

# East Boston

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### THE 30TH ANNUAL TASTE OF EASTIE



PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOU MJIAN

The 30th annual Taste of Eastie was held at The Tall Ship. Above, Taste of Eastie guests enjoy a sunset view of the Boston skyline. Right, Lisa Hall from Cunard hands out an offering of their slider burger. See Pages 7-10 for more photos.



## Eastie Pride Day set for August 15

Special to the Times-Free Press

The Eastie Pride Day Committee announced today the 37th Annual Eastie Pride Day celebration will be on Saturday, August 15th, 2026 at 2:00pm in Piers Park on Marginal Street. This celebration

is family-friendly and open to all, aiming to bring the community of East Boston together to connect with restaurants, local small businesses, and non-profit organizations. There will be food and refreshments,

See EASTIE PRIDE Page 6

## PROTECT Act passes in the Legislature

Includes sweeping protections for communities across Massachusetts

Special to the Times-Free Press

After months of deliberation, commission-building and drafting, An Act promoting rule of law, oversight, trust and equal constitutional treatment—the PROTECT Act (H.5620) – has been passed in both chambers

of the legislature. The PROTECT Act was originally filed by the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus and guards against violations of all residents' Constitutional rights, promotes trust in local

See PROTECT ACT Page 3



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# East Boston

## Times-Free Press

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**EDITOR:** Cary Shuman **PUBLISHER EMERITUS:** John A. Torrone



# Forum

## SIGNS OF SUMMER'S END

All in all, this has been a pretty good summer. The weather has been as close to perfect as we could expect for summer activities. The mornings along our coastline have been pleasantly placid for those of us who row on the ocean -- we belong to a rowing club on the South Shore that ventures up and down the coast and as far out as Minots Light -- while the breezes typically have been picking up in the afternoon for the sailors.

Our vegetable and flower gardens -- which are entirely contained in large pots on the patio of our condo --- once again have been superb. We've had more tomatoes than we know what to do -- and nothing beats the pop in our mouths of freshly-picked tomatoes in the summer (as opposed to those tasteless tomatoes that we have to settle for in grocery stores in the winter months).

However, all good things must come to an end, and so too it is with summer. The days now are noticeably shorter. With the sunset inching southward each day, the shadows cast in the late afternoon and early evening are far different than they were in June and July.

The blooming purple loosestrife -- though it is an invasive species, we have to admit it is quite striking with its spiky purple flowers -- is another harbinger that we have reached the back nine of summer. So too, are the tips of the marsh grass; a few weeks ago they were a verdant green, but now they are turning a golden yellow, yet another indication of the inevitable downward trajectory of the summer of 2026.

With parents and children gearing up for the start of the 2026-27 school year in just a few weeks, yet another summer season is sadly winding down.

Our long-time publisher, Andrew P. Quigley, who lived an extraordinary life, used to say, "When you look back on your life, you realize that all you really have are your memories."

What summertime means to us -- whether it be the time we spend with our families and friends or long walks by ourselves on a summer evening -- reinforces the notion that the best things in life are free.

It also is a truism that while life itself is short, summer seems to pass in the blink of an eye. All of us will be saying both to ourselves and to each other on the Tuesday after Labor Day: "Where did the summer go?"

So let's make the most of what is left of the summer of 2026. It never is too late to make memories that will last a lifetime.

## EAST BOSTON BRANCH LIBRARY NEWS

**Baby Storytime**, Mondays at 11:15 am & Tuesdays at 10:30

Join us for bounces, rhymes, stories, songs, and activities. We will have the same program on Monday and Tuesday. We ask that you choose one time to attend. For ages 0-24 months.

**All-Ages Storytime**, Wednesdays at 10:30 am

This weekly storytime features books, songs, movement and a craft. Groups, please call ahead. For ages 2-5.

**Garden Storytime**, Friday, August 7 10:30 am

We are teaming up with the Bremen Street Community Garden for a special outdoor storytime in the garden. Join us for stories, songs, and movement all about gardening. We will meet at the community garden gate right across from the library. Recommended for ages 0-5

**Maker Mondays**, Monday, August 3 and 10, 3:30-4:30 pm

Do you like to make things? Drop in each Monday to make something fun.

**Career Counseling Drop-in Hours**: Thursdays, 12-2:30 pm

During drop-in hours, the BPL career counselor can answer job questions, connect you to services and make a follow-up plan

**ESOL Conversation Group**: Thursdays from 7-8 pm

Practice speaking English with other adult learners in an informal and friendly group setting. The group is led every Thursday by a volunteer teacher and will take place in-person. This is a drop-in program. No registration is required.

