



MAYOR'S COFFEE HOUR AT MOZART PARK PAGES 10 + 11

Vol. 31 No. 9
20 Pages • Free Delivery
25 Cents at Stores

Jamaica Plain GAZETTE

Our offices will be closed Monday, May 30 in observance of Memorial Day

Printed on Recycled Paper

617-524-2626

MAY 27, 2022

WWW.JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM

JP TASTE AND TOUR SPRING FUNDRAISER



PHOTO BY KATE RAISZ

Taste & Tour attendees enjoyed margaritas at Casa Verde Taqueria. See more photos on Page 5.

Jamaica Pond closed due to algae bloom

By JOHN LYNDIS

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is asking residents to not swim, fish or boat in Jamaica Pond due to a dangerous algae bloom that can make people and pets very sick.

The BPHC issued the warning for Jamaica Plain's popular outdoor recreational space this week and said the pond is 'temporarily closed' to water activities.

Health officials suspect there's a bloom of blue-green algae, also known as cyanobacteria. "Based on initial visual inspection of the pond, it appears likely that Jamaica Pond is experiencing a harmful algae bloom," said the BPHC in a statement. "These

blooms may produce toxins that can make people and pets sick. Park visitors are urged to avoid contact with the water and any areas of algae concentration, even on shore."

Blue-green algae can form harmful blooms in lakes, ponds, and rivers that make the water murky, and can sometimes make the water look like pea soup or paint. The current suspected bloom in Jamaica Pond appears like a dull green discoloration that could be confused as otherwise safe pond water. The toxins in the algae may be present within the algae cells or in the water.

"For humans, the primary

Continued on page 2

2nd Suffolk Senate candidates tackle questions in virtual forum

By LAUREN BENNETT

Jamaica Plain Progressives, along with Mijente, NAACP Boston, and RTC Vote, held a virtual forum for the candidates for the 2nd Suffolk Senate seat on May 23. The seat is currently held by Sonia Chang-Diaz, who is running for governor.

Candidates include former 2nd Suffolk senator Dianne Wilkerson, current state rep. for the 15th Suffolk district Nika Eluardo, current state rep. for the 5th Suffolk district Liz Miranda, and pastor and lawyer Miniard

Culpepper.

The forum was moderated by Saraya Wintersmith of GBH News and Yawu Miller of the Baystate Banner. The primary election will take place on September 6, and will narrow the candidates down to two before the general election on November 8.

Miller explained that after this upcoming election, the new boundary lines of the district will go into effect, which means that the 2nd Suffolk district has "lost

Continued on page 8

Sgt. John Dougherty of E13 retires

By LAURA PLUMMER

Sgt. John Dougherty, the Community Service Supervisor for the Jamaica Plain branch of the Boston Police Dept., has announced his retirement.

The Gazette received countless emails regarding the ser-

geant's work in the community.

"Sgt. Dougherty has been a friend and advocate of JP Centre/South Main Streets for many years," said Executive Dir. Ginger Brown. "We will miss his professionalism and dedication."

"John was a good man and good police officer," said Michel

Soltani, owner of the Brendan Behan Pub. "He was always a good listener, and I really enjoyed working with him."

"Sgt. Dougherty has been a valued partner in addressing public safety in housing sites,"

Continued on page 2

Sgto. John Dougherty de E-13 se jubila

By LAURA PLUMMER

Sgto. John Dougherty, el supervisor de la Oficina de Servicios Comunitarios de Jamaica Plain, ha anunciado su jubilación.

The Gazette recibió innumerables correos electrónicos de sus

conexiones en la comunidad.

"Sgto. Dougherty ha sido amigo y defensor de JP Centre/South Main Streets durante muchos años", dijo la directora ejecutiva Ginger Brown. "Extrañaremos su profesionalismo y dedicación".

"John era un buen hombre y

un buen oficial de policía", dijo Michel Soltani, propietario del Brendan Behan Pub. "Siempre fue un buen oyente, y realmente disfruté trabajar con él".

"Sgto. Dougherty ha sido un socio valioso para abordar la seguridad pública en nuestros si-

Our Office is Open Monday-Friday 9:30 – 4:30PM
7 Harris Ave., Jamaica Plain

Algae bloom

Continued from page 1

concern is ingestion of water containing blue-green algae while swimming," continued the statement. "Direct skin contact with the blue-green algae and inhalation of water droplets containing blue-green algae or toxins is a secondary concern. For dogs, the primary concern is the ingestion of water containing blue-green algae or scum that has washed ashore or gotten onto their skin or fur."

The BPHC suggests if you, your child, or pet comes in contact with the water at Jamaica Pond, rinse off immediately. The BPHC said contact by humans with toxins in the algae may cause skin and eye irritation, and inhalation can cause respiratory irritation and exacerbate pre-existing respiratory conditions. Ingestion of blue-green algae can cause acute gastrointestinal symptoms, such as vomiting and diarrhea. If the blue-green algae are producing toxin(s), the health effects can be more serious, especially for small pets due to their smaller body weights. Ingestion of the toxins can cause acute gastrointestinal distress and, depending on the specific toxin, can affect the functioning of the liver, kidneys, and/or neurological systems and in severe cases can result in death.

"Call your veterinarian immediately if your dog has been around an algae bloom and shows symptoms such as vomiting, staggering, drooling, or convulsions," the BPHC statement said. "These symptoms present themselves soon after exposure. Dogs have been known to eat the scum that washes ashore and/or lick scum out of their fur. In Massachusetts and in many other

states, canine deaths have been documented due to the ingestion of harmful algae."

City health officials can not predict how long an algae bloom will last. In Florida for example, the Gulf Coast experienced an algae bloom that lasted for most of 2017 and killed scores of marine life and sickened residents with respiratory issues.

"Algae blooms may last for weeks in the summer or may disappear quite quickly," said the BPHC's statement.

The BPHC said they will coordinate with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) over the coming weeks with DPH water sampling to determine when the advisory can be lifted. DPH recommends that the recreational water advisory not be lifted until two consecutive weekly samples show algal cell counts below the safe limit of 70,000 cells/milliliter of water.

Sgt. Dougherty

Continued from page 1

said Shumeane Benford of the Boston Housing Authority. "We truly appreciate his service."

"I have lived in Egleston Square for eight years, and I witnessed [Sgt. Dougherty's] amazing dedication to our community," said resident Magda Drici. "His professionalism and prompt follow-up always made me feel extremely safe and at ease."

"Sgt. Dougherty was always available to answer questions," said David Ertischek of the Jamaica Plain News. "He's been a wonderful part of our community."

Sgto. Dougherty

Continued from page 1

tios de vivienda", dijo Shumeane Benford de Boston Housing Authority. "Realmente apreciamos su servicio".

"He vivido en Egleston Square durante ocho años y fui testigo de su increíble dedicación a nuestra comunidad", dijo la residente Magda Drici. "Su profesionalismo y su atención siempre me hicieron sentir extremadamente segura y cómoda".

"Sgto. Dougherty siempre estuvo disponible para responder a preguntas", dijo David Ertischek

Four JP community-based organizations among recipients of ARPA funds

BY JOHN LYNDIS

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) has awarded further funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to four community-based Jamaica Plain organizations that are working to address social determinants of health.

Community Servings, Ecumenical Social Action Committee, Ethos's Southwest Boston Senior Services and the First Baptist Jamaica Plain's Centre for Faith, Art, and Justice were among 34 organizations city-wide to share in \$1.5 million in ARPA funding. The ARPA funds

will support each organization's general operation costs to offset losses from the pandemic and stabilize these critical organizations and resources.

Each Jamaica Plain organization will receive a grant between \$20,000 and \$50,000 from the ARPA funding that was approved by the Boston City Council in 2021.

"Many community-based organizations suffered financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic, yet the need for their services grew during the past two years," said Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the BPHC Dr. Biso-

la Ojikutu. "BPHC is proud to support organizations that are meeting the urgent needs of their communities and advancing our shared mission to build a healthier Boston."

BPHC awarded funding to community-based organizations working on a wide range of issues that impact Bostonians' health and wellness, such as food access and security, and safe and affordable housing, and other social determinants of health. Social determinants of health influence access to resources and opportunities and impact people's health.



Sgt. John Dougherty.

west Corridor Park Management Advisory Committee (PMAC). "In a time when everyone is dealing with complicated public safety issues, I appreciate his approach to calmly working through issues."

"Sgt. Dougherty was a great representative of the Community Service Officers of E-13," said Susan Pranger and Carolyn Royce of the Egleston Square Neighborhood Association. "He promoted solutions in which the police are partners with the community."

"It was an honor to work with Sgt. Dougherty through the JP Hub," said Geneva Gann of the BMC Co-Response Program. "He is a wonderfully committed individual with dynamic ideas for supporting people at risk in the community."

The sergeant's community

connections wished him the best of luck in his retirement.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to serve and protect the greatest city in America," Sgt. Dougherty said in an email.

He added that he would remain available to E-13 staff for any questions they may have.

Stepping up as the Supervisor of the Community Service Office is Sgt. Ryan Cunningham.

"He will help to lead our officers as they continue to serve our neighbors," Sgt. Dougherty commented.

Sgt. Cunningham will be taking over the monthly Police and Community Relations Meeting, along with Officers Patricia Darosa and Carlos Martinez.

de Jamaica Plain News. "Ha sido una parte maravillosa de nuestra comunidad.

"Aprecio el tono que Sgto. Dougherty estableció para la oficina de servicios comunitarios", dijo Jennifer Leonard, co-presidenta de Southwest Corridor Park Management Advisory Committee (PMAC). "En un momento en que todos están lidiando con problemas complicados de seguridad pública, aprecio su capacidad de resolver los problemas con calma".

"Sgto. Dougherty fue un gran representante de la Oficina de Servicios Comunitarios de Jamaica Plain," dijo Susan Pranger

y Carolyn Royce de la Asociación de Vecinos de Egleston Square. "Promovió soluciones en las que la policía colabore con la comunidad".

"Fue un honor trabajar con Sgto. Dougherty a través del JP Hub", dijo Geneva Gann del programa de co-respuesta de BMC. "Es un individual dedicado con ideas dinámicas para apoyar a la gente vulnerable en la comunidad".

Los contactos comunitarias del sargento le desearon mucha suerte en su retiro.

"Ha sido un honor y un privilegio servir y proteger a la ciudad más grande de Estados Unidos",

dijo Sgto. Dougherty en un correo electrónico.

Agregó que estaría disponible para los oficiales de la comunidad para cualquier pregunta que pudieran tener.

Sgto. Ryan Cunningham asumirá el puesto de Supervisor de la Oficina de Servicios Comunitarios.

"Ayudará a liderar nuestros oficiales mientras continúan a servir nuestros vecinos," comentó Sgto. Dougherty.

Sgto. Cunningham presentará la reunión mensual de relaciones comunitarias, junto con la Oficial Patricia Darosa y el Oficial Carlos Martínez.

