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EBCCS HOLDS HOLIDAY SHOW

Alaina Coppola and Audrey Nagle, Massport; Dwayne Simmons, Salesian Boys & Girls Club, with Salesian staff and program participants.

Massport holds largest annual coat drive to date

Special to the Times-Free Press

The Massachusetts Port Authority's (Massport) annual Winter Coat Drive benefitted nearly 140 children in East Boston and South Boston this year, doubling the number of donations made in 2021. Over 150 employees contributed their time and money to purchase winter coats and accessories for children ages two to 17

years old at Crossroads Family Center and Salesian Boys & Girls Club in East Boston, and Michael J. Perkins Elementary School and The Tierney Learning Center in South Boston.

"This year, we were able to make the season a little brighter for our vulnerable neighbors in East Boston and South Boston," said Massport

Director of Community Relations & Government Affairs Alaina Coppola. "Thanks to the generosity of our Massport employees, this year was our largest-ever annual coat drive. As many families may be struggling to provide basic necessities during this time, this gift will enable them to focus their resources toward other areas of need."

"We are grateful that Massport was able to provide warm coats, hats and gloves to 30 of our members most in need this winter," said Program Director at Salesian Boys & Girls Club Dwayne Simmons. "We value all your generosity, time and support year after year into making this a meaningful and impactful partnership."

Visit Carmella's Italian Market, a neighborhood treasure

Story & Photos by Marianne Salza

Following the bustle of lunchtime in his Jeffries Point corner store, Nick Moulaison, owner of Carmella's Italian Market, is stuffing cheery peppers with rolled prosciutto, salami, ham, and provolone. The space has been a neighborhood deli since 1927, and has the original floor and counter-

top. Moulaison's brother, Clark, purchased the store in 2012, and re-named it Carmella's Italian Market, after his wife. Moulaison acquired the business upon his brother's retirement in March 2022.

"I grew up in this neighborhood, and this is the store I came to as a kid," notes Moulaison. "Before us, it was called Gloria Food Store. It was a chain

of food stores at one point. It's an old school-type place."

"Lately, we've become famous for these hot peppers. We soak them in a vegetable/olive oil blend and secret seasoning," Moulaison chuckles. "I like to put them in the jars so you can see the pinwheels."

Carmella's Market supplies the fundamentals for

an Italian kitchen: pasta, canned tomatoes, and olive oil. Another essential that Moulaison supplies is dog treats, as a dozen dogs frequent Carmella's Market with their families each day.

In the entrance is a candy and chocolate display. Images of family, friends -- and Moulaison's bulldog, Zeus -- decorate the walls. Framing the front door are his parents' wedding picture, his mother, Virginia's, First Holy Communion portrait, and a photograph of his father, Clark, wearing his Marine uniform.

"I like to keep the old-school feel of the neighborhood here, but with modern things," Moulaison explains. "A few months ago we started doing espressos, cappuccinos, lattes, and regular coffee. There really is no other coffee shop in this neighborhood."

Moulaison's all-day breakfast sandwiches

Carmella's Italian Market, located on the corner of Cottage and Everett Streets.

See CARMELLA'S Page 6

East Boston: 2022 in review

By Stephen Quigley

The year 2022 is now in the record books, highlighting a return to normalcy for many residents. Whether one just celebrated First Night in Boston on Saturday night or the Eastie Pride Event that happened in August, events and gatherings are becoming more frequent, albeit with some COVID precautions.

Our own Eastie Pride attracted thousands of residents to Piers Park to celebrate the 33rd year for local businesses, elected officials, and residents to showcase the best of East Boston. The neighborhood event celebrated the food, music, and diversity that is East Boston.

Last year also noted the passing of many longtime members of our community, including John White, who died at the age of 87 on June 7. White was a leader who selflessly gave back to the community where he grew up, serving as the East Boston Area Planning Action Committee's director for more than 50 years. Many residents will remember White, whose accomplishments were measured by his deeds and work on behalf of those marginalized

John White

and most in need in the community.

In retirement news, John Drew, the President and CEO of Action for Boston Community Development, announced his retirement effective in June after serving our community for more than five decades. Drew, who is 85 years old, worked tirelessly for decades to help low-income residents and fixed-income seniors heat their homes without worrying about whether they had to choose between heat or food or medication.

The expansion of af-

See REVIEW Page 6

"Eastie Pride Day" was celebrated at Piers Park. It was a beautiful day for friends and neighbors to gather, celebrating their residence and dedication to their community of East Boston. Pictured above, volunteers hand out tons of popcorn to all, Jessica Zhou, Mirabelle Berman Reinhart, Emily Castro, Nataly Deblas and Salma Acuna.

MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY MIKE MEJIA

Mayor Michelle Wu, shown above working to remove some graffiti from a warehouse on Border Street.

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Forum



GUEST OP-ED

Those who are grieving and suffering loss

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Throughout the years, many of us watched Barbara Walters from NBC to ABC. I always tried to watch her special interviews. Often, the people she interviewed on prime-time television specials were “the” high profile people at that given time. She became the highest paid journalist of her day being the first to sign a million-dollar contract with ABC.

Regardless of what we do in life we are still confronted by difficulties that often debilitate us. Walters had survived her own personal struggles, like we all do, including four divorces. Unfortunately, her reported battle with dementia took its toll on her health. We can all accomplish much in life. Maybe not as much as Walters or maybe even more. Regardless, there is much about life we can’t do anything about other than try to deal with it and do the best we can.

At least 37 people died from the recent winter

storm in Buffalo, New York. Families are grieving. Hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, freezing temperatures, and snow have wreaked devastation on our country in the last twelve months. Loss of life can come from disease, weather, accidents or unconsciously by design.

We all have been horrified by the death of four college students in Moscow, Idaho. It’s been beyond us how four beautiful people could be stabbed to death in their beds reportedly between 3:00 and 4:00 in the morning. A young man who is a student at nearby Washington State University on the Pullman campus has been arrested at his parents’ house in Albrightsville, Pennsylvania. Moscow police believe they now have the murderer in custody.

