00
Barilla Pasta	4/¢5.00
(ex gluten free-protein-tortellini-pasta ready)	
McCain's French Fries	2/¢5.00
Boston Market Dinners.....	2/¢6.00
Kellogg's Eggo Thick & Fluffy Waffles	2/¢5.00
(ex regular type)	
Best Yet Butter Quarters	2/¢5.00 limit 4
Almond Breeze Milk 64 oz.....	2/¢6.00

Bakery

Sliced Sweet Bread Assorted Varieties	¢3.99
Gold Standard Danish	¢3.99
7" Strawberry Buttercream Cake	¢9.99

Deli

Finlandia Imported Swiss Cheese	¢6.99/lb
Freirich Cooked Corned Beef.....	¢8.99/lb
Margherita Hot Cappicola.....	¢5.99/lb
Carando Genoa Salami	¢8.99/lb
Kretschmar Spiral Recipe Ham.....	¢6.99/lb

Produce

California Sweet & Seedless Navel Oranges..	¢1.49/lb
Fresh Green Cabbage	69¢/lb
Crisp Green Bell Peppers	¢1.69/lb
Dole Fresh Celery Hearts	2/¢5.00
Natures Finest	
All Purpose White Potatoes 5 lb bag	2/¢5.00

Meat

"Meat Cut Fresh Every Day"

Family Pack Specials

Sirloin Pork Chops	¢1.99/lb
Grade A Chicken Drumsticks	79¢/lb
Grade A Chicken Leg Quarters	¢79¢/lb
85% Hamburger	¢4.99/lb

Hatfield Bacon 16 oz	¢6.99
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Weekend Specials

Friday, March 11th to Sunday March 13th

"while supplies last"

BAKERY

Ciabatta Bread	¢2.99
----------------------	-------

DELI

Land O'Lakes American Cheese	¢5.99/lb
Hans Kissle Cheese Tortellini Salad.....	¢6.99/lb

PRODUCE "while supplies last"

All Purpose Carrots 1 lb bag.....	89¢
Cluster on the Vine Tomatoes.....	¢1.79/lb
Fresh & Sweet Green Seedless Grapes.....	¢2.29/lb

MEAT

New Item!

Aqua Star Micro Stream Seafood Bowls 8oz ...	¢4.99
Best Yet Cooked Shrimp 41-50ct.....	¢7.99

GROCERY

Folgers Canned Coffee.....	3/¢9.00 limit 3
Tropicana Orange Juice 52oz.	2/¢7.00 limit 4
Hood Ice Cream.....	2/¢6.00

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New Store Hours starting June 22: Mon-Sat 7:30 am-8pm;
Sun: 7:30am-7pm

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News in Brief

BAKER SIGNS ORDER TO REVIEW CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS WITH RUSSIA

Governor Charlie Baker signed Executive Order 597, which directs all executive branch agencies to review and terminate any contracts with any Russian state-owned company. The executive order also directs agencies to review any partnership, affiliation, or exchange with any Russian state-owned company, Russian government controlled entity, or Russian governmental body.

“With this order, we hope to build on the sanctions the federal government has already placed on Russia for their unjustified attack on Ukraine,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “The Commonwealth of Massachusetts condemns the actions of Russia and stands firmly with the free and democratic nation of Ukraine.”

“The Commonwealth will continue to offer its support Ukraine and stand with them in the face of Russian aggression,” said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. “My thoughts are with all the Ukrainian people during this horrific time.”

The Governor’s executive order encourages independent agencies and authorities, public education institutions, and other constitutional offices to adopt similar policies.

The order also directs the Office for Refugees and Immigrants to work with the Federal Office of Refugee Resettlement and other stakeholder agencies to support Ukrainian immigrants and refugees fleeing the conflict.

NORTHEAST METRO TECH TO DISMISSED EARLY AFTER VANDALISM DISCOVERED

Superintendent David DiBarri and Wakefield Police Chief Steven A. Skory report that Wakefield Police are actively investigating after an act of vandalism was discovered Thursday morning at the Northeast Vocational High School.