**Creative Crafters Drop-in**: Saturday, August 8, 1:30-4:30 pm

If you are an adult or teen who enjoys knitting, crochet, cross stitch, and other textile crafts please join us for this drop-in program. Whether

you knit, quilt, or crochet, join our monthly meetups to relax, share ideas, and connect with fellow crafters. Please bring a project to work on.

**DIY Mini Clothespin Wreath Workshop for Adults**: Thursday, August 13 5:30-7:30 pm

Learn how to make your own mini clothespin wreath. We will provide materials such as paint, glue, flowers, wood cutouts, seashells, and more that you can use to customize your wreath. Registration is required. Please call 617-596-0271 or email ttran@bpl.org to register.

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617-567-9600 • 781-485-0588

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### President

Stephen Quigley

stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com

### Advertising and Marketing

Debra DiGregorio – deb@reverejournal.com

### Assistant Marketing Director

Maureen DiBella – mdibella@winthroptranscript.com

### Senior Sales Associates

Sioux Gerow – charlestownads@hotmail.com

### Legal Advertising

legals@eastietimes.com

### Editorial

### Reporters, Regular Contributors

Cary Shuman — cary@lynnjournal.com

### Copy Editing, Layout

Scott Yates – scott@chelsearecord.com

Kane DiMasso-Scott – kdscott@thebostonsun.com

### Business

### Accounts Executive

Judy Russi

judy.russi@eastietimes.com

**Printer** – Concord Monitor

# PROTECT Act // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and state police, and protects against fear-inducing federal immigration actions at sensitive community locations, such as courts, public school grounds, and hospitals.

“I’m feeling immense gratitude for the countless electeds, partners, advocates, and voices who came together in this moment to deliver for our immigrant neighbors,” said Senator Lydia Edwards. “Passing the PROTECT Act reminds us of the significance of staying in the fight – no matter what. I want to especially thank my fellow members of the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus, chaired by Representative Andy Vargas, for leading on this crucial legislation. The fight is far from over, but I’m proud to share that Massachusetts now has the strongest protections for immigrants in the nation.”

Included in the PROTECT Act are three provisions led by Senator Lydia Edwards:

1. Protecting courthouses by prohibiting federal immigration agents/agencies from conducting warrantless civil arrests both in Massachusetts state courthouses and the courthouse curtilage – the surrounding area.

2. Establishing a Statewide Commission on Immigration to operate for the next three years, tasked with advising on immigration policy and implementation across the Commonwealth, reviewing immigration legal defense funding, and responding to emergencies.

3. Reforming the U and T Visa certification process to better protect immigrant survivors of crime. U and T visas are federal protections for victims of serious crimes—including assault, domestic violence, kidnapping, and human trafficking—who cooperate with law enforcement investigations or prosecutions. The legislation reduces the certification timeline from 90 days to 30 days,

with an expedited 10-day process for emergency situations, such as when a survivor is facing imminent deportation.

## Key Provisions of the PROTECT Act

**Creates a Civil Remedy for Constitutional Violations.** The Act establishes a new civil cause of action allowing individuals to seek damages when federal officers violate their constitutional rights. For the first time, federal immigration agents operating in Massachusetts will be held to the same legal standards as state and local law enforcement, strengthening accountability for unconstitutional conduct. This reform addresses a longstanding gap in accountability and ensures that federal officers are subject to the same legal standards as state and local law enforcement while operating in the Commonwealth.

**The legislation creates an important new tool for families seeking justice after alleged misconduct by federal immigration officers.** Had this legal remedy existed previously, it could have provided an additional avenue for accountability in cases such as the devastating loss of Alex Pretti and Renee Good.

**Protects Residents from Discrimination.** State and local law enforcement may not stop, question, or investigate someone based solely on their actual or perceived immigration or citizenship status unless necessary for a criminal investigation.

**Limits Local Participation in Federal Civil Immigration Enforcement.** The legislation prohibits state and local law

enforcement from using public resources to enforce federal civil immigration law, honoring civil immigration detainers, or questioning individuals about immigration status during routine interactions unless necessary to enforce criminal law.

**Prohibits New 287(g) Agreements.** Law enforcement agencies in Massachusetts may not enter into new agreements deputizing local officers to carry out federal civil immigration enforcement except in limited criminal law circumstances.

