

East Boston

TIMES - FREE PRESS

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

EBCCS EIGHTH GRADE GRADUATION



East Boston Central Catholic School's eighth grade graduates walking down Paris Street toward the Sacred Heart Church entrance for their graduation ceremony. See page 6 for more photos.

Sumner Tunnel traffic nightmare begins this week

By John Lynds

At a meeting in 2017, MassDOT officials, in response to the daily gridlock during the morning commute caused by the reconfiguration of the Sumner Tunnel toll plaza, were forced to admit they used outdated traffic data when preparing for the toll plaza project.

MassDOT officials' numbers were so off it was almost laughable that a major state agency could botch an important road improvement project

in East Boston that was supposed to make traffic better, not worse.

From inadequate traffic studies to poorly attended community meetings before the toll plaza project began, Eastie residents are experiencing a bit of déjà vu when it comes to the upcoming Sumner Tunnel project.

MassDOT will close the Sumner Tunnel every weekend for the next 36 weeks starting this Friday (June 10) and then com-

See TUNNEL Page 5

Zumix goes 'Green' with new solar panels

By John Lynds

Less than a month after Mayor Michelle Wu announced a new pilot program to increase solar panel usage in East Boston, Zumix was inspired to 'Go Green'.

Madeleine Steczynski, co-founder and executive director of Zumix, said at the end of last month the popular music and performing arts nonprofit took the next step in its sustainable journey with the installation of a set of solar panels on the roof of Zumix's Firehouse—which received Gold LEED Certification after renovations were completed in 2009.

In early May the city launched the 'Solarize Eastie' pilot program aimed at increasing solar panel installation and on-site battery storage in the neighborhood. The pro-

gram is designed to bring more renewable and affordable energy options to Eastie residents. The city partnered with GreenRoots and picked ACE Solar and Resonant Energy to lead the installation process for Solarize Eastie.

Steczynski said Zumix's panels and their installation were made possible by a grant from the Tern Foundation's TernSOLAR challenge grant program. The program, like Solarize Eastie, provides funding assistance for solar panel system installations to nonprofit organizations that engage creatively and strengthen the communities they serve.

The foundation offers grants to dynamic nonprofits that also consider future generations and the natural environment in their stra-

See ZUMIX Page 5

Last week's fire shouldn't affect Suffolk Downs simulcasting for Saturday's Belmont Stakes

By John Lynds

Last Monday's six-alarm fire that tore through the Suffolk Downs Racetrack's grandstand press box did cause some damage but Sterling Suffolk Racecourse's Chip Tuttle said the historic track should be up and running for simulcasting for Saturday's Belmont Stakes.

When HYM purchased

Suffolk Downs they entered into a lease agreement with Sterling Suffolk to continue simulcasting at the racetrack. HYM, who is embarking on a massive redevelopment of Suffolk Downs's 160 acre site, broke ground on the first phase of the redevelopment on the Revere side of the track near Beachmont last month.

"We lost simulcasting

for the past week due to a series of inspections, clean up of the building and restoring of power," said Tuttle. "However, the fire was contained to the old press box and the portion of the building open to the public for simulcasting is mainly on the first and second floor of the grandstand away from where the fire occurred."

Tuttle said Suffolk

Downs was closed all last week so crews could cap the power to the area where the fire occurred but had to work to restore power to the rest of the building. There was also some water damage mitigation performed and other cleanup efforts.

"We also lost some broadcasting equipment

See SUFFOLK DOWNS Page 2

9th Annual Eastie LGBTQ Pride Flag-raising set for Friday

By John Lynds

With Gay Pride Month in full swing, the 9th Annual LGBTQ Pride Flag raising ceremony will return to East Boston's Piers Park on Friday.

Organizers will join Massport, Eastie elected officials and members of the local LGBTQ community to raise the ceremonial flag at 6 p.m. on Friday

at the park.

Organizer and founder of the event Celeste Hewitt said this year's theme will be 'Demonstrations of Inclusion'.

"In addition to doing our annual flag raising, which is the signal that we are a welcoming and inclusive neighborhood," said Hewitt. "But how can we go beyond that? Beyond the displays? How

can we take additional steps to make sure that our environment is truly an inclusive environment. Whether we're standing up against people that are creating an inhospitable environment, or looking at legislation locally and across the nation, like the Don't Say Gay bills, we want to make sure that in addition to the first step we're demonstrating on a daily basis."

Hewitt said Eastie is arguably the most diverse neighborhood in the City of Boston and sticking up for fellow residents has been kind of second nature.

"So many people's first steps in this country were in East Boston—a place they came to for opportunity, for community, for

family," she said. "So it's important that we continue to be overt in our demonstration of inclusivity and make sure that we take the steps, whenever we can, to stick up for folks."

Eastie's former Mayoral Liaison Jesus Garcia Mota will deliver this year's keynote address during the event.

"He's a great guy and was so excited when I called him to ask him to be our speaker," said Hewitt. "I'm so glad he was available and is part of the event this year."

Last year the event came back to Piers Park after going virtual during the pandemic but Hewitt said despite the pandemic in 2020 the event has

See FLAG RAISING Page 2



The now operational panels will capture and convert solar energy to help expand the amount of available renewable energy in Eastie.



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eastietimes.com

Portion of historic Donald McKay House collapses

By John Lynds

Under the weight of a deteriorating roof a side wall of the historic Donald McKay House began to collapse Saturday.

Boston Fire and Boston and Boston’s Inspectional Services Department (ISD) were on scene to assess the damage and said the collapse was located away from the main historic building on White Street and contained to an old large carriage house on the property that faces Brooks Street.

“The Inspectional Services Department (ISD) has asked the contractor to secure shut off notices for adjacent utility wires, file a structural engineers re-

port and apply for and obtain the demolition permit in order to correct a previously issued violation,” said ISD in a statement. “The Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC) is awaiting documentation of ISD’s order to demolish and a design review application to the BLC to rebuild the barn.”

The Donald McKay House is a privately owned historic house at 78–80 White Street in East Boston, Massachusetts. It was the residence of Donald McKay, a master builder of some of the world’s fastest clipper ships.

The home received Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding to be

used to purchase the home for \$400,000 and preserve it as a community asset

The house was built in 1844 in the Greek Revival architectural style, which is distinguished by its pitched roof and front-facing gable resembling a Greek pediment. McKay moved into the house in 1845, and during his residence there he designed and built some of the most successful clippers in history. These ships include the Flying Cloud (1851), which made two 89-day passages from New York to San Francisco; the Sovereign of the Seas (1852), which posted the fastest speed ever by a sailing ship (22 knots) in 1854; the Lightning (1854), which

set multiple records, including sailing 436 miles in a 24-hour period and sailing from Melbourne, Australia, to Liverpool, England, in 64 days; and the James Baines (1854), which logged a speed of 21 knots on June 18, 1856.

The home was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

The East Boston Museum and Historical Society has made an effort to acquire the home for \$2,000,000 and have raised \$600,000 so far through CPA and other funding.

The East Boston Museum and Historical Society has been working in association with the East Boston Community Develop-



A photo of the partial collapse of the Donald McKay House's carriage house.

ment Corporation (CDC) to acquire the home but the CDC is not financing the purchase of the house.

“We need acquisition money,” said Susan Brauner of the East Bos-

ton Museum and Historical Society. “We will, of course, do all we can to raise the money, but every dollar is crucial.”

Eastie’s COVID positive test-rate drops

By John Lynds

While East Boston’s weekly COVID positive test rates are dropping the rate is still above 10 percent forcing Boston public health officials to brace for a potential spike in cases during graduation season.

It seems the latest surge in COVID cases is beginning to decline but the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is strongly urging students, parents and family members to take extra precautions as they gather for graduation ceremonies and graduation parties throughout June.

Last week the BPHC put out an alert strongly urging residents to wear masks at indoor ceremonies, be up to date on vaccinations, hold parties or graduation ceremonies outdoors when feasible and use an at home rapid test to check for a potential COVID infection before heading to a crowded ceremony or party.

Last week, 904 Eastie residents were tested for the virus last week and 10.4 percent were positive--this was a 19 percent decrease from the 12.8 percent that tested positive as reported by the BPHC on May 30.

Ninety four additional Eastie residents contracted the virus between May 30 and June 6 and there have now been 15,680 confirmed cases in the neighborhood since the start of the pandemic.

Boston’s citywide weekly positive test rate decreased slightly last week but remains above

11 percent.

According to the BPHC 18,277 residents were tested citywide last week and 9.5 percent were COVID positive--this was a 14 percent decrease from the 11.1 percent that reportedly tested positive for the week ending on May 30.

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 1 percent last week and went from 188,509 to 190,394 confirmed cases since the start of the pandemic.

There were five additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total number of COVID deaths is now at 1,474.

For this season’s graduations and large events, the BPHC recommends:

Vaccination: Attendees should be strongly encouraged to get fully vaccinated and boosted prior to the event. Please consider sending reminder communications prior to the event.

Respiratory etiquette and masking: Attendees should be strongly encouraged or required to wear face masks during indoor events. We strongly recommend that individuals at high risk for severe COVID-19 disease, such as seniors, those who are moderately to severely immunocompromised, and those who are not fully vaccinated, use masks

during indoor events given current COVID-19 community levels. Limiting consumption of food and beverages during events, particularly those that are hosted indoors, may help to minimize mask removals. Medical grade face masks should be made available during the event for attendees. Hand sanitizer should be readily available.

