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East Boston

TIMES - FREE PRESS

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

**"Drug
Take Back"
bags inside**

EASTIE Coalition sponsors Drug Take Back event Saturday

By John Lynds

In Eastie last year there were 144 NRIs, or Narcotic Related Illnesses, with four referred to the Medical Examiner meaning the patient was dead by the time Boston EMS arrived on the scene. There was also one additional NRI where the patient was transported to an area hospital in cardiac arrest and died on arrival.

These numbers show that on average there are roughly three NRIs a week in the neighborhood and proves we are no way near the end of the opioid crisis.

Today, you will notice there are pharmacy bags in this week's East Boston Times but don't throw them away because they are part of a "Drug Take Back" effort by the EASTIE Coalition to remove dangerous unused prescription drugs from

your home that may end up in the hands of children, young adults or those struggling with substance abuse disorder.

The EASTIE Coalition (East Boston Alliance for Support, Treatment, Intervention and Education), an initiative of the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, with support from the Mass General Brigham Centers for Community Health Improvement office and the national Drug Free Communities support program, is sponsoring this safe medication disposal effort.

East Boston Times readers can use the bags to collect unused prescription medications and drop them off at one of two locations in Eastie on Saturday, April 30.

Residents can drop off unused medication to

See TAKE BACK Page 3

East Boston Social Centers opens Barnes School infant and toddler program

By John Lynds

Over the past few years the East Boston Social Centers (EBSC) has been forced to do some reshuffling with its afterschool, pre-school and infant and toddler programs.

The construction to completely overhaul the Orient Heights Public Housing Development displaced two EBCC programs and its infant and toddler program in Chelsea was in limbo after the City of Chelsea demolished the public housing that housed the program as well.

Now, after three years

of planning and renovations—and delays caused by the pandemic—EBSC was excited to finally open its new space on the ground floor of the Barnes School Senior Housing development on Marion Street that will serve as a much needed infant and toddler daycare program.

The new EBSC daycare used to serve as one of East Boston Neighborhood Health Center's PACE program spaces according to EBSC Executive Director Justin Pasquariello.

"It really worked for

See EBSC Page 2

Eastie Times is Open for Your Convenience!

**OUR OFFICE IS
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Monday thru Wednesday 9:30 am — 5 pm
Thursday + Friday 9:30 am — 4 pm

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Eastie Farms Director Kannan Thiruvengadam (left) helps plant trees at the event.

Temple Ohabei Shalom celebrates 180 years with tree planting

By John Lynds

Members of the oldest Jewish congregation in Massachusetts are gearing up to celebrate their 180th anniversary last week with the donation of nine magnolia trees to the Salesian Boys & Girls Club.

The Temple Ohabei Shalom congregation, which was founded in 1842, built its first synagogue in Brookline in

1844 and also established the Temple Ohabei Shalom Cemetery on Woodsworth Street in Eastie the same year with the support of the Boston City Council.

To mark 180 years since the congregation's founding, members are planting 18 trees in Eastie with the help of Tree Eastie, Speak for the Trees and the Harbor View Neighborhood Association (HVNA).

Temple Ohabei Shalom will plant 9 more in the fall within the Harbor View area to commemorate the Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah. Each tree will represent a decade of the congregation's existence.

The 18 trees is part of a wider effort led by Tree Eastie and Speak for the Trees to bring more street trees to Eastie. The two groups have been working for a few years now to in-

crease the neighborhood's tree canopy by working with the city and other stakeholders. The goal is to get hundreds of new trees planted throughout the neighborhood.

"Speak for the Trees has been intimately engaged with Tree Eastie in their work, supporting its projects both with finances, expertise, and technol-

See TREE PLANTING Page 6

Tree Eastie volunteers help dig tree pits in honor of Earth Day

By John Lynds

For a couple of years now Tree Eastie, with the help of Speak for the Trees, has been trying to rekindle the neighborhood's grass-roots effort to get more trees planted in East Boston.

Last week, in honor of Earth Day and upcoming Arbor Day, volunteers from the neighborhood spent the day digging tree pit holes around the neighborhood with a focus on Maverick Square, Day Square and Central Square.

Tree Eastie's Bill Masterson has been on a crusade to get the neighborhood's tree canopy closer to the average tree canopy in other Boston neighborhoods.

During the Earth Day and Arbor Day events, volunteers were paired in groups of two or three to dig 3'x3'x3' holes in exist-

ing tree pits.

The digging of these holes, said Masterson, is the first step in planting the 100 street trees Tree Eastie hopes to accomplish this spring.

After digging the holes, volunteers placed signs indicating the hole was the future site of a new Eastie street tree.

Masterson said Tree Eastie decided to focus on the highest urban heat island locations.

Tree Eastie will also focus its efforts on Maverick Square and Central Square and then Jeffries Point through a large grant from Delta Airlines. Masterson said that money will be used to plant 40 new street trees across these areas.

Tree Eastie has also identified spots in Orient Heights, as well as Harbor View, that need street

See TREE PITS Page 8



In observation of Earth Day and Arbor Day Eastie volunteers dig a hole for a future street tree just behind Day Square at the bottom of Eagle Hill.

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East Boston

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East Boston

Times-Free Press

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OUR DRIVING IS WORSE THAN EVER, SO THIS IS NO TIME TO REDUCE TRAFFIC STOPS

Pundits and some politicians recently have been calling for a reduction in the enforcement of minor traffic offenses by our police.

We respectfully, and strongly, disagree.

Thanks to a number of factors, our roadways are more dangerous than ever. In 2020, there were 38,680 deaths on U.S. roadways, the most since 2007, even though pandemic precautions had dramatically reduced driving because people were staying at home.

In 2021, overall traffic fatalities continued to rise at a record pace. Nearly 32,000 people were killed in vehicle crashes in the first nine months of 2021, a 12 percent increase from the same period in 2020, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

It was the highest number of fatalities during the first nine months of any year since 2006 and the highest percentage increase during the first nine months of a year in the reporting system's history.

Why are Americans driving more recklessly than ever?

We believe a number of factors are at play, including an increase in drug and alcohol use during the pandemic, the decline in the use of seat belts, a huge increase in distracted driving because of the use of electronic devices, and a general disdain for societal restrictions that have spilled-over into a disregard for speed limits, stop signs, etc. on our roadways.

The rise in motor vehicle deaths follows other pandemic-era trends: Alcohol sales have soared, drug overdoses have set new records, and homicides have seen their biggest year-over-year increase on record.

In light of these alarming trends and statistics, suggesting that our police should curtail traffic-law enforcement is nonsensical.

We realize that routine traffic stops often are fraught with peril, both for the officers and for members of the public, as happened once again with the recent tragic shooting of a Black man by a white officer in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

However, in an interview with 60 Minutes on Sunday, the new mayor of New York, Eric Adams, noted that we must do more to ensure that effective police enforcement is coupled with respectful, non-abusive police behavior. Those concepts are not inherently mutually-exclusive.

Moreover, said Adams, "If you don't have public safety, everything crumbles."

The ancient Romans put it this way, "Let the safety of the people be the highest law of the land."