**NOW
HIRING**



**FENWAY PARK
SALES CREW**

**Yawkey Way
Report**

Flexible Hours - Game Days

To Apply call

617-418-7598

OR VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
FACEBOOK.COM/YAWKEYWAYREPORT

John Drew, Longtime President and CEO of ABCD, set to retire

BY JOHN LYNDS

For decades Action for Boston Community Development's (ABCD) partner site at the Putnam Community Center in Jamaica Plain has been an oasis of help and hope for countless families in the neighborhood.

Social service programs like ABCD's Fuel Assistance have helped low-income residents and fixed income seniors heat their homes throughout the winter without having to worry if they would have enough money for both heat and food or heat and medication.

At the helm of the renowned antipoverty/community action organization since 2009 was a man that approached helping Jamaica Plain's most vulnerable population with empathy, compassion and an unparalleled ability for being the voice of thousands of marginalized citizens both here and across the state.

Last week it was announced that President and CEO of ABCD John Drew, longtime fighter for the low-income and underserved, will step down from his top role at ABCD on June 30, 2022 after over five decades of service to the agency.

The 85-year-old Drew has served in leadership positions at the renowned antipoverty/community action organization since 1971. Drew has been ABCD President/CEO since 2009.

"I have had a long run supporting ABCD and its many all-important programs, as well as playing a role in significant national, state and local initiatives to combat poverty and provide opportunities for those who are low-income and disadvantaged to get on the escalator to a better life," said Drew. "I came in when ABCD was a start-up – something new – an organization dedicated to combating poverty during tumultuous times."

Drew noted that his work for decades alongside former President/CEO Bob Coard, as well as other dedicated community, corporate and political leaders has made his journey all the more special.

"I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to work with these committed trailblazers and hundreds of others over the years to make a difference for those in need," he said.

ABCD was a start-up in the



John Drew, Longtime head of ABCD, announced he will retire at the end of June after over five decades with the area's leading anti-poverty agency.

fight against poverty in America, taking off in 1962 with a \$1.9 million grant from the Ford Foundation and help from other funding sources. When Congress passed the Economic Opportunity Act in 1964, ABCD was designated as Boston's official antipoverty agency. Suddenly grass-roots community-based ABCD centers were serving every neighborhood, kids were signing up for summer jobs, seniors were becoming Foster Grandparents.

Fuel assistance, job-training, Head Start, childcare sprang up.

Since the 1960s, ABCD has built institutions including the community health center movement; the Women, Infants & Children program; Roxbury Multi-Service Center; Urban College of Boston and many more. It spearheaded community participation, leadership building, and community engagement. In 1973, ABCD and three other community action agencies filed a successful class action lawsuit to prevent President Nixon from abolishing the Office of Economic Opportunity.

"ABCD was a leader in a revolution for poor people," said Drew. "And we never stopped growing."

Today ABCD serves more than 100,000 low-income people annually with programs and services providing help and support for individuals, families, seniors, those with disabilities – whoever is in need.

ABCD announced that Sharon Scott-Chandler, Esq. will take over the President and CEO post.

Drew said his successor, currently ABCD Executive Vice President/COO, has been approved by the 50-member ABCD Board of Directors to take the

reins upon his retirement.

"Sharon has the experience, expertise and commitment to take ABCD to the next level," said Drew. "I am proud and privileged to pass the baton to her, the first African-American woman to lead this extraordinary organization."

Chair of ABCD Board of Directors Sean Daughtry said Drew was always a tireless advocate, champion and warrior for all those needing a hand up in

our city, state and nation.

"John is determined, tenacious and relentless in pursuing goals that give people in need opportunities to build a better life for themselves and their children, and live with dignity," he said. "His leadership at ABCD has been a force for good for all concerned and he leaves the organization stronger than ever."

While Director of ABCD Gov-

Continued on page 7

This Memorial Day...



We thank you for your sacrifices so that we might all continue to live in freedom.

Though you are gone from us, you will never be forgotten.

Sheriff Steven W. Tompkins & the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department

Best wishes for a meaningful

Memorial Day!

Liz Malia
State Representative
617-722-2380
liz.malia@mahouse.gov



HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY!

Inside And Pod Patio Seating Available!



Friendly Neighborhood Diner



154 Green St JP 02130



617-477-9573



evergreeneateryjp.com

OPEN 8:00am to 8:30pm Tuesday - Sunday
Delivery available 3pm-8:30pm

154 Green St. JP • 617-477-9573

Unlimited

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Home is the Heart
of Our Business



60 Jamaicaaway, Unit 8 - JP
Offered at \$399,000
1 Bed, 1 Bath, 620 Sq.Ft.
Trisha Solio, 617.293.8070
*Image is virtually staged



11 Granada Avenue - Roslindale
Offered at \$625,000
4 Bed, 2.5 Bath, 1380 Sq.Ft.
April Nelson, 401.965.2812



39 Middle St, Unit 2 - S. Boston
Offered at \$600,000
3 Bed, 1 Bath, 964 Sq.Ft.
Chuck Silverston, 617.699.6234



273 Beech St, Unit 2 - Roslindale
Offered at \$565,000
2 Bed, 1 Bath, 1248 Sq.Ft.
Good Boston Living, 617.971.7080

Party in the Park fundraiser brings in over \$550,000 for Emerald Necklace Parks

STAFF REPORT

The Party in the Park luncheon was held on May 11 at the Pinebank Promontory in Jamaica Plain. Together, more than \$550,000 was raised to support the 1,100-acre Emerald Necklace park system that serves as a backyard for residents and a destination for more than one million visitors each year. Karen Mauney-Brodek, President of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, welcomed the guests. Mayor Michelle Wu joined the event and spoke on the importance of public parks and the work of the

Emerald Necklace Conservancy. Karen Abbott, President and CEO of Boston Harbor Now who received the Liff Spirit Award, gave a moving speech about her career and meaning of the award to her. Janet Wu was the event emcee and David Lombardo was the auctioneer.

“Party in the Park, the Emerald Necklace Conservancy’s signature fundraising event, funds capital improvements and essential tree care in the parks,” noted Karen Mauney-Brodek, President of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy. “It also supports our education programs, free



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL BLANCHARD

Kathy Abbott, Karen Mauney-Brodek, Mayor Michelle Wu, Ben Taylor, Commissioner Ryan Woods.



Channell Dagesse and Renisha Talbot.



Jenna Bates, Danielle Frissell, Dune Thorne, Julie Hume Gordon, Liz Brookhiser, Kathleen McIntyre.

public programming, advocacy efforts and special initiatives. We are extremely proud of the work the Conservancy has done for nearly 25 years to maintain and improve the Emerald Necklace, and to connect our communities to these parks – your parks – which are such an important part of our city, and our collective efforts to manage climate change. In this year, as we mark the bicentennial of the Necklace’s creator, Frederick Law Olmsted, we are especially humbled by the power of these special places to



Gayle Perry, Lisa Pierpont, and Ricardo Rodriguez take a selfie.

heal, restore and bring us together.”

The luncheon also featured the presentation of the Liff Spirit Award to Kathy Abbott, President and CEO of Boston Harbor Now—a superior park advocate who has made an indelible impact on the preservation of waterfront parks and open space in Massachusetts. The award is named in honor of the late Boston Parks Commissioner Justine Mee Liff, who served from 1996 until her passing in 2002. “Boston, the Commonwealth, our country and the world need exceptional parks... to help heal our wounds and lead us to a safer, healthier, and more fulfilling future,” shared Kathy Abbott, 2022 Liff Spirit Awardee.

**Want to talk
buying or selling
a home?
Call John
617-293-8003
He'll bring the coffee.**



**MAXFIELD
& COMPANY**
REAL ESTATE

**Kids... Together in the ARTS!!!
Summer 2022**

Weeks of June 27 and July 5, 11, 18 & 25
**ART * Voice * Drama *
Dance**

Where: Spontaneous Celebrations
 45 Danforth Street, Jamaica Plain
Time: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. w/ Ext. Day option
Cost: \$425. per week, Except July 5, \$340 (4 days)
 \$25. non-refundable registration fee

For more info. kidstogetherinthearts.com
 Or call: 617.595.5274

\$50 Sibling
Discount
Available

JP TASTE & TOUR SPRING FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS



PHOTO BY DEBORAH J. KARSON @DEBORAHJKARSONPHOTOGRAPHY

One of the Taste & Tour groups, led by Karen O'Brien.



PHOTO BY KATE RAISZ

Small bites were enjoyed at Vee Vee Restaurant.

JP Centre/South Main Streets held its Taste & Tour spring fundraiser on May 24, where attendees visited six different restaurants and learned about Jamaica Plain history. Ginger Brown, Executive Director of JP Centre/South Main Streets said that more than \$5,000 was raised as part of the event.

The money will be used for

the organization's many programs, including the Canine Costume Parade, the Holiday Light Show and Holiday Stroll, and to provide grants and other assistance to main street businesses.

"We are really happy with the turnout," Brown said, "and look forward to doing it again next year!"

New to the Market! 9 NEW CONDOS FOR SALE IN JP

FOR SALE

WILLIAM RAVEIS
REAL ESTATE - MORTGAGE - INSURANCE
617.296.SOLD

THE RESIDENTIAL GROUP

Sarah Carroll - The Residential Group at William Raveis- 781-820-0280

3305WASHINGTON.COM

JP OBSERVER

When Media is Media: Social media and freedom of speech

BY SANDRA STOREY / SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

What's been written and said about free speech and social media lately could fill a server farm.

Unfortunately, much of the discussion and many disagreements so far are based on fundamental gaps in understanding.

Kingpins of "social media" platforms tend to be anti the former and ignorant about the latter. They know a lot about digital technology and making money, but that's not enough to manage a complex media business that's specifically protected by the Constitution.

Just because social media uses a new technology to capture and spread information doesn't mean new principles need to be invented. The fundamental ones we have applied to print and broadcast media for decades mostly work fine. Social media got off to a bad start, but it can be repaired.

Mark Zuckerberg, creator of Facebook in 2004, began with a misunderstanding that has stuck to all platforms to various degrees. He said from the outset that he and the staff of his social media platform (now "platforms") would have nothing to do with content. Big mistake. He was young and inexperienced.

He has had to begrudgingly make exceptions to that since, mostly to prevent people and organizations (or bots and fakes

pretending to be them) from posting fraudulent material. He didn't know that he was becoming a publisher when he began. Apparently, he didn't think of it, and no one told him. Or he thought just saying he wasn't in charge of content was enough to absolve himself.

Just because he and other social media bosses don't want to take responsibility for content doesn't mean they can or should get out of it. Doing their job means hiring content managers. And that means spending significant money. They don't want to do that, surprise, surprise.

Meanwhile, according to Zuckerberg at a Congressional hearing in March, 2021, his platforms rely on Artificial Intelligence (AI) to spot trouble. "Nuance" and context can be hard for AI, he admitted of his chosen technical solution to his content problems.

No wonder social media moguls are rich, and their company stock values are high. They have had to pay mostly for technology and ad sales support. Unlike print and broadcast media, their main content comes virtually—pardon the pun—free.

