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EBHS BASEBALL, SOFTBALL TEAMS READY FOR 2026 SEASON

The East Boston High School baseball and softball teams are set to begin their 2026 seasons. In the photo (right) are senior leaders of the Jets baseball team, Dennis Antrim and Roman Cinelli.



PATRICK O'CONNOR PHOTOS



The captains of the EBHS softball team, from left, Arielle Tritto, Yariana Camilo DeJesus, and Jenna Dasilva.

Sen. Edwards secures key improvements for Winthrop and East Boston ferry

Special to the Times-Free Press

With spring ferry service set to resume next week, State Senator Lydia Edwards is highlighting a series of key advancements that will improve reliability and accessibility for residents of East Boston and Winthrop.

Beginning this season, all MBTA ferry routes will feature contactless payment, making boarding faster and more convenient for riders. These upgrades come as a part of a

broader set of investments and policy changes championed by Senator Edwards to strengthen ferry service across the region.

“Ferry service is a critical mode of transportation for our coastal communities,” said Senator Edwards. “These improvements reflect our commitment to making commutes faster, more reliable, and more accessible for all, especially working families in East Bos-

See FERRY Page 6

GSNA hears plans for the 9 Chelsea Street development

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

Representatives for a project at 9 Chelsea Street that would bring new units and retail space to the area shared plans for their development at the Gove Street Neighborhood Association’s (GSNA) latest meeting last week.

The project, at the site of the old Rapino Memorial Home, calls for a six-story mixed-use building with 109 units and about 2,875 square feet of space for three retail spaces on the ground floor.

Domenic Coppola of Drago & Toscano LLP, the project counsel, indicated that the development will “bring much-needed housing and retail spaces to Maverick Square.”

As for the unit mix, the development is slated to have 59 studios, 34 one-bedrooms, and 16 two-bedrooms. With average square footage of 420, 586, and 835 for each unit type.

Regarding how the project aligns with zoning, Coppo-

See GSNA Page 2

Easter Hunnies on Page 4

For the latest news in East Boston, check eastietimes.com



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Forum

HAPPY PASSOVER

Passover, which begins at sundown this Wednesday (April 1) and ends at nightfall next Thursday (April 9) celebrates the biblical story of the Exodus, when the Israelites were freed from slavery after the 10th plague on Egypt (each of which was more devastating than the last).

God spared the Israelites' firstborn by having them mark their doorposts with lamb's blood, which informed God's Angels of Death to "pass over" the Israelites' homes. This final plague, which claimed the Pharaoh's own firstborn son, demonstrated God's power and ultimately compelled Pharaoh to give the Israelites their freedom.

Passover commences with the First Seder, which is a special dinner that includes the recitation of the Kiddush, the Motzi, and other blessings in Hebrew. The story of Passover is retold during the Seder and the youngest person at the table recites, "The Four Questions" (Mah Nishtanah) that provide the answers to the primary question: "Why is this night unlike all others?"

The Four Questions highlight the unique rituals of the evening:

On all other nights we eat either leavened or unleavened bread. On this night, why do we eat only unleavened matzah (a bread made with flour and water that is baked quickly to prevent it from rising)?

Answer: To remind us of the haste with which our ancestors left Egypt.

On all other nights we eat all kinds of herbs. On this night, why only bitter herbs (maror)?

Answer: To remind us of the bitterness of slavery.

On all other nights we do not dip our herbs even once. On this night, why do we dip them twice?

Answer: It reminds us of the tears shed (dipping karpas in salt water) and the mortar used by our ancestors (dipping in charoset).

On all other nights we eat sometimes sitting and sometimes reclining. On this night, why do we all recline?

Answer: To remind us of how free people relax and dine.

We wish all of our friends and readers of the Jewish faith a Happy Passover (Chag Sameach)!

HAPPY EASTER

This Sunday is Easter Sunday, the holiest and most significant day in the Christian faith, when Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which occurred two days after his crucifixion on Good Friday. Our friends of the Eastern Orthodox faith will celebrate Easter on Sunday, April 12, according to the Julian calendar.

Christians believe that Christ died to redeem us from our sins. His resurrection represents the victory over death and sin, a testament to the power of God and a promise of eternal life, offering hope that they too, can have eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ.

We wish all of our Christian friends and readers a very happy and joyful Easter.

Hopping mad about gas prices...



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 are preferred.

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ZUMIX to celebrate 35 years of empowering young people

ZUMIX, a local nonprofit providing creative opportunities for young people through music and technology, will celebrate its 35th anniversary in 2026, beginning with a Birthday Bop celebration on Friday, April 10. The event will include a look back at ZUMIX's beginnings in 1991, an open mic featuring performances from current ZUMIX students and alumni, and a community celebration of ZUMIX's long-term impact on young people.

Founded in 1991 in a Mav-

erick Square living room, ZUMIX has grown from a summer music program to a year-round nonprofit serving hundreds of young people each year with programs in music, radio, live sound, and other creative areas. ZUMIX partners with local schools as well as offering out-of-school programming for students ages 7-18 in its LEED-certified, fully renovated firehouse at 260 Sumner Street in East Boston.

"As we celebrate 35 years of ZUMIX, we're reminded that

this is more than a place—it's a living, growing community," said Madeleine Steczynski, co-founder and executive director of ZUMIX. "From our earliest days to today, ZUMIX has evolved with purpose and possibility, just like the young people we serve. It continues to be a magical space where confidence and creativity grow—and transformation happens every day."

ZUMIX will continue to celebrate throughout the year, weaving the anniversary theme

into its signature events, such as the Walk for Music on July 12 and its annual Gala, The Muze, set for October 29. To stay up to date, follow ZUMIX on social media at @zumixinc or visit their website at www.zumix.org.

ZUMIX's mission is to empower young people to build successful futures for themselves – transforming lives and community through music, technology, and creative employment. ZUMIX works with 1,000 young people ages

7-18 each year. Free and low-cost programs are offered out-of-school in instrumental music, songwriting, performance, radio, audio engineering, and audio and video storytelling. ZUMIX partners with local schools to bring more arts education opportunities to Boston's youth. In addition to youth programs, ZUMIX offers free concerts and events for all ages. For more information, visit zumix.org.