That is as true today as it was 2100 years ago -- and that is especially true on our streets and highways.

PUTIN'S UKRAINIAN GENOCIDE

If you listen to chatter of the pundits and politicians, there seems to a debate about whether Russia is engaging in genocide in Ukraine.

Obviously, we aren't experts in international law. So we looked up the definition of genocide according to the Genocide Convention, which came together in the aftermath of WWII.

Genocide is defined as any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group:

- Killing members of the group;
- Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; or
- Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part.

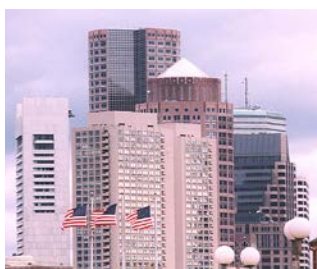
Putin is perpetrating all of these acts upon the people of Ukraine. From the outset of the invasion, he said that Ukraine "is not even a country" and that Russia needed to "de-Nazify" it -- codewords for obliterating Ukraine and its people.

Russian forces are indiscriminately bombing, murdering, torturing, starving, and raping civilians. Russian forces have herded hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian citizens onto trains and forcibly transported them to central Russia, where they await an uncertain fate.

The ceaseless bombing campaign against non-military targets has the only goal of wiping Ukrainian cities and towns from the face of the earth. Russian soldiers even have been going into libraries and destroying any books written in the Ukrainian language.

In short, Vladimir Putin is the 21st century equivalent of Hitler and Stalin, both of whom were genocidal sociopaths.

We hope and pray that our government and the rest of the civilized world will do everything conceivable to stop Putin's barbarous genocide of the Ukrainian people.



Forum

GUEST OP-ED

Finding hope and life before death

assembly, grandkids or enjoying a sunny or rainy day. Life is living and enjoying our living.

God didn't make us to be miserable. We make ourselves miserable. Sickness makes us miserable. Addictions destroy us and others. Death of the people we love zaps us and creates major voids in our lives. Yet, life can only be lived forward and often this is where we get stuck. Too often we put our cars in park and start watching the world go by us. We look in the rear view mirror. Life is whizzing by and we can't seem to get our foot back on the accelerator to start moving again. This becomes a very stagnate and unhappy way to live. Actually, it's not a life at all.

Living before you die must have some routine. Go to work. Go someplace. Do something. It

doesn't have to be exotic or glorious. Often routine is the same thing every day. There is some peace in routine. When our routine and entire lives are shaken, like what is happening in Ukraine, then every minute is about surviving another day.

Survival mode for you may be doctor's visits. Making a plan for the next five years or year of your life. Reconnecting to some family or a friend or two. Making peace with the past and embracing today.

The key word for life is hope. Peace is another key word but peace doesn't exist without hope. If we have hope we can look forward to life. We hope we have enough health. We hope we have enough money. The people of Ukraine have hope they can overcome Russia. This keeps many of them

going. Many have fled the country in search of hope.

Find the hope you need to embrace the rest of your life. Hope in family, friends, hobbies and much more is good. Just be very aware, even they may disappoint you. Mainly, find hope in you. God didn't make junk. Too often, life, events, mistakes, and sometimes even people we are close to make it difficult for us to see our worth and it tarnishes our spirit.

Hope is an inside job that starts now.

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.

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Most of us have wondered about life beyond the grave. Many today are in search of life before the grave. Given what many people traditionally believe about heaven, eternity and life beyond, it would certainly seem very valuable to think about a life beyond. However, what about life here?

The Ukrainian people wake up every day to fight, survive or hide another day. They fight for life and freedom. Why? Life and freedom are worth something.

How much are life and freedom worth? What does it mean to you to hug your spouse or loved one? How much do you enjoy laughing with family, friends or at a funny tv show? How good does it feel to do something you enjoy? Cooking a meal, music, reading, your faith

Long-time East Boston resident Carmela Favorito writes about life, loss, and the meaning of family

Special to the Times-Free Press

At a young 90 years of age, Carmela Maria Leone Favorito has seen it all. Born in San Nicola Italy in 1931, the third of eight children, a devastating earthquake caused her family to lose everything right before her birth. For the first year of her life, her family took shelter in a cave. Growing up, Carmela's life was clearly one of hardship, but through it all, Carmela never lost sight of what was important to her: hard work, loyalty, and family.

Carmela's Story, a memoir written painstakingly by Carmela with the help of family members, chronicles Carmela's life from when she was a young girl in Italy, her move to East Boston and her life until she was in her in her mid-70's. Today she is just as vibrant as ever and is a much-beloved resident at Cohen Florence Levine Estates Assisted Living in Chelsea.

Carmela met her husband Ciriaco (Jerry) when she was 19 and he was 30. It was an arranged marriage. He was living in the United States; Carmela in Italy. Corresponding only through letters, Jerry arrived in Italy in 1950, accompanied by his mother, to meet Carmela. Jerry and



Jen Fazekas, director of marketing BW Cohen Florence Levine Estates (left) and Carmela Favorito.

Carmela married and both returned to East Boston to start their life together.

When Carmela first arrived in this country, she was amazed at the running water and electricity. In Italy, she washed her clothes in the creek. Pursuing the "American Dream," the couple managed to buy a house in East Boston at 442 Saratoga Street, with \$900 down and a 20 year mortgage. This is the house that Carmela lived in for most of her adult

life, moving to 454 Saratoga Street in 2012. Being Italian, Carmela loved to cook for her family, making such specialties as spaghetti and meat-

balls, lasagna, and chicken cacciatore. Homemade meatball sub sandwiches, however, were her most popular entrée.

Although Carmela didn't speak any English when she moved to Boston, her husband insisted that no Italian be spoken in the house. As he put it, "We already know Italian, let's learn English." Carmela and Jerry had four children: Emilio, John and twins Gerald and Marie. Raising her family kept Carmela busy, but she also worked in a variety of waitressing and catering jobs. Although her marriage ultimately didn't work out and Carmela and Jerry divorced, Carmela still has warm feelings about their years together. After going to school at night to improve her English and to become an American citizen, Carmela ultimately landed an office job at John Hancock. She worked there for 13 years, often averaging 55-

See FAMILY Page 9

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Letters may also be e-mailed to
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Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.



VOTE **GABRIELA “Gigi” COLETTA** MAY 3

for **BOSTON CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1**

DEAR EAST BOSTON,

My name is Gabriela Coletta and I’m running to be your next Boston City Councilor for district one to represent Charlestown, East Boston, and the North End.

I’m so proud of the broad and inclusive coalition I have built across the district. I’ve talked to thousands of individuals, and families, and it’s been incredible to learn more about your priorities for this district and how you’d like to define your neighborhood for future generations.

I am a daughter of District One. I was born and raised in Eagle Hill and continue to live here with my incredible partner, Sebastian Zapata. I am a proud product of four Boston Public Schools, a graduate of Boston Latin Academy, and an alum of UMass Boston, where I earned my degree in Political Science and Human Rights.