**Protects Sensitive Locations.** Warrantless civil immigration arrests are prohibited at sensitive locations, including public schools, childcare centers, healthcare facilities, and state courthouses. The legislation also authorizes the Governor to restrict ICE operations in non-public areas of state facilities and requires multilingual guidance explaining individuals’ rights and how to respond to immigration enforcement actions.

**Helps Families Prepare.** Parents may establish pre-arranged guardianship plans for their children in the event detention or deportation separates a family.

**Preserves Criminal Law Enforcement.** The Act makes clear that these protections do not prevent state and local law enforcement from investigating crimes, executing judicial warrants, participating in criminal investigations with federal authorities, or enforcing state and federal criminal laws.

**Strengthens Oversight of Immigration Detention.** The Office of the State Auditor is directed to audit county sheriffs’ immigration detention

agreements with the federal government, as well as other immigration detention facilities operating in Massachusetts.

**Supports Victims of Crime.** The legislation expedites U and T visa certifications so immigrant survivors who assist law enforcement can continue participating in investigations and prosecutions without unnecessary delays.

**Effectively creates a Detainee Bill of Rights.** Individuals held in state or county correctional facilities will receive new legal protections, including written notice of their rights, access to legal counsel, confidential attorney phone calls, and the right to decline interviews with state or federal law enforcement. Correctional

facilities must also provide a public method for confirming that someone is being detained while limiting unnecessary disclosure of personal information and maintaining records of access and information disclosures to promote transparency and accountability.

**Requires Advance Notice of Workplace Immigration Audits.** Employers must notify employees not later than 48 hours after they receive an ICE notice of inspection for employment eligibility verification or other employment records.

The PROTECT Act will now head to the Governor’s desk for her signature. Read the bill text at [malegislature.gov/Bills/194/H5620](http://malegislature.gov/Bills/194/H5620).

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# More than an itch: Treating and preventing summer insect bites and health risks

By Dr. Ana Stankovic

Between backyard barbecues, beach vacations, and hiking trails, warmer weather encourages us to spend more time outdoors. But alongside all the summer fun in the sun comes the often-overlooked health risk of insect bites and stings.

Many people consider insect bites to be nothing more than an itchy inconvenience. A mosquito bite, a bee sting, or a tick found after a hike may seem like an inevitable part of en-

joying nature. However, some bites and stings can lead to serious health concerns, including severe allergic reactions and diseases. West Nile is one of the most common mosquito-borne diseases in the continental United States, and Lyme disease is one of many illnesses caused by a pathogen ticks may carry.<sup>1</sup>

The challenge is that it's often difficult to tell the difference between a harmless insect and one carrying disease, and many tickborne diseases share

signs and symptoms. That's why prevention and awareness are so important. Nearly one in 10 Americans experiences a tick bite each year,<sup>2</sup> yet nearly two-thirds of adults report that they rarely or never check themselves for ticks after spending time outdoors.<sup>3</sup>

Knowing how to reduce insect bites, identify symptoms, and understand when to self-care vs. seek medical attention can create an enjoyable, pest-free summer.

## Spot the Signs

Most insect bites cause mild reactions such as itching, redness, warmth or minor swelling, and these symptoms can typically be managed with basic first aid. Washing the affected area, applying an ice pack, and using over-the-counter anti-itch creams or antihistamines may help relieve discomfort.

However, certain symptoms should never be ignored. Difficulty breathing or swallowing, swelling of the lips or throat, nausea, vomiting, cramping or severe headaches may indicate a serious allergic reaction and require immediate medical attention. Importantly, half of all fatal reactions to insect stings occur in people with no previous history of severe allergies, underscoring the importance of recognizing warning signs

quickly.<sup>4</sup>

Any tick bites that lead to fever and chills, aches and pains, fatigue, or rashes should be addressed by a healthcare provider. Tickborne pathogens can cause fever and rashes that can vary or be absent, along with different associated symptoms depending on the specific pathogen. Based on your symptoms, examination, the geographic region where you were bitten, and lab results, a medical professional can develop an appropriate treatment plan.

## Before the Bite

Prevention remains the best defense against bug-related illnesses. Wearing long sleeves and pants when possible, using EPA-registered insect repellents and taking precautions around your home can significantly reduce exposure. For ticks, a thorough body and scalp check after spending time outdoors is essential, particularly because ticks can live in any grassy, brushy or wooded area. This is especially important in Massachusetts, which has a high incidence of reported Lyme disease cases.<sup>1</sup>

Mosquito prevention matters just as much. Repairing damaged window and door screens and eliminating standing water around your home—including bird baths, flowerpots and

unused containers—can help reduce mosquito populations and lower the risk of mosquito-borne diseases.

