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Children from nine communities hit the water last week at Constitution Beach as part of Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Beach Bash and Splash.

300 children splash to beat the heat on Constitution Beach at Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Beach Bash and Splash

On Wednesday, July 20, in the midst of a heat emergency, 300 kids from East Boston and nine Boston area communities beat the heat at Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Beach Bash and Splash at Constitution Beach.

Winthrop Parks and Recreation Program Director James Carroll brought 30 kids from the town's summer program, and was glad he did. "All smiles," said Carrol.

"Its not every day that the kids get to go fishing and kayaking, but what

See BEACH BASH Page 7



Rep. Adrian Madaro and Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Executive Director Chris Mancini on Constitution Beach with The Boston Circus Guild, and A Trike Called Funk.

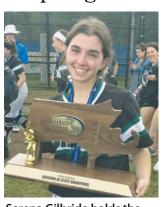
A champion for girls' sports

Serena Gilbride is inspiring others as a first-year head softball coach

Three years ago, East Boston's Serena Gilbride was standing in the middle of the softball diamond on the campus of Worcester State College, wrapping up a 3-0 shutout over Turners Fall that brought Austin Prep its first-ever state softball championship.

Gilbride won 24 games as the Cougars' formidable ace right-hander during that historic season. You couldn't have scripted a better finale to her splendid career in the program.

Today Serena Gilbride



Serena Gilbride holds the MIAA state championship trophy after leading Austin Prep to a 3-0 victory over Turners Falls in the 2019 state title game in Worcester.

is beginning her senior year at Boston University pursuing a degree in Public Relations. But she's also spreading her joy of softball and knowledge of the game to others as the head coach of the Northeast Reign 12-Under team based out of North Read-

And the gentleman who set the journey in motion that ended with Serena becoming a 24-game winner and a state champion – her father, well-known East Boston dentist, Dr. Robert Gilbride - is serving as the Reign's assistant coach.

We were playing really well at the end of our season and made it to the semifinals in one of the

tournaments," said Serena proudly. "So, we definitely finished on a high note."

Making the leap from player to coach

and instructor Serena Gilbride, 21, made the transition to coaching after competing on 18-Under softball teams for two summers and then working as an instructor at the Extra Innings facility in Middle-

As for her new role as head coach of the Reign, Serena said, "I absolutely love coaching. I didn't

See GILBRIDE Page 3

Eastie's Stewart Landers appointed by Baker to PHC

By John Lynds

Governor Charlie Baker recently announced the appointment of East Boston resident Stewart Landers to the Massachusetts Public Health Council (PHC).

Landers will join the 15-member PHC that oversees the state's Department of Public Health. The PHC is charged specifically with the promulgation of rules and regulations, holding public hearings, and approving certain appointments and Determination of Need applications.

As a board member of the Massachusetts Public Health Association (MPHA), Landers will represent the MPHA on the PHC. The MPHA advocates for the health of residents, and specifically for the strengthening



Eastie's Stewart Landers has been appointed by Gov. Baker to the Massachusetts Public Health Council.

of local public health and achieving racial health eq-

Landers has been a senior consultant at John Snow Inc. (JSI) since 1994 and directed the Boston office from 2011 through 2021. JSI is a global pub-

See LANDERS Page 8

Hayden, Arroyo participate in Suffolk County District DA candidates' forum

Special to the Times-Free Press

Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden and Boston City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo participatfor Youth and Families on Paris Street, East Boston.

Hayden and Arroyo are running for the position in the Sept. 6 Democratic Primary.

Boston Globe Associate Editor and columnist Adrian Walker moderated the forum. State Sen. Lydia Edwards also assisted

in the administration of the forum that consisted of questions that were submitted by residents. Attendees also had the opportunity to ask questions ed in a Suffolk County DA of the two candidates. Candidates Forum July As it was a forum and 25 at the Boston Center not a debate, no rebuttals of candidates' responses were allowed during the forum.

> Both candidates were effective in delivering their messages about their policies for reducing crime in neighborhoods, improving public safety, fighting

> > See FORUM Page 12

SAND SCULPTING



Belgium artist Hanmeke Supply works on her sculpture called "I Am Nature," during the 2022 Revere beach International Sand Sculpting Festival was help July 22 through the 24. See Page 5 for more photos.



East Boston

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Massachusetts House passes bill supporting veterans' services, military families

Massachusetts House of Representatives passed comprehensive legislation addressing the Commonwealth's most immediate needs in the veteran community and making necessary dates to service member quality-of-life issues and acknowledgements of our military branches and individual service, including supporting military families who relocate to the Commonwealth with expedited licensure and school enrollment, creating education awareness programs and establishing the Massachusetts Medal

of Fidelity. "Our veterans represent the best and bravest among us, and are deserving of unwavering support from those in public office," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "While we can never truly repay those who have served this country, the legislation passed today is another example of the House's commitment to ensuring

that veterans in Massachusetts, and their families, have access to the services and educational opportunities that they deserve. I want to thank Chairman Paul McMurtry, as well as all my colleagues in the House, for their hard work, and for prioritizing the well being and success of the Commonwealth's veterans." "Our veterans

military families make countless sacrifices on our behalf, and we in Massachusetts owe them the best support that we can offer," said Representative Adrian Madaro. "I was proud to vote in favor of the bill the House passed, which will make the transition easier for military families coming to the Commonwealth, create additional educational opportunities, and honor veterans who served our country, in addition to many other benefits that servicemen and women have earned and deserve."

"This comprehensive legislation is the result of countless hours of listening and learning from our veterans and advocates across the Commonwealth. It not only meets our veteran community's most immediate needs, it also addresses the many challenges our veterans and their families face," said Representative Paul McMurtry (D-Dedham), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs. "I want to thank Speaker Mariano for his commitment and leadership to deserving Massachusetts Veterans and their families."

Highlights of the legislation include:

Military spouse licensure portability: requires the Division of Occupational Licensure, the Department of Public Health, and Massachusetts Boards of Registration to accept a military spouse's application for licensure or notify them of what criteria they were not able to meet within 30 days of the application.

Expedited military spouse teacher licenses: establishes a military spouse certificate to be issued by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner to military spouse teachers that meet certain requirements.

School enrollment for military children: allows military families to register and enroll in a school district when a service member first receives their relocation order, waiving the proof of residency requirement at the time of registration. This provision also allows military children who are transferring mid-semester to enroll in and attend one of the Commonwealth's virtual schools.

Purple Star campus designation: establishes the Purple Star Campus Program, to be administered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, to designate schools that demonstrate a commitment to students and families of service members

In-state tuition continuity for military-connected college students: ensures that a member of the military stationed in the Commonwealth, their spouse, their children are deemed an in-state resident after their acceptance at one of the state's higher

education institutions. Civilian licensure and certification information: directs the Commissioner of Veterans' Services to make information on civilian licensure and certification opportunities available to service members and veterans, and provide information on military education and skills to relevant agencies.

Open Burn Pit Registry: Directs the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health (DPH), in consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans' Services and the Adjutant General of the National Guard, to develop educational materials and an informational pamphlet on the health impacts of open burn pits during overseas deployment and information on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry to be distributed to health care providers, veterans' service offices and organizations, and service members and veterans.

Directs the Commissioner of the Department Veterans' Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of DPH and the Adjutant General, to contact all members of the Armed Forces, National Guard and veterans to register for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Regis-

Requires the Adjutant General to request that the periodic health assessment for National Guard members determine whether the member is eligible to participate in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry and if eligible, the member register for the Registry.

Massachusetts National Guard family education program: establishes a Massachusetts National Guard Family Education Program to allow National Guard members to transfer their unused education benefits under the National Guard Education Assistance Program to their dependents.

Slot machines at veterans' organizations: allows the Gaming Commission to issue limited slot machine licenses to veterans' organizations.

Founding anniversaries of U.S. Armed Forces: requires the Governor to set aside the founding date anniversaries of the U.S. Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Massachusetts National Guard.

Medal of Fidelity: establishes the Massachusetts Medal of Fidelity to

es in addition to crimes

against elders and victims

with disabilities, will now

be called the Civil Rights/

High-Risk Victims Unit.

Hayden is adding two new

prosecutors - one assigned

to prosecute civil rights

cases in Suffolk Superior

Court and the other to han-

dle such cases in the dis-

trict and municipal courts.

This approach is designed

to better coordinate and

prosecute felony and mis-

demeanor civil rights and

reports of hate literature

Hayden noted recent

in Danvers,

Ipswich and

hate crime cases.

appearing

Hamilton,

be presented to the next of kin of a service member or veteran who died as a result of service-connected post-traumatic stress disorder, a service-connected condition resulting from a traumatic brain injury, or a service-connected disease, condition or injury related to exposure to harmful toxin, herbicides, agents or materials.

Deborah Sampson Memorial Commission: Establishes a commission to determine a location and create a memorial for Deborah Sampson, a Massachusetts resident who disguised herself as a man in the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War.

Funeral and burial benefits: requires funeral directors and their staffs to provide information on burial and funeral benefits for veterans.