On Thursday, as employees and students were arriving for the school day, school officials discovered a broken window and damage to a school conference room. The Wakefield Police Department and WPD School Resource Officer were immediately notified.

An initial investigation indicates that a vandal broke the window, damaged the room and threw or broke a glass bottle filled with an unknown substance made to resemble a Molotov cocktail, according to investigators.

Out of an abundance of caution, given the attempted arson and vandalism, Superintendent DiBarri has made the decision to dismiss students early on Thursday. Families were notified and the school’s transportation partner is working with Northeast Metro Tech to facilitate an orderly early dismissal, which occurred at approximately 11 a.m.

The school and police department are following the established policies and procedures that are in place to guide decision-making during these types of incidents.

The incident is being actively investigated by Wakefield Police. Additional information will be released as it becomes available.

FEMA AWARDS NEARLY \$23.4 MILLION TO MBTA

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will be sending almost \$23.4 million to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to reimburse the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) for the additional costs of operating safely during the pandemic.

The MBTA will receive a total of \$23,379,695 in federal funding through FEMA’s Public Assistance grant program to reimburse some of the costs associated with keeping public transportation services operating safely during the pandemic.

Those measures included:

- Purchasing and distributing personal protective equipment (PPE) to staff;
- Overtime costs for employees;
- Buying disinfecting supplies;
- Dissemination of essential public health and safety information as barriers, signs, safety yellow paint & barricade tape; and
- Providing testing equipment for staff and the public such as privacy screens, thermal cameras, and thermometers.

“FEMA is pleased to be able to assist the MBTA with these costs,” said FEMA Region 1 Regional Administrator Lori Ehrlich. “Keeping public transportation operating during this time period was critical to allow emergency workers, medical personnel, and others to continue getting to work.”

FEMA’s Public Assistance program is an essential source of funding for states and communities recovering from a federally declared disaster or emergency.

So far, FEMA has provided nearly \$867 million in Public Assistance grants to Massachusetts to reimburse the commonwealth for pandemic-related expenses.

Additional information about FEMA’s Public Assistance program is available at <https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit>. To learn more about the COVID-19 response in Massachusetts, please visit <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4496>.

JPNA MEETING AGENDA

The Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association monthly meeting is on March 14, from 7-8:30 p.m.

Zoom Video Conference

Registration Required.

In order to speak aloud as an abutter, you must

live within the 300’ radius from the subject property AND you must register for this meeting by Sunday, March 13th at 7pm.

* * * P L E A S E NOTE***In order to qualify to vote at a voting meeting each person must be registered and join the meeting as an individual. You will not be counted as an attendee at a meeting should you participate in the Zoom call as a couple or family.

The following is the agenda for our upcoming monthly meeting:

AGENDA (subject to change):

Boston Police - Community Update

New Mayor’s Liaison Nathalia Benitez Perez - Introduction and how to contact

Candidates for Boston City Council Special Election - Gabriela Coletta and Tania Del Rio

306 Sumner Street - VOTE

Open Community Questions - Ask the JPNA Board questions or for updates

As a reminder, all questions will be handled via the Zoom chat feature. We ask all attendees to remain muted unless called upon to speak. Looking forward to “seeing” you all there!

We are using eBallot to manage the voting process. Within 48 hours after the meeting, eligible voters will be emailed a link that will allow them to vote online. All votes must be cast by Friday, March 18th at 7pm. Late votes will not be accepted, no exceptions. Please be sure to check your spam folder as the e-mail frequently ends up there for many residents.

We hope you and your loved ones are well. We are all in this together as neighbors and friends. Please don’t be afraid to reach out.

2022 meeting dates are posted at jeffriespoint.org.

