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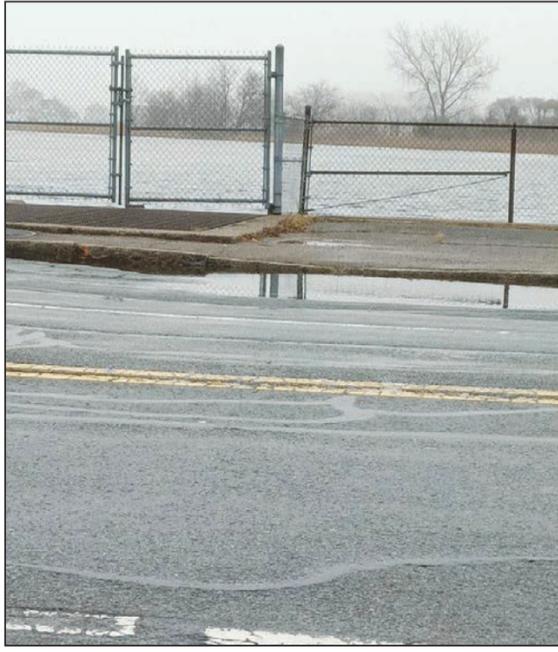
# East Boston

## TIMES - FREE PRESS

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### FLOODING IN EAST BOSTON



Flooding around Belle Isle Marsh.



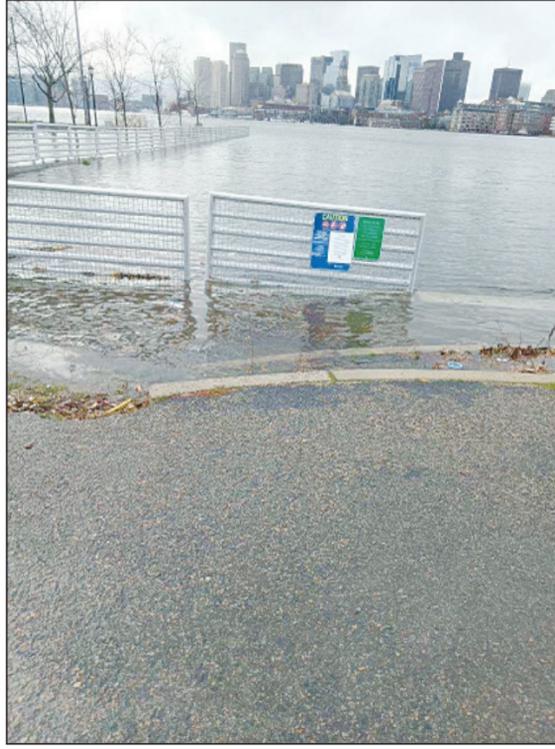
High water behind Shaw's.

Mary Corso, a board member of the Harbor Keepers and leader of its kayaking program, went out during the Jan. 12-13 storm and took photos of the flooding im-

pacts on various areas of East Boston. Approximately 1.4 inches of rain fell at Logan Airport and East Boston during the storm that also had strong winds.



Flooding at Piers Park.



LoPresti Park flooding.

## Boston Harbor Shipyard & Marina returns to JPNA

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

Representatives from the Boston Harbor Shipyard & Marina (BHSM) joined the Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association's (JPNA) monthly meeting last week to discuss its investment plan, which would bring meaningful upgrades to the site for the first time since the 1940s.

Last week's meeting marks the third time folks from BHSM have come before the JPNA to discuss

the investment plan, which has origins dating back to 2018 when Ocean Havens purchased the property.

As part of the project, BHSM plans on making an abundance of improvements, whether that be to infrastructure, the marina, or bike and pedestrian access. Moreover, there are plans to construct a container village and more.

To see these plans in-depth, you can visit BHSM's website —

See JPNA Page 2

## Plans continue to evolve for White Stadium renovation

By Adam Swift

The development team working with the city in the public-private partnership to renovate White Stadium in Franklin Park continues to look at adjustments to its plans in response to community concerns.

Boston Unity Soccer Partners have a public-private partnership with the city of Boston and Boston Public Schools to renovate White Stadium to bring a professional women's soccer team to Boston in 2026.

Under the agreement with the city, Boston Unity will redevelop the west grandstands and create a public area called the Grove just outside the en-

trance of the stadium. The city would be responsible for the redevelopment of the east grandstands as well as the field itself.

Boston Unity would have full use of the stadium for about 20 game days from May through November, while the updated stadium would be open for use by the city, school sports and other activities, and possible community events the rest of the year.

An online informational meeting was held last week as part of the city's Article 80 online review process. If the permitting and review process goes according to schedule,

See WHITE STADIUM Page 4

### CITY HOLDS REV. MLK ANNUAL BREAKFAST

The 54th Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. 54th annual Breakfast was held at the Boston Convention Center. The event celebrated MLK's mission of peace, justice, and righteousness.



The assembly stands and applauds the performance of Lift Every Voice And Sing. See Page 3 for more photos.

## Wu highlights initiatives in State of the City address

By Adam Swift

The future of Franklin Park, one of Boston's open space and recreation jewels, took center stage at Mayor Michelle Wu's State of the City address at MGM Music Hall last week.

Wu also highlighted new initiatives to house families, expand homeownership, and plan for a green and growing city during her second annual address. She outlined partnerships with employers, higher education, and cultural institutions she said will transform public schools and BPS athletics and expand opportunities



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JOHN WILCOX

Boston Mayor Michelle Wu delivers her State of the City address at the MGM Music Hall last week.

for students and families from pre-K to college, including summer jobs and unprecedented access to

See ADDRESS Page 9



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# East Boston

Times-Free Press

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## “TO THE SHORES OF TRIPOLI...”

The ongoing attacks against international shipping in the Red Sea by the former terrorist organization known as the Houthis, who presently are the ruling group in Yemen, are “illegal, unacceptable, and profoundly destabilizing,” in the words of the dozen nations who coalesced with the United States to launch a series of attacks against Houthi missile sites in Yemen last week.

The Houthis, who also have fired long-range rockets toward Israel and U.S. naval forces in the Red Sea, assert that their actions are in support of Hamas, the terrorists responsible for the slaughter, rape, and kidnapping of more than 1400 Israeli citizens on October 7.

Clearly, the Houthi attacks are part of an overall strategy by Iran, which has supplied weapons and funds for decades to the Houthis, Hamas, and Hezbollah, to cause as much death and destruction to Israel and its allies, with the stated goal of wiping Israel off the face of the map and killing every Jew they can find.

Some, both here and abroad, have criticized the United States and its allies for bombing the Houthi missile sites because it might lead to a widening of the ongoing war in the Middle East and draw the United States into the middle of the fight.

However, critics of U.S. policy are deluding themselves if they think that America somehow can remain above the fray, especially now that the Houthis are threatening the free flow of global commerce. U.S. history is instructive in this regard. In the 18th and early 19th centuries, what was then known as the Barbary coast nations of the Mediterranean -- present-day Morocco, Libya, Algeria, and Tunis -- plundered international shipping and enslaved thousands of their captives, including U.S. ships and citizens.

The United States Navy was established to respond to the blatant acts of nation-state piracy, culminating with an attack by the U.S. Marines, who burned the city of Tripoli in 1805 -- hence the phrase in the opening line of the Marine Corps anthem, “From the halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli.”

We realize that the circumstances between 1805 and today are vastly different, but the principle remains the same. More significantly, we must recognize that the world is being destabilized by an Axis of Evil consisting of Iran, Russia, and China. We cannot afford to bury our heads in the sand and pretend that they do not pose a threat to the Free World.

We must deal with the Houthis and their terrorist brethren to the full extent that we are able to do so. Anything less only will encourage them to go further.

## WITH NO. KOREA NOW INVOLVED, AID TO UKRAINE IS NEEDED ASAP

The delay in providing much-needed military aid to Ukraine by a minority of Republican members of Congress these past few months has been nothing less than unconscionable.

But now that No. Korea has intervened by giving Vladimir Putin an estimated one million artillery shells (which comes on top of military drones being supplied to Putin by Iran), the need for the U.S. to resume supplying Ukraine with the arms to resist Putin’s aggression has become urgent.

It is not a coincidence that Russia’s war in Ukraine is being supported by China, Iran, and No. Korea, all of which are despotic countries whose stated goal is to destroy democratic nations across the globe. With No. Korea sending weapons to Russia, there can be no doubt that Putin will be supplying Kim Jong Un with the technology to develop long-range missiles that will threaten the United States and our allies with a nuclear attack.

The U.S. must stop playing nice with Putin and provide Ukraine with as much of our arsenal as is needed to destroy the Russian army as soon as possible. The longer that No. Korea remains a player in this conflict, the worse it will be for the entire world.