GSNA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

la said it is "primarily zoning-compliant." The project is located in the mixed-use-7 zoning subdistrict and would need relief for the side yard and the building's lot coverage.

In terms of the community engagement that has occurred with the proposed development, Coppola indicated the team has spoken with the Planning Department, elected officials, and others.

Additionally, he said the project received support from the Maverick Central Neighborhood Association.

As part of that community engagement process, tweaks to the project have been made, such as reducing the height from seven to six stories and adding stepbacks, among other changes.

Later in the presentation, John Williams, the project architect, walked through other aspects of the proposal.

Specifically, Williams pointed out plans for sidewalk improvements along Maverick and Chelsea Streets, and native plantings.

He also went over plans for a proposed roof deck. "Since we don't have much site to work with down below, we do want to give the residents a very nice amenity space up on the deck," Williams said.

As the presentation progressed, Williams outlined floor plans, elevations, renderings, and more before the floor was opened for questions and comments from attendees.

One resident had asked whether there were plans for a loading and unloading zone, especially given the number of units with new tenants moving in.

In response, Williams said, "We're trying to find ways to get an off-street loading zone. Currently, we're going to be working with the city to have two spaces striped as a loading zone on the street, but that is a topic we're trying to explore to make better."

Another resident commented that something needed to be done about the fencing around the project, claiming that it was not secure in the wind. They also thought something needed to be done about mice around

the site.

The same resident who asked about the loading zone also noted a disconnect between the proposed building's scale and materiality and the surrounding area on the Bremen Street side, which is something Williams said the team would look into.

According to the Planning Department's website, the comment period for the project is open until April 6. For more information about the proposal and to comment, visit <https://www.bostonplans.org/projects/>

development-projects/9-chelsea-street.

For a recording of the presentation to the GSNA, visit

the group's website at <https://www.govestreet.org/>. The next GSNA meeting is scheduled for April 27.

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- **DONNA RAUSEO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
Awarded annually to a high school senior who resides and is involved in community service in East Boston, with a minimum of 3.0 GPA.
- **LOWELL L. RICHARDS III MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
Awarded annually to a high school senior who resides and is involved in community service in the city of Boston, Chelsea, Revere, or Winthrop, with a minimum 3.0 GPA.
- **DIVERSITY STEM SCHOLARSHIP**
Awarded annually to high school seniors who reside or attend school in the city of Boston, Chelsea, Winthrop, Revere, Worcester, Bedford, Concord, Lexington or Lincoln, and are involved in community service with a minimum 3.0 GPA.



Scholarship applications must be received by Massport **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 1, 2026**. For more information on these scholarships, including application links and criteria please visit, www.massport.com



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from Cecilia



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from Jet



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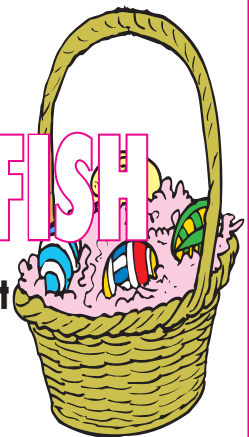
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Lydia Edwards
State Senator

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DPH advises extending RSV immunizations for infants for an additional month

Special to the Times-Free Press

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) issued a clinical advisory to health care providers recommending that respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) monoclonal antibody immunizations continue to be administered to eligible infants through April 30, 2026, in response to ongoing RSV activity across the state and throughout the region.

RSV monoclonal antibody immunizations are typically administered from October through March. The current RSV season, however, began later than usual, and it is continuing further into the spring. Surveillance data show sustained RSV activity in Massachusetts and surrounding states, prompting the extension of the immunization window beyond the usual March 31 endpoint.

“RSV continues to circulate at meaningful levels later into the spring than we typically see,” said Public Health Commissioner Robbie Goldstein, MD, PhD. “Public health guidance must reflect the reality of the moment. Extending access to these preventive tools is about matching data and risk with proven measures that can prevent and protect our youngest residents from the most severe effects of this illness.”

RSV, a common respiratory virus, is a leading cause of hospitalization among infants in the United States. While RSV often begins as a mild, cold-like illness, it can lead to serious conditions such as bronchiolitis and pneumonia. This illness can be particularly problematic for very young infants and those with underlying medical conditions that make

them especially vulnerable to the disease.

In the clinical advisory, DPH urged clinicians to assess the RSV immunization status of infants and encourage monoclonal antibody protection for those who are eligible and have not yet received the immunization during the current season.

Infants younger than 8 months of age should receive RSV monoclonal antibody immunization if their mother was not vaccinated during pregnancy, if maternal vaccination status is unknown, or if they were born within 14 days of maternal vaccination. Certain children aged 8 to 19 months are at increased risk for severe RSV disease – including those with chronic lung disease or prematurity, severe immunocompromise, cystic fibrosis, or other qualifying conditions

– and should also receive RSV immunization.

“RSV remains the leading cause of serious respiratory tract infection in infants, and too many young children still are at risk of preventable hospitalization,” said Larry Madoff, MD, Medical Director of DPH’s Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences. “We have a safe, effective way to reduce that risk, and extending access now will help to protect more infants while RSV continues to circulate. We will continue to closely monitor RSV trends and will adjust our approach based on real-time data and what we are seeing in communities across the Commonwealth.”

This extension applies only to infant monoclonal antibody immunization for the 2025-2026 RSV season. The season-

al window for maternal RSV vaccination – September 1 through January 31 – remains unchanged and should not be extended, as maternal vaccination timing cannot be adjusted once pregnancy has progressed.

In addition to infant protection, RSV vaccination is recommended for older adults. Adults aged 75 and older and those aged 50 to 74 with certain underlying conditions should receive a one-time RSV vaccine dose. Unlike infant immunization, RSV vaccination for older adults is not seasonal and can be administered year-round.

For more information, visit the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Respiratory Illness Dashboard and review current American Academy of Pediatrics guidance on RSV prevention.

Ferry // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ton and Winthrop.”