If camping and sleeping in the great outdoors, use bed nets pre-treated with pyrethroid insecticide to protect against mosquitos. Paying attention to CDC Travel Health Notices and any travel warnings and recommendations is the primary way to know what insect risks exist in your area.

For the stinging variety of insects such as honeybees, yellow jackets, and white-faced paper wasps, a few precautions can help avoid painful stingers and anaphylactic reactions. These insects are attracted to bright colors, strongly-scented perfumes, and accessible food and drinks, so being mindful of clothing and covering your picnic basket can keep bees away. Additionally, stepping on stinging insects while walking barefoot or in flip flops should be avoided for those worried about allergic reactions.

Summer should be a season of fun, exploration, and meaningful time spent outside. By treating insect bites and stings as more than a seasonal nuisance and taking a few simple preventive steps, we can better protect ourselves and our families and enjoy the outdoors more safely.

*Dr. Ana Stankovic, is the chief medical officer, United-Healthcare of New England*

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# Boston Ballet announces 2026–2027 company roster

Boston Ballet Artistic Director Mikko Nissinen announces the 2026–2027 season roster. The Company includes a diverse roster of 67 professional dancers from around the world. Four new dancers join the main Company, eight new dancers join Boston Ballet II (BBII), and 10 Boston Ballet and BBII dancers received promotions for the upcoming season.

“As I celebrate my 25 years with Boston Ballet, I can’t imagine a more inspiring group of artists to lead,” said Artistic Director Mikko Nissinen. “The extraordinary talent, versatility, and dedication of our dancers continue to elevate every work they perform. I look forward to seeing them bring our dynamic 2026–2027 repertoire to life on stage.”

Thirty-three percent of the Company self-identifies as BIPOC or multi-racial and the roster has representation from 13 nationalities from Argentina, China, Cuba, England, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, and the United States. BBII alumni comprise 48 percent of the Company.

Boston Ballet welcomes four new dancers to the Company: Rafael Quenedit (Havana, Cuba) as a soloist and Dayeon Yeom (Seoul, South Korea), Yuval Cohen (Jerusalem, Israel), and Ara Shin (Gwacheon, South Korea) as artists of the Company. Quenedit joined the Company for performances of *The Sleeping Beauty* in spring 2026.

It was previously announced that Nissinen promoted the following dancers: Sangmin Lee has been promoted to principal dancer, Francisco Schilereff has been promoted to soloist, and Alexandria Heath, Emma Topalova, Alexis Workowski, and Schuyler Wijssen have been promoted to second soloists. Boston Ballet II dancers Natalia Cardona, Sophia Jones, Pavel Kulev, and Alexander Mockrish have been promoted to artists of the Company.

New dancers to join Boston Ballet II are Jaden Colston (Paris, France), Caroline Haruki (Honolulu, Hawaii), Aubri Parker (Frisco, Texas), Avery Stafford (Allen, Texas), and Samantha Lily Striplin (Palos Verdes, California). Boston Ballet’s Donna Egan Graduate Program dancers Jordyn Crotty (San Juan Capistrano, California), Eden Young (Reading, Massachusetts), and Jake Marshall (Markham, Ontario) were promoted to BBII.

For full biographies, visit [bostonballet.org](http://bostonballet.org).

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and by 09/04/2026 at 3:00PM EDT for general bids. Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive. THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. All Bids shall be submitted online at [biddocs.com](http://biddocs.com) and received no later than the date and time specified. General bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) in the following category of work, General Building Construction, and must submit a current DCAMM Certificate of Eligibility and signed DCAMM Prime/General Contractor Update Statement. General Bids will be received until September 11, 2026 at 3:00 PM EDT and publicly opened online, forthwith. Filed Sub-bids for the trades listed below will be received

until August 27, 2026 at 3:00 PM EDT and publicly opened online, forthwith. Filed sub-bidders must be DCAMM certified for the trades listed below and bidders must include a current DCAMM Sub-Bidder Certificate of Eligibility and a signed DCAMM Sub-Bidder’s Update Statement. TRADES: Roofing and Flashing General bids and sub-bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (including all alternates) and made payable to the WINTHROP HOUSING AUTHORITY. Note: A bid deposit is not required for Projects advertised under \$50,000. Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for review at [biddocs.com](http://biddocs.com) (may be viewed and downloaded electronically at no cost). General bidders must agree to contract with minority, women and veteran-owned business enterprises as certified by the Supplier Diversity Office (SDO). The participation benchmark reserved for such enterprises shall