The East Boston Times-Free Press reserves the right to edit letters for space, accuracy and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The East Boston Times-Free Press publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The East Boston Times-Free Press. Text or attachments emailed to [editor@eastietimes.com](mailto:editor@eastietimes.com) are preferred.



# Forum

## JPNA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

<https://www.bhsmarina.com/investment-plan> — which has a page dedicated to the proposal.

“All of us who live and work around Boston Harbor see the growth of water transportation. In addition to that, folks we’re going to see, and we’re seeing it right, off-shore, the windfarm industry, and all these vessels need to have a location where they can be hauled, repaired, and put back into the harbor, and that does not exist in Boston Harbor today,” said Ann Lagasse, a Principal of Ocean Havens, describing why the investment plan is happening.

“What this site does — the Boston Harbor Shipyard and Marina DPA — is a designated port area to support the working waterfront, and that’s what we’re trying to do; that’s what this is all about. That we create a setting by repairing piers, by buying travel lifts, by building marine sheds to repair these vessels,” she added.

Following Lagasse’s remarks, BHSM’s General Manager Marshall Greenland presented to those in attendance and went through several aspects of the project.

First, Greenland spoke about vehicle and pedestrian safety, which he called an “important point” for the shipyard.

Specifically, he walked through a slide that showed future site circulation and spoke about “increased pedestrian areas” and the continued focus on truck access and safety.

He then went on to speak about parking needs and improvements. Greenland spoke about upgrading the entry gates on both sides of Marginal Street and redesigning the mari-

na lot’s parking layout.

Greenland also explained that parking availability will increase due to infrastructure improvements in parking areas.

The dimensions for the four new buildings slated to be constructed as part of the plan were also discussed. Building one is planned as a travel lift and shipyard maintenance shop, building two is proposed to have shop and office space, building three will also have space for shops and offices along with a community room while building four will be a vessel maintenance and repair shed according to BHSM’s website.

Building one is slated to be 100 feet long, 40 feet wide, and 30 feet tall. Building two is planned to be 100 feet long, 50 feet wide, and 35 feet tall. Building three will be 182 feet long, 51 feet wide, and 35 feet tall. Finally, building four is designed to be 225 feet long, 125 feet wide, and 65 feet tall.

Greenland expanded on the dimensions for building four, the largest of the proposed buildings, and said, “These dimensions are necessary due to the work and the size of the vessels that we’ll be putting in this shed.”

Additionally, he went through the previous design iterations of building four and how it has progressed in terms of its proximity to Marginal Street and height. Specifically, the building is now set back from Marginal Street and has decreased in height by 30 feet.

Moreover, Greenland went through a sight study for building four from different Marginal and Webster Streets areas.

Lastly, Greenland highlighted some other aspects

that he did not expand on as he mentioned they are still early on in the process. Some of these aspects were a shadow study, traffic study, mitigation plans for things like dust and noise, and more.

As for upcoming scheduled plans, Greenland explained that this year and going into 2025, permitting and site work would be done.

Following the presentation, the representatives from BHSM took many questions and requests from the JPNA.

Notably, the JPNA Board has requested that BHSM enter into a Transportation Plan Action Agreement with the Boston Transportation Department, citing traffic and safety issues on Orleans and Marginal Streets.

Though Lagasse did not commit to the request, she indicated that they would get back to the JPNA about it.

The approval process for the project was brought up and was addressed by Jamie Fay, Permitting Consultant, for the investment plan.

Fay explained that a list of required permits for the project is being put together. He also explained that “most of the shipyard” is subject to review from the Boston Conservation Commission.

Moreover, Fay spoke about other entities that would potentially review the project, such as Massport (Massachusetts Port Authority), the shipyard landlord.

Regarding safety, someone had asked if the shipyard had an emergency action plan in case of an industrial accident.

“Any site like ours does have emergency plans for any type of emergency,

whether it’s fire or weather or anything like that. That’s something that we keep, it’s something that, you know, that we review and update,” said Greenland.

There was also a request to expand the sight line studies to include buildings one through three, which Greenland seemed to be amendable about and would discuss with the project architects.

Truck traffic was also a big discussion point during the question and answer portion of the meeting. BHSM has not conducted a formal traffic study, per Greenland.

However, he said, “We understand that trucks do get lost time to time. It’s kind of the nature of it, whether it’s these apps or whatever else that they’re using, but we’re continuing to work to minimize those lost vehicles because it’s an impact to the community, it’s also an impact to us and the businesses in the shipyard.”

As the meeting continued, several other topics were discussed, such as potential grant applications, resiliency, construction and environmental impacts, and much more.

If you would like to view the entire presentation and question and answer session concerning the BHSM investment plan, you can visit [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rNgLN-qsZwQo&ab\\_channel=JeffriesPointNeighborhoodAssociation](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rNgLN-qsZwQo&ab_channel=JeffriesPointNeighborhoodAssociation).

The JPNA is slated to meet again on February 12th, and in the coming months, representatives from BHSM will return to the association.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### GOVE STREET CITIZENS ASSOCIATION MEETING AGENDA

Gove Street Citizens Association agenda for Monday, January 22, meeting, at 6:30 PM

Agenda:  
Community Updates  
Updates from BPD (Sgt. Cintolo)  
Updates from City Hall (Mela Villa Gomez)

Eastie Farm: Youth green job opportunity as well as our Community Shared Agriculture program (shares of weekly fresh produce)

New Project  
240 Maverick Street: Erect addition and change occupancy to a four unit

residential dwelling

Project Updates  
VOTE 12 Geneva Street: Erect a four (4) story, four (4) unit residential dwelling with a roof deck exclusive to unit 4

GSCA Community Meeting - January 2024  
Monday, January 22 · 6:30 – 8:00pm

Time zone: America/New\_York

Google Meet joining info

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Or dial: (US) +1 484-841-4910 PIN: 782 428 444#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/gir-enev-rip?pin=8498271285735>

Our next community

meeting after the January meeting will be on Monday, February 26, 2024.

### OHNC MEETING RESCHEDULED

Orient Heights Neighborhood Council Jan. 16

meeting has been canceled due to the weather.

All projects and presentations will be rescheduled to the next meeting which will be on Tuesday, February 20, due to the Presidents’ Day Holiday.

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

# CITY OFFICIALS HOLD REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. ANNUAL BREAKFAST

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

The 54th Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. 54th annual Breakfast was held at the Boston Convention Center. The event celebrated MLK's mission of peace, justice, and righteousness.



Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey speaks.



US Representative Ayanna Pressley speaks of Martin Luther King Jr: "the love letter he sent to future generations is embodied in the young people we salute today."



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu speaks "When it comes to democracy, the world looks to Boston."



MLK Breakfast Keynote Speaker Dr Khalil Gibran Muhammad, professor at the Harvard Kennedy School, addresses the assembly.



The Benediction was given by Bishop Peggy A Johnson of the United Methodist Church.



US Senator Ed Markey speaks.



Massachusetts State Rep Attorney General Andrea Campbell.



Mariah Diaz Perez receives an MLK Middle School Art Award.



Yaribel Marcelino Romero of Madison Park Technical Vocational High School is presented with a \$2500 MLK Scholarship Award from US Representative Ayanna Pressley and Séanne Denny Putnam Investments.



Cyrielle Marsh receives an MLK Middle School Art Award.

The Drum Major Award is given to those who have gone above and beyond for justice, peace, and righteousness. This year's recipients are, sharing an award, the Rev Richard Richardson and his wife Justina Richardson, founders of Children's Services of Roxbury with fellow recipient Greg Almeida, founder and CEO of Global View Communications with Boston Mayor Michelle Wu.



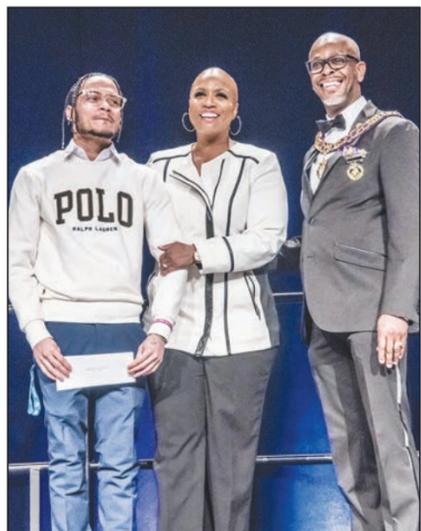
US Senator Ed Markey with Jessica Tantin, Vikki Spruill, and Ferris Batie of the NE Aquarium.



