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JAMAICA POND ASSOCIATION DISCUSSES NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATES 4

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# Jamaica Plain GAZETTE

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## WAKE UP THE EARTH FESTIVAL



PHOTO BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Dani Jacobson and Mickey Cruzen were making some great music together during 44th annual Wake Up The Earth festival. See pages 18 and 19 for more photos.

## JP shootings now equal last year's numbers

BY LAURA PLUMMER

On Thursday, May 5, the Jamaica Plain branch of the Boston Police Department hosted its monthly community relations meeting. The meeting is an opportunity for residents to ask questions of local law enforce-

ment.

At every meeting, Sgt. John Dougherty provides year-to-date crime statistics compiled by the Boston Regional Intelligence Center. One chart examines Part One crimes, the most serious in nature.

Part One crime is up 7 percent

across the city, and 4 percent in Jamaica Plain. Districts that experienced a greater increase in crime were Hyde Park (36%), West Roxbury (27%), Downtown (13%), Brighton (9%), Dorchester (6%) and South End (5%). Dis-

Continued on page 2

## Tiroteos en JP igualan cifras del año pasado

BY LAURA PLUMMER

El jueves 5 de mayo, la sucursal de Jamaica Plain del Departamento de Policía de Boston organizó su reunión mensual de relaciones comunitarias. La reunión es una oportunidad para que los residentes hagan pregun-

tas a la policía local.

En cada reunión, el Sgto. John Dougherty proporciona estadísticas delictivas hasta la fecha compiladas por el Centro Regional de Inteligencia de Boston. Un gráfico examina los delitos de la Parte Uno, los más graves.

El crimen de la Parte Uno ha

subido un 7 por ciento en toda la ciudad, y el 4 por ciento en Jamaica Plain. Los distritos que experimentaron un mayor aumento de la delincuencia fueron Hyde Park (36%), West Roxbury (27%), Downtown (13%), Brighton (9%), Dorchester (6%) y South End (5%). Los distritos

## JPNC Zoning Committee approves two proposals

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) Zoning Committee met virtually on May 4, where two matters were discussed and approved: a proposal at 57 Brookside Ave., #14 to add and finish a bedroom in the second floor loft area, and a proposal at 12 Cataumet St. to add a second-story addition to part of the house.

**57 BROOKSIDE AVE. #14**

At 57 Brookside Ave., #14, applicant and homeowner Luke Bruffee explained that he would like to add a bedroom to the second story of his home, as a continuation of the existing loft.

"The proposed project is to continue the loft all the way across from the center pole to the wall and make the total area of the loft space cover half of my unit,"

Continued on page 2

## SNA, local artists celebrate completion of murals on Extra Space Storage building

BY LAUREN BENNETT

After a process lasting about a decade, the murals on the Extra Space Storage building on McBride Street are finally complete, and have been popular with the neighborhood so far.

The murals are part of a community benefit package from the project at the former Flanagan & Seaton site at 3529 Washington St., which is now the Vita condominiums and the Extra Space storage facility. Other community benefits include the community

garden next to the storage building which opened last year, and the community room inside the storage building which is operated by Volunteers of America Massachusetts and is now available for free for community use.

These community benefits were negotiated by the Stonybrook Neighborhood Association (SNA) when the initial project was proposed as a way to improve the lives of the Jamaica Plain community.

Continued on page 13

**Roslindale Special  
Section Pages 5-10**

**Our Office is Open Monday-Friday  
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# Jamaica Plain's COVID positive test-rate remains over 8 percent

By JOHN LYNDIS

With the neighborhood and city's weekly COVID positive test rate still climbing, the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is recommending residents take precautions to stop the spread.

The BPHC also renewed its recommendation that masks be worn in indoor public settings, including public transportation

and transportation hubs, government buildings, and crowded indoor venues. The recommendation is especially important for those who are at high risk for severe illness or who live with someone who is high risk.

"With COVID-19 cases rising, we are urging all Bostonians to take extra precautions to protect yourselves, your family, and our community. If you are feeling unwell, get tested at one of our

free City sites or take a rapid test. It's also important to stay up to date on your vaccinations," said Executive Director of the BPHC Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, "We are recommending that individuals protect themselves and others by masking indoors, particularly in crowded places. These precautions are how we protect the progress we've made in our community."

In Jamaica Plain things have

leveled out a bit but the weekly positive test rate still remains over 8 percent.

Last week, 1,505 Jamaica Plain residents were tested for the virus last week and 8.3 percent were positive--this was 1 percent decrease but almost level from the 8.4 percent that

tested positive as reported by the BPHC on May 2.

One hundred twenty five additional residents contracted the virus between May 2 and May 9 and there are now 8,362 confirmed cases in the neigh-

*Continued on page 6*

## Shootings

*Continued from page 1*

districts that saw a smaller increase in crime or a reduction were South Boston (2%), Mattapan (1%), Roxbury (-1%) and East Boston (-6%).

Part One crimes that saw an uptick in Jamaica Plain compared to 2021 were homicide, rape, domestic assault, burglary and larceny from a vehicle. Crimes that saw a decrease

included non-domestic assault, other larceny and auto theft. The number of robberies remained the same (6).

Another graph showed the number of fatal and nonfatal shootings. The number of shootings in the city is down 24 percent. It was unchanged in Jamaica Plain, with three shootings in 2021 and 2022. Districts that saw a reduction in shootings included Dorchester, Hyde Park, Mattapan and Roxbury.

The arrest rate is up in the

city, from 40 percent of reported crimes resulting in arrests to over 44 percent.

Sgt. Dougherty encourages residents to contact the district with any concerns regarding public safety.

The police and community relations meeting is on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm on Zoom. The next meeting will be on June 2. All residents interested in community policing are encouraged to attend.

## Tiroteos

*Continued from page 1*

que experimentaron un aumento

menor en la delincuencia o una reducción fueron South Boston (2%), Mattapan (1%), Roxbury (-1%) y East Boston (-6%).

Los delitos de la Parte uno que experimentaron un aumento en

Jamaica Plain en comparación con 2021 fueron homicidio, violación, agresión doméstica, robo y hurto de un vehículo. Los delitos que vieron una disminución incluyeron agresión no doméstica, otros hurtos y robo de automóviles. El número de atracos se mantuvo igual (6).

Otro gráfico mostró el número de tiroteos fatales y no fatales. El número de tiroteos en la ciudad ha bajado un 24 por ciento. No cambió en Jamaica Plain, con tres tiroteos en 2021 y 2022. Los distritos que vieron una reducción en los tiroteos incluyeron Dorchester, Hyde Park, Mattapan y Roxbury.

La tasa de arrestos aumentó en la ciudad, del 40 por ciento de los delitos denunciados que resultaron en arrestos a más del 44 por ciento.

El Sgto. Dougherty alienta a los residentes a comunicarse con el distrito si tienen alguna inquietud sobre la seguridad pública.

La reunión de relaciones públicas es el primer jueves de cada mes a las 6:30 p. m. por Zoom. La próxima reunión será el 2 de junio. Se anima a asistir a todos los residentes interesados en la vigilancia comunitaria.

## JP's Camron D. Bryant receives NIH funding to study addiction-related behavior

Jamaica Plain resident Camron D. Bryant, PhD, associate professor of pharmacology and psychiatry at Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM), has been awarded a five-year, \$3.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health National Institute on Drug Abuse, which will help fund his latest research on the various aspects of drug addiction, including genetics. Kathleen Kantak, PhD, professor of psychological and brain sciences at Boston University, is a multi-principal investigator recipient of this award.

Concurrent with the opioid epidemic, cocaine use disorder (CUD) and cocaine-related deaths have skyrocketed over the past decade. Despite a well-documented genetic component, the genetic factors underlying risk versus protection from CUD remain largely unknown. "At the moment, there are no FDA-approved drugs for CUD; thus, a better understanding of the risk factors for CUD could ultimately lead to new therapeutics," explains Bryant.

Kantak and Bryant recently identified robust differences between two genetically similar experimental models that predict risk for cocaine addiction, including impulsive- and compulsive-like behaviors.

Using this award, they will apply quantitative genetics toward these behavioral measures and toward gene expression analysis (RNA, protein) to identify the causal genes underlying differences in susceptibility to these behaviors. According to Bryant, the fact that these model strains are nearly identical at the genetic level will facilitate the pace of gene discovery.

Bryant completed his undergraduate degree in psychology at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and earned his



Camron D. Bryant, PhD.

PhD in neuroscience from UCLA in 2006 where he focused on signaling mechanisms and Pavlovian-conditioned properties of opioid adaptive behaviors. He completed positions as a postdoc and research associate in genetics at the University of Chicago prior to joining the department of pharmacology at BUSM in 2012.

He has received numerous awards including the Achievement Award for College Scientists (ARCS), the International Behavioural and Neural Genetics Society (IBANGS) Outstanding Young investigator Award for Postdocs, the IBANGS Early Career Scientist Award, and the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP) Travel Award. He is currently the president of IBANGS, a full member of ACNP and serves as a frequent ad hoc reviewer for several peer-reviewed journals in his field including Genes, Brain and Behavior, Psychopharmacology, PLoS Genetics, Neuropsychopharmacology, Communications Biology, and Addiction Biology. He currently a permanent member on NIH Study section and is the Associate Director for the Center for Systems Neuroscience at Boston University.

## Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll

### 'CICERO'

Cicero is happy and playful 4 month old puppy.



He will need someone who has time during the day to continue his training and socialization. He looks like a Catahoula mix, so he's going to be a large dog when fully grown. He's shy of children but adores other dogs!



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# Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts wins Producer's Choice Award from Boston Design Week

STAFF REPORT

Boston Design Week has announced Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts as winner of its Producers' Choice Award. The awards celebration took place on May 6 at Boston Design Center, in the Seaport District.