"An Act relative to military spouse-licensure portability, education and enrollment of dependents" (H.4978) passed the House of Representatives 154-0 after a similar version of this legislation passed in the Massachusetts State Senate. The legislation moves back to the Senate for further con-

sideration. Earlier this year, the House passed legislation establishing additional protections for veterans and mandating increased accountability for management of veterans' homes. "An Act relative to the governance, structure and care of veterans at the Commonwealth veterans' homes" is currently in conference committee negotiations. In May 2021, the House approved a \$600 million bond authorization — with \$400 million for the construction of an updated Holyoke Veterans' Home facility and \$200 million to increase geographic equity and accessibility for veterans not primarily served by the veterans' Homes in Chel-

Baker-Polito administration, Rep Madaro celebrate 2022 kick-off of popular Summer Nights Program ipalities, and public safety caroblesculturalcenter.org.

Last week, the Baker-Polito Administration and Rep. Adrian Madaro celebrated the kickoff of the annual Summer Nights Program in partnership with the Department of Conservation and This year, the Administration increased funding for the program to \$2.5 million from \$1 million, after beginning the program with \$213,000 in 2015 after taking office.

The Summer Night's program will partner with over 70 organizations this summer to offer free programming in East Boston, Beverly, Brockton, Cambridge, Chelsea, Haverhill, Holyoke, Lawrence, Lowell, Lynn, Methuen, Milton, New Bedford, Quincy, Randolph, Stoughton, Springfield, Taunton, and Worcester.

"Since 2015, the Summer Nights Program has ensured many teens and young adults have had the opportunity to participate in free, active programming offered in their community in a safe and social environment," said Governor Charlie Baker. "Our Administration has worked hard to partner with organizations, munic-

agencies to provide Massachusetts youth with enriching programming that will impact teens beyond the summer months."

The Summer Nights Program will run through August 20, 2022, and will offer activities such as basketball skills, drills and tournaments, volleyball, yoga, dance, martial arts, flag football, cornhole, fishing, ping-pong, cardio boxing, swimming, cooking, painting, zumba, dodgeball, tennis and nature exploration.

Programming also includes sessions on leadership skill building, health and wellness, poetry, academic tutoring, storytelling, animation, music, media production, and career and college readiness programs.

In Eastie, the Veronica Robles Cultural Center in the old Meridian Street Library will be offering multi-disciplinary performances, workshops, and art activities by and for youth as part of their Teens Arts and Entrepreneurship Night series. The program will be held on Fridays 6:00pm-10:00pm and runs now through August 19. For more information visit www.veroni-

"I'm pleased to see the Summer Nights program come to our neighborhood this year with the inclusion of Eastie's own Veronica Robles Cultural Center!" said Rep. Madaro. "Summer Nights is an exciting initiative that engages youth and families in activities throughout the summer months, and I look forward to the neighborhood coming out for

DCR partners with municipalities, organizations, public safety agencies, and others through grants to established urban youth engagement programs that are both free and safe in urban areas during the summer season.

this year's event!"

"DCR is excited for another year of the Summer Nights Program, because we can see the impact it has on the young people that participate each summer," said Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner Doug Rice. "This program not only provides a fun and safe environment for kids in urban areas to get outside, it offers the opportunity to socialize and learn new things, demonstrating the Baker-Polito Administration's commitment to urban youth and community building."

The Summer Nights Program was created to provide young people ages 13-21 in urban areas with the opportunity to participate in recreational and educational activities during the evening hours in a safe environment. During the last eight years, the program has expanded from just four partners when it launched in 2015 to 74 partners today. "We started the Sum-

mer Nights Program with just a handful of partners and locations, and now through our collaboration with organizations, we have successfully expanded it to include over 1,000 events throughout six weeks during the summer season," said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. "Importantly, the program engages youth by building their confidence and introducing them to educational resources and recreational activi-

ties to become successful,

well-rounded adults."

Suffolk District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced the addition of civil rights prosecutors at the district and superior court levels due to recent hate-based incidents and concerns of increased case activity in coming months and years. Among the factors driv-

ing Hayden's decision are the four organized white supremacist actions in Boston this year, a neo-Nazi group protest at the New England Holocaust Memorial in Boston last year, recent Supreme Court decisions that have roiled the nation and the likelihood of future controversial decisions, the coming mid-term and presidential elections, and statistics showing rising levels of hate crimes across the nation.

their views. I want to en-

ideas can do so without be-

ing harmed by others and

without causing anyone

harm," Hayden said.

Chatham, this month's homophobic graffiti at LGBTQIA+-friendly "It's clear to me that housing project in Hyde Park, and a report released Massachusetts and Boston have become target desby the Anti-Defamation tinations for groups that League in March showspread hate. We saw that ing Massachusetts had the over Independence Day fourth-highest level of hate propaganda activity in the weekend with the Patriot Front march in Boston and nation in 2021. just this weekend with the He also pointed out the continued reverberations NSC-131 gathering in Jafrom the Jan. 6, 2021 attack maica Plain. It's also clear to me that Boston is full of on the U.S. Capitol and the possibility of societal strife passionate, involved citiin this year's congressiozens who care deeply about current events and don't nal elections and the 2024 shy away from expressing presidential election.

The four organized sure that everyone involved white-supremacy incidents in the wide public forum of in Boston this year include the neo-Nazi protest at Brigham and Women's Hospital in February, the NSC-131 gathering at the The High-Risk Victims St. Patrick's Day South

Hayden expands, renames office's civil rights team Unit, which handles civil Boston parade in March, rights and hate crime cas-

sea or Holyoke.

the Patriot Front march on July 2 and the NSC-131 protest in Jamaica Plain on Saturday.

"We have profound divisions in our society today and groups eager to exploit those divisions toward their malignant ends. We also have a Constitutional duty to protect free speech—up until the point that it turns into threats or violence. I want to make sure my office is vigilant in fair application of the law and fully prepared when prosecuting people who violate anyone's personal rights," Hayden said.

Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden's office serves the communities of Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop, Mass. The office handles over 20,000 cases a year. More than 160 attorneys in the office practice in nine district and municipal courts, Suffolk Superior Court, the Massachusetts Appeals Court, the Supreme Judicial Court, and the Boston Juvenile Courts. The office employs some 300 people and offers a wide range of services and programs to serve anyone who comes in contact with the criminal justice system. This office is committed to educating the public about the services we provide, our commitment to crime prevention, and our dedication to keeping the residents of Suffolk County safe.



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If battling a massive five-alarm blaze isn't enough, over 150 Boston Firefighters had to do it in sweltering heat last Tuesday on Princeton Street.

The fire broke out last Tuesday afternoon in the rear of 316 Princeton St. but quickly spread to both 314 and 318 Princeton.

When firefighters arrived in the 90 degree humid weather they observed flames and smoke already pouring out of 316 princeton St. and already spreading to the two adjoining triple-deckers.

Firefighters immediately ordered a 4th alarm but that quickly spread to a fifth alarm. According to the Bos-

Department Fire (BFD), the fire burned through 316 Princeton and spread to the rear porches of the adjoining buildings causing them to collapse. Companies worked for

hours in the heat battling the fire on all three floors of 316 Princeton as well as the other two exposure buildings.

Social media accounts of the fire show firefighters coming out of the blaze and collapsing to the ground due to the extreme heat of both the fire and weather.

"Companies not only had to battle the 5 alarm



Fire broke out on 316 Princeton St. but quickly spread to both 314 and 318 Princeton.

fire but they had to deal with the hot and humid weather," said BFD Commissioner Paul Burke.

Burke was on the scene of the fire to provide logistical support to the responding companies as well as brief the media on the fire. According to Burke,

five firefighters were transported by Boston EMS with minor injuries while four others were evaluated but remained at the fire. "Much

appreciation to all the neighbors who thanked the members for their hard work and provided water and support," said Burke. "One nice girl even baked cookies for the firefighters. It was a great job by all companies in-

The fire left 20 adults and 8 children displaced.

News in Brief

MAYOR WU'S MOVIE NIGHTS COMING TO EASTIE

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department's ParkARTS program will present Mayor Wu's Movie Nights on Tuesday, Aug. 16 in East Boston.

Beginning at dusk at East Boston Memorial Park on Porter Street, the Movie Night event will

screen 'Luca".

The series is sponsored by Bank of America and hosted by Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department. Additional support is provided by the Mayor's Office of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment and Soxcessful.

All ParkARTS performances are free of charge. For more infor-

mation please contact the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at (617) 635-4505. Stay up to date with news, events, and improvements in Boston parks by signing up for our email list at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails and following our social channels @ bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Insta-

Eastie's COVID positive test-rate increases

By John Lynds

East Boston's COVID weekly positive test rate increased once again as public health officials grapple to curb the latest surge of infections due to highly contagious sub variants of the virus.

According to the latest data by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) Eastie's weekly COVID infection rate has been steadily increasing for well over a month.

Last week, 629 Eastie residents were tested for the virus last week and 10.7 percent were positive--this was a 13 percent increase from the 9.5 percent that tested positive between July 11 and July

Sixty-seven additional Eastie residents contracted

the virus between July 18 and July 25 and there have now been 16,134 confirmed cases in the neighborhood since the start of the pandemic.