Boston Latin Academy instructor Matt Heriveaux, US Senator Ed Markey, and Massachusetts State Rep Jeffrey Turco.



Matt Heriveaux and Seanne Denny.



Roxbury Community College student Juan D Lopez is presented with a \$1500 Allied Health Scholarship by US Representative Ayanna Pressley and the Hon Justin A Petty of St Cyprian's Episcopal Church.



Roxbury Community College student Hawa Jalloh is presented with a \$1500 Allied Health Scholarship by US Representative Ayanna Pressley and the Hon Justin A Petty of St Cyprian's Episcopal Church.



Abdulahleef Sotunbo of John D O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science is presented with a \$2500 MLK Scholarship Award from US Representative Ayanna Pressley and Séanne Denny Putnam Investments.



Hasina Whittaker of John D O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science is presented with a \$2500 MLK Scholarship Award from US Representative Ayanna Pressley and Séanne Denny Putnam Investments.

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Massachusetts State Rep John Moran, Boston City Council President Ruthzee Louijeune, Massachusetts State Senator Liz Miranda, a guest, Massachusetts Lt Governor Kim Driscoll, Attorney General Andrea Campbell, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, Dr Khalil Gibran Muhammad, US Representative Ayanna Pressley, Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey, and Reverend Dr Jay Williams.

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Members of the Greater Boston Association Of Black Social Workers.

# White Stadium // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

demolition for the project could begin in the spring. The development team from Boston Unity provided updates to a previous version of the plan, including the removal of two smaller buildings and changes to the transportation plan. Morgan McDaniel, the city's Deputy Chief

of Operations, addressed some concerns she has heard about the upgrades to the 10,000 seat stadium, which originally opened in the 1940s.

"I've been hearing some concerns from community groups that the Boston Public Schools students will not be able to use the stadium, and that is absolutely untrue," said McDaniel. "This is an investment so students and community members can have a beautiful facility they can take advantage of."

McDaniel said the city is working closely with the Boston Unity development team to coordinate the design of the two portions of the project.

McDaniel also noted that the city has heard a lot of concerns and requests for restrictions on parking in the nearby neighborhoods on game days and the need for game day parking restrictions and enforcement. McDaniel added that there has also been a lot of people advocating for a residential parking program in the Jamaica Plain, Roxbury, and Dorchester neighborhoods, and that there would be a continuing public process to study that issue.

Jennifer Epstein, one of the principals of Boston Unity Soccer, said her team envisions a partnership with the city, the Boston Public Schools, Franklin Park, and the neighborhoods that provides increased amenities in the park, new jobs focused on the local community, and significant improvements for students.

Tamara Roy of Stantech Architects said there have been several changes

to the design plans since they were last presented in November.

The East Pavilion building was removed to save some trees near the tennis courts, and a smaller North Crescent building was also removed from the plans.

The Boston Unity portion of the project also calls for new locker rooms and athletic training facilities, a new scoreboard, and improved lighting and fencing.

The Grove area at the south of the building will provide a 62,500-square-foot outside area for pre- and post-game activities, as well as community celebrations and events, according to Roy.

Roy said the goal is to make the project as sustainable and resilient as possible, with no greenhouse gasses produced.

Brian Beisel, the transportation consultant for the project said the main takeaways from the transportation plan are that there will be no parking onsite, and that there will be satellite parking areas with shuttle service for people who do want to drive to the games and not use public transportation.

The latest update to the transportation plan also includes a specified area outside of Franklin Park for rideshare vehicles such as Ubers and Lyfts, Beisel said.

In addition, the Seaver Street exit will remain closed as part of the plan, addressing concerns that have been raised by residents during the planning process, he added.

Even with the updates to the transportation plan, there were still some residents at last week's meeting who raised concerns

about traffic and parking in the area.

"In general, I am in agreement with everyone saying this is going to be a wonderful stadium, but not in Franklin Park," said Marti Glynn, the president of the Dorchester Civic Association.

Even with the shuttle services offsite, Glynn said there will still be a heavy influx of vehicle traffic into the neighborhoods around the stadium on game days.

Glynn also questioned the feasibility of expanding the residential parking programs into Dorchester and the surrounding neighborhoods.

"As I understand it, there is not enough staff to enforce the districts that currently have it, much less to expand it to areas such as Dorchester," said Glynn.

Annie Weatherwax also raised concerns about increased traffic.

"Traffic in the neighborhood is terrible, and it is dangerous for pedestrians," Weatherwax said.

Louis Elison, who is on the Impact Advisory Group for the project, thanked the development team for making some of the changes to address concerns that have been raised during the process.

"I feel like everyone wants this to work, and we love the thoughtful, holistic approach to this," said District 7 City Councilor Tania Anderson.

Anderson said she would push for the city and its transportation plan to keep looking at a full-time residential parking plan for the neighborhoods in her district and near the stadium.

## THANK YOU

### FOR HELPING US MAKE EASTIE FESTIVE!



The East Boston Holiday Lighting committee would like to thank the following for the financial support and commitment to making East Boston shine during Christmas and New Year. Within three months our group rallied up and raised money to complete the project in such a short time.

The money raised helped pay to decorate Maverick, Central, Day and Orient Heights Squares. Our first year proved to be successful yet as always with anything new we discovered a few challenges which we quickly resolved with the help of the City of Boston and Evermore Electric.

We especially would like to thank State Representative Adrian Madaro who quickly jumped on board and made things happen to ensure our community was beautifully decorated, welcoming to all and full of holiday cheer.

Gratitude to the East Boston Foundation for their generous grant of \$10,000. We thank groups such as the East Boston Chamber of Commerce and East Boston Main Streets for their efforts and partnership and for the businesses in our community who decorated their storefronts.

We also reached out to Massport and MassDot and appreciate them, for doing their part to add to holiday festivities. Special Acknowledgement to Cappuccio Construction and Cora Operations Inc for taking on the wreath portion of the project by purchasing and installing 50 beautiful wreaths throughout our squares.

Big thank you to those who purchased raffles and to Jet Blue for donating round trip tickets and Joe Ruggiero who donated Boston Celtics tickets. We look forward to your support and partnership next year as we ramp up our efforts in 2024.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Capogreco- Cappuccio  
John Casamassima,  
Co-Chairs

**THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS AND ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED!**




Nefeo Cappuccio, owner of Cappuccio Construction and John Zirpolo of Cora Operations Inc. generously purchased and installed 50 Christmas wreaths in our business districts.

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# Sports

## EAST BOSTON BOYS BASKETBALL IN HOOP ACTION AGAINST O'BRYANT

PHOTOS BY BOB MARRA

Coming off a huge win over St. Mary's Wednesday, the East Boston Jets won their fifth straight and boosted their record over .500 to 5-4 with a 54-48 win over O'Bryant Friday night at East Boston High School. The Jets trailed by 11 points after

one quarter, then turned things around to take a 1-point lead into half-time. The offense cooled off, though, in the third quarter at O'Bryant regained the lead and led by 5, 43-38 after three. But the Jets defense dominated the final quarter, hold-

ing O'Bryant to just five points while Jets Christian Sanders and Javon Wise Normil took control of the offense to seal the victory. Christian Sanders poured in game-high 18 points while Wise added 14.



**SLAM BAM:** Javon Wise Normil dunks the ball over an O'Bryant defender as Jet teammate Caleb Florence shouts his approval.



**UNDISTRACTED:** Javon Wise Normil pays no attention to the yell of an O'Bryant defender on his way to the basket.



**A SURE ASSIST:** Caleb Florence (12) avoids the O'Bryant forward defense and passes to Christian Sanders, who promptly laid the ball in for a pair of Eastie points.



**ON THE MOVE:** Draggo Tejeda Feliz looks for some open space in the East Boston offensive end.



**EASTIE RUNS ON DUNKIN':** Christian Sanders emphatically scores two of his 18 points on this dunk.



**ROCK THE HOUSE:** East Boston fans cranked up the volume as they cheered the Jets to their fifth straight win.



**SHOWING THE WAY:** Coach Tyrone Figueroa shouts directions from the sideline during East Boston's 54-48 win over O'Bryant. After an 0-4 start, Figueroa and the Jets have found cruising altitude with five straight wins.



**WAITING FOR GRAVITY:** Robin Cartegena pauses as a Danvers defender leaps, then went to the basket for a layup at the buzzer that gave East Boston a 29-28 halftime lead.



**LONG REACH:** Caleb Florence tries for a steal at midcourt.

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## EBNHC appoints Yang as new Assistant Vice President

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) announced the appointment of healthcare veteran Evonne Yang, MPH, MSW as the Assistant Vice President of Integration and Operational Excellence, availing additional operational leadership to the health center's executive team.