How anyone could commit such a heinous crime is beyond our comprehension. I’m sure it was beyond the scope of thought for these innocent young adults. We never know who is taking note

of our lives, whereabouts and activities. Regardless of how calm and safe your community seems you can’t take anything for granted. Lock your doors. Lock your bedroom door. Keep your handgun on your lampstand and try your best to create an environment that protects you as much as possible. With so many people sleeping in the rental house in Moscow, I’m sure these young college students felt safe. What appeared to be safe for them became an opportunity for an evil mind.

Typically, the attacker has the element of surprise on his side. It’s always best to try to think ahead. Sadly, four Idaho University students were killed by someone who planned, plotted, and was patient enough to find the right moment to carry out the

murders.

Accepting and dealing with what we cannot change is one thing. Preparing for life but rolling with the punches, the turns and twists is another. Being watchful, careful, and never taking anything for granted could make the difference between life and death

Pray for these families and all the many friends and loved ones as they grieve and suffer from such devastating loss.

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.

TIMES-FREE PRESS DIRECTORY

617-567-9600 • 781-485-0588

FAX: 781-485-1403

President

Stephen Quigley
stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com

Advertising and Marketing

Debra DiGregorio – deb@reverejournal.com

Assistant Marketing Director

Maureen DiBella – mdibella@winthroptranscript.com

Senior Sales Associates

Sioux Gerow – charlestownads@hotmail.com

Legal Advertising

Ellen Bertino
ebertino@eastietimes.com

Editorial

Reporters, Regular Contributors
Cary Shuman — cary@lynnjournal.com

Copy Editing, Layout

Scott Yates – scott@chelsearecord.com
Kane DiMasso-Scott – kdscott@thebostonsun.com

Business

Accounts Executive
Judy Russi
judy.russi@eastietimes.com

Printer

Gannet Publishing

REGARDING MCKAY PLACE PROJECT

To the Editor,

The board of the Gove Street Citizens Association is submitting the following comment regarding the 9 McKay Place Project:

On November 28, 2022, the development team for the 9 McKay Place Project presented to us an overview of their project that consists of a 41Xunit development with 36 parking spaces on 15,000 square feet of land.

Developers first presented their project in a community meeting held in February 2021. Limited parking, unit affordability, and safety for the school children and parents during the project’s construction and after its

completion were some of the concerns raised at this meeting. More than a year later, the community continues to raise the same concerns and new ones.

Community members acknowledge that while developers have added some spots to the original 2021 proposal (now at 36 spaces), it remains insufficient compared to the number of proposed units (currently stands at 41). Increased housing development in the Gove Street neighborhood without proportionate investment in its transportation infrastructure has resulted in an influx of cars without the availability of places to park them, which the 9 McKay Place project would continue to exac-

PELE, THE ONE AND ONLY

Over the course of the past 60 years, there was one person who indisputably was the most famous man on the planet -- and that person was Pele.

Even those who knew nothing about soccer -- or any other sport -- still recognized his name in all four corners of the globe.

Pele revolutionized not only the game of soccer with his speed, finesse, power, and skill, but also the sports world in general. He became the first global superstar and elevated athletic competition into the realm of the international arena more than any person ever has.

It is because of Pele that more American children -- boys and girls -- play soccer today than any other sport in our country.

But what truly made Pele great was his incredible humility. He became an international star at the age of 17 when he led Brazil to the first of three World Cups in 1958, but throughout his long life, he never forgot his roots in the impoverished favela of his hometown of Santos, where he learned his soccer skills on the streets.

Pele served as an ambassador both for his country and the world of sports for decades, radiating his warm smile and joy wherever he went.

Pele was a beautiful man who played the beautiful game as no one ever has, both on and off the pitch. He will be missed.

Wu names Terrell as Executive Director of the Office of Fair Housing and Equity

Special to the Times-Free Press

Mayor Michelle Wu announced Robert Terrell as Executive Director of the City’s Office of Fair Housing and Equity. The existing office, which is within the Equity and Inclusion Cabinet, prevents discrimination and ensures equitable access to housing in Boston.

“In this moment as Boston continues to grow, ensuring every resident has a safe, healthy, affordable home is the foundation for a brighter future for everyone,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “The Office of Fair Housing and Equity is crucial in tackling discrimination and ensuring every resident and family has equitable access to housing across all of our city’s neighborhoods. I’m grateful to Mr. Terrell for his leadership and commitment to centering equity in our housing work and serving our city.”

“Having Robert Terrell’s experience and passion for housing equity is essential to our mission of building a city for everyone,” said Chief of Equity and Inclusion Mariangely Solis Cervera. “I’m excited to work beside him as we create new solutions for equitable and fair housing practices for our residents.”

As Executive Director, Terrell will work to enforce local, state, and federal fair housing law in Boston to protect renters and buyers from discriminatory practices. Terrell’s work in Boston’s fair housing space has focused on the impact of gentrification and displacement in Roxbury and within transit corridors across the city. In this new role, he



Robert Terrell.

will build on this to play a key role in centering racial justice and housing equity in city processes and protecting the interests of Boston residents. Terrell will also work to expand the investigatory capacity of the office to better receive formal complaints when laws are violated, increase access to trainings about housing rights for residents, and ensure fair housing is embedded into city policies.

“I am very excited to join the Office of Fair Housing and Equity as its new Executive Director. I look upon civil rights and fair housing work as a sacred trust. I want to assure everyone in Boston that we will do our utmost to combat housing discrimination in whatever form it takes,” said Robert Terrell. “If you’ve ever been unjustly denied housing because of the color of your skin, the language you speak, the country you come from or whom you choose to love, our office is here to stand with you. We will enforce our fair housing laws justly, uphold the rights of our protected classes and we pledge to do so under all conditions and at all times”.

Recently, Terrell served as the Fair Housing, Equity, and Inclusion Officer for the Boston Housing Authority’s Office of Civil Rights. In this position, Terrell assisted in the development of the Boston Housing Authority’s Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiative and chaired their Fair Housing working group, and supported the development of the Expanding Choice in Housing Opportunities (ECHO) Program that collectively created a framework central to how Boston removes barriers to fair housing today. This work eventually led Terrell to also play a role in creating a new Assessment of Fair Housing for the City of Boston.

Prior to joining the City of Boston, Terrell held leadership positions with many local organizations such as the Roxbury Neighborhood Council, the Madison Park Development Corporation Board of Directors, the Citizen’s Housing and Planning Association’s (CHAPA), Action for Equity’s Housing Committee, the Boston Branch of the NAACP, the Planning Committee of the Annual Fair Housing and Civil Rights Conference, and the Assessment of Fair Housing’s Community Advisory Committee and its Monitoring Committee.

Terrell also lectures part-time at Tufts University’s Department of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning where he received his Masters in Public Policy.

Robert also holds a BA in Government and Sociology from Bowdoin College.

News in Brief

JANUARY HARBOR VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING AGENDA

The next meeting of the Harbor View Neighborhood Association will be on January 9, 2023 at 6pm. The meeting is In Person only but will be streamed via Facebook for archival purposes. Attendance on Facebook does not qualify for voting. The meeting will be held in the Salesian Boys and Girls Club cafeteria, across from the Brooke Charter School on Byron Street. You can access the meeting from the front door on Byron Street or from the rear door on Wordsworth Street, which is the handicap entry, to avoid the stairs. Since we are indoors, masks are optional for those in attendance.

La proxima reunion de Harbor View Neighborhood Association esta en

el 9 de enero a las 6pm. La reunion esta en persona y via Facebook. La asistencia en Facebook no califica para vota. Llega a la cafeteria del Salesian Boys y Girls Club por la calle Byron al otro lado de Brooke Charter School. Pueda usar la entrada principal por la calle Byron o la entrada en calle de Wordsworth. La entrada de calle Wordsworth no tiene escaleras por personas con discapacidades. El cubre bocas sera opcional puesto que estaremos adentro.

Agenda
Welcome/Introduction (5min)

Announcements (5min)
East Boston Senior Center, HVNA Holiday/Christmas Party Thank yous!, Route 1A Corridor study January 19, 6pm public meeting.

Station 7 Police Report (15min) Sgt. Cintolo, Officer Domenico and Officer Mosley.

Eastie Farms (10min) Joel Seidner, Climate Re-

silience Project Manager, will present a review of Eastie Farms and the educational opportunities that exist within the program.

McLean Park aka St. Mary Playground (10min) Update on the planned renovation of the park. Review of the 1st meeting Site Visit and the 2nd meeting virtual coordinated by Annie Blair, Project Manager, Parks and Recreation.

Greenway Hours of Operation (5min) Massport considering changing Dawn to Dusk hours for the year to eliminate confusion with seasonal changes.

Happy New Year!

The next meeting of the HVNA will be on February 6, 2023.

Visit us at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/harborviewna> or check our website at harborvieweastboston.com.

Nearly \$2.74 Million awarded to combat violence against women

The Baker-Polito Administration announced that dozens of law enforcement, criminal justice and victim services organizations have been awarded grants through the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant program including the Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office with a grant of \$119,919.88.

The federal funds will help Massachusetts agencies in efforts to prevent, reduce and improve responses to acts of gender-based, sexual and domestic violence; stalking; and human trafficking. The 44 grant recipients were selected through a competitive application process administered by the Office of Grants and Research (OGR), a state agency that is part of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS). Each organization funded in FY23 will be eligible for additional funding during the three following years.

“These grants allow our Commonwealth to enhance our work combatting domestic violence and sexual offenses. Meeting the needs of sur-

vivors, providing safety nets for those seeking to escape, and holding perpetrators accountable requires a coalition of law enforcement and service providers. VAWA funds have allowed us to build these vital partnerships and provide resources, not just in 2023, but for years to come,” said Governor Charlie Baker.

“Since taking office, this administration has shown an unparalleled dedication to ending domestic and sexual violence. As chair of the Governor’s Council to Address Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, I’ve had the privilege of working with professionals and organizations across the Commonwealth that are committed to this mission. This funding will allow state agencies, police and service providers the resources they need to effectively respond to and reduce these offenses,” said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito.

“These grants help improve how law enforcement and the criminal justice system respond to violence against women through training opportunities and enhanced ca-



capacity to investigate and prosecute these offenses. It also ensures that the victims of domestic and intimate partner violence, sexual assault and exploitation, and stalking have access to the services they deserve,” said Public Safety and Security Secretary Terrence Reidy.

“The VAWA Grant Program is one of the most impactful programs administered by the Office of Grants and Research. These funds help ensure that victims have access to the protections of law enforcement and the criminal justice system, as well as trauma-informed and culturally-competent services. We look forward to working alongside all our funded partners to achieve this mission,” said OGR Executive Director Kevin Stanton.


The VAWA Grant Program is funded by the Department of Justice. Through an application review process, recipients were selected from across four categories: Courts, Law Enforcement, Prosecution, Victim Services, and Discretionary.

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EAST BOSTON BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM FALLS TO REVERE IN TOURNAMENT PLAY

Revere ran out to a 14-0 lead and never looked back as the Patriots topped East Boston 67-51 in the opening game of the 2022 David L. Green Memorial Basketball Tournament Wednesday, December 28 at Winthrop High. Saugus won the tournament with a 67-47 win over Revere Thursday December 29.



UP AND AWAY: Javon Wise Normil (33) makes his way toward the basket as Revere's Luke Ellis defends.

PHOTOS BY BOB MARRA



MAKING WAY: East Boston forward Christian Sanders (30) makes a power move toward the basket as he is defended by Revere's Luke Ellis.



DOUBLING UP: East Boston's Angel Franco (1, left) and Isaiah Fisher (13, right) tie up Revere's Alejandro Hincapie.



MAKING CONNECTIONS: Angel Framco threads an outlet pass to teammate Xander Boutros (3).



SEEKING SPACE: Isaiah Fisher (13) looks for an outlet as he is guarded by Revere's Vincent Nichols.



IN THE HUNT: East Boston's Robin Cartegena (22) and Revere's Luke Ellis (14) chase down a loose ball.



LOOSE BALL: East Boston's Robin Cartegena and Revere's Maykin Funez-Gonzalez fight for a loose ball.



LUCKY 13s: East Boston's Isaiah Fisher (13) goes up and over Revere's Vinny Lu (13) in a battle for a rebound.



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BOSTON POLICE HOLD ICE HOCKEY SKILLS PROGRAM

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

Written by Derek Kouyoumjian and Gary Marino

The Boston Police A-7 Station Community Service Office started the Ice Hockey Skills program in 2019 with the help of Police Activities League and the Facilities Management Group. Officers from the A7 Station and beyond offer instruction in ice hockey at the Porrazzio Memorial Rink in East Boston. The program is geared to help the youth in the City Of Boston hone skills in playing hockey. It is expensive to be properly trained and to spend enough time working on the finer details of properly playing ice hockey. Boston Police CSO Officer Gary Marino commented “I have played this game my whole life. It is a pleasure to give back to the community. If you’re unable to keep up with the speed of the game you simply cannot compete. The Boston Police Ice Hockey Skills

Program will have a large role in developing players to be at the top of their game”. The program has had special guests attend their classes, including LA Kings Draft Pick Brayden Doyle, US Women’s National Team player and Olympic Silver Medal recipient Carolyn Harvey, NJ Devils scout Al Santilli, and Sasha Molnar, player on the Slovakian National Team and owner of Molnar Hockey League. With the support of A7 Captain Dean Bickerton the program is able to continue building stronger relationships between the Boston Police Department and the youth of Boston. This program is the perfect way to come together while sharing a common passion. If you are interested in participating, please contact Gary Marino or Derek Russo at the A7 Station CSO office at (617) 343-4752.



Instructors of the Ice Hockey Skills Program: Boston Police Detective Ivan Beremejo, Officer Derek Russo, Officer Gary Marino, Sgt Joseph Cintolo, Captain Dean Bickerton, and Captain Christopher Hamilton with their students.



Captain Christopher Hamilton shows off his Christmas sweater.



Boston Police Captain Christopher Hamilton helps a student with their skating.



Nikki Marino and A7 employee Louis Sorrentino.



Participants of the Ice Hockey Skills program practice some maneuvers.



Captain Christopher Hamilton looks on as CSO Officer Gary Marino instructs a student.



Participants of the Ice Hockey Skills program line up.



Participants of the Ice Hockey Skills program practice some maneuvers.



Participants of the Ice Hockey Skills program practice some maneuvers.

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EBCC announces the winners of their 2022 Deck the Windows holiday decorating contest

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce held their 2022 Deck the Windows holiday decorating contest. Certificates and prizes were awarded to the three winners.

- Congratulations to:
- 1st Prize winner – Taco Mex at Maverick Square
 - 2nd Prize winner – Mario Real Estate Century 21 on Bennington Street
 - 3rd Prize winner – La Chiva Restaurant at Day Square

La Cámara de Comercio de East Boston celebró su concurso de decoración navideña Deck the Windows 2022. Se entregaron certificados y premios a los tres ganadores.

Enhorabuena a:

- Ganador del primer premio: Taco Mex en Maverick Square
- Ganador del 2er premio: Mario Real Estate Century 21 en Bennington Street
- Ganador del 3er premio -Restaurante La Chiva en Day Square



La Chiva third place winner Hector Yepes.



Mario Real Estate Century 21 second place winner, decorations by Mary Zaluski.



Taco Mex first place winner, Marcos Pineda, Diana Geraldo, and Frania Duran.

Carmella's // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

(served on a bagel, Portuguese muffin, or spuckie roll with bacon, ham, or sausage) have become popular. Carmella's Market also sells muffins and cookies, as well as homemade sheet pizza sold by the slice.

Carmella's Market serves specialty subs named after Moulaison's loved ones who created them. The "Felicia Special," titled in honor of his daughter, is a chicken cutlet sub with prosciutto, bacon, mozzarella, pickles, onions, tomatoes, balsamic glaze, and seasoning. "My kids do a lot for me. My grandkids work here on the weekend," says Moulaison, who operates the family business



Nick Moulaison, Owner of Carmella's Italian Market, with his employee and family friend, Renee Taylor.

with friend, Renee Taylor, and children, Nicolette and Nicholas.

Moulaison sells fresh and frozen homemade calzones, but in the next few months, hopes to offer prepared meals like pasta

and meatballs, and chicken parmesan.

Visit Carmella's Italian Market Monday-Saturday 8am-6pm, at 86 Cottage Street, East Boston. View a menu at www.CarmellasMarket.com, or call



Nick Moulaison, Owner of Carmella's Italian Market, stuffing cherry peppers.

(617) 567-6373. Follow Carmella's Market on

Facebook to watch Nick Moulaison prepare subs

with his freshly-sliced cold cuts.

Letter // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

erbate in its current proposal. Likewise, concerns over the affordability of the proposed apartments remain high. With just five units designated as affordable, the community would like to see deepened affordability by increasing the number of units designated as affordable and lowering the AMI.

Testimony from the principal and director of operations of McKay School, which directly abuts the proposed project, highlights safety concerns for school children, parents, and teachers. The school's representatives expressed fears regarding

the students' and families' commutes to and from school during the construction of 9 McKay Place project due to increased machinery and construction activity directly next to the school. The developers proposed parking entrance at 9 McKay Place is at one of the school's entry points. The resulting increase in car traffic at one of the school's entry points would continue to threaten students' safety even after the development's completion. Lastly, the school's principal and director of operations expressed concerns about dust and pest manage-

ment during the project's construction. The school's playground directly abuts the proposed development area, exposing school children to construction debris and other materials that may be harmful to their health.

Additional concerns regard the width of the sidewalk, the trees lining on Maverick Street, safety issues of the proposed fire pit on the roof, the building's trash management, and the future of current tenants living in the buildings on the proposed site. Yet, the most vocal opposition came from owners of units also developed by Meggan

Ayers, owner and developer of 9 McKay Place. Community members who have purchased units built by Meggan Ayers, such as those on 229 and 231 Maverick Street, report the developer's history of incomplete and substandard work and lack of accountability. Examples include leaking gas stove, a fire place that was not fireproofed, water leaks, and mail boxes not being set up to receive mail months after purchase. Another example of the developer's unreliable process is a roof deck built without permits on 229 Maverick Street that recently came

before the GSCA for approval. Based on these experiences, the community strongly questioned Meggan Ayers' ability to build 9 McKay Place up to basic health and safety standards for the project's future residents.

Community members were thrilled to hear about the collaboration with Eastie Farm. The use of space on the roof and ground floor may provide the nonprofit additional room for their programming and increase their capacity to achieve their mission. While the agreement between the developer and the nonprofit would offer

great value to the area, the GSCA would like to see greater commitment to the community by increasing unit affordability, parking, and ensuring the safety of community members during and after the project's completion.

The GSCA urges 9 McKay Place developers and the BPDA to continue engaging in a community process to ensure the finalized project serves the community's needs.

If you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Carlos J. Muñoz-Cadilla
GSCA Board Member

Review // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fordable housing in East Boston took a major step forward when Mayor Michelle Wu announced the acquisition of 36 multi-family buildings, comprising a total of 114 units. The \$47M acquisition was made possible through a series of

grants and the project will be overseen by the newly-created East Boston Neighborhood Trust.

Environment was also a major concern for East Boston residents. Mayor Wu declared several heat emergencies during the several summer months

when temperatures soared above 90 degrees. Cooling stations were set up throughout the community. East Boston is particularly vulnerable to climate changes because of our waterfront location, as well as having a small shade-tree canopy.

In September, The Neighborhood of Affordable Housing held a Resilience Summit that touched on topics including Cybersecurity, Extreme Heat, Tree Canopy, Air Quality and Health, Housing, Pandemic Planning, Food Insecurity, Flood Prevention, Critical Infrastructure, Youth Roles, and Immigration. The summit focused on improving people's lives and safety in East Boston.

Talking about gridlock, the long-awaited repairs to the Sumner Tunnel on weekends caused traffic nightmares on the streets of East Boston as repairs began on the tunnel. Residents complained, citing

that what usually was a five-minute ride into the city was taking up to an hour. Work is expected to last for another several months.

Mayor Wu stopped by Border Street in October and donned a power-washing suit to help personally remove graffiti from a warehouse. Wu noted that with a current shortage of workers in the Department of Public Works, removing graffiti is a drain on already-overstretched resources. More than 400 cases of graffiti were removed from East Boston alone.

The Year 2022 was also a time to mark anniversaries of some of the key institutions in the neighborhood. Among those noting anniversaries was Meridian House, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in June. The mission of the Meridian House is to provide a half-way house for those struggling with substance



Gabriela Coletta giving her victory speech at La Hacienda on Meridian Street.

abuse.

Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta was elected the new District 1 Councilor, defeating Tania Del Rio in a special election on May 3. An East Boston native, Coletta served as Chief of Staff to Lydia Edwards, who was elected to the Massachusetts State Senate and whose unexpired term Coletta is filling.

However, some of the stories that topped the list, such as affordable hous-

ing, will continue into the new year, as well as a lawsuit that was filed in late December by the Conservation Law Foundation and Greenroots, who are appealing the state's decision to allow a proposed electrical substation in East Boston to bypass important permitting processes. The substation was put on the fast track by the Massachusetts Energy Facilities in a vote on November 29.



The Meridian House will celebrated its 50th Anniversary in June.

FRESH AND LOCAL

What’s for dinner?

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

If your job is meal planning and preparation, this is a question you’ll ask yourself all too often in the months ahead. For us, that question is, “What’s for Lunch?” since that is our main meal of the day. Even for an experienced home cook, coming up with an endless array of meals that are tasty, nourishing, and easy to prepare can be daunting.

So much so that one savvy entrepreneur offers a set of dice you can roll to help decide what to cook or order for that next meal. Each die has a bunch of options, including cooking methods, proteins, grains/carbs, herbs, bonus ingredients, and vegetables for each season.

Penny uses a similar approach to add cultural variety to our meals. She purchased Wendy MacNaughton’s illustrations of the flavor wheels from the book “Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat” by Samin Nosrat.

They conveniently live on our refrigerator. She can then choose the salt, fat, and acid that will spin what we have on hand into the taste of Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, or South America.

Reduce Decision Fatigue

Steve Jobs often wore a black top and jeans to eliminate one daily decision. In the world of food, this has resulted in themes like Meatless Monday, Taco Tuesday, Fish on Friday, or Sunday Roast.

Many long-time cooks develop a rotation of dishes they can whip together without referring to a recipe. Some of these may be recipes made from leftovers and pantry staples at the last moment, like tacos, egg dishes, quesadillas, grain bowls, salads, soups, and sandwiches.

Intentional Leftovers

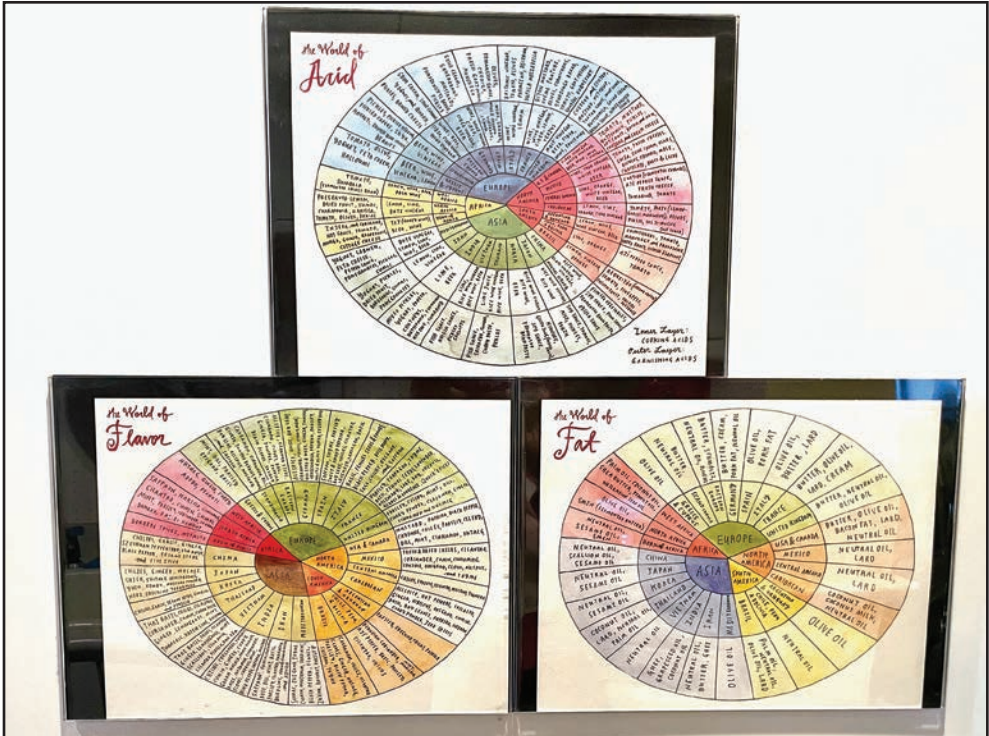
When she has enough time, Penny will make a large batch of soup, stew, a casserole, or a braised

or roasted dish that we’ll dine on for a few days. She’ll freeze some of these as single servings to feed us on busy days. As she cooks, she’ll also make extra supplies of cooked and spiced minced lamb or beef, sauces, and poached chicken to turn into a quick meal.

We have food writer David Leite to thank for the jar of cooked onions and garlic that’s often in our refrigerator, ready to give us a head start on a meal. In his book, “The New Portuguese Table,” Leite wrote, “I find spending up to half an hour sautéing onions takes a chunk out of busy weekday evenings, so I make big batches of the stuff and scoop out what I need when I’m at the stove.”

Stuck in a Food Rut?

In avoiding decision fatigue, you may be bored with what you’re cooking and eating. There are many solutions for this issue thanks to prepared



Illustrations of the flavor wheels from the book “Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat” live on our refrigerator. We use these to spin a meal to the taste of Africa, Asia, Europe, North or South America.

food, the Internet, and our excellent library system.

Type “recipe for” plus an ingredient or two into a web browser, and you’ll find hundreds of options for a new dish. Pick one that sounds good to you. If you learn better by watching than by reading, do the same on YouTube.

If you have a cookbook collection, pull a favorite

off the shelf or open one in your e-reader for inspiration. You can also download many ebook versions of popular cookbooks from your library. Or, you can stop by and scan the library shelves to choose something from a favorite author, culture, or cooking method.

Finally, you can have a few prepared meals in

your freezer to give the cook a break. Or, you can dine out or order take-out from restaurants that still need your support to survive the slower winter months.

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

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

COUNCIL TO BEGIN SEARCH PROCESS FOR NEW CITY MANAGER

CHELSEA - When the City Council convenes for the new year, it will have a big task on its hands – beginning the search for a new City Manager.

Earlier this month, current City Manager Thomas Ambrosino announced he will be beginning a new position on Jan. 30 as the Court Administrator of the Trial Court for Massachusetts.

“We have asked Tom to submit a formal letter of resignation so we can move forward with the process,” said Council President Calvin Brown.

As the Council moves forward with the hiring process, Brown said Deputy City Manager Ned Keefe will handle much of the day-to-day business of the city manager’s office.

“He’ll be able to focus

on a lot of projects over the next six months that are already underway,” said Brown. Having the deputy city manager in place will help make the transition to a new city manager easier when the time comes, Brown said.

Brown said he has been through the city manager selection process twice, and that the city has been fortunate with those two selections, Ambrosino, and before him, Jay Ash.

The process for hiring the next city manager will likely be similar to the one used to hire Ambrosino in 2015, with a steering committee and heavy community involvement, Brown said.

“We need to select a person who cares about Chelsea and focuses on Chelsea and doesn’t just see it as a stepping stone,” said Brown. “We’ve been fortunate that we’ve had two great city managers.”

The candidates will need to focus on the unique population of Chelsea and the many challenges the city faces, from affordable housing and mental health issues, to the city’s small businesses and active non-profit community.

“The challenge we have is that the process has to be fair and involve the community,” said Brown.

With a number of changes across city departments, Brown said the new city manager will also have the opportunity to form his or her own team, much as Ambrosino did when he started in Chelsea.

The next scheduled City Council meeting is the special meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 3, when the council will nominate and elect the new president, vice president, and representative to the School Committee.

Brown said it current-

ly looks like Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson, the council’s longest-serving member, has the votes to succeed him as council president.

EVERETT WORKER SAVES FAMILY

EVERETT - On Thursday morning, Dec. 22, Parking Enforcement Officer for the City of Everett Brian Gianelli prevented tragedy at a 2-alarm fire at a multi-unit residence on Vine Street.

While he was doing his overnight shift, Gianelli smelled and spotted smoke coming from the building and quickly sprang into action by calling the Everett Fire Department (EFD) and alerting residents to the danger to ensure they got out safely.

“I was in the right place at the right time,” said Gianelli. He also told NBC10 Boston, “There were

alarms going off, couldn’t tell from what. I got them up, got them out,” he recalled. “And second floor, and I said, ‘You got to get out, we have a fire.’”

The EFD quickly responded with help from Metro Boston mutual aid to get the fire under control. Firefighters also did all they could to save the presents under the Christmas tree on the first floor.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria expressed his gratitude to Gianelli and the firefighters who responded to the fire.

“As we all celebrate this season, let’s be thankful for the people like Brian and our first responders for keeping us all safe,” said Mayor DeMaria.

NEW BIOSAFETY REGULATIONS APPROVED

REVERE - The Revere Board of Health held a brief (15 minutes) but consequential meeting last Thursday evening in the City Council Chamber at which Chairman Dr. Drew Bunker and colleagues Dr. Craig Costanza and Neza Louaddi unanimously approved the new Regulations on Biosafety and the Use of Regulated Biological Agents within the city.

The new regulations are an update of the previous regulations in anticipation of the development at Suffolk Downs that is expected to attract a number of life sciences companies as tenants.

The board had discussed a draft of the proposed regulations at its October meeting and scheduled the public hearing on the new regulations for last Thursday.

The board heard a brief presentation from Claire Inzerillo, a Policy Writer & Analyst with the City Solicitor’s Office, who had discussed a draft of the proposed regulations in detail at the October meeting. After hearing suggestions from the members in October, Inzerillo returned with the final version last Thursday.

“These regulations will provide for the health and safety of the citizens of Revere,” Inzerillo told the board. “Revere anticipates the exciting arrival of the life sciences industry. I am confident that the regulations before you will guarantee safe and transparent procedures.”

The chief highlights of the new regulations are that they limit research in the city only to Biosafety Levels 1 and 2 (Biosafety Levels 3 and 4 deal with the most dangerous pathogens) and they forbid experimentation with animals.

The new regulations also establish fees for annual permits and fines for violations. Inzerillo also noted that the work being done by the firms will be highly-regulated by state and federal agencies in conjunction with Revere’s public safety departments.

See REGION Page 9

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Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

There were no members of the public at the hearing and after thanking Ms. Inzerillo for the fine job she had done to prepare the new regulations, the members voted unanimously to adopt the new regulations. The members then affixed their signatures to the document.

In other business, the board heard from Lauren Buck, the Director of Public Health, who presented the monthly communicable disease report (which included both November and December because the board did not meet in November).

Buck said there were 361 reported cases of flu in the city during the past two months.

“This is a very big number, but not a surprise, given the high numbers in Massachusetts and across the country,” said Buck. “The patients ranged in age from one month to 92 years old.”

She said the most at-risk age groups for death are the very young and the very old and that she expects the numbers to remain high in the coming months.

Buck reminded residents

that flu vaccine shots are available at the Board of Health.

Michael Wells, the city’s Health Agent/Director of the Inspectional Services Dept. (ISD), presented his monthly report in which he detailed the number of inspections and complaints that were addressed by the ISD.

He also noted the number of citation issued by the ISD in the past two months for various violations of the city ordinances: 69 for accumulations of trash and debris; five for commercial vehicles parked in residential areas; 171 for improper placement of bulky items; and 560 for improper placement of trash and debris.

Julia Newhall, the Director of the Substance Use Disorder and Homelessness Initiatives (SUDHI) Office, made a brief presentation in which she noted there will be emergency warming centers available from January through April in the Revere area, as well as emergency shelters for families and individuals.

Newhall said Revere has a consistent homeless population of about 30-40 persons.

Theresa Martino
Retired Bookkeeper

Theresa J. (Lagana) Martino of Winthrop, formerly of East Boston, passed away surrounded by her loving family on December 27 at the age of 94.

Theresa was a past member of St. John’s Mothers Club and Sons of Italy Winthrop Lodge and a bookkeeper for over 52 years of MP & Co. Tax and Financial Services.

The beloved wife of the late Ferdinand “Fred- dy” Martino, she was the devoted mother of Elisa Clancy and her husband, William of East Scho- dack, NY, Ferdinand Martino and his wife, Jo- Anne of Winthrop, Andrea Fonte and her husband, William of Quincy and Christopher Martino and his wife, Rachael of Con- cord; loving twin sister of Nancy Savoia of Con- cord and the late Joseph, John and Anthony Lag- ana and Frances Previte; cherished grandmother of Angela, Lauren, Jennifer, Kristen, Jonathan, Sam- uel, Anthony, Andrew, Roxanne and Michael and adored great-grand- mother of Marielle, Jo- seph, Leo and Freddie. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Services were held at the Ruggiero Fam- ily Memorial Home, East Boston. Theresa was laid to rest at Winthrop Ceme- tery, Belle Isle Section. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Michael the Archan- gel Parish Winthrop or to a charity of your choice. To leave an online condo- lence, please visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Felice “Phil” Barletta
Retired Master Machinest

 Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend Visiting Hours on Sunday, January 8 from 2 to 6 p.m. in Vaz- za’s “Beechwood” Funer- al Home, 262 Beach St., Revere for Felice “Phil” Barletta who died unex- pectedly at his home on Sunday, January 1 at 91 years old. A funeral will be conducted from the fu- neral home on Monday, January 9 beginning at 9 a.m., followed by a Fu- neral Mass in St. Anthony of Padua Church, 250 Re- vere St., Revere at 10 a.m. Interment will follow with Military Honors in Wood- lawn Cemetery, Everett.

Phil was born in East Boston on August 30, 1931, to the late Domeni- co and Agnes (Vitale) Bar- letta. He was one of four children. He then enlisted in the United States Army in 1948. While serving in Germany, he met and married the love of his life, Anneliese (Meissner). The couple lived in East Boston, where they raised their three daughters. Phil worked as a Master Ma- chinist. After he retired, his hobbies included tak- ing day trips to Boston, boating and he especially loved his family, and be- ing with them.

The beloved husband of 60 years of the late Anne- liese (Meissner) Barletta, he was the loving father of Evelyn Barletta–Auld and



her husband, John of Rock- land, Donna Saraceno and her husband, Robert J. of Saugus and Lisa Tracia and her partner, John A. Norton, II of Saugus; the grandfather of Erica Rago and her husband, James, Stephen Apicco and his wife, Denise, Christopher Saraceno and Robyn Ber- ry, Robert Saraceno and his wife, Lisa and Nicole Tracia and her partner, Jeff Black; the treasured great grandfather of Evan, Ashlyn, Isabelle, Juliette, Delilah, Christian, Anne- liese, Christopher, Jr. Jake and Nathan and the dear brother of Agnes Barletta and the late Nicholas An- thony Barletta. He is also lovingly survived by his companion, Nina Preston.

In lieu of flowers, re- membrances may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675- 8516. For online guest book and condolences, please visit www.vazzafu- nerals.com

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A SHORT STORY ABOUT GROWING UP WITH AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

POLIO.

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

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

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



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Joao “John” Lopes
Of Georgia, formerly of East Boston

Joao “John” Lopes of Lithonia, Georgia, formerly of East Boston, passed away surrounded by his loving family on December 29 at the age of 88.

The beloved husband of Julia (Andrade) Lopes, he was the devoted father of Mary Jeanie Lopes Love and her husband, Eric Love and Madelene Lopes Casey and her husband, Carlton Casey; cherished grandfather of Eliana Jene Love and Maya Erica Love. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will honor John’s life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga St., East

Boston on Saturday, January 7 from 9 to 11 a.m. followed by a funeral service in celebration of John’s life at 11 a.m. Services will conclude with John being laid to rest at Holy Cross Cemetery Malden.

To leave an online condolence please visit www.ruggieromh.com.

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Wu attends PowerCorpsBOS graduation

Mayor Michelle Wu joined PowerCorpsBOS for a graduation ceremony for its inaugural cohort. This event marked the 21 graduates who have spent the past six months learning about various green industries and skill sets, such as native and invasive plant identification, environmental conservation, parks maintenance, general labor operations, OSHA safety certification, career readiness, and resume writing and interviewing. An ‘earn and learn’ program, PowerCorpsBos pays members to participate in hands-on training and provides them with career readiness support, and connections to employers in the green industry.

“Building a Green New Deal city means supporting and investing in all aspects of the growing green industry across Boston,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “PowerCorps is a testament to the importance of investing in our youth and providing a vital pathway to enter careers in the environmental and sustainability industry. Congratulations and thank you to our inaugural graduating class!”

PowerCorpsBOS is a partnership that is led by the Cabinet of Worker Empowerment and the Environment Department, in collaboration with Public Safety, Department of Youth Engagement and Employment, and Boston Centers for Youth & Families. The goals of

PowerCorpsBOS are to promote workforce development for young people in growing industries while supporting environmental stewardship. Students worked with Boston Housing Authority and UMass Mount Ida Campus to learn skills including tree protection, including pruning, felling, limbing, and bucking.

PowerCorpsBOS assisted 87 acres of public land, removed 284 bags of invasive material, worked with 18 service project partners, planted 61 trees, underwent 16 hours of tree climbing training, earned three college credits from UMass Mount Ida in Arboriculture, talked to 68 employees in private to public industry, worked with four different city departments, pruned 32 trees, attended International Society of Arboriculture New England chapter conference, participated in 12 hours of mock interviews, and completed 16 hours of financial literacy courses.

City Councilor Kenzie Bok joined the graduation ceremony at the Arboretum.

“Yesterday’s graduation affirms our city’s commitment to a Green New Deal that not only includes but is led by Boston’s Black and brown youth,” said Councilor Kenzie Bok, District 8. “I am so proud of all of the PowerCorpsBOS graduates, and I will continue to support this program in every way I can as its members grow into our future arborists,

urban wild experts, green retrofit specialists, park rangers, and so much more.”

This ambitious training program works to move residents into green jobs after program completion while focusing on training pathways into jobs to protect the environment. The priority of PowerCorpsBOS is to support communities that have been hit particularly hard by the socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Priority populations include returning citizens, court-involved residents, youth who have experienced homelessness or housing instability, young people who have been in foster care, and other marginalized communities.

The City of Boston’s green jobs program is inspired by the Philadelphia PowerCorpsPHL model that builds opportunities for young people by tackling pressing environmental challenges and developing the skills required to secure meaningful work. In Boston, the program is designed with “earn and learn” practices to ensure that members enter and succeed in career green job pathways. Members go through specifically tailored phases, in a field of their choosing, that embed service and equity, as well as direct connections to job openings. The program also offers connections to continuing education opportunities, including through the City’s Tuition Free Com-



Mayor Michelle Wu (center) with PowerCorpsBOS graduates.

munity College program.

“I am beyond honored to have had the opportunity to support 21 incredible young people gain new skills to join the green workforce,” said Davo Jefferson, Executive Director for PowerCorpsBOS. “I am so humbled to prepare Boston’s young people for employment opportunities that will allow them to earn a livable wage and support their families while taking care of the environment.”

“Watching the evolution of the Power Corps members and the staff has been one of the most fulfilling parts of my job,” said Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. “I am so thrilled to congratulate Boston’s first cohort of PowerCorpsBos graduates and I can not wait to see how they support Boston’s

fight for climate justice and a Green New Deal.”

“The reason I joined PowerCorps was to find out who I was personally and make an impact on my community,” said Iman Toney.

“I’m glad I was able to pave the way for other women in forestry,” said Jelaine Flores. “In this industry where women are underrepresented however, I’m glad I felt empowered to use my voice. Thank you PowerCorps for allowing me to be heard.”

“I knew that I wanted to find a job that would let me have my hands in the dirt and benefit this community,” said Tafari Wallace.

“This was the first thing I’ve seen through to completion since high school,” said Erica McManus-Lynch. “I have to say the experience has been ethereal!”

The program is now accepting the next round of applications. To be eligible for this program you must: be 18-30 years old; be a Boston resident; have your high school diploma or its equivalent (GED/HiSET); be unemployed or underemployed and not in college or on a career track; have an interest in outdoor, hands-on training. For questions about the program, contact PowerCorpsBOS@boston.gov. This City youth workforce development program was funded with \$9 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Recently, Mayor Wu recently announced the City of Boston’s new Forestry Division within the Boston Parks and Recreation Department. The 16-person division will include opportunities for individuals who graduated from PowerCorpsBOS.

ZONTA CLUB OF CHELSEA AND NORTH SHORE HOLIDAY GATHERING AND INSTALLATION

The Zonta Club of Chelsea & North Shore recently held its annual holiday gathering at Lime Restaurant in Chelsea. At this gathering their Slate of Officers were installed and they installed a new member to the club, Lee Farrington, a Chelsea resident. At this time, they held a collection of toys for the holidays which will be donated to the Salvation Army in Chelsea.



The Zonta Club of Chelsea & North Shore members.



Installed officers- left to right, Liza Fama, Treasurer, Georgia Green, Recording Secretary, Christine DePrizio, Corresponding Secretary, Janice Tatarka, President, Mary Jane O'Neill, Vice President.

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New member Lee Farrington being installed by Georgia Green, Recording Secretary.

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