Boston's citywide weekly positive test rate also increased last week

According to the BPHC, 11,265 Boston residents tested citywide and 9.9 percent were positive-a one percent increase from the 9.8 percent that tested positive between July 4 and July 11.

Adult COVID-19 Hospitalizations in Boston are now averaging 146.6 per day-up 3.5 percent from the previous week. This metric helps the BPHC understand the burden of serious COVID-19 cases among adults resulting in inpatient care in Boston hospitals. It includes the total number of adult hospitalizations among Boston and non-Boston residents for COVID-19. The statistics released

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

of coronavirus increased 0.4 percent last week and went from 196,932 to 197,686 confirmed cases since the start of the pan-

There were three additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total number of COVID deaths is now

Edwards secures passage of the HOMES Act in the Senate's Economic Development Bill

Late Thursday night one of the few housing policies that made it into the Economic Development bill, the HOMES Act Housing Opportunity and Mobility Eviction Sealing) and passed the Senate, supported by a bipartisan group of Senators. "For the second time, the Senate has passed this bill to ensure that hundreds of thousands of people will get a second chance. This bill does many things but most importantly it takes a giant step towards social, racial, economic, and gender justice. Many people have been waiting for this day, and I am so excited to add another tool to our housing toolbox, that allows people greater access to housing" said State Senator Lydia Edwards

The Homes ACT allows individuals to petition to have records of certain evictions sealed. It protects personal identifying information from commercial use and makes sealed records only available at the discretion of the court for public safety, scholarly, educational, journalistic, or governmental purposes. Pre pandemic there were over 1 million eviction records in the Commonwealth. On average there are 40,000 evictions filed a year. This act would help those who were no fault evictions or who satisfied their judgment to seal their records.

"In this this moment,

we are called to do more, to ultimately challenge the way the system works. This is one of those changes that does that, by allowing hundreds of thousands of people to have a second chance and remove the scarlet "E" from their records, we are making our system more just and equitable. I want to thank Representative Mike Moran, and Former Senator Joe Boncore, and MLRI especially, you will see on the Homes Act website that the coalition includes over one hundred organizations, from unions, to activist networks, as well as cities and towns" said State Senator Lydia Edwards.

Homeless man arraigned in attack on beach

By John Lynds

A homeless man was arraigned on a litany of charges Friday in East Boston District Court after he allegedly assaulted a woman with a sneaker last Thursday on Constitution Beach.

According to District Attorney Kevin Hayden, Tyler Grace, 40, was arraigned on several charges including assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, disorderly conduct, and failure to register as a sex offender.

At the arraignment, Assistant District Attorney Amelia Singh said Grace engaged in a verbal argument with two female par-

kicking sand on their belongings. He told the two women that they did not belong and that he wanted them to leave. The victim then ap-

ties on the beach and was

proached Grace to tell him to leave the area and to leave the women alone. Grace proceeded to get close to her and throw his sneaker at her, hitting her in the face and neck area. Grace then left the area with his belongings.

Just after 5:30 pm last Thursday, State Police received a call from the woman who had been assaulted. She described the assaulter as wearing brown pants, a white shirt, a brown hat, and carrying a liquor bottle.

A trooper arrived at the beach and found Grace, matching the description. He noted that Grace's breath had the odor of al-

Troopers conducted a show up with the victim by driving by the location where the responding trooper and Grace stood. The victim positively identified Grace as the assaulter.

During booking troopers discovered that Grace was a level three sex offender and was in violation out of the Town of Winthrop because he had failed to register.

Grace's bail was set at \$540 in cash.

Gilbride // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

know how I would feel about it at first, because it's so different from playing and not being able to be out there on the field. You sit on the sidelines and lead from there, which was a weird experience for me at first, but I like it a lot. I like it even a bit more than playing, because it's more of the strategic side of the game and building relationships with the girls, too."

Reign's athletes yearround, supervising fall softball practices winter indoor games, workouts, and spring pre-season practices before the team begins its tournament schedule in Serena said the Reign

Serena works with the

are in their second season as an AAU program and are adding a new age group for the 2023 season. The director of the Reign organization is Mario Perrone, whose daughter, Julia, played college softball at Stonehill.

Her future in coaching

While she's enjoying her first coaching experience, Serena hasn't decid-



Nancy Gilbride, and her brother, Robert Gilbride, at Austin Prep's state championship awards banquet.

school coaching ranks after her graduation from Boston University. "We'll see where this takes me," said Sere-

ed about entering the high

na. "I obviously think I like coaching softball a lot more that I thought I would. But I have other stuff to think about in life. I'm graduating from college and I'm trying to start a career within my field of study. It really just depends on how far I want to take it and immerse myself in the whole world of softball again."

began in Eastie Dr. Robert Gilbride and

Her softball career

Nancy Gilbride were at Worcester State when their daughter pitched Austin Prep to a state title. It was the crowning moment to a softball career that began when Serena was six years old. With her father calling the signals and Serena doing the pitching, the East Boston Waves travel team, consisting of several of Serena's friends from Eastie, was a perennial powerhouse in the highly

competitive Middle Essex

League.

"I played for the East Boston Waves with my dad as the coach, since I was eight years old," recalled Serena. "I also played in tournaments on the weekends for different AAU teams, the Rebels and the Rapid Fire."

As for her father's immensely valuable contribution to her career, Serena offered, "I wouldn't have been the player I was or even the coach I am now, without him. I'm so glad I get to coach together with him now. I can see how our styles of coaching are so similar and obviously I got that from talking with him on the sidelines during my games. I feel like everything I learned was through my father. And all the sacrifices that he made such as making sure that I could take pri-

vate lessons a couple of times a week or getting up early on Saturdays so that I could go to a game I couldn't have done it without him." Her brother, Robert, who played baseball at

sity this fall.

The Gilbride Philosophy

Serena has instilled in her Northeast Reign softball players the philosophy that the more you play, the better it is for your development. "I feel as a pitcher, the

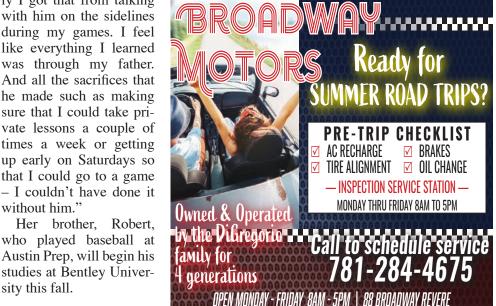
more reps or game-time experiences you can get, the better-prepared you are for high school and college softball," said Ser-The keys to her success

as a pitcher? "I think it's import-

ant to find who you are as a pitcher. I relied a lot my pitches and hitting my spots, where other pitchers rely more on their speed or off-speed – or on different types of pitches. I think it's important to find out what your assets are as a pitcher. The mental part of the game is also a big factor for a pitcher." From her beginning

more on the location of

on East Boston fields to her current role as a softball coach and mentor to girls, Serena Gilbride has emerged as a champion and a role model.



East Boston

Times-Free Press

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MASS SHOOTINGS GET ALL THE ATTENTION, **BUT THIS IS WORSE**

Americans have been saddened by the recent mass shootings that have occurred in recent weeks across the country in Buffalo, Uvalde, and Highland Park.

But as much as these tragic events have seared our national consciousness and brought demands for action by our elected officials for appropriate gun legislation, there is a far worse aspect of the epidemic of gun violence that occurs day-in and day-out throughout the We are referring to the shooting of women by their

domestic partners. Each and every year, 600 women are murdered with a gun by their partners. We'll do the math for you -- that works out to a woman who is shot and killed every 14 hours by her present or former sig-The statisticians also tell us that the possession of

a gun by a domestic partner makes it five times more likely that a woman will be killed than if the domestic partner did not have a gun. In short, the more guns there are, the more women

who are murdered by their partners.

Yes, the shootings in schools and malls and supermarkets horrify us and make us feel not safe anywhere, even at a Fourth of July parade.

But the reality is that an American woman in a household with a handgun is far more at risk for being shot and killed than any of us by some random angry person with an AR-15.

PROGRESSIVES ARE THE **REAL HYPOCRITES**

No doubt most of our readers who care about the environment and the issue of climate change were disappointed when Senator Joe Manchin put the proverbial final nail in the coffin of the Build Back Better Bill (BBB) that, by some estimates, would have reduced U.S. emissions to 45 percent to 51 percent of 2005 levels by 2030.

However, as we have written previously in this space, we believe the real blame for the failure of the bill lies with the progressives of the Democratic Party, who should have coalesced last summer to pass the basics of the bill, rather than "playing politics" last year when they held up the separate infrastructure bill and then loaded up the Build Back Better bill with items that were extraneous to climate change.

They overplayed their hand and as a result, they got nothing -- zero -- nada -- and did more than Republicans to sink Joe Biden's presidency.

However, in addition to being bad at politics, the progressive environmentalists also are hypocrites because of their failure to tell the truth to the American people. Despite the statistics quoted above, the BBB actually would have done very little to keep global warming from reaching the 1.5 degree Centigrade threshold that scientists (and the 2015 Paris Climate Accord) say will be catastrophic for the planet.

