

# East Boston

## TIMES - FREE PRESS

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

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Patrick J. Kennedy School students and staff with Representative Adrian Madaro, and Felipe Ortiz and Matt Pollock, of HarborArts, sitting around a daisy painted by Tom Bob.

## HarborArts paint murals at the PJK

Story & Photos by Marianne Salza

A smiling, pink daisy is painted over a manhole cover on the Saratoga Street sidewalk entrance of the Patrick J. Kennedy School. It is one of eight stencil graffiti murals created by New Bedford artist, Tom Bob, over the past three weeks. In partnership with HarborArts, which creates public art installations to encourage dialogue in the community, Bob brings mundane items around the school to life with whimsical characters.

“Tom Bob creates joy and happiness in everyday objects found around us,”

described Matt Pollock, of HarborArts. “We want kids to feel like it’s their place to learn and have fun.”

An elephant with a long, winding trunk and a large peanut are painted on gas pipes and a meter on an outside brick wall. Beside it is a cheery ladybug with black pipes for antennae.

Inside, a monkey is climbing on a tree that is painted on a pipe, and wall-mounted lights are utilized for butterfly antennae. Bob transforms radiators into an ear of corn being eaten by a child, and

See HARBORARTS Page 3



Felipe Ortiz and Matt Pollock, of HarborArts, posing in front of a mural of a ladybug and elephant painted by Tom Bob at the Patrick J. Kennedy School.

## Overlook Terrace completion celebrated by many

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

On Friday, June 23, folks from several organizations, city, and state departments, and current and former elected officials gathered to celebrate the completion of phase three of Overlook Terrace — which marks the total completion of the redevelopment of a 331-unit public housing community in Orient Heights.

This project’s planning process is one that began back in 2008 — initiated by the Boston Housing Authority (BHA).

Then in 2015, with the help of funding from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) — now known as the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) — the development team of Trinity Financial and East Boston Community Development Corporation was selected.

Later, construction would begin and be done in three phases leading up to what is now a new and improved public housing community.

The first phase was completed in 2018 with the construction of 120 replacement state public housing units, followed

by phase two completion in 2020 with 88 units and the addition of community open space, all culminating with phase three with 123 units and a new public park.

“We live in a time when

See OVERLOOK Page 6

## Summer Tunnel closure set for next week

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

In just one week’s time, on Wednesday, July 5, the Summer Tunnel closure is set to begin lasting through August 31, and officials from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) are making it clear — be prepared for significant impacts.

The tunnel, which is approaching 100 years old, has been undergoing work for some time now as part of a project to replace or repair things like its ceilings, walls, arch, and roadway surface and make life safety upgrades.

Now with a lengthy closure rapidly approach-

ing, residents should be preparing for what MassDOT’s Chief of Staff for the Highway Division, Jim Kersten, called a significant amount of impact during a Public Information Meeting on Tuesday, June 20.

“When you take out one of the four main vehicular routes into the city — there is going to be a significant amount of impact from that,” said Kersten.

Although there will be significant impacts due to this closure, MassDOT has been hard at work trying to mitigate those impacts and has attempted to do so through working

See SUMNER Page 2

## A love letter to East Boston

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

“This is like an unfolding love letter to our neighborhood and to the history of this neighborhood.” Those are the words of ZUMIX Co-founder and Executive Director Madeleine Steczynski describing Naomi Yang’s award-winning film titled “Never Be a Punching Bag for Nobody,” which was screened to a packed

house at ZUMIX on Saturday night.

Yang’s film, which won Special Jury Prize for Documentary at the International Film Festival Boston, is just how Steczynski described it — a love letter — in which Yang masterfully tells the story of three subjects, herself, Sal Bartolo Jr. and East Boston.

See LOVE LETTER Page 2



Naomi Yang, Sal Bartolo Jr., and Joyce Linehan during the question and answer session following the screening of “Never Be a Punching Bag for Nobody.”

**TRASH  
DELAY**

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Holiday on Tuesday,  
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by one day next week.

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Have a Happy and Safe 4th of July!







# Communities set to read and discuss “What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?”

Each year, Mass Humanities organizes and funds free public events where communities gather together to read and talk about Frederick Douglass’ influential address, “What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?”

This year, more than 40 cities and towns across the Commonwealth will take part in the Reading Frederick Douglass Together Program. The number of events continues to grow, surpassing the 24 held in 2022. A full list of dates and locations is available at [Masshumanities.org](http://Masshumanities.org).

“We need the words of Frederick Douglass now more than ever,” said Brian Boyles, Mass Humanities Executive Director. “As the nation confronts rising intolerance and threats to our democracy, we are honored to partner with these communities. These neighbors and organizations choose to take responsibility for the past and to imagine a shared path forward. It is, as Douglass said, time to do our work.”

After escaping slavery in 1838, the famous abolitionist lived for many years in Massachusetts. The most celebrated orator of his day, Douglass’ denunciations of slavery and forceful examination of the Constitution challenge us to think about the stories we tell and don’t tell, the ideas that they teach or don’t teach and the gaps between our actions and aspirations. Douglass delivered the Fourth of July speech on July 5, 1852, in Rochester, New York, to the Rochester Ladies’ Anti-Slavery Society.

Mass Humanities began supporting public readings of the speech in 2009. New to the Douglass program this year is a “trauma-informed” discussion guide for grantees.

Racial trauma, or race-based traumatic stress, is the cumulative effect of racism on an individual’s mental and physical health. It has been observed in numerous BI-POC communities and among people of all ages, including young children. Racial trauma can be experienced vicariously or



Area students during last years reading.

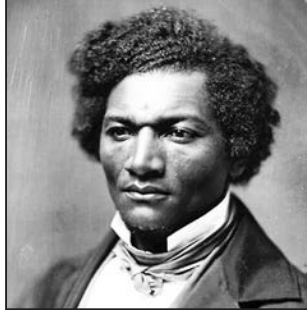
directly. It has been linked to feelings of anxiety, depression and suicidal ideation, as well as other physical health issues.

Published by Mass Humanities in May, the guide acknowledges that the context of Douglass’ powerful speech, “What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?” can result in racial traumatization or re-traumatization for participants and audience members as they read and discuss his words.

“The Trauma-Informed Discussion Guide provides a proactive, inclusive, and responsive framework for facilitating potentially difficult, uncomfortable conversations. It outlines a variety of step-by-step practices facilitators can choose from based on their experience and comfort levels to create supportive spaces for transformative dialogue on race and equity,” said the guide’s author, Dr. Latoya Bosworth, Mass Humanities Program Officer and coordinator of the Douglass initiative.

Along with providing funding support to organizations throughout the state, Mass Humanities hosts a reading each year on the Boston Common, near the monument to the 54th Regiment, that attracts state legislators, students and members of the public who take turns reading Douglass’ speech.

On Monday, July 3, Mass Humanities will once again partner with the Community Change, Inc. of Boston, the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice at Harvard Law School and the Museum of African American History to host the annual Boston Common reading.



Frederick Douglass.

For further information, contact John Lynds, Director of Communications, at [jlynds@masshumanities.org](mailto:jlynds@masshumanities.org).