Also, unlike other media, since 1996, social media hasn't had to pay for libel insurance or to settle libel suits, for that matter. Section 230 of the Consumer

Decency Act (CDA) says that online service providers cannot be held legally responsible for content provided by third parties.

That's an absurd but big distinction between social and other media in terms of moderating content right now. Print and broadcast media are held responsible for material that was provided by the public, as well as content created by paid employees and contractors.

Section 230 needs to be repealed. People should be able to sue Twitter or Facebook or any social media platform if they are libeled in their newsfeeds. Social media outlets should get in trouble for spreading fraudulent material to millions when it's their fault because they didn't check well enough or at all. Digital media needs to be treated the same as other media.

Content moderation—as editing is called in social media—is important for many other reasons than just protecting the company and the public legally. It gives the public confidence about the accuracy of material on the platform. Confidence makes them come back. It may give them confidence in advertisers and vice versa, too. Most important of all, providing material that has been reviewed before it goes public would make for a better-informed public.

Everyone who posts on social media platforms is doing the owners a favor, though no one mentions it. They are providing a for-profit company with a product to sell without being paid for it.

Amazing how some people treat social media honchos like they are doing a big public service just by existing. If they are, it is a poorly managed one, enriching businesses and execs in exchange for letting us take the chance that people will see what we post in their newsfeeds and like it. Audiences of unmoderated social media sites risk being told falsehoods by false entities, as well as letting a giant corporation know their preferences and interests to share with companies who want to sell you something.

Social media should aim to please its viewers and readers instead of focusing so much on making their content providers happy (though they are often the same people). It's about perspective—and who their advertisers and the Constitution basically care about.

"Freedom of speech" is what many people, including Elon Musk—the richest man in the world, soon to own Twitter—talk about when discussing social media. What they should promote first is "freedom of the press."

Social media are media. Duh. Television and radio were mostly grouped with print media as press soon after those new technologies came into existence. Digital media needs to be added to the bunch in our thinking and standard-setting, the sooner the better.

The press is the only for-profit enterprise named in and protected by the Constitution. That's for good reason. The founders knew the public depends on private media for important, accurate information on issues that affect them without interference by government.

Social media has a public responsibility, but it is NOT to format, distribute and broadcast anything any individual or group wants them to for free. Anyone who thinks that's what "free speech" means is laughably confused. Can you imagine how long newspapers would be if that's how they interpreted "free speech?" TV news programs?

Musk's stated "absolutist" view that anyone should be allowed to say anything on Twitter [except when it's against the law, he added later] is reckless and bizarre, though many people who haven't thought much about freedom of speech say the same thing.

According to Britannica, "the main categories of speech not protected from US government restrictions" are: incitement to violence; defamatory lies; fraud (factual falsehoods); obscenity (usually not including vulgar language); child pornography; fighting words; and threats. These need to be weeded out of social media content by man-

agement, just as most print and broadcast media try to do.

As the next billionaire set to control a social media platform, Musk needs to embrace his responsibilities to his audience and oversee all the content, starting with attention to transparency and accuracy. Responsible platform bosses already in the biz need to do the same if they want social media chaos to end. Using the Associated Press Stylebook as a reference would be helpful.

Nothing illustrates the need for content oversight and social media's widely different behavior toward it better than the 600+ pages the accused Buffalo grocery store shooter posted on a social media platform called "Discord" over months. Payton Gendron opened his manifesto to some individuals in his weapons interest group "Plate Land" to read before he began shooting on May 14. He live-streamed the shooting on Twitch for two minutes, until someone there caught it and stopped it. Still, people are showing the clip on Twitter, according to The New Yorker.

Gendron described on Discord what he planned to do and how he was preparing to do it in detail, mixed with expressions of racist beliefs, according to the Washington Post. A site mostly for various interest groups that lets users protect their "privacy" using fake names and encrypted entries, Discord managers told the New Yorker after the massacre that they had known nothing about the shooter or what he was writing, though they have said they banned more than 2,000 extremist communities "organized around hate" in 2021.

Gendron also posted a similar manifesto talking about his plans and racist theories on the anonymous message board 4chan, according to the New Yorker.

Social media management is not availing itself or the public of benefits from the two freedoms the framers intended "press" to protect in the Bill of Rights. Instead, we have chaos overseen by a mish-mash of irresponsible

Continued on page 7

DINE
MALDEN
PLAY

GAMING DISTRICT

<div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"> BODA BORG BOSTON</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">90 Pleasant St</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"> PROJECT: PUTT!</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">61 Exchange St</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"> MIXER E-SPORTS</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">96 Pleasant St</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"> N.E. COMICS</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">95 Pleasant St</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"> ROCK SPOT CLIMBING</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">195 Exchange St</div>	<div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"> STATION KTV</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">76 Exchange St</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"> BIAO GE POOL HALL</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">77 Exchange St</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"> THE IMMERSIVE</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">63 Exchange St</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"> SPICY WORLD GAMING BAR</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">157 Pleasant St</div>
---	---

MaldenGamingDistrict.com

NEWS BRIEFS

REGISTRATION FOR JPOS OPENS MAY 31

Registration for Jamaica Plain Open Studios will begin on May 31, with online registration

being offered this year. Registration will remain open until June 30. For more information, visit jpopenstudios.com

JP Observer

Continued from page 6

media corporations that have convinced a lot of people that, because they are digital, they don't have to play by existing rules and commonly understood standards of public discourse.

Accepting their roles as pro-

viders of information and entertainment to the public, social media owners and administrators—as well as their users and the public—need to recognize that they are members of the press whose freedom should be respected only if they live up to their responsibilities to make sure their content contributes to and doesn't harm society.

John Drew

Continued from page 3

ernment & Industrial Relations Bob Elias added, "I have worked side by side with John Drew for decades, always inspired by his drive, his commitment, his vision for the future and ability to mobilize forces to make a difference for those in need. He's a creative thinker and passionate leader who is also an entrepreneur, savvy about leveraging economics to meet human needs. During difficult times, ABCD has prospered under John's unwavering leadership. We will miss him,"

A national leader in the community action and non-profit sectors for decades, Drew is the founder of several national and

Massachusetts-based non-profit organizations. As the Northeast region board member of the National Community Action Foundation, he has spearheaded national policy impacting low-income people and communities.

He also oversaw expansion of Head Start programs, particularly early Head Start, and initiated several new youth programs, including WorkSMART, a year-round paid work and learning experience for disadvantaged youth, and YEA! Youth Engaged in Action, a summer program for low-income 13-year-olds who are too old for camp and too young for traditional summer jobs programs.

During his tenure, Drew acquired significant real estate property for ABCD and initiated

CALL FOR FARMERS MARKET VOLUNTEER

The Mayor's Office of Food Justice is looking for volunteers to support Farmers Markets this summer. Spend time outside and working with amazing farmers and vendors! If you're interested, please submit this form: bit.ly/Volunteer-FM.

EGLESTON FARMERS MARKET

The Egleston Farmers Market returns on Saturday, May 21, through Saturday, October 9, in a new location at the Community Servings parking lot. The market will bring fresh, local food back

to the neighborhood along with low waste living resources. You can also drop off textile recycling every week Saturday and electronics recycling on the first Saturday of every month.

BOSTON JEWISH COMMUNITY CHORUS TO PERFORM JUNE 9

Koleinu, Boston's Jewish Community Chorus, presents the world premiere of A Funkl Gleybik (A Spark of Belief), by Osnat Netzer, on Thursday, June 9, 7:30 pm at Temple Shalom, 175 Temple Street, West Newton. This concert, its first in over two years, is a celebration of Koleinu's

20th anniversary and will feature special guests Hankus Netsky, music scholar and founder of the Klezmer Conservatory Band, and the internationally renowned Ezekiel's Wheels Klezmer Band. Carol Marton, Koleinu's Artistic Director, describes the newly written piece as "a beautiful evocation of nature and time based on the Yiddish poetry of Rosa Nevadovska, Malka Tussman and Anna Margolin."

The commissioned music and guest artists are funded in part by a Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Boston Arts and Culture Community Impact grant. For more info on the concert or to purchase tickets, visit www.koleinu.org

renovation and high technology updates to produce state-of-the-art facilities that enhanced program stability for Head Start, neighborhood programs, ABCD's two alternative high schools, Urban College and more. His efforts supported neighborhood development and strengthened non-profit programs, expanding services and opportunities for low-income residents.

In 2011, ABCD expanded to also serve the Mystic Valley region, receiving federal Commu-

nity Services Block Grant and other funding designated for that area and successfully providing vital services and programs.

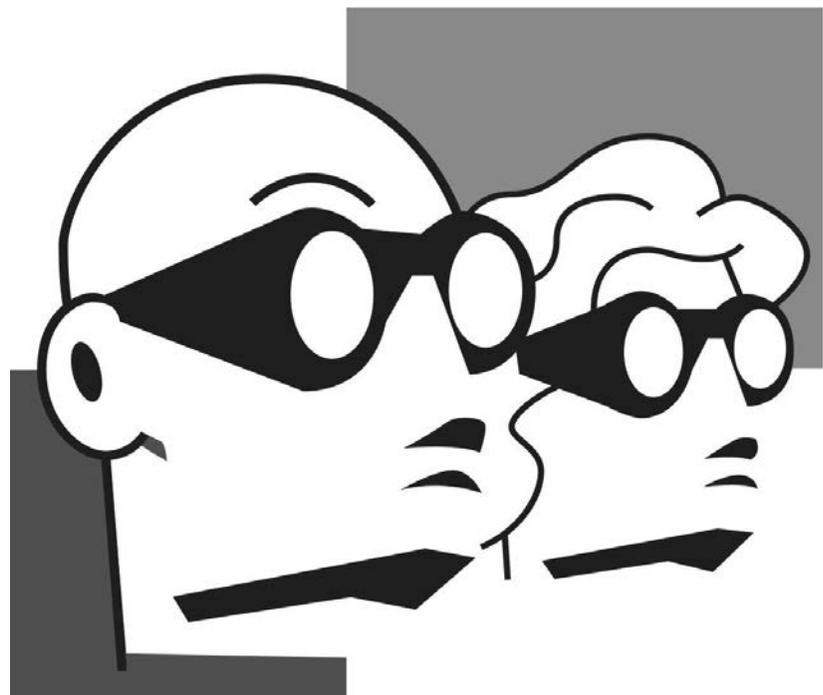
Drew's passion for the underserved stems in part from his experiences living in public housing following a back injury and, in the early days of the anti-poverty movement, sending his two young children to Head Start.

"Head Start turned our lives around," he said. "From day one it has been a beacon of light for

struggling families."

Drew studied at Bentley College in his mid-30s and went on to complete his MBA at Suffolk University. After being licensed as a Certified Public Accountant, he worked as an auditor for Peat Marwick and was assigned to audit ABCD. He soon joined the organization's finance team and the rest is history. Before long he was serving as second-in-command at ABCD and in 2009 was named President/CEO.

EYE Q OPTICAL



LOCAL - INDEPENDENT
most insurances accepted
617.983.3937

Arborway Auto Service Center

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS



State Inspections No Appointment needed.
8:30am to 4:30pm Mon thru Friday.