"We're excited to welcome Evonne to our team," said EBNHC Chief Operating Officer Ryan Boxill. "Her leadership brings additional perspective, skills and experience in driving innovation and navigating complex challenges, particularly around behavioral health integration. This new role will foster a culture of collaboration and shared accountability across our health system's diverse functions and processes. Evonne will bring additional capacity to successfully realize our strategic goals in a rapidly changing healthcare environment."

In her new role, Yang will contribute to the organization's growth and adaptability as EBNHC navigates complex chal-



Evonne Yang, MPH, MSW

lenges facing healthcare. She will oversee the integration of large scale and interdisciplinary strategic initiatives as well as provide tactical support on clinical and operational initiatives.

"I am honored to join such a caring team here at EBNHC in what I feel is a pivotal role," said Yang. "Having spent a number of years in healthcare, I am eager to contribute my experience and passion to advance this great organization's mission to provide high quality care to everyone who walks through our doors. I look forward to having a positive impact with the team here at EBNHC and the

community it serves."

Prior to joining EBNHC, Yang served as Director of Behavioral Health at Boston Medical Center (BMC) Health System, where she was responsible for leading and executing on behavioral health operations, quality performance, and strategic initiatives across the health system. In this role, she worked closely with BMC Hospital departments, BMC's WellSense Health Plan, and BMC's Boston Accountable Care Organization (BACO) partners. Her previous work includes leading population health initiatives in both primary and specialty care clinics at BMC, as well as expanding BMC's Integrated Behavioral Health service where she improved overall performance and clinical integration across service lines.

Yang holds masters' degrees in both public health and social work from Boston University. She completed her undergraduate degree in psychology at Stanford University.

East Boston Neigh-

borhood Health Center (EBNHC) is one of the nation's largest Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and the largest community-based primary care health system in Massachusetts, serving over 100,000 patients and recognized by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as a Health Center Quality Leader. For more than 50 years, EBNHC has offered access to comprehensive care for the underserved populations of Chelsea, East Boston, Revere, Winthrop, Everett and Boston's South End. EBNHC is dedicated to promoting and sustaining healthy communities, families, and individuals by providing accessible, person-centered, compassionate, and high-quality health care services, including primary care, 24/7 emergency care, behavioral health care, specialty care, and various other health and wellness programs, to all who live and work in our service area. For more information, visit [www.ebnhc.org](http://www.ebnhc.org)

## OBITUARIES

### Joseph Giuliotti

Retired reporter, East Boston's first Pop Warner Football Coach and member of the Massachusetts Hockey Hall of Fame

Joseph A. (Joe) Giuliotti, a dogged newspaper reporter and coach who built a national reputation for his work covering the Boston Red Sox yet never forgot his East Boston roots, died peacefully at his Revere home on Friday, January 12, surrounded by his family. He was 89 years old.

Born and raised amid modest surroundings in blue-collar East Boston, Joe graduated Boston College High School and attended both Boston College and Boston University before landing a job at the Boston Evening American (which later became the Boston Herald after a series of mergers.)

He worked his way up from answering phones and fetching coffee to covering the city crime beat, which carried obvious weight during the 1960's Boston Irish Gang War. But Joe always was drawn to sports, and in 1970 transferred to what is often referred to in the industry as "the toy department." Too bad Joe never got that memo. He treated his new assignments as seriously as he would a police investigation, with the same fierce determination to report the story accurately and fairly. The same qualities he carried into his work in sports. He started in local colleges, then switched briefly to the Boston Bruins, where he covered both Bobby Orr and Don Cherry before settling in as longtime Boston Red Sox beat writer.

Dealing with pro athletes has its challenges, but Joe treated them as he would a kid from the neighborhood. He might have covered numerous World Series games and iconic Red Sox moments, but there would be no hero worshipping. Players performed, and Joe reported it. That was it. This earned him enormous respect with both players, team officials and colleagues.

As charismatic as Joe could be when you put a microphone in his hand, he preferred to shun the spotlight. Nothing made him more angry than when he was recognized by the emcee at an event such as a youth hockey banquet. "I'm just a regular parent, the same as everyone else here," he'd growl.

Fittingly, it was youth hockey coaching that emerged as Joe's true passion. In 1990, while still



working for the Herald, he began a side hustle coaching youth and high school hockey, something he focused more on once he retired from the Herald in 1999.

He wound up coaching at East Boston High School and Shawsheen Valley Regional Tech until 2016. That experience, along with his earlier college hockey reporting, earned Joe a 2018 induction into the Massachusetts Hockey Hall of Fame. Joe's youth coaching actually started much earlier, when he coached tag football starting in 1973. In 1978 he became East Boston's first Pop Warner football coach. Helping kids be their best on and off the field was something Joe often called the best times of his life.

Born May 2, 1934, Joe was the loving son of the late Adolph Giuliotti and Mary (Kane) Giuliotti of East Boston; devoted husband of Anne (Nee) Giuliotti of Revere, formerly of Ireland, to whom he was married for 64 wonderful years; father of Ed Giuliotti of Nashville, Tenn., J.P. Giuliotti, husband of Jade Lin, of Winthrop and John Giuliotti, husband of Virginia (Sullivan) Giuliotti, of Reading; grandfather of Jack Giuliotti, Charlie Giuliotti and Sam Giuliotti, all of Reading; brother of the late Mary Giuliotti, Dan Giuliotti, Andy Giuliotti and Ann Giuliotti; and uncle of several nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will honor Joe's life at Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga St., East Boston, from 4 to 7 p.m. today, Wednesday and again on Thursday. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Lazarus Church, 59 Ashley Street, East Boston. Burial will be held immediately after at Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden. For more information or to leave an online condolence, please visit [www.ruggieromh.com](http://www.ruggieromh.com)

## Wu signs public tree protection ordinance

Mayor Michelle Wu recently signed a public tree protection ordinance, a key recommendation stemming from the City's Urban Forest Plan. The Urban Forest Plan, released in September 2022, outlines strategies to preserve, cultivate, and expand the city's urban forest. A tree protection ordinance is a critical action item in preserving existing canopy cover. Mayor Wu's enactment of the public tree protection ordinance underscores the

City's dedication to environmental justice, public health, and community resiliency. The City Council passed the ordinance on December 13, 2023.

"The signing of the public tree protection ordinance is a testament to our shared goal of building a city that prioritizes environmental stewardship and community well-being," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "In taking this step, we're not only preserving our urban forest but also shaping a brighter, more

sustainable future for all residents."

The Urban Forest Plan recommended changes in municipal code to protect mature trees and enhance the urban forest. By adopting a phased approach to tree protection regulations, focusing on public trees first, the City aims to lead by example before engaging with the community to extend regulations to trees on private property.

"As the department responsible for managing the implementation of the

Urban Forest Plan, we recognize the importance of addressing trees on both publicly- and privately-owned land," said Commissioner Ryan Woods of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department. "Fostering a thriving urban forest that reflects the diverse needs of all stakeholders is a top priority."

The recently signed ordinance establishes comprehensive regulations to preserve trees on City-owned parks, school grounds, libraries, and public housing, aligning with Boston's commitment to protecting and enhancing green infrastructure. Construction projects on City-owned land will now require a survey of all trees on the site with a trunk three inches in diameter or wider. Furthermore, healthy trees can only be trimmed or removed with adequate notice and a public hearing, ensuring community involvement in decisions impacting the urban forest.

The new ordinance will also improve the management of public street trees in Boston. It expands and clarifies the rules for the removal of healthy street trees, ensuring that they are replaced with trees of equivalent size and species in the same neighborhood. The City's Tree Warden will be responsible for replacements, advancing the Urban Forest Plan's objective of achieving equitable distribution of tree canopy. Closing the tree canopy gap among neighborhoods is crucial for mitigating the impact of urban heat islands, improving air quality for all residents, and accelerating the Green New Deal for Boston.

"Healthy trees play an important role in enhancing the health and quality-of-life of residents in Boston, as the City deals with climate change, more frequent heat waves, and extreme weather events," said Councilor Liz Breadon, a co-sponsor of the ordinance. "This ordinance will protect existing trees, create more public awareness of the benefits of healthy trees, and help support urban forests in

**boston logan** 

## 2022 ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS & PLANNING REPORT (ESPR) INFORMATION SESSION

Massport will host a hybrid information session (in-person & virtually) to provide an update on the 2022 Logan ESPR. The topics that will be discussed include: ground transportation, activity levels/forecasting, aircraft noise, air quality, regional transportation, sustainability and resiliency, and airport planning. This information session will be streamed in English and Spanish.