To learn more about Reading Frederick Douglass Together contact Latoya Bosworth, Program Officer, at [lbosworth@masshumanities.org](mailto:lbosworth@masshumanities.org)

Mass Humanities, a non-profit foundation based in Northampton, creates opportunities for the people of Massachusetts to transform their lives and build a more equitable Commonwealth through the humanities. Since its founding in 1974, the organization has provided millions of dollars to support thousands of humanities projects across Massachusetts. Established as the state-based affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), Mass Humanities is an independent programming and grant-making organization that receives support from the NEH and the Massachusetts Cultural Council and private sources. For more information, visit [www.masshumanities.org](http://www.masshumanities.org) or connect on social media at:

Facebook.com/masshumanities

Twitter.com/masshumanities

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## HVNA NOTICE

Just a friendly reminder that there is No Meeting of the Harbor View Neighborhood Association, HVNA, on Monday July 3. We are off the month of July, so our next meeting will be August 7, 2023 at Salesian.

Please have a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July Holiday.

## INTEGRITY REVIEW BUREAU RECEIVED 17 NEW CASES IN 2022

The Suffolk County unit that investigates claims of innocence, wrongful convictions, unjust sentences and other criminal court irregularities received 17 new cases for screening in 2022 and currently has 38 cases awaiting initial review, District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced.

In addition to the cases awaiting review, the Integrity Review Bureau (IRB) has five cases selected for further investigation and three cases that will likely result in recommendations for relief, Hayden said.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

“The IRB’s work is vital in bringing attention and remediation to cases where justice has not been served or has been inequitably applied. We are fully aware of the power we possess as prosecutors and as investigators, and we will always use that power to secure just convictions and to address unjust convictions,” Hayden said.

The current IRB structure, dating to 2019, was built upon the office’s DNA Committee, started in 2002, and its Conviction Integrity Program, started in 2012. In its current inception the IRB has received 108 applications for review, which have to date resulted in 18 defendants receiving some form of relief. The relief includes nine recommendations regarding convictions, four regarding sentencing, and five regarding other forms of relief, such as support for parole or commutation.

The IRB has continually refined its application and online Case Inquiry Form, with the latest revisions having been made in spring and summer of

2022. The goal is to make the application form and process accessible for anyone seeking review of a conviction or sentence.

“Making the application form as easy as possible to access and complete goes a long way when it’s used by inmates or others with limited access to computers and the internet. This is an advantageous blend of technology and justice system access,” Hayden said.

The IRB has dramatically reduced its response time to case inquiries received through the office’s website portal. Response time in 2020, with the IRB in its infancy and with a backlog of inherited cases, was over two weeks. Response time dropped to under three days in 2021 and under two days in 2022.

Of the 18 cases approved for relief, 14 of the applicants were Black, two were Hispanic and two were White. One of the applicants was female and the rest were male. The applicants have collectively served 564 years in prison.

## ZUMIX announces Summer Concert Series

ZUMIX, a local non-profit providing creative opportunities for young people, will kick off its annual Summer Concert Series on Sunday, July 9, in Piers Park. The concert coincides with ZUMIX’s annual Walk for Music, a major fundraiser and joyful celebration of the ZUMIX community, and the launch of the 10th annual Eastie Week, a celebration of cultural and musical heritage and organizations in the East Boston neighborhood. Local Eastie band Don’t Be Denied will headline the show, with an opening set by the ZuKix, a ZUMIX youth ensemble.

The Summer Concert Series highlights local professional musicians showcasing a vast array of genres. The July lineup this year includes soul artist Toussaint the Liberator on July 16; an all-youth showcase in collaboration with Women in Music on July 23; and reggae artist Jahriffie on July 30. Musicians headlining in August include local indie pop band Wild Painting (composed of ZUMIX alumni) on August 6; hippie rockers High Tide on August 13; jazz and soul artist Yaya de Angel on August 20; and percussion-fueled international ensemble Kotoko Brass at the final show on August 27.

“We’re so excited to welcome the community to our summer concerts this year,” said Madeleine Steczynski, co-founder and executive director of ZUMIX. “It’s always a great opportunity for our students to perform in front of their community, and for us to showcase local musicians. Anyone is welcome to join us.”

All family-friendly concerts will take place from 6-8 p.m. at Piers Park, which is located at 95 Marginal Street in East Boston. The concerts will open with young musicians from ZUMIX’s programs.

## City Councilors offer a hearing to discuss the digitization and tracking of parking regulations

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta and Councilor-At-Large Michael Flaherty will host a hearing to discuss the digitization and tracking of parking regulations in the City of Boston on Tuesday, July 11, at 10 a.m. in the Iannello Chamber, Fifth Floor of Boston City Hall.

“My office has received multiple calls from residents requesting greater parking enforcement funding. Our neighborhoods have a high level of density

with small parking spaces per unit, making a solid enforcement system imperative to ensure that all of our residents can rely on on-street parking near their homes,” said Councilor Coletta. “Boston Transportation Department (BTD) staff is currently tracking parking regulations based on institutional knowledge with no modernized internal system to assist them. By exploring the digitization and tracking of parking regulations, we can mod-

ernize our internal systems, create a pathway for efficient constituent services, and foster greater quality of life for residents.”

The Councilors seek to bring together city workers, administration members, and Boston residents to work collaboratively to bring a new modernized parking enforcement system that helps with the quality of life and boosts efficiency in constituent

See PARKING Page 9

## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Hicks, Samantha	Osborne, Michael A	13 Haynes St	\$920,000
Costa, Gregory	Hofmann, Andreas G	68 Marginal St #C	\$735,000
Martha C Masinton RET	Ann G Mclea 2004 Lt	187 Webster St	\$2,020,000
200 Everett Street LLC	Haskard, Nicholas J	200 Everett St	\$685,000
Cakar, Emine Y	Silcared Harvest LLC	218 Brooks St #2	\$750,000
292 Bennington Street LLC	Saggese, Gustin	292 Bennington St	\$799,000
Ortega, Taylor C	Top Goose LLC	303 Maverick St #3	\$771,500
Rossman, Jesse J	Schafheimer, Steven N	336 Saratoga St #6	\$702,000
Ring, Daniel	Federico, Adrian	404 Meridian St #3	\$410,000

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East Boston

Times-Free Press

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# Forum

## GUEST OP-ED

### Is the Titanic worth the risk?

**HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY**

With the Fourth of July falling on a Tuesday this year, many of us will be enjoying an extra-long holiday weekend for which the weather hopefully will cooperate.

The Fourth of July brings back fond recollections from our youth, when we celebrated the Fourth with cookouts at our grandmother’s house at Yirrell Beach on Pt. Shirley in Winthrop.

Those happy summer memories on the beach with family members, many of whom are no longer with us, are etched indelibly in our mind’s eye and always bring a smile to our face as if they happened just yesterday, though they occurred decades ago.

Amidst all of our celebrating however, we often overlook the reason why we have a Fourth of July: It was on that date 247 years ago when a group of America’s leaders and best thinkers gathered in Philadelphia to declare their independence from England by means of a proclamation to the world in which they stated, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

We hasten to point out that in 1776, “men” literally meant only “white men.” About 20 percent -- almost 500,000 persons -- of the country’s 2.5 million population were enslaved. Half of the rest -- women -- were treated as chattel and did not have the right to vote in America until more than 150 years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

But in the context of 2023, the basic premise of the Declaration of Independence -- “all men are created equal” -- resonates as loudly and as clearly as ever. To be sure, there are forces in our country that do not adhere to that belief. Racism, sexism, and prejudice still exist to far too large an extent.