East Boston has given me so much and shaped me into the person I am today. This beautiful and diverse community has been the start of the American dream for so many immigrant families, including my own almost four generations ago when they climbed the Golden Staircase and settled on Cottage Street in Jeffries Point. I am so proud to be an East Bostonian.

It was here that I learned the real meaning of community from my civically engaged parents, Ed Coletta and Nina Gaeta. They brought me along for the ride for neighborhood events, volunteer drives, and meetings centered on beautifying this community and pushing this neighborhood towards progress. Through their love, we learned what it meant to participate and give back in service.

I am forever grateful for that exposure because it ingrained in me the idea that it is our civic obligation – our responsibility – to lift each other up, to come together, and support one another to realize our collective power.

This is exactly why I made a career out of empowering whole communities, bringing people together from different backgrounds and in many languages – in order to accomplish great things. I was proud to serve as a community aide for State Rep. Adrian Madaro and Chief of Staff for then-Councilor now-Senator Lydia Edwards. I am proud to have their support in this race, along with dozens of thought leaders, advocates, working people, and other elected officials.

Over the last 7 years, I’ve attended hundreds of civic association meetings, which afforded me the opportunity to sit shoulder-to-shoulder with my neighbors. Particularly during my time serving East Boston, Charlestown, and the North End in City Hall, I lived and breathed the nuances and complexities of every single issue that emerged, from the macro to the nuts and bolts. I am so proud of what we accomplished together.

Together, we led the fight for affordable housing – particularly at Suffolk Downs, the largest land development in Boston’s history. Together, we expanded paid parental leave for all City employees – for both, new moms and new dads – to move the needle on economic, social, and reproductive justice.

During the COVID-19 crisis, we mobilized quickly. Together, we worked with community-based organizations to disperse \$400,000 in direct rental relief to families who were struggling due to the pandemic. We helped many individuals stay in their homes and connected them to food, unemployment, and workers’ rights resources during the height of the pandemic.

Now, I am ready to use my experience to move the needle where it counts.

I will use my platform to protect our coastline from the high risk of flooding due to climate change, to expand our parks and tree canopy, and to hold MassPort accountable —because everyone has a right to green space and to breathe clean air.

On Day One, I will fight for affordable and workforce housing, because I know what it’s like to be priced out of our neighborhoods. I will fight for high-quality education for every student, while prioritizing closing the achievement gap and our children’s physical and mental health as we navigate COVID-19. And I will fight for accessible and responsive government that works for the people, because I know that the nuts and bolts add up to make a big impact on our quality of life.

I will push for a facilities master plan for our public schools marked by investments in healthy learning environments. I will fight like hell to close opportunity and achievement gaps by directly supporting children with special needs and English language learners. I will ensure that our goals support students from early education and universal pre-K, all the way to college and career-readiness pathways by investing in dual enrollment programs and vocational training to open more opportunities.

I was proud to be in the trenches working in partnership with you all, helping to uplift your voices in City Hall. That is exactly what I will do as your next City Councilor. It’s been an honor working in service for my neighbors, tackling everything from expanding affordable housing, climate resiliency of our coastline, and the day-to-day constituent services that matter so much.

I’m running because I’m ready to lead in service – but also in partnership – with all of you. You have my commitment: I am running to protect the vibrancy of our communities, to expand opportunities for our children, and to ensure that municipal government is accessible and efficient — and ultimately better the lives of its constituents.

I respectfully ask for your vote on Tuesday, May 3. Let’s get to work.

With gratitude,



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Tree Planting // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ogy,” said Speak for the Trees Executive Director David Meshoulam. “The Delta Air Lines grant and the Ohabei Shalom partnership, for example, are two projects that we are bringing to East Boston in partnership with Tree Eastie.”

Because the cemetery is on the National Register of Historic Places the trees can not be planted inside the gates of the cemetery but members of the Temple worked with Tree Easie, Speak for the Trees and HVNA to look for alternative sites around the cemetery.

The first site chosen to plant the first nine trees was on the Wordsworth Street side of the cemetery where the Salesians Boys and Girls Club rear entrance is.

For over a decade the Jewish Cemetery Association of Massachusetts (JCAM) Charitable Foundation has been raising money and restoring 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 the state that served

Boston and Mystic Valley's Jewish population.

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 perimeter.

JCAM's Director of Development Lisa Berenson recently reported that the JCAM completely restored the exits to the cemetery and completely renovated the exterior of the chapel through funds from the Mass Historical Commission, private foundations and donations.

JCAM's latest project is the fence at the back of the cemetery that borders Byron Street. For decades the chain link fence has rusted and has been an eyesore. The retaining wall on Byron Street also needs work to fix years of decay. JCAM has been writing grants and has been able to get some funding. These funds will be used for wall restoration and a replacement fence at the back of the cemetery.

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.



Gabriela Coletta has been at the forefront of our communities' toughest fights throughout her entire career.

GABRIELA IS READY TO USE HER EXPERIENCE TO FIGHT FOR:

- ✓ **Affordable and Workforce Housing**
- ✓ **High-Quality Education**
- ✓ **Our Right to Green Space and Clean Air**
- ✓ **Accessible and Responsive Government**



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 **Gigi4District1**

VOTE **Gabriela Coletta**
for Boston City Council, District 1

Don't Forget to **VOTE** in the Special Election on
Tuesday, **MAY 3**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Gabriela Coletta



The Massachusetts Department of Transportation
invites you to attend a
Virtual Public Information Meeting
for the
Sumner Tunnel Centennial Project

Tuesday, May 3, 2022 and Wednesday, May 4, 2022
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Register: virtualmeeting.link/Sumner100-may2022

These meetings will provide an opportunity for the public to hear an overview of the Sumner Tunnel Centennial Project including project overview, schedule, and traffic impacts beginning in June 2022. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and offer comments. Spanish and Arabic interpretation will be available at both virtual meetings.

All residents, abutters, local business owners, and interested commuters are invited to attend. All attendees who sign into the meeting and provide an email address will be entered into the project's email database to receive project updates. Prior to the meetings, if you have specific questions or concerns for the project team, please email us: sunmer100@dot.state.ma.us.

Note: This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (e.g. interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, live captioning, videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats), as appropriate. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity & Civil Rights Officer by phone at (857) 368-8580, Relay Service at 7-1-1, fax (857) 368-0602 or by email to MASSDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us. Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten business days before the meeting.

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Sports

EAST BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL IN SOFTBALL ACTION AGAINST O'BRYANT

The Jets improved their record to 3-3 with a convincing 13-1 win over O'Bryant on Thursday, April 21 at American Legion Playground.



STAYING SAFE: Ashley Jimenez looks back at a wide throw after stealing second base.



A SENSE OF HUMOR: East Boston catcher Julianna Troville got a laugh from her attempt at fielding a foul pop behind home plate. Julianna had plenty to smile about when she clouted a home run to contribute to Eastie's 13-1 win over O'Bryant Thursday, April 21 at American Legion Playground.



CLOSE PLAY: Third baseman Ashley Jimenez puts the tag on an O'Bryant runner but a split second too late to get the out.



GOT IT: Left fielder Naria Arevalo gloves a fly ball for an out.