The hybrid information session will take place:

**Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.**  
**Cathy Leonard-McLean Community Room**  
**Logan Airport Rental Car Center\***  
**15 Transportation Way**  
**East Boston, MA 02128**

To access the meeting link and for more information, please visit:

<https://www.massport.com/logan-airport/about-logan/environmental-reports/>

\*The Rental Car Center is accessible via the MBTA Blue Line Airport Station by way of Massport's On-Airport Shuttle (Route 22, 33 and 55).

## 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

# OBITUARIES

## Frank Marino

He will be thought of, loved and forever remembered

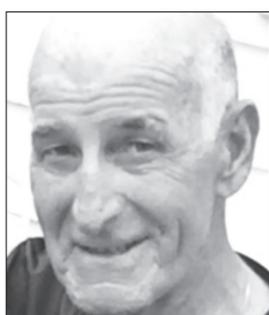
Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend Visiting Hours today, Wednesday, January 17th from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza, Beechwood Home for Funerals, 262 Beach St., Revere for Frank M. Marino, who died on Saturday, January 13th at the Spaulding Rehabilitation center in Cambridge following a battle with lung cancer. He was 80 years old. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated in the Immaculate Conception Church, 133 Beach St., Revere at 1:30 p.m., followed by interment in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

Frank was born in Boston on July 28, 1943 to the late Frank and Frances (Giaino) Marino. Frank, along with his two brothers, were proudly raised in Boston's North End. He attended Boston Public Schools and graduated from Charlestown High School, Class of 1961.

Frank married the love of his life, Annette (Maniscalco) on February 14, 1965. He and Annette settled in East Boston and began their family together. Frank spent his entire working career as a Crane Operator for Local Union #4, for over 50 years. He assisted in many of the large projects and buildings in the City of Boston. He was a hardworking man for his family to whom he was totally devoted.

Frank was very present in his children's lives and was their constant supporter.

He was also a friend to many as he had several circles of friends, particularly his "Friends of the North End Club," his union friends, his coffee club friends, golf buddies, and many others. Frank



was also a member of the Italian American Club in Medford.

Frank was also a very proud grandfather to his grandchildren, who he was always there for, and they made him very proud. He also stayed active by golfing, going to the gym and playing bocce. Frank truly loved his family, and they all cherished him. Frank will be thought of, loved, and forever remembered.

He was the beloved husband of almost 59 years to Annette (Maniscalco) Marino of Revere; loving father of Monique Frate and her husband, Joseph "Joe" of Stoneham and Gary Marino and his fiancé,

Michelle Mazza of Lynn; cherished grandfather of Marisa Frate of Stoneham, Gianna Marino and Nicholas Marino, both of Lynnfield; treasured brother of Anthony Marino of Middleton and the late Michael Marino. He is also lovingly survived by several nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to the Spaulding Rehabilitation Center Development Office, 300 First Avenue, Charlestown, MA 02129.

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.

## Evelyn Mottola

A beautiful woman who was loving, caring, fun, witty and always enjoyed having a good time and a good laugh

Family and friends attended visiting hours on Monday, January 15th in the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza Beechwood Home for Funerals, 262 Beach St., Revere for Evelyn P. (Hardy) Mottola who died on Wednesday, January 10 at the Hope Health Hospice House in Providence, RI following a long illness, she had just celebrated her 79th birthday on January 2nd. Her funeral was conducted from the funeral home on Tuesday, January 16th followed by a Funeral Mass in St. Joseph Church, Medford. Interment immediately followed in Oak Grove Cemetery, Medford.

Evelyn was born in Medford to the late Francis A. Hardy and Mary Ellen (Tobin) Hardy. She was one of six children who were raised and educated in Somerville. Evelyn attended parochial schools and graduated from St. Clements High School, Class of 1962. Evelyn was a loving mother and a devoted wife. She and her late husband lived in East Boston, where they shared many wonderful years together before moving to Taunton, to be closer to their daughter, Nannette.

Evelyn loved her family unconditionally and worried about them even more. She was a homemaker who enjoyed her cats and loved watching her game shows, "Lifetime movies" and playing bingo on her iPad. She would always watch the weather very closely to make sure if any of her family were driving or traveling someplace, she would alert them of the travel conditions. She'd end every conversation with "I love you, be careful." She was a beautiful woman who was loving, caring, fun, witty and always enjoyed having a good time and a



good laugh. She cherished her cats, as if they were her children, and pampered them greatly. Evelyn will be FOREVER remembered by all who knew and loved her.

She was the beloved wife of 37 years to the late Robert V. Mottola; the loving mother to Nannette M. Johnson and her husband, Steven P. of Taunton, cherished grandmother to Dylan J. Mackey of Auburn, ME and great-grandmother to Landen Robert Mackey, dear sister to: Kathleen Tower and her husband, Harry of Stoneham, Francis "Frank" Hardy and his wife, Yvonne of Stoneham, the late John Hardy and his surviving wife, Elizabeth of Saugus, the late Paul Hardy and his surviving wife, Josephine of Salem and the late Mary Elizabeth Hardy. She is also lovingly survived by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews and her most precious feline companions, Rainey and the late Prince Skippy and Buffy.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place Memphis, TN 38105.

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.

## Stephen Livingstone

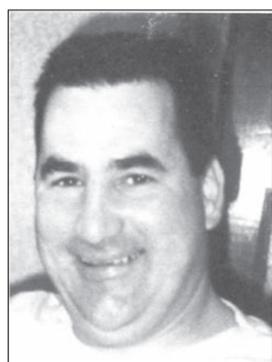
Devoted father and beloved brother

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved brother Stephen Livingstone of Peabody who departed peacefully from this earthly life on December 22nd at 69 years of age.

The loving son of the late Hartland and Angelina (Beatrice) Livingstone, Stephen grew up in East Boston and was educated in Boston Public Schools.

Stephen was a dedicated father to Stephen John and devoted brother of Charles, Elizabeth, Susan and Mark. He is also survived by loving nieces and nephews.

He will be remembered



for his selflessness, unwavering love and commitment to family.

A donation in Stephen's name to Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, 300 First Avenue, Charlestown, MA 02129 will be sincerely appreciated.

## Rita Capuano

Talented seamstress and matriarch of her family

Rita Adeline (D'Amico) Capuano passed away unexpectedly at Lahey Hospital in Burlington surrounded by her loving family on Thursday, January 11th. She was 86 years old.

Rita was born on July 28, 1937 to the late Sabatino and Francesca (Restante) D'Amico. She was the youngest in her family and was raised in East Boston. She was educated in Boston schools and was a graduate of Fitton Girls High School, Class of 1955.

Rita always possessed both a natural talent and passion for sewing. In her early years, she was a seamstress for the ever popular "House of Bianchi" in South Boston. She hand made many beautiful dresses for all occasions. Over the years she has made countless dresses for her entire family.

Rita married Anthony "Monge" Capuano on September 25th, 1960. They remained in East Boston and started a family of their own. She was a loving and devoted wife for 48 years until Anthony passed away in 2008.

Rita was a proud mother of her two sons, Mark and Christopher. Anthony, Rita, Mark and Christopher eventually moved from East Boston and made the journey to Wilmington, which has been home to Rita for the past 52 years. However, her heart was still in East Boston, where her life began with all her family, friends and the wonderful memories that she treasured.

She was most happy cooking for her family and friends, playing bingo, taking trips to the casino and playing cards. Rita enjoyed hosting the holidays, birthday parties or any event that would bring the family all together under one roof. Rita was also a lover of books, particularly mystery and romance novels. She would read constantly and found a great deal of pleasure immersing herself in whatever world her



current book would take her that day. She was truly the Matriarch of her family, and she was loved and cherished by every person who came to know her.

Rita is survived by her sons: Mark L. Capuano and his wife, Kim of Wilmington and Christopher C. Capuano of Fort Mills, SC and his former wife, Patricia of Waxhaw, NC. She is the cherished grandmother of Krystle L. Quintal of San Diego, CA and Megan M. Quintal of San Francisco, CA, Christina M. Capuano of Wilmington, Niccole M. Capuano of Peabody and Francesca S. Capuano of Waxhaw, NC. She is also lovingly survived by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews and was predeceased by her siblings: Anthony, Louis, Sabatino Arthur D'Amico, Mary Melillo, Josephine Crisafulli, Francis Iannaccone, Connie Giangregorio and Eva Croft.

Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend visiting hours on Friday, January 19th from 3 to 7 p.m. in the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza Beechwood Home for Funerals 262 Beach St., Revere. A Funeral Service will follow the visiting hours in the funeral home. Interment will be held privately.

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.

## Trees // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

our diverse neighborhoods."