But if we believe in the vision expressed by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who declared, “The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice,” the essence of the Declaration of Independence remains as true today as it did in 1776.

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Life is filled with risks. Perhaps you enjoy sky diving, climbing Mount Everest, or swimming with sharks? Each endeavor involves serious risks.

Nothing would be accomplished on this planet without people willing to venture out into the unknown. Space exploration, medical and educational advances would be stymied without an innate spirit to try new things and to boldly go where no man has gone before. That’s right Star Trek would never have existed without the imagination of Gene Roddenberry.

From Christopher Columbus to the early settlers who forged their way West across America, our world is better. Scientists, engineers, inventors and explorers, who thought outside the box, regardless of the risk, have paved the way for countless others.

Bad things can hap-

pen to all of us even though the risk may not seem great. Automobiles, planes, and trains are in motion every day. They are standards for transportation. Yet, there are still car and plane crashes and train wrecks. Human life is lost every day even in our common modes of transportation.

The people aboard the Titanic in 1912 were riding the most magnificent ship of that era. It was believed by some to be unsinkable. Some of the wealthiest people of that day were on that maiden voyage. Yet, the Titanic was no match for human error and an iceberg. Of the 2240 passengers and crew, more than 1500 people lost their lives in that disaster. Most of them believed they were on a safe and grand vacation. They were, but tragedy occurred.

Last week a small 22-foot submersible known as the Titan owned by

OceanGate of Everett, Washington carried five passengers to their death. The cost per passenger was reportedly \$250,000 each for the trip to see the wreckage of the Titanic. Experts inside and outside of the company had warned of potential dangers and urged the company to undergo a certification process. Twenty-eight people are reported to have made the trip see the Titanic wreckage last year. Trips have been cancelled and indefinitely postponed due to various issues. There is speculation that the vessel made of carbon fiber was fatigued from previous trips. Tiny cracks not even visible could have existed.

Of course, these people thought they would make it back. They didn’t pay a quarter of a million dollars to die. They obviously believed they were safe. Even though there had been warnings about the construction of the tiny

sub, they moved forward on their adventure.

The best any of us can do is to try to make good decisions and we will still have mishaps. You can’t control what others are doing around you and how their actions might impact you. There is always a chance of mechanical failure and human error. We live with hope that we will be able to recuperate from whatever might happen. Often “We walk by faith and not by sight.” 2 Corinthians 5:7.

If we don’t live life with some risks, we aren’t living much of a life, if any life at all.

*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.*

## ENJOY THE LONG WEEKEND SAFELY

An often-overlooked aspect of the Fourth, especially during a long holiday weekend, is that too many among us will engage in behavior that is risky not only to ourselves, but to our loved ones and others around us.

Fireworks are illegal for everybody in Massachusetts, but that has not stopped the proliferation of fireworks in recent years. In Massachusetts alone in 2022, fire departments reported 106 fires and explosions attributed to fireworks, an increase of nearly a third from 2021. More than half of these incidents took place during the week of July 4. All told, fireworks-related incidents in Mass. last year caused 38 injuries and \$414,279 in damages.

Every year there are more than 10,000 injuries across the country that require emergency room visits, with many fireworks’ users losing fingers and suffering burns that will maim them for life.

Other risky behavior also spikes during the holiday weekend. From 2017 to 2021, there were 1,460 drivers who were killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes over the Fourth of July holiday period, of whom 38 percent were drunk.

This same admonition also applies to boat owners, who all-too-often think that being in the water while under the influence is safe and acceptable behavior.

In addition to happy memories from our youth, the Fourth of July also resurrects a tragic memory of a friend, an athletic young man in his 20s who was one of our basketball buddies, who became intoxicated at a backyard barbecue. He fell off a small porch when he missed a step and fractured some vertebrae, leaving him a paraplegic and wheelchair-bound for the rest of his life.

That tragic event happened almost 30 years ago, but the shock of hearing of our friend’s accident, and then seeing him for the first time in a wheelchair, never to play basketball again, is something we never will forget.

In the 1800s and early 1900s, the Fourth of July served as a convenient excuse for young men to go on a rampage throughout their communities, vandalizing public and private property. The term “a safe and sane Fourth” was introduced at the turn of the 20th century to discourage deliberate acts of rowdiness.

Although we no longer celebrate the Fourth as wantonly as our ancestors did, nonetheless we all must do our part to make sure that we observe the Fourth’s festivities safely and sanely, both for ourselves and our loved ones.

We wish all of our readers a happy, fun-filled, and safe Fourth of July.

## Wu announces new leaders within community engagement cabinet

Mayor Michelle Wu announced Nathalia Benitez-Perez of East Boston as the new Director of the Office of Civic Organizing and Anthony Nguyen as the new Director of SPARK Boston, both tasked with giving Boston residents a voice in local government. The Mayor’s Office of Civic Organizing is committed to collaborative partnerships and programs that encourage proactive community engagement and service in our neighborhoods. SPARK Boston empowers 20 to 35-year-olds to play a greater role in planning for the City’s future.

“Both Anthony and Nathalia are familiar faces at City Hall, and I’m excited to see them take on leadership roles that work directly with our residents,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “With his experience on the SPARK Boston Council, Anthony knows firsthand the impact Boston’s young adults can make in shaping our City’s future. Similarly, Nathalia’s warmth and passion for making a difference in our neighborhoods will be a great asset to the Office of Civic Organizing.”

SPARK Boston and the Office of Civic Organizing are within the Community Engagement Cabinet, focused on eliminating silos between Boston residents and City Hall.

“I am thrilled to welcome our new directors to lead SPARK Boston and the Office of Civic Organizing,” said Community Engagement Cabinet Chief Brianna Millor. “Both directors will work closely with Boston residents to inspire them to become civically engaged and deepen their connections with local government, so they can shape



Nathalia Benitez-Perez

the future in the City of Boston. Nathalia and Anthony are both prepared to lead programs in their roles in transformative ways which will greatly benefit each neighborhood in Boston.”

Anthony Nguyen is a proud lifelong Dorchester resident with a passion to serve in his community. He joined SPARK Boston in 2021 and held the position of captain, volunteering his time assisting with programming efforts. As the son of Vietnamese immigrants he understands the importance of community, cultural awareness, and advocacy for those who traditionally have lacked the opportunities to engage civically. In taking up his role as Director of Spark Boston, he strives to continue increasing engagement of Boston’s millennial and Gen Z residents across the City of Boston.

“I am most excited to continue building this amazing program that has started my civic journey and hopefully can jumpstart others as well,” said SPARK Boston Director Anthony Nguyen. “I look forward to reaching out to young professionals in Boston and amplifying the voices of those who lack the opportunity to be civically engaged. There are



Anthony Nguyen

a lot of folks in our city that we are not hearing from and I can’t wait to connect with those individuals to ensure their life experiences and identities are represented in SPARK Boston programming.”

The SPARK Boston Council meets monthly to engage and learn from City departments, hosts networking and voter registration events, and also volunteers in Boston neighborhoods throughout the year.

Nathalia, a proud resident of East Boston, has been an active part of her community, harnessing her skills and knowledge to drive positive change.