Testing: Attendees should be encouraged to test with 1) Rapid at-home test the day of the graduation OR 2) PCR testing within 24-48 hours of the graduation. Rapid at-home testing kits should be made available to families and staff.

Test for COVID-19 at least 5 days after an exposure or attending a large indoor event, such as a graduation--or sooner if experiencing symptoms of COVID-19--to prevent onward transmission.

Ventilation: All events be held outdoors whenever feasible

If indoors, use as large a space as possible with as much ventilation (fresh outdoor air, not recirculated). Please open windows whenever feasible to maximize ventilation. Tents with more than two sides count as ‘indoors’.

Symptom screening: Attendees should be reminded to self-screen for symptoms on the day of event and to stay home if they are feeling sick and/or experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19. Please consider adding signage in the entrance to this effect.

Suffolk Downs // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

used for simulcasting that was housed in the old press box that was destroyed in the fire,” said Tuttle. “But we got some new equipment from Scarborough Downs in Maine that arrived this week so we should be up and running in time for the Belmont Stakes on Saturday.”

As far as the myriad of outdoor summer activities HYM has planned for the racetrack’s historic racing oval and grounds, HYM’s Vice President of Marketing Jessica Feroli said last week’s fire hasn’t had an impact on HYM’s plans.

“As far as summer events at the track, everything is still scheduled as planned,” said Feroli. “We have the free fitness series this Sunday at 10am and the Hot Dog Safari Food Truck and Craft Beer Festival is on Saturday, June 25th. We are working on some other events

throughout the summer like hosting a satellite sand sculpture in July during the Revere Beach festival and will be hosting Touch-a-Truck again on September 18th. We will keep the community updated on future happenings and if anything changes.”

HYM also recently got approved by the city to create an interim outdoor entertainment venue, associated infrastructure, and other related site improvements.

The entire outdoor venue will be located in a portion of the existing racetrack infield area and will consist of a grassed area with temporary stage, restrooms, and vendor booths to remain in place until late 2025.

HYM has partnered with “The Bowery Presents”, a leading East Coast promoter, to continue the long tradition of arts or

music and entertainment on the site.

Over the historic span of the thoroughbred racetrack, Suffolk Downs hosted big name bands and events including The Beatles in 1966 and Cirque du Soleil.

The venue will be able to hold a maximum capacity of 8,500 attendants through mainly general admission ticket sales with VIP seating areas and run from June through October.

However, this year HYM likely will not start the outdoor concerts until August or September. The proposed timeline for the venue is late summer 2022 through 2025. There will be at least eight shows planned for the end of this summer and then 20 or more shows planned for the next three summers.

Flag Raising // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

grown year after year.

“The first year about a dozen of us huddled together and now it’s a packed event,” said Hewitt. “We’ve been eyeing ways to make it more of a longer event than just the flag raising and some speeches perhaps with a reception at the Shipyard of ICA Watershed or another gathering point. I’d love to just see this event grow with something immediately after the flag

raising ceremony. There are a lot of folks in the community that are super interested in making this a much larger event. This is nine years for us and we’re one of the first neighborhoods to do a neighborhood-specific Gay Pride event and that’s really exciting and important to us so the organizers would love to see it grow. It’s just a matter of exploring what the next logical step is for us.”


With June as the official LGBTQ Pride Month, local residents have been coming together since 2014 to build and strengthen a sense of community for local LGBTQ residents in Eastie.

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Send us a photo of your special graduate with a short message and we will publish it in the paper.

If you have a yard-sign congratulating your grad, take a photo and send it in and we will print it in our publication during the second week of June. Cost is \$30.00

Photos and messages of graduates may be submitted by email to promo@reverejournal.com or mailed to:

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NEWS IN BRIEF

THE EAST BOSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMEMORATES THE OBSERVANCE OF FLAG DAY

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce will be placing a display of American flags to commemorate the upcoming Flag Day observed on Tuesday, June 14, at the Daniel H Solari Square outside the Chamber of Commerce office at 464 Bremen Street.

In the United States, Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress.

Please note that the flags are for display purposes. If anyone wishes to obtain a flag, please feel free to contact the Chamber at eastbostonchamber.com. You can take a selfie of yourself or others with the flag display and post it on social media with the hashtag #eastbostonchamber to enter in a raffle for a free US flag like those found in the display.

We will announce the winner on the East Boston Chamber of Commerce Facebook Page.

Nota de Prensa
Cámara de Comercio de East Boston
4 de junio de 2021 (para la edición del 9/6/21)

Veronica Robles/Shirley Fabbo 617-308-2314/617-590-3982

La Cámara de Comercio de East Boston conmemora el Día de la Bandera.

La Cámara de Comercio de East Boston colocará una exhibición de banderas estadounidenses para conmemorar el próximo Día de la Bandera que se observará el martes 14 de junio de 2022 en la plaza Daniel H Solari, frente a la oficina de la Cámara de Comercio en 464 Bremen Street.

En los Estados Unidos, el Día de la Bandera se celebra el 14 de junio. Se conmemora la adopción de la bandera de los Estados Unidos el 14 de junio de 1777, por resolución del Segundo Congreso Continental.

Tenga en cuenta que las banderas son para fines de exhibición. Si alguien desea obtener una bandera, no dude en comunicarse con la Cámara en eastbostonchamber.com.

Puede tomarse una selfie de usted o en compañía de otras personas enfrente de las banderas y publicarla en las redes sociales con el hashtag #eastbostonchamber para participar en un sorteo de una bandera estadounidense gratuita como las que se encuentran en la pantalla.

Anunciaremos al ganador en la página de Facebook de la Cámara de Comercio de East Boston.

FREE CHILDREN'S ARTS & CRAFTS WORKSHOPS BEGIN JULY 5

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department's annual ParkARTS participatory program is pleased to announce the return of its series of Arts & Crafts Workshops giving children the opportunity to express their creativity while working on fun projects with local artists. From East Boston to West Roxbury, kids ages three to ten can enjoy a wide variety of arts and crafts activities at the workshops held from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in parks across the city.

Participation is free and all materials are provided, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Groups of eight or more must pre-register by calling the Parks Department at (617) 961-3082 or emailing shannon.murphy2@boston.gov. In addition, the Marionette Puppet Show series will return in July and August at 11 a.m. at various children's workshops. See Boston's parks come alive with Rosalita's Puppets featuring marionettes made by professional actor-puppeteer Charlotte Anne Dore.

Arts and Crafts Workshops dates and locations are as follows, 10 a.m. to 12 noon:

Wednesdays, July 6 and 13

Mary Ellen Welch Greenway, East Boston (meet at the caboose)

Wednesday, July 20 and 27

Sumner-Lamson Playground, East Boston

Thursdays, August 4 and 11

Langone Park/Puopolo Playground, North End

For more information and updates on possible weather cancellations, please contact the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at (617) 635-4505, on our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, or by visiting www.boston.gov/parks.

BOSTON COMMON FROG POND SUMMER SPRAY POOL OPENS JUNE 28

Mayor Michelle Wu, Boston Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods, and The Skating Club of Boston are pleased to welcome children and their caregivers to kick off the 2022 summer wading season as the Boston Common Frog Pond spray pool reopens on Tuesday, June 28. The day will include a fun and exciting celebration at 11 a.m. followed by the opening of the spray pool. For more information visit www.boston.gov/frogpond-opening.

In addition to activities from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., residents can enjoy a special visit from official mascot Frog Pond Freddie and tasty treats from sponsors including Hood Ice Cream Sandwiches from HP Hood LLC and Polar Beverages. Event partners include the Boston Water and Sewer Commission, Boston Police, Mass Horticulture, the Mayor's Mural Crew, Mass Audubon, and the Boston Public Library.

Additional sponsors include REI, whose bike techs will be on-site offering free quick fixes and safety checks; youth orchestra musicians from Boston Music Project, performing and hosting a string instrument petting zoo for all ages; Boston Moms will provide fun activities and giveaways; IMPACT Melanoma will offer sun safety tips and giveaways; and shade will be provided by shade-on-the-go sun screens provided by Zinnia Sun Shades.

New England Dairy, a non-profit education organization that serves as the voice of local dairy farmers, will be on site to celebrate all things dairy – farming, food, nutrition, and wellness. Stop by their Mobile Dairy Bar to enjoy specialty milk flavors while learning about healthy eating, physical activity, and all things dairy.

Families will also be able to enjoy a ride on the Boston Common Carousel. The Carousel is handicapped accessible and has height requirements: anyone 42" or taller can ride alone; anyone under 42" requires the presence of an adult. Admission for the ride is \$4 with 10-ride cards available for \$30. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week.

A year-round recreational facility, the Frog Pond offers ice skating in the winter, a spray pool and supervised wading for youth in the summer, and the Carousel from spring through fall. Information on additional activities offered at the Frog Pond can be found by visiting www.bostonfrogpond.com.

The Frog Pond spray pool is open daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. until Labor Day. The facility is managed by The Skating Club of Boston and staffed by youth workers from the Boston Youth Fund. For further information, please call the Frog Pond at (617) 635-2120.

To stay up to date with news, events, and design and construction work in Boston Parks, sign up for our email list at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails and follow our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

JPNA MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

In order to speak at the Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association (JPNA) meeting aloud as an abutter, you must live within the 300' radius from the subject property AND you must register for this meeting by Sunday, June 12th at 7pm.

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):

Announcements
Police Update
Nathalia Benitez-Perez, Mayor's Liaison
Presentation by Board Candidates VOTE
230 Everett Street, VOTE - Presented at 3 JPNA Planning and Zoning Meetings. Proposal to erect a 5-unit residential dwelling.