Boston Design Week seeks to increase public awareness and appreciation of all aspects of design, foster recognition of the vital role design plays in our lives, and bring new audiences to a wide array of design industries and organizations. Each year, it pulls together more than a week of trunk shows, open houses, talks, exhibitions, and other events to showcase Boston's broad array of design practitioners, and to encourage the public to explore all aspects of design. Its 9th Annual Boston

Design Week Awards celebrate the diversity of the design community in greater Boston.

Boston Design Week producers chose the Eliot School for its Producer's Award to recognize the organization's educational achievements in the world of craft and creativity, its drive to inspire lifelong learning, its efforts to contribute to a more just and equal world, and its commitment to provide a safe, creative learning environment for students, teachers, and staff of any nationality, ethnic origin, race, color, religion, physical ability, economic status, documentation status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression.

"We are honored to receive this award from Boston Design Week, which does so much to celebrate the great array of design work done here in Boston,"

said Abigail Norman, Executive Director of the Eliot School.

"We're proud of the work we do to inspire learning in craft and design, from the youngest children to people past retirement, and everyone in between."

Norman told the Gazette that the Eliot School has never won this award before, but "we've always been proud to participate" in Boston Design Week. "We know them very well," she said, adding that "they know us well."

Building on an extraordinary 346-year history, the Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts cultivates welcoming environments where people convene across a continuum of age, economic means and backgrounds to build skills, craftsmanship and com-

munity. Its offerings satisfy the human desires to create, engage in self-expression, and learn by doing; and its vision builds upon the school's historic role in shaping arts education.

The Eliot School teaches art and woodworking in Boston's public schools and community centers. It offers classes to people of all ages in fine and applied

arts in its schoolhouse in Boston's Jamaica Plain neighborhood, including woodworking, upholstery, sewing, fiber arts, visual arts, and more, for adults outside of work and young people outside of school. In addition, its Teen Bridge and Artist in Residence programs support art making, youth development, and community.

## Zoning

*Continued from page 1*

Bruffee said, adding that this is "very similar to many other units in this building."

Bruffee also wants to add a laundry closet to house his washer and dryer, as well as add a window above the front door for the bedroom to make it an egress. He said that the windows would match Unit #15, which is right next door. The proposal also includes adding a closet in the existing bedroom, as it currently does not have one, as well as to add a closet in the proposed new bedroom as well.

Committee Omer Hecht, who said he's also an abutter, was in support of the proposal.

Committee member Carolyn Royce said she attended the abutters meeting for this proposal, and there were about four or five abutters in attendance. "We're in support," she said, and added that other abutters also seemed to be in support as well.

The committee voted to approve the project.

### 12 CATAUMET ST.

Owner David Rand presented the proposal for his home at 12 Cataumet St.

"In the rear of our home, we have an existing single floor area and we're just attempting to put a second floor on top of that," he said.

He said a zoning variance is needed only because the existing house is a nonconforming use, therefore any work triggers a zoning violation.

The addition will be used to enlarge the existing bedroom, as well as create a new primary bathroom.

"It doesn't affect any of the houses around it," Rand said. "I have letters of support from neighbors on both sides, behind me, and directly across the street."

The addition will go on top of an area in the back of the house that is currently only one story.

"We have very limited bathroom and closet areas," Rand said, so the purpose of this project is to create a bathroom and a larger closet. "Our existing primary bathroom will become an ensuite bathroom for another bedroom on the floor," he said.

Rand said that he moved here almost two years ago with his family, and he has two children who attend the Curley School, so "this is, as far as I'm concerned, our forever home," he said. "We're here for the long term."

Committee member Kevin Leary reported that the Jamaica Hills Association had heard this matter and spoke with abutters, and "unanimously approved" the proposal.

An abutters meeting had also been held.

The Zoning Committee voted to approve the proposal.



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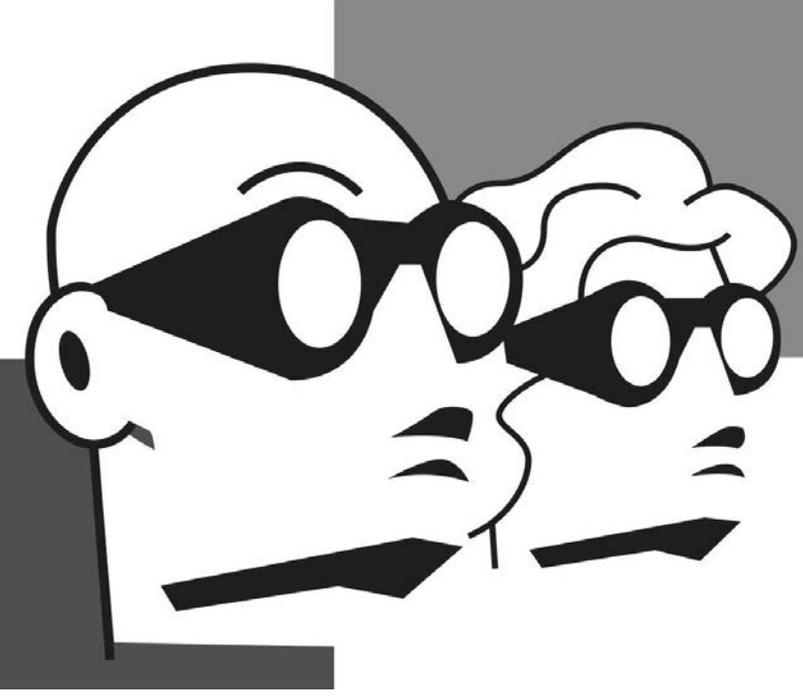
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# Jamaica Pond Association discusses neighborhood updates

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Jamaica Pond Association (JPA) met virtually on May 2, where it discussed several topics relating to returning to in-person meetings, as well as projects in the neighborhood.

## RETURN TO IN-PERSON

JPA member Franklyn Salimbene spoke about when the group might consider returning to in-person meetings, and asked for feedback from other members about the idea. This is something a number of groups have been considering more than two years into the pandemic.

He said with a “number of institutions transitioning back to in person meetings, I would hate to think that we’d become a permanent television program.” He suggested September as a possible month to have in-person meetings again.

“I think that’s the ultimate goal—to come back to in-person meetings for a multitude of reasons,” said JPA chair Kay Mathew, “but I think that we also need to be aware of the need to meet in a safe space and I would not go back to Perkins St.”

Before the pandemic, the JPA met at the Jamaicaway Tower & Townhouses on Perkins St. in the small community room.

“It’s too small, and the ventilation is not that great,” Mathew said. “We’ve had meetings of as many as 40 people.”

JPA member Kevin Moloney

said he agrees with Mathew. “The Jamaicaway Tower was a superspreader event in waiting,” he said. “We were all cramped together, elbow to elbow, and that’s not a healthy environment these days.”

Michael Reiskind, who is a member of several other community groups, including the Jamaica Plain Historical Society, said that the Historical Society met last summer in a backyard, though the group was only six or eight people. “We did meet during the winter in person,” he added.

He also said that more than 50 people attended the JP Centre/South Main Streets annual meeting at the First Church parish hall. “I think people felt comfortable in that large space,” he said. “It seemed to go pretty well; they even had food.”

JPA member Barry Schwartz said, “I like the idea of returning in-person,” and suggested the Emerald Necklace Conservancy space at the Curley Mansion as a potential new meeting place.

JPA member Peter Steiger wondered about the idea of offering both in-person and Zoom options to let as many people as possible participate in the JPA meetings.

JPA member David Moir talked about various meeting spaces that could be potential options, including the First Baptist Church and the First Church.

“I feel very strongly that these are important community spaces

and if they cost a little money, that doesn’t matter,” he said, because he thinks it’s important for the JPA to support local organizations.

JPA member Martin Thompson said that he thinks the group should “encourage masks” when they do meet in person again.

Moir also suggested an open air space in the summer, such as Jamaica Pond, which seemed to be received well by others, and the group might consider doing that at least once this summer.

The group will also return to the conversation of going back to in person meetings at the June JPA meeting.

## JAMAICAWAY: INSTALLATION OF FOG LINES

“This is not a new subject for us,” said Kevin Moloney. “The only place that the fog lines don’t exist is Perkins St. and Eliot, both inbound and outbound.” He said they exist on Centre St., and on Pond Ave. in Brookline.

“I don’t think there’s an argument that the DCR can legitimately raise for not doing it,” Moloney said. He suggested the group send another letter to the DCR asking a crew to come paint the fog lines on the street. “It’s a maintenance item,” he said, adding that he would be willing to help draft the letter.

The group also discussed issues with traffic on the Jamaicaway, with JPA member Michael Frank talking about his

recent trip to Florida and how well he thought the roads were marked.

Kay Mathew said she is “going to pursue getting a DCR rep here at our meetings from now on,” and Lena Shapiro from Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz’s office said she can help with that.

## MARKINGS FOR PARKING ON CENTRE ST.

Kevin Moloney discussed markings for parking at such streets as Orchard, Aldworth, Dunster, and Holbrook. Moloney said he would like to send a letter to Mayor Wu and the city’s Chief of Streets to “fix parking up tight to the intersection” on Centre St., as fire trucks are unable to get through with the way things are now.

Moloney also talked about reconstituting the JPA Centre Street Business Committee to talk about licensing issues on Centre St.

“I’d like us to be in a position where we could insist on having a say,” Moloney said, and are looking for volunteers to be on the committee.

## PARKS, PARKWAYS, AND OPEN SPACE

JPA member Jamie Maguire talked about the Parks, Parkways, and Open Space Committee, saying that “I think the JPA needs to do something else, another letter or something for the Pathway Maintenance and

Design Improvement.

My’Kel McMillen from Councilor Lara’s office said he would be glad to assist with this and that the councilor needs to be involved.

## JAMAICA PLAIN NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL REPORT

JPA member Michael Reiskind, who is also on the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC), reported that the JPNC’s Public Service Committee “discussed their initiatives for the next two years.” He also said that there will be a discussion about banning space savers in Jamaica Plain, as well as bike issues around Perkins St., which is controlled by the DCR.