Recognized for her exceptional leadership abilities, she most recently served as the East Boston Neighborhood Liaison in the Office of Neighborhood Services, acting as a bridge between residents and local government.

In her new role leading the Office of Civic Organizing, Nathalia will build on the Office’s work to get residents more engaged, through the City Hall on the Go Truck program, Love Your Block community cleanups, and the inaugural civic engagement summit.

“I am looking forward to expanding our partnerships with local colleges, universities, and civic organizations. Connecting to young people and those who are a part of our city’s most vulnerable communities is a high priority for me in this role,” said Office of Civic Organizing Director Nathalia Benitez-Perez. “I am excited to learn from local government and community leaders to work together to make the City of Boston an outstanding place to be civically engaged.”

Your opinions, please

The Times welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Letters may also be e-mailed to [editor@eastietimes.com](mailto:editor@eastietimes.com). Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

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# Sumner Tunnel Closure: You've Got Options

This summer, MassDOT's Sumner Tunnel Restoration Project will close the tunnel from 7/5 to 8/31. The MBTA offers simple ways to get to Boston. Park the car and hop on the **Blue Line**, **Commuter Rail**, or **Ferry**.



## Take the Blue Line for Free

- Travel between Wonderland and Bowdoin
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## Take the Ferries Between Boston, East Boston, or Lynn

### East Boston

- Free East Boston Ferry between Lewis Wharf and Long Wharf (North)
- No parking available

### Lynn

- \$2.40 for a one-way trip with new ferry service between Blossom Street Pier and Long Wharf (South), weekdays only, 10 trips per day
- Free parking at Blossom Street Pier parking lot

### Winthrop

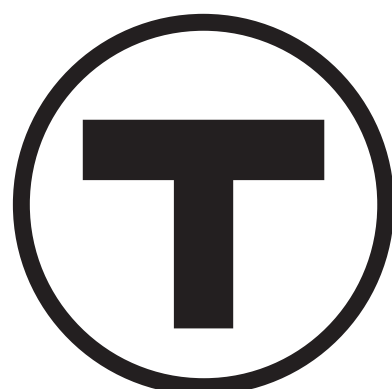
- MBTA will operate Winthrop Ferry Service for \$2.40 per trip
- Service between Winthrop, Quincy, Logan Airport, Aquarium, and Seaport



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ATLANTIC WORKS GALLERY HOSTS “SUMMER” AND “A BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHT” EXHIBITS

Photos & Story by Marianne Salza

Atlantic Works Gallery held its Third Thursday Reception for exhibitions, “Summer,” featuring Christine Palamidessi, and “A Blinding Flash of Light,” featuring Charlene Liska, on June 15.

“Summer” displays 37 miniature one-piece swimsuit sculptures that are humorous, fantastical, and culturally-inspired. The pieces were created using molded paper soaked in a hardening agent that Palamidessi treated with plaster before painting with gouache.

Each swimsuit represents a beach that she and her daughter have visited. Palamidessi’s Martha’s Vinyard sculpture is adorned with grapes, her Goa-Arambol (India) swimsuit is cross-legged with green eyes and a bindi, a Ventura Beach (CA) piece is decorated with strawberries, and the Wells Beach (MA) swimsuit has dots symbolizing the bioluminescent creatures that can be seen at night.

“I follow the female form through time and history, and the differ-

ent ways the female form is looked at,” explained Palamidessi. “A bathing suit is like a torso sculpture.”

June is Palamidessi’s favorite month, when she spends nearly every summer at her studio in Puglia, Italy. She feels that “Summer” is her most light-hearted show in the past decade. Black and white photographs illustrate leisurely joys in the seaside town of Otranto – families lounging on Concrete Beach in the day, and eating gelato in the evening.

“It’s where I live, where I work, and the town itself,” Palamidessi described. “It’s the eastern-most point in Italy. You can see Albania on a good day. It’s the most un-black and white place I’ve ever been to, so I use black and white to show a particular mood.”

Liska’s “A Blinding Flash of Light” explores the artist’s lifelong experiences with epilepsy. Liska was diagnosed with epilepsy at age 12, and describes the neurological disorder as a “chronic, disastrous illness” that is

titillating and scary.”

Mixed media and videos illustrate epilepsy through shards of color and poetic intrusions of illumination, representing the flickering lights that induce seizures.

“I am drawn to flashing lights,” said Liska, who enjoyed disco parties that induced three seizures one fall in the 1970s, more than she has ever experienced.

Perky and vivacious Liska shared that she spent 55 years keeping her epilepsy a secret because she feared that companies would not hire her, and found that insurance healthcare plans would not accept her. It was damaging.

“I’ve had a lot of help from loved ones,” said Liska, who studied medieval literature. “I’ve pulled success and happiness out of it. It was kind of a gift. I see things differently.”

View “A Blinding Flash of Light” and “Summer” at the Atlantic Works Gallery, 80 Border Street, through June 30. Gallery hours are Fridays and Saturdays 2-6 p.m.



Friends enjoying the Third Thursday Reception of exhibits, “Summer” and “A Blinding Flash of Light” at the Atlantic Works Gallery on June 15.



Sebastian Parra, from Councilor Coletta’s office, with Katelyn Johnston, and Bart Higgins, husband of artist, Charlene Liska.



Ruchika Sangani and Dave Stein.



Erin Doescher after having listened to Liska’s video presentation.



Artists Christine Palamidessi, beside her “footed vessel” (created from paper using the cartapesta technique), and Charlene Liska.



Julie Baer and John Greiner-Ferris with Charlene Liska in front of her electroencephalogram-inspired piece.

Overlook // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

it has become increasingly clear how important quality, sustainable and affordable housing is for our health and well-being,” said Eva Erlich, Vice President - Development at Trinity Financial.

“As a result of everyone’s efforts and investments, this final phase of the redevelopment of Overlook Terrace at Orient Heights is providing just that,” she added.

The celebration, which

included a ribbon-cutting ceremony, music, lawn games, and the opportunity to see some of the new units, was undoubtedly emotional for many reasons.

During the speaking portion of the ceremony, some who stood before the podium spoke about those who, unfortunately, could not see the final product of everyone’s hard work.

These individuals noted specifically were Carol Johnson of the Orient Heights Local Tenant Organization, Bill McGonagle, former BHA Administrator, and Marzuq Muhammad of Trinity Financial, all of whom have passed away.

“I’m very much feeling the presence of Carol Johnson and owe a debt of gratitude to her for, I think, setting a tone for this project to really realize the resident vision, and all of the partners just coalesced around that vision,” said Kate Bennett, outgoing BHA Administrator.

Former City Councilor Sal LaMattina passionately spoke about McGonagle’s involvement with the project and about a time McGonagle drove by to check out its progress.

“Every time I drive by here, I think of Bill Mc-

Gonagle — I drive by here every single day,” said LaMattina.

Bennett also spoke about Muhammad’s work, saying, “I’m very much feeling Marzuq today, and I owe him a debt of gratitude as well for all of the effort and heart that he put into this project.”

The ceremony was also emotional in a different aspect, in that many of those who spoke acknowledged and thanked the departing Bennett for her work as BHA administrator.

“She’s [Bennett] the reason that I’m here. She’s, I think, one of those people who just touches everybody who works with her,” said incoming BHA Administrator Kenzie Bok.