OLD NORTH FOUNDATION TO HOLD RE-ENACTMENT

“One if by land, two if by sea.” On Wednesday, April 13, the Old North Foundation in Boston’s North End will re-enact

the famous signal that illuminated the path for the American Revolution. The commemoration celebrates the events of April 18, 1775 when two men hung two lanterns from the steeple of the Old North Church, the city’s oldest surviving church building and one of the most visited historical sites along the Freedom Trail. After passing critical information to the signal holders, Paul Revere began his midnight ride warning rural patriots that the British troops were marching to Lexington and Concord. The act of defiance that inspired a nation to collectively win our independence from Britain is a reminder of the power of active citizenship to create a more perfect union that reflects the promise of liberty and justice for all. This year’s event will be held in-person from 6 to 9:30 p.m. at Old North Church & Historic Site, located at 193 Salem Street in Boston, and livestreamed for a virtual audience. The celebration will feature the Middlesex County Volunteers Fife and Drums, a reading of the poem “Paul Revere’s Ride” by Michael J. Bobbitt, Executive Director, Mass Cultural Council, and remarks by the 2022 Third Lantern Award recipient, Michael R. Bloomberg, Founder of Bloomberg Philanthropies and Bloomberg LP and 108th Mayor of New York City. A reception with live music and food will follow. Proceeds from the event will support the Old North Foundation’s virtual and on-site programs, which aim to inspire children and adults alike to consider the ways in which they can build a more just and equitable world. Individual tickets range from \$25 to \$200 and must be purchased in advance. All attendees must show proof of vaccination and wear masks when indoors. To register, visit: www.oldnorth.com/Lantern2022.

JOHNSON PARTICIPATES IN EMERSON STAGE PRODUCTION OF AS

YOU LIKE IT

Emerson College student Caitlin Johnson of East Boston, participated in Emerson Stage’s production of As You Like It.

As You Like It is a comedic play that showcases adventure and love. A new spin on Shakespeare’s play, this radically queer version features acceptance and joy at the center of this adaptation by Eddie DeHais.

The play was performed February 17-20 in the Sebel Theater at Emerson College in Boston, MA.

Johnson is majoring in Theatre Education and is a member of the class of 2022.

Photos available upon request.

Emerson Stage and the Department of Performing Arts are where the next generation of actors, designers, stage managers, technicians, administrators, and educators work alongside distinguished faculty, professional staff, and visiting artists to bring skills learned in the classroom to vibrant life on stage.

About Emerson College
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 3,780 undergraduates and 670 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-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, the District of Columbia, the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic as well as its new Global Portals, with the first program launching this fall in Paris. 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.

Officials announce March programs at Belle Isle Marsh

Officials for the North Region Coastal District of the Belle Isle Marsh Reservation Department of Conservation and Recreation announce the following programs in March. All Programs are free and open to the public. An adult must accompany children. Reasonable accommodations available upon request. Please follow all current COVID guidelines: Mass.gov/COVID.

Dress for the weather including possible ice or mud on the ground. Boots are recommended. For more information call (781) 656-1485 or email matthew.nash@mass.gov

The DCR’s Belle Isle Marsh Reservation parking lot, is located at 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston

An Oasis for Birds
Saturdays, March 19 7:30–8:30am

We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for Snowy

Owls and other raptors, native sparrows, finches and waterfowl at this Birding Hotspot & MA State Park.

Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for mosquitoes and ticks. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. Binoculars recommended.

Co-sponsored by the Brookline Bird Club and the Friends of Belle Isle Marsh.

Note that this program meets every month of the year on the first and third Saturday of the month except when occurring on State or National Holidays.

The Sky Dance of the Timberdoodle

Tuesday, March 22 6:30-7:30 pm

Come witness a special live performance of one of the most remarkable courtship rituals in the natural world of the male American Woodcock, aka “Timberdoodle.”

This odd-looking shorebird struts, sings and sky dances for his prospective mate in a performance that you won’t want to miss! If you have a flashlight, you may bring it for our short walk back after viewing. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. Binoculars recommended.

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Acting DCR Commissioner Stephanie Cooper, the agency’s mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our commonwealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr.

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Wednesday, August 16, 2020

BPDA to hold two more Suffolk Downs meetings

First step

Maduro's Environmental Justice amendment a win for Eastie

Three Eastie residents having

Sticky size: 3 in. x3 in. Shown sized to scale above covers approx. 2 columns

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

PROJECT BEFORE PLANNING BOARD

CHELSEA - Plans for a long-awaited affordable housing project at 361 Broadway were unveiled at last week’s Planning Board meeting.