Spring Ferry Schedule Start Dates

East Boston Ferry

- Weekday service begins Monday, March 30
- Weekend service Begins Saturday, April 4

Winthrop Ferry

- Weekday service begins Monday, April 27
- Weekend service begins Saturday, May 23

Delivering Results for Ferry Riders

Senator Edwards has made

ferry service a top priority, securing significant investments and policy wins in the FY26 budget and beyond, including:

- Service Expansion Planning: Co-sponsored a provision directing the MBTA to study the cost and feasibility of expanding ferry service hours and adding new stops, including Liberty Plaza in East Boston, while requiring detailed rider-

ship reporting to the Legislature.

- Infrastructure Investment: Secured \$1.5 million for the planning and construction of a new ferry dock in the East Boston Designated Port Area
- Improved Winthrop Service added two ferry boats to the Winthrop/Quincy line, cutting commute times in half and

introducing a long-awaited direct route between Boston and Winthrop.

- Ferry Shuttle Service: Delivered \$50,000 for a Winthrop ferry shuttle service to better connect residents and reduce congestion.

Transforming Ferry Service in Winthrop

In partnership with local leaders and residents, Senator Edwards has helped transform ferry service in Winthrop by:

- Adding an airport stop
- Adding weekend service
- Transitioning operations to the MBTA, saving Winthrop over \$100,000 a year
- Cutting commute times to and from Boston from approximately 50 mins to 20 mins
- Securing a dedicated ferry boat, the Harbor Gem
- Launching a seasonal shuttle to manage traffic
- Continuing to advocate for year-round service and fare equity

“These investments are about more than just transportation – they’re about equity and access,” Edwards added. “We’re building a ferry system that truly works for our communities.”

For more information on ferry schedules, visit mbta.com/schedules/ferry. To learn more about contactless payments, visit mbta.com/fares/charlie/tap-ride.



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NEWS IN BRIEF

WU, CHIEF OF PLANNING KAIROS SHEN HOST FANEUIL HALL MARKETPLACE EVENT

Earlier this week, city experts, planners, Downtown business and property owners, and community members gathered for a public conversation on the future of Faneuil Hall Marketplace.

The event featured a series of panel discussions focused on reimagining the Marketplace as a catalyst for strengthening Boston's downtown ecosystem. Speakers discussed the district's layout, design, and historic evolution, while also highlighting the civic significance and symbolic role of the Marketplace.

The public program kicked off two days of tours and workshops with urban design and development experts from across the US and Europe who are exploring with Boston's leaders how the Marketplace can help revitalize the Government Center District.

WU ANNOUNCES NEW SENIOR STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Michelle Wu announced new senior staff appointments, continuing efforts to build an experienced, knowledgeable Cabinet and senior leadership team to advance her second-term agenda.

Veronica Yoo will serve as Chief of Communications. In this role, Yoo will lead the City's communications strategy and oversee a team focused on meeting residents where they are, building trust and transparency, and engaging communi-

ties across every neighborhood. She previously served as Press Secretary and Communications Advisor at the U.S. Department of Labor, as a spokesperson for Elizabeth Warren's presidential campaign, and a speechwriter for the Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon.

Pedro Spivakovsky-Gonzalez will serve as Director of Cabinet Affairs, leading internal coordination efforts to ensure Cabinet and community members are informed and working together on key initiatives and priorities. He previously served as Executive Director of the Community Dispute Settlement Center, a community mediation and training center that provides conflict resolution services and workshops in the Boston area. Prior to that he worked as a legal aid lawyer for low-income veterans in Massachusetts at a Boston-based non-profit. He also serves as a Captain in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps Reserves.

"Especially in challenging times, Boston must keep the City connected to our communities. Ensuring all our efforts are coordinated across City departments will help us deliver more impactful results and stretch every dollar," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm honored to serve alongside them as we take on the hard work ahead to keep Boston moving forward."

"As staff step into new roles and new team members join us, our mission remains unchanged: making Boston a city that works for everyone," said Chief of Staff Clare Kelly. "I'm grateful to this team for their commitment to delivering results for residents."

OBITUARIES

Teresa Basile

Devoted to God, family and food, she dedicated her life to the teachings of the church and to helping others



Teresa (Rago) Basile of East Boston passed away on March 26, 2026, surrounded by her loving family.

The beloved wife of the late Anselmo Basile, she was the Treasured Mother of Alex Basile and his wife, Kelli of Rowley, Anthony Basile and his wife, Diana of Revere, Paul Basile and his wife, Lucy of Middleton and Carlo Basile and his partner, Lindsey Smith of East Boston; cherished grandmother of Sophia, Teresa, Alessandra, Cristina, Arianna, Isabella, Carlo Jr., Christian and Olivia. She is survived by her brother, Pasquale Rago and his wife, Michelina of Revere, as well as many loving nieces and nephews. She was pre-deceased by her sisters, Nicolina Leone and her husband, Nico-

ing their four boys on her own. She worked as a seamstress and did whatever she could to provide for them. She was devoted to God, family and food and dedicated her life to the teachings of the church and to helping others. She was a faithful communicant of the Sacred Heart Church. Her greatest joy was spending time with family, especially her beloved grandchildren.

Her wake was held at The Sacred Heart Church, 303 Paris St. East Boston on Tuesday and Mass is to be celebrated at 11 a.m. (TODAY) Wednesday April 1, 2026, followed by internment at the Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett. To leave an online condolence, please visit www.ruggieromh.com

la and Giovanna Tecce and her husband, Michele. Teresa and Anselmo emigrated from Italy and made their home in East Boston where she spent the rest of her life. Teresa lost Anselmo at a young age and honored his legacy by rais-

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CHAMBER, FIRST PRIORITY CREDIT UNION'S HOST SUCCESSFUL COFFEE CONNECT

East Boston Chamber of Commerce Coffee Connect with First Priority Credit Union and Bono Restaurant and Catering

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce teamed up with First Priority Credit Union to host a Coffee Connect event on Friday, March 27. Attendees enjoyed coffee and breakfast offerings provided by Bono Restaurant and Catering, while First Priority Credit Union generously opened its doors at 100 Swift Street to showcase its services, strong commitment to community outreach, and dedication to exceptional customer service.