Since the September 2022 release of the Urban Forest Plan, the Urban Forestry Division has implemented several recommended action items. In 2023, the division expanded its workforce, responded to over 7,500 requests through the 311 system, pruned close to 3,000 trees, treated 1,165 ash trees to protect them against the invasive Emerald Ash Borer beetle, and secured an \$11.4 million grant from the U.S. Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program. In the coming year, the division will leverage funding

and staffing investments to reduce response time for constituent requests,

redouble maintenance efforts to preserve existing canopy, and expand tree

planting efforts by partnering with community-based organizations.

## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Haddad, Imad	50 Monouth St Rt	50 Monmouth St	\$785,000
Mishra, Rich	93 Cowper LLC	93 Cowper St #1	\$615,000
129-133 Trenton St LLC	Anderson, Bruan W	129 Trenton St	\$900,000
129-133 Trenton St LLC	Trenton St Lp	131-133 Trenton St	\$1,100,000
Silk, Kevin	185 Marverick St LLC	185 Maverick St #2	\$595,000
Madrid, Elvis A	Lexington One Rt	208 Lexington St	\$935,000
Burns, Christopher	Boston Bldg Company LLC	323 Maverick St #2	\$700,000
Woodworth, Sara W	Boston Bldg Company LLC	323 Maverick St #3	\$1,100,000
Troy, Barry	Boston Bldg Company LLC	323 Maverick St #1	\$679,000
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 781-284-1127 | 781-284-7756

## FRESH AND LOCAL

## World central kitchen cookbook

By Penny &amp; Ed Cherubino

The first recipe in José Andrés' "World Central Kitchen Cookbook" is for the Fireman's Chili that the World Central Kitchen (WCK) serves to those fighting wildfires. It is a great introduction to what this book is all about. The recipe is presented in two versions, one for 4 to 6 people and one for 100 people.

**How to Scale a Recipe**

Despite the hundreds of cookbooks in our library, we have seldom seen instructions on how to scale a recipe. Yes, in some cases, you can double or halve it, and it will work out fine. However, this is not always the case, and the pantry chapter ends with tips on scaling a recipe. This is extremely useful whether you are making something from the book or scaling up your grandmother's goulash recipe for a family reunion.

**Feeding People Is About More Than Food**

The recipes in the book were created to meet vital criteria that align with the core values of the organization: empathy, urgency, adaptation, hope, community, resilience, and joy. For the home cook, those values translate into learning how to make nutritious, economical meals that are great as leftovers, that shed insight into other cultures, serve well for family or community gatherings, and bring joy to those you feed.

**Topics**

"Empathy" is the heading for the chapter on braises and long-cooked food. It includes great classics like Beef Rendang, Pork al Pastor, and a simple Stewed Chicken.

"Urgency" provides ideas for food for people on the go. Unlike WCK, you may not be feeding first responders. However, you may have occasions when hand-held food like

tacos, arepas, flatbreads, and sandwiches fit the bill.

The "Adaptation" chapter talks about what you can make ahead and how to cook larger quantities using a sheet pan or make Arroz con Pollo in a large paella pan if that is what you have. WCK calls adaptation "the ultimate unteachable skill." Over the years, we've learned the benefit of adaptability in the kitchen.

The section on "Hope" is filled with recipes for soups, stews, and other warming meals. Every culture has a version of a soup that brings relief and hope to those who need something to look forward to at that moment. The chapter on Joy includes sweets and dessert and the importance of moments of lightness in any stressful situation.

"Community" contains recipes created by people from the food world who support WCK at every level. This includes people



José Andrés' World Central Kitchen Cookbook is more than a collection of recipes. It's a manual that inspires home cooks to discover new ways to think about food.

from the location being served and famous chefs who designed recipes for WCK to use.

"Resilience" covers WCK's efforts to support the local foodshed as a way to rebuild in a disaster area. This is the same kind of help a home cook can give to their local food producers by shopping at farmers' markets and choosing local options

when at other sites.

**To Wrap It Up**

We'll let José Andrés have the last word about his book. He wrote, "So I am here to encourage you to get motivated by this book, however, it inspires you. Whether it means you are cooking a meal for a neighbor in need, volunteering at your local food pantry, joining our Relief

Team as we respond to a disaster somewhere in the world—or simply making dinner for your family and learning about where that dish came from."

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

## Baldini named as new Superintendent of Chelsea Veterans Home

Special to the Times-Free Press

The Executive Office of Veterans Services announces the selection of Christine Baldini, LNHA, as the new Superintendent of the Massachusetts Veterans Home at Chelsea. With over 25 years of distinguished service as a senior nursing home leader in the Greater Boston area, Baldini's selection marks a significant milestone for the Massachusetts Veterans Home at Chelsea.

"Christine Baldini's qualifications and dedication to high-quality senior living care made her the ideal candidate," said Secretary Jon Santiago. "I'm thankful for Robert Engell's leadership during this transition marked by several milestones, and I'm confident that Christine's leadership will add to the momentum while creating an environment that fosters opportunity, growth, and world-

class excellence in long-term care."

"I am honored to join the Chelsea Veterans Home as the Superintendent," expressed Christine Baldini. "My goal is to continue the legacy of exceptional care and support for our veterans, building on the foundation of excellence established by the Executive Office of Veterans Services. My career has been dedicated to ensuring the well-being of those under my care, and I am eager to continue this mission with the veterans at Chelsea."

The newly constructed Veterans Home at Chelsea, a state-of-the-art building with 154 private resident rooms, is designed with a strong focus on energy efficiency.

In October, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Veterans Services proudly announced that the Veterans Home at

Chelsea (CHE) secured the Department of Public Health (DPH) Licensure and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Certification, officially designating it as a skilled nursing facility.

These critical licensures facilitated the relocation of the initial 20 residents into the new veterans home. Soon after, the Veterans Home underwent and passed its initial State Veterans Home recognition survey by the US Department of Veterans Affairs. The VA Recognition Survey, which determines compliance with VA standards and adherence to all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and relevant professional standards, is a critical component for the new facility to become fully operational and allows for federal reimbursement.

"In the past 90 days, we have successfully navi-

gated licensure and certification by DPH, CMS, and recognition by the VA while completing construction and moving in our first group of veterans before previously expected timelines, which could have gone into 2025," said Robert Engell, Acting Superintendent of Homes and Operations at the Executive Office of Veterans Services. "This remarkable achievement is a testament to our dedicated team's commitment to providing exceptional care and support to our veterans at Chelsea."

"With her extensive experience and dedication to quality care, Christine Baldini is an invaluable addition to the Chelsea Veterans Home family," stated Tommy Lyons, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Veterans Home at Chelsea. "Her appointment signifies our ongoing commitment to

elevate the standard of care for our veterans."

The Veterans Home at Chelsea is currently in the process of relocating all residents into this cutting-edge facility, with a target of moving all residents into the new home by February 2024.

As the former Director of Continuing Care at Erickson Senior Living, Brooksby Village, Baldini oversaw the daily operations of a 228-bed continuing care retirement community (CCRC) with a team of over 200 staff members. Her tenure was marked by consecutive years of recognition for excellence, including a deficiency-free Annual Health Care and Life Safety Survey in 2020 and 2022 and a prestigious 5-star Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) rating. Under her leadership, the facility received consistent acco-

lades, including recognition as a U.S. News & World Report Best Nursing Home for five consecutive years.

Christine Baldini holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration focusing on Healthcare Management from New Hampshire College, Manchester, NH. She is licensed by the Board of Registration of Nursing Home Administrators in MA.

Baldini's leadership extends beyond business acumen; she's a people leader dedicated to cultivating a high-performing, collaborative environment. Her expertise in implementing intentional practices for recruitment, retention, and employee engagement underscores her commitment to not only organizational success but also the well-being of the team serving our veterans.

## Healey-Driscoll Administration celebrates Northeastern University for winning \$6 million

The Healey-Driscoll administration is celebrating Northeastern University for winning three federal grants totaling \$6 million from the

National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) Public Wireless Supply Chain Innovation Fund to support their Institute for

the Wireless Internet of Things (WIoT). The federal investments supported by the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, which provided \$1.52 million in capital grant funding from the Technology & Innovation Ecosystem Awards program managed by the Innovation Institute at MassTech.

Altogether, these NTIA grants – funded by the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 – will help unlock innovation in testing and strengthening of the wireless supply chain across the nation, helping reduce costs, increase competition, and lower security risks for future mobile networking.