However, the Planning Board will not take up consideration of the site plan review and recommendations to the Zoning Board for the project until its March 22 meeting. Several Planning Board members were concerned that a revised plan was forwarded to the planning department several hours before the meeting, and wanted the additional time for a further review of the plan.

The project proposed by Arx Urban calls for the renovation of the existing Broadway building, and the demolition of the adjacent commercial garage to make way for a new building that will ultimately result in 62 residential units.

“We are a socially minded developer based out of Boston, and we have been working on this project with the city of Chelsea for a few years now, and we are very excited to unveil it,” said Benjamin Moll, one of the founders of Arx Urban.

The development, known as 4th @ Broadway, will take up about half of a city block between 5th St. and 4th St. on Broadway, Moll said.

“An affiliate of ours acquired the building almost five years ago with the intent to redevelop the back portion of the garage,” said Moll.

Overall, Moll said Arx Urban is proposing a 62 unit, mixed-income project with a large affordable housing component which will include the rehabilitation of the existing 19-unit building, as well as keeping the current six commercial tenants of the building in place with below market rates.

Ultimately, Moll said he anticipates the 60 percent of the units will be available at 60 percent of the Area Median Income or below, which he added far exceeds the criteria of Chelsea’s inclusionary zoning ordinance.

The 361 Broadway building has a long history in the city, having burned down during the Great Fire of 1908 and then being rebuilt in 1916 as part of the redevelopment of Bellingham Square. It was known as the Executive Building and hosted the Yiddish Theater as well as other performing arts initiatives throughout the 1940s before it transitioned into a more traditional commercial building.

Since the 1980s, the building has been eyed by developers, and projects as large as 135 units were proposed as late as 2006, according to Moll.

Moll said his team has been meeting with city leaders and organizations and has much support for the project.

“The real key goal is to create income restrictions for a range of Chelsea residents ... and we want to preserve the existing local retailers,” said Moll.

The project will consist of two buildings that will be connected, with a courtyard in between. Moll said the project will also bring streetscape improvements and make the area more pedestrian friendly.

MASKS FOR STUDENTS ARE OPTIONAL

EVERETT - The Everett School Committee voted 5-2 at last week’s meeting to make the mask mandate for students and faculty optional starting immediately. The Everett district now will be following many of the state’s other school districts, and Governor Charlie Baker’s

lead, in calling for optional mask-wearing as a step toward returning to normalcy for students and staff.

School Committee at-large member Samantha Lambert introduced a motion seeking to have the mandatory mask policy remain in effect until March 14.

“Everett is not out of the woods yet,” she told her colleagues, citing as a reason that many students and families have just returned from February school vacation and that there typically is a five-day lag before a trend can be determined. “People traveled and we do not know the impact,” she added.

However, vice-chairperson Michael McLaughlin offered a motion to lift the mandatory face mask requirement immediately, saying, “The Cambridge Health Alliance has seen only minor COVID cases in students. Parents feel strongly that we should relax the mandate and make face masks optional.”

Ward 1 member Millie Cardello echoed McLaughlin, saying, “We cannot wait to extend it any longer. There are social and mental issues to wearing masks.”

At-large member Cynthia Sarnie favored optional mask-wearing and said, “We have weakened the immune system of the children. We should allow parents to make the decision.”

Lambert then amended her motion to extend the mask mandate to March 7 after next week’s School Committee meeting, citing the need to wait the five days as recommended by the Center for Disease Control guidelines. However, the motion failed when none of Lambert’s fellow committee members seconded her motion.

McLaughlin then proposed his motion, which

NOW THAT’S A SNOWMAN



If you’ve driven down Chester Avenue in Winthrop this past week, you’ve probably noticed the massive new neighbor. Winthrop resident Susan Giarratani shown with her 8-foot tall snowman, Lumpy, made following the most recent snowstorm.

read, “Remove the mandatory mask mandate immediately and make masks optional for students and faculty.”