The well-attended gathering fostered a warm, welcoming atmosphere for networking, community engagement, and sampling Bono's coffee and food. Guests included local and state



COURTESY PHOTOS

Shown are scenes from the March 27 Coffee Connect held at First Priority Credit Union.

officials, First Priority Credit Union's management team and staff, Chamber members, members of the Chamber's Board of Directors, and other members

of the East Boston community.

Coffee Connect de la Cámara de Comercio de East Boston con First Priority Credit Union y Bono Restaurant and Catering

La Cámara de Comercio de East Boston se asoció con First Priority Credit Union para organizar un evento Coffee Connect el viernes 27 de marzo de 2026. Los asistentes disfrutaron de café y opciones de desayuno proporcionadas por Bono Restaurant and Catering, mientras que First Priority Credit Union abrió generosamente sus puertas en 100 Swift Street para presentar sus servicios, su firme compromiso con la participación comunitaria y su dedicación a un excelente servicio al cliente.

El evento, que contó con una gran asistencia, creó un ambiente cálido y acogedor para



establecer contactos, fomentar la participación comunitaria y degustar el café y la comida de Bono. Entre los invitados se encontraban funcionarios locales y estatales, el equipo directivo y el personal de First Priority

Credit Union, miembros de la Cámara, integrantes de la Junta Directiva de la Cámara y otros miembros de la comunidad de East Boston.



Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC)

980 Harrison Avenue
Boston, MA 02119

WATER MAIN FLUSHING NOTICE

Boston Water and Sewer Commission will commence Water Main Flushing in the East Boston area starting:

April 12th, 2026, through April 28th, 2026

The boundaries for the areas being flushed are Condor/Nay Street to the north, Boston Harbor/Piers Park to the south, Mass Pike/Route 1A to the east and Boston Harbor to the west.



The purpose of the Water Main Flushing Program is to improve drinking water quality for residents and businesses.

Water Main flushing will take place between the hours of **10:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M.**

The flushing process may cause discolored water and a reduction in pressure. The discoloration of the water will be temporary and is not harmful. If the condition persists, please contact BWSC's 24 Hour Service at (617) 989-7000.

BWSC appreciates your patience as we work to improve the quality of drinking water that we provide to the residents and businesses of Boston.

If you have any questions, contact BWSC's Night Operations Manager at (617) 989-7000 or visit our website @ www.bwsc.org.



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CITY PAWS

Planning a move?

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

While we have not moved in many years, we think about how difficult it can be to move with companion animals. When animal-loving friends are planning a move, we're happy to help by sharing the tips we've found over the years.

Finding a Pet-Friendly Home

Unless you're shopping for a single-family home, you have to find a pet-friendly building or landlord. Even places that allow some animals may have weight restrictions, a limit on the number of animals you may have, require an interview process, or require you to obtain permission from the building owners.

Ask about these conditions when you work with a realtor and inquire about the details if a friend tells you about a possible listing. To aid in this process, you should be prepared to

supply good references from former neighbors or landlords and, if needed, offer a pet deposit.

Planning Moving Day

People coming and going, open doors, things out of place, excitement, and a change of routine can add up to a very stressful day for you and your dogs or cats. While you're busy coordinating the move and protecting your household goods, you may not pay as much attention to safeguarding your animals. You don't want to add an escapee to the stress of moving day.

Your animal's specific personality and behavior will help you determine the approach to take. It may be better to board highly excitable pets at a professional facility or with a trusted friend or pet sitter for the day.

If your cat or dog will be around for the move, consider

keeping them in a room that can be closed off. Some people suggest a bathroom, but we say a bedroom. First, you and anyone else helping with the move will probably need to use the bathroom, and every time that door opens, it will give your cat or dog a way out.

A bedroom, on the other hand, can have a sign on the closed door alerting everyone that your pet is inside and they are not to open the door. When the rest of the home is empty, you can go in, put your animals in carriers or on leashes, and let the movers load the bedroom furniture last.

At the new location, your bedroom will be the first to come off the truck and be set up. You can then put the animals in that room while the rest of the new home is arranged.

Moving Tips

- Order new tags if the phone number or address on your pet's tags will change.
- Change your contact information with the registry for your pet's microchip and with the local dog license database.
- Update your veterinary records, or obtain copies of your pet's medical records, if you will be changing animal hospitals.
- Leave your carrier or crate out in the weeks before the move if your pet is not used to it, and put some treats in it from time to time to make it a more attractive spot.
- Don't forget medications, food, water, and relief breaks for your critters on moving day.
- Provide a litter box or puppy pads in the sanctuary room, or arrange regular relief walks for your dog.
- Plan meals around a long

drive to a new home if your pet is a queasy traveler.

- Make certain the new home is pet-proofed before you allow a dog or cat to explore.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.



These kitties had time to adjust to their crate before moving day.

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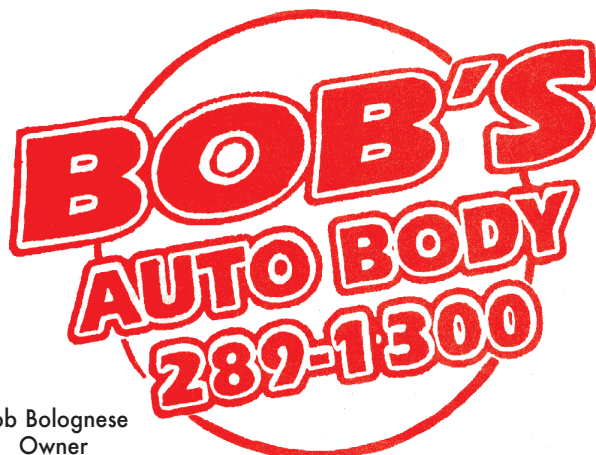
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Massachusetts House passes fair share supplemental budget

Special to the Times-Free Press

The Massachusetts House of Representatives today passed a \$1.8 billion supplemental budget that invests \$885 million in public transportation and \$417 million in public education, and funds several Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) deficiencies. The bill passed today also includes the tax conformity legislation filed by Governor Healey that delays the state's alignment with the corporate tax changes passed by Congress in the OB3 Act last year.