IN CONTROL: East Boston pitcher Brittany Elliott was dominant as she led the Jets to a 13-1 win over O'Bryant Thursday, April 21 at the American Legion Playground.



STAYING LOOSE: Gianna Troville stretches between pitches.



UH-OH: Second baseman Gianna Troville reacts as a pop fly she fielded slips out of her glove.



THERE IT IS: East Boston's Jaden Pacitta watches as the ball she hit clears the infield into right field for a single.

WINTHROP MARKETPLACE

Your Independent Grocer. Where Old Friends Meet And New Ones Are Made
SALE DAYS THURSDAY, APRIL 28TH, 2022 THROUGH WEDNESDAY MAY 4TH, 2022

Grocery

Great grocery specials

Chobani Greek Yogurt.....	10/¢10.00
(inc. Flips & Sugar Free)	
Ronzoni Pasta.....	4/¢5.00
(ex: gluten free-super green-garden veggie)	
Ragu Pasta Sauce.....	2/¢4.00
Kellogg's Apple Jack Cereal.....	2/¢6.00
Kellogg's Fruit Loops Cereal.....	2/¢6.00
Bush's Baked Beans 16 oz.....	2/¢4.00
Bumble Bee Solid White Canned Tuna.....	2/¢4.00
Best Yet Bread Crumbs 24 oz.....	2/¢4.00
Chef Boyardee Canned Pasta.....	4/¢5.00
Starbucks K-Cups.....	¢6.99
Ellios Pizza	2/¢6.00
Tofino's Pizza Rolls.....	¢3.99
Eggo Waffles (ex: Thick & Fluffy)	2/¢6.00
Planet Oat Milk.....	2/¢6.00
Best Yet Cheese Slices	2/¢4.00

Bakery

Whoopie Pies.....	¢1.79 each
Blondie Brownies	¢4.99
Mini Muffins assorted varieties	¢3.49

Deli

Belgioioso Slicing Provolone.....	¢5.99/lb
Carando Prosciutto	¢8.99/lb
Kretschmar Rotisserie Chicken Breast	¢7.99/lb
Russer Virginia Baked Ham	¢6.99/lb

Produce

Imported Sweet & Juicy Clementine's.....	¢4.99
3 lb bag	
Fresh Italian Plum Roma Tomatoes	¢1.29/lb
Creamy Smooth Tropical Avocados.....	2/¢4.00
Sweet Golden Pineapples	¢2.99
Hot House Hydro Cucumbers	2/¢3.00

Meat

"Meat Cut Fresh Every Day"

Family Pack Specials

Chuck Shoulder Steaks.....	¢4.99/lb
Assorted Bone-In Pork Chops	¢1.99/lb
Grade A Chicken Drumsticks	89¢/lb

Hatfield Bacon 16 oz	¢6.99
Kayem Fenway Beef Franks	2/¢10.00

Weekend Specials

Friday, April 29th and Saturday May 1st

"while supplies last"

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Eastie's first-ever geothermal greenhouse officially opens

By John Lynds

After years of planning East Boston's first self-sustaining, zero-emission, geothermal greenhouse officially opened last week at 6 Chelsea Terrace.

Run by Eastie Farm, the new greenhouse will provide year-round growing of nutritious foods for the community through Eastie Farm's Community Supported Agriculture Program.

"It's a zero emissions greenhouse," said Eastie Farm Founder and Director Kannan Thiruvengadam. "What that means is in the operations of the greenhouse, there will not be any carbon emitted. All greenhouses require some heating in the winter because our winters get harsh. However, greenhouses leak, and even the idea behind a greenhouse is that it traps heat as the sunlight gets through the glass but because the winter is so harsh, it loses a lot of the heat. So you really have to heat greenhouses in the winter."

The solution for Eastie's first greenhouse is the use of geothermal energy.

"We drilled three wells 55 feet, reaching down to a temperature of 48 degrees and that temperature will be exchanged with the air temperature in the greenhouse and that's what will keep the greenhouse warm in the winter and cool in the summer," said Thiruvengadam. "This will allow us to be able to grow fresh food all year because the soil will not freeze and the plants can continue to take nutrients from the soil. That also means that we are not restricted to annuals. We

can grow perennials, we can grow little trees."

Thiruvengadam said the community has already expressed interest in some programming at the greenhouse.

"It seems to me that the community wants to use the space for some activities as well so we will accommodate that," he said. "There have been some requests for growing tree saplings so it can serve as a tree nursery, so we can allocate some space to do that."

The original idea for an Eastie greenhouse percolated up from Boston Public School students that were taking part in educational activities at Eastie Farm's original location on Sumner Street.

"There is a BPS-owned school lot right next to us and we're very excited about collaborating with them," said Thiruvengadam. "The school hasn't been built yet but there will be a middle school there soon enough so that will be one of the schools we collaborate with as well as continuing our collaborations with the Donald McKay School, who has been a partner with us for more than four years in our education programming, as well as the Dante Alighieri School and Samuel Adams School. The original idea for the greenhouse came from the kids that we work with at the Donald McKay School. They were saying they were having fun in the spring and fall coming to the farm space on Sumner Street but were disappointed there were no farm activities in the winter."

The materials used to build the greenhouse came



At-Large City Councilor Ruthzie Louijeune with Tanya Hardel, Gail Miller and Jane O'Reilly.

from a company based in the Netherlands known for providing top quality greenhouses around the globe.

"Every drop of water that falls on the greenhouse will be collected and will be stored in a rain barrel and whatever excess will send it to the ground," said Thiruvengadam. "The greenhouse sort of lends itself well to the stormwater collection because we don't believe in sending stormwater into the city's drains and into the harbor."

The greenhouse was made possible through federal funding, state funding earmarked by Rep. Adrian Madaro and the former Sen. Joseph Boncore, as well as grants from the East Boston Foundation and the city's Grassroots and Community Preservation Act.

However, Thiruvengadam said Eastie Farm is still fundraising for the greenhouse to add landscaping, rain gardens as well as other programming.

At the grand opening last week, Rep. Madaro said, "There's no better way to celebrate Earth Day than in community with neighbors and Eastie Farm at their geothermal greenhouse. I'm excited to see this site bring us closer to a greener and more sustainable future for all of us."

At-Large City Councilor Ruthzie Louijeune, who was at the event, added, "My office and I had a great time at Eastie Farm's Earth Day event. They are really charting the course with their zero-emissions greenhouse which was wonderful to see. The Farm empowers so many community members to grow their own food, teach others about composting, and steward land is a way that centers climate justice. It was just a beautiful community-centered day."



Rep. Adrian Madaro with his son, Matteo, and Sen. Lydia Edwards during the opening ceremony.



Eastie Farm Founder and Director Kannan Thiruvengadam addresses the crowd.



Eastie Farm Founder and Director Kannan Thiruvengadam joins Eastie Farm board members, volunteers as well as Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley and At-Large City Councilor Ruthzie Louijeune to officially open Eastie's first self-sustaining, zero-emission, geothermal greenhouse.