Instead of blaming Joe Manchin, if progressive politicians were to tell the truth to the American people, they would explain that each and every American can do more to affect climate change than the BBB simply by changing our eating habits by consuming less meat and switching to vegetarian alternatives.

Industrial farming for meat production accounts for 14% of greenhouse gas emissions, despoils the immediate environment of these factory farms, and encourages the destruction of fragile rain forests for the raising of

Bernie Sanders blasted Sen. Manchin for his position on the BBB, but we never have heard Sen. Sanders tell his constituents to eat less meat and dairy -- because of course, he's from Vermont, which has a lot of dairy farmers -- and Bernie himself loves his red meat.

We disagree 100% with Joe Manchin for his rejection of the BBB, but at least we know where he stands.

On the other hand, the self-described environmentalists are both politically inept and morally hypocritical.

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.



Forum

LETTER to the Editor

OUR DEMOCRACY IS AT STAKE

To the Editor:

The January 6 Capital attack on our nation wasn't a random act by a handful of sore losers, but a premeditated and organized insurrection. Now, thanks to the hearings, there's overwhelming evidence that Trump and his allies were at the helm of

We heard from former members of the Trump administration and Republican state officials about how Trump illegally pressured the Vice President, the Department of Justice, and state legislatures to overturn the election he knew he lost. And when it didn't work, he summoned an armed mob to march on the Capitol Building in a final, violent attempt to stop the peaceful transfer of power.

These insurrectionist candidates haven't gone anywhere. In fact, more than 100 of them have already won their primaries. It's up to us to do our part and vote to make sure they don't win this fall.

Should these dangerous candidates win their elections, we could have election deniers in key seats of power, like secretary of state and county clerk,

ready to overturn whatever election results they don't like.

Our democracy is at stake. If we want to hold onto our freedoms to vote, to have our votes decide elections, and to rely on elections to keep our leaders in check, then we have to cast our ballots during the midterms this year on November 8th.

Jo-Ann Sipple

DA Hayden praises post-conviction rulings in court

Suffolk District Attorney Kevin Hayden praised the decision of a Superior Court judge that sets the groundwork for individualized sentencing hearings for emerging adults convicted of first-degree murder. Hayden also supported a separate decision to stay the sentence of a man convicted of murder

In a decision issued today in post-conviction motions filed by SHEL-DON MATTIS and JA-SON ROBINSON, Suffolk Superior Court Judge Robert Ullman stated that the defendants are entitled to new sentencing hearings. The defendants were ages 18 and 19, respectively, when they committed murders for which they were subsequently sentenced to life without the possibility of parole - the mandatory term for the offense of first-degree murder.

The decision impacts emerging adult between the ages of 18 and 20. Over the past decade, courts locally and nationally have made a series of rulings that have reshaped sentencing practices for juvenile offenders age 17 and younger. The US Supreme Court's 2012 decision in Miller v. Alabama struck down the mandatory imposition of lifetime

incarceration without the possibility of parole for juvenile offenders across the country, and the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court subsequently ruled in Diatchenko v. District Attorney for the Suffolk District barring the imposition of the sentence for offenses committed as a juvenile in Massachusetts

"Reasonable incarceration, even for young adult offenders, is justified in certain cases. Excessive incarceration is never justified. The practice of putting a person behind bars forever, without paying attention to decision-making ability based on age and the science of brain development, should end. We supported these motions and we support the judge's decision," Hayden said. Hayden also thanked his predecessor, U.S. Attorney Rachael Rollins, for her "early leadership on this issue."

The SJC in 2021 remanded Mattis' case to the Superior Court for an evidentiary hearing to help determine whether life without parole is constitutional for Mattis and other emerging adults whose brains continue to develop. Today's decision adopts the position argued by Suffolk prosecutors. The decision quotes from

the SJC's decision in Diatchenko as it concludes that, "On the record of brain science and social science in this case, the imposition of non-discretionary (i.e. mandatory) life-without-parole sentences for defendants who were age 18 through 20 at the time of their crimes constitutes a 'sentencing practice[] based on mismatches between the culpability of a class of offenders and the severity of a penalty."

Mattis and a second man, NYASANI WATT, stand convicted of first-degree murder in the 2011 shooting death of 16-year-old Jaivon Blake. Watt, who fired the fatal shot, was 10 days shy of his 18th birthday at the time of the murder. As a result, he was sentenced to life with the possibility of parole. Mattis had already achieved the age of 18 at the time and was sentenced to life without the possibility of parole.

Robinson and TANZE-RIUS ANDERSON were convicted in the 2000 murder of Yazbek Inaamnaim in Boston. Robison was 19 at the time.

In a separate case, a single justice of the SJC allowed a motion to stay the sentence of PAUL ROBINSON. Following a review by the office's

Integrity Review Bureau, Suffolk prosecutors agreed that the interests of justice require a reduction of Robinson's 1969 first-degree murder conviction to manslaughter, with his sentence deemed served. As the matter remained before the court, Robinson filed a motion to stay his sentence, which would allow him to remain free while the case is pending. A Superior Court judge previously denied the stay, but SJC Justice David Lowy today reversed that decision, allowing Robinson's motion and permitting his release while his post-conviction

"It is never easy to retread the past, but it is vital that we do so to correct past wrongs and ensure that they are never repeated. We must always seek to do what is right," Havden said.

motion is pending.

Assistant District Attorneys Cailin Campbell, Monica DeLateur and Paul Linn of the DA's Appeals Unit represented the Commonwealth in the proceedings involving Mattis and Jason Robin-Assistant District Attorney David Lewis of the DA's Integrity Review Bureau represented the Commonwealth in the case of Paul Robinson.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE COMMONWEALTH

OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 **DIVORCE SUMMONS** BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING DOCKET NUMBER: SU20D0029DR Sayra. D. Richiez Plaintiff Alberto A. Richiez

Defendant

eration occurred.

To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for irretrievable breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411. You are summoned and required to serve upon: Corey C. Silvia, Esq. Cameron Micheroni

and Silvia 256 Marginal St. Boston, MA 02128, your answer, if any, on or before 09/15/2022. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of the Register of this Court. Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: July 13, 2022 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate 7/27/22 EB

Correction

The article "Two New Yorkers arrested in Eastie for fentanyl trafficking" that appeared in the June 15, 2022 edition of the East Boston Times erroneously reported that the drug bust of the two men occurred at

945 Saratoga St. The arrest of Sergio Singer Galicia, 39, and Bryan Roberto Rodriguez, 38, for trafficking in more than 200 grams of fentanyl actually occurred on Benning-

ton Street in the Burger King parking lot. The information of the incorrect address was provided to the East Boston Times by the prosecutors of the case but the drug bust was not connected to any

business or residence in the area where the sting op-

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REVERE BEACH INTERNATIONAL SAND SCULPTING FESTIVAL

The 2022 Revere Beach International Sand Sculpting Festival was held July 22-24. Besides the many sand creations, those who attended also were entertained by live music, carnival rides, a sunset soiree and fireworks.



Jaleesa Gao and Sunali Carter



Phoebe Dastrup gets a ride on the shoulders of her dad Blake to get a better view of the Sand Sculptures.



David and Jorge Figueroa.



Juan Cardenas and Kimberly Cardona with Lupita.



David Senatillaka and Loraine Sacco.



Bernardo and Milena Olivira try their hand at Sand Sculptures on America's first public beach.



Revere Beach Boulevard was crowded with visitors checking out the Sand Sculptures.





Floridan Bruce Peck's sculpture Anxiety's Stranglehold.



Revere Beach Boulevard was crowded with visitors checking out the Sand Sculptures.



A carnival atmosphere had enveloped Revere Beach Boulevard reminding people of the Revere Beach's amusement park past.



Spectators view Dinotopia by Karen Fralich.



Saugus Artist Deb Barrett-Cutulle's sculpture Sk-Eye Shadow-S.



New Jersey artist Matt Diebert's sculpture A Beautiful Mind.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS





























EAST BOSTON MEN'S HOCKEY LEAGUE HOSTS THE 5TH ANNUAL BASH ON THE BEACH

The East Boston Men's Hockey League hosted the 5th annual "Bash at the Beach" tourney, last weekend, July 22-24.

Eight teams played three games prior to the playoffs for elimination. The tournament was organized by John Poto and Dom DiMarzo and because of their hard work and determination the event was a huge success. They wish to thank their sponsors for the generous donations they made to make the tournament possible every year.

Stepping up for the EBMHL, Team Billy Motherway, Kelly's Pub, Renegades Pub, the Reel House, the Civic Club, Sunshine Landscaping,

Ruggiero's Funeral Home, Century 21, Woody's Liquors, Milano's Deli, Royal's Roast Beef, Little Asia, Meridian Market, the Winthrop Pro Shop, Woodside Hardware, Blackstrap BBQ, Swett's Liquors, Pizza Center and Belle Isle.