Developer: Karina Mejia, represented by Richard C. Lynds.

62 Haynes Street, VOTE - Presented at 1 Planning and Zoning Meeting. Proposal to renovate existing structure and change occupancy from three (3) to four (4) units with roof decks for units 3 and 4.

Developer: Lightning Realty, LLC Represented by: Richard C. Lynds

231 Everett Street, VOTE - Presented at 1 planning and zoning meeting. Proposal to erect a new residential structure with 4 units and two roof decks.

Developer: Crespo Group LLC, represented by: Drago + Toscano LLP

377 Maverick Street, VOTE - Presented at 1 planning and zoning meeting. Proposal to change occupancy to 5 units, renovate the existing structure, extend living space into basement, erect a rear addition with rear and roof decks.

Developer: 377 Maverick, LLC, represented by: Richard C. Lynds

City of Boston Credit Union earns three MAC awards

City of Boston Credit Union, one of the oldest Credit Unions in the United States, announced its marketing team was selected for two gold and one silver award by the Marketing Association of Credit Unions (MAC).

Awards were as follows:

• Gold - Category: Video - Boston Historic Sports Spot (https://youtu.be/8kCqCOvJPYE)

• Gold - Category: Image Enhancement/Public Relations - Investment in Women's Athletics Campaign (https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcwrFMw_VdgLxCW9uJ06Wvd-HewgA95Apa)

• Silver - Category: Product Development - Oops Proof Auto Loan

"As one of the oldest Credit Unions in the country, we have continued to evolve throughout our history while making sure to keep our dedication to our membership at the very forefront," said City of Boston Credit Union Chairman of the Board Gregory Rooney. "People Helping People is the Credit Union philosophy, and we are proud to be recognized by the Marketing Association of Credit Unions for showcasing that philosophy!"

By providing financial assistance, education, and supporting local businesses and organizations, the credit union takes great



A City of Boston Credit Union employee showing two of the awards.

pride in serving the community. The subjects of national awards highlight the philosophies of CBCU and the values we uphold. The Credit Union prides itself on being small enough to have deep relationships with each of member but big enough to meet all of their financial needs. CBCU aims to support all members through every one of life's milestones and is grateful to be recognized for their hard work.

For more information

on how to become a member of the City of Boston Credit Union, visit https://www.cityofbostoncu.com or a branch location.

Since 1915, the City of Boston Credit Union has provided its members with personal, convenient and value-priced financial services that support them through all of life's milestones. Big enough to serve all your needs, and small enough to know what they are, the City of Boston Credit Union fosters a culture where relationships matter. As a credit union, we are owned by and accountable to our members, who each have an equal vote in our direction, regardless of the size of their accounts. We believe we have a responsibility to support the health and wealth of our members and their communities, and over the past five years have donated over \$2.4 million to hundreds of local organizations. For more information, visit CityofBostonCU.com.

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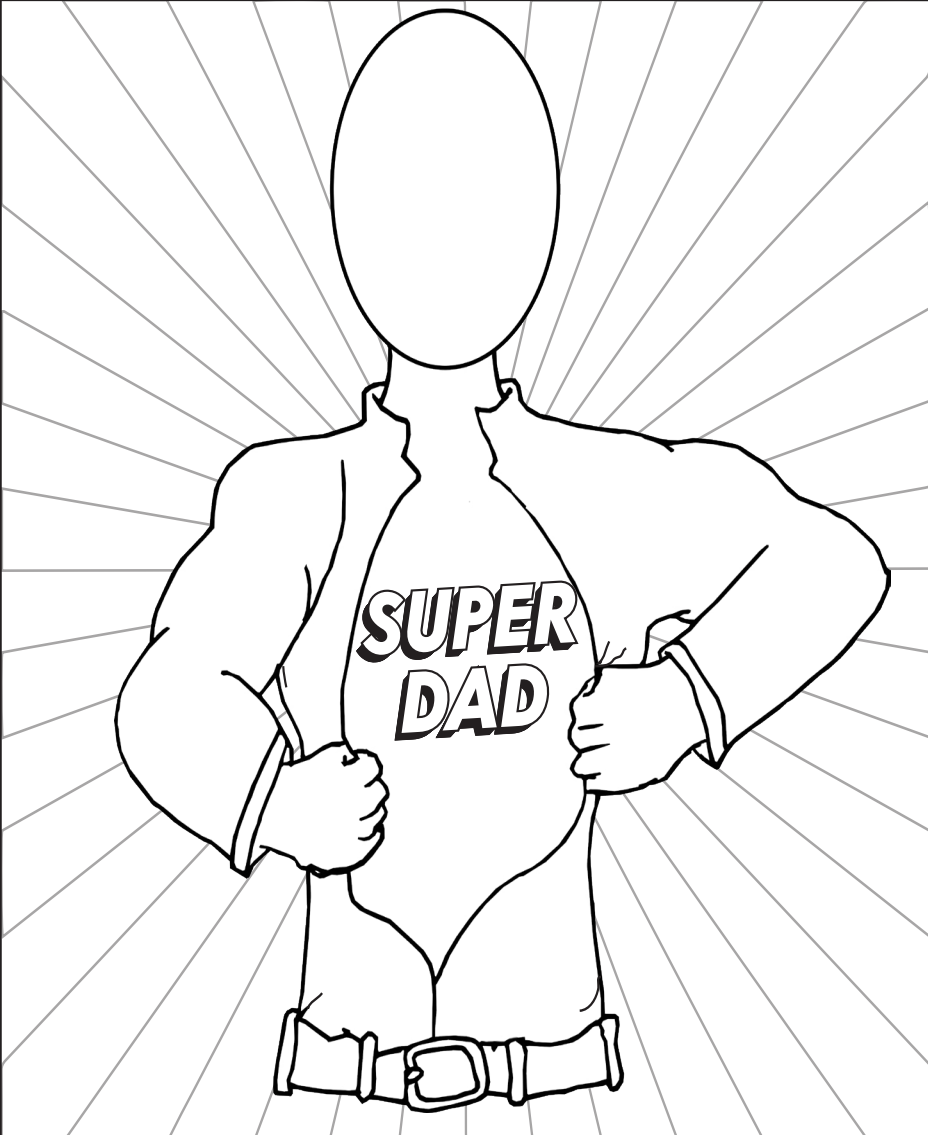
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Deadline for entries will be Friday, June 10th.

Entries will be published in the June 15th, & 16th issues of the Revere Journal, Chelsea Record, Everett Independent, East Boston Times, Winthrop Sun Transcript, and The Lynn Journal

East Boston

Times-Free Press

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EXASPERATED BY HIGH ENERGY COSTS? WAIT UNTIL THIS WINTER

Barely a day goes by without a news story about the high cost of gasoline and energy prices in general.

Economists and energy market experts point to a host of reasons as to why the market prices for oil and natural gas have skyrocketed in the past three months. The war in Ukraine only exacerbated what in any event would have been a world-wide energy crisis thanks to the decision by the OPEC+ nations and U.S. oil companies to limit output -- in order to reap huge profits for their shareholders -- despite increased world-wide demand in the aftermath of the pandemic.

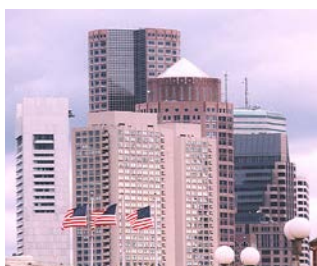
However, whatever the reasons may be, they are of little consolation to Americans who must drive a car every day and who face record-high prices of more than \$5.00 per gallon for regular gasoline.

It often is said by economists that higher energy prices effectively are a tax on consumers. But higher energy costs are even worse than a tax. We're paying higher gasoline prices for the exact same product, but with higher taxes, at least in theory we'd be getting more services for our tax dollars.

The only ones directly benefiting from higher energy prices are the shareholders of the major oil companies and the dictators in places like Saudi Arabia and Russia.

But as painful as higher energy costs are right now, the real crunch will come this winter, when Americans in the northern half of the country will face costs for heating oil and natural gas that never have been seen. We paid \$3.00 for a gallon of heating oil this past winter -- but the price right now from our heating oil dealer is nearly \$6.00. At that price, a delivery of heating oil of 175 gallons -- about 2/3 of a tank -- will be more than \$1000, a figure that truly will be a hardship for many of us.

So let's start praying now for a mild winter -- and get used to the idea of taking shorter hot showers, dropping the thermostats in our homes, wearing sweaters during the day, using extra blankets at night, and sealing up the drafts through our doors and windows.



Forum



GUEST OP-ED

Protecting our children from the shooters

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Most federal career politicians end up very wealthy. They make good salaries. They have great health insurance and very nice retirement packages. They typically develop political action committees that cover expenses the government doesn't pay. When they retire, they can donate campaign funds they have accumulated throughout the years to their own non-profits and administer the funds.

Most Americans know how lucrative a lifetime of "public service" can become and few really care. Most of us have more to worry about than the jet setting life styles of our rich and famous U.S. Senators and Representatives. What torches many of us is their inability and often refusal to do anything. Too many of them are spineless wimps who are terrified of casting a vote that might hinder their re-

election.

You've probably noticed that most and often all of the Republicans vote the "party line" and all the Democrats do the same. How does this help us?

I'm tired of the red vs the blue and vice-versa. Doesn't anybody have an opinion that differs from their grand ol' party?

It's obvious that Americans are torn into shreds over the gun issue. There is no perfect answer. However, doing nothing isn't working to save the next group of children begging for help in 911 calls.