617-524-4505

Conveniently located one block from
Forest Hills T station, 207 South St., Jamaica Plain

See us on yelp.com

Suffolk Forum

Continued from page 1

most of the South End,” but “still includes Mission Hill and Hyde Square.” It also will no longer cover the Pondsides and Moss Hill portions of Jamaica Plain, he said.

Because of this redistricting, the district is now “32 percent white, 31 percent African-American, 26 percent Latino, and eight percent Asian,” Miller said. “It’s been redrawn to increase the... people of color percentages, and it’s a majority of people of color district which was the way the district was originally drawn.”

The candidates were asked a range of questions having to do with their current and past work, as well as how they would handle certain topics should they be elected to the senate seat. There were a mixture of rapid round (a simple yes or no) and long-form answer questions, for which the candidates had 90 seconds to answer.

One question was about homelessness and substance use disorder in the city, especially in the area at Massachusetts Ave. and Melnea Cass Blvd. Candidates were asked what they believe the “state’s role” should be in this crisis.

Miranda, who said she has been “active” in the Mass/Cass Task Force, said she believes that low threshold housing is needed to help get these folks off the street and into housing with resources. She said that she was able to secure \$5 million in last year’s state budget “to ensure that folks could have a place to go while they’re working on their recovery.”

Miranda also said she “believes in decriminalization of drugs,” and that people should get help instead of being sent to jail.

Elugardo said that “I come at this question from personal life experience,” as she has “grown up with addiction” and moved many times as a young girl and also later on in life. She said that she has “run two statewide programs, both related to housing

and asset development. One of those became the national model for foreclosure prevention.” She said that the EnVision Hotel is “one of the places the mayor and I are looking at” to “house people who are homeless and have serious substance use disorder.”

Elugardo also mentioned walk-throughs she has done, where she spoke to businesses and people with substance abuse disorder to learn more about what is needed, She believes the state has to “think both systemically and in the short term” to help with this issue.

Culpepper said he believes that “we have to look at what other states have done,” and used Los Angeles as an example. He said that Los Angeles built housing right across the street from encampments and “had wrap-around services that met the folks where they were in those encampments.”

He continued, “I don’t think we can run from the problem.” He suggested that housing be built right in the area of Mass. Ave. and Melnea Cass Blvd., and “meet them where they are.”

Wilkerson said that “the Baker administration has walked away; taken no responsibility.” She said that it “walks in every once in a while” and “makes an announcement,” but “our children can’t play in the park” because of needles on the ground.

“The human condition there is unspeakable,” she said. “I’m not looking to send them away,” she said, but she said the state needs to take on more responsibility in remedying the problems. “It’s unacceptable and we need to deal with it.”

Candidates were also each asked a question that was just for them.

Elugardo was questioned about her occasional “strong stands against House and Senate leadership,” and “how effective” she thinks she will be as a Senator, “a body where legislation is controlled by people in leadership positions.”

Eligardo said that she has “developed a reputation in House and Senate as being an honest, straight shooter of integrity.” She said she views this seat the

“same way I approach leadership in every position,” and that she will be “recognizing strengths and helping you see strengths of others in front of you.”

Culpepper was asked about his lack of political experience, as he is the only candidate who has not held an elected office.

“I would say that’s a big plus for me,” Culpepper said. “That’s an advantage. I come to this office without making any deals; any commitments. I come to this with a new voice, new leadership.”

Culpepper served for 20 years as Regional Council for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, so he said he is familiar with “how to put legislation together.” He said he wants to listen to residents, and “I am ready for this Senate seat.”

Wilkerson was asked about her record, which includes pleading guilty to charges of public corruption in 2010. She was asked how she would gain public trust in constituents.

“I think how you restore it is you just live, you work, you do the work,” she said. “I’ve been doing it for 10 years. I never stopped.” She spoke about her work with the Black Boston COVID-19 Coalition as well as “convening a community of people in 2015 when Boston was applying to host the Olympics.”

She said that “there’s things you can do in and out of public office,” adding that she has “no secrets. My record is on the table.”

Miranda was asked about how she would “respond to criticism of” past social media posts “that have used insensitive language.”

Miranda said, “I’ve apologized for those statements that were done 10-12 years ago, and that’s not who I am today. I’ve engaged with my public very positively.”

She also said that “I do not believe in policing hood vernacular, and if I used some of that hood vernacular when I was in my late 20s, I am not that woman today. I believe in grace and redemption for all people. This community, to be quite honest, is full of people who deserved a second chance, and that’s something that I be-

lieve in and have fought for...”

For every single rapid round question asked, all candidates agreed. All candidates support a single payer healthcare system in the state, all support “requiring health insurance plans to cover all pregnancy care, including abortion, without any kind of cost sharing,” and all support raising income tax on all income over \$1 million.

Additionally, all candidates support fare free public transit, the legalization of safe consumption sites, and all are against classifying gig workers as independent contractors. They also all support in-state tuition and financial aid for undocumented immigrants, as well as same-day registration for voting and during early voting.

With the recent state review of Boston Public Schools (BPS) saying that it “needs immediate improvement,” candidates were asked about their viewpoint on potential state receivership of BPS.

All candidates were very against state receivership, saying that it has not worked in other districts nor has it worked in other places in the country.

Candidates were also asked about the housing crisis and how they would “prevent further displacement of residents in the district.”

Miranda said that “housing is one of the major issues in the entire city of Boston,” with “rent too high” and the “lack of ability to buy a home.” She said she supports rent stabilization, as well as making sure the existing housing stock is “safe and affordable,” as many residents are currently “living in places unfit for humans.” She continued, “for me, it’s important that we think about everyone. Housing is a right.”

Elugardo said that the response was to “approach it in piecemeal,” and there “hasn’t been a plan until recently.” She said that the state should be “expanding our conception of public housing,” by “building generational wealth” instead of “charity” efforts.

She said that there is nearly \$8 million in state-owned land

that “can be used to generate cash, capital, or development for affordable housing that has not been tapped.”

Culpepper said “I have dedicated my entire life” to working for “housing justice,” and that rents need to be stabilized. He also called to “end bias and redlining from the housing market. I think we need to make capital more accessible to those who have been shut out of the mortgage market so that they can now buy housing.” Culpepper also said he does not believe that credit reports should be used to “deny mortgages to those who are income eligible to receive a mortgage.”

Wilkerson said that “when we talk about housing being our issue, it’s really money being our issue.” She said that “for the majority” of Black and Latino folks, income has “stagnated” so they are “not even able to compete in the housing market.”

She said that “our focus ought to be on income,” and she has a plan that would “put money directly into people’s pockets...”

Wilkerson continued, “building affordable housing continues to make white people wealthy,” and she also called for rent control to return to Boston.

Before closing statements, candidates were asked to “fill in the blank” in the sentence “I am the only candidate in this race who...” Candidates were allowed to expand on their answers.

Elugardo said that she is the only candidate who “puts the leadership of others before my own leadership.”

Culpepper said he’s the only one “who has 27 years of housing experience, fighting for housing justice, putting folks in housing.”

Wilkerson said she’s the only one “who has actually been an effective state Senator for the 2nd Suffolk district.”

Miranda said she’s the only one who “has a lived experience, the progressive track record for legislative victories, and has the grassroots acumen.”

The full video recording of this forum can be found on the JP Progressives YouTube channel.

INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING IN THE JAMAICA PLAIN GAZETTE?

Give Us a Call!! 617-524-2626

Jamaica Plain's weekly COVID positive test-rate drops slightly

Neighborhood rate still close to 10 percent

By JOHN LYNDS

Jamaica Plain's weekly COVID positive test rate decreased slightly last week but remains close to 10 percent. In response to the latest COVID surge Boston health officials are urging residents to keep up with COVID-19 best practices that have proven highly effective at lowering the spread of virus and reducing hospitalizations and death.

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) reported that COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations continue a weeks-long surge due to the new, more contagious variant.

Last week, 1,740 Jamaica Plain residents were tested for the virus last week and 9.7 percent were positive--this was a 16 percent decrease from the 11.6 percent that tested positive as reported by the BPHC on May 16.

In all, 169 additional Jamaica Plain residents contracted the virus between May 16 and May 23 and there are now 8,742 confirmed cases in the neighborhood since the start of the pandemic.

Boston's citywide weekly positive test rate also increased last week and is now close to 12 percent.

According to the BPHC 19,958 residents were tested citywide last week and 11.6 percent were COVID positive--this was a 7 percent increase from the 10.8 percent that reportedly tested

positive for the week ending on May 16.

According to the latest data, Boston is averaging 61 new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 residents per day and community positivity is now above 11 percent. Increased COVID-19 transmission throughout Boston has made it critical for residents to keep up with effective prevention and mitigation strategies, especially testing.

"We have noted a significant increase in both COVID-19 cases and in hospitalizations," said Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the BPHC Dr. Bisola Ojikutu. "COVID-19 testing remains a critical tool to decrease the risk of transmission to others, particularly those who are older, immunocompromised, and un-

vaccinated. They remain at high risk for severe illness. We need to decrease onward transmission to others. Please test prior to gatherings, wear a well-fitted mask in indoor settings, including public transportation, and stay home if you are sick."

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 1.1 percent last week and went from 184,415 to 186,446 confirmed cases since the start of the pandemic.

There were four additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total

number of COVID deaths is now at 1,466.

The Boston Public Health Commission strongly recommends residents:

- Wear high-quality, well-fitting masks indoors and on public transportation;
- Stay up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters;
- Stay home if you feel sick;
- Ensure proper indoor ventilation by opening windows when possible;
- Gather outdoors as the weather warms, instead of indoors;
- Test for COVID-19; and
- Contact your health care provider about anti-viral treatment if diagnosed with COVID-19.

Wu provides updates on city efforts to address unsheltered homelessness and substance use crises

STAFF REPORT

Mayor Michelle Wu on May 24 provided updates on the City of Boston's next steps to address the intersection of unsheltered homelessness and substance use crises, centered in the area surrounding Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard. The City of Boston has developed a comprehensive Warm Weather Plan to address immediate public safety and public health needs during the spring and summer months.

Additionally, Mayor Wu shared the long-term strategic direction that the City of Boston is advancing to improve systems of care for unsheltered individuals impacted by substance use disorder. This strategic outlook outlines initiatives to decentralize services and strengthen the continuum of care, in part through shelter redesign. Through these initiatives, Mayor Wu seeks to reimagine how

the City and regional partners assist individuals, services, and community, leading with a public health approach and supported by public safety.

Mayor Wu made this announcement at Boston City Hall with Dr. Monica Bharel; Superintendent of Street Operations Mike Brohel, Department of Public Works; Commissioner John Dempsey, Boston Fire Department; Chief Sheila Dillon, Mayor's Office of Housing; Chief James Hooley, Boston Emergency Medical Services; Lt. Peter Messina, Boston Police Department Street Outreach Unit; and Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission.