"Massachusetts has a proud history of paving the next frontier of telecommunications and is continuing this tradition through the initiative of our colleges and universities, who are staying on the cutting edge of mobile tech," said Governor Maura Healey. "We want to congratulate Northeastern on their innovative approach to ensuring our communications are more secure, cost-effective, and will create the jobs of tomorrow, and we thank the Biden-Harris administra-

tion for making this funding available."

"We're a state filled with the best universities in the country," said Lieutenant Governor Driscoll. "This support from the Biden-Harris administration allows us to further empower our academic institutions and students. By equipping them with the necessary tools, we aim to motivate them to reach exceptional heights in technological innovation."

"For more than 50 years, U.S. universities have worked in partnership with government to advance the frontiers of science and maintain our global competitiveness," said Joseph E. Aoun, president of Northeastern University. "This federal investment in Northeastern's wireless communications research – supplemented by the Healey-Driscoll administration's vital support – will enable our scientists to develop break-through technologies that benefit our region, the nation and the world."

The three NTIA grants to Northeastern include:

- August 8, 2023: A \$2 million award for the TENORAN project, with partner Dell Technologies,

NVIDIA, an automated end-to-end energy-efficiency profiling of Open RAN systems through high-fidelity standardized testing scenarios.

- November 28, 2023: A \$2 million award for DigiRAN project, with partner Dell Technologies, focused on the interoperability, security and performance testing of an open RAN (radio access network architecture) system.

- January 10, 2024: A \$2 million award for AutoRAN project with partner Nvidia, which will research the automation of "end-to-end continuous testing for open and disaggregated cellular systems."

"Northeastern's commitment to build a more intelligent mobile networking infrastructure here in Massachusetts has the potential to increase competition and grow our economy," said Secretary of Economic Development Yvonne Hao. "We're grateful for the support of the Biden Administration and the NTIA for enabling Northeastern University to pioneer technological advancements, break barriers, build a hub for economic development, and provide workforce oppor-

tunities for their student population."

"Through these investments, Northeastern will help advance the wireless networks that power our innovation economy, making them more agile, responsive, and secure," said Pat Larkin, Director of the Innovation Institute at MassTech. "For our startups in the advanced wireless space, this new technology will expand their access to cutting-edge technology and the world-class researchers at NU."

"We are grateful to President Biden, Secretary Raimondo and the NTIA for their decision, and congratulations to Northeastern on this exciting award," said Director of Federal Funds and Infrastructure Quentin Palfrey. "We will continue leveraging Massachusetts's strengths in technology and innovation as we compete for federal funds that strengthen our supply chains, while creating good-paying jobs and investing in our communities."

The investments will help Northeastern expand on the WIoT Institute infra-

See NORTHEASTERN Page 9

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**Address //** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spaces for learning and curiosity.

“Last summer, Boston scored a huge goal: landing the National Women’s Soccer League’s newest franchise in 2026,” said Wu.

With the city’s partners at Boston Unity Soccer Group, Wu said the city is excited to renovate the historic White Stadium at Franklin Park into the first sports venue in the country that will co-house a pro sports team and a public school athletics program.

“Our students will have a world-class grass field, eight-lane track, brand new locker rooms, and conditioning and study spaces to call home,” said Wu. “We’ll also create a new booster fund for BPS athletics to cover expenses for uniforms, extra equipment, and dedicated transportation.”

Wu noted that the plans for a revitalized Franklin Park extend beyond bringing a professional soccer team to a renovated White Stadium.

“For my family and many others, there is no more magical place in the city, with its historic stone bridges; wooded trails; and beloved community spaces,” said Wu. “But our biggest park has suffered from decades of disinvestment.”

This year, the mayor said the city will act on recommendations of the Franklin Park Coalition and community members to begin restoring Franklin Park to its fullest potential.

The city will hire a park administrator and six new maintenance staff, bringing dedicated park staffing to its highest level in over 50 years, Wu said. In addition, she said the city will begin the community process to reimagine and invest in a home of the Elma Lewis Playhouse.

“Every young person deserves to grow up in a city with wide open spaces that coax our legs into running – that remind us to breathe deep and look up at the sky,” said Wu.

Rickie Thompson, the President of the Franklin Park Coalition, said her organization is thrilled to celebrate the mayor’s significant new investments in Franklin Park.

“The Coalition has been advocating for renovations and additional staffing for a significant time,” said Thompson. “We’re very grateful that Mayor Wu is responsive to these requests and will work to update this critical resource that has been neglected for too long.”

Jennifer Epstein, the controlling partner of Boston Unity Soccer, applauded Wu’s vision and the

**Comments on Mayor Wu’s State of the City Address**

*“Mayor Wu showed so many of us how she is leading and moving our city forward, tackling housing, education, environment, and public safety. The state of our city is stronger because of her leadership.”*

**State Sen. Lydia Edwards**

partnership to revitalize White Stadium.

“The transformation of the stadium into a world-class sports facility presents an incredible opportunity for BPS student-athletes, the communities around the park, and our soccer club,” said Epstein. “We are building our team for Boston and the diverse communities represented here, and we thank the City for its leadership. Working together with the City and members of the community, we look forward to delivering a reimagined White Stadium that enhances our city and contributes positively to the vibrancy and activation of beloved Franklin Park.”

Throughout Wu’s address, there was a focus on housing, education, and the future for young people in the city.

“Time and again, we have proven the future is ours to shape,” said Wu. “And day by day, we’re following through on Boston’s promise to be a green and growing City for everyone. As a mom—and a BPS parent—I know that to truly be the best City for every family, we have to give our young people the world: in the classroom, in community, in every corner of our City.”

Wu announced that the City will eliminate barriers to building accessory dwelling units (ADUs) this year by changing zoning to make these small homes as-of-right citywide. The ADU program allows owner occupants to create smaller, independent units inside their homes or in their yards.

The mayor also announced plans to identify locations for nearly 3,000 new, modern, energy-efficient public housing units that will be built over the next decade, which she said will be the first new net public housing units built in Boston in more than 40 years.

“From Chinatown to West Roxbury, public housing makes it possible for so many of our seniors, and veterans, and residents

with disabilities to stay in our city, and for so many of our young people to grow up here – including two of our newest city councilors,” said Wu.

Across the city, Wu said too many families are getting displaced when their apartment buildings are scooped up by private investors.

“We’re launching a fund to make these buildings permanently affordable – doubling down on our success last year keeping 114 families in their homes in East Boston,” said Wu. “This year, we will deploy the fund to protect 400 more families citywide.”

For students, Wu said several new partnerships with higher education institutions will ensure that BPS high school students have access to early college and career pathways.

Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) will broaden its partnership with Charlestown High School by offering every student the opportunity to take college courses either through dual enrollment or early college pathways in business, technology, and health.

In September, BHCC and Charlestown High School will launch the City’s second Year 13 program, which provides a full year of free college courses to Charlestown graduates. Roxbury Community College will partner with Boston International Newcomers Academy (BINCA), the Margarita Muñoz Academy, and English High School to launch the first early college incubator designed specifically for multilingual students.

Mass General Brigham will deepen its partnership with the Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers to ensure Boston’s healthcare professions reflect the community, Wu said.

Wu also announced that Boston Public Schools has signed an agreement with UMass Boston and Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco to transform the BCLA-McCormack High School into the district’s first University-Assisted Community Hub School.

The mayor also introduced a new program to help students and their families continue their education outside the walls of the school and some of the city’s most famous institutions.

Starting in February 2024, on the first and second Sundays of each month, every BPS student and up to three family members will get free admission to the Boston Children’s Museum, the Franklin Park Zoo, the

Institute of Contemporary Art, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Museum of Science, and the New England Aquarium. Families will show a BPS school ID or an electronic pass to gain admission.

The mayor also hit upon the city’s continuing commitment to being a green city.

“Last year, I promised to ban fossil fuels in new city buildings, and we did: Already, two new community centers and two libraries in progress will be fossil fuel free,” said Wu. “And this year, we will introduce zero net carbon zoning to make Boston the greenest city in the country.”

In her speech, Wu also highlighted several public safety issues.

The mayor said the city



MAJOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JOHN WILCOX  
Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta, along with other officials, attended the Mayor's State of the City address at the MGM Music Hall on Tuesday night.

is collaborating on a public health-led approach at Mass & Cass that has removed encampments and helped hundreds of people find housing and begin a path to recovery; and partnering on a community-driven safety plan that

has achieved the lowest levels of gun violence on record. Wu also noted that a new police contract sets a national precedent for community policing, including discipline reform, detail reform, and investing in officer education.

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**Northeastern //** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

structure to acquire equipment which, combined with their Open 6G Testing & Integration Center, will create a unique facility to test interoperability and AI research around the deployment of 6G wireless, while also building a hub for economic development around Open RAN/6G wireless ecosystem in Massachusetts and a tech incubator for locally based startups. In addition, the public investments will strengthen workforce development efforts around Open RAN and 6G in the state.