The least our leaders can do is raise the age to 21 to own any kind of labeled assault weapon. Personally, I would push for 25 but honestly there is no golden number. Old people can go crazy with assault style weapons as easy as eighteen-year-olds. We've seen more school shootings from those under 21 which

makes it a reasonable place to start. Establishing a six-month waiting period to buy an assault style weapon will not hurt anyone. Background checks are vital but again will not be a cure-all because often the shooters have unblemished backgrounds.

All schools must pay for a couple of armed guards to patrol and protect their students. Even then a surprise attack by two or three people with assault style weapons and body armor could easily overpower guards carrying semi-automatic weapons. Yet, the presence of armed security is better than leaving our children defenseless.

One local county I know fairly well has several schools spread out over the county. They have one sheriff and he has two underpaid deputies. By the time he and the deputies could ever possibly even show up,

dozens if not a multitude of children would be dead. This sheriff's department is very underfunded and would have to wait for state police to arrive. The local state police post is one hour away. It is unimaginable how many children could be killed. Such school systems have no choice but to come up with armed security guards to protect the children.

Who ever dreamed you would read something like this in your local paper? I never dreamed of a country where it would need to be written.

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.

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Millions of parents want to work but can't afford child care

By Senator Elizabeth Warren:

Our nation needs to bring inflation under control, and that won't come from pretending that only the Federal Reserve has tools to tackle this problem -- or that a recession is the only alternative to inflation.

Already, the Biden administration is taking strong steps, working hard to promote competition, stop corporate profiteering and address supply chain challenges -- all of which will help bring prices down. But there's one more step Congress can take to reduce inflation: Expand access to affordable, high-quality

child care. By doing so, we can boost labor supply, which would increase workforce participation, increase the supply of goods and services, and immediately lower costs for struggling families.

For decades, the United States has under-invested in child care, essentially crossing our fingers and hoping that families with small children will somehow work things out. That wishful thinking has held back our economy, driving millions of women out of the workforce and knocking nearly one percentage point off our annual gross domestic product.

In a year and a half, President Joe Biden's

leadership has helped create more than 8 million jobs. And now, even more businesses are looking to hire. As we return to the activities we enjoyed before the COVID-19 pandemic started, like going to restaurants and traveling, businesses are trying to fill positions from servers and line cooks to barbers and bus drivers.

In fact, we have 5 million more job openings than unemployed people. That's good news for workers negotiating for pay raises, but unfilled jobs means the supply of goods and services is lower than it otherwise would be -- and that pushes up prices.

Worker shortage is bad news for our economy. Economists have warned that if service-sector businesses can't find the workers they need, the impact on inflation could be "devastating." They note that Congress' failure to invest in affordable child care in the wake of the pandemic could have long-term negative effects on "the rate of growth we can have and the size of our economy."

While employers search for workers, millions of

parents are sidelined. About 5 million Americans have cited child care as their primary reason for not working.

Employers have taken note. A recent national survey found that a lack of child care is hurting over half of small businesses.

Millions of parents across the country are ready to work, but they can't without reliable, affordable child care. Even before the pandemic, more than half of families with young kids lived in "child care deserts," areas where there simply aren't enough open slots with licensed child care providers. Then COVID-19 hit, and thousands of child care providers were forced to close their doors -- many for good.

Even if families find child care, it's often too far away, costs more than in-state college tuition or has a years-long waiting list.

Child care providers want to meet that need, but they can't make the math work.

Take Melissa Colagrosso, who runs a child care center in West Virginia

Your opinions, please

The Times welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

Our fax number is **781-485-1403**.

Letters may also be e-mailed to **editor@eastietimes.com**.

Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

Tunnel // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

pletely close the tunnel for four months in the spring 2023.

At a Webinar last week it is clear residents are becoming increasingly weary of the upcoming project.

One question posed to MassDOT officials at last week’s meeting that captured the sentiment of the community as a whole touched upon the Sumner Tunnel toll plaza debacle.

When asked how the residents of Eastie can trust anything MassDOT says in regards to traffic impacts, timelines, and the community process given the severely mishandled toll plaza project.

“I guess in a general sense the department is always trying to take lessons learned from our previous projects,” said MassDOT’s Dan Fielding in response to the question. “We have the detour route setup through the Ted Williams Tunnel as well as that alternative detour route in and around to try to capture folks that are going to 93 North and have them utilize Route 1A to Route 16 and then over the Tobin Bridge. Right now we’re looking at as many of those types of implementations as well as portable changeable message signs that will give people the most up to date information.”

However, the answer to the question sounded to residents a lot like the plans that were in place before the toll plaza reconfiguration and many knew how that turned out and Eastie has been paying the price ever since.

With the first phase of the project getting underway this weekend MassDOT still can’t confirm if the MBTA Blue Line will be free for Eastie residents as mitigation to the impacts the project will have on commuters living here. A free Blue Line has been something residents have asked at every meeting leading up to this point.

However, some crumbs have been thrown Eastie’s way.

“Current mitigation included for East Boston Residents is that during tunnel closures, East Boston residents active in the East Boston Resident EZ pass program will receive discounts on the Tobin Bridge and Ted Williams Tunnel,” said Fielding,

forgetting that Eastie residents already receive a discount at the Ted Williams. “MassDOT is in active discussions to identify other potential alternatives for travel during the four month closure of the tunnel in 2023.”

At a meeting back in May, MassDOT officials never once mentioned weeknight lane closures but the week following that meeting the Sumner Tunnel was down to one lane almost every night. Residents flooded social media with photos and videos of the traffic that looked more like a morning commute than a random Wednesday night at 11 pm

However, MassDOT confirmed single lane night time closures will be periodically in place for on-going maintenance work and preparation work to support the weekend closures.

Some transportation experts have pointed out that traffic coming from Eastie could be rerouted through the Callahan and exit onto the emergency ramp on North Street in the North End and then turn left onto Cross Street. While not ideal, some feel it’s far better than a complete closure of the Sumner Tunnel for four full months. During the Big Dig, both the Sumner and Callahan Tunnels would handle two-way traffic periodically while work was being completed.

Fielding said during the design phase, the idea of using Callahan Tunnel during the closure of the Sumner Tunnel was considered.

“But MassDOT dismissed the idea as it would significantly reduce the capacity of the tunnel and it would make it more difficult for emergency vehicles to get through the tunnel,” said Fielding.

At last week’s meeting, Eastie resident Joanne Pomodoro said the weekend closures and complete closures next year amount to a public health emergency.

“All the tunnels are already difficult to get through and they’re always backups,” said Pomodoro. “My concern is how are EMS ambulances, that can barely get through the tunnels now, get through the Ted Williams (the only remaining tunnel option to Downtown once

the project begins)? Mass General is a hop, skip and a jump for most of us that live here but now emergency vehicles are going to have to go around to the Ted Williams and sit in traffic in that tunnel when minutes and seconds can be the difference between life and death in an emergency.”

Fielding said MassDOT is actively coordinating with the emergency responders as well as Mass General.

“While we’ve been conducting tabletop exercises in meetings with the emergency responders and ambulance services to support their operating procedures,” said Feilding. “We will have tow trucks in place during any of the closures as well as police details.”

MassDOT’s traffic engineer Gary McNoughton said MassDOT would target areas in the vicinity of the tunnel entrance with police details. McNoughton said in the case of an emergency the detail cops will direct traffic away from the tunnel entrance to allow emergency vehicles in. However, it was unclear how the traffic already in the tunnel will move out of the way for emergency vehicles nor what Boston hospitals they will be directed to.

Zumix // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tegic priorities and sustainability planning. Two private donors, Peter Glick and Jared Bartok, also made significant contributions to the project.

“ZUMIX is excited to take the next step toward sustainability with our new solar panels,” said Steczynski. “We hope our adoption of this green technology will help inspire our neighbors to follow suit, and to keep working together toward a better future for ourselves and our planet.”

Steczynski said the panels, now operational, will capture and convert solar energy to help expand the amount of available renewable energy in Eastie.

Like the city’s pilot program in the neighborhood, ZUMIX decided to partner with ACE Solar and Resonant Energy for the installation process. ACE Solar has been ranked as the top residential solar contractor in Massachusetts for five years in a row, and is among the top solar contractors in the country. Resonant Energy, based in Dorchester, specializes in bringing accessible solar options to communities with limited resources, affordable housing units, and nonprofit organizations throughout Massachusetts.

Zumix’s Director of Finance and Administration, Chrissy Holt, said she hopes that Zumix’s move



At the end of last month Zumix took the next step in its sustainable journey with the installation of a set of solar panels on the roof of the Zumix Firehouse.

to solar energy will inspire neighbors and residents to take advantage of the city’s Solarize Eastie program.

“We’re thrilled to be a part of Eastie going greener,” said Holt. “We hope our solar panels will encourage neighbors to ask questions and possibly pursue their own solar projects, especially once they see how simple it can be.”

For decades solar panels installed on homes have been a proven way to generate clean, renewable energy,, reduce energy costs, and increase energy resilience.

The Solarize Eastie program will offer a variety of payment support, including a 15 percent discount below the average cost of solar installation, up-front subsidies for income-eli-

gible building owners, and no-cost options. The city will work with GreenRoots throughout the year to increase access to affordable and renewable energy for Eastie residents while helping them reduce their energy cost burden.

Eastie is already an Environmental Justice Community and hosts an international airport, three harbor tunnels, a major highway and is one of a handful of Boston neighborhoods that will be heavily impacted by climate change and sea level rise.