“I’d have to be remiss if I didn’t salute Kate Bennett for her great tenure as BHA Administrator. She has been an incredible partner to the state — she’s been an incredible partner in the mission of providing quality, affordable housing,” said Ben Stone, the Director for the Division of Public Housing with EOHL.

“Through her work and leadership, BHA is seen as a leader among public housing agencies nationwide,” he added.

In addition to the kind words, Bennett was gifted a book when LaMattina and former City Councilor Paul Scapicchio took the podium. Bennett was also given a framed photo depicting her relationship with the developers, which was presented by Sheila Dillon, the city’s Chief of Housing, and Erlich.

After she received a standing ovation, Bennett thanked all of the speakers for their kind words. She finished her remarks by saying, “This is just a beautiful way to sort of, you know, spend some of my last days at BHA.”

“It’s been an amazing ride. It’s truly been the privilege of a lifetime to serve in the role as Administrator. But really, just to be at BHA for 25 years has been an amazing experience and privilege,” said Bennett.

Overall, in what was an emotional event, it is clear that everyone involved is delighted to see this project completed.

“I really just want to thank everybody that came today and thank all of the partners that have made such a beautiful redevelopment possible,” said Bennett.



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*Living on a Bad Name (Bon Jovi Tribute)*

**JULY 11**

**OAK SQUARE COMMON @ 7:00 P.M.**  
430 Faneuil Street, Allston-Brighton  
*JP Sax Quartet*

**JULY 12**

**RAMLER PARK @ 6:30 P.M.**  
130 Peterborough Street, Fenway-Kenmore  
*Swingin’ in the Fens featuring Jelani Bauman*

**JULY 17**

**FALLON FIELD @ 7:00 P.M.**  
910 South Street, Roslindale  
*Divas with a Twist*

**JULY 24**

**JAMAICA POND - PINEBANK @ 7:00 P.M.**  
345 Jamaica Way, Jamaica Plain  
*Northeast Groove*

**JULY 26**

**BLACKSTONE SQUARE @ 7:00 P.M.**  
1535 Washington Street, South End  
*Conscious Reggae*

**JULY 31**

**HUNT/ALMONT PARK @ 6:30 P.M.**  
40 Almont Street, Mattapan  
*National Night Out - Conscious Reggae*

**AUGUST 2**

**DORCHESTER PARK @ 7:00 P.M.**  
1001 Adams Street, Dorchester  
*River of Dreams (Billy Joel Tribute)*

**AUGUST 6**

**HIGHLAND PARK @ 5:00 P.M.**  
58 Beech Glen Street, Roxbury  
*Jazz at the Fort featuring Tim Hall: Trust the Process*

**AUGUST 9**

**MEDAL OF HONOR PARK @ 7:00 P.M.**  
East Broadway & N Street, South Boston  
*Be Kind Rewind 90’s*

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Kate Bennett, the outgoing Administrator of the Boston Housing Authority, flanked on each side by folks who made the redevelopment of Overlook Terrace at Orient Heights possible, cuts the ceremonial ribbon.





## Boston Harborfest brings color, music, and spectacle to downtown

The 42nd edition of Boston Harborfest, the country's largest, and Boston's most expansive, Fourth of July celebration, runs June 30 through July 4 with events stretching from Downtown Crossing to the North End and from the Boston Common to Boston Harbor. The Downtown Boston Business Improvement District (Downtown Boston BID) is a co-sponsor of Harborfest, with the City of Boston, MeetBoston, and others.

Harborfest kicks off in Downtown Crossing June 30. Local and international leaders will be on hand; Downtown Boston BID President Michael J. Nichols hosts. "The rich history and culture of Boston comes alive for Harborfest," Nichols says. "Downtown is the perfect backdrop for re-

calling the American Revolution, honoring our country's move to freedom, and celebrating the dynamic city and country that has emerged ever since. Residents and 4th of July visitors will love the events, the music, the art and the people-watching here and on the waterfront during Harborfest week."

Harborfest coverage highlights in Downtown Crossing:

**DAILY:** Daily events June 30 through July 3 include live performances from local performers and musicians across genres will entertain visitors from stages in Downtown Crossing, kid-friendly puppet shows from Through Me To You Puppetry, roaming musicians, historical re-enactors, and costumed characters.

**JUNE 30:** 12 noon to 1 p.m. - Harborfest Opening Ceremony. A ceremonial cake-cutting with public officials and hospitality leaders kicks off Boston Harborfest 2023. Roving re-enactors and staff from the USS Constitution engage with visitors, while the Massachusetts 215th Army Band begins an afternoon of performances. Includes cutting and serving of the ceremonial cake, "living historians," and more. FREE. (The Steps at Downtown Crossing).

11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. - Downtown Boston Arts Market. A vibrant market in the heart of downtown highlights a wide selection of goods from local artisans. Shoppers will find handmade items from around Massachusetts - everything from jewelry and clothing to textiles, beauty and personal care items, and more. (Summer Street Plaza).

**JULY 1:** In addition to this evening's Boston Harborfest Fireworks viewable at Long Wharf at 9:15 p.m. and the Pre-Fireworks Concert at Christopher Columbus Park at 6 p.m., Downtown Boston highlights include:

1 to 4 p.m. - Middlesex County Volunteers Fife and Drums. Historic ensemble performs throughout the neighborhood, bringing authentic folk music and iconic patriotic hymns from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. Performance locations include Summer Street Plaza, Old State House, Old City Hall, and Old South Meeting House. FREE.

2 to 3 p.m. - Macy's Fashion Show. A festive Macy's Independence Day-themed fashion show highlights the latest street-wear looks on citizen models from the neighborhood, including the best of new summer trends. FREE (Steps at Downtown Crossing).

**JULY 2:** 12 Noon to 3 p.m. - Patriotic Poochpalooza. Costumed four-legged patriots face a guest panel awarding prizes for Best in Show, Best Team, Most Creative and Most Patriotic. A doggie marketplace pop-up includes treats for pets. FREE. (Steps at Downtown Crossing).

**JULY 3:** In addition to the Christopher Columbus Park Harborfest Concert from 1-5 p.m., and liver performances in Downtown Crossing from 12-7 pm., today's Downtown Boston highlights include:

2 to 4 p.m. - Chowderfest Chowder Tasting. A selection of restaurants from around the Boston area offer up tasty samples of the celebrated New England summer staple for visitors to enjoy. FREE. (Steps at Downtown Crossing).


**JULY 4:** 9 a.m. - City of Boston's 247th

Independence Day Celebration. A short parade steps off from City Hall Plaza and passes the Granary Burial Ground, where wreaths will be laid on the graves of patriots. Parade continues to the Old State House where the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company will continue its tradition of reading of the Declaration of Independence from the balcony. FREE. Parade viewing available along the route.

10 a.m. - The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company reads the Declaration of Independence from the balcony of the Old State House.

1:30 p.m. - A Day of Unity: Reading Fredrick Douglass. This event centers on a community-led reading of Frederick Douglass' abolitionist speech "What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?" Embracing both stirring historical and joyful contemporary elements, the "A Day of Unity" includes live music from Darlene Wynn, Tempo International Rhythm & Steel, African Drum Circle, and DJ Joe Johnson. Uprising Dance Theatre performs. Event concludes with an ice cream social. FREE (Steps at Downtown Crossing).