The motion passed with Cardello, McLaughlin, Sarnie, Michael Mangan, and Joseph LaMonica voting for the motion and Lambert and chairperson Jeanne Cristiano voting against.

COVID CASES DOWN AT EPS

In the meeting on Monday night, School Committee members heard the COVID numbers at Everett Public Schools (EPS) for February from Superintendent Priya Tahiliani. After a huge spike in January with more than 580 positive cases among faculty and students, February numbers plummeted to just 37 cases through February 24.

In the 12-15 age group, 71% have been fully-vaccinated, and in the 16-19 age group, 75% have been fully-vaccinated. In the 5-12 age cohort, only 30% have been fully-vaccinated.

RENTAL POLICY

Citing the imminent return to public use of school facilities now that there are fewer COVID restrictions, the School Committee sent to its Rules, Policies, and Procedures Subcommittee a request to review the current rental policy that EPS charges to various local organizations.

APPROVES VACCINE CLINIC

Members unanimously approved a request from City of Everett officials to use Everett High School on Tuesdays in March from 4 to 8 p.m. to hold

COVID-19 vaccine clinics. Presently there is a clinic open at the former Pope John High School on Broadway from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturdays.


The Everett School Committee next will meet on March 7 at 6:30 p.m.

VONG IS MAYOR'S COMMUNICATION MANAGER

LYNN - By any description, the position of communications manager for a mayor is vital, especially in these times when people are used to receiving news directly and instantaneously.

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See REGION Page 10



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OBITUARIES

Nicola Leone

Of Revere, formerly of East Boston

Nicola Leone of Revere, formerly of East Boston, passed away on March 6, at the age of 96.

The beloved husband of the late Nicolina (Rago) Leone, he was the loving father of Giovanni Leone and his wife, Joanne and Alessandro "Alex" Leone and his wife, Lisa, all of Revere; beloved son of the late Giovanni and Filomena Leone, dear brother of Carmela Favorito and her late husband, Jerry, Regina Gnerre and her late husband, Antonio, the late Ubaldo Leone and his late wife, Carmela and Michael Leone and his surviving wife, Kathy; cherished grandfather of Nicolina, Antonella, Alexandra, Giana, Dante, Marco and the late Nico and he also leaves many nieces and nephews.

Family and friends



will honor Nicola's life by gathering at Vazza's "Beechwood" Funeral Home, 262 Beach St., Revere today, Wednesday, March 9, from 4 to 8 p.m. and again Thursday morning at 9 a.m. before leaving in procession to St. Anthony's Church in Revere for a Funeral Mass to be celebrated at 10 a.m. Entombment in Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden. For online guestbook, please visit www.vazzafunerals.com.

Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

close to 100,000 residents - well, it can be an eye-opening experience.

Valerie Vong is a Dean's List student and will graduate in May with honors from Clark University, a highly selective college located in Worcester.

Vong worked as an intern and then became digital media director on Jared Nicholson's campaign for mayor in 2021. When Nicholson, who like Vong has some impressive academic credentials (Princeton, Harvard Law School) of his own, was elected mayor in November, Vong applied for a position in the Nicholson Administration and was hired to be communications manager for the Mayor's Office.

What's it like to have such a key role in the day-to-day life of the city?

"It definitely gets a bit overwhelming, however, I feel very happy and proud, and I'm excited to be able to have such a large position assisting the city forward," said Vong.

Vong has several responsibilities in the Mayor's Office.

"I do press releases, I run the Mayor's social media, I make all the graphics, I do a lot of the communications stuff (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube)," summarized Vong.

A proud Lynn English graduate

A member of one of the first Cambodian families to settle in Lynn, Vong is a 2018 graduate of Lynn English High School where she was an inductee in the National Honor Society and president of numerous clubs. She is fluent in four languages, English, Khmer, Japanese and Korean.

Vong has been a remote, full-time college student at Clark for the last five semesters due to the pandemic.