These generous donors from East Boston and Winthrop are acknowledged for their endless contributions to this and other community events between East Boston and Winthrop that are much appreciated.

Saturday afternoon the "Bash" was held behind Porrazzo Rink on the Constitution Beach. Everyone enjoyed the hockey games and the delicious BBQ

that was served outside. By tradition, everyone was served, the players, their families and including the spectators as well.

On Sunday the finals were played and when the last slap shot was taken, it was Kelly's Pub (green) vs Century 21 (white) for the championship. With a final score of 4-0, Kelly's Pub emerged the victor for the 2021 Bash on the Beach Tournament. Kelly's Pub has bragging rights for the year, and everyone had a great time on, and off the ice.

Congratulations to the champions Kelly's Pub, hope see you all next year, for "The Bash on the Beach 2023."



The 2022 Bash on the Beach Champions, sponsored by Kelley's Pub.



Team Black sponsored by Renegade's Pub.



Team Blue sponsored by Billy Motherway.



Team Pink sponsored by Ruggiero's.



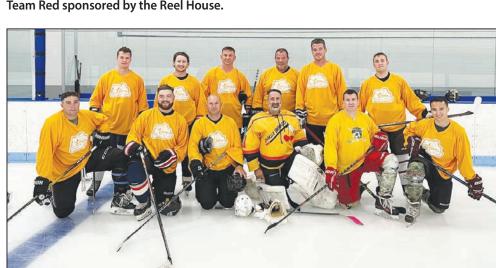
Team White sponsored by Century 21



Team Orange sponsored by the Civic Club.



Team Red sponsored by the Reel House.



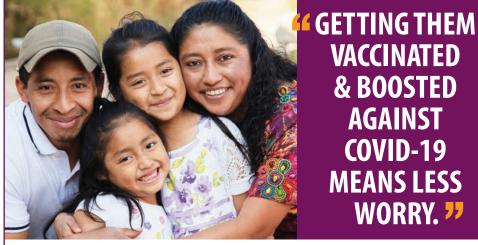
Team Yello sponsored by Milano's Deli.



Event organizer Dom DiMarzo with his team mate, Fernando Fernandez (left).



From the National Guard, Pfc Tommy Marhoffer and Ma Army National Guard Recruiting Officer Jamie Chambers.



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Beach Bash // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the kids loved best was the dance circle, they were ecstatic about the face painting. We do face painting every now and then but the staff at Save the Harbor killed it. They all look super cool."

Save the Harbor's staff encouraged all participants to drink plenty of water (courtesy of the Boston Water and Sewer Commission), enjoy frosty treats (courtesy of the Boston Police Department's ice cream truck), apply plenty of sunscreen, and stay cool in the water or the shade.

East Boston Rep. Adrian Madaro was pleased to see so many kids and families on the beach. "Constitution Beach is the primary point of contact with the cool clean water of Boston's spectacular harbor," said Madaro. "Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's free beach programs really bring our kids, adults, and people of all ages, abilities, backgrounds together. This is what makes our community beautiful."

"We love being at Constitution Beach," said Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Executive Director Chris Mancini. "The water is clean and cool, and it is easy to get to by the T or by car or van, making it one of the region's most accessible beaches for people of all abilities. But what I like the best is how it truly brings the community closer together."

While a Trike Called Funk performed a live DJ set, and the Boston Circus Guild amazed people with aerial arts, acrobatics, and juggling, kids also enjoyed fishing, swimming, beach sports, a touch tank and face painting.

"Just hand a kid a lifejacket and a paddle and get them on the water and you can see the stress of everyday life disappear," said Alex DeFronzo of Piers Park Sailing Center in East Boston which provided free kayak instruction at the event. "Thanks to Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and the Metropolitan Beaches Commission for making it possible. I wish they had the resources to do this every day on every urban beach."

As the event came to an end, children left with new friends, skills, and experiences, having beat the heat on Constitution Beach. The Beach Bash and Splash was one of many free events happening on our metropolitan beaches this summer. Visit https:// www.savetheharbor.org/ better-beaches to view the full calendar of upcoming events and learn more about our Better Beaches Program.

According to Save the Harbor/Save the Bays Development Director Patricia Salic, free beach events like this would not be possible without their program partners and event sponsors, including Arctic Chill and Harpoon Brewery, JetBlue, FMC Ice Sports, P&G Gillette, National Grid, Coast Cannabis, the Daily Catch, Comcast, Mix 104.1, iZotope, Inc, The Blue Sky Collaborative, Boston & Maine Webcams, BostonHarbor.com, The Boston Foundation, and The Richard Saltonstall Charitable Foundation.

In addition, Save the Harbor recognized the Metropolitan Beaches Commission Co-Chairs Senator Brendan Crighton of Lynn, and Representative Adrian Madaro of East Boston and the legislative and community members of the Commission as well as Senate President Karen Spilka and House Speaker Ron Mariano for their support for their beaches and communities. Save the Harbor also thanked the Baker-Polito Administration, the Massachusetts Legislature, Save the Harbor's partners at the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Boston Centers for Youth



30 children from Winthrop Parks and Recreation beat the heat at Constitution Beach in East Boston at Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Beach Bash & Splash.

& Families, the YMCA of Greater Boston, and the hundreds of people who took part in the Shamrock Splash for their support.

A copy of this release and a calendar of Better Beaches events is available in more than 100 languages on Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's blog Sea, Sand & Sky at http:// blog.savetheharbor.org

To learn more about Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and the great work they do to restore, protect and share Boston Harbor, the waterfront, islands, and the region's public beaches with all Bostonians and the region's residents, visit their website at www.savetheharbor.org and follow @savetheharbor on social media.



Save the Harbor/Save the Bay provided free lifejackets to kids as part of their Better Beaches Program Partnership with the Department of Conservation and Recreation, to keep them safe.

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Massachusetts House passes \$10.9 Billion transportation and infrastructure bill

Massachusetts House of Representatives passed a transportation and infrastructure bill authorizing \$10.9 billion for projects, including \$400 million for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) to address ongoing safety concerns identified by the Federal Transit Administration's Safety Management Inspection and \$250 million for the East-West passenger rail project.

"Ensuring that the Commonwealth's transportation infrastructure is adequately funded is a top priority for the House, which is why I'm proud of the legislation passed today," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "In addition to significant funding for roadway and bridge projects, this bill also recognizes the importance of providing further support for the MBTA in their ongoing effort to address safety concerns, and for the ever-important East-West Rail project. I want to thank Chairs Michlewitz, Straus, and Gregoire, as well as all my colleagues in the House, for the hard work required to get this

done." "I'm proud of the work the House has done through this bill to invest in the Commonwealth's transportation systems and infrastructure," said Representative Adrian Madaro. "This bill not only ensures that our roads and bridges are maintained in good condition, but prioritizes essential resources for the MBTA and promotes transportation alternatives like e-bikes, electric vehi-

lic health consulting or-

ganization dedicated to

greater health equity and

improving the health of

individuals and communi-

Landers has worked in

public health for over 30

years, focusing on public

health systems and prac-

tices related to HIV and

AIDS, chronic disease,

wellness, mental health/

substance abuse treatment,

appointed to this distin-

guished council and look

forward to working with

it to improve the health of

Massachusetts residents

through timely access to

"I am honored to be

and LGBTQ+ health.

Landers // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cles, and expanded public transportation".

"This legislation sets the table for the next administration to take full advantage of the additional billions of dollars, both state and federal, for critical transportation projects throughout the state," said Representative William Straus (D- Mattapoisett), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation. "The House has wisely used the bill as an opportunity to again demonstrate its commitment to roads, bridges and public transit."

"This legislation provides meaningful and generational investments to the roads, bridges and transportation systems throughout our Commonwealth," said Representative Danielle Gregoire (D-Marlborough), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets. "Because of the foresight and diligence of Speaker Mariano, we were able to engage early-on legislators from across the state on how this legislation could be most impactful to fully meet the needs of our Commonwealth. I am grateful to the Speaker for the opportunity to work on this critical piece of legislation and am thankful to my colleagues, Chairman Michlewitz and Chairman Straus for their partnership in bringing this to the House floor."

Other highlights of the bill include:

\$2,812,457,157 projects on the interstate and non-interstate federal highway system

\$1,270,000,000 non-federally aided road-

public health and medical

prevention and treatment

Landers has been an

associate editor for the

American Journal of Pub-

lic Health since 2005, fo-

cused on HIV, LGBTQ+

health, substance use dis-

orders, community health

workers, and the intersec-

tion of law, regulation, and

was a member of the Mas-

sachusetts Commission on

Landers has been a res-

ident of Eastie since 2006

and is an active member of

the Gove Street Citizens

From 2011 to 2018, he

health policy.

LGBTQ Health.