Sen. Lydia Edwards, who planted a tree at the new greenhouse with the help of Rep. Madaro said she was honored to spend Earth Day in community with friends and neighbors at Eastie Farm's new greenhouse.

"Thanks Kannan Thi-

ruvengadam, Eastie Farm, Plumbers and Gasfitters Local 12, Building and Construction Trades Council, Insulators Union, and the Greater Boston Labor Council for coming together to bring green jobs and infrastructure to our neighborhood," she

said.

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley went on to say, "With so many great community and climate benefits, Eastie Farm's geothermal greenhouse is a blueprint for future development."

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TIMES

Mayor Wu to tackle extreme heat during summer months in East Boston

By John Lynds

In 2017 a late summer thunderstorm sat over the North Shore, and dumped four inches of rain on the Orient Heights section of East Boston, Lynn, and Winthrop. The slow moving system overwhelmed storm drains and flooded streets, backyards and basements across the area. When the flash flood waters receded, residents were left with the reality that they would have to deal with thousands of dollars worth of damage and most, if not all, that damage would not be covered by insurance.

On Thurston Street one resident lost a hot water heater, a gas furnace and all her valuables that were stored in the basement as floodwaters reached nearly three feet. On Bennington Street, several homes across from Orient Heights MBTA station were flooded and similar stories of

total losses of everything in those basements were reported. When all was said and done, many of the working class residents of Eastie were forced to shell out tens of thousands of dollars to replace heating and water systems, electrical units and clean and dry their basements. Again, insurance agencies came back time and time again rejecting claims because the storm event was considered a ‘flood’ and floods are typically not covered under traditional homeowners insurance policies.

This was a storm that lasted just over an hour but many scientists agree that as the planet continues to heat, more moisture will evaporate from the seas and storms like the one in 2017 that devastated Eastie will be commonplace.

Last week, just in time for Earth Day, Mayor Michelle Wu announced the city will launch an

Extreme Temperatures Response Task Force and expand cooling strategies in Eastie and four other Environmental Justice Communities. The cooling strategies announced include a new Cool Roof Grant Program, pop-up cooling support for 30 community organizations, and a community design challenge for a ‘cool bus stop’

Wu said the city’s “Heat Plan” will present 26 strategies that will help build a more just, equitable, and resilient Boston.

In addition to citywide strategies, the Heat Plan focuses on five environmental justice communities that are hotspots in Boston and experience greater burdens as temperatures increase.

Aside from Eastie the neighborhoods include Chinatown, Dorchester, Mattapan, and Roxbury.

“Extreme heat in Boston is more than an in-

convenience or discomfort—it’s an urgent risk for our health, our neighborhoods, and our infrastructure,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “Our Heat Resilience Solutions report presents Boston’s roadmap for navigating extreme heat, particularly for our environmental justice communities. This study centers people and reinforces our commitment to a Boston Green New Deal.”

Wu said the Heat Plan is a critical component of Climate Ready Boston, the City’s initiative to prepare for the near- and long-term effects of climate change, like sea level rise, coastal storms, extreme precipitation, and extreme heat. The report builds on heat preparedness work to date and outlines infrastructure and programmatic strategies that will help address the growing risks of hotter summers and extreme heat in Boston. The strategies identified in the Heat Plan will work

together with the Urban Forest Plan to improve tree protection, stewardship, and new plantings for nature-based cooling solutions. The consultant team supporting the project included Sasaki, Klima, All Aces, and WSP.

According to studies, Boston is already experiencing the effects of climate change. Over the last decade, Boston experienced more hot days and nights than any decade in the previous 50 years.

The Heat Resilience Solutions report focuses on community-driven solutions to prepare and protect our neighborhoods for the effects of extreme heat. Climate Ready Boston completed a redlining analysis to explore neighborhood histories and systemic inequalities in Boston that resulted in certain communities facing greater burdens from climate change. The analysis showed that redlined areas are 7.5°F hotter in the day, 3.6°F hotter at night, and have 20% less parkland

and 40% less tree canopy than areas designated as “A: Best”. By taking a people-centered approach to heat resilience, the City of Boston can prepare our residents and communities for extreme heat in a way that addresses systemic inequities to support a thriving, Green New Deal city.

“As the climate changes, Boston will experience increasingly higher average temperatures over time and heat waves will become more common, last longer, and be hotter,” said Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. “Past decisions made by the public and private sector have led to increased heat risk in our environmental justice communities. This report is about doing the work to protect the entire city beginning with those communities that are bearing the biggest heat burdens.”

Family // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

60 hours a week. Her efforts did not go unnoticed; Carmela was promoted and received numerous awards, raises and recognition from her supervisors and co-workers.

Carmela’s children’s education was of paramount importance to her. Emilio received a full scholarship from Harvard and then attended Suffolk Law School; John received a full scholarship from University of Massachusetts Amherst; Jerry and Marie received full scholarships to University of Massachusetts Boston. Carmela was, and still is, so incredibly proud of her children. Tragically, Gerry passed away when he was only 36.

In 2004 Carmela decided, after much deliberation, to finally go back to Italy. Notably, her desire to make the trip was prompted by Lorenzo Teri, who was her first love growing up. Their relationship was rekindled when the two exchanged letters and phone calls in 2000. However, their meeting was not meant to be as Lorenzo passed

away in his sleep days prior to Carmela’s visit. Still, Carmela was determined to make the trip and traveled with seven family members to the place where it all began. Her visit to San Nicola was emotional yet valuable. Incredibly, she recognized people she had not seen in 50 years. For Carmela, experiencing this sense of closure gives her story a “happy ending.”

When asked what she enjoyed the most about life at the Chelsea assisted living, Carmela was quick to respond: “I like that I always have friends to talk to, whether it be the residents or the staff. Everyone here is so friendly,” remarked Carmela. “I wanted to live independently, but still have a bit of support.” Carmela added with a laugh, “It’s a pleasure to have people cook for me now!”

“Carmela is such a wonderful addition to our assisted living family,” stated Jennifer Fazekas, Director of Marketing for Cohen Florence Levine Estates. “She is so gregarious, always telling stories

and making the residents and staff smile. People just light up when they see Carmela.”

As far as the secret to her longevity, Carmela believes exercise is an important reason why she remains in such good health. “I enjoy walking and exercising. I love to keep busy.” She maintains that she eats right and does not overindulge. “But I’m Italian,” she added. “I love food!”

It took Carmela four years to write Carmela’s Story, which John’s wife Robin helped transcribe sentence by sentence. It was a labor of love — a chronicle of one woman’s remarkable journey into the land of opportunity and her abiding her love of family. In the book, Carmela’s granddaughter Julia Favorito summed up what makes her grandmother so special. “My Nona is my hero because she is kind, strong, caring, popular, loving, and friendly. She always makes the best of things. I love her with all my heart.”