Reiskind said that the Housing & Development Committee continued “discussion of the Poor Clare Convent and its proposed demolition by the Poor Clare sisters and sale to the developer.” He said there was a discussion of whether or not the building has enough historical significance to prevent it from being razed.

Reiskind also reported on the Jamaica Plain Business and Professional Association (JP BAPA), which supported the proposal for Pondsides Pet Care to move across the street. He said they also discussed “cleanliness of the street,” and are “thinking of reconstituting the JP Shines committee,” an anti-litter committee.

# During first quarter of 2022 violent Part One Crime remains the same

BY JOHN LYNDY

Boston Police released the first quarter crime stats for Jamaica Plain’s violent Part One Crime stayed the same while nonviolent Part One Crime was up 4 percent.

Part One Crimes are the more serious crimes the Boston Police keep track of and are split between violent and nonviolent Part One Crimes.

When comparing January 1, 2022 through May 8, 2022 with the same time period during the first quarter of 2021 there was one homicide so far this year with zero reported during the same period in 2021.

Rape or attempted rape is up 300 percent with one incident in the first quarter of 2021 and four reported so far this year.

Robbery and attempted robbery

stayed the same with six incidents reported in the first quarter of 2021 and six reported so far this year.

Domestic aggravated assaults increased 33 percent with nine incidents in the first quarter of 2021 and 12 reported so far this year.

Non-domestic aggravated assaults dropped 24 percent with 29 incidents in the first quarter of 2021 and 22 reported so far this year.

All in all, there were 45 reported violent Part One Crimes in the first four months of 2022, which

was the same number during the first four months of 2021.

As for nonviolent Part One Crimes, the overall numbers are up 4 percent according to the report.

There were five commercial burglaries in the first four months of 2021 but that number has jumped 60 percent with eight reported so far this year.

Residential burglaries are up 90 percent with 11 reported in the first four months of 2021 and 21 reported so far this year.

Larcenies from a motor vehicle are up 2 percent and other

larcenies are down 5.5 percent.

Auto theft is down four percent with 24 reported in the first four months of 2021 and 23 reported so far this year.

Overall there were 224 nonviolent Part One Crimes reported so far this year, up four percent from the 216 reported during the first four months of 2021.

As always, if you observe any unusual activity or observe a crime in progress, don’t hesitate to call 9-1-1.

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# RoslindaleNeighbors

## Jamaica Plain, Roslindale organization among six to receive mental health mini-grants

By JOHN LYNDIS

Organizations in Jamaica Plain and Roslindale that are working with the immigrant community were among six organizations in the the City of Boston to receive a mental health mini-grant from Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement (MOIA).

Mayor Michelle Wu made the announcement this week that the Chica Project, the Family Nurturing Center for Massachusetts and the Somali Parents Advocacy Center for Education will each receive \$6,500 to help expand mental health programming for immigrant communi-

ties.

"Accessing traditional mental health services can be challenging for immigrant communities because of barriers from language and culture," said Mayor Wu. "These nonprofits are providing mental health support in a way that meets residents where they are, and I am grateful that the City can support their important and timely efforts."

The Chica Project will use the grant for trainings and conversations to address social and cultural factors that contribute to mental health challenges and suicide risks in Latinx and Black female students

The Family Nurturing Center for Massachusetts will use the money to hold two monthly Nurturing Circles and provide weekly opportunities to access affordable healthy foods for Cape Verdean immigrants in Roslindale, Dorchester, Allston, Brighton and Hyde Park.

Finally, the Somali Parents Advocacy Center for Education (SPACE) will use the grant money to provide 10 small group sessions in Roslindale and Roxbury for Somali immigrant families with children with disabilities

"COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted our immigrant communities," said Yusufi Vali,

Director of the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement. "As we address recovery efforts, we must prioritize mental health and explore innovative ways to help people heal."

MOIA will partner with the Leah Zallman Center for Immi-

grant Health Research to learn how the Community Healing Center Project with MAE and other awardees improve mental health resources for immigrants. The results will be used to guide the City's future investments in programming.

## Things to do in Roslindale this Spring and Summer

STAFF REPORT

With spring arriving and summer around the corner, many people are looking for fun activities to do. Anna VanRemoortel, Executive Director of the Roslindale Village Main Streets, shared a list of upcoming events in the neighborhood with the Gazette:

The Roslindale Farmers Market - Our market opens on June

4th and runs through November 19th. The market is every Saturday from 9-1:30 at Adams Park in Roslindale. Opening Day will be an event full of music, children's activities, and a ribbon cutting by Mayor Wu. While the market happens at Adams Park, there will also be an art market happening at the same time on Birch St Plaza (more details on this event to come). More info on

the farmers market can be found at [roslindale.net/farmers-market](http://roslindale.net/farmers-market).

Birch St Plaza - This is one of the new and popular public spaces in Roslindale which RVMS volunteers and staff are now

*Continued on page 6*

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# Roslindale Neighbors

## Roslindale's weekly COVID positive test-rate hovers near 8 percent

By JOHN LYNDS

With the neighborhood and city's weekly COVID positive test rate still climbing, the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is recommending residents take precautions to stop the spread.

The BPHC also renewed its recommendation that masks be worn in indoor public settings, including public transportation and transportation hubs, government buildings, and crowded indoor venues. The recommendation is especially important for those who are at high risk for severe illness or who live with someone who is high risk.

"With COVID-19 cases rising, we are urging all Bostonians to take extra precautions to protect yourselves, your family, and our community. If you are feeling unwell, get tested at one of our free City sites or take a rapid test. It's also important to stay up to date on your vaccinations," said Executive Director of the BPHC Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, "We are recommending that individuals protect

themselves and others by masking indoors, particularly in crowded places. These precautions are how we protect the progress we've made in our community."

In Roslindale things have leveled out a bit but the weekly positive test rate is still hovering near 8 percent.

Last week, 988 Roslindale residents were tested for the virus last week and 7.9 percent were positive--this was 1 percent decrease but almost level from the 8 percent that tested positive as reported by the BPHC on May 2.

Seventy-eight additional residents contracted the virus between May 2 and May 9 and there are now 7,906 confirmed cases in the neighborhood since the start of the pandemic.

Boston's citywide weekly positive test rate increased last week and is now close to 9 percent.

According to the BPHC 17,476 residents were tested citywide last week and 8.8 percent were COVID positive--this was a 13 percent increase from the 7.8 percent that reportedly tested positive for the week ending on

May 2.

Health experts are saying the new subvariant of the omicron strain, known as BA.2, is now the dominant strain in the US and 30 percent more infectious than the BA.1 omicron strain responsible for the last surge.

Dr. Ojikutu and the BPHC also reported last week the amount of COVID-19 particles in local wastewater samples has increased by 109 percent over a 14-day period, suggesting that cases could continue to rise in the coming weeks. New hospitalizations have also slowly risen in Boston during this time period.

With higher transmission levels, wearing a mask can prevent individuals from getting sick, testing can help stop the spread of COVID-19, and vaccination with boosting reduces the risk of severe illness and hospitalization.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 1.7 percent last week and went from 178,291 to 181,346 confirmed cases since the start of the pandemic.

There was one additional death in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total number of COVID deaths is now at 1,459.

## Things To Do

*Continued from page 5*

programming. We'll have pop up events throughout the season including a plant sale on May 17th from 3-6pm. The Thomas M Donahue Roslindale Parade Gala will also be on Birch St Plaza this Friday at 5:30. Keep an eye out for more Birch St Plaza pop up events on our calendar and email newsletter! For more info, visit [roslindale.net/birchstplaza](http://roslindale.net/birchstplaza).

The Substation - The Roslindale Substation had its grand opening on May 12. The Substation is home to WorkHub, a co-working space, and a beautiful event space on the main level. They also have started a local brewery residency program where they will have brewers join for 4-5 month residencies. This summer they have Brockton Beer Company. The Substation beer hall is open Fridays from 4-10 and Saturdays from 12-10. The Substation also hosts pop up events. Every Saturday from 11-6, you'll find a Rozzie Bound book store pop up. Check out The Substation's full calendar of pop

up events!

Roslindale Branch Library - The Roslindale Branch Library always has great events going on. They are having a yarn and book sale on May 19-21. Check out their calendar for all of their upcoming events, which can be found at [friendsofroslindalelibrary.org/events/](http://friendsofroslindalelibrary.org/events/).

Local Business Events - The Square Root is a cafe that has weekly concerts and trivia nights. They often post events on their Facebook Page. The Rozzie Square Theater is a hub for all things comedy, magic, and improv. They even have drop-in improv classes for beginners! Check out their calendar here for upcoming events. Napper Tandy's and Distraction Brewing also have weekly trivia and game nights. Birch Street Bistro also has live music every Thursday night at 8:30.

This is just a small sampling of the many events happening in Roslindale this spring and summer! To stay in the loop, visit our events page (<https://www.roslindale.net/events>) and sign up for our weekly email newsletter (<https://www.roslindale.net/>).

## COVID

*Continued from page 2*

borhood since the start of the pandemic.

Boston's citywide weekly positive test rate also increased last

week and is now close to 9 percent.

According to the BPHC 17,476 residents were tested citywide last week and 8.8 percent were COVID positive--this was a 13 percent increase from the 7.8 percent that reportedly tested positive for the week ending on May 2.

Health experts are saying the new subvariant of the omicron strain, known as BA.2, is now the dominant strain in the US and 30 percent more infectious than the BA.1 omicron strain responsible for the last surge.

With higher transmission levels, wearing a mask can prevent individuals from getting sick, testing can help stop the spread of COVID-19, and vaccination with boosting reduces the risk of severe illness and hospitalization.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 1.7 percent last week and went from 178,291 to 181,346 confirmed cases since the start of the pandemic.



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# Roslindale Neighbors

## During first quarter of 2022 violent Part One Crime up 41 percent, nonviolent Part One Crime up 27 percent

By JOHN LYNDS

Boston Police released the first quarter crime stats for Roslindale/West Roxbury and violent Part One Crime stayed the same while nonviolent Part One Crime was up four percent.