"From significant investments in public transportation and public education, to support for DTA caseworkers and expenses related to the World Cup, to fiscally prudent tax conformity measures – this legislation is representative of the responsible approach that the House will continue to take as we navigate a period of significant economic uncertainty,"

said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "I want to thank Chairman Michlewitz for his hard work, as well as all my colleagues in the House for recognizing the importance of the investments and reforms that this legislation makes."

"The use of these one-time surplus funds provides us with a unique opportunity to better strength the Commonwealth in numerous ways. By further improving our educational and transportation sectors we will build off the work we have done in the last several budget cycles with a judicious use of the Fair Share funds. The tax changes contained in this bill will help support the state's economic competitiveness, while giving us time to absorb the expected loss in revenue," said Representative Aaron Michlewitz, Chair of the House Committee on Ways & Means (D-Boston). "I want to thank Speaker Mariano and all our

House colleagues for their input and support on this critical funding legislation."

I'm excited to have secured Fair Share funding for organizations across East Boston, which will provide critical transportation and education resources for our community," said Representative Adrian Madaro, Chair of the Joint Committee on Revenue (D-East Boston). "From expanding East Boston ferry service, now with year round service and longer hours, supporting senior transportation through NeighborHealth's PACE program, and providing more resources for educational and youth programs across East Boston, I'm proud to support these vital assets for our neighborhood!"

"In addition to my work advocating for East Boston, I'm grateful to my colleagues for the opportunity to lead the work on the tax change provisions in this bill in my role as Chair of

the Joint Committee on Revenue," continued Representative Madaro. "These adjustments are limited in scope and make timely, necessary changes in response to the 5 costliest provisions of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, simultaneously mitigating significant state revenue loss while maintaining Massachusetts' economic competitiveness."

Representative Madaro was able to secure \$2,725,000 in provisions for organizations and services that benefit the East Boston community. In line with the guidelines for Fair Share funding, these investments are focused on education and transportation projects.

Projects funded include:

- East Boston Ferry – continues funding for the East Boston Ferry service between Lewis Wharf Mall in East Boston and Long Wharf in the North End, including new year-round service and longer hours
- NeighborHealth PACE – supports medically necessary transportation and home meal delivery services through the PACE program out of NeighborHealth
- Boston Debate League – funds after-school debate league programs
- Friends of the Children – supports the expansion of professional K-12 youth mentorship programs
- Piers Park Sailing Center – provides funding for sailing and maritime education and operations in East Boston
- East Boston Social Center – supports their mission to provide community-based initiatives for kindergarten
- Boston Scores – supports the operations of east Boston FC and Festival 2026 programming to involve youth in celebrating Boston hosting the World Cup
- East Boston School STEM – provides funding for experiential STEM and innovation programming for public schools serving K-6 in East Boston
- YouthConnect – provides for community-based mental health services for high-risk youth and their families
- Salt Marsh Education – supports the UMass Stone Living Lab's research of salt marsh rehabilitation in East Boston

changes that were passed by Congress in the OB3 Act last year, which will represent approximately a \$400 million revenue loss for the Commonwealth when fully implemented. Under the bill, the Research and Experimental expense deduction will be delayed one year, the deductions for the Modification of Business Interest, Depreciable Asset Expensing, Qualified Production Properties will be delayed two years, and the Modification of Qualified Opportunity Zone Investments program will also be delayed two years. However, should the ballot question to lower the state income tax from 5 percent to 4 percent pass in November, which would result in a \$5 billion revenue loss when fully implemented, the Commonwealth would permanently decouple from these tax credits, preventing them from going into effect.

The \$1.8 billion bill is funded in part by \$1.3 billion from excess Fair Share surtax funds to invest in public transportation and education. Highlights include:

- \$885 million towards transportation:
 - \$740 million towards the MBTA
 - \$525 million for the Deficiency Reserve
 - \$125 million for the Workforce & Safety Reserve
 - \$60 million for physical infrastructure with a focus on the core subway system
 - \$20 million for low-income reduced fares
 - \$10 million for water transportation infrastructure
- Other transportation items include:
 - \$50 million for snow and ice costs
 - \$25 million for Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) workforce development
 - \$30 million to fund the Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Credit
 - \$30 million for MassDOT Service Investments
 - \$417 million towards education:
 - o \$150 million towards Special Education Circuit Breaker costs
 - o \$150 million to fund Early Education Child Care costs
 - o \$38.7 million for the EEC

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Project Bread CEO Erin McAleer rolls burritos for a cause at Anna's Taqueria

On Thursday, March 19, Project Bread partnered with Anna's Taqueria to host a successful community fundraiser at the restaurant's Brookline location. The event brought together supporters, community members, and local leaders for an evening dedicated to raising awareness and funds to combat food insecurity across Massachusetts.

Project Bread President & CEO Erin McAleer joined the Anna's team behind the counter, rolling burritos and engaging directly with guests, adding a unique and interactive element to the evening. A portion of all in-person entrée sales during the event was donated to the 2026 Walk for Hunger, helping to support Project Bread's statewide efforts to connect families to reliable food resources and advocate for policies that make nutritious meals more accessible.

McAleer, alongside Anna's Taqueria Marketing Director Laurel O'Keefe, spoke with attendees about the growing ur-



PHOTO COURTESY PROJECT BREAD

Pictured (left to right) are Project Bread President and CEO Erin McAleer wraps burritos to support the nonprofit's 2026 Walk for Hunger alongside Anna's Taqueria Manager, Jose Lopez, in Brookline on Thursday, March 19. A dollar from every burrito sold supports Project Bread's year-round, statewide work helping families keep food on the table.

gency of addressing food insecurity, as hundreds of thousands of families across Massachusetts continue to face challenges affording food. The event highlighted the importance of community partnerships in advancing solutions, from direct support services like Project

Bread's FoodSource Hotline to long-term policy advocacy.