"As the weather warms, we are taking concrete steps to ensure safety and health. Boston is creating a continuum of care for individuals experiencing homelessness and substance use disorder with pathways from living on the streets to permanent housing," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm grateful to all of our partners in public health and public safety working collaboratively to lower barriers and increase access to services while ensuring safe and healthy streets."

Between November and January, Mayor Wu charged the City to conduct a public health-led emergency response to transition individuals living in the

encampment in the Mass and Cass area to low-threshold transitional housing and shelter sites. This effort included working with partners to create and staff six low-threshold housing and shelter sites for over 145 individuals leading up to January 12, 2022, after which no encampments were allowed in the City. This effort transitioned individuals from the street to supportive, transitional housing. Guests at these sites are connected to behavioral health and medical care, as well as housing navigation. The Warm Weather Plan and longer term Strategic Outlook continue this work to support unsheltered residents.

WARM WEATHER PLAN

The Mass/Cass neighborhood offers many critical services to individuals facing homelessness, addiction, and mental health challenges. During warmer months, more individuals spend time outside in the area, increasing needs related to public health, public safety, and quality of life. To meet the increased need, Boston's Coordinated Response Team developed the Warm Weather Plan to enhance the City's multi-departmental, collaborative strategies for supporting both individuals accessing services and the surrounding community through safe and healthy streets. The main goals of the plan are to

improve public safety; enhance health and cleanliness; reduce overcrowding; and prevent encampments from forming. This will be achieved through 11 steps:

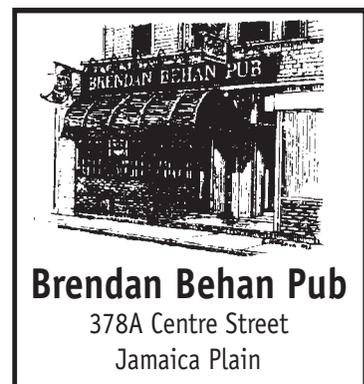
- Promote public safety through the Boston Police Department and Boston Public Health Commission Public Safety
- Increase presence of joint public health and public safety outreach teams
- Prevent encampments
- Increase street cleaning
- Promote safe environment for accessing services at Engagement Center
- Increase parking enforcement

- Make the neighborhood more beautiful and more walkable
- Increase outreach
- Open new day centers outside of the neighborhood
- Provide transportation and referrals to day centers outside of the neighborhood
- Strengthen supportive services at low-threshold shelter and housing sites

More details about the Warm Weather Plan can be found at www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/file/2022/05/Final%20Warm%20weather%20plan_0.pdf.

Strategic direction for longer term response
Additionally, Mayor Wu

Continued on page 12



Get Ready for Summer Driving

Come in for inspection of items that GREATLY AFFECT your gas mileage—

Maximize your gas mileage

475 Centre St
Jamaica Plain
on the 39 bus and convenient to the Orange line.

Morrison's Auto-Rite

617-522-4444
Morrison'sAutoRite.com
Outstanding service since 1969

Call for an appointment

MAYOR WU HOLDS COFFEE HOUR IN MOZART PARK

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
OBINNA "OBY" OJIMBA

Mayor Michelle Wu's Jamaica Plain Coffee Hour was held on May 12 at Mozart Park, where many neighbors and community supporters turned out to mingle with one another and enjoy fresh fruit from Star Market and coffee from Dunkin'. Residents were also invited to speak with representatives from several city departments, and take home a plant from the Parks Department.



Attendees were invited to contribute to the neighborhood painting at the coffee hour.



Richard Heath, Carolyn Royce, and Mia Anderson.



Mary Ann Nelson, candidate for 15th Suffolk State Rep, Sam Montaño, candidate for 15th Suffolk State Rep., Suffolk County Sheriff Steve Tompkins, Mayor Michelle Wu, and District 6 City Councilor Kendra Lara.

WILLIAM RAVEIS



GABRIELLE BARON

C: 617.447.5350

O: 617.266.5200

Gabby.Baron@raveis.com



*Trusted Neighbor
Real Estate Expert*

YOGA + WELLNESS
4 CORNERS
DORCHESTER

336 WASHINGTON ST DORCHESTER
4CORNERSYOGAWELLNESS.COM

OUR VISION IS TO PROVIDE A TOTAL HOLISTIC WELLNESS SOLUTION FOR THE COMMUNITY. WE OFFER YOGA, REFLEXOLOGY, REIKI, MEDIATION AND MESSAGES.



WE ARE AN INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT WHERE ALL BODY TYPES, FITNESS LEVELS, AND WELLNESS GOALS ARE UNITED. THE FIT4LIFE MOVEMENT IS A FAMILY MADE UP OF PEOPLE WHO UNDERSTAND THAT WELLNESS IS MUCH BIGGER THAN JUST EXERCISE, RATHER IT'S A WHOLE-BODY WELLNESS MOVEMENT!



4006 WASHINGTON ST, ROSLINDALE
WWW.FIT4LIFEMOVEMENT.COM



District 6 City Councilor Kendra Lara.

MAYOR WU HOLDS COFFEE HOUR IN MOZART PARK



Mayor Michelle Wu and Gerry Wright dressed as Frederick Law Olmsted.

Shown to the right, a slew of neighbors and community supporters came out to Mayor Michelle Wu's Jamaica Plain coffee hour on May 13 at Mozart Park.



Giovanny Valenica of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation and Tiffani Caballero of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services.



Enrique Pepen, Tiffani Caballero, Lindsey Santana, and Jullianne Doherty.

MOUNT PLEASANT HOME

Since 1901

Quality, Affordable Residential Care for Seniors 62+



NO entrance fee
income or asset
restrictions!

- Private bedrooms with full bath
- 24-hour personal care assistance
- Medication administration
- 3 Home-style meals daily
- Laundry and housekeeping services
- Leisure and wellness activities
- Lovely common areas
- 100% accessible

301 South Huntington Avenue, Jamaica Plain
www.MountPleasantHome.org
 617-522-7600





Want to do something really concrete to close the racial wealth divide?

Help us build the Center for Equity and Prosperity.

jpndc.org/capital-campaign/

and... save the date!

September 15, 2022 6-8 PM

#JPNDC45



Homelessness

Continued from page 9

shared updates on longer term approaches to decentralizing and improving homelessness and substance use services by establishing low-threshold housing and shelter and treatment services in other parts of the city.

Enhance outreach

The plan outlines strategies to expand public health outreach to be proactive, to run 24/7, and to serve the city equitably. Through both city and community-led teams, the goal is to maintain encampment response supported by intentional engagement. This will connect unsheltered individuals to available housing and recovery services, and maintain clean and safe streets.

Service navigation

Service navigation works to make available resources more accessible, including at shelters and day-time spaces. The City will expand access to on-site triage services for unsheltered individuals by opening more drop-in hours at locations throughout Boston to connect them with recovery and treatment resources. The City will also expand low-threshold daytime spaces throughout Boston and maintain an updated online map of resources across Boston.

Shelter redesign and low-threshold housing options

Shelter redesign and low-threshold housing options lower barriers for people who have traditionally been unable to access housing and shelter options. The City will work with the State

to maintain the six low-threshold housing sites that were established in January, while working to create permanent locations. Additionally, the City is working to redesign shelter space. This will make these spaces more supportive through upgrading the physical space, lowering barriers to entry, and enhancing on-site recovery and behavioral health services. Shelter redesign will allow more people experiencing homelessness to access recovery and treatment services in shelter settings.

Permanent housing

Unsheltered individuals impacted by substance use disorder often also face acute medical and mental health challenges. The City will work to develop new permanent supportive housing dedicated to individuals with histories of homelessness and substance use disorder. Addi-

tionally, the City will work with service, state, and municipal partners to increase the model of wraparound services and housing supports. There are 800 units of permanent supportive housing in the City's pipeline, 300 of which are in construction. The City will continue to identify more opportunities for permanent supportive housing.

Recovery services

Recovery services are important for the continuum of care for individuals in recovery. The City will continue the wrap-around support on the street including the BPHC Recovery Services street team, nurses, mental health clinicians, and recovery professionals. Additionally, the City is partnering with businesses to create low-threshold job opportunities to help unsheltered individuals impacted by

substance use disorder earn income and increase job readiness. Finally, the City aims to create job and life skills training for newly housed individuals.

Behavioral health workforce

The City of Boston recognizes the need for supporting and growing a diverse behavioral health workforce to expand access to care. The City aims to train shelter, recovery, and housing workforce in harm reduction to improve care quality and health outcomes for individuals with substance use disorder. This initiative would equip providers across the City with the tools and skills to better serve individuals navigating addiction.

More details on the City's response can be found at boston.gov/departments/recovery-services/mass-and-cass-showing-whats-possible.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

REAL ESTATE



Karen McCormack & Paula Callaghan



loveliveboston@gmail.com

#617-306-7804
#857-205-6945

Realtors with Experience
Love Where You Live

REAL ESTATE



34 South St | Jamaica Plain
617.453.3620 • focusre.com

REAL ESTATE



Colleen Scanlan



Professional Real Estate Guidance.
Specializing in residential sales.
Estate Sales. Downsizing.

“Call Colleen”
617-529-5012
jamaicaplain@gmail.com

McCormack & Scanlan Real Estate
68 South Street JP

REAL ESTATE RENTALS & SALES

FAYE SIMON
REAL ESTATE
Rentals & Sales



Faye R. Simon
Real Estate Broker

Tel: 617-524-0243
Cell: 617-438-1472
FayeSimonRealEstate.com
frmcSimon@hotmail.com

Your Personal Real Estate Professional

REAL ESTATE



Building
community
together.

ELLEN+JANIS
REAL ESTATE TEAM

617.971.8940
ellenandjanisteam@compass.com
ellenandjanisteam.com

ELLEN + JANIS REAL ESTATE TEAM IS A REAL ESTATE BROKER AFFILIATED WITH COMPASS, A LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKER AND ABIDES BY EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY LAWS.

REAL ESTATE

Working for YOUR best results.

Joe has 20 years of proven experience helping buyers and sellers. Let his experience work for you.



Joe Fallon

617-594-0761

joe.fallon@commonmoves.com

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices | Commonwealth Real Estate

REAL ESTATE

Jamaica Hill Realty

726 Centre Street
Jamaica Plain

Maureen McElroy
Broker Owner

cell: 617.407.3638
fax: 617.524.0390
email: mcelroy55@rcn.com

jamaicahillrealty.com



ACUPUNCTURE



Give someone the gift of Vibrant Health, Harmony & Peace of Mind
Gift Certificates Available



Rana Hamdan
Licensed Acupuncturist
929.326.1957

Acupuncture helps with Pain, Stress, Anxiety, Digestion Issues, Migraine, Insomnia, or just overall wellness!

hello@res-acu.com
resonance-acupuncture.com

YOUR BUSINESS HERE

HOME SERVICE GUIDE

PAINTING & CARPENTRY

617-852-7409 JP resident

LANDSCAPE DESIGN & INSTALLATION

Rich Gargiulo
617-821-4701
earthenstoneworks@gmail.com
www.earthenstone.works

Creating Unique Landscape Solutions

LANDSCAPING

JP resident offering lawn, garden, and odd job services.
20+ years of experience.
Call Ben at 508-789-6857 to assess your needs.