Bringing renewable energy to more homes and businesses in Eastie may mitigate some of the environmental impacts and burdens the neighborhood has faced for decades with a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

MOH Income Restricted Rental Opportunity - WAITING LIST REOPENING

Wayne at Columbia- Dorchester

6,8,10,10a Bellevue St- 22 units
1461,1463 Blue Hill Ave- 9 units
217,467,471,509 Columbia Rd-46 units
4 Almont St-6 units

# of Units	# of bedrooms	Estimate d Square Feet	Rent	Maximu m Income Limit	# built out for mobility impairments	# built out for Deaf/hard of hearing
6	studios	500	30% HH Income	50% AMI	1	—
50	1-bedroom	460-900	30% HH Income	50% AMI	—	—
19	2-bedroom	774-876	30% HH Income	50% AMI	—	—
2	3-bedroom	798-1060	30% HH Income	50% AMI	—	—
2	4-bedroom	1051-1171	30% HH Income	50% AMI	—	—
4	5-bedroom	1171-1200	30% HH Income	50% AMI	—	—

MINIMUM INCOMES
(set by owner + based on # of bedrooms/AMI)

# of bedrooms	Minimum Income 50% AMI
1	\$0
2	\$0
3	\$0
4	\$0
5	\$0

MAXIMUM INCOMES
(set by funders + based on HH Size/AMI)

HH size	50% AMI
1	\$34,050
2	\$38,900
3	\$43,750
4	\$48,600
5	\$52,500
6	\$56,400
7	\$60,300

Applications are available during the application period for 30 days, from 5/16/22 to 6/15/22. To request an online application or to have one sent by email visit <https://bit.ly/WayneAtColumbiaApp> or call 617-247-2389

The City of Boston has temporarily canceled the in-person application distribution period. If you cannot complete the application online, please call us at 617-247-2389 to request that we mail you one and to ask us for any support or guidance you might need to complete the application.

We will be holding 2 virtual informational meetings on 5/24 and 5/31 at 5:30 pm through the following link: <https://zoom.us/j/99242640471?pwd=aW85dnhCTEwFozYVdgcXpFdjBhUT09>.

Meeting ID: 99242640471
Passcode: q7LbF4

DEADLINE: Applications must be submitted online or postmarked no later than 6/15/22.
Mailed to 434 Massachusetts Ave., Suite 300. Boston, MA 02118, Attention: Waitlist Coordinator.

• Selection by Lottery.

• Asset & Use Restrictions apply.

• Preferences Apply.

For more information, language assistance, or reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities please call 617-247-2389 or lemail: mjean@cruxcompanies.com

OPPORTUNITY

MOH Income Restricted Rental Opportunity - WAITING LIST REOPENING

Wayne at Bicknell- Dorchester

92-94 Esmond St-6 units / 77-79 Homestead St-12 units
50-52 Lorne St & 4 Wilson St - 9 units
97,99,101 &103 Norfolk St- 12 units
2 Greenbrier St- 6 units / 57 Bicknell St-15 units 129,131,133 & 135 Intervale St-12 units

# of Units	# of bedrooms	Estimated Square Feet	Rent	Maximum Income Limit	# built out for mobility impairments	# built out for Deaf/hard of hearing
15	1-bedroom	460-900	30% HH Income	50% AMI	2	—
33	2-bedroom	462-876	30% HH Income	50% AMI	—	—
21	3-bedroom	798-1060	30% HH Income	50% AMI	—	—
4	4-bedroom	1051-1171	30% HH Income	50% AMI	—	—

MINIMUM INCOMES
(set by owner + based on # of bedrooms/AMI)

# of bedrooms	50% AMI
1	\$0
2	\$0
3	\$0
4	\$0

MAXIMUM INCOMES
(set by funders + based on HH Size/AMI)

Household size	50% AMI
1	\$34,050
2	\$38,900
3	\$43,750
4	\$48,600
5	\$52,500
6	\$56,400
7	\$60,300

Applications are available during the application period for 30 days, from 5/16/22 to 6/15/22. To request an online application or to have one sent by email, visit <https://bit.ly/WayneAtBicknellApp> or call 617-247-2389.

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We will be holding 2 virtual informational meetings on 5/24 and 5/31 at 5:30 pm through the following link: <https://zoom.us/j/99242640471?pwd=aW85dnhCTEwFozYVdgcXpFdjBhUT09>.

Meeting ID: 992 4264 0471
Passcode: q7LbF4

DEADLINE: Applications must be submitted online or postmarked no later than 6/15/22.
Mailed to 434 Massachusetts Ave., Suite 300. Boston, MA 02118, Attention: Waitlist Coordinator.

• Selection by Lottery.

• Asset & Use Restrictions apply.

• Preferences Apply.

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OPPORTUNITY

MOH Income Restricted Rental Opportunity - WAITING LIST REOPENING

Wayne at Schuyler- Dorchester & Roxbury

39 Schuyler St-14 Units / 358-360 Walnut Ave-15 Units
81 Walnut Park- 9 Units / 249 Humboldt Ave- 6 Units
25 Wayne St-9 Units / 35 Wales St-12 Units
548-550 Warren St- 6 Units / 2 Elm Hill Park- 3 Units

# of Units	# of bedrooms	Estimated Square Feet	Rent	Maximum Income Limit	# built out for mobility impairments
1	studios	500	30% HH Income	50% AMI	—
16	1-bedroom	460-900	30% HH Income	50% AMI	2
46	2-bedroom	774-876	30% HH Income	50% AMI	—
7	3-bedroom	798-1060	30% HH Income	50% AMI	—
4	4-bedroom	1051-1171	30% HH Income	50% AMI	—

MINIMUM INCOMES
(set by owner + based on # of bedrooms + Area Median Income (AMI))

Maximum Incomes (set by funders + based on the household size + Area Median Income (AMI))

MINIMUM INCOMES
(set by owner + based on # of bedrooms/AMI)

# of bedrooms	Minimum Income 50% AMI
1	\$0
2	\$0
3	\$0
4	\$0
5	\$0

MAXIMUM INCOMES
(set by funders + based on HH Size/AMI)

HH size	50% AMI
1	\$34,050
2	\$38,900
3	\$43,750
4	\$48,600
5	\$52,500
6	\$56,400
7	\$60,300

Applications are available during the application period for 30 days, from 5/16/22 to 6/15/22. To request an online application or to have one sent by email, visit <https://bit.ly/WayneAtSchuylerApp> or call 617-247-2389

The City of Boston has temporarily canceled the in-person application distribution period. If you cannot complete the application online, please call us at 617-247-2389 to request that we mail you one and to ask us for any support or guidance you might need to complete the application.

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Meeting ID: 992 4264 0471
Passcode: q7LbF4

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Mailed to 434 Massachusetts Ave., Suite 300. Boston, MA 02118, Attention: Waitlist Coordinator.

• Selection by Lottery.

• Asset & Use Restrictions apply.

• Preferences Apply.

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OPPORTUNITY

MOH Income Restricted Rental Opportunity - WAITING LIST REOPENING

Wayne at Franklin Hill- Dorchester

30-58 Franklin Hill AVE- 65 units
140-142 American Legion Hwy- 7 units

# of Units	# of bedrooms	Estimated Square Feet	Rent	Maximum Income Limit	# built out for mobility impairments
19	2-bedroom	742	30% HH Income	50% AMI	14

MINIMUM INCOMES
(set by owner + based on # of bedrooms/AMI)

# of bedrooms	Minimum Income 50% AMI
1	\$0
2	\$0
3	\$0
4	\$0
5	\$0

MAXIMUM INCOMES
(set by funders + based on HH Size/AMI)

HH size	50% AMI
1	\$34,050
2	\$38,900
3	\$43,750
4	\$48,600
5	\$52,500
6	\$56,400
7	\$60,300

Applications are available during the application period for 30 days, from 5/16/22 to 6/15/22

To request an online application or to have one sent by email, visit <https://bit.ly/WayneAtFranklinApp> or call 617-247-2389

The City of Boston has temporarily canceled the in-person application distribution period. If you cannot complete the application online, please call us at 617-247-2389 to request that we mail you one and to ask us for any support or guidance you might need to complete the application.

We will be holding 2 virtual informational meetings on 5/24 and 5/31 at 5:30 pm through the following link:<https://zoom.us/j/99242640471?pwd=aW85dnhCTEwFozYVdgcXpFdjBhUT09>.

Meeting ID: 992 42640471
Passcode: q7LbF4

DEADLINE: Applications must be submitted online or postmarked no later than 6/15/22.
Mailed to 434 Massachusetts Ave., Suite 300. Boston, MA 02118, Attention: Waitlist Coordinator.

• Selection by Lottery.

• Asset & Use Restrictions apply.

• Preferences Apply.

For more information, language assistance, or reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, please call 617-247-2389 or email: mjean@cruxcompanies.com

OPPORTUNITY

MOH Income Restricted Rental Opportunity - WAITING LIST REOPENING

Wayne at Blue Hill - Mattapan

1439, 1443, 1447, 1451 Blue Hill Ave - 48 units

# of Units	# of bedrooms	Estimated Square Feet	Rent	Maximum Income Limit
26	1-bedroom	575-724	30% HH Income	50% AMI
22	2-bedroom	697-877	30% HH Income	50% AMI

MINIMUM INCOMES
(set by owner + based on # of bedrooms/AMI)

# of bedrooms	Minimum Income 50% AMI
1	\$0
2	\$0
3	\$0
4	\$0
5	\$0

MAXIMUM INCOMES
(set by funders + based on HH Size/AMI)

HH size	50% AMI
1	\$34,050
2	\$38,900
3	\$43,750
4	\$48,600
5	\$52,500
6	\$56,400
7	\$60,300

Applications are available during the application period for 30 days, from 5/16/22 to 6/15/22.