"I definitely miss being on campus and interacting with my friends and professors," said Vong, who was nominated "Clarkie of the Week," which is an ongoing honor for students who have made outstanding contributions to the school community.

She has a double major in English and Environmental Science with a concentration in Public Policy and Environmental Policy.

Vong is also a Fellow for AAWPI (Asian-American Women Political Initiative), an organization that highlights Asian-American women in politics, and an intern for MASSPIRG Students.

Vong's sister, Veronica, is a Lynn English graduate and currently a student at Brandeis University. Her brother, Kellsun, is a second grader in the Lynn school district.

Praise for Mayor Nicholson

Valerie Vong is thankful to Mayor Nicholson for hiring her to work in his Administration.

"I'm incredibly appreciative of everything that Mayor Nicholson has done for the city, even prior to being elected as mayor," said Vong. "He's such a role model to me every day throughout my pursuit of education and my career."

Noting Mayor Nicholson's connection to Harvard, Vong added, "It's kind of funny. I'm currently in the application process for graduate school, and one of them is going to be Harvard's Kennedy School, so I think it's really interesting because the Mayor went to Harvard as well."

REVERE COUNCIL SUPPORTS UKRAINE

REVERE - The Revere City Council voted unanimously on a resolution Monday night affirming support for Ukrainian sovereignty, the people of Ukraine, and their right to self-determination.

The late motion submitted by Councillor Richard Serino pointed out that Revere is home to many who have sought a better life in the United States of America due to unrest in other countries around the world, including many Eastern-Europeans.

The resolution by Serino, and adopted by the entire Council, states that, "the Revere City Council stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine in their fight against Russian oppression, aggression, and annexation" and that, "Revere stands in support of our Ukrainian-American friends and neighbors who are residents of the City in Revere and who might, themselves, have family

and friends who remain in Ukraine during these uncertain times."

"As the Ukrainian National Anthem states, 'Ukraine's freedom has not yet perished. Ukraine is not yet dead, nor its glory and freedom. Fate shall smile once more. And we too shall rule in a free land of our own and will lay down our souls and our bodies to attain our freedom,'" said Serino after the resolution was read by the clerk. "I understand that as a city council across the world from where these events are currently taking place we don't have the authority to do anything tangible that will ease this global situation. However we can and we should use our voice and our platform to let our Ukrainian American residents know that we stand with them in solidarity, and that we, not only as Councillors but as Americans, believe in democracy and the right to live in a free society. More importantly, as human beings, we recognize that what's going on in the Ukraine is immoral and wrong. On the same token we should show that average citizens and local leaders in the United States stand with the Ukrainian people, and that we admire them for their tenacity and for sticking to their convictions."

SEVERAL WORKERS TO RETIRE

WINTHROP - The Winthrop School Committee met on Monday, Feb. 28, announcing updated COVID protocols, as well as that the district's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion resource page is again up and running.

COVID

Students in the district are no longer required to wear masks. However, other safety precautions remain in place. Schools continue to enforce social distancing, frequent handwashing and stricter cleaning protocols. In the cafeteria, students sit separately to reduce spread.

"The mask mandate has been removed, but COVID hasn't gone away," said Supt. Lisa Howard.

The district will continue to monitor the situation and adjust its policies accordingly. Group seating in the classroom and caf-

eteria may be a possibility in the future.

DEI Resource Page

The district's updated Diversity, Equity & Inclusion resource webpage is now available on the WPS website.

The site was designed "for educators, school staff, parents, public officials, and members of the community who are seeking to improve their cultural competency, better understand the experiences of marginalized groups, and identify ways we can create a more inclusive environment and society for all Winthrop residents."

As the Transcript reported in August, the page had been disabled to thoroughly vet the materials and be more all-encompassing. One can access the page by going to winthrop.k12.ma.us and clicking on the DEI Resources tab.

Upcoming Retirements

Several district staff have announced their retirements.

After 36 years as an educator, Rayna Aronson will retire as a Winthrop High School math teacher.

Bernadette Carsley is a sixth-grade science and ELA teacher who has worked with the district for over 30 years. She will retire on June 30.