WOODWORKING CLASSES

Woodworking class
No experience needed

Michael Keohane mickkeohane@gmail.com
617 909 4050

ASBESTOS AND MOLD

Asbestos & Mold issues?

Call & For removal of Asbestos and Mold Office: 781.817.6146 erieenviro@gmail.com

For a Licensed Inspector Neal's #: 617.970.2572

Partners with over 25 years of experience!

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

MSS ELECTRICAL
LICENSED, INSURED IN COMM OF MASS

Serving Jamaica Plain and Surrounding Communities

DARK SKY INITIATIVE AND CPTED PRACTITIONER WITH A GREENER APPROACH TO THE ENVIRONMENT

781-727-3694

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

SULA VALLEY

Additions kitchens bathrooms
New construction - General remodeling

617-981-9456

60 Amory St, Boston, MA 02119 info@sulavalley.com
Res. Comm. Insured Licenses: HIC 185545 CS-113672

ROOF REPAIR

ROOF REPAIRS
Gutters ▲ Roofing ▲ Skylights

Alexander Doyle
617-522-6116
All Work Guaranteed
Fully Insured
Free Estimates

GSL 99361 - HIC 127365
alexanderdoyleconstruction.com

ROOF REPAIR

ROOF LEAKING?

- Emergency Leak Repair 24/7 • Ice & Snow Removal
- Asphalt Shingles • Rubber Roof Systems
- Flat Roof of all kinds
- Gutters - Downspouts • Chimney - Dormers - Skylights

Senior & Vets **20% Discount** (617) 888-8058 Family owned & operated. 28 years in business
Licenced Free Estimates Insured

Finely Detailed Interior & Exterior Painting

Female owned & operated. 20+ years experience. Honest & affordable. No job too big. Free estimates. NO RIP-OFFS!
Ask about our **LOWEST PRICE GUARANTEE.**
Cynthia "Kare" Shephard
617-930-0582(cell) • karespainting@aol.com

PLUMBING

Karem Plumbing
Plumbing, heating & gas work

No job too small **(617) 361-6532** Free estimates
Member Better Business Bureau Licensed & Insured Mass lic # 9290

LANDSCAPING/LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION

VALENTIN LANDSCAPING & CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Call for Estimates

- Landscape maintenance
- Hydroseeding
- Seed • Sod
- Tree service
- Commercial & Residential
- Free estimates
- Fence installation
- Paving

617-590-2510
FULLY INSURED & BONDED

HANDYMAN

ACE HANDYMAN
Gutter cleaning, fences, sheetrock, roof leaks, brick pointing, carpet inst. & removal, masonry, carpentry, painting, & odd jobs.
Doors and Windows. Fast & reasonable.
Call Phil at 857-312-0543

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Thomas Murray Home Improvement
Carpentry • Painting • General Home Repairs
Remodeling (Interior & Exterior)
Licensed Contractor (lic #CS 088319) **(617) 549-6029** Free estimates

Advertise in the Guide 617-524-7662

JPNC Zoning Committee hears two matters

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) Zoning Committee met virtually on May 18, where two matters were heard: a proposal at 15 Meehan St. to increase the living space and add an extension in the rear for porches, and the return of a proposal at 26 Union Ave. to install a curb cut for a driveway for two cars to park.

15 MEEHAN ST.

The proposal at 15 Meehan St. had previously been heard by the Stonybrook Neighborhood Association (SNA), which voted to oppose the project.

Attorney Ryan Spitz and architect Andrea Brue presented the proposal to the Zoning Committee.

Brue spoke a little bit about the current state of the building before moving on to the proposal itself. Brue said that some of the windows are boarded up and the siding and chain link fence has been removed. Right now, what exists is the foundation, exterior walls, and the floor framing for the first and second floors. The house was used as a two family home.

The proposed project will

“maintain the footprint” of the existing building, she said, with two units consisting of two floors each.

Each unit will have its own entrance, and the existing basement floor will be underpinned by “about two feet” to increase the ceiling height for more living space. The basement level will feature a den, a gym/fitness room, and a laundry room, as well as space for mechanicals and a second bathroom. The second floor, which is still part of Unit 1, will feature two bedrooms, a living/dining space, a kitchen, and a bathroom.

The second floor, which is the beginning of Unit 2, will feature a den, living/dining space, a kitchen, and a bathroom, and the third floor, which is currently the attic, will feature three bedrooms, laundry, and two bathrooms. The attic level will be expanded with gables, Brue said.

Unit 1 will have a rear deck, and Unit 2 will have a private roof deck with access down a spiral staircase. It will be set back from the roof edge and be accessed via a hatch.

The SNA had several concerns about this proposal when it came before the organization, including the current state of the

building, as well as the fact that the property had been on the market. Some residents felt that the developer was not committed to doing the work if he was planning on selling it. Others had safety concerns about the building and there were issues with the extra proposed height.

Spitz said that “the proponent stands by” the design choices he has made for the proposal. “He stands by the quality of his work,” he said. He said that while height isn’t a zoning violation, there were shadow studies conducted on how the project would affect light on the building at 13 Meehan St.

“I’m marginally disappointed that this building has been an eyesore for such a long time,” said Omer Hecht, a committee member and abutter. “On the other hand, I also don’t really understand any of the objections. I think that the design is good. I’d like to see it actually get done.”

Hecht asked if the building would be all electric, which the proponent said is something that an engineer will look into.

To address the issue of the building being up for sale, Spitz said that “the property did go on the market,” as the owner has been “financially drawn on this property.” Spitz said that the owner, Pierre Joas, “has since removed it from the site to show he is committed.”

Resident Patty Yehle, who opposed this project at the SNA meeting, said “my experience with Mr. Joas is that he has not been accountable to the property,” she said, and neighbors “consistently had to complain,” and “311 had to come and take care of the property.”

Jennifer Uhrhane, also a member of the SNA, said that “I would hope that the JPNC Zoning Committee would support the neighborhood association” in opposing this proposal. She said that the project proposes “almost double” the existing allowable Floor Area Ratio (FAR). She also spoke about the concerns neighbors had about the shadows, and there is also concern that the rooms in the basement would be turned into extra bedrooms.

Uhrhane also pointed out that an abutters meeting was held by the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services, at which

issues were brought up “and not addressed,” she said. “The only change he’s made to the building has been to add that little cornice.”

After some more discussion and back-and-forth, the committee ultimately voted to approve the proposal with the provisos that the owner paint and fix and damage and that the owner “obtain sufficient insurance” and all that entails to protect the neighbors in the case of damage during construction, and weekly security visits by the proponent. Four committee members were against the motion.

26 UNION AVE.

Fred Vetterlein, owner of 26 Union Ave., had previously come before the committee with his proposal to create a curb cut so two vehicles could park in a driveway alongside his home.

Behind Vetterlein’s house sits 28 Union St., which is another single family home. There were some concerns about safety and egress at the April meeting, when this proposal was first heard. A proposal at that meeting to approve with a proviso to keep the driveway clear of obstructions other than the cars failed, and the group chose not to take action on the matter at that meeting.

At the May 18 meeting, Vetterlein explained how the egress currently works with the abutting properties.

He said that behind 26 Union is a private patio, and 28 Union also has a private patio, as well as a “separate gate going into the neighboring yard,” which “gives them complete egress out the back of the property.” He said.

“When you come out of 28, you can either exit all the way out to Union Ave...or you can go out through this private patio behind 26,” Vetterlein said. Alternatively, the gate to the neighbors can be used, or “you can go out the front.”

Vetterlein said that there are several options to exit the property even with the proposed cars in the driveway, which will have a three foot width for people to get by.

Committee member Marie Turley had a number of concerns regarding egress and safety at the last hearing, and Vetterlein

said that in response to those, he went to the city’s Public Improvement Commission to resubmit a new map, which they said was “not necessary,” he said. “Their concern is the width and the condition of the curb and whether it’s possible to have a curb cut,” he said.

He said he has a petition with 31 signatures in support of this proposal, but he has not made any changes to the proposal since the last time it was presented.

He said that he “hopes” that the new map he showed at the meeting “clearly shows you the egress methods for people,” and “also the layout of the cars within the parking spaces.”

Committee member Bernie Doherty expressed his concerns with the proposal, saying he does not believe there will be enough room to exit with the cars in the driveway. “You have to be right up against that fence in order to have that 36 inch distance there,” he said. “I just don’t understand it. I don’t approve of it; I think it’s unsafe, regardless of what somebody else might say.”

Vetterlein said that a “number of houses on Union St. have 10 foot wide driveways,” and many of them have off-street parking.

“I appreciate the concern about safety,” said committee member Jerry O’Connor. He said, looking at a Google Map of the property, that “there would be no way a fire truck could actually go down that driveway, regardless of whether there’s a curb cut there or not.” He added that “I don’t think it’s a super great idea,” but he thinks Vetterlein should be able to have off-street parking if that’s what he wants.

Alex Guriev, one of Vetterlein’s abutters, said he does not see any safety concerns with this proposal, and someone else mentioned that the creation of a curb cut would remove an on-street parking space on Union Ave.

The committee first voted on a motion to approve, which failed, and then a motion to deny, which also received an equal number of votes for and against, so that failed too.

The committee once again chose to take no action on the matter, and Vetterlein can choose whether or not he will come back again.



FOR YOUR HEALTH MIND & BODY

FITNESS TRAINING

**PRIVATE 25 & 40-MINUTE FITNESS SESSIONS
FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES NO CONTRACTS**

WIKIDFIT PERSONAL TRAINING

2 Porter St, JP Info@WikidFit.com 617-620-8155

MASSAGE

Imani ~ a relaxation place
Christine Rose, LMT

Trained in Lymphatic Drainage, Deep Tissue/Sports and Swedish Massage

3464 Washington Street JP.

www.imanimassage.com • 617.821.2875!

Mayor Wu announces city initiatives for a safe, healthy summer

STAFF REPORT

Mayor Michelle Wu on May 25 announced the City of Boston's comprehensive plan for a safe and healthy summer for all Boston residents, communities, and neighborhoods. Mayor Wu announced several violence prevention and intervention initiatives, including the Community Ambassadors Program, "Adopt a Block" initiative, Operation Homefront, and new employment and job training opportunities. These programs fill critical gaps in service delivery, build new possibilities for Boston, and ensure the City fully supports our communities most directly impacted by violence with the safety, trust, and accessibility that residents deserve.

This new, intensive approach addresses public safety through a lens of public health, equity, economic opportunity, and community trust. The initiatives announced today will also organize the wide variety of preexisting programs from the Mayor's Office, Boston Public Schools (BPS), the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), the Human Services Cabinet, and the Boston Police Department (BPD) into a coordinated network of services to support Boston residents this summer.