The event also underscored Anna's Taqueria's ongoing commitment to community impact and demonstrated how local businesses can play a meaningful role in supporting food access initiatives. The restau-

rant team will continue its support by participating in Project Bread's upcoming Walk for Hunger, the organization's signature community fundraiser and one of Massachusetts' most enduring anti-hunger events.

Registration is now open for The 58th annual Walk for Hunger, taking place Sunday, May 3 on Boston Common. This one-day, family-friendly event will bring together thousands of participants for a 3-mile loop featuring food, entertainment, and activities for all ages. The Walk continues to serve as a powerful platform for turning compassion into action, supporting Project Bread's statewide efforts to advance food security and expand access to nutritious meals for children and families.

In addition to individual participants, anti-hunger organizations across the Commonwealth are invited to join through Project Bread's co-fundraising program, The Commonwealth, which enables partners to raise funds for their own missions

while contributing to a broader collective impact.

Community members can register to walk in person or virtually, start a personal or team fundraising page, or make a donation by visiting projectbread.org/walk. For more information, email walk@projectbread.org.

People experiencing food insecurity should call into Project Bread's toll-free FoodSource Hotline (1-800-645-8333), which provides confidential assistance to connect with food resources, including SNAP benefits, in 180 languages and for the hearing impaired. For more information, visit: www.projectbread.org/get-help.

Project Bread, the leading statewide food security nonprofit, connects people and communities in Massachusetts to reliable sources of food while advocating for policies that make food more accessible—so that no one goes hungry. For more information, visit: www.projectbread.org.

Fair Share // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

income eligibility waitlist

- Includes \$8 million for child care for providers and \$7.5 million for the loan forgiveness program for providers
 - o \$20 million for Green SchoolWorks program to help schools with clean energy upgrades
 - o \$18.3 million for Financial Aid Supplements
 - o \$20 million endowment Match for UMass and other state colleges and universities
 - o \$5.1 million for Tomorrow's Teachers Loan Forgiveness program
 - o \$5 million for ESOL Services Waitlist
- The bill also allocates \$507 million from the General Fund:
 - \$300 million for the Group Insurance Commission (GIC)
 - \$54.4 million for sheriffs, representing half of the deficiency
 - o Requires reporting on the expenses of proposed usage of the funds
 - \$41.6 million for DTA caseworkers
 - \$10 million for FIFA Boston for World Cup related ex-

penses

The bill also includes the following outside sections:

- Food Donation Tax Credit: Establishes a food donation tax credit for farm businesses based on the amount of food donated to a nonprofit food distribution organization. The credit is capped at \$5,000 annually per individual.
 - Sustainable Aviation Fuel Credit: Allows taxpayers to take a credit against the tax imposed on fuels used for aircraft propulsion and, subject to limitation, requires the amount of credit per gallon of sustainable fuel to increase by \$0.015 for each additional 1 percent reduction in life-cycle greenhouse gas emissions above 50 percent. The credit is capped at \$10 million total for all cumulative tax credits over a fiscal year.
 - Ratifies eight Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs)
- The bill passed the House of Representatives 150-3 and now goes to the Senate for consideration.

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NeighborHealth welcomes new Business Development and Marketing Director for senior care program

Special to the Times-Free Press

NeighborHealth announced the appointment of Kathleen Patrón as the new Director of Business Development, Marketing & Enrollment for Neighborhood PACE, a comprehensive senior care program that supports older adults across Greater Boston with medical care, social services, and other resources to help them live independently in their homes and communities. In her role, Patrón will lead strategic outreach, marketing, and enrollment efforts to expand access to the program and connect more older adults and their families with the care and support they need to live safely at home.

Patrón brings extensive experience in community engagement, communications, and strategic leadership. Most recently, she served as Chief of Staff to Massachusetts State Senator Julian Cyr, where she advised on policy, communications, and stakeholder engagement while managing relationships with community organizations, government agencies, and advocacy groups. Prior to that, she was Executive



Kathleen Patrón

Director of the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO), where she led large-scale community initiatives and built partnerships across faith, labor, and civic institutions to advance equity-focused policy solutions.

Since its founding in 1990, Neighborhood PACE has helped thousands of older adults maintain their independence while receiving the medical care, social support, and daily assistance they need to thrive at home. Operated by NeighborHealth, the program

has become a trusted lifeline for seniors across East Boston, Chelsea, Winthrop, Revere, Everett, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Stoneham, and Boston's North End.

"Kathleen brings a deep commitment to community partnership and an impressive record of building relationships that create meaningful impact," said Ernani DeAraujo, Executive Director, Neighborhood PACE. "Her leadership will help ensure that more older adults and families in our communities understand and can access the full range of services available through Neighborhood PACE."

From its origins as a single-site initiative in East Boston, Neighborhood PACE has evolved into a robust, person-centered program with five sites throughout Greater Boston serving over 900 participants each year. It integrates primary and specialty care, rehabilitation, mental health support, social services, nutrition, transportation, and home care into one seamless experience, helping participants live safely and independently in their homes and communities.

As Director, Patrón will oversee business development strategy, referral partnerships, marketing campaigns, and enrollment operations. She will work closely with clinical and operational teams to ensure a seamless experience for participants—from initial outreach through enrollment and ongoing care.

"As an East Boston resident and longtime NeighborHealth patient, I see every day the vital role seniors play in our community," said Patrón. "I'm looking forward to helping more families learn about how PACE can help older adults stay healthy and connected to the communities they've helped build. I'm grateful for the opportunity to join NeighborHealth and contribute to the important work of Neighborhood PACE."

The Neighborhood PACE program is part of national network of PACE programs, dually funded by Medicare and Medicaid, helping advance NeighborHealth's mission to provide access to high-quality, community-based care for older adults across Greater Boston.

About NeighborHealth
NeighborHealth, former-

ly East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, is one of the nation's largest Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and the largest community-based primary care health system in Massachusetts, serving 120,000 people and recognized by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as a National Quality Leader. For more than 50 years, NeighborHealth has offered access to comprehensive primary care, specialty care and emergency care for patients in the Commonwealth. In a first-of-its-kind merger in 2020, East Boston Neighborhood Health Center joined forces with the South End Community Health Center and expanded services to patients who live and work in Boston's South End and Roxbury neighborhoods. NeighborHealth champions innovative care models to actively bridge health equity gaps in our low-income and immigrant communities with services unique from other healthcare providers in our state. For more information, visit www.neighborhealth.com.