**Wishing You  
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Independence  
Day**



**State Senator  
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EAST BOSTON MINOR LITTLE LEAGUE ALL-STAR GAME

Last week the EB Little League Minor Division (ages 7-8) held the end of season all-star game. The teams combined the Rockies and Royals vs. the Orioles and Diamond Backs played last Friday evening at Festa Field.



Coaches, Tom Welch, Abraham Goldsmith, Brian Lynch, Andrew Rinaldi, Nick Free, Erik Roberts, Michael Marinez and Chris Prader with the 2023 Minor League All-Stars.



East Boston Little League President and coach Nick Free talks to the all-stars before the game.

EBHS CLASS OF 2023  
VALEDICTORIAN SPEECH

Dear teachers, families, administrators, and fellow graduates,

Welcome to the East Boston High School graduation for the class of 2023!!!

My name is Jailey Chavarria. Some of my classmates here today may not know me, and those who do would describe me as quiet (unless, of course, I'm with my best friend Iliana - she would say otherwise).

Last year, as the softball team was getting ready for a game, I was told that I was in the running to be valedictorian. When I first heard that news, one would anticipate an overwhelming sense of happiness to fill me, wouldn't they? However, for me, it was quite the opposite. While it is true that I have dedicated myself to my studies with unwavering determination, the thought of potentially faltering and falling behind haunted me. It was that exact feeling I had four years ago. I was so distressed that I wasn't going to an exam school, but looking back, I don't regret a moment of looking at the bright yellow walls and walking in the hallway with all of you.

I do have one regret in my high school career: not getting closer to my classmates. I wish I had developed deeper relationships



Valedictorian  
Jailey Chavarria

with more of you, because even with all these wonderful people surrounding me, I was stuck in my own bubble for most of high school. Thankfully, I was able to forge some great friendships that have given me a sense of belonging. I will always remember the laughter that Leylani, Devin, Raissa, Heidi and Yasmin brought into every classroom. I enjoyed the warmth of Joe and Izzy's office and hanging with Angie, Arasi, Ana, Charlie, and Yara while filling out college applications.

People often come up to me and ask, "Jailey, aren't you excited to go to college? Aren't you excited to start the new chapter of your life?" Well, I'm not as excited as you think. When they ask why, I stop and realize...part of me

See CHAVARRIA Page 9

SALUTATORIAN SPEECH

Hello class of 2023, how's everyone feeling today?

We've been waiting so long for this moment and it's finally here. Our dream of graduating high school has arrived, so give yourselves a big round of applause.

High school has been a rollercoaster these past couple of years, but we finally finished the ride. There were scary drops that made my eyes tear, but fun loops that I always like to talk about and share. We've had good times and bad times, but as the saying goes, "If there is no rain, then there are no flowers. Look at how we have all bloomed."

Over the last four years at Eastie, I have learned a few valuable lessons:

First, the only way to succeed is to learn from our mistakes so remember success is not the absence of failure, it's the persistence through failure. It is also important to just live in the moment and enjoy the process. We went from going to the East Boston High School orientation to walking across their stage today. Crazy how fast time flies by.

Second, the only person you need to impress is yourself. After we leave here today, I want you to know that whether you're going to college or not, just go out there, be yourself, chase your own dreams, create your own path, build your own happiness, make a difference for those who you love, and make them proud of who you are! When you take off this cap and gown, approach the world believing that you can do anything - because if you don't - no one else will create the future that you want.

Third, while the journey ahead may be rocky, it is important for you to seek help from others. Having to take college



Salutatorian  
Cindy Alfaro

classes while playing sports year round was incredibly draining for me. December to March was my thunderstorm. I was feeling lost and disappointed because I wanted senior year to be my best, but it was starting to feel like my worst. I remember one depressing snowy day in January. I went downstairs to the gym with a messy bun that was falling apart, my MacBook in my hands, filled with crumbs, and my pink Crocs. I kept explaining to Mr.Harris how drained I felt everyday. All I could do after I had finished applying to colleges was whine to Mr.Leone, Mr.Harris, Ms. Prudencio, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Lepak, Miriam, Izzy, Joe, Ms. Abromson - and anyone else who would listen. I even chased down the smell of boiled eggs coming from the teachers lounge to complain to Mr. Figueroa about two things. 1.) Why do colleges take so long to reach back? and 2.) Why are you eating boiled eggs for breakfast?

I felt lost and the only thing that seemed to comfort me was to hear Mr.Leone's daily reassurance about how he not only thought - but he knew - I would make it far in life. I always told him that one day I was going to be successful, and he had no doubt that I will be. All

See ALFARO Page 10

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Land O' Lakes American Cheese ..... \$5.99/lb

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## Chavarria // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

does not want high school to end.

I know it may be selfish to want to stay a kid, see my best friend every day, and walk down the streets I’ve known for most of my life. Don’t get me wrong, I can’t wait to become the first-generation business-woman in my family, but I am also afraid of the sudden switch. For all the astrology believers, it may be because I’m a Taurus, as we are known to be stubborn and despise big changes. But one trait we share is hard work.

I am already feeling nostalgic.

I’m going to miss Ms. Famador saying, “Oh lordy lord” during AP Calculus.

I’m going to miss going to Izzy to complain about my class, especially that essay I had to write for Ms. Glenn.

I’m going to miss the best theater teacher, Mr. Gallotto, who got me interested in musicals.

And I am going to miss playing Wordle with Iliana during class instead of doing my work...sometimes...

So perhaps the greatest lesson I have learned at Eastie is that we all must stop and enjoy the small, special moments in life, and with that, I want to leave you all with something to think about as we look toward our futures.

Did you know pigs can’t look at the beautiful, starry sky without falling on their backs? As with life, sometimes we have to fall down, flat on our

backs, in order to see the beauty that awaits us...

So after you walk across the stage today...

Take the next step and don’t be afraid to try something new.

Enjoy your life, do the things you like, and ignore what others say.

Find the laughter and warmth when you walk into any room.

The world ahead of us is filled with opportunities; we just need to go after them.

Thank you for the honor of delivering this speech. Thank you to all those who have helped us succeed down this path. Congratulations to the Class of 2023. We welcome the next chapter of our lives.

Michael Flaherty.

Highlights of the Order Include:

“WHEREAS, BTD currently relies on institutional knowledge of parking enforcement officers to recognize parking regulations in respective neighborhoods. There is no tracking system or geographic information system (GiS) mapping tool that defines what regulations are where which negatively impacts both residents and BTD employees; and

WHEREAS, Consistent parking enforcement heavily relies on a structural understanding of where and what parking laws are being implemented, appropriate staffing of enforcement officers, and efficient route development; and

WHEREAS, W h i l e BTD is currently experiencing understaffing, establishing a tracking system that allows the department to see gaps in service can ensure that residents who live in high density areas can safely and reliably find parking near their homes; and

WHEREAS, Investment in digital tools that are easy to navigate can make it more efficient for residents and city workers to access information, request services, sign up for alerts, and enforce parking regulations; and”

The hearing will be held under the Committee on City Services and Innovation Technology, chaired by Councilor Brian Worrell. Members of the public are encouraged to provide written or oral comments.