Association.

services," said Landers.

way and bridge projects and for the nonparticipating portion of federally aided projects

\$85,000,000 for pavement and surface conditions on non-federally aided roadways

\$25,000,000 for pavement and surface conditions on municipal road-\$20,000,000 for grants

to municipalities under the Complete Streets Funding Program

\$25,000,000 for grants to Transportation Management Associations

\$82,000,000 for rail improvements

\$64,900,000 for projects of regional transit networks and facilities

\$1,375,000,000 sustainable transit system modernization and rail improvements

Airport Improvement Pro-

\$145,000,000 multi-modal transportation planning and programming

\$10,000,000 for a public realm improvement program \$3,500,000,000

projects funded with discretionary federal grant \$25,501,000 for the

Mobility Assistance Program \$200,000,000 for projects that reduce emissions such as public alternative

fueling stations and electric vehicle charging infrastructure, programs promoting e-bikes and public transportation, replacement of high-emissions vehicles, electric vehicles for hire and carsharing,

\$114,100,000 for the electric school buses, electric short-haul freight, and delivery trucks

Additionally, the bill:

Updates safety requirements to be met prior to excavation projects

Authorizes vehicles or trailers used for maintenance, construction activities in highway work zones to display flashing blue lights with a permit from the registrar

Requires the MBTA to provide parking alternatives to commuters when it demolishes or reconstructs parking lots or garages it owns or operates

MassDOT, Requires in consultation with the Comptroller, to develop and operate a publicly accessible and searchable database to report on this bill's expenditures and any project receiving federal funding from the federal Infrastructure and Investment in Jobs Act of

Establishes a commission to review and receive testimony concerning public entities, including those that may be created by statute in the future, with the ability to design, permit, construct, operate and maintain passenger rail service that meets the standards of the Final Alternatives in the East-West Passenger Rail Study Final Report issued by MassDOT in 2021

"An Act relative to Massachusetts's transportation resources and climate" (H.4897) passed the House of Representatives 155-0. It now goes to the Senate for their consider-

Senate sends the CROWN Act to the Governor

Massachusetts State Senate enacted the **CROWN** Act, which prohibits discrimination based on a person's hair texture or style in Massachusetts. Having been enacted in both the Senate and the House, the bill now goes to Governor Baker for his signature.

The CROWN Act prohibits denial of employment and educational opportunities in places of work, schools, and school-related organizations on account of hair texture or protective hairstyles, such as braids, locks, and twists, used by people by color. Hairbased discrimination has excluded people of color from classrooms and workplaces, with serious academic and economic

consequences. "Having the right to be and present as our authentic selves, without fear of discrimination, matters to each one of us," stated Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland). "For too many Black and Brown residents of Massachusetts this right has not always been honored. By enacting the CROWN Act, the Senate is once again affirming that hair discrimination has no place in professional or school settings in the Commonwealth. I am grateful to Mya and Deanna Cook, who stood up and fought hard to right this wrong for Black women and girls across the state. Thank you to Senators Gomez, DiDomenico, Rodrigues, Lewis and Edwards, as well as their staff members, for their work on this issue, and to the advocates for their collaboration."

prohibit harm, it is finally an affirmative statement to black women that how you present in this world is beautiful, accepted, and

"This law does not only

loved. This is more than just than stopping discrimination against black women, this is putting an end to one of the central ways in which black people have been discriminated against in our world", said State Senator Lydia Edwards (D-Boston). "I look forward to the bill signing ceremony with my colleagues, I thankful of the work done by Mya & Deanna Cook, Representative Steven Ultino, Representative Chynah Tyler, Senator Adam Gomez, Senator Sal DiDomenico, and the Senate President."

"Natural hairstyles should be celebrated, not discouraged, and I'm proud to stand with my colleagues in the Legislature today to pass the CROWN Act," said State Senator Michael J. Rodrigues (D-Westport), Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. "Thanks to the leadership of Senate President Spilka, Senator Gomez, Senator Edwards, Senator DiDomenico, our partners in the House, advocates and many others, we are taking an important and long overdue step to prohibit discrimination based on natural and protective hairstyles. I applaud the Legislature for taking action today and look forward to seeing this bill signed by the Gover-

"As a long-time supporter and one of the sponsors of this legislation, I am thrilled to see the CROWN Act going to the Governor to be signed into law," said Senator DiDomenico (D-Everett), Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate. "The CROWN Act will protect people of color from experiencing hair discrimination and ensure we can celebrate all hair-

nor."

styles. We are sending a message that discrimination in any form will not be tolerated and we will now have a law in place to back this up. We could not have accomplished this without the tenacious work from advocates from the CROWN Coalition and bravery from students who have shared their personal experiences with hair discrimination. I would also like to thank Senate President Spilka and Chair Rodrigues for making this a priority this session and my legislative partners, Senator Gomez, Representative Ultrino, and Representative Tyler, for their dedication and tireless work getting this bill across the finish line."

"The passage of the Crown Act is a symbol from the Massachusetts legislature that we stand with women of color who have experienced hair discrimination," said State Senator Adam Gomez (D-Springfield). "As a father to young women of color this legislation means a great deal to me, but legislation is just the first step. In order to change hearts and minds, you have to ensure that people know that this exists, that it is deeply wrong, and that it is something that many women of color have lived experience with. I would like to acknowledge the incredible activists from the Crown Coalition and beyond who have brought this to the forefront of our minds this legislative session, my colleagues who co-filed the bill with me and championed it in both branches, including Senator DiDomenico, Representative Tyler and Representative Ultrino, and Senate President Spilka and Chair Rodriguez for bringing it to the finish line. This was truly a team effort and I am thrilled we were able to get it to the

finish line." "As the racial equity champion who conceptualized, developed the legislative strategy for. and leads the national CROWN Act movement, I applaud this bill being signed into law", said Adjoa B. Asamoah, CROWN Coalition Co-Creator. "Tackling injustice requires moral leadership. I thank Representative Steve Ultrino who championed the bill in the House with cosponsor Representative Chynah Tyler, in addition to Senators Adam Gomez and Sal DiDomenico for their partnership and bold leadership to outlaw racebased hair discrimination

in Massachusetts." This legislation was inspired in part by two Black teenagers from Malden, Mya and Deanna Cook, who were punished by their school and barred from extracurricular activities for wearing their hair in braids. After gaining national attention and organizing public protests, the school eventually reversed their policy. The CROWN Act will protect Massachusetts children from experiencing this

The CROWN (Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair) Coalition has played a crucial role in supporting the passage of this legislation in Massachusetts and in states across the country. Massachusetts will soon join 17 other states that have passed some version of the CROWN Act, which has also been proposed at the federal level.

kind of discrimination.

Having passed both branches of the legislature, the bill now goes to the Governor for his review.





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Massachusetts House passes legislation to reform step therapy protocols

House of Representatives passed legislation limiting the use of step therapy protocols, in which insurance companies refuse to pay for the prescription drugs prescribed by a patient's health care provider until the patient first tries cheaper, and oftentimes ineffective, alternatives. The legislation establishes exceptions a patient can use to avoid their insurer's step therapy protocol and requires both MassHealth

and commercial insurers to

provide a clear and transparent process for patients and their care team to request an exception.

"A top priority of the House is to ensure that every resident of the Commonwealth has access to quality, affordable health care, but controlling costs should never come at the expense of positive patient outcomes," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "This legislation helps to achieve that goal by ensuring that patients in Massachusetts

can circumvent step therapy protocols in instances where the process will result in delayed access to the only adequate medication. I want to thank Chairman John Lawn, as well as all my colleagues in the House, for their commitment to improving our health care system, and for the hard work required to get this done."

"The recent legislation passed by the House cuts through bureaucratic and administrative hurdles with insurance companies to better ensure that patients can get the medicine they need when they need it," said Representative Adrian Madaro. "By limiting step therapy, we enable patients and their providers to focus on the best course of treatment without having to worry about insurance cost-cutting measures that cause unnecessary delays". "This is a great bill for

patients," said Health Care Financing Committee Chair John Lawn (D-Watertown). "Under the leadership of Speaker Mariano and in collaboration with my House colleagues, patient advocates, and insurers, this legislation balances the need to manage utilization and control costs of expensive treatments with the moral imperative to protect patients who need life-saving treatments. Thanks to this bill, patients will get the right drug at the right time without delay."

The legislation outlines four different circumstances that trigger the patient exception process, includ-

The required treatment will harm the patient,

The required treatment is expected to be ineffec-

The patient previously tried the required treatment, or similar treatment, and it was ineffective or harmed the patient,

The patient is stable on a current treatment, and switching treatments will harm the patient.

Additional highlights of the legislation include:

A requirement that MassHealth and commercial insurers adopt a "continuity of coverage" policy to ensure patients do not experience any delay in accessing a treatment when requesting a step therapy exemption.

A requirement that MassHealth and commer-

cial insurers approve or deny a step therapy exemption request within three business days, or within one business day if a delay would cause harm to the

patient. A requirement that commercial carriers annually report data related to step therapy exemption requests and related coverage determinations to the Division

of Insurance.

The creation of a commission on step therapy protocols tasked with studying, assessing, and bi-annually reporting on the implementation of step therapy process reforms made in this legislation.

"An Act Relative to Step Therapy and Patient Safety" (H.4929) passed the House of Representatives 153-0. The legislation now heads to the Senate for their consideration.