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Division INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No. SU21P2548EA
Estate of: Ellen J Grato
Also known as: Ellen Grato
Date of Death: June 10, 2021
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner Patricia A. Grato of Boston, MA and Anthony Grato of East Falmouth, MA.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the

Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
4/27/22
EB

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate
And Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Docket No. SU22C0128CA
In the matter of: Aurora Marie Rimel

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Aurora Marie Rimel of East Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Aurora Marie Simonton
IMPORTANT NOTICE
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 04/11/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 12, 2022
Felix D. Arroyo,

Register of Probate
4/27/22
EB

LEGAL NOTICE

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, Section 5-304 Docket No. SU22P0740PM Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Suffolk Probate and Family Court

24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114
In the matter of: Maria Moscato Of: East Boston, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Maria Moscato is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Carol Pollastrone of Everett, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve without surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition

is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM on the return date of 05/26/2022. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 14, 2022
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

4/27/22
EB

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Neiswander, Brian	Walley 19 LLC	11-19 Walley St #310	\$750,000
Isaza, Fabio	A E Sulprizio T	18-20 Gladstone St	\$1,335,000
Kaur, Jarnail	Claire P Kenney RET 2	25 Teragram St	\$876,000
Crombie, Jonathan	Trichilo Development LLC	37 Horace St #101	\$430,000
Barnett, Jared	Guerossov, Serge	70 Bremen St #506	\$585,000
Brink, Steven R	Div Sumner Street LLC	99 Sumner St #421	\$1,411,900
Stratmann, Rebecca	101-105 Condor Street LL	101 Condor St #201	\$625,000
160 Webster Street LLC	KTA Construction LLC	160 Webster St	\$1,210,000
Kuglemass, Aaron	Barrett, Dylan	186-188 Paris St #5	\$582,000
Stavros LLC	Speranza Mary C Est	247 Chelsea St	\$825,000
Lizotte, Brooke	287 Maverick	287 Maverick St #309	\$269,200
Bunning, Loretta	287 Maverick	287 Maverick St #208	\$240,800

IF YOU MISSED US ON WEDNESDAY PLEASE GO TO WWW.EASTTETIMES.COM

East Boston TIMES-FREE PRESS

Wednesday, April 20, 2022

East Boston community leader Guarnaccia, dies at 85

Joseph John Guarnaccia, a lifelong resident of East Boston and one of the original members of the East Boston Athletic Board, died April 16, 2022. He was 85 years old. Mr. Guarnaccia served for 50 years on the East Boston Athletic Board, maintaining a loyal commitment to the youth of East Boston that also included his volunteer work as president of the East Boston North Little League and in coaching positions in the East Boston Pop Warner Football and youth baseball organizations. Mr. Guarnaccia was also the proud father of three outstanding children, Rosco Guarnaccia, Pat Penney, and Dr. Joseph Guarnaccia. Longtime Board official David Ariella said that Mr. Guarnaccia "treasured every new member of the Board, including myself, with the utmost respect." "He was an old-school gentleman of the first order," said Guarnaccia. Page 12

Trustees of Reservation update community on Piers Park Phase III

feedback we got last year in our design survey and in the fall in our programming survey, we're excited for the evolution of the project. We think we're heading in a direction that allows for more programming and improving the quality of the marine and habitat we want to bring to the site." The updated design for Piers Park III reflected in February features open green lawns with stunning views of the Boston skyline, a kayak launch, tidal pools, and marine and upland habitats. The park will offer unique and exceptional public access to the water, something frequently requested during public outreach. These new design elements gathered through public feedback, courtesy of Eastie residents includes less open water in favor of larger and more accessible landscapes. The new design maintains unique and exceptional public access to the water with an additional access point to the uplands area of the park while preserving the site's maritime history. The new design also adds more areas for habitats and robust ecological zones within the park such as a tidal pool and salt marsh. Ramirez said the Trustees of Reservation is still working on tweaking the design and will work with the community on a final design this summer. "Construction is going to start in spring of 2023," said Ramirez. "Then we're hoping for an opening sometime in the spring 2025. So until then we will continue our robust community dialogue during the ongoing design process." Ramirez said the Trustees of Reservation launched an interactive site through its website to allow residents to interact via a comment wall. "You can post your feedback, you can respond to some questions, and it's in multiple languages so so it's very accessible for community members across East Boston," said Ramirez. "We hope you'll join us on this site to continue to join the conversation and share your feedback with the team."

BPDA approves Day Square project

for building residents. The rental housing project includes 80 parking spaces and the 7,000 square foot retail space. The site, which currently houses a single-story commercial business, an paved lot, is bounded by Bremen Street, Bennington Street, the Martin A. Coughlin Bypass Road and Exel Academy Charter School. Redgate plans to demolish the existing building and construct the new six-story building. See BPDA Page 3

Edwards runs Boston Marathon to raise money for Maverick Street Mothers Scholarship fund

Mothers Scholarship named in honor of the mother of Eastie mothers that protested Logan Airport expansion in the 1960s and provides scholarships to working mothers and their children. "Many parents involved in community activities funded through the Edwards Empowerment Fund, the Maverick Street Mothers Scholarship fund." See EDWARDS Page 9

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4th Annual Legacy Gala at Spinelli's East Boston, April 28th to honor:

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

OBITUARIES

Agnes Kennedy

Retired Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital telecommunications operator

Agnes N. “Girlie” Kennedy of East Boston passed away at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston on April 22. She was 95 years old.

Born in East Boston, the beloved daughter of the late Agnes (Ryan) and John Costa, she was a life-long resident of East Boston. She worked as a telecommunications operator for the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital prior to her retirement.

She was the devoted wife for over 60 years to the late Arthur Kennedy and the loving mother of Nancy Shea of Peabody, Carol Kennedy-Merrill and her husband, Paul of East Boston, John Kennedy and his wife, Janice of Berlin, New Hampshire and the late Janet Sampson and David Kennedy; dear sister of the late John, Vincent, Francis and Richard Costa; Cherished Mum of Julian, Erica, Kathryn, Lauren, Christine, Bridget



and Courtney and Great Mum of Anthony, Ronin, Kennedy, Dash, Skye and Farrah.

The Funeral Mass was conducted from the St. Joseph-St. Lazarus Church, East Boston on Tuesday, April 26. Services concluded with the interment in Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden.

To sign the online guest-book, go to www.caggianoofuneralhome.com.

Arrangements were under the direction of the Caggiano-O’Maley-Frazier Funeral Home.

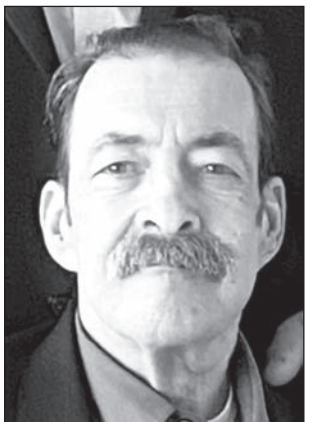
Gerard Gosselin

Chef

Gerard P. “Jerry” Gosselin died in East Boston on April 19.

Jerry was born and raised in East Boston and attended Northeastern University for Culinary Arts. He began his career as a chef at Spinelli’s and Morelli’s in East Boston and then for many years at Antonio’s Restaurant in Boston.