To request an online application or to have one sent by email, visit <https://bit.ly/WayneAtBlueHillApp> or call 617-247-2389

The City of Boston has temporarily canceled the in-person application distribution period. If you cannot complete the application online, please call us at 617-247-2389 to request that we mail you one and to ask us for any support or guidance you might need to complete the application.

We will be holding 2 virtual informational meetings on 5/24 and 5/31 at 5:30 pm through the following link: <https://zoom.us/j/99242640471?pwd=aW85dnhCTEwFozYVdgcXpFdjBhUT09>.

Meeting ID: 992 4264 0471
Passcode: q7LbF4

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• Preferences Apply.

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OPPORTUNITY

EAST BOSTON CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL 8TH GRADE GRADUATION

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA

Families gathered at the Sacred Heart Church for East Boston Central Catholic School’s Eighth Grade Graduation on June 4.



Kayli DiFeo offering wine to Reverend Paolo Domurat.



Father Thomas Domurat presenting valedictorian, Peyton McLaughlin, with her diploma.



EBCCS graduates turning their tassels.



Father Thomas Domurat presenting Rylee O'Connor communion.



Alden MacNulty kneeling during the offertory prayer.



Esteban Perez reading the Prayers of the Faithful.



Peyton McLaughlin, valedictorian, giving thumbs up, with Esteban Perez and Arielle Tritto.



Arielle Tritto presenting a Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 12:4-11



Ava McLaughlin sharing a sign of peace.



Santiago Ramirez proceeding into Sacred Heart Church



Ezequiel Bido Fernandez kneeling during the offertory prayer.



Alden MacNulty and Kayli DiFeo.

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EASTIE
COMMUNITY
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Rent a 10'x10' space and keep your profits.

Reserve your table now!

Cost: \$50 (\$30 for Umana families)

Register at tinyurl.com/EastieYardSale

Space includes 1 table. Payment due at check-in (cash-only). All proceeds benefit the Mario Umana Academy Family Council to support student activities.

Saturday, June 11 9am-2pm
Mario Umana Academy, 312 Border St.





Reverend Paolo Cumin addressing the graduates.



Reverend Thomas Domurat reading the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 25:14-30.

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Sports

EAST BOSTON JEST WIN BOSTON CITY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

PHOTOS BY BOB MARRA

The Jets ended a 31-year drought and captured the Boston City League championship with a convincing 8-1 win over New Mission Saturday at Northeastern University's Parsons Field.



YOU'RE OUT: Third baseman Sammy Santiago waits with the ball to tag out New Mission's R. Melo on a first inning fielder's choice as the umpire gets a good look.



AIR MAIL : Shortstop Joel Valera gets some leverage behind his throw as he makes the play for the Jets.



EASY DOES IT: Centerfielder Jared Pacitta calmly puts away a fly ball for an out.



CALMING INFLUENCE: Catcher Janneson Martinez give some reassuring words to pitcher Luis Ortiz after a pair of New Mission walks, a base hit and an East Boston error produced New Mission's first run in the first inning. It proved to be NM's only run as Ortiz settled down, struck out 11, and led East Boston to an 8-1 win and the Boston City League championship.



REASON TO SMILE: First baseman Chris Frazier, pitcher Luis Ortiz, and catcher Janneson Martinez celebrate the win after the final out.



DOMINANT: Pitcher Luis Ortiz went the distance, surrendering only two hits and striking out 11 New Mission batters, to lead the Jets to an 8-1 win and the Boston City League Championship.



SAFE ARRIVAL: Mike O'Neil is safe at second with a stolen base. He came around to score Eastie's third run on a single by Sammy Santiago.



GOOD GLOVE: Second baseman Andry Marte backhands a hot grounder up the middle.



PROUD MOMENT: Sammy Martinez gazes at the award he earned as MVP of the City League Championship. Martinez had three RBI on a pair of hits in the title game.



DOUBLE TIME: Chris Frazier celebrates after his RBI single knocked in East Boston's fifth run to give he Jets a 5-1 lead in the third inning.

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Tuttorosso Canned Tomatoes 28 oz.....	3/¢5.00
Chicken of the Sea Chunk Light Canned Tuna..	4/¢5.00
Kraft Macaroni & Cheese (single box only) ..	4/¢5.00
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EBNHC LET’S GET MOVIN’ ANNUAL 5K HELD SATURDAY

On Saturday at East Boston Memorial Stadium the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center’s (EBNHC) Let’s Get Movin’ program held its annual 5K

race to combat obesity in the area. Let’s Get Movin’ is a program of the Health Center that promotes healthy lifestyles in the community

through physical activity and nutrition education programming. The annual 5K was hosted in partnership with the New Balance Foundation.

EBNHC is combating childhood obesity through its Let’s Get Movin’ program. Obesity and related conditions like diabetes and heart disease,

disproportionately affect EBNHC’s patient population, the majority of whom are Spanish-speaking. The pandemic has heightened these issues across East

Boston, Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop – and the health center is responding by working to improve access to physical activity.



Runners in the EBNHC Let’s Get Movin’ Annual 5K race through East Boston Memorial Stadium to combat obesity.



Runners started the race that took participants through the greenway and ended back at the Stadium with a morning of festivities.



Runners spring to the finish line during Saturday’s race.



The Let’s Get Movin’ team was on hand to offer healthy snacks and information on healthy lifestyles.



EBNHC’s Nery Castro (left) and Emily Martin (second from left) pose with friends and family during Saturday’s race.



Residents cheer on the runners during the annual 5K.



Runners were greeted with a medal once they crossed the finish line.



Let’s Get Movin’ staff and youth participants in the program rang bells and cheered as runners came across the finish line.



Some of the early finishers crossed the finish line in about 30 minutes.



Runners and spectators were treated to music throughout the day.



A team of runners get ready for the start of the race Saturday at the Stadium.

Goldberg urges legislature to include gun divestment in supplemental budget

In the aftermath of the horrific shooting in Uvalde, Texas at Robb Elementary School that killed 19 students and two teachers, State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg calls for the Massachusetts Legislature to pass legislation requiring the state’s \$101.5 billion pension fund to divest approximately \$2 million from companies that manufacture and distribute guns and ammunition for civilian use.

The proposed legislation would require the Massachusetts Pension Reserves Investment Management (PRIM) Board, which oversees the pension fund, to sell, redeem, divest, or withdraw all publicly traded securities from any ammunition, firearm and firearm accessory manufacturing companies that derive 15% or more of their revenues from the sale or manufacture of ammunition, firearms, or firearm accessories for civilian purposes. The companies impacted would be Ammo Inc, Smith & Wesson,

Sturm Ruger, and Vista Outdoors, Inc.

The PRIM Board can only divest as a directive from the Massachusetts Legislature. Similar to the recent bill passed by legislators in support of divesting from Russian companies in the wake of the war with Ukraine, the Legislature has the opportunity to pass the proposed divestment language. This action will send the strong message that Massachusetts will not continue to finance preventable gun violence.

“It is unacceptable that we as a country continue to live in a seemingly endless cycle of gun violence,” said Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg, Chair of PRIM. “Traditional approaches are not working, and we must do what we can to potentially save lives. I implore the Legislature to support the divestment of our public pension funds from gun and ammunition manufacturers and distributors in support of the American people who are victims and survivors of

preventable gun violence, just as we did recently by divesting from companies in Russia following their invasion of Ukraine.”

In 2018, Treasurer Goldberg issued the same recommendation to the legislature following the mass shooting in Parkland, Florida at Stoneman Douglas High School that killed 17 people and injured 17 more, but the bill did not receive enough legislative support to require PRIM to divest. However, since 2018, PRIM independently sold \$4 million in shareholdings from gun and ammunition manufacturers and distributors.

In the past, PRIM has been directed to divest from companies that derived much of its revenue from tobacco and companies doing business with Sudan, Northern Ireland, and Iran due to regional conflicts.

John Rosenthal, President of Meredith Management Corporation and renowned advocate for gun violence prevention

as co-founder of Stop Handgun Violence, is currently supporting legislation in alignment with Treasurer Goldberg’s gun divestment initiative that prohibits the manufacturing of assault weapons in Massachusetts. The sale and ownership of the same weapons is currently banned in the Commonwealth. However, assault weapons continue to be manufactured in Massachusetts and sold in other states making mass shootings more prevalent across the country.

“I applaud Treasurer Goldberg for her strong and courageous leadership in proposing divestiture from the uniquely unregulated gun industry,” said John Rosenthal. “Last year alone over 45,000 Americans died from firearms and today and every day over 100 more Americans will die and there will be a mass shooting of four or more people. Urban Massachusetts has enacted the most effective gun laws and regulations, has reduced the rate of gun

deaths by 40% since 1994, and along with Hawaii, has the lowest gun death rate in the nation. Divestiture from the gun industry combined with our strong bipartisan leadership in the Commonwealth will absolutely help save lives from preventable gun injuries and death here and around the country.”

Since the tragedy in Uvalde, Rosenthal says that there have been seventeen mass shootings killing at least fifteen and wounding over seventy people. Additionally, there have been at least 215 mass shootings of four or more people so far this year. According to Everytown Research and Policy, in an average year, gun violence in America kills nearly 40,000 people, injures more than twice as many, and costs our nation \$280 billion.