## OBITUARIES

### Sarah V. Cali

Known to all as “Grandma Sarah”

Sarah V. Cali, 95, of Peabody, formerly of East Boston, completed her earthly journey on Saturday, June 24, and is now resting with the angels above.

Born in Cambridge, she moved to Boston early on and was employed for many years at EG&G, Salem, in the flashtube department creating lights for airport runways and the Xerox copier. Known to all as “Grandma Sarah” she was a flower and animal lover. Her favorite color was purple and she would always have a bow in her hair to match her every ensemble. Sarah loved going to the Peabody Senior Center, enjoying their delicious daily lunches and the company of friendships she made while there.

Sarah was the daughter of the late Henry A. and Vasiliki (Petropoulos) Sawyer. She is survived by her daughter, Maria V. O’Toole of Peabody, her son, John Joseph Cali and his wife, Brenda of Yorktown, VA and Saied Ayati who has been like a son to her for over 25 years. She was predeceased by her son, George, daughter, Marie, and brother, Thomas D. Sawyer. Sarah is also survived by



her three granddaughters: Stacy V. Mazzarella and her husband, Joe of Peabody, Nicole Starr Bernier of Tennessee and Andrea Feeley and her husband, James of Winthrop and six great-grandchildren: Michael, Jayden, Devin, Kinsley, Christopher and Anabelle. She is also survived by two nieces, Kathy Sawyer Miller, Carolyn Sawyer Aldridge and her nephew, Joseph Sawyer.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 10 Chestnut Street, Peabody. A visitation will be held today, Wednesday, June 28 from 4 to 8 p.m. and again at 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 29 followed by a prayer service in the Chapel at 11 a.m. Interment with her son, George will be at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

To leave an online condolence, visit [www.ruggieromh.com](http://www.ruggieromh.com).

### Alice Bavaro

Of East Boston

Alice A. (Casaletto) Bavaro of East Boston passed away on June 20.

The beloved wife of the late Robert Bavaro, she was the loving daughter of the late James and Lillian (Sullivan) Casaletto; devoted mother of Brenda O’Brien and her husband, Robert and Joy Beatrice and her husband, David, all of Tewksbury; dear sister of James Casaletto and his wife, Julie of Alexandria, VA, Paul Casaletto and his wife, Gerri of Deering, NH, Daniel Casaletto and his wife, Kathleen of Ringoes, New Jersey and the late Anne McDonough and her late husband, Tom; cherished Nana of Justin and his fiancé, Jackie, Cory and his wife, Nicole, Kyle and his wife, Katherine, Nicole, Samantha, John and great grandmother of Easton. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends honored Alice’s life by gathering at the Ruggiero Fam-



ily Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga St., East Boston on Monday, June 26 before leaving in procession to Sacred Heart Church in East Boston for a noon Funeral Mass. Services concluded with Alice being laid to rest at Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett. Per request of the family, in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis TN 38105, Tel: 1-800-805-5856, Web: <http://www.stjude.org/>. To leave an online condolence, visit [www.ruggieromh.com](http://www.ruggieromh.com).

### Frances Capo

Of East Boston

Frances P. (Goveia) Capo of East Boston passed away peacefully on Tuesday, June 20.

The loving daughter of the late Agostino and Sarah C. (Petrulia) Goveia, she was the devoted mother of Anthony Capo and his wife, Christina and Nicholas R. Capo Jr., all of Saugus, dear sister of the late Mary Strickland, cherished sister in law of Irene Yeomans and John and Mary Capo, all of East Boston; cherished grandmother of Ashley M., Anthony J., Giovanni and Giuliana Capo. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends honored Frances’s life by gathering at the Ruggiero



Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street, (Orient Heights) East Boston, on Sunday, June 25. Committal services will be private. To leave an online condolence visit [www.ruggieromh.com](http://www.ruggieromh.com).

### Maria A. Conti

Loving wife, mother, sister, aunt and friend

Funeral Services were conducted on Friday, June 23, in the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza Beechwood Home for Funerals, 262 Beach St., Revere for Maria A. Conti, who died on Monday, June 19 at Mass. General Hospital in Boston, following a long illness. She was 56 years old. Interment was in the Holy Cross Cemetery Community Mausoleum in Malden.

Maria was born and raised in East Boston, daughter of the late Genoeffa “Jenny” (Giannasca) and Epifanio Bruno. She was a graduate of St. Rose High School in Chelsea, Class of 1986 and was employed at Mass Highway where she worked as an assistant commissioner for 37 years.

Maria adored her family and enjoyed spending time with them. She was a loving wife, mother, sister, aunt and friend who will be missed by all who knew her.

She was the beloved wife of Robert C. Conti with whom she shared 24 years of marriage; cherished mother of Al-



ana Conti; caring sister of Raffael Bruno and his wife, Silvana, Paul Bruno and his wife, Donna, Teresa Fulciniti and her husband, Frank and Bernardo Bruno and his wife, Debbie. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Donations may be made in her memory to the American Lung Association at 1661 Worcester Rd Ste 301, Framingham, MA 01701.

To send online condolences, please visit [www.vertucciosmithvazza.com](http://www.vertucciosmithvazza.com).

Funeral arrangements entrusted to the care and direction of the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza, Beechwood Home for Funerals, Revere.

### Josephine Louise Hanton

A generous, witty and dedicated individual, she loved her family and friends

Josephine Louise (Dyer) Hanton died peacefully at home on June 14 in Sarasota, Florida at the age of 96.

Josephine is survived by her children: James Hanton Jr. of Chelsea, Kathrine and her husband, Robert Pacitta of East Boston, Dennis and his wife, Kim Hanton of Revere, Joseph and his wife, Toni Hanton of Methuen, Robert and his wife, Theresa Hanton of Saugus, Julia and her husband, Sebastian Serra of Sarasota, FL. She also leaves her sister-in law, Eleanor Hanton of Canton, 17 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

Josephine was preceded in death by her husband, James Hanton of East Boston; her children, Georgette and her husband, Robert Toscano of Saugus and George Hanton of East Boston; her sisters, Erma Dyer of Chicago, IL and Kathrine Thompson of Kissimmee, FL; her in-laws, Joseph and his wife, Margaret Hanton and A. Dorothea Hanton, all of Canton.

Josephine was born on May 3, 1927 in Chicago, IL to Stephen and Anna Dyer. She married James Hanton in 1946 and over the next 20 years, the couple welcomed eight



children into their lives. Her children remember her as a kind, loving and dedicated mother who helped them in any way she could.

Josephine was passionate about helping people and worked as a caregiver for many years. She was a generous, witty and dedicated individual who loved her family and friends.

She recently converted to the Catholic faith and was baptized on February 18, 2022, at the age of 95.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to The Hanton House, 69 Clinton Street, Chelsea, MA 02150.

The family would like to thank the caregivers and hospital staff for their care.

A celebration of Louise’s life will take place in Sarasota Florida, in August with family.

### OBITUARIES

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

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# Alfaro // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

I ever wanted to do was prove him right. Hopefully, today is my first step in that direction.

So to all of the Eastie teachers and staff members who helped me along the way, I want to thank you for your guidance and support. I would not be standing here today if it weren't for all of you, and I mean that from the bottom of my heart. Like I've always said "It's the little things that can go such a long way".