The beloved husband of Darlene M. (Burke), he was the father of Gerard “Jerry” Gosselin and his wife, Katie Gosselin of Peabody and Christine “Chrissy” Trindade of East Boston, son of Carmella (Passariello) of East Boston and the late Gilles “Gil” Gosselin, grandfather of Arianna Orlandino and Daniella Trindade and brother of Gary Gosselin and his wife, Carole Gosselin of East Boston and is also survived by several



nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated in Sacred Heart Church, 45 Brooks St. East Boston on Friday morning, April 29 at 10 o’clock. Relatives and friends are invited.

In lieu of flowers donations in his memory to the American Cancer Society would be appreciated.

Please leave messages of condolence for the family on Jerry’s Tribute Page at MagrathFuneral-Home.com.

George Buttiglieri

He was a product of one of the greatest youth organizations ever assembled, the East Boston Youth Hockey

George M. Buttiglieri of East Boston, 67, passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 24 surrounded by his loving family.

George was a product of one of the greatest youth organizations ever assembled, East Boston Youth Hockey. He continued his brief career on the ice, playing for Charlestown High School and later on, East Boston High in an outstanding, Division I, Boston City League.

The loving son of the late Constantino (Sonny) and Margaret (Burke) Buttiglieri, he was the dear brother of Jack and his wife, Christine and Jim and his wife, Karen, all of East Boston, Bob and his wife, Chris of Stoneham and Tom and his wife, Carla of Peabody. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will honor George’s life by gathering at St. Anthony of Padua Church, Revere,



on Friday, April 29 for a Funeral Mass celebrating his life at 10 a.m. Services will conclude with George being laid to rest with his beloved parents, Constantino and Margaret, at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.

In accordance with the Buttiglieri family’s wishes and in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in George’s name to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, 10 Brookline Place, W 6th floor, Brookline, MA 02445. To leave an online condolence, please visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Frank Pellegrino

Of Revere

Frank Pellegrino of Revere died on April 20 at the age of 49.

Born in Boston on June 6, 1972, Frank graduated from Revere High School and attended the Burdett School of Accounting and studied networking at Lincoln Technical Institute.

He is survived by his loving mother, Rose (Speranza) Pellegrino and the beloved son of the late Angelo Pellegrino; cherished father of Sean and the dear brother of Tanya Pellegrino of Revere; loving nephew of Michele Corso and her late husband, Joseph, Benny and Diane Pellegrino, Rosemarie and her late husband, Al Rams and the late Mario Speranza and his surviving wife, Janice. He is also survived by



many caring cousins and friends.

A Visitation will be held at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere St, Revere, today, Wednesday, April 27 from 4 to 7 p.m. followed by a 7 p.m. Prayer Service in the funeral home. Relatives and friends are kindly invited. Private Interment. For guest book please visit: www.buonfiglio.com.

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper. Includes photo.No word Limit. Please send to obits@reverejournal.com or call 781-485-0588

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

In Loving Memory
7th Year Anniversary
William Joseph Gleeson, III
“Willy”
Dec. 31, 1990 — April 26, 2015



*God Called Your Name
We knew little that morning
God was going to call your name
In life we loved you dearly
in death we do the same.
It broke our hearts to lose you
you did not go alone
for part of us went with you
the day God called you home.
You left us beautiful memories
your love is still our guide
and although we cannot see you
you are always by our side.
Our family chain is broken
and nothing seems the same
but as God calls us one by one
the chain will link again.
May you rest in peace.
Miss You Always
Your Loving Family*



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NEW HAVEN COMMISSION ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES
200 Orange Street, Room 402
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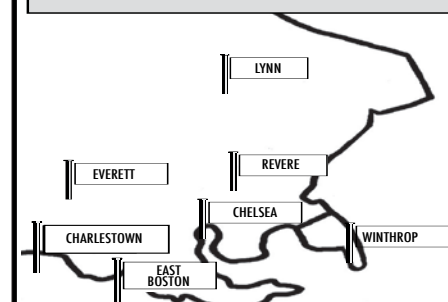
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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

LOOKING AT PROGRESS BEING MADE

CHELSEA - Chelsea Black Community/Chelsea Young Adult Alliance held the first of its virtual community conversations recently to discuss the progress made within major city departments since the Black Lives Matter movement of 2020.

The meetings will allow each department to publicly discuss its efforts to address disparities, highlight progress made in the last two years, and share plans of action and goals to reduce community and systemic inequalities over the next three months.

The Tuesday, April 12 meeting focused on education, with a presentation from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta and district Director of Equity, Diversity, and Excellence Dr. Aaron Jennings.

Abeyta and Jennings highlighted the equity and diversity efforts the schools have undertaken under the past two years, including increasing staff diversity, creating affinity groups for students and staff, hiring a coordinator for culturally responsible teaching, and creating a pipeline program to help both students and parents become teachers in the district.

Jennings spoke about the district equity audit he undertook soon after coming to the Chelsea schools in October of 2020, as well as the establishment of the Black Students Unite and the Latinx Students Unite groups within the schools.

“It’s been a real delight to see their leadership and hear their voices in that space,” Jennings said of the student groups.

Jennings also stressed the importance of working together with HR director Christine Lee to make sure the district increases the diversity of its teachers and leadership. He also played videos from several Chelsea High School students who spoke about the importance of having

teachers of color within the schools.

“They teach us how to empower ourselves and how to look out for ourselves, and they know the kinds of situations that we are in, especially as students of color,” said Javin Diaz, a sophomore at the high school.

Many of the CBC/CYAA and community members who took part in the forum praised the educational leaders for the progress the district has made in racial equity and diversity over the past several years.

“I’m seeing things like the addition of the coordinator for culturally responsible learning and that’s amazing, that’s something that I’ve not even heard of before,” said Jayde Umemba, who also praised the school’s efforts to increase diversity across all levels and create affinity groups for students and staff.

Long-time Chelsea resident and educator Sharon Caulfield likewise praised the school district for the dynamic changes it has undertaken in the past several years.

While Jennings and Abeyta took the praise in stride, they both said there is still much work to do in the schools and in the city.

“I feel like this work is just beginning,” said Abeyta. “Aaron is an office of one, and while we are proud to have the best equity officer, he can’t do it all himself. We all own this work; this is the tip of the iceberg and there is still so much work to do.”

Additional CBC/CYAA community conversations in April include virtual meetings on city management, public safety, public health, and housing.

HEARING ABOUT CIP

EVERETT - With the Everett School Committee ready to discuss and possibly vote on the upcoming budget that will total more than \$108 million at its meeting on April 25,

the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) will certainly be a major topic of discussion.

At the meeting on April 11, School Committee members heard from Assistant Superintendent Charles Obremski about the many projects that are being planned for the budgets covering Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 through FY2027.

With overcrowding occurring in almost every school in the city, Obremski was seeking to earmark more than \$2M for modular classrooms at the Keverian School. Currently, the Keverian, which was built to hold 650 students, already is more than 300 students over its capacity.

Committeeman Michael McLaughlin seemed to echo his colleagues regarding the CIP presentation by Obremski.

“This is a great plan,” he said. “However, there is an immediate need for handicapped accessibility at the Parlin Junior High School.”