"Too many people in our communities live with the fear and threat of violence. As a mom to two boys, as a neighbor, and as someone that cherishes the friends, family, and neighborhoods we have in Boston, I will move with urgency to make sure our communities are safe," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "We have been reimagining public safety through the lens of health, equity, and community trust. We are taking a wraparound approach to create new violence intervention and prevention initiatives and expand and improve existing programs."

In an effort to better connect with residents and strengthen violence intervention efforts in Boston's neighborhoods, the Mayor's Office is launching a Community Ambassadors Program, a new initiative that will work to engage, inform, and support residents who are most vulnerable to gun and gang violence. This program will expand City services in supporting residents' transition from high risk activ-

ity to resourced and engaged community work that improves neighborhood conditions.

The ambassadors, residents of Boston neighborhoods with close community ties and a shared commitment to anti-violence programming, will work in two-person teams (with a total of ten teams) through the summer months and into the first quarter of the school year, a pivotal time for reaching residents most impacted by violence. Teams will each be assigned to historically underserved and under-resourced areas and neighborhoods throughout Boston to ensure our most vulnerable residents are connected to the resources they need and deserve. The Community Ambassadors will report directly to Rufus Faulk, the Mayor's Senior Policy Advisor for Public Safety, and partner with the Boston Housing Authority, Boston Public Health Commission, and the Human Services Cabinet. This program will further drive the City's work to create more pathways and support systems for residents, currently seen with BCYP's SOAR Boston program and BPHC Neighborhood Trauma Team Network (NTT) outreach and crisis on-site response work.

"The Community Ambassadors Program will lean on the social capital, knowledge, and experience of our local community leaders to better connect our neighborhoods and families who have been disproportionately impacted by community violence with City services and resources," said Dr. Rufus Faulk, Senior Advisor for Public Safety. "This program will drive more place based initiatives and intentional engagement with underserved individuals, families and communities. These Community Ambassadors will have the lived experience to serve as tangible examples of success to our neighborhoods and community leaders in our pursuit of a more equitable Boston for all."

Through vetted referral groups in their assigned area or neighborhood, ambassadors will engage key populations identified as disproportionately impacted by violence. Ambassadors will connect these populations with resources and services that fit their unique needs. Those populations have been identified as follows:

- Individuals and families within the BHA footprint and communities who have been disproportionately impacted by gun violence (for example, Humboldt Ave corridor).

- Juvenile/young adult populations within BPS, DYS, and the Suffolk County DA's Office department of juvenile diversion under the age of 21.

- Gang members who are driving violence between the ages of 21-24.

- Individuals aged 25+ looking to transition fully from active gang involvement.

Operation Homefront

In an intentional effort to address this issue within our school communities, Boston Public Schools is reinstating Operation Homefront, a nationally acclaimed collaboration with the Boston Police Department, that centers around community-building and family relationships in violence prevention and intervention. Following a referral, the Operation Homefront team – consisting of law enforcement officers, Boston Public Schools staff, service providers, and clergy members – will conduct home visits to inform parents or guardians about their child's behavior and provide resources. This effort is key to provide wraparound services to both students and families heading into summer months.

"The past two years have been incredibly challenging for our children, and they need all the support they can get, not just from Boston Public Schools but from the entire City of Boston," said Superintendent Brenda Cassellius. "When City partners, community advocates and local businesses come together to lift them up and expand their options, anything is possible. These youth jobs and programs not only offer students valuable work experience and adult mentoring that enhances their academic endeavors, they also help keep them safe, engaged and out of harm's way during the summer."

"Operation Homefront has been a tremendous tool for years for identifying and assisting at-risk students and getting them the services and supports they need," said Superintendent-in-Chief Greg Long. "The Boston Police Department is thrilled that Operation Home-

front is being reinstated and look forward to continuing our partnerships with clergy and the Boston Public Schools. Undoubtedly this will lead to more young people getting the interventions they need to divert them from delinquency, gang involvement or criminal behavior."

Adopt a Block

Building on the Mayor's commitment to address the root causes of violence, the City is also revamping the "Adopt A Block" Initiative, a partnership between the City of Boston and various faith communities to serve residents and families in neighborhoods that have histor-

ically experienced an increase in violence during the summer months. Starting on June 1, this initiative will utilize a public health, wraparound approach to identify impacted families, effectively address quality of life needs, and better connect families with crucial city services and resources.

Recognizing the critical role that faith-based organizations play in delivering crucial programs and services, particularly to underserved Black and Brown communities, the "Adopt a Block" Initiative will support faith institutions' efforts to connect and

Continued on page 20

Forest Hills Station Improvements Project: Virtual Public Meeting Information

Please join us! Virtual Public Information Meeting

Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 6:00 PM

Topic: MBTA Forest Hills Accessibility Design Update Public Meeting

Please join us for an online public meeting to learn more about the Forest Hills Station Improvements Project. We're making improvements at Forest Hills Station that will improve accessibility, safety, and comfort for riders at Forest Hills Station. The updated station will meet the MBTA's accessibility, reliability, and modernization needs to lengthen the station's lifespan. At this meeting, we will present additional updates since the 30% design plans for the station.

The meeting will be held online, via Zoom. The project team will begin the meeting with a presentation at 6:00 PM, followed by time for Questions + Answers. Please pre-register for this meeting. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the meeting. The presentation will be posted on the website ahead of the meeting and a recording of the meeting will be posted for those who are unable to attend. You can also email questions to ForestHills@mbta.com. To pre-register for the meeting or to learn more about the Forest Hills Station Improvements Project, please visit <https://www.mbta.com/ForestHillsImprovements>

ACCOMMODATIONS:

The public meeting is accessible to people with disabilities and those with limited proficiency in English. Accessibility accommodations and language services will be provided free of charge, upon request, as available. Such services include documents in alternate formats, translated documents, closed captioning, and interpreters. Language interpretation will be provided as requested and available. Closed captioning in English will be provided. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation and/or language services, please email ForestHills@mbta.com

Para más información o para pedir arreglos razonables y/o servicios lingüísticos, por favor envíe un e-mail ForestHills@mbta.com

Pou plis enfòmasyon oswa pou mande yon aranjman rezonab ak/oswa sèvis lang, tanpri imèl ForestHills@mbta.com

如需进一步了解或要求合理的便利设备和/或语言服务, 请电邮 ForestHills@mbta.com

STONYBROOK NEIGHBORS CELEBRATE COMPLETION OF MURALS ON EXTRA SPACE STORAGE BUILDING

PHOTOS BY LAUREN BENNETT



Members of the Stonybrook Neighborhood Association pose with elected officials and artists at the mural celebration on May 21.



Mural artist Sharif Muhammad speaks to a crowd with his mural, *Rainbow Swag*, in the background on the side of the Extra Space Storage building on McBride St.

Many neighbors, elected officials, and supporters came out to the Southwest Corridor Park on the Corner of Call and McBride Streets on May 21 to celebrate the completion of two murals by local artists Sharif Muhammad and Julia Cséko.

The murals are located on two sides of the Extra Space Storage building on McBride St., and are the culmination of a ten year community benefit process led by the Stonybrook Neighborhood Association (SNA) as part of the development of the storage building and the Vita condominiums on the former Flanagan & Seaton lot.

The event featured talks by the artists, remarks by the SNA mural committee, and music by local band the Spots, as well as food provided by JP Kitchen, Burritos Pizzeria, and Third Cliff Bakery. It was co-sponsored by Spontaneous Celebrations.

District 6 City Councilor Kendra Lara also provided remarks, as did Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley.



JP resident Caliga talks with Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley.



Sam Montaña, a candidate for State Rep. in the 15th Suffolk District, chats with Nika Elugardo, the current 15th Suffolk State Rep. and candidate for 2nd Suffolk Senate.



Mural artist Sharif Muhammad (left) autographs a puzzle for Tanya Nixon-Silberg (right).

24/7 Emergency Vet Care | Weekend Appointments | Free On-site Parking

We're not kitten you!

Quality vet care is right in your neighborhood.

Angell Animal Medical Center's compassionate team provides state-of-the-art care for your best friend. From wellness checkups to allergies, from cancer treatment to neurosurgery, our specialists work together to provide services tailored to your pet's individual needs.

- 24/7 Emergency & Critical Care
- Anesthesiology
- Avian & Exotic Medicine
- Behavior
- Cardiology
- Dentistry
- Dermatology
- Diagnostic Imaging
- General Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Neurology
- Oncology
- Ophthalmology
- Pathology
- Physical Rehabilitation
- Surgery

angell
animal medical center

angell.org | 350 South Huntington Ave | Boston, MA | 617-522-7282

Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll

'GORDO' AND 'PELUA'

Gordo and Pelua are a 6 year old pair looking for a home together. They are friendly, affectionate pups. While they adore their humans and each other, they need a home without other pets. They also need to be walked separately if they are going to pass other dogs because Gordo thinks he needs to protect his sister. They would love a home where they can soak up all the love for themselves!

"Gazette Pet of the Week" is sponsored by
Sarah Carroll, REALTOR®
The Residential Group at William Raveis Real Estate
16 Clarendon St., Boston MA 02116
781-820-0280 or sarah@residentialgroup.com

BUDDY DOG HUMANE SOCIETY, INC.
www.buddydoghs.org

WILLIAM RAVEIS | THE RESIDENTIAL GROUP

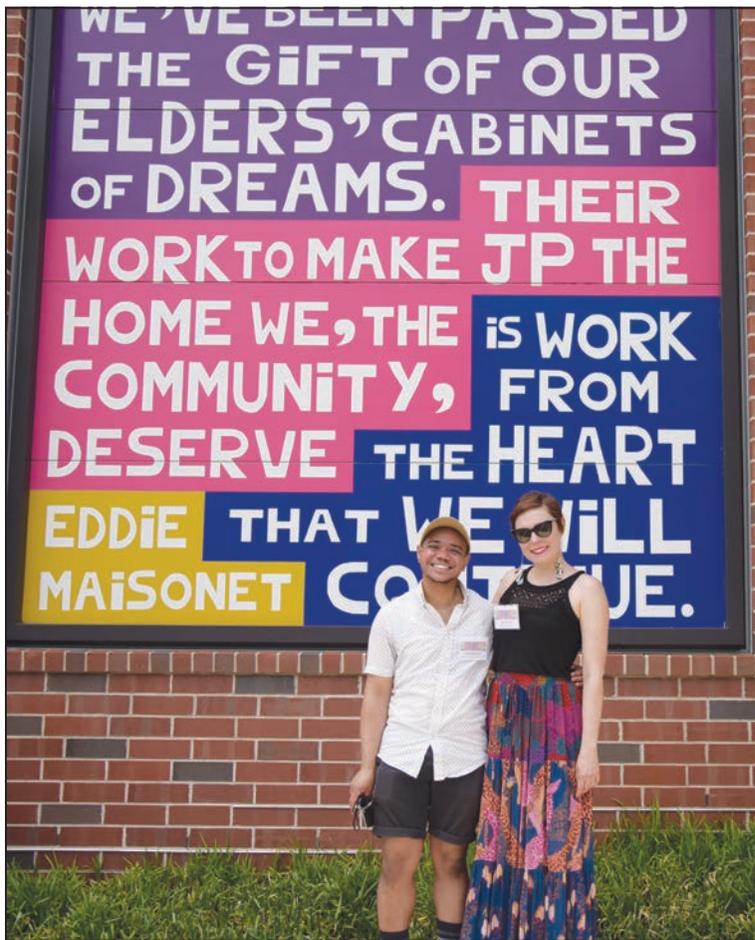
Please Recycle

STONYBROOK NEIGHBORS CELEBRATE COMPLETION OF MURALS ON EXTRA SPACE STORAGE BUILDING



A crowd gathered to listen to Sharif Muhammad speak about his mural, titled Rainbow Swag.