Healey-Driscoll Administration launches GrantWell, a first-of-its-kind AI-powered tool to assist communities with applying for grants

The Healey-Driscoll Administration launched a new AI-powered tool to make it

easier for communities to apply for grants. The tool, called GrantWell, was developed by

the Federal Funds and Infrastructure Office in partnership with Northeastern University's

Burnes Center for Social Change. GrantWell is designed to simplify the process of seeking grant opportunities, understanding their requirements, and writing applications. Access to the tool is free to all Massachusetts communities and available on the Commonwealth's website here.

"We've heard from communities loud and clear that onerous paperwork is a barrier to getting good projects done," said Governor Maura Healey. "It's why we've launched programs to streamline the process for applying to state grants and established new technical assistance programs through our Federal Funds and Infrastructure Office. Now with GrantWell, we're making it even easier for communities to take advantage of those opportunities and apply for the funds they need to deliver for their constituents."

"As a former Mayor, I know that navigating the complexities of federal and state grants pose a significant hurdle to municipal officials getting good projects over the line," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "GrantWell will allow more municipalities to take advantage of funding opportunities, saving them time and capacity—crucial resources in local government."

"The Federal Funds and Infrastructure Office built GrantWell to respond directly to what we heard from communities all across the state: that they lack the resources and capacity to fully take advantage of funding opportunities available to them. GrantWell will free up time and capacity for local officials to obtain the resources

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Wu celebrates graduation of fifth PowerCorps Boston cohort

Special to the Times-Free Press

Mayor Michelle Wu today celebrated the graduation of PowerCorps Boston's fifth cohort, the largest in the program's history. PowerCorps Boston is the City's green industry workforce development program that prepares young adults for high-quality careers that address Boston's most pressing environmental challenges. The 38 graduates spent the past 10 months learning about various green industries and acquiring skills in urban forestry, urban greening, and energy-efficient building operations and maintenance. This graduation builds on Mayor Wu's work to make Boston a home for everyone.

"Congratulations to this record-breaking cohort of PowerCorps Boston graduates, who have dedicated the past ten months to building skills, strengthening our neighborhoods, and advancing Boston's climate future," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Programs like PowerCorps are critical in expanding opportunity, developing a skilled green workforce, and ensuring Boston remains a city for everyone."

A joint program of the Worker Empowerment Cabinet and the Environment, Energy, and Open Space Cabinet, PowerCorps Boston is a "learn and earn" program that pays Boston's young adults aged 18-30 to participate in hands-on training while providing career readiness support and connections to employers in the green industry. According to the Climate Ready Workforce Action Plan, Boston will need approximately 67,000 workers across 45 occupations each year over the next 25 years to design, build, and operate a thriving green economy. Workforce development programs like PowerCorps Boston are a critical part of Boston's 2030 Climate Action Plan, an implementation roadmap to achieve the City's climate mitigation and resilience goals, as well as achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. The final draft of the plan will be released later this spring.

"The Wu Administration prioritizes career pathway jobs in all growth industries in Boston," said Trinh Nguyen, Chief of Worker Empowerment. "PowerCorps graduates receive industry-recognized credentials



Mayor Michelle Wu is surrounded by the recent graduates of PowerCorps Boston's fifth cohort, the largest in the program's history.

and experience that positions them for a wide range of options post graduation including obtaining good paying jobs, pursuing advanced training, and/or enrolling in post-secondary education through our partnerships."

"PowerCorps demonstrates how climate action and economic development go hand in hand," said Oliver Sellers-Garcia, Environment Commissioner and Green New Deal Director. "Achieving our 2030 and 2050 emissions goals will benefit every neighborhood in Boston through good paying jobs, less pollution, and improved public health. We are so proud of this year's graduates for reaching this impressive milestone and giving back to their communities."

PowerCorps Boston collaborates with over 60 Boston-based non-profits, higher education institutions, and private sector organizations to offer participants job training, classroom learning, and wrap-around services. Over the past 10 months, the 38 graduates

committed to an immersive experience that included two phases. The first phase, Foundations, included four-months of training where they focused on workforce-readiness skills, an introduction to green industry careers, and received necessary support services to complete the program. The second phase, Industry Academy, was a six-month training where participants chose to specialize in one of the three tracks: Urban Forestry, Urban Greening, or Building Operations.

"As we celebrate the graduation of our fifth and largest Power Corps Boston cohort to date, I'm inspired by the determination, growth, and leadership of our members," said Davo Jefferson, Executive Director of PowerCorps Boston. "Their self-determination and commitment to their communities has undoubtedly strengthened the fabric of Boston, making it a more sustainable and equitable city".