not be less than 7.3% MBE, 7.9% WBE and 3% VBE for all state and state-assisted construction projects over \$150,000. Request for waivers must be sent to [EOHLC \(Chad.Howard@mass.gov\)](mailto:EOHLC.Chad.Howard@mass.gov) 5 calendar days prior to the General Bid date. NO WAIVERS WILL BE GRANTED AFTER THE GENERAL BIDS ARE OPENED. The Contractor and all subcontractors (collectively referred to as “the Contractor”) agree to strive to achieve minority and women workforce participation. The Workforce Participation benchmark is set at 6.9% for women and 15.3% for minorities. The Workforce benchmark percentages are a statutory requirement under MGL c. 149 § 44A(2)(G). PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT: Scheduled Date and Time: 08/18/2026 at 10:00AM EDT Address: 32 Sunset Road, Winthrop, MA 02152. Instructions: Meet in parking lot. The hard copy Contract Documents may be seen at: Nashoba Blue Inc, 433 Main St, Hudson, MA 01749 ph.

978-568-1167 Submitted by Winthrop Housing Authority, Executive Director, Peg Tiernan Lyons, 9 Golden Drive, Winthrop (617) 846-7100 8/5/26, 5/12/26 EB

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Docket No.SU26P1394GD  
In the matter of: Jean Carlos Torres  
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Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Elizabeth Oliver of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Jean Carlos Torres is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Elizabeth Oliver of Boston, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 08/13/2026. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return

date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.  
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The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.  
WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: July 20, 2026  
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.  
Register of Probate

8/5/26  
EB

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK WITH THE COURTS  
TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY FOR A FEE WAIVER

# Markey, Pressley release report showing success of fare-free transit

Special to the Times-Free Press

Senator Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.), member of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, and Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (MA-07) released a new report, *Making Transit Free, Frequent, and Reliable: Massachusetts shows the need for federal investment in fare-free transit*, detailing the need for increased federal investments in fare-free transit. Senator Markey and Congresswoman Pressley are lead sponsors of the Freedom to Move Act, which would provide \$25 billion to communities to pilot fare free service and expand existing transit service.

“From Worcester to Boston to the Merrimack Valley, Massachusetts is showing the nation what is possible when transit goes fare-free,” said Senator Markey. “Our report shows that fare-free transit saves families money, increases ridership, and helps make transit easier and simpler for passengers. More transit riders can mean less congestion, cleaner air, and safer streets. This report provides a roadmap for bringing those benefits to communities across the country. Congress should pass the Freedom to Move Act and help any community go fare free.”

“The data doesn’t lie and this report makes plain what we’ve long known: fare-free transit is

essential to building connected communities, improving mobility, and making life more affordable for our families,” said Congresswoman Pressley, Co-Chair of the Future of Transportation Caucus. “Transit equity is an economic, racial, and climate justice issue, and it’s time we invest in public transit as the public good that it is. That’s why Congress must pass our Freedom to Move Act to continue to support fare-free transit across our state and nation.”

Massachusetts has become a national leader in fare-free transit through a range of programs serving urban, suburban, and rural communities. Regional transit authorities in Worces-

ter, the Merrimack Valley, and elsewhere have launched systemwide or targeted fare-free service, while Boston has eliminated fares on several heavily used bus routes. The Commonwealth has also supported statewide pilot programs that have helped transit agencies test and expand fare-free operations.

Drawing on data from these efforts, the report examines how fare-free service is working across different transit systems and communities. The Massachusetts experience shows how eliminating fares strengthens public transit when paired with reliable service and sustained investment. It also demonstrates that communities nationwide could pursue similar programs with stronger fed-

eral support.

The Massachusetts evidence points to five core lessons. Fare-free transit:

1. Lowers costs for riders
2. Brings riders back to transit
3. Leads to long-term ridership gains
4. Makes transit easier to operate
5. Works best when paired with operating support

Senator Markey and Congresswoman Pressley have long championed fare-free transit in Congress. In July 2025, they re-introduced the Freedom to Move Act which would provide \$25 billion in funding for transit agencies to offer fare free service and improve on existing transit service offerings.

## Eastie Pride // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

live entertainment, games for children, music, and a variety of contests. Additional updates and information about participating organizations can be found on the official website at [www.EastiePrideDay.com/eastie-pride-day-2026](http://www.EastiePrideDay.com/eastie-pride-day-2026).