Several events and rallies to advocate for legislation to prevent gun violence are planned in Massachusetts this month. Additionally, the first Friday in June is rec-

ognized annually in the United States as National Gun Violence Awareness Day, with the days following acknowledged as Wear Orange Weekend.

Under the leadership of Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg, the Massachusetts State Treasury is comprised of 13 departments and agencies that serve the public through the Office of the State Treasurer and Receiver General. The Treasury is committed to embracing cutting-edge technology, implementing practical business strategies, and developing public-private partnerships to ensure economic stability, security, and opportunity for every Massachusetts resident. Treasurer Goldberg is the former President of the National Association of State Treasurers and is the Co-Chair of the National Institute of Public Finance. Visit MassTreasury.org to learn more and follow along on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter.

Eastie’s Sebastian Parra joins Councilor Coletta’s staff

By John Lynds

This week District 1 Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta announced the appointment of East Boston’s Sebastian Parra as her newly hired East Boston Liaison.

Born and raised in Meddellin, Colombia Parra moved to Eastie in 2016 when he was 15 years old.

Parra quickly established himself as a bright and hardworking student at East Boston High School where he was a member of the student council, the Kiwanis Key Club and the National Honors Society.

He graduated from Eastie High in 2019 as Class President and went on to Lesley University where he will be a senior next year. Parra is majoring in Digital Filmmaking and minoring in Graphic Design.

Para recently came back from the United Kingdom, where he spent the second half of 2021 studying abroad and exploring the streets of London.

Para said with his background in the arts he has always been interested in community and hopes to bring the neighborhood’s many cultures to the foreground of the City of Boston. In the near future, he said he hopes to make a movie about the different experiences of the people from Eastie.

“I am excited to be part of Councilor Coletta’s team and be able to give back to East Boston, a community that gave me so much love and received me with open arms since the moment I arrived in the United States,” said Parra. “I have known Councilor Coletta and her family



for many years now, and knowing who she is and where she comes from, I am confident that together we will work towards change in East Boston.”

Coletta also announced Elvira Mora will join her staff as Director of Civic Organizing and Eva Scapicchio, daughter of former District 1 City Councilor Paul Scapicchio, will join as North End Liaison.


“I’m incredibly excited to have Sebastian, Elvira and Eva join my office,” said Councilor Coletta. “Each individual brings key credentials, experience and passion for communities within District One. They all have the skill set for this moment to ensure that together, we are building an energetic and inclusive community across the district.”

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Moyer-Bell, Ana B	32 Haynes LLC	32 Haynes St #1	\$445,000
Trichilo Development LLC	Amirault Michael C Est	93 Cowper St	\$710,000
Reilly, Clifford	Mcgeary, Daniel P	107 Putnam St #2	\$849,000
Hostetter, Kirstie D	125 Saratoga Street LLC	125 Saratoga St	\$689,000
183 Maverick St	183 Maverick Street LLC	183 Maverick St	\$700,000
183 Maverick Street LLC	Palmieri, Vincenzo	183 Maverick St	\$500,000
Ducasse, Camy	Carlyle, Cameron	204 E Eagle St #1	\$540,000
Pereanez, Ferney	Landaverde, Jose K	250 Saratoga St	\$850,000
311 Lexington Street LLC	Trotta, Vincenzo	311 Lexington St	\$920,000
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OBITUARIES

Annette Lynch

Former medical assistant at East Boston Neighborhood Health Center

Annette M. (D’Amelio) Lynch of East Boston died on June 5.

Annette worked for several years as a medical assistant in the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center.

The beloved wife of the late John F. Lynch Sr., she was the loving mother of John F. Lynch Jr. of East Boston and Donna Martingnetti and her husband, Fred of Stoneham; grandmother of Michael and David Martingnetti and sister of Robert D’Amelio of East Boston and the late Daniel D’Amelio.

Visiting in the Magrath Funeral Home, 336 Chelsea St. [at Day Sq] East Boston today, Wednesday, June 8 from 9:15 to 11:15 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass in the Sacred Heart Church, 45



Brooks St., East Boston at 11:45 a.m.. Relatives and friends invited. Interment Puritan Lawn Memorial Park, Peabody. Donations in Annette’s memory to the Sacred Heart Parish, 303 Paris St., East Boston 02128 would be appreciated.

Please leave messages of condolence for the family on her Tribute Page at [MagrathFuneralHome.com](#).

Marie Bibber

Former resident of Revere and East Boston

Marie (Torredimare) of Chelmsford, formerly of Revere and East Boston, passed away weeks after her 95 birthday.

Born in East Boston on May 16, 1927 to the late Frank and Adelaide (Faccadio) Torredimare, she was the beloved wife of the late Walter F. Bibber, devoted mother of Caroline F. Bibber- Del Trecco and her husband, Mario Del Trecco of Chelmsford, cherished grandmother of Anthony W. Del Trecco and dear sister of the late Rose Nazzaro and Anthony Torredimare.

Marie is also survived by her loving niece, Mary Juliano and her husband, Roy of Saugus and their daughter, Laura Juliano of Lynn and by many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews.

Her Funeral was held from the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere St., Revere on Tuesday, June 7 followed by a Funeral Mass at St. Anthony’s Church in Revere. Interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery. For guest book, please visit [www.buonfiglio.com](#)

Larry Adams

Member of Local 3 Bricklayers Union

Larry D. Adams, 65, of East Boston, formerly of Cincinnati, Ohio passed away on Wednesday, June 1.

Larry was a member and worker for the Local 3 Union - Bricklayers.

He was the devoted father of Adrianne Todisco of East Boston, Meagan Herrera of Easton and Laurence Todisco of East Boston, dear brother of Ernie Adams, Ricky Adams, Robert Adams, Bonnie Back, Karen Adams and the late Deborah Adams, cherished grandfather of Luther, Lily Mae, and David Jr. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.



Family and friends honored Larry’s life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street, (Orient Heights) East Boston, on Tuesday, June 7 from 4 to 6 p.m. Committal services were private. May he rest in peace.

William “Billy” Motherway

Retired BMC Court Officer, owned the Victory Pub in East Boston for 20 Years

Family and friends are invited to attend a Memorial Funeral Mass on Saturday, June 11 in St. Joseph-St. Lazarus Church, 59 Ashley St., East Boston at 11 a.m., for William J. “Billy” Motherway, 69, who died on Monday, May 9 at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston following a long illness. He would have celebrated his 70th birthday on May 24. .

Billy was a lifelong resident of Orient Heights in East Boston. He was educated in Boston Public Schools. He attended Boston English High School before transferring to East Boston High School and was a graduate of East Boston High School, Class of 1970.

Billy began his working career with Abbruzzese Paper Company as a truck driver. He worked there for many years before taking a leap into the Bar Business and owning and operating “The Victory Pub” located on the corner of Bennington and Saratoga Streets in East Boston. Billy proudly operated the Bar for over 20 years. When he later sold the bar, he went to work at the Boston Municipal Court as a Court Officer. Many places Billy went, he made friends very easily and everyone loved him. He worked at the Court for 14 years, before he was forced to retire due to his declining health.

Billy’s heart and soul was for his wife and son. Billy also enjoyed his trips to Cape Cod every summer to



be surrounded by his many cousins. These were memories that he treasured.

The devoted husband of 42 years to Patricia A. (Thompson) Motherway of

Orient Heights, East Boston, he was the loving and proud father of Patrick “P.J.” Mazac and his companion, Dena DiMarzo of East Boston and Peabody and their daughter, Dean-na

DiMarzo of East Boston; dear son of the late Rosemarie (White) Motherway and wonderful son in law of Virginia A. “Dudie” Thompson of Orient Heights, East Boston. He is also lovingly survived by many cousins and lifelong friends.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, 60 Walnut St. Suite 101B, Wellesley Hills, MA 02481.

For online condolences please visit

[www.vertuccioand-smith.com](#)

The staff at Vertuccio & Smith, Home for Funerals is most honored to have assisted the family in completing funeral arrangements.

Francesco Gammuto

Of East Boston

Francesco Gammuto, of East Boston, passed away peacefully on June 6 at Katzman Family Living Center in Chelsea. He was 92 years old. Francesco was born in Ariana, Italy, December 2, 1930. He is the son of the late Giuseppe and Assunta (Ariano) Gammuto of Italy. Francesco came to America in April 1969, with his wife Filomena, and son Giuseppe. He worked many years in construction before retiring. He is the beloved husband of the late Filomena Gammuto.

He has one son, Giuseppe, and his daughter-in-law Marie, of East Boston. Francesco has one grandson, the late Francis J. Gammuto. He has two siblings, a sister, August of Ariano, Italy, and a brother, Augustine of Germany.

He is survived by many nieces and nephews in Italy. Family and friends will honor Francesco’s life by



gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street, (Orient Heights) East Boston on Friday, June 10th from 9:30 to 11:30 A.M. before leaving in procession to Saint Anthony of Padua Church, Revere, for a funeral Mass celebrating Francesco’s life at 12:00 Noon. Services will conclude with Francesco being laid to rest with his beloved wife, Filomena, at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett. May they rest in peace. To leave an online condolence visit [www.ruggieromh.com](#).

ABCD’s 24th Field of Dreams charity event set for Fenway Park

Thanks to the generosity of the Boston Red Sox, ABCD (Action for Boston Community Development) will once again host its iconic summertime fundraiser, Field of Dreams, at Fenway Park to benefit Greater Boston’s underserved, low-income youth through the ABCD SummerWorks program.