The participants in Urban Greening and Urban Forestry

See POWERCORPS Page 14

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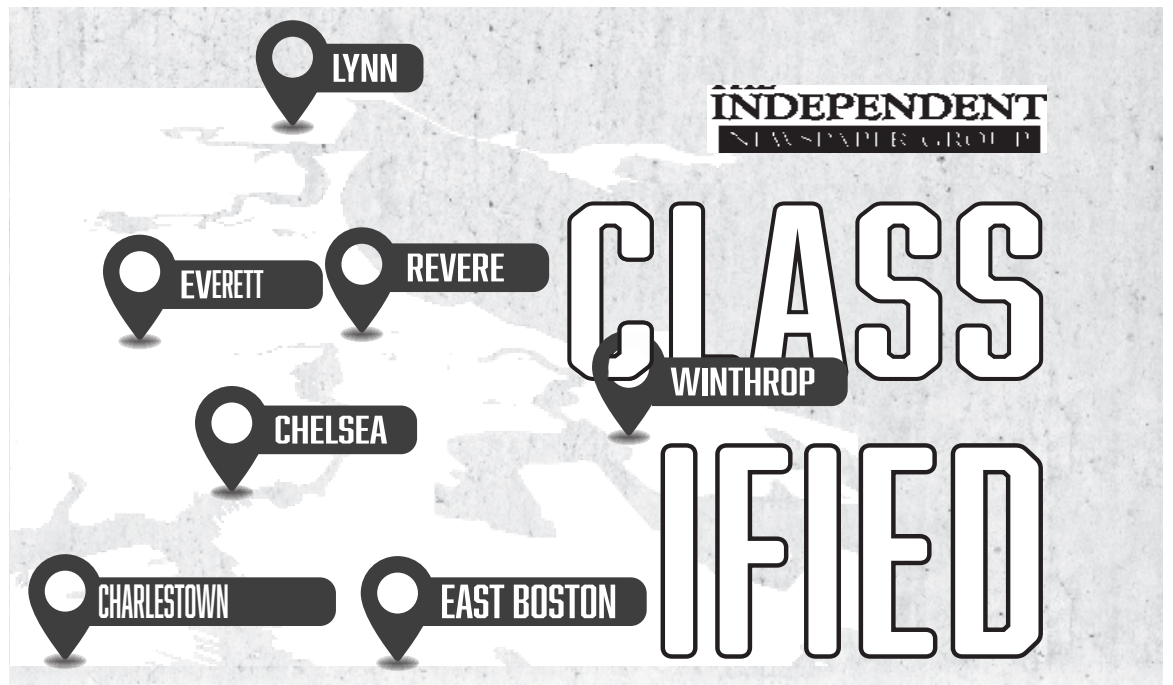
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Harbor View Neighborhood Association Meeting agenda

The next meeting of the Harbor View Neighborhood Association will be on April 6, 2026, at 6pm. The meeting is In Person only but will be streamed via Facebook for archival purposes. Attendance on Facebook does not qualify for voting. The meeting will be held in the Salesian Boys and Girls Club cafeteria, across from the Brooke Charter School on Byron Street. You can access the meeting from the front door on Byron Street which is also handicap accessible and an elevator is available for your convenience if needed. which is the handicap entry, to avoid the stairs.

La proxima reunion de Harbor View Neighborhood As-

sociacion esta en seis de abril a las 6pm. La reunion esta en persona y via Facebook. La asistencia en Facebook no califica para vota. Llega a la cafeteria del Salesian Boys y Girls Club por la calle Byron al otro lado de Brooke Charter School. Puede entrar a la junta por la entrada principal en la calle Byron la cual puede ser utilizada por personas con discapacidades y tiene un elevador si es que es necesario para evitar las escaleras.

- Agenda
- Welcome/Introduction (5min)
 - Station 7 Police Report (15min) Sgt. Cintolo and Officers Mosley and Alvarez
 - Carlos Garcia (5min) East

Boston liaison, Office of Neighborhood Services will report on any items of importance. His contact information is carlos.garcia@boston.gov or 617-308-5725.

Announcements (5min): Free Monthly Community Dinner at Sacred Heart Parish April 8, 2026, at 5pm-7pm. McLean Park, playground construction to begin in spring 2026. Happy Easter and Passover to all our members. Enjoy Patriots Day and Marathon Monday, April 20, 2026. An Abutter meeting for 3 Moore Street is scheduled for April 1, 2026, at 7pm. Eastie Farms CSA 2026 subscribe today. Please remember Grace Church Food Pantry for any donations of food or money.

Boston Public Health Commission (10min) Katie Reilly, MPH, Program Coordinator will present information about the Environmental Hazards and Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Programs.

3 Moore Street (30min) This is the 2nd Presentation and Vote by Attorney Richard Lynds on behalf of Jam 5 Properties. The proposal is to build a 3-story structure with 6 residential units with roof decks. Anticipated variances are width and feet. No parking is planned.

73 Addison Street (30min) This is the 1st Presentation by Attorney Richard Lynds on behalf of owner and developer NOSIDDA73, LLC. This proposal includes demolition of the existing auto repair business, Danilchuck Auto, and constructing a new multi-family development to contain

2 CFROD compliant 4 story buildings with a total of 78,000 square feet, up to 80 residential units. 28 parking spaces, mix of 1- and 2-bedroom units.

LOVE YOUR BLOCK 2026 (5min) Harbor View will once again be participating in a neighborhood clean-up. This event is sponsored by Mayor Wu and the Office of Civic Organizing. Please let us know if you can volunteer on May 2, 2026, 9:30am-12:15. We will meet on Byron Street at the Brooke Charter School.

Columbus Day Parade updates. El Parche, McLean Park The next meeting of the HVNA will be on May 4, 2026. Visit us at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/harborviewna> or check our website at harborvieweastboston.com or board@harborviewna.org.

Affordable homes available now in Dorchester:

104-108 NORWELL STREET

Studios to 3-bedroom units available | 12 condo units available
Pricing from \$188,032 to \$393,120



- Handicap accessible units on first floor
- Off street parking and limited on-site parking available
- Laundry hook-up in each unit
- Dedicated fresh air filtration system
- Hardwood floors
- Solar panels to reduce electricity costs
- New park under construction next door
- Commuter rail access directly across the street

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
Friday, April 10 by 5 P.M.
APPLY AT:
bit.ly/boston-homes

CITY of BOSTON



Housing

These units are deed-restricted; owner-occupancy requirements apply. Income and asset limitations apply. Requirements: First time homebuyer. Homebuyer will need to complete an approved homebuyer education course prior to closing. Preferences: Boston Residency preference. Preference for one (1) person per bedroom. Income limits for qualified buyers are 80%, 90%, or 100% Area Median Income Limits based on HUD data that was refined and calculated by MHP and the City of Boston. Please note: Persons with disabilities and those with limited English language proficiency are entitled to request a reasonable accommodation.

Celebrate the Return of Parade Day in Eastie

Honoring Albert "Buddy" Mangini

with our

Pasta Dinner



The East Boston Italian Heritage Parade Committee Presents

PASTA DINNER

Friday April 17th - 5:00

Sacred Heart Church Hall
303 Paris St. . East Boston

\$25 Adults

\$15 Kids

Venmo: @ebitalianheritage