Part One Crimes are the more serious crimes the Boston Police keep track of and are split between violent and nonviolent Part One Crimes.

When comparing January 1, 2022 through May 8, 2022 with the same time period during the first quarter of 2021 there was one homicide so far this year with zero reported during the same period in 2021.

Rape or attempted rape stayed the same with two incident in the first quarter of 2021 and two reported so far this year.

Robbery and attempted robbery

is up 100 percent with five incidents reported in the first quarter of 2021 and 10 reported so far this year.

Domestic aggravated assaults decreased 28.5 percent with 14 incidents in the first quarter of 2021 and 10 reported so far this year.

Non-domestic aggravated assaults are up 100 percent with eight incidents in the first quarter of 2021 and 16 reported so far this year.

All in all there were 39 reported violent Part One Crimes in the first four months of 2022, which was an increase of 41 percent from the 29 reported during the first four months of 2021.

As for nonviolent Part One Crimes, the overall numbers are up 27 percent according to the report.

There were four commercial

burglaries in the first four months of 2021 but that number has jumped 100 percent with eight reported so far this year.

Residential burglaries are down 43 percent with 23 reported in the first four months of 2021 and 13 reported so far this year.

Larcenies from a motor vehicle are up 179 percent while other larcenies are down 6.5 percent.

Auto theft is up 91 percent with 11 reported in the first four months of 2021 and 21 reported so far this year.

Overall there were 231 nonviolent Part One Crimes reported so far this year, up 27 percent from the 182 reported during the first four months of 2021.

As always, if you observe any unusual activity or observe a crime in progress, don't hesitate to call 9-1-1.

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# Roslindale Neighbors

## With help of local donors, Anissa Essaibi George delivers supplies to Ukraine refugees living in Poland

By JOHN LYNDIS

With the help from local donors former City Councilor and Mayoral Candidate Anissa Essaibi George traveled to the Poland-Ukraine border recently to deliver supplies to Ukrainian refugees fleeing the war raging in their homeland.

Essaibi George and a small group of volunteers, which included her sister Sonia, spent a week delivering supplies and volunteering in Poland at the refugee centers in Przemysl and Medyka and even traveled across the border into Ukraine to help deliver supplies.

“Being in the refugee center full of families who were carrying all they could with them, many with pets in tow, made me think about my mom and grandparents and their experience as displaced persons post-World War II,” said Essaibi George, whose mother Barbara was born to Polish parents in a Displaced Persons’ camp in Germany. “Her story inspired me to make this trip to help those experiencing something similar to what my family went through just a generation ago. Among the people in the refugee center, I could see my grandparents and my mom, then just a toddler, moving through

the converted supermarket and on to an unknown future far from what used to be home, hopeful to build a new life.”

With donations and cash pouring in from Boston neighborhoods, Essaibi George said she and the other volunteers used the many cash donations, totaling almost \$25,000, to purchase and distribute even more supplies in Poland and delivered food, sleeping bags, and medical supplies to volunteers for distribution in Ukraine.

“Thanks to the Boston community and beyond,” said Essaibi George. “We left the US with over 2,000 pounds of humanitarian



Former City Councilor, Mayoral Candidate and Eastie High teacher Anissa Essaibi George traveled to the Poland-Ukraine border recently to deliver supplies to Ukrainian refugees fleeing the war raging in their homeland.

aid including medical supplies, feminine hygiene products, soap, deodorant, toothpaste and brushes, packed in 26 large hockey bags. Many of those hockey bags were delivered to us already loaded with donations from local hockey programs, including the Boston Police and Boston Fire hockey clubs as well as bags from Latin Academy and Boston Latin School. Even the Bruins showed up to provide team bags for us.”

Essaibi George also thanked all those who donated cash as well as helped the volunteers with the sorting and packing for the trip.

“We met many Ukrainians

who were taking the supplies one car-load at a time directly to internally displaced Ukrainians, and children and the elderly who cannot be moved easily, often putting themselves in harm’s way to help others,” said Essaibi George. “One volunteer we met knew of orphanages in Ukraine that desperately needed diaper rash cream and medicine for children who could not be evacuated, and we were able to purchase almost \$10,000 of these products to deliver to them. We heard many stories like this where volunteers were constantly solving

*Continued on page 9*

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# Roslindale Neighbors

## Roslindale cop pleads guilty to tax fraud

By JOHN LYNDS

Last month a Boston Police Officer from Roslindale pleaded guilty to one count of filing a false document with the Internal Revenue Service. U.S. District Court Magistrate Judge Jennifer C. Boal scheduled sentencing for Dana Lamb, 57, of Roslindale for June 30, 2022. Lamb was charged on April 7, 2022.

According to court documents, in May 2020, while an officer for

the Boston Police Department, Lamb sold a winning lottery ticket worth \$10,000 to a convenience store owner for cash rather than properly claiming it with the Massachusetts Lottery Commission.

He then failed to report his gambling winnings on his U.S. Individual Tax return for that year. Lamb's failure to report the gambling proceeds resulted in an additional tax due and owing for

that year of \$1,800.

The charge of filing a false document with the Internal Revenue Service provides for a sentence of up to one year in prison, one year of supervised release and a fine of up to \$10,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

## Ukraine

*Continued from page 8*

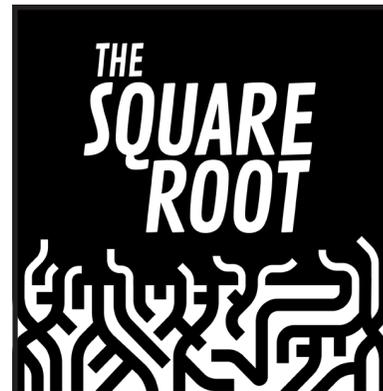
problems, doing their best to source needed supplies and get them delivered to locations in Ukraine."

Essaibi George said she left Poland grateful and overwhelmed.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to serve a small part in helping Ukrainian refugees internally and externally displaced, for your incredible support, and for

the many other volunteers who have sprung into action to help however they can," she said. "I am overwhelmed by the enormity of this tragedy and the toll it is taking on Ukraine, by the need for more support – food, water, and basic supplies, and by the spirit of Ukrainians who have stood strong to defend their country. You all helped us bring much needed humanitarian aid to the refugee center in Przemysl, Poland and to volunteers who transported the items over the border into Ukraine to be distributed there."

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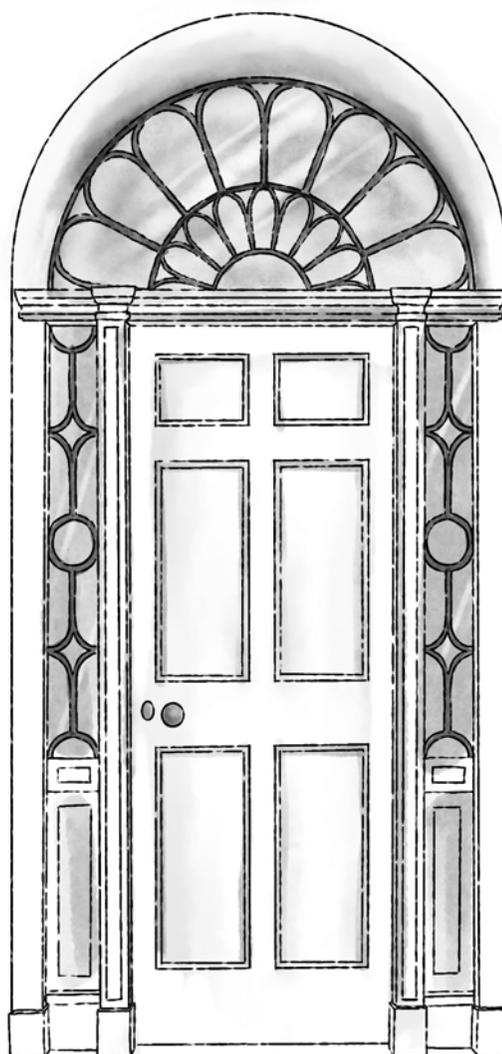


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# Roslindale Neighbors

## Wu, BPS announce expansion of Early College and Innovation Pathway programs

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Mayor Michelle Wu on May 10 announced the expansion of the Early College and Innovation Pathway program, along with Boston Public Schools (BPS) and institutions of higher education.

According to a press release, “Early College provides high school students with the opportunity to experience and complete 12 college credits while simultaneously gaining exposure to a variety of college majors and career opportunities. Innovation Pathways give students coursework and experience in a specific high-demand industry, such as biotechnology, life sciences, healthcare, information technology, engineering, and advanced manufacturing.” For the Innovation Pathways programs, “students take two technical courses in their high school and two advanced courses, including the option of dual enrollment in college courses.”

Wu said that the Early College program was piloted in 2015 at Charlestown High School, and

since then, students at the high school have earned more than 300 college credits, saving them “tens of thousands of dollars.”

The program has since expanded to the Dearborn STEM Academy, Excel High School, and Madison Park High School.

Wu announced that the program will be expanded to four additional schools. Starting next school year, the Early College Pathways program will be offered at New Mission High School with Computer Science and Engineering programs and Fenway High School with an entrepreneurship program.

The Innovation Pathways program will be offered at Brighton High School with a health sciences pathway, at Excel High School with a business and finance pathway, and at Jeremiah E. Burke High School with a biotechnology pathway.

“These programs have already helped hundreds of students pursue opportunities here in Boston, and there are thousands more of our young people who deserve this opportunity,” Wu said at the

press conference.

“We are so grateful to the local colleges and universities who have partnered with us to get us here: Bunker Hill Community College, Roxbury Community College, Wentworth, and Benjamin Franklin Cummings Institute of Technology for offering early college classes...”

Wu also said that “this early college opportunity gives students entry points into key sectors and careers right here in Boston,” including in life sciences, where Boston is a national leader, as well as health care, finance, computer science, and more.

“These are the spaces, jobs, and power centers that our BPS students deserve to step into.” Wu said.