The current Chair of the Committee, Liana LaMattina, says, “We are excited to create a space for members of our community to celebrate East Boston, connect with one another, and to continue the tradition of Eastie Pride Day for another year.”

This year is the 37th Annual Eastie Pride Day, an event that has been encouraging pride in

East Boston since it was hosted for the first time by Sal LaMattina in 1989. Eastie Pride Day has continued to be an event that community members of all ages look forward to each summer, and the Committee is very grateful to the sponsors who make this celebration possible and can help it continue to grow. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or learning more about sponsorship, visit the “Sponsorship” tab on the Eastie Pride Day website at [www.EastiePrideDay.com/contact](http://www.EastiePrideDay.com/contact).

If you have any other questions or would like to volunteer at this year’s Eastie Pride

Day celebration, please email the Committee at [info@eastieprideday.com](mailto:info@eastieprideday.com). To stay up to date on this year’s Eastie Pride Day and future announcements, follow Eastie Pride Day on Facebook and on Instagram at @EastiePrideDay, or visit their website at [www.EastiePrideDay.com](http://www.EastiePrideDay.com).

Eastie Pride Day is a neighborhood committee that serves the East Boston community through an annual summer community celebration. This event is meant to highlight the values and qualities of the neighborhood, while also fostering a sense of unity and pride for residents.

## OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$195.00 per paper. Includes photo.No word Limit. Please send to [obits@reverejournal.com](mailto:obits@reverejournal.com) or call 781-485-0588



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THE 30TH ANNUAL TASTE OF EASTIE

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

The 30th annual Taste of Eastie was held at The Tall Ship. The fundraiser for East Boston Main Streets gave guests the chance to sample a wide range of cuisine from the restaurants of the neighborhood. The weather was perfect and the event was well-attended.



Taquería Jalisco's Chef Romero Gonzales.



The Tall Ship offered a scenic, open space to host Taste of Eastie.



The ladies of Dirty Water Dough present their pizza.



James Rasner, one of the owners of Democracy Brewing, braised beef on plantain.



Joanne, Joanne, Nathalie, and Ava with Slush King present Lemon Italian Ice samples.



Paula and Nadieska with Street corn from Veronica Robles table.

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KICK-OFF EVENT

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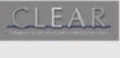
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THE 30TH ANNUAL TASTE OF EASTIE

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



El Peñol Chef Juan Resdrapo and his crew.



Nick and Ethan Gottier.



East Boston Main Streets Board member Ida Candrea with her niece Stella.



Domenic and Domenic "Baby Domenic" Capogreco, Bridget Gentile, Grace Capogreco, Thielly Halladay, and Vlad Lopez.



Amanda Shabowich and Carlos Sanchez.



Deisy and Chef Tenzin from Koro Raman + Sushi.



Chefs Victor Vasquez and Santiago Marin from Spinelli's work fast to prepare fresh samples for Taste Of Eastie guests.



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La Hacienda Chef Jason Bautista (right) and his crew.

THE 30TH ANNUAL TASTE OF EASTIE

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



The team from Rincon Limono Restaurante present the finest in Peruvian cuisine.



Veni Halvorsen with her mom, Kristen.



Chicken Potato Salad from Rincon Limono Restaurante.



Cavatappi from Rino's Place.



Sammy Carlo's is a 99-year old institution in East Boston. Chef Steve Scire prepares samples of The Godfather sandwich.



Empenada from La Hacienda.



Reel Ji Chefs Jeffrey Fournier and Chef Reynel work on tuna tartare.



Chicken Neapolitano from Milano's Delicatessen.



The Rino's Place booth was ready to serve up guests with samples of their Italian cuisine.

SUMMER  
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8/13/26 Pups, Pints & The Pointe

8/20/26 Country Night Cornhole Tournament

8/27/26 Makers and Music

Friday Nights at The Amp - 6PM  
125 Salt Street, Revere

8/7/26 4EverFab Beatles Night

THE 30TH ANNUAL TASTE OF EASTIE

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



Massachusetts State Rep. Adrian Madaro with Eastie residents.



Raffaella Ochoa and Nicholas Moulaison with Carmella's Market Hand stuffed peppers.



**PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION:  
BOSTON LOGAN RUNWAY 27  
SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

Massport will host a virtual information session on the upcoming Runway 27 Safety Area (RSA) Improvements Project taking place this summer at Boston Logan International Airport. In collaboration with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Massport will begin work on Runway 27 on August 31, 2026, with construction planned for approximately 75 days.