Kelly's Roast Beef announces development deals in Florida, Massachusetts and New Hampshire

Since 1951, Kelly's Roast Beef has been a household name in Boston and throughout the Northeast. The brand has earned national attention in pop culture and has maintained a loyal cult following. Now, the iconic restaurant which proudly lays claim to having invented the North Shore roast beef sandwich aims to bring its authentic taste of New England to new communities throughout the nation with the launch of its franchise opportunity. Kelly's Roast Beef has recently signed a commitment with three franchisee partners to build up to 43 units. These new units will be located in Florida and New England. Up to 20 restaurants will be located on the west coast of Florida including Naples, Ft. Meyers, and the suburbs of Tampa. Up to 17 restaurants will be located on the east coast including Miami, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie. Kelly's is planning to open an additional six restaurants within the greater New England area including towns in Massachusetts and New

One of the brands most prominent franchisee partners is RA Ventures, a dynamic franchise group whose interests span multiple sectors including hospitality, restaurants, entertainment, and real estate. Three restaurants are planned to open by the end of 2022 and 10 units are being permitted and will be open by the end

"Kelly's Roast Beef has been a staple within the Boston community for over 70 years. During that time, we have perfected the roast beef sandwich and have been able to serve generations of families that love our brand and the delicious food we serve," said Neil Newcomb, CEO of Kelly's Roast Beef Franchising. "We think the time is right to offer franchise opportunities nationwide and we are look-



A Kelly's Roast Beef sand-

ing forward to welcoming new partners who are ready to bring our revolutionary brand to new communities."

The history of Kelly's dates back seven decades when founders Frank Mc-Carthy and Ray Carey first worked together at the Paul Roger House in Revere Beach. The duo instantly clicked and decided to become business partners, opening up a hot dog stand next door while continuing to work at the inn's restaurant. The iconic roast beef sandwich was created on a whim one night after a wedding was canceled. Taking left over roast beef from the event, they began serving it on a grilled hamburger roll and the rest was history.

Since then, Kelly's Roast Beef sandwich has become a local legend. The process begins with a carving machine thinly slices 25-day aged, medium-rare roasted sirloin-tip meat. The sirloin is then placed on a buttered, griddled hamburger roll, and topped with any condiments the customer desires plus a slice of cheese. A small sandwich gets five to six ounces of roast beef, while a large can get anywhere from seven-and-a-half to eight-

and-a-half. Today, a busy location during its peak season can sell upwards of 20,000 roast beef sandwiches a month. Across its multiple locations, Kelly's estimates a staggering one million sandwiches are sold a year. The figures are impressive but equally impressive is that even in the face of tremendous volume, Kelly's hasn't gone towards a commissary

set-up. Instead, each location roasts its beef in-house all through the day, ensuring that sandwiches can still be carved to order as they have been for decades. That, in and of itself, is the hallmark of a Kelly's sandwich, said Newcomb, "It's never sitting. It's a medium-rare, melt-in-your-mouth, roast beef sandwich."

Other beloved menu items include fried clams, lobster rolls, crispy french fries, onion rings, hot dogs, and chicken finger plates.

The Kelly's franchise opportunity has been a long time coming. Throughout the years, Kelly's has gained national attention on the Food Network's show \$40 a Day with Rachael Ray, a PBS Special called "Sandwiches You Will Like", Robert B. Parker's Wonderland by Ace Atkins, NBC's three-time Emmy award-winning 30 Rock, and on the silver screen in Oscar-winning Good Will Hunting. In 2019, Thrillist named Kelly's one of "11 New England Chains the Entire Country Needs" and Business Insider said travelers shouldn't leave Boston without trying the roast beef sandwich at Kelly's.

Including a franchise fee of \$40,000, the total initial investment to open a Kelly's franchise is \$1.2-\$2 million.

Founded in 1951 and franchising since 2020, Kelly's Roast Beef is the inventor of the North Shore roast beef sandwich. Kelly's roasts its beef in-house all through the day, serves everything fresh and made-to-order, and estimates serving a staggering one million sandwiches a year. The brand has become a symbol for Boston and has been referenced in pop culture, including in 30 Rock and Good Will Hunting. Today, there are five locations open in the Boston metropolitan area. For more information, visit https://kellysroastbeeffranchise.com/

Greater Boston Building Trades Unions endorses Sheriff Steve Tompkins

"The Greater Boston Building Trades Unions are excited to endorse Sheriff Steve Tompkins in his re-election for Sheriff of Suffolk County," said Brian Doherty, General Agent of the Greater Boston Building Trades Unions. "Sheriff Tompkins has been a great partner in promoting and advancing opportunities for Boston residents who are seeking to access a great career in the union construction industry. We have also worked closely with Sheriff Tompkins on programs that provide key support to those in recovery, and he has been a champion on those issues not only for people in our industry but also across the city. We have seen firsthand the positive impact of his transparent, proactive, and dedicated approach to working with all stakeholders on solutions to make Boston a place where there is greater opportunity including for those who are reentering the workforce. Through intentional programs and initiatives, Sheriff Tompkins has been a tremendous supporter of our efforts to ensure every worker has a shot at a safe job in our industry that provides fair wages, benefits, and the opportunity to someday retire with security and dignity."

The Greater Boston Building Trades Unions represent 35,000 working families in the Metropolitan Boston region striving to create a more fair and iust environment for all workers in the construction industry. The building trades unions advance social and economic justice by providing family-supporting wages, healthcare benefits and dignified retirement benefits to workers and their families in the construction industry.

As an umbrella group of 20 local construction unions, in partnership with more than 3,300 union contractors, the building trades unions provide the highest standards for workers in the construction industry, including the highest levels of training, safety and economic security throughout their



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CITY PAWS

Out of the kitchen

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

One of our house rules for dogs is that they are not allowed in our tiny kitchen unless specifically invited to be there. "Out of the kitchen" is one direction our Poppy understands. She will push her way in one step at a time, but as soon as we tell her to leave, she retreats.

The National Accident Helpline has reported, "... research shows that the kitchen still holds the greatest threat of injury in the home, with over half of respondents (60%) stating that they have previously injured themselves during a culinary task." The acci-

dents that can cause harm to people in the kitchen can also injure pets. What's more, the animals themselves may cause accidents in the kitchen.

Dangers!

The most common kitchen injuries to humans are cuts, falls, and burns. If you cook, think about some of the close calls you've had in a kitchen that didn't harm you. Have you ever dropped a knife, broken a glass, or splashed a hot liquid?

Often a cook is concentrating on what they're doing. Sometimes they move fast in response to a timer, aroma, or change in the

sound of something cooking. Having pets underfoot at moments like this is a clear danger to everyone. They add distraction and tripping to the list of hazards.

Pet Proofing

We sometimes use a physical barrier to keep Poppy out of the kitchen. Freestanding, hinged barriers come in all shapes and sizes. If your dog is strong enough to move one of these, you can opt for a child or pet safety gate attached to the door opening.

Those who live in an open-plan home may have to resort to a kitchen crate

to keep their animal near while staying out from underfoot. You also need to secure your kitchen trash and might have to install child-proof locks on your lower cabinets to keep clever animals from gaining access.

Training Is a Constant

Training a companion animal to stay out of a room is an ongoing project. Our dog Poppy knows that she is not allowed in the kitchen. Even if the barrier is not in place, she knows that if she crosses the invisible line, she will make us say, "Out of the kitchen." However, the kitchen has attractions for

this food-obsessed dog, and she keeps trying. Everyone in the household should use the same method and words to continue the training for the best result.

We watched a video

with a reward-based trainer who created a temporary line on the floor with painter's tape to teach his human and canine clients a successful method. The dog heard "out of the kitchen" when a paw touched the tape. When the pup backed out, he was rewarded with a "good boy" and occasionally a tiny treat to reinforce the good behavior.

We also use our prime

correction method of telling Poppy to do something she knows how to do well when we don't want her doing something else. So for Poppy, "out of the kitchen" may be followed by "sit" or "down and stay." This request cuts off the opportunity to do her favorite little dance step, the "in-and-out-of-the-kitchen" Cha Cha.

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

U.S. Postal Service honors folk singer Pete Seeger with stamp

Famed folk singer Pete Seeger was honored today as he was inducted into the Postal Service's Music Icons Forever stamp series at the Jane Pickens Theater.

"The Postal Service is pleased to present our new Music Icons stamp honoring Pete Seeger, a man who inspired countless musicians and millions of fans around the world," said Tom Foti, the Postal Service's product solutions vice president, who served as the stamp ceremony's dedicating official. "He was not only a champion of traditional American music, he was also celebrated as a unifying power by promoting a variety of causes, such as, civil rights, workers' rights, social justice, the peace movement and protecting the environment."

The other participants at the stamp ceremony were members of Seeger's family; Chris Funk, music Pete Seeger Folk SINGER

director of the Newport Folk Festival Presents For Pete's Sake; and Béla Fleck, who performed the national anthem.

The Pete Seeger Forever stamps are being sold in panes of 16.

The stamp art features a color-tinted, black-and-white photograph taken in the early 1960s by Dan Seeger, the performer's son. Pete Seeger is shown in left profile, singing and playing his iconic banjo.