City Councilor At-Large Julia Mejia, who chairs the Council’s committees on Education and Labor, Workforce, & Economic Development, said, “as the first person in my family to graduate high school and college, I understand how important this investment is and making sure

that we’re setting our students up for success.” She continued, “When you have programs that are intentional and are designed specifically to give young people, especially first generation students, an opportunity to see what is possible and removing the barriers so that they can thrive, then that’s how we’re going to address the wealth gap that we’ve been talking about here in the City of Boston.”

BPS Superintendent Brenda Cassellius said, “In BPS, we believe that increasing the breadth and the depth of early college programs and innovation pathways in our schools is a key strategy in continuing to accelerate student learning and raise academic rigor for our students.”

Cassellius also spoke about the Early College Incubator Planning Grant, which BPS has applied for through the state’s Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

According to the release, the grant “would allow Boston to study the creation of a consortium model to expand Early Col-

lege and Innovation Pathway opportunities to hundreds more high school students every year,” as well as “to allow BPS high schools to collectively partner with institutions of higher learning on Early College and Innovation Pathways programming.”

In a statement, Alessia Martínez, a junior in the Health Sciences Pathway at Dearborn STEM Academy, said, “By participating in early college, I got a head start on learning the necessary skills for today’s workforce. The new challenges and opportunities that I was given opened my eyes to my potential and it allowed me to grow into a responsible and motivated student. If students took at least one college class I think they would realize that they are more than capable of taking rigorous college courses that set them up for future success.”

For more information about the Early College and Innovation Pathways programs, visit [bostonpublicschools.org/Page/8464](http://bostonpublicschools.org/Page/8464).

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# SNA votes to deny proposal at 15 Meehan St.

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Stonybrook Neighborhood Association (SNA) met virtually on May 9, where the group denied a proposal at 15 Meehan St., and discussed committee updates.

## 15 MEEHAN ST.

SNA Steering Committee member Jonathan McCurdy said that this is the second time the applicant has presented the proposal for this lot. There has not been an official SNA subcommittee for this proposal, and an “informal group of abutters” has been in contact with the development team regarding concerns.

Attorney Ryan Spitz said that “...this property is a vacant existing two-family home,” and the proposal is to renovate the building and increase the living space inside the existing building.

There are four zoning violations, three of which Spitz said are “pre-existing nonconformities:” insufficient rear yard, insufficient side yard, and excessive Floor Area Ratio, as well as “conformity of the exterior building alignment.”

Architect Andrea Brue showed the plans for the building, which include an overhand on the front and additions on the back. There will be a new front porch from which both units will be accessed.

“Our proposal maintains the footprint of the building with the exception of the porches,” Brue said. “We’re planning to drop the floor of the existing basement by about two feet.”

On the north side of the building, three existing windows will be removed to make the wall fire

compliant, but windows will be added on the opposite side of the building. A spiral staircase will be constructed in the back.

There were several concerns from SNA members, including Patty Yehle, who expressed concern about the building being on the market right now.

Spitz confirmed that the property is currently on the market. “The owner, Pierre [Joas], hasn’t made any sort of commitments as to selling the property,” he said. “He’s just keeping his options open. Right now, he has every intention of seeking this entire proposal and constructing the building per the plans.”

Yehle said, “It’s been sitting there neglected,” referring to the building. “It’s a fire hazard.”

Spitz said “We totally get your concerns and you have every right to feel that way.” He said that he is aware that a fire notice had been issued, and that second floor windows had to be boarded up and bags of leaves had to be removed from the property.

Abutter Jenny Nathans said that “the sign on the outside of the building with the X means it is not safe for first responders to enter the building. That was explained to me directly by the firefighter.”

SNA Steering Committee member Paige Sparks said that she had hoped for “more interaction” between the project team and the neighbors, and that she wishes there were more housing proposed as part of the project. She said she would vote to oppose it.

McCurdy showed photos of the building’s existing conditions. The front door is currently boarded up, and he said the building has been in its current state for more than a year. “It was basically gutted and stripped and sort of left in this condition,” he said.

“There is an open window that is fully accessible,” and maintenance on the building “has been very minimal.” Though he said the owner has responded when people have contacted him, “I don’t feel like this is very neighborly.”

McCurdy continued, “In regards to the building itself, I don’t feel like there was a lot of compromise from the development team.” He said he did not like the proposed additional height, especially next to the building to the right, which is very close to this building.

The shadow studies also show that light will be blocked on that building, McCurdy said.

“This building is a historic building,” he said. “I could see using the shell of the building,” adding that he thinks the two units would be “plenty big enough” without the addition of extra height.

Jennifer Uhrhane said that she doesn’t think selling the building is “Plan B” for the developer. “It sounds like Plan A,” she said. The price of the house has gone down since it has been on the market, which she believes means there’s “more of an intention to sell than build.”

Uhrhane also discussed the proposed design of the building, which she and others said has not changed from the original proposal except for a new cornice and a roof deck.

“I don’t think there’s anything positive about this project,” she said.

Spitz said that some neighbors have expressed concerns about “materials and colors,” and said that the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) would have the final say on colors and materials.

“I hear everyone’s concern about the timing of it,” said Pierre Joas, owner of the property. “We’re in the middle of a refinance. As it stands right now,

if I sell it at what it’s listed for, it’s not profitable at all.” He said that as developers, they have to respond to investors and this project has taken “a lot longer than anyone expected.”

McCurdy said, “If he’s not making money, that’s not our issue.”

The SNA ultimately voted 10 to one to three to oppose this proposal as presented.

## SOUTHWEST CORRIDOR EXTENSION

SNA member Fred Vetterlein spoke about the Southwest Corridor Extension project, saying that he and others have been speaking with the MBTA about the idea and the work that has been done for the past decade.

“For a website, we have been offered use of the Southwest Corridor Conservancy as well as the Southwest Corridor Park Management Advisory Council (PMAC).” He said “our goal all along is to have DCR take control of this little piece of land,” and they are trying to schedule a walkthrough of the property and are making attempts to gather more information. The committee for this project is looking for more people to get involved as well, Vetterlein said.

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# Uplift JP at Nickls & Dimes

JP Centre/South Main Streets held its second Uplift JP event on April 23 at Nickls & Dimes at 668 Centre St.

JP Centre/South Main Streets created the Uplift JP program to support BIPOC-owned businesses in Jamaica Plain.

According to a recent newsletter from the organization, “A careful look at racial disparity and inequity within our community and organization teaches us that we need to provide added support and actively seek justice for people of color. Racism exists within our business district, and we want to undertake work to prevent racism and harassment from happening. We seek to lift up our businesses with positivity, love, inclusion, equity, and justice. We invite the entire Jamaica Plain community to support, to

talk, to ask questions, to learn more, and to voice your opinions. JP Centre/South Main Streets encourages you to join us and contribute to racial justice in Jamaica Plain.”

Nickls & Dimes “is an urban clothing company located on Centre St. in Jamaica Plain, with a focus on one-of-a-kind affordable attire for fashion-forward people of all ages,” according to JP Centre/South Main Streets.

The Event on April 23 featured a fashion show at the City Feed parklet, as well as a wine tasting with Abner Montfleury, a first generation Haitian-American who owns local wine company Montfleur Duvin. It also featured homemade cookies by Nickls & Dimes owner Brie Pulum, who owns The Cookie Don, as well as a raffle for a door prize.



PHOTO BY DEBORAH J. KARSON

Many people came out to support Nickls & Dimes on April 23 as part of JP Centre/South Main Streets' Uplift JP initiative.

## COVID-19 Vaccine for Kids: What You Need to Know

The COVID-19 vaccine is an important tool to keep kids safe from COVID-19.

- Vaccines are available for free for everyone 5 and older.
- Some kids may still get COVID after getting the vaccine, but being vaccinated reduces their risk of severe illness.
- Kids may have side effects like a sore arm, achy muscles, and tiredness that can last a day or two.
- Children who get the COVID vaccine are extremely unlikely to experience any serious problems.



Talk with your child's doctor and learn more at [mass.gov/CovidVaccineKids](https://mass.gov/CovidVaccineKids)

# Mural

*Continued from page 1*

The Gazette spoke with Jennifer Uhrhane, Chair of the SNA Mural Committee, as well as Dana Woulfe of Studio Fresh, the company that painted the murals, Sharif Muhammad, the artist who designed the large mural on the side of the building, and Julia Csekö, the artist who designed the three square murals on the parking lot side of the building, to learn more about the process and about the murals themselves.

Uhrhane explained that committees were set up for each of the community benefits discussed with the developer of the project.

“Once the development project actually got going is when the committees started doing their work on carrying out the benefits that the development agreed to incorporate,” she said. “The project itself, even the construction, took a long time.”

An environmental cleanup of the site had to be done before construction could begin, and various other delays drew out the project, but eventually the buildings were built and the planning for the murals kicked into high gear.

Uhrhane said that “the murals took a while for a number of reasons,” including that they had to wait for the building construction to be complete before they could be painted, and that the SNA put together a jury of seven local art professionals to judge submissions in a “fair and public process.”

She said that the five month call for entry process was “two-tier,” as artists were asked to first submit work that they had previously completed, and then a “site-specific proposal for the building,” so time was needed to allow for artists to come up with ideas. More than 30 artists submitted proposals for the mural spaces, which take up a combined 2500 square feet on the building’s facade.

After Muhammad and Csekö were selected from eight finalists, the developer needed to get quotes on the cost of painting the murals, since the artists themselves would not be the ones doing it.

Sharif Muhammad’s mural, titled Rainbow Swag, was painted first, on the northwest corner of the storage building. Dana Woulfe of Studio Fresh said that there were a few issues with weather, and they had to rent a lift to get up to the top of the building, so time was of the essence in completing this mural.

“We projected the image up there,” he said, which is “the easiest way to get large scale stuff.” The outline of the image was traced and then filled in with rich colors.