The information session will provide an overview of the project's purpose, schedule, and temporary impacts and will be streamed in both English and Spanish.

**Wednesday, August 12 at 6:00PM**



Register for the information session by scanning the QR code below or visit [www.massport.com/community/ongoing-projects](http://www.massport.com/community/ongoing-projects)

Requests for additional languages must be made by Friday, August 7, 2026. If you have questions, please contact [community@massport.com](mailto:community@massport.com).





Frozen, fruity goodness from Roscoe's Fresh Lemonade.



Anthony Leggiero, Joe Faretra, Pat Capogreco, and Maria Blanciforte



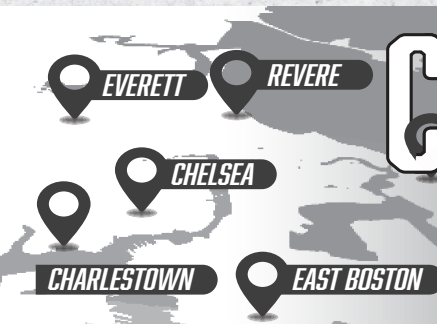
Former Boston City Councilor Sal LaMattina and his wife Lisa(third from left), Suffolk County DA Kevin Hayden, Wendy and Carly Zinn, and Tim Norton.

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## CITY PAWS

# Helping rescue animals

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

There are many ways you can help dogs in rescue situations. You could volunteer with a rescue group or shelter and see what assignments might fit your lifestyle and schedule. You could walk dogs and play with cats, giving critters one-on-one attention while they are in the shelter. If you have more time, you could visit and assess potential adoptive homes. You could also help transport animals to and from shelters, foster homes, or new families.

**Foster Homes**  
If you’ve ever wondered whether there’s room in your

life for another dog or cat, you might try fostering an animal. This is simply providing shelter, training, comfort, and affection to an animal in your home for a few weeks. Your assessment of the animal can be used to match them with a permanent home that will suit their personality, activity level, and behavior.

Fostering depends on your own animals as well as the rescue. Our second Westie, Maggie Mae, was a social butterfly who loved spending time with other dogs. We fostered dogs until she reached her senior years and needed more of our attention. You also have to be sure the incoming dog has been

cleared as free of any issues that might harm your family, including children and animals.

One of our mentors in Westie Rescue used to say, “All rescues come with baggage. We have to help them unpack.” This has always been the approach we’ve taken with the dogs we fostered, and we passed on this advice as we delivered dogs to their new homes.

**Home Visits**  
Home visits fit into our current lifestyle. With each request, we can choose to take on the task or not. Since we don’t have a car, we often visit homes accessible by MBTA. Our understanding of city life helps us prepare a report that is fair to the rescue group and the prospective family.

Home visit volunteers are the eyes and ears of the people



Swiffer was one of our rescues who became part of our family when his adoptive humans became friends we consider to be family.

**Transporting**  
Many rescue groups move dogs long distances with volunteer drivers. We’ve driven some of these runs and helped coordinate a Westie transport group for many years. A route is planned from the foster home that has the dog to where the pup can be handed over to the adoptive family. Coordinating transport is the type of job that can be done by any reliable person from their home.

There are also opportunities to transport by air if you are traveling between cities and would be willing to take a small dog in the cabin with you. We’ve been the local connection for volunteers flying into Logan.

**Leaders & Worker Bees**  
Every rescue group needs leadership and worker bees. People make phone calls to shelters, pick up dogs at homes where they are being surrendered, take the dogs in rescue to veterinary visits, nurse them after surgery or as they recover from neglect, injury, or illness.

Finally, you can provide financial support. From writing a check to devoting your life, there is a place for you if you’d like to do your bit to help homeless animals. Pick a group, pick a task, and give it a try. Each success along the way will fill your heart with joy.

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# Back to School

Our “Back to School” Special Will be published on: **August 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>**

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# MAYOR WU HOLDS NEIGHBORHOOD COFFEE HOUR AT MEMORIAL PARK

Mayor Michelle Wu met with members of the community and answers their questions during a coffee hour at East Boston Memorial Park.

Mayor Wu's Neighborhood Coffee Hours are a unique opportunity to speak directly with the Mayor and staff from City departments about open space and their neighborhoods.