NESN’s Tom Caron will co-chair and serve as emcee.

The event will take place on Monday, June 27, starting at 7 am. And with only a couple of spots remaining, corporate and other teams are encouraged to sign up immediately to secure a place on the roster and play at the legendary home of the Boston Red Sox: Fenway Park.

ABCD is planning for up to 12 teams to play at Field of Dreams; the event has raised more than \$5 million since its inception in 1997.

Joining Tom Caron as co-chairs are longtime coach and ally Lew Eisenberg, partner at Cosgrove, Eisenberg & Kiley, P.C., and Peter Damato, CEO, the Merchant Resource Group. Eisenberg has served in this role every year, and Damato is back for a crack at America’s pastime after co-chairing ABCD’s Hoop Dreams event at TD Garden last fall.

This year’s event will also be momentous as ABCD says goodbye to retiring President/CEO John J. Drew. Drew is leaving after a successful and fulfilling 51-year tenure with the organization, 13 of them as president/CEO.

“SummerWorks can make a life-changing difference for these young participants. Not only are they placed in a paying job with a mission-driven organization where they learn to give back, but they also gain skills they will use throughout their lives and future careers,” Drew said.

He continued: “SummerWorks benefits from the support of our corporate partners who take the field at Fenway each year. Many youngsters in the communities we serve have been isolated or struggled during the pandemic; SummerWorks offers access and opportunity to a fun and stimulating summer. Of course, the more funding we have, the more youth we can help. This is why the money raised from Field of Dreams is critical.”

Tom Caron has lent his talent at the microphone and played in past Field of Dreams events.

“This ABCD event is like no other. It’s amazing to see these men and women from the region’s powerhouse companies and organizations emerge from the dugouts like they’re kids again, swing-

ing the bat, rounding the bases, and snagging a fly ball at America’s most beloved ballpark. I am very happy to be part of this worthwhile event that benefits so many young people in Greater Boston,” said Caron.

Teams pay an entrance fee to participate, and players are permitted to invite guests to watch the games at Fenway. Mass General Brigham, which has participated in the event every year since it started more than 20 years ago, is back again this summer. We’re also happy to see returning teams from Ropes & Gray, TJX Companies, DMB Financial, Boston Children’s Hospital, Shields Health Care Group, and Slalom—which will field two teams of colleagues who will go head to head. (That’s a first for Field of Dreams!)

Time and space are running out!

A variety of off-field activities including free baseball pictures and a photo booth are all part of the day’s events. Also, the Boston Red Sox mascot, Wally, will be there to cheer on these generous teams and take pics with plays and fans alike.

ABCD SummerWorks provides six weeks of full-time employment and a broad range of job readiness skills for under-resourced youth ages 14 to 21 in Boston and Medford. Participants spend 120 hours working at local nonprofit organizations, and are provided 20 hours of individualized job readiness education. Youth also receive the supportive mentorship and guidance of a youth services specialist to navigate the ins and outs of their first supervisory work relationship.

To learn more about ABCD Field of Dreams and how you or your organization can sign up, call Liz McCarthy, ABCD Events Manager, at [elizabeth.mccarthy@bostonabcd.org](#), call 617.620.6949 or visit [abcdfieldofdreams.org](#).

ABCD (Action for Boston Community Development) is a nonprofit community action agency that provides low-income residents in the Boston and Mystic Valley areas with the tools, support, and resources they need to transition from poverty to stability and from stability to success. Each year, we serve more than 100,000 individuals through a broad range of innovative initiatives as well as long-established, proven programs and services. For 60 years, ABCD has been deeply rooted in each neighborhood we serve, empowering individuals and families and supporting them in their quest to live with dignity and achieve their highest potential. For more, please visit [bostonabcd.org](#).

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Op-Ed // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

and recently testified at a Senate hearing that I chaired. Melissa is like so many providers, doing everything she can for families in her community but operating on razor-thin profit margins, with barely enough revenue to cover basic costs. She explained that she can only pay her workers the rock bottom minimum, less than Sheetz, the convenience store down the street. That means she struggles to retain staff, much less hire new staff.

Colagrosso said she'd love to raise wages and knows her staff deserve more, but she can't increase her fees because families can barely afford the current rate. She has a long waiting list of parents hoping for child care, but without enough workers, her child care center – and so many others – can't take in more kids, and this translates to fewer working parents.

Giant corporations like Amazon can afford to open day care centers for their office workers, but this option is out of reach

for most businesses and most workers. That's why federal investments are so critical – and the good news is we can fund them by making Amazon and other giant corporations pay their fair share in taxes.

Right now, many of the largest companies are reporting high profits, but using loopholes to pay little to nothing in taxes. In fact, 19 Fortune 100 companies – including Amazon, Exxon and AT&T – reported billions of dollars in profits last year and paid next to nothing, or nothing at all, in taxes, which gives them an advantage over every small business in America that actually paid to help keep this country going.

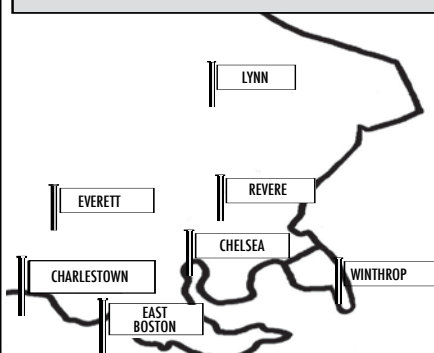
With my plan for a 15% minimum tax on billionaire corporations, plus closing loopholes that reward multinationals for offshoring jobs and profits, we can fully pay – 100% – for investments in child care that will help families and employers.

Federal investments in child care would make it possible for millions of caregivers – women in particular – to go to work, boosting our economy and helping fight inflation. According to two former Treasury secretaries, this type of legislation would “make child care affordable” and “on net, tamp down inflationary pressure.”

Investing in quality, affordable child care will help working families and small businesses. It will unlock jobs for millions of Americans, support economic growth and fight inflation – both in the short term and long term. It's win-win-win, and it's past time we get it done.

Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) published an op-ed on USA Today on one of the steps that Congress can take to help reduce inflation: expanding access to affordable, quality child care. Senator Warren explains how we can help parents return to work, increase the size of the workforce, alleviate shortages, and help lower costs for struggling families.

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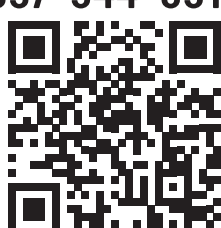
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FRESH AND LOCAL

Rice entrées

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Asian Fried Rice, New Orleans Jambalaya, Spanish Paella, Korean Bibimbap, Thai Pad Kra Pao, Italian Risotto, and Cuban Arroz Con Pollo are a few of the many rice entrées from around the world. Some are reserved for special occasions, while others are quick meals that use up leftovers. A few are adaptable to any rice you have on hand. Today we'll share our favorite rice entrées.

Fried Rice

Sam Sifton of the New York Times called fried rice, "... a brilliant and addictive way to use up leftovers that comes together in about 20 minutes. It can accommodate practically any vegetable languishing in your refrigerator, and adding leftover cooked chicken, pork, beef, shrimp, or tofu isn't a bad idea either."

Fried rice is made all over Asia. Today cooks from well-known chefs to students cooking in college quarters add their twist to this classic fast meal. When we have leftover rice, our approach is to pull out the wok or a skillet and a couple of eggs and clean out the vegetable bins.

Our best tip is to have everything: rice, protein, aromatics like ginger and garlic, and your favorite sauce mixture ready to go into the pan as needed. Fried rice is a fast stir-fry and will be most successful when the cook keeps moving.

Risotto

Once you master making risotto, you can have dinner on the table in about half an hour. Put your broth on the stove to warm, chop an onion, sauté it, add the rice to toast, give it a dose of wine, and begin adding your broth.

Stay nearby and stir every so often. When you're not mixing or adding stock, grate the cheese and prepare your butter for the last step of enriching and adding creaminess to your risotto.

You can add prepped vegetables, meat, or seafood. Think asparagus in spring and sautéed winter squash in fall. Mushrooms, shellfish, and lemon are other favorite risotto flavors around here.

Yes, you can make it with supermarket arborio rice. However, you can up the dish's quality by finding a carnaroli or vialone nano rice at an Italian market. Carnaroli, our favorite, is starchier rice with grains that hold their shape well and makes it easier to create a successful risotto.

Spanish Paella

Paella is a complex dish that is easier with more



Stuffed vegetables are another great rice entrée. What's more, you can make something like these stuffed Yummy Peppers from leftovers!

minds and hands to execute the steps. We have made it with friends on their outdoor grill. Cooking it over glowing coals adds a smoky flavor. Paella is a perfect summer gathering project. The non-cooks can bring the wine, cheese, and bread and do the cleanup!

We are fortunate in Boston to have delicious paella on the menu at area restaurants, including Atlantico Boston and Toro, both in the South End, and Taberna de Haro in Brookline.

Chicken and Rice Variations

Many cultures have a chicken and rice combo as an entrée. We made a successful Arroz Con Pollo for a Cuban friend who missed this dish when she moved to Boston. All around the Caribbean, each island has its version of this meal. The Brazilian version is Galinhada.

We often order Chicken Biryani as Indian takeout and have recently discovered West African Jollof rice with chicken as a new

favorite.

One more bonus for rice entrées is that some can accommodate dietary needs and choices from gluten-free to vegan. In the case of dishes like fried rice or risotto, you can serve a base dish with add-ins available for those with specific preferences or needs.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.



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