Woulfe said that he and his colleague Josh Falk worked “from top to bottom,” and mixed the colors while on the lift.

“Sharif’s had a lot of different colors going on,” he said. “A lot of the work on Sharif’s was us trying to match colors on the site once we got the projection up.”

For Csekö’s mural, “we masked off the letters,” he said, and “created patterns that fit the square” then painted color over the tape.

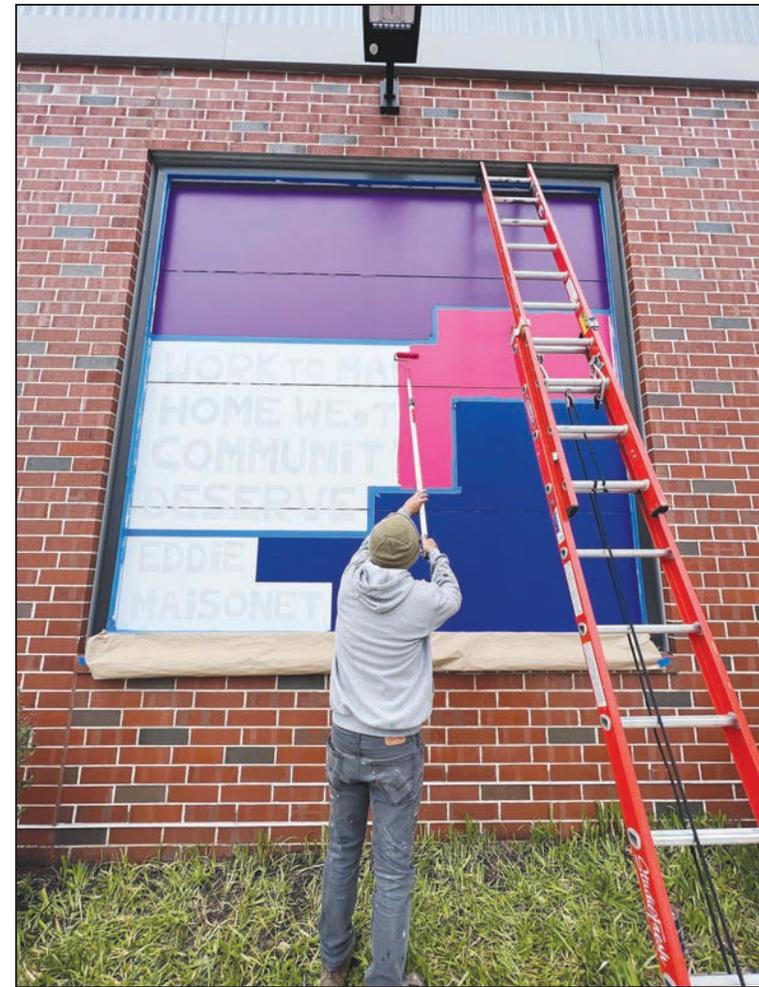


PHOTO BY DANA WOULFE OF STUDIO FRESH

Josh Falk of Studio Fresh Works on Julia Csekö’s mural.

*Continued on page 15*

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# JAMAICA POND TROUT RESTOCK



COURTESY PHOTOS

Governor Charlie Baker and Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Kathleen Theoharides restock trout with students at Jamaica Pond.

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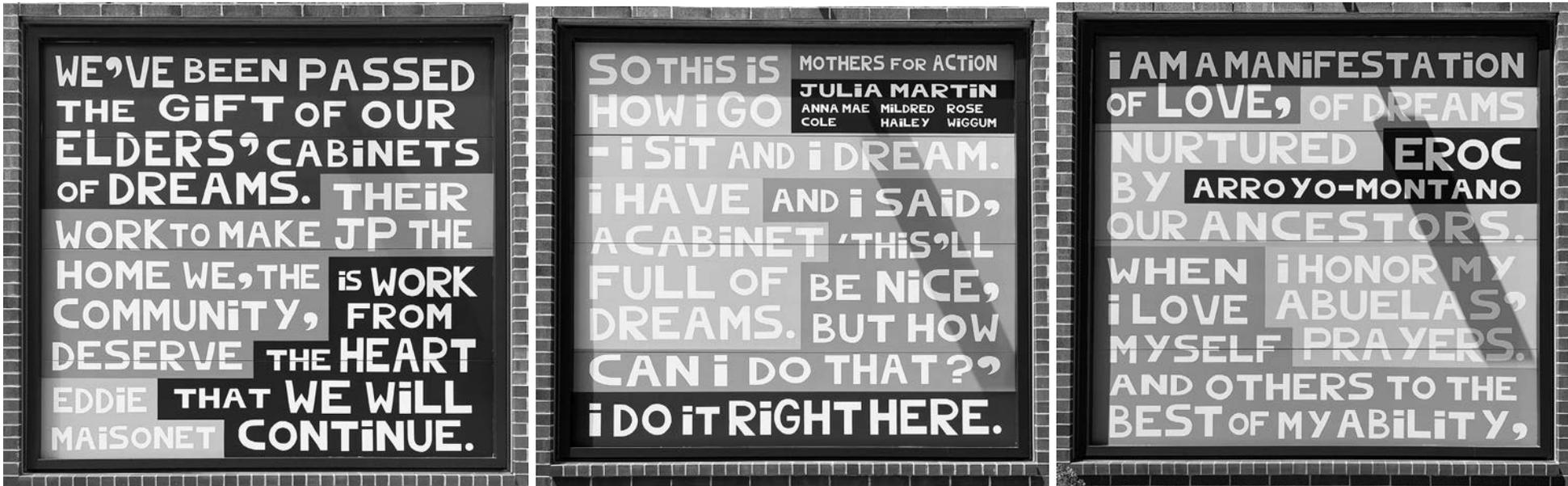
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PHOTOS BY JENNIFER UHRHANE

Julia Csekö's mural, titled "A Message to the Future," features three different panels with words from three different influential Jamaica Plain people. The mural is located on the parking lot side of the Extra Space Storage building on McBride St.

## Mural

Continued from page 13

Once that was dry, the tape was removed and white was left underneath. "Hers was a little more straightforward," Woulfe said.

Muhammad's mural took about seven to 10 days to complete, because there were about three rain days, Woulfe and Falk said, and Csekö's took about three or four days. The duo worked about eight hours each day.

"It's always cool to work with other artists...in the way they envisioned it," Woulfe said, and "translate what they do into something large."

Woulfe said that he and Falk had both spent time in this area when they were in college, and to see murals like this is "rewarding." The two had collaborated for a while on murals and other art in the Boston area, but "formalized" the business within the last decade and now paint murals and graphics in a variety of locations. "We appreciate being included in the project," Woulfe said.

Sharif Muhammad told the Gazette that "I've always had dreams of creating a mural in Boston," but as a full-time high school teacher and father of two young children, he was waiting for the right time to make that dream a reality.

"Art is something I do as a hobby," he said, but when he was tagged in a Facebook post about the call for artists for this mural project, he knew this was the right opportunity for him, and he applied.

"I worked very hard to make sure I got everything in on time and it just felt like the moment I've been waiting for," he said.

Muhammad did not create a brand new piece for his mural. Instead, "I went back into my own archives," and thought that his piece, called Rainbow Swag, would be a perfect fit. The original piece was inverted so the woman's face is facing the other direction in the mural version.

"This piece just sort of worked because it worked because it sort of matches, in my mind, the neighborhood and what it represents," Muhammad said. "It's a neighborhood that's about acceptance of everybody no matter who they are or where they come from..."

The piece depicts a queer Black woman, and Muhammad said he realizes "how that could be a problem in most places in the country," and he added that "the proximity to English High School I think made it the right piece. High school is the age where you start to struggle with identity... it just sort of made sense. It's the piece that I want those young people to see."

Muhammad is also a Jamaica Plain resident and after seeing the finished product, he said, "I've just been blown away by it." He said he visited several times during the painting process and spoke with Woulfe and Falk as they painted.

"Seeing your work on a scale like that is just mind blowing," he said. "I'm very pleased with it for sure. The thesis of my work is representation. Just seeing the image of a Black woman I

created that big on a wall." He said it's "to me, the pinnacle of it all. That's exactly what I've been trying to do."

Julia Csekö's mural is titled A Message to the Future, and consists of three smaller squares on the parking lot side of the storage building. The murals feature inspirational words from influential local people and bright paint colors to draw the eye of passersby.

Csekö does a lot of public art, and said that she's "always kind of scouring the internet for proposals for places. I tend to look for work that's more local."

She said she has been working on a "written series" for 16 years now, and "it's something I don't ever want to stop working with," she said. Her work typically involves "using words of referential thinkers, philosophers, and people who left kind of a legacy in written form."

For this mural, she chose to work with people who are still alive and who are connected to the Jamaica Plain community. "The whole idea is to uplift and showcase the people that make JP's community special, creative, interesting..." she said.

Csekö partnered with JP artist, storyteller, and poet Eddie Maisonet on this project.

"For this one, I was like I want to give Eddie full range of figuring out what he thinks should be on the walls in JP," she said. "I've learned that all these public pieces become long conversations. Once it's up, it's going to be in public for a long time."

She said that "we're literally dealing with a development and with the community benefit that's

coming from the development," and that Maisonet had been working on the idea of how gentrification impacts local communities as well as those who work to preserve those communities. "It all made sense," Csekö said.

"Through Eddie came Julia Martin," she said, who is a "fantastic community activist." The first panel features words from Martin, who is an elder member of the Jamaica Plain community. The second panel features Maisonet's words, and the third features quotes from JP's Ernesto "Eroc" Arroyo-Montano, who is "an educator, artist, facilitator, organizer, youth worker, community activist, and a proud father of three," according to Csekö's website.

"The idea is to kind of uplift and celebrate the importance of community activism and community organizing," Csekö said. "The three people that are presented in this mural represent that really well."

Csekö also said that the vibrant colors chosen for the mural were done so deliberately. She said that they are "really pleasing, really attractive colors" that will draw people's attention to the text. "That's been my strategy throughout this series of paintings I've been creating."