A neighborhood staple known for bringing the community together over a cup of coffee, Dunkin' is back to fuel the conversation with iced coffee and donuts. Dunkin' will also provide lawn game activities for attendees, gift card giveaways, and the opportunity for residents to win a raffle prize. Free flowering plants will be provided by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department and fresh fruit will be provided by Star Market, while supplies last.

MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY MIKE MEJIA



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# EAST BOSTON CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL HOLDS GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA

In celebration of Catholic education and community, East Boston Central Catholic School (EBCCS) presented the “Easie on the Links” Golf Tournament and luncheon, raffle drawings, and auction items.

on July 27. The fundraiser, in support of the mission of the school, included an award reception and luncheon, raffle drawings, and auction items.



Bryan Burke, Aaron McNabney, George Hoey, and Ralph Moore.



First place tournament winners finishing with a score of 15 under par and first score of 57: Marco Zirpolo, Ben Merena, Golf Co-Chair John Zirpolo, Austin Lambert, and Alex Damato.



Chris Spencer, who won closes to the pin on hole six at 15', with Matthew Vandemark, and Jordan Trafford.



Golf Co-Chairs John Zirpolo and Donna Katzman with Tournament Director Anthony Capo.



Bill Dotolo, Tournament Director Anthony Capo, and John Mooskian.



Joe Cannata, Joe Casiello, Billy Dalton, who came in second place with a score of 13 under par, and score of 59, and Brendan O'Brien.



Camden Cefail, Brian Mata, Justin Ortiz, and Dale Paradise.



Rob Roach, Tom Leslie, Jane Buley, who won longest drive (female) on hole five, with George Colella.

EAST BOSTON CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL HOLDS GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER



Carl Travaglini, Rob DiMarino, Anthony Petrola, and Patrick Collins.



Brian McCarthy, Frank Kanarkiewicz, Dave McGovern, Nick Capo, and Marc Prodgers.



Principal Robert Casaletto with his family, Ashley Casaletto, and her fiancé, Lucas O'Soro, Bobby Casaletto, Jason Casaletto, Roberta Casaletto, and Toni Casaletto.



Craig Mutz, Peter Fallon, Amanda Mutz, female winner of closest to the pin at hole six, and her father, Robert Beddia.



Anthony Costa, won closest to the pin on hole 12 at 5'7", with Jon Ferrara, Dom Costa, and Marco Carvajal.



Sam McKenzie, Nick Coocen, Jon Fitzgerald, Sully, Brian Lombardo, Aaron Amouzou, and DJ Warren.

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# New England Aquarium applauds Boston flood protection plan

Special to the Times-Free Press

Given its location on Boston’s waterfront, the New England Aquarium is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, experiencing flooding during storm surges, king tides, and other extreme weather. Since 2019, the Aquarium has been among those leading the conversa-

tion about sea level rise and the importance of coastal preparedness, advocating for a comprehensive resiliency plan for Boston and championing a downtown waterfront for all—one that is resilient, accessible, and inclusive. The Aquarium is a member of A Better City, Boston Waterfront Partners, the Coalition for a Resilient and Inclusive Waterfront (found-

ing partner), the Green Ribbon Commission, and the Wharf District Council—all entities invested in advancing this vision. For the last two years, the Aquarium has engaged with the City of Boston and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) as they conducted the Coastal Storm Risk Management Study for the City of Boston.

In response to the release of the full Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Programmatic Environmental Assessment, the New England Aquarium is sharing the below statement from President and CEO Vikki N. Spruill.



PHOTO COURTESY VANESSA KAHN

New England Aquarium.

“The New England Aquarium applauds the City of Bos-

ton and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, whose Draft Integrated Feasibility Report would protect lives and billions of dollars in public and private assets along the waterfront and inland from future coastal flood events and sea level rise, while paving the way for an accessible, resilient, and inclusive waterfront for all. The proposed comprehensive system plan is a necessary and wise investment in Boston’s future, created through a process that provides a pathway to federal investment. Now, Boston has the ability and the opportunity to demonstrate what is possible when public leadership, private investment, scientific expertise, and civic ambition come together around the common goal of making our great city a global model for coastal resilience.”

The New England Aquarium is a nonprofit research and conservation organization that has protected and cared for our ocean and marine animals for more than 55 years. We provide science-based solutions and help shape policies that create measurable change to address threats the ocean faces. We inspire action through discovery and help create engaged, resilient communities.

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37TH ANNUAL EASTIE PRIDE DAY

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AUGUST 15TH

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Follow us for updates and additional details!

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