The new tools will complement Northeastern’s existing telecommunications research hubs, such as the wireless network emulator, called

Colosseum, and the FCC Innovation Zone, which allows qualified federal

“licensees to test new advanced technologies and prototype networks.”

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## MEET THE NEW BOSTON CITY COUNCILORS

## Councilor Henry Santana, At-Large

At-Large City Councilor Henry Santana brings a unique blend of experiences and a deep commitment to community upliftment. Born in Bani, Dominican Republic, Santana made Boston his home as a child, growing up in Mission Hill. From the Alice Taylor Boston Housing Authority apartments to earning a B.A. in history and political science at Lasell University, Santana's journey mirrors the resilience and vibrancy of our city.

Dedicated to community service from a young age, Santana spent over 15 years with the Mission Hill Summer Program, fostering academic growth and leadership among youth. As an immigrant and first-generation college graduate, he experienced firsthand the challenges of navigating



civic institutions, igniting his passion for creating a more accessible city government.

In 2016, the sudden loss of his oldest brother became a defining moment, reinforcing Santana's commitment to making a positive impact. Before his role as At-Large City Councilor, Santana served as the inaugural director for Mayor Michelle Wu's Office of Civic Organizing. He worked to eliminate barriers to civic

engagement, empowering Boston residents to actively participate in their communities. Prior to that, he served as Director of Operations, and Mission Hill and Fenway Liaison for Councilor Kenzie Bok, actively addressing constituents' needs during the pandemic.

From Mission Hill to East Boston, Dorchester to Hyde Park, Santana is committed to representing every resident of Boston. He envisions a city where accessible government systems uplift every community member. As City Councilor At-Large, Santana is dedicated to creating a Boston where everyone has access to the resources they need to thrive, and where every resident plays an active role in building a more equitable and just community.

## Councilor Enrique Pepén, District 5

Born and raised in Boston, Councilor Enrique Pepén is the proud son of two Dominican immigrants that arrived to the city in the 90's. He currently lives in Roslindale with his wife and two kids.

Growing up in Boston Public Housing, Pepén remembers the strong community support shown by neighbors living in his apartment building.

"We'd have cookouts and everyone was invited. Neighbors would knock on the door asking for sugar. We didn't have the most resources, but we took care of each other".

After a major shooting at Charlestown High School and a promise by former Mayor Thomas Menino to open a police station nearby, Pepén knew he wanted to be "a part of the solution." So, at a young age, Pepén set his sights on a career in public service.

In high school, the John D O'Bryant, he got involved in Model United Nations and found himself excited to learn about politics, history and government. The first in his family to attend college — and to experience the college application process — Pepén landed a full ride to



Suffolk University.

From freshman to junior year of college, Pepén worked for former City Councilor Tito Jackson where he worked to expand the MBTA Youth Pass to work year-round and serve the residents of Roxbury. He then went on to serve as district coordinator for former U.S. Rep. Joe Kennedy III, helping constituents with federal government-related case-work and teaming up with Senator Elizabeth Warren's office to assist Puerto Rican refugees in Fall River after Hurricane Maria by finding them housing and enrolling children into school.

In 2019, Pepén was appointed by former Mayor Marty Walsh as the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Liaison, where he was able to team up with City Life/ Vida Urbana to pre-

vent various families from being evicted. During this time, he also served as the President of the Young Democrats of Massachusetts Latino Caucus and organized educational sessions that informed residents of their tenant rights.

In the fall of 2020, Pepén joined Transportation for Massachusetts as their Community Engagement Coordinator. In this role, he served as Co-Chair of the Regional Transit Authority Advocates Coalition (RTAAC), advocating for funding and policies that strengthen transit services statewide.

Most recently, Pepén served as the Executive Director at the Boston Office of Neighborhood Services, where he ensured all neighborhoods across the city had their essential municipal needs met and he established the weekly neighborhood coffee hours that occur city-wide.

"Most importantly, I am excited to serve the District that helped raise me and the city that my wife and I have decided to build a family in. I look forward to making our District and our city a better place to live for all residents," said Pepén.

## Councilor John FitzGerald, District 3

Councilor John FitzGerald was elected to the Boston City Council on November 7, 2023. His district includes most of Dorchester and a portion of the South End.

The oldest of four children, FitzGerald grew up in a tight-knit Boston family where serving others was an important family value. His mother, Patricia, worked as a nurse, while his father, Kevin, served for over 28 years as a State Representative. From an early age, FitzGerald learned from his parents' example the importance of hard work, humility, and community involvement.

FitzGerald attended Boston Public Schools, where his early desire to help others inspired him, while attending Boston Latin, to join the Mayor's Youth Council, a group responsible for representing their peers, community members, and youth across the city. Following high school, he attended Northeastern, receiving his Bachelor's in Communication and Master's in Business Administration.

After college, FitzGerald went to work for the City of Boston, where,



over the course of 17 years, he held a number of important positions, serving under four mayoral administrations. As Deputy Director of Imagine Boston 2030, he helped to oversee and implement the first citywide plan in 50 years. As Director of Finance for the Office of Economic Development, FitzGerald worked to increase investments into our communities, securing tens of thousands of dollars for locally owned small businesses without access to capital. Finally, in his most recent role as Deputy Director Of Real Estate Operations, FitzGerald oversees the property management of over four million square feet of land owned by the BPDA.

In addition to his years of public service working at City Hall, FitzGerald has always remained

committed to supporting his community and other worthy causes. He has served as President of the Tobin Community Center for the last 20 years and, since 2008, has been one of the lead organizers for Team Fitz, an organization established following his father's death from cancer, where riders raise money competing in the annual Pan Mass Challenge. Since its inception, Team Fitz has raised over one million dollars for the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

Today, FitzGerald and his wife Meghan, a public school teacher, live in Dorchester with their three beautiful children, Callan, Mac, and Theresa. Their two oldest attend Boston Public Schools, and FitzGerald coaches his son's t-ball, flag football, and street hockey teams.

Councilor FitzGerald is proud to represent the residents of District 3 on the Boston City Council and looks forward to having the chance to give back to a community and City that has given him so much and to do all he can to make it even better, not only for his family but for you and yours as well.

## Councilor Benjamin Weber, District 6

Councilor Benjamin Weber has been a worker's rights attorney for 18 years and a Jamaica Plain resident since 2008. Weber began his legal career in 2005 representing migrant farmworkers with Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid.

From 2008 through 2012, Weber served as an Assistant Attorney General with the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office in both the Fair Labor Division where he prosecuted employers for violating state wage law and in the Administrative Law Division where he represented state agencies in appeals of their decisions.

Since 2012, Weber has worked at Lichten & Liss-Riordan, P.C. in Boston, one of the nation's most well-respected worker's rights law firms. As an associate and Of Counsel at LLR, Weber has represented thousands of workers in class actions across the country. He has obtained unpaid wages for



large classes of furniture and appliance delivery drivers, cable television installers, nurses, custodians, and firefighters. In addition, Weber was part of a legal team that successfully sued the Boston Police Department on behalf of a group of Black and Latino Boston police officers which resulted in a federal court ruling that the BPD's lieutenant's promotional exam violated federal and state anti-discrimination law.

Weber and his wife Xan have lived in Jamaica Plain since 2008, where they have raised two children, Noah, 17, and Hannah, 12, who both attend

Boston Public Schools. Weber has coached his kids' soccer teams and serves on the board of Jamaica Plain Youth Soccer.

As a BPS parent and worker's rights advocate, Weber knows first-hand about the challenges that Boston families face, including increasing housing costs and a school system that too often fails to meet the needs of its families. He will fight to reduce the income gap among Boston residents by seeking to strengthen the right of every worker in the city to be paid for their work, by promoting a school system where every child receives the world-class education they deserve, and by fighting for tenant's rights.

Councilor Weber was raised in New York and graduated from Brandeis University with a B.A. in 1996, where he played soccer and ran track. He earned his J.D. from the University of Iowa College of Law in 2005.

## Eastie Chamber commemorates Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce placed a display of American flags to commemorate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 15, at the Daniel H Solari Square outside the Chamber of Commerce office at 464 Bremen Street.

Martin Luther King Jr. exemplified organized protests to voice his concerns in a peaceful way, without violence. He will forever be remembered for advocating for meeting with violence in non-violent ways while voicing his concerns through protests.

Did you know that #MLKDay is the only federal holiday designated as



Flags were placed at the Daniel H Solari Square in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

a national day of service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities? Learn more: <http://ow.ly/txj050LZNLj>.

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