When she saw the final product, Csekö said, "I was really happy. I did not expect them to be that vibrant. When you're in that space, the scale is more impressive. You feel more engulfed by the work itself."

Overall, she said that "it was really fun, and I really enjoyed the process of having these con-

versations with people. One thing that is really exciting is to work with people that are alive" and continuing to make a difference in their community.

"I think they look great," Uhrhane said of both murals. "I think they're a huge asset to the neighborhood. One of the great things is how bright and colorful they are."

She said that Muhammad's is so large that it can really be seen from far away, and "Julia's has a really great message for the community."

Urhane also said that she's heard neighbors talking about it and people have been down to the area to take photos of the murals. "The community's really excited to see it," she said.

"There isn't always the opportunity to have developers incorporate things like this into their projects. In the end, they make them so much more successful, she said." Uhrhane added that the SNA has historically been a champion of community benefits like these to make the neighborhood a better place to live.

A celebration for the murals, co-sponsored by the SNA and Spontaneous Celebrations, will be held on May 21 from 12-2pm at Call Street Field.

"It's really important that developers give support to the arts and culture," Csekö said. "We cannot have people doing new developments in the city, wherever it is, without giving community benefits to the communities they're coming into."

# Roxanne Longoria, announces candidacy for State Representative for 15th Suffolk District

By JOHN LYNDS

Longtime community activist and Jamaica Plain resident Roxanne Longoria announced earlier this month her candidacy for the 15th Suffolk District State Representative seat.

In her announcement Longoria, a public servant, community organizer, and diversity and inclusion educator, said her decision to run for State Representative is grounded in her vision of a welcoming, vibrant, and equitable 15th Suffolk District where all residents can access the resources they need to thrive.

The district includes Jamaica Plain, Mission Hill, and Roxbury.

"I'm an experienced, progressive leader running for State Representative because I want a more equitable, accessible, and compassionate government for all," said Longoria. "After serving



*Longtime community activist and Jamaica Plain resident Roxanne Longoria is running for the 15th Suffolk District State Representative seat.*

as the Director of Youth Homelessness Initiatives for the City

of Boston, I became a caregiver to my 75-year-old mother and experienced housing instability at the height of the pandemic. During these challenging times, I truly understood that our systems should be better, they can be better, and who is most impacted when they aren't working efficiently."

In her announcement Longoria described herself as a "visionary doer" and veteran advocate committed to equitable communities and inclusive government.

Longoria said she has long been determined to elevate her community and improve her neighbors' lives. Longoria spent more than a decade leading Boston area coalitions, bringing innovative ideas to fruition, and advocating for marginalized people and communities.

Most recently, Longoria served as the Director of Youth Home-

lessness Initiatives for the City of Boston. In this role, Longoria founded the Youth Experiencing Homelessness Training Institute, building the capacity of over 350 community service providers in the Boston area while quickly mobilizing resources to distribute over \$50,000 in life-saving direct aid to youth experiencing homelessness.

Michael Curry, Esq. CEO, Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, said, "Phenomenal leader, committed to uplifting families and rooted in service to others, that's Roxanne. She brings her lived experience and passion to the movement for equity and social justice, and she's a force we need for change."

Longoria said she pledges to champion progressive policies, prioritize the needs of the district's residents, and ensure

marginalized communities have a seat at the legislative table.

She said her priority issues are affordable housing, educational equity, and increasing transitional support services for young people who are currently in and aging out of foster care.

"Since her time as the Network Coordinator for the Boston Youth Service Network, Roxanne has been a fierce advocate for young people," said Marcela Raines, Chief Advocacy and Community Engagement Officer at More Than Words. "From testifying at Boston Public School Committee hearings to hosting citywide convenings addressing the School to Prison Pipeline and Youth Homelessness, Roxanne gets things done while empowering others and intentionally building community."

To learn more, visit [www.roxannelongoria.com](http://www.roxannelongoria.com).

# Boston Public School Committee votes to close Mission Hill school

By JOHN LYNDS

After a damning report highlighting a decade of sweeping serious incidents of sexual abuse and bullying as well as neglecting students with disabilities by school administrators, the Boston School Committee voted last

Thursday to close the Mission Hill K-8 Pilot School in Jamaica Plain.

After a completed external investigation by the Hinckley Allen law firm that documented harm to children and families over the past decade Boston Public School Superintendent Dr. Brenda Cas-

sellius recommended closing the school. Five families won a \$650,000 settlement from the district after alleging a student had repeatedly sexually assaulted their children on campus in a bathroom but nothing was done.

At last week's meeting five committee members voted in favor of closing the school. Those members were Jeri Robinson, Michael O'Neill, Brandon Cardet-Hernandez, Stephen Alkins, and Quoc Tran. Rafaela Polanco Garcia abstained and Lorena Lopera wasn't at the meeting.

According to Hickley Allen's report it became clear that all attempts at intervention at Mission Hill K-8 Pilot School had not garnered an acceptable level of progress.

"Even with serious interventions during the 2021-22 School Year, including the removal of school leaders and other educators, infusion of significant Central Office support, and extensive staff training, the school has failed to make the necessary improvements," read the report. "Unfortunately, this has led to the conclusion that children will continue to be harmed

if the school remains open."

Cassellius argued that her recommendation to close aims to ensure that all current students will have the opportunity

to learn in a physically and emotionally safe environment where they can flourish academically and socially.

At last week's School Committee hearing one parent testified that it had taken many years in therapy to work through the trauma inflicted on her daughter while she attended Mission Hill. She reported to this day her daughter cannot drive near the school or she will have a panic attack.

However, many parents testified in support of keeping the school open like Jamaica Plain parent Tokoyo Orimoto.

"You're punishing the many students who love Mission Hill School and removing the important stability that the school has provided," said Orimoto. "I don't want to downplay the extremely traumatic experience that many families have had... but by closing our school, you are creating more trauma on a larger scale. When I told my son about the potential closure, he immediately collapsed to the ground, sobbing."

Orimoto also lobbied the School Committee to allow Mission Hill students to get priority placement at a new school.

"I urge you to work to minimize our trauma and ensure that Mission Hill School families get priority, being placed in the

schools they would like to attend and to maintain the incredible school community that we spent years building," she said at the meeting.

In the end Dr. Cassellius said her recommendation to close the school, while tough for many parents to accept, was rooted in the data during the external investigation.

According to the Hinckley Allen report five external reports substantiated a culture and climate where students repeatedly experienced unaddressed sexual misconduct, bias-based conduct, and bullying over a ten year period.

Also academic data in the report demonstrated wide gaps in achievement and growth between

White, Black, and Latinx students, students with disabilities, and English learners. The school has been in "Transformation" status for the three years and remains ranked in the lowest 5 percent of schools in the Commonwealth.

The report also found high non-compliance rates in fulfilling special education timelines, such as completion and implementation of Individualized Education Plans, completing annual reviews and three-year reevaluations.

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# WAKE UP THE EARTH FESTIVAL

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Now in its 44th year, Wake Up The Earth is a welcomed tradition in JP. What started as a protest against a highway that would've cut Jamaica Plain into two, the Festival brought neighbors together and invoked an awareness and appreciation for nature and the Earth. Music, performances, activities, and neighborhood fun were found along the Southwest Corridor Park.



Caleb and Joel Webb pose with RobyThe Robot (center), a creation of Caleb's making.



Jackie Lincroft of Commonwealth Circus Center wows the crowd in front of Stony Brook Station with her acrobatic act.



Ivy, Carl, and Adrian (right) Lowemberg and June Paterson enjoy some ice cream despite the sunny yet brisk day.



Cailin O'Toole and Djamil Graham showed that if you used drumsticks or bare hands, a beat can always be made.



Haley McHatton with Extinction Rebellion rides a dragonfly and holds a banner depicting a bee, two animals we hope won't join the ranks of that group's title.



Bessie Dewar (right) has her hands full contending with the energy of her daughter Violet Welsh with her friends Freya Eguchi and Eden Laferriere.



Erica Weinreich, Luca Rudenstine, Abby Gonzalez, Jeremy Altman, and Lindsey Wolk.



Elizabeth Pabon-Szebada leads a Bombaantillana dance on the Moon Stage in celebration of Caribbean and Latinix culture.



Wake Up The Earth and Spontaneous Celebrations founder Femke Rosenbaum, festival co-founder and parade coordinator Zafiro Patino, and volunteer coordinator Paula Cantor.

# WAKE UP THE EARTH FESTIVAL



Sing Positive performs some vocal melodies from singers, young and old.



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# Neighbors celebrate Frederick Law Olmsted's 200th birthday

A birthday celebration was held for landscape designer Frederick Law Olmsted, creator of the Emerald Necklace parks, on April 27th at Jamaica Pond. Olmsted would have been 200 years old this year, but the celebration was held a day after his actual birthday due to rain.

Many friends, supporters, neighbors, and park activists came out to the pond for the celebration, where local storyteller Diane Edgecomb and harpist Margot Chamberlain told stories and sang songs. Proclamations were read, including one by Mayor Michelle Wu (though she was unable to attend) declaring April 26 "Gerry Wright Day" in the city of Boston.

Gerry Wright has celebrated Frederick Law Olmsted each year in the City of Boston, writ-

ing and performing a one-man play about Olmsted. Wright has worked in human services and conservation for many years, and is the founder of the Friends of Jamaica Pond. Wright was the highlight of this event, with many people stopping to chat with him in his Olmsted costume.

Olmsted 2022 honored both Patricia Kish, Chief of Design and Engineering for the state Department of Conservation and Recreation, and Kent Jackson, Director of Education for the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, for their work in the parks.

For more information about upcoming bicentennial events, visit [olmstednow.org](http://olmstednow.org), the website for Greater Boston's bicentennial celebration.