Mural artists Sharif Muhammad and Julia Csëko.



Artist, storyteller, and poet Eddie Maisonet with Julia Csëko in front of a third of Csëko's mural, which features words from Maisonet.



Terri Deletesky and Mark Duhaime of The Spots performed for the crowd.

STICK TO IT!

Share your message in our paper with a **STICKY NOTE**

OPEN HOUSE? STICK IT!

FUNDRAISER? STICK IT!

NEED-TO-KNOW INFO? STICK IT!

Keep your name in the eyes of our thousands of readers!



Sticky size: 3 in. x3 in.
Shown sized to scale above covers approx. 2 columns

Copy for a Sticky due 3 weeks prior to run date

Four Options to Choose From

7,000 COPIES 2-COLOR \$600	7,000 COPIES 4-COLOR \$700	12,000 COPIES 2-COLOR \$800
12,000 COPIES 4-COLOR \$900	4-COLOR STICKIES CAN BE A COMBINATION OF COLORS. 2-COLOR STICKIES CAN BE MADE WITH ANY 2 COLORS	

Call or Email Your Rep Today!

PATRICIA@JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM DEB@THEBOSTONSUN.COM
617-524-7662 781-485-0588

EDITORIAL

A Memorial Day truism: Freedom isn't free

For the first time in 20 years -- that's an entire generation -- America's military men and women are not fighting a war on foreign soil.

The withdrawal of our remaining troops from Afghanistan last August brought to an end a conflict that had long-outlasted its purpose, which initially was meant to destroy the al-Quaeda terrorist organization that was responsible for the 9/11 attacks, but which somehow morphed into a long-term, nation-building undertaking.

Although we technically are at peace, the world stage feels anything but peaceful. Totalitarian adversaries either are wreaking havoc (Russia in Ukraine) or threatening to do so (No. Korea and China).

If the lessons of the past and present teach us anything, it is that we cannot take our freedom for granted.

The same troops who are delivering baby formula today could be called upon to engage in a far different and more dangerous mission at any moment.

This realization made us think back to the roots of Memorial Day, originally known as Decoration Day, with the proclamation by Gen. Logan on May 5, 1868, in which he declared:

"The 30th day of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form or ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit. Let us, then, at the time appointed, gather around their sacred remains and garland the passionless mounds above them with choicest flowers of springtime; let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved from dishonor; let us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us as sacred charges upon the Nation's gratitude, the soldier's and sailor's widow and orphan."

That in turn got us to thinking of what rates as the greatest testament to the memory of those brave Americans who made the Supreme Sacrifice, the Gettysburg Address by President Abraham Lincoln, in order to preserve our democratic way of life:

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

"Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation, so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure.

"We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

"But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate, we can not consecrate, we can not hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

We hope our readers appreciate the eternal truths of Lincoln's sentiments, which are as relevant today as they have been since the founding of our nation.

We wish all of our readers a happy and safe Memorial Day weekend.

©DAVEGRANLUND.COM
POLITICAL-CARTOONS.COM



OP-ED

Why did Memorial Day change?

BY DR. GLENN MOLLETTE

Decoration Day was observed on May 30th from 1868 to 1970 to decorate the graves and honor those dying in military service for our country. In 1971 Congress officially made the last Monday in May Memorial Day.

On this day, Americans take time to pay respect and decorate the graves of our military service Americans who died to keep America free. Because of them we can travel the country, have picnics, go to ballgames and more.

For me, Memorial Day has changed. Memorial weekend was a big time of family gathering. I can still remember Mamaw and Grandpa, all nine of their children and the grandchildren gathering to eat, play, talk and laugh. But then Mamaw and Grandpa died and the reunions changed. One by one the siblings passed away. Today, all nine of them and their spouses are gone.

The grandchildren are now passing away. This is my generation. As I begin to think of their names it's a surprising number. All five of my dad's brothers and sister are gone. Throughout the years I've attended too many funerals. This includes my wife of 27 years and our little stillborn baby. Memorial Day has changed. So many people I celebrated the day with are gone. It would be impossible for me to visit all the graves of all these dear people. They are scattered out between Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia and other states.

When Memorial Day comes, I try my best to make the six-hour trip to decorate my deceased wife's grave. Carole, who I mar-

ried 17 years ago has deceased parents who are buried three hours away from where we live. It's never easy. There are flowers to buy. The drive is not easy and we have those who are alive we want to visit. It's makes us feel bad that we don't have hours to go and spend at the cemetery and respect those we loved.

Sadly, there are so many forgotten graves of loved ones and American soldiers. The older we get the number of deceased people we know can become more than the living we know.

Do the best you can. This is all any human being can ever do. There are graves you know you must attend to and others you will have to trust to other family members or friends.

While we are trying to cel-

brate Memorial Day the right way, please continue to celebrate the living people in your life. There is a story in the Bible where a friend of Jesus anointed him with expensive ointment while they were having dinner. It was her way of celebrating him and what he meant to her. Try to find ways to anoint people in your life who are meaningful to you. Buy them flowers now if you can afford them. I hate to say it but it's true – dead noses smell no roses.

I've always tried to buy flowers for those I love while they can enjoy them. It may not be flowers but maybe it could be a nice smile. A word of thanks or praise for a person in your life

Continued on page 19

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

Jamaica Plain GAZETTE

Circulation 16,400

Published 26 times a year in Jamaica Plain by Independent Newspaper Group

Patricia DeOliveira
Advertising Manager

Sandra Storey
Founder/Publisher Emerita 1990-2011

Lauren Bennett, Reporter
lauren@thebostonsun.com

©INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP

Stephen Quigley, *President* stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com
Debra DiGregorio, *Director of Marketing* ads@jamaicaplaingazette.com

The Jamaica Plain Gazette is delivered free to households and businesses in the neighborhood 26 times a year on Friday and Saturday. It is for sale in stores for 25¢. Subscriptions: \$75 for First Class Mail.

Independent Newspaper Group will not assume financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements. Questions or complaints regarding advertising must be sent in writing to the billing department within seven days of publication in order for adjustments to be made to the account. We reserve the right to use our discretion in accepting or rejecting advertising copy.

Telephone: (617) 524-2626 • Fax: (617) 524-3921
7 Harris Avenue, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

JamaicaPlainGazette.com

Op-Ed

Continued from page 18

would be meaningful. One way you might make Memorial Day meaningful is celebrating those people you have in your life today because, as we know, it won't last long.

Back in February, my brother-in-law Harold was very sick and I knew his time was limited. My wife and I agreed we needed to

go and visit with him. We had a good visit and a good talk. When I left him that day and we said goodbye to each other, I felt that it was truly goodbye at least for this life. He died just a couple of weeks later.

Memorial Day has changed for most of us. However, try to make a good memory or two with those people who are still alive in your life. What you remember about those who have gone on is what you enjoyed while they were living.

This Memorial Day weekend, be very safe and take time to enjoy the living.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

LEGAL NOTICES

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 CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME Docket No. SU21C0497CA

In the matter of: Zoe-Rose Lundberg Scott A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Zoe-Rose Lundberg Scott of Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Zoe-Rose Lundberg Ridley dePaz 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 06/02/2022. 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: May 12, 2022 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

5/27/22 JP

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION ON PETITION TO MODIFY BOND G.L. c. 190B, §3-604 Docket No. SU18P1643EA Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 IN the matter of: Mildred M. Pasek Date of Death: 08/08/2017

To all interested persons: A Petition has been filed by: Gregory P. White of Weymouth, MA requesting that the Court enter a Decree

and Order modifying the bond of the Personal Representative and for any other relief as requested in the Petition. 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 06/13/2022. 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 (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you. The estate is being administered 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 recipients 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. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: May 03, 2022 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

5/27/22 JP

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. SU20PO756EA Estate of: Frank Harzbecker Date of Death: 01/15/2016

To all interested persons: A Petition for S/A - Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/

or Appointment has been filed by Kimberly Baker of Randolph, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Kimberly Baker of Randolph, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With Personal 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 06/20/2022. 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 distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: May 13, 2022 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

5/27/22 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. SU22PO746GD Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 In the matter of: Brandon Michael Henry Of: Boston, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Paulette Henry of Jamaica Plain, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Brandon Michael Henry is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Paulette Henry 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 06/30/2022. 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: May 19, 2022 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate

5/27/22 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 ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING Docket No. SU22D0180DR Estifanos Yalez Baye Lopez vs. Selamawit Tamrat Mengistu

Upon motion of plaintiff(s) for an order directing the defendant(s), to appear, plead, or answer, in accordance with Mass.R.Civ.P./Mass.R.Dom. Rel.P. Rule 4, it appearing to the court that this is an action for Divorce 1B on February 17, 2022. Defendant(s)/Respondent(s) cannot be found within the Commonwealth and defendant(s)/respondent(s) present whereabouts are unknown. Personal service on defendant is therefore not practicable, and defendant(s)/respondent(s) has/have not voluntarily appeared in this action. It is Ordered that defendant is directed to appear, plead, answer, or otherwise move with respect to the complaint herein on or before June 16, 2022. If you fail to do so this Court will proceed to a hearing and adjudication of this matter. Date: May 3, 2022 Hon. Brian J. Dunn First Justice of Probate and Family Court

5/27/22 JP

OBITUARIES

Robert McDonnell

Of Jamaica Plain



Robert S. McDonnell of Jamaica Plain passed away on May 11.

The son of the late Walter F. and Johanna Franska (Krul) McDonnell, he was the loving father of Jack and his wife, Monica Tovar McDonnell, brother of the late John McDonnell of Falls Church, VA and is also survived by his grandchildren, Danny and Anna McDonnell.

Robert was a late US Navy

Vietnam Veteran. He had a huge involvement with the Corridor situation several years ago and with Earth Day celebrations. Robert was also a very good friend of Michael from the JP Historical Society.

A Family Gathering will take place on Sunday, June 5 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Mann Rodgers Funeral Home, 44 Perkins St, Jamaica Plain. Family and friends are invited. Interment is private.

For guestbook@mannandrodgers.com

CLASSIFIEDS

SERVICES

David at kNURD on Kall:com can help with PC computers, networks, audio/video/multimedia, phone solutions. \$Reasonable\$. House calls. 617-676-5676.

CLASSIFIED INFO:

Fax your ad to 617-524-3921 or mail it to Gazette Publications, Inc., PO. Box 301119, JP, MA 02130.

Or email it to

classifieds@JamaicaPlainGazette.com. For more