Marie Finn is a physical education teacher at the Fort Banks Elementary School. She has been a teacher in the district for 42 years, and her final day will be March 4.

Michael Kirby, a sixth-grade teacher at the Winthrop Middle School, will retire on June 30 after 35 years of service.

Maura Sullivan will retire on June 30 from her position as an instructional technology teacher at the Fort Banks Elementary School. She first started teaching in the district 33 years ago.

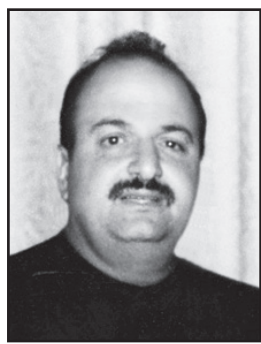
General Updates

The district is currently in the process of building its budget. Administrators rebuild the budget entirely from scratch every year, based on past allocations and anticipated future needs.

Supt. Howard congratulated Winthrop athletes on an impressive season. She recognized individual students for their athletic accomplishments.

John DiMille

— One year anniversary —



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“We’ve been assisting customers throughout Massachusetts this winter by connecting them with our programs, as well as state and federal resources to help them manage their energy bills” said Helen Burt, National Grid Chief Customer Officer. “We encourage our customers to visit our website ngrid.com/winter for a complete list of available assistance options”

Customers may enroll in programs such as the Budget Billing Plan, which spreads monthly payments out more evenly throughout the year to offset periods of high energy usage. Additional payment options are also available, and we encourage our Massachusetts customers to learn more

by visiting www.ngrid.com/billhelp.

Along with this, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which provides eligible Massachusetts households with help in paying a portion of their winter heating bills is free and open for Enrollment through April 30, 2022 and covers energy usage from November 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022. To learn more about LIHEAP and eligibility, customers may visit <https://toapply.org/MassLIHEAP>.

National Grid customers should also take advantage of a variety of energy saving tips and programs that will allow them to start saving today. For example, customers who use programmable thermostats to adjust heating and cooling could save up to \$180 a year in energy cost. National Grid also offers No-Cost Home Energy Assessments for eligible customers, which provides a safe and effective way to look at your energy needs while keeping you and your family comfortable. Through this

program, customers may receive no-cost energy-efficiency products shipped to them, as well as up to 75 percent or more off of approved insulation, no-cost air sealing and additional rebates toward qualifying energy-efficient equipment.

To learn more about how to manage your winter bills and many of the programs mentioned above, please visit ngrid.com/winter.

About National Grid National Grid (NYSE: NGG) is an electricity, natural gas, and clean energy delivery company serving more than 20 million people through our networks in New York, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island. National Grid is transforming our electricity and natural gas networks with smarter, cleaner, and more resilient energy solutions to meet the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

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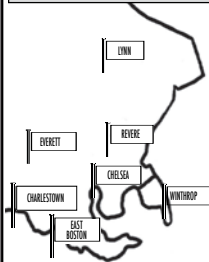
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Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/24/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a

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
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Dr. Marty Becker writ-

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Over \$160,000 has been awarded since the inception of the financial literacy grant in 2016. Operation Money Wise is designed to empower the military community and their families in the Commonwealth through financial education. This grant opportunity allows organizations to use their knowledge and expertise to design or enhance a program that would best serve their community. Many of these workshops will include strategy sessions on basic budgeting, managing debt, preparing for retirement and decisions around money.

A photograph of four chefs in a kitchen setting. They are wearing white chef coats, face masks, and hairnets. The chef on the far left is wearing an orange hairnet and a blue face mask. The chef next to him is wearing a black hairnet and a black face mask. The chef next to him is wearing a black hairnet, glasses, a blue face mask, and white gloves. The chef on the far right is wearing an orange hairnet and a white face mask. They are all holding small white plates with food. A white banner with black text is held across the front of the group, reading "FOOD SERVICE JOBS ARE IN DEMAND IN GREATER BOSTON!". The background shows kitchen shelves with various items.

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