The square stamp pane resembles a vintage 45 rpm record sleeve. One side of the pane includes the stamps and the image of a sliver of a record seeming

to peek out the top of the sleeve. A larger version of the stamp-art photograph appears on the reverse side with the words "Pete Seeger FOLK SINGER." Art director Antonio

Alcalá designed the stamp and pane. Dan Seeger's photograph was color-tinted by Kristen Monthei.

The Forging of a Folk Hero

Pete Seeger (1919-2014) revived and championed traditional American music. A resolute voice of conscience and defender of American liberties, he adapted and popularized the song "We Shall Overcome," which rose to become the predominant anthem of the civil rights movement. His own compositions galvanized populist uprisings: "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?" has given musical voice to peace movements since the Vietnam War, and "If I Had a Hammer" has been embraced by an array of activists.

"It is an honor to see a photo of my father I'd taken some 60 years ago become this wonderful Forever stamp," said Dan Seeger. "My dad did most of his correspondence by hand — written letters - and I can imagine him smiling and of course appreciating this great honor because he relied on the U.S. Mail with its simplicity and honesty, knowing that thoughts and ideas can go from the sender over a tremendous expanse to a single receiver and get delivered."

Responding to Seeger's enormous charisma as a performer, audiences turned his concerts into sing-alongs, led by his clear tenor and ringing five-string banjo, its head inscribed: "This machine surrounds hate and forces it to surrender." In the eyes of generations of admirers, Seeger's ideals and ordeals elevated him from folk singer to folk hero.

singer to folk hero. He was raised in New York and Connecticut by musician parents. Young Peter Seeger intuitively took to any musical instrument put within his reach. While he was still a toddler, his family made a pilgrimage to the South homemade trailer in tow - to introduce classical music to the people of Appalachia. Following a recital by Seeger's parents, the teacher-student balance quickly reversed; audience members gave an impromptu concert of regional folk tunes. A return to the South during his teenage years further enticed Seeger. Rural Southern folk music - and the five-string banjo that characterized it - would influence his long, extraor-

dinary career.

Seeger dropped out of college after two years at Harvard University, where he had prioritized populist causes and music over academics. In the late 1930s, he moved to New York City and also worked in

Washington, DC, where he archived folk songs and recordings for the Library of Congress. He also hitchhiked and hopped boxcars to see America and hear its music. During these youthful wanderings, he met influential folk musicians, including Huddie Ledbetter, best known as Lead Belly, and Woody Guthrie, who penned "This Land is Your Land" at around the same time. Guthrie and Lead Belly became two of

Seeger's mentors. Seeger and Guthrie roamed the country and organized the Almanac Singers, a loose coalition of musicians who tunefully promoted labor unionization wherever they went. Staunchly anti-fascist, the Almanacs wrote patriotic songs as Hitler menaced Europe and America entered World War II. Drafted in 1942, Seeger served three years in the Army, entertaining troops stateside and in the South Pacific until the Allied victory.

After the war, Seeger formed the Weavers, a quartet of like-minded musicians. They did not anticipate huge mainstream success, but it arrived quickly: "Goodnight, Irene," Lead Belly composition that was the flip side of their first release, became the number one song of 1950. This surprise hit was followed by other catchy releases. Some, such as "Wimoweh," and in later "Guantanamera," were imported gems that Seeger plucked from obscurity. "Michael Row the Boat Ashore" and "On Top of Old Smokey" were among the songs from Americana that he repopularized. Still others, such as "The Hammer Song (If I Had a Hammer)," were written or co-written by Seeger, with the catchiness and thematic qualities of folk anthems.

The Weavers' success was meteoric and their downfall just about as swift. The group's leftwing politics did not sit well with Congressional anti-Communist crusaders during the early Cold War era. Disc jockeys stopped playing Weavers records, their bookings dried up, and they disbanded in 1952. They would regroup a few years later, but they would never regain the same widespread popular-

Subpoenaed to testify before the House Un-American Activities Committee in 1955, Seeger was asked whether he had sung for Communist groups. Defiantly, he called such questions improper, and asserted his patriotism and his right to sing to anyone who wanted to hear him. His lack of contrition brought him 10 counts of contempt of Congress, each carrying a one-year prison term, a sentence not overturned until 1962 Although not imprisoned as the legal process played out, he was effectively blacklisted. Media executives were intimidated by the consequences of association with those branded subversive, and Seeger would not appear on network television again until

He was sidelined but couldn't be silenced. Seeger recorded prolifically, embarked on a musical world tour with his family, sang with civil rights groups in the Deep South, and virtually invented the college campus concert

circuit.

During Seeger's exile from radio and TV, the seeds he had sown for a folk revival bore ample fruit for other artists. The Kingston Trio had a hit record with "Where Have All the Flowers Gone" as did Peter, Paul and Mary, who also charted with "If I Had a Hammer." The Byrds electrified "Turn! Turn! Turn!," a beautifully simple song that Seeger had adapted from a favorite biblical passage. That record topped the charts in 1965. Seeger also fostered the careers of a new generation of folkies, including Joan Baez and Bob Dylan, partly through his early stewardship of the Newport Folk Festival.

In 1963, Seeger garnered some radio airplay with his biggest solo hit, "Little Boxes," a song satirizing the conformity in "ticky-tacky" housing developments proliferating across the post-war American landscape. Although the song's popularity ended his long radio silence, Seeger remained motivated not by hit records but by the unity and harmony of voices lifted in purposeful song.

Classrooms were among

See SEEGER Page 11

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Seeger # continued from page 4

into the politically empowered college students of the 1960s. As the civil rights and anti-war movements gathered steam, Seeger was often present on campuses to offer his talents and support.

Having taken a stand in so many of the 20th century's pressing societal issues, Seeger found his next cause in his own backyard. Sailing near the log cabin he built with Toshi, his longtime wife and partner, he became alarmed by sewage, garbage and chemical runoff in the Hudson River. To call attention to the river's plight, he spearheaded efforts to build a sloop like the tall-masted wooden cargo boats that had sailed the Hudson in centuries

Called Clearwater, the vessel was launched in 1969 and ever since has brought attention to the river through onboard concerts, education programs and riverside festivals. Now a National Historic Site, the sloop Clearwater and the organization supporting it have inspired generations of river stewards, and other environmental groups have emulated its organizational model.

Seeger was widely honored during the later years of his life, winning both the National Medal of the Arts and the Kennedy Center Honors in 1994. In 1996, he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and won a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. His album "Pete" won the 1997 Grammy Award for best traditional folk album, an award he also won in 2009 for "At 89." New audiences were introduced to Seeger's music when Bruce Springsteen devoted an entire 2006 album to Seeger songs.

On the steps of the Lincoln Memorial at a concert marking the 2009 presidential inauguration of Barack Obama, Seeger, along with Springsteen and a crowd of some 400,000 people, sang "This Land is Your Land."

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Forum // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the opioid epidemic, and building strong relationships with public safety departments.

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and East Boston Demo-

Rivera, candidate for state representative in the newly constructed Chelsea-Everett district, and Vicki DiLorenzo of the East **Boston Ward 1 Democratic** Committee.



Representatives of the Democratic Committees join participants in the forum for a photo. From left, Democratic State Committeewoman Alicia DelVento of Winthrop, Forum Moderator Adrian Walker of The Boston Globe, Boston City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, Suffolk County DA Kevin Hayden, Sen. Lydia Edwards, Vicki DiLorenzo of the East Boston Ward 1 Democratic Committee, Chelsea City Councilor-at-Large Damali Vidot, and State Democratic Committeeman Juan Jaramillo of Revere.



Member Jesse Purvis.



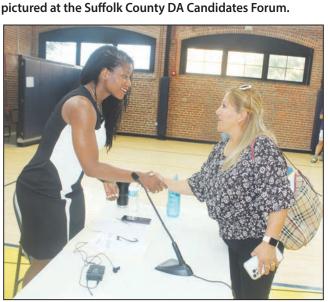
Suffolk County DA Kevin Hayden responds to one of the questions during the



Boston City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, candidate for Suffolk County DA, is pictured before delivering his opening statement at the candidates' forum.



The Rev. Wayne S. Daley, deputy director of community engagement for the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office (SCDAO), True-See Allah, chief of community engagement for the SCDAO, and Kathleen Riley Cappuccio of Winthrop.



Tiliana Andrade, Rosilda Sue, and Dynasty Figueroa are

Sen. Lydia Edwards greets one of her constituents, Lillian Vega, at the candidates' forum.



East Boston community leader Mary Berninger is pictured at the candidates' forum.



Chelsea City Councilor Damali Vidot and Marisol Santiago.



Winthrop, Winthrop Town Councilor Hannah Belcher, Sen. Lydia Edwards, Forum Moderator Adrian Walker, and Cathy DelVento.

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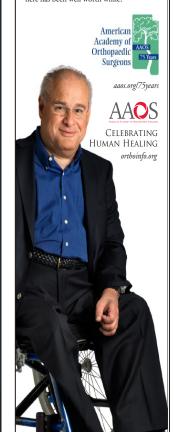
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