Obremski had earmarked between \$2M-\$3.5M to make Parlin handicapped-accessible in the FY25 budget. However, the unofficial consensus among the committee was to move this Parlin project up on the time list and to be accomplished this year.

The FY23 CIP of more than \$6.7M includes many regularly-scheduled maintenance projects through the district, such as repairing the leaking roof over the gymnasium at Everett High School, updating the phone system, repairing the Webster School roof, replacing the gym floor at the Whittier School, and repairing the kitchen area appliances at the Lafayette School.

Obremski noted that all of these maintenance projects are sorely needed and that many of the items on the list, such as the gym floor at the Whittier School (which is 44 years old), already have exceeded their projected useful life.

ANNUAL WINTHROP POLICE AND FIRE HOCKEY GAME FOR AUTISM AWARENESS



Kinsley Pitts who will be dropping the ceremonial puck is shown with her family, Albia Bondar, Brian Pitts, Jim and Karen Bennington, Kath Pitts and Al DeRico. Although the FY23 CIP population, has had a long deeply held



Adrianna Castronova drops the ceremonial puck between Mike Connolly and her dad, Steven Castronova. Also shown are Winthrop Fire Chief Scott Wiley, Deputy Police Chief John Goodman and State Representative Jeff Turco.

will see the largest expenditures of CIP monies, in FY24 the request will be for more than \$2.6M; in FY25, the figure will be more than \$5M; in FY26, more than \$2.2M; and in FY27, more than \$700,000.

Another area in which School Committee members expressed concern was whether there is a plan to maintain student learning after the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds come to an end in the near future.

Like many communities, some Everett students find themselves behind academically because of the pandemic. Presently, school officials have availed themselves of the ESSER funds that pay for more teachers to help students who are academically behind.

In this school year, the Everett Public Schools will receive more than \$10M to fund the extra teachers that focus on having students catch up on the learning loss.

“ESSER will end and these services will have to be subtracted, or we will have to subtract another service,” said Superintendent of Schools Priya Tahliani.

“Tough budget cuts are ahead,” Tahliani added. “We need to advocate for the students. We need to lobby the City Council.”

“We should not look to cut, but advocate for more money,” said committee member Marcony Barros, referring to when the School Department appears before the City Council at budget time.

Committee member Samatha Lambert reminded her colleagues, “Students are not impacted equally. There are many disparities.”

“We need to create better opportunities,” committee member Michael Mangan added. “There is so much new tax revenue from developments that will increase our school

In other matters, the committee voted against giving Malden Transportation (MT) a five percent fuel surcharge that the company had requested. It was pointed out the present contract does not provide for a fuel surcharge, and so the committee would have to reword the present contract in order to accommodate this extra expense.

McLaughlin noted that Malden Transportation are “good partners,” but Barrios pointed out that the city paid the company when COVID hit, even though there was no service being provided.

“MT does a great job,” said Barrios, but suggested that inasmuch as “the higher prices are affecting their profit, we should not agree.”

Lambert wanted more figures and urged her colleagues to wait until the information is provided. The motion then failed by a vote of 6-3.

O'SHEA HOLDS CAMPAIGN KICKOFF

LYNN - Lynn native James O'Shea, candidate for Essex County district attorney, held a campaign kickoff reception April 13 at Kowloon in Saugus.

A very enthusiastic, standing-room-only crowd of supporters packed the upstairs function hall for the event.

Attorney Kevin Foley introduced attorney O'Shea for his remarks.

“It’s great to see all of you here and to have so many people interested in the O’Shea for DA campaign,” began Foley. “I’ve known Jim for more than 15 years and feel very strongly about his candidacy. The idea of running for district attorney wasn’t just something that developed in the last couple of months when Jon Blodgett announced he was not seeking re-election. James

desire to serve. He felt like with his experience and background, he could make a real difference as district attorney.”

Foley also highlighted O’Shea’s 24 years of experience as a criminal defense attorney in Massachusetts.

“He has had cases in every court in Essex County and he knows every assistant district attorney in Essex County on a first-name basis, and they know him,” said Foley.

O’Shea, who was joined at the event by his wife Tara, and their daughters, Bella and Jamison, and his siblings, delivered an inspiring address that garnered applause at certain points for his remarks. He stressed unity and praised first responders “who have the courage to put their lives on the line every day.”

O’Shea also offered, “You know that I have a strong feeling for fairness, that I’m passionate about these issues, representing my clients, representing immigrants, and I’ve worked with the police for 24 years. This campaign is going to be more about uniting people than dividing people.”

In concluding, O’Shea said, “I want to thank my brothers and sisters, my family who has been a support to me. My entire life I’ve stood on their shoulders. I am the youngest of Bill and Bev’s six children and from birth they have doted on me and protected me and taken care of me and I think they’re getting kind of sick of it. Thank you for coming here and enjoy the rest of the night.”

ZONING CHANGE DISCUSSIONS CONTINUE

REVERE - A tie goes to the runner in baseball, but a tie vote by a Coun-

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Tree Pits // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

trees and the group will be planting 30 new street trees in those two neighborhoods.

Tree Eastie also plans to plant more fruit trees at the Rockies in Jeffries Point across from Piers Park through a new relationship with Eastie Farm. Eastie Farm will be able to take the harvest from those trees, which include apple trees, peach trees, pear trees, cherry trees and mulberry, and put those fruits back into the community. This program will distrib-

ute the food to folks that need it as well as putting it into the Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) program that Eastie Farm has established.

There's a lot of benefits trees have, unfortunately Eastie suffers from the lowest tree canopy in the city. The neighborhood's tree canopy is at 7% while the city average is 27%.

Tree Eastie recently forged some alliances and some benefactors who are asking the group to help them site tree plantings.



Volunteers included the head of Eastie's Chapter of Mother Out Front Sonja Tengblad (left), who has been working on curbing greenhouse gasses in the neighborhood.



Volunteers dig tree pit holes on Chelsea Street just outside Maverick Square.



Volunteers working on a new street tree pit just behind Maverick Square.

DA Hayden announces grant funding opportunity for nonprofits

District Attorney Kevin Hayden invited Suffolk County nonprofits to apply for grant funding to support violence and substance use prevention and treatment programming.

"I have had the privilege of serving on the board of several nonprofits, and I know the impact that my office's Community Reinvestment Grants can have on these nonprofits and the young people they serve," said Hayden, who is currently on the boards of YOU Boston and the Greater Boston YMCA. "The pandemic has placed added stress and demand on

service providers as they responded increased need and adapted to new ways of delivering services. I'm grateful to the organizations that continue to do exceptional work every day supporting our young people and communities."

The Community Reinvestment Grant (CRG) program will provide funding of up to \$10,000 to 501(c)3 nonprofits that provide programming designed to prevent youth violence or substance use disorder or substance use treatment in Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop. State law allows prosecutors to dis-

tribute up to 10 percent of assets seized in narcotics prosecutions to community-based organizations for crime prevention and substance use treatment.

"Prevention and treatment programs are key to

public safety and building a more equitable society. Our community partners are among our most valuable institutions, and I'm proud to be able to offer this funding opportunity," Hayden said.

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