PHOTO BY LAUREN BENNETT

Gerry Wright, dressed as Frederick Law Olmsted, throws a Frederick Law Olmsted baseball cap into the crowd. April 26, Frederick Law Olmsted's birthday, was declared "Gerry Wright Day" in Boston by Mayor Michelle Wu, to honor Wright's commitment to the Emerald Necklace Parks.

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## EDITORIAL

### An ill wind.....

The unrelenting easterly seabreeze that has been blowing at 20-30 miles per hour 24/7 for the past five days has reminded us that “spring” is an ephemeral term for those of us who live along the Massachusetts coastline.

The temperature has refused to climb beyond 50 degrees -- thanks to a water temperature of 48 degrees in Boston Harbor -- and the strong on-shore wind has made it feel closer to 40 degrees with the wind-chill factored in.

As usual, temperatures a little bit to our west are 10 degrees warmer. But for us, winter coats, hats, hoodies, and gloves are still the norm for any outside activity, whether it's walking along the beach or the Charles, or attending our children's soccer or baseball games, or enjoying a lunch at Kelly's on Revere Beach.

On the other hand, for those of us fortunate enough to be close to the ocean, the pounding surf on the shoreline with white caps extending to the horizon have created a seascape that is mesmerizing.

The smell, sight, and sound of the churning sea consumes our senses. It never grows old.

Still, our spring along the coast has followed the usual, frustrating pattern of, “One step forward, three steps back.”

Mother Nature is a tease at this time of year. For each day of warmth that she bestows upon us, we must endure four or five days of chill, as if she's daring us to plant our summer vegetable garden under the threat of a frost or a wind gust that might snap the tender shoots.

We can't help but think that it would be nice to reserve some of these sea-breezy days for mid-July and early-August when the water temperature will be warm enough for us to enjoy the churning surf.

But the bottom line is that, to paraphrase the Bill Belichick cliché, the spring season along our coast, “Ain't what it ain't.” It's always a mere chimera that taunts us.

### We are all Ukrainians

It is impossible to turn away from the news reports of the ongoing war in Ukraine that we see 24/7 on our televisions and computer screens.

To be honest, we've had it with all of the other recent political, economic, and COVID-related commentaries that run in an endless loop ad nauseam on the news.

We just tune them out.

But when it comes to the heartbreaking, disturbing, and infuriating coverage of all aspects of the war in Ukraine, we feel almost duty-bound to watch in order to bear witness to the genocide that the sociopath in the Kremlin has wrought upon these poor people.

Yes, perhaps we can identify with what is happening in Ukraine because so much of what we see in their lives and the lives of their children mimics our own. Some of those Ukrainian suburban streets and playgrounds could be Anytown, USA.

The recent events in Ukraine have brought to mind the occasion when President John F. Kennedy spoke in front of the Berlin Wall in 1963 and concluded his speech with the famous and inspiring words, “Ich bin ein Berliner!” -- “I am a Berliner!”

Today, peace-loving people (who presumably are all of us) across the country and the globe feel the same way about Ukraine. Hopefully, we will have the fortitude to remain resolute in our support for Ukraine and its innocent people and be willing to accept some degree of sacrifice (such as higher prices) in our personal lives in order to thwart the genocidal maniac who is destroying their country and uprooting their lives.

To paraphrase what JFK might say today: “All free people, wherever they may live, are citizens of Ukraine.”

## OP-ED

### I am angry but determined to protect Roe

BY ELIZABETH WARREN

Roe v. Wade has protected the right to a safe and legal abortion for nearly half a century. Over and over again, conservative Supreme Court nominees proclaimed Roe “settled law,” signaling to the American people that, on their watch, Roe would not be overturned. But now a draft opinion reveals that five justices believe this is their moment to strike down this “settled law,” permitting states to criminalize anyone who seeks an abortion, performs an abortion, helps someone find an abortion, or even has a miscarriage.

Yes, I'm angry. I'm angry at the justices who deliberately deceived the American people. I'm angry at the Republicans in Congress who stole two Supreme Court seats to get us to this day. And I'm angry at the cruelty of the anti-abortion politicians who will impose enormous pain, suffering, and possible death on people who have the fewest resources to fight back.

The minute Roe is officially gone, more than half the states in this country are poised to outlaw abortion or severely limit abortion access. If abortion is outlawed, the impact won't fall equally on everyone. Wealthy women will still get safe, legal abortions by flying to another state or even traveling to another country.

But the world will be very different for those who have the least power: low-income women, young women, women of color, victims of incest and abuse, moms already working two jobs to support their children. This far-right, extremist Supreme Court doesn't care if Americans suffer; they are hellbent on imposing their views on all of us.

For me, this isn't about politics; this is personal. I have lived in a world where abortion was illegal. I learned early on that when the law bans all abortions, only safe and legal abortions will be banned. I lived in a world in which women bled to death from back alley abortions. A world in which infections and other complications destroyed women's futures. A world in which some women took their own lives rather than continuing with a pregnancy they could not bear.

For decades, expanded access to abortion has allowed people to make decisions about their own bodies and lives, promoting equity and access to life-changing opportunities. But these extremist justices on the Supreme Court want to send us back to those dark days and take away women's rights to control their own futures.

Changes in abortion laws will have dire consequences. In Texas, a young woman was charged with murder for an alleged self-induced abortion. (The charges were later dropped.) In Oklahoma, a new law would force a 12-year-old survivor of rape to bear the child of her predator. In Louisiana, Republicans are pushing for the most extreme bill yet, which would classify abortion as a homicide and could even criminalize using certain forms of birth control. And Republican politicians won't stop at criminalizing abortion. They have already signaled that a Republican-controlled Senate would pursue a nationwide ban on abortion care.

Let me be crystal clear: Republicans in Congress are plan-

ning to restrict abortion access and reproductive health care everywhere, endangering all Americans, whether they live in red, blue, or purple states. And it is equally clear that the Supreme Court is opening the door to banning birth control, outlawing marriage equality, and even making interracial marriage illegal.

American freedoms and the Constitution itself are under attack. The Republicans have planned long and hard for this day, and we can't wait a second longer to fight back. We need action.

The Supreme Court does not get the last word. The American people—through their leaders in Congress—can and must take action. Congress has the power to make Roe the law of the entire nation. The House has already passed legislation to shield abortion rights, and the Senate will take up the bill this week. We should debate that bill on the floor and then vote on it—because every American should know exactly where we stand and hold us accountable.

*Continued on page 21*

The opinions expressed on these pages are not necessarily those of this newspaper.

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# Op-Ed

Continued from page 22

But to get that vote and protect Roe, we must end the filibuster. This November, Americans will decide the future of Roe, and voters everywhere must bring their fury to the voting booth.

Yes, I'm angry that a group of unelected ideologues on the Supreme Court think they can turn current law upside down and dictate to tens of millions of people across this country the terms of their pregnancies and their lives.

I will use my anger to do everything I can to keep an extremist

Supreme Court from having the last word on the right to a safe and legal abortion. In a democracy, that power is in the hands of the people. We need to use our anger to make real change. We're not going back—never.

*Elizabeth Warren is the senior United States senator from Massachusetts.*

## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Division 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU22P0945EA

Estate of: Arlene W. Light Also known as: Arlene Light Date of Death: 12/03/2021 To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Edward N Light of Ashton, MD requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Edward N Light of Ashton, MD be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/16/2022.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty days (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribu-

tion of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: May 10, 2022 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate 5/13/22 JP

### LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L.C. 190B, §5-304 Docket No. SU22P0775GD

Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300

In the matter of: Carolina Camacho Of: Jamaica Plain, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Lutheran Home Of Jamaica Plain (A of Jamaica Plain, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Carolina Camacho is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Gloria Proenza of Jamaica Plain, 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 incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. 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 06/22/2022. 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 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. IMPORTANT NOTICE

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. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 20, 2022 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate 5/13/22 JP

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L.C. 190B, § 5-304 Docket No. SU22P0847GD

In the matter of: Federico A. Aguasvivas Of: Jamaica Plain, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Lutheran Home of Jamaica Plain (A of Jamaica Plain, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Federico A. Aguasvivas is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Aida M. Aguasvivas 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 incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on

file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. 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 06/09/2022. This 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.

IMPORTANT NOTICE 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. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: May 09, 2022 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate 5/13/22 JP

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Division INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE Docket No. SU20P2279EA

Estate of: Janet W. Nicholas Date of Death: September 17, 2020 To all persons interested in the above captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner Susan K. Jacoby of Jamaica Plain, MA. A Will has been admitted to informal probate. Susan K. Jacoby of Jamaica Plain, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being

administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

5/13/22 JP

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME Docket No. SU22C0011CA

In the matter of: Laura Susan Torres Charpentier A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Laura Susan Torres Charpentier of Jamaica Plain, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing her name to: Jasper Laura Torres IMPORTANT NOTICE Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/29/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 27, 2022 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate 5/13/22 JP

# OBITUARIES

## Dr. Estelle Jane Clasing Gifted and Dedicated Missionary

In December of 1929, specifically December 4th, a beautiful baby girl was born in Baltimore, Maryland to Alfred and Mary Clasing. She was born into a very loving family. She had 12 siblings who preceded her in death, six brothers: William, Earnest, Alfred Jr., Carroll, Harold, Bernard, and six sisters: Elizabeth, Ruth, Alberta, Mildred, June, and Alice. She is survived by two sisters in law: Joyce and Georgia Clasing as well as a host of nephews, nieces, grandnephews and grandnieces.

Dr. Estelle Jane Clasing was a gifted and dedicated missionary, ministering under the auspices of the Grace and Hope Mission. At the time of her death, she was the President of the Grace and Hope Mission. She faithfully served the Lord for 75 years. She received her Doctorate of Divinity and also a degree in Psychology. As a minister of the Gospel, she helped hundreds and hundreds of people, materially,



emotionally and, most importantly, spiritually. She will be greatly missed.

Dr. Clasing served in the Boston area since 1966. Serving at the Grace and Hope Mission located at 1900 Columbus Ave since 1968. She touched so many all around Boston and made many friends who will miss her greatly.

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