As we gather together today for the last time, I would like everyone to take a moment to appreciate all that your parents, guardians, educators, and friends have done for you. I want to thank God for allowing me to be here speaking to all of you. I also want to thank my

best friends and volleyball girls: Esperanza, Emely, Lili, Sa, Cinju, Clarita, Jen, Kat, Mitchy, Keily, Brandy, Cesar, Jessica, and Maria. I would not be the person that I am today without you guys. I can't wait to see what the future holds for us and I hope nothing but the best for you. I know each and every one of you is going to be the best you can be no matter what you do.

Throughout high school, one question has always nagged me: "Why do I try so hard at everything if it doesn't make me happy?" As many of you here today, I grew up in an immigrant family household. I am the eldest, and only girl, and my parents held very high expectations for me. They are the seeds of a flower, this

is where my flowers started to grow from the rain and sunshine put together. Because my mom and dad never had the chance to finish high school, I wanted them to feel my achievements as if they were their own. My parents not only had to leave their families as 20-year-olds, but they also risked their lives crossing the border, leaving the culture and world they knew behind. I learned from their sacrifices that I have to take risks - and that the biggest risk is to not take a risk at all. If my parents didn't risk their lives so their families back home could thrive, then I would not be standing here right now, speaking to all of you. For that, I am eternally grateful to my parents. I love you both.

Este es un logro que quiero dedicar a mi mamá y a mi papá porque aun- que haya sido mi logro, si. Como muchos de ustedes, mis papas llegaron a este país sin nada pero aun así me lo pudieron dar todo. Las cosas más valiosas nunca son fáciles, pero con su amor, sacrificios, y apoyo, todo se pudo. Mi mama siempre me decía especialmente cuando yo llegaba de la escuela a la casa "Cindy tienes que prepararte y ponerte las

pilas, porque mira aquí la vida no es facil." Pues mami y papi si que me puse las pilas. Espero que estén muy orgullosos de mí y espero que esto sea nada mas solo el principio y que pronto me vean en la tele. Los amo y los adoro demasiado. Lastly I would like to introduce a couple words from an urban Latino king named Benito Martinez, also known as Bad Bunny! (Maybe a pause... some might cheer.) He

said, "Un día bien, al otro mal. Así e' la vida y eso no va a cambiar. A vece' para sonreír hay que llorar. Cierra los ojos y aprende a volar." With that, I know that each and every one of you is going to leave here and bring on the changes we all want to see. I wish you all the best, enjoy your special day today, and don't forget that once a Jet, always a Jet! Congratulations Class of 2023

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SACRED HEART PARISH CELEBRATES ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

COURTESY PHOTOS



Shown in the following photographs are scenes from Sacred Heart Parish's 150th Anniversary Mass.



Sacred Heart Parish of East Boston celebrated its 150th Anniversary at a Mass..

His Emience, Cardinal Sean Patrick O'Malley was the main celebrant at the Mass and was joined by Fr. Paolo Cumin, administrator of Sacred Heart Parish, Fr. Luis Hernandez, Fr. Michele Benetti, Fr. Luca Bracolini, Fr. Wayne Belschner (former pastor of Sacred Heart Parish), Fr. Ignatius Mushauko, administrator of Our Lady of the Assumption, and Fr. Gianni former deacon of

Sacred Heart Parish. AJ Constantino participated as well and read the gospel.

Cardinal O'Malley delivered the homily. In his remarks, he recognized the 150th anniversary of Sacred Heart Church.

The music was provided by Ming Wilson, music director of Sacred Heart Church. The Sacred Heart Church Choir, and Ronald Pardi and the East Boston Central Catholic school Choir also performed.

Peggy Hunter and Kathy Hughes conducted readings at the Mass.





## ATLANTIC WORKS GALLERY 20TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW - ON THE EDGE

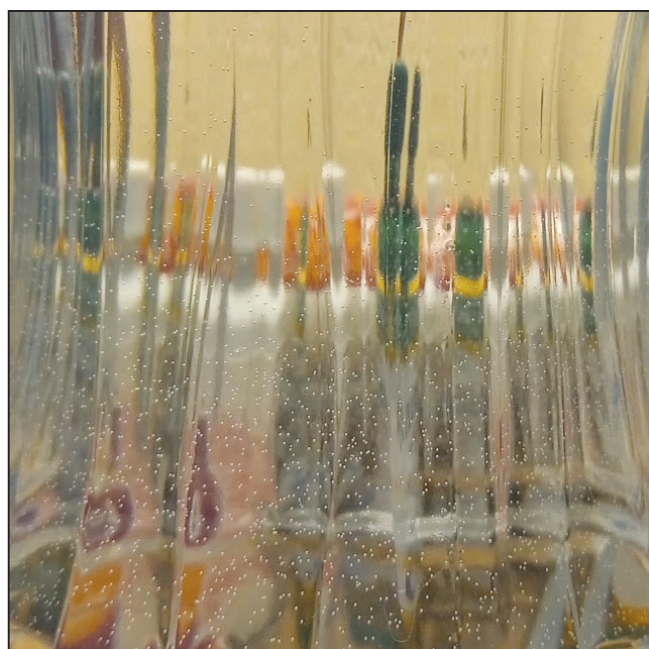
Atlantic Works Gallery in East Boston is celebrating its 20th Year Anniversary this summer with a large show entitled '20 Years on the Edge.' The opening reception will be held on July 20, from 6-9 p.m.

Not only will current and past artists members

be showing their work, but Atlantic Works Gallery will also be officially opening its brand new ground floor gallery that the East Boston Community Development Corporation built this year. It will be an exciting evening.



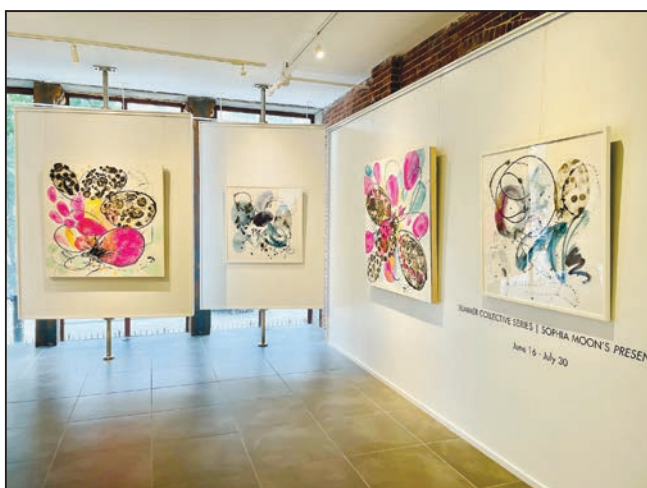
Pictured are some of the art that will be on display on July 20.



## A REAL 'PRESENCE'



Local artist, Sophia Moon, kicks off the Summer Collective Series at Claire Carino Contemporary in SOWA. This collection, PRESENCE, consists of large works of watercolor and ink that are joyful and vibrant. They will exhibit through the end of July. Inquire about pieces [claire@clairecarino.com](mailto:claire@clairecarino.com). Sophia Moon is pictured along side her work.



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## LOCAL STUDENT EARNS ACADEMIC HONORS

### RECEIVES MBA

Congratulations to Liz Bagley, a fourth generation East Boston resident on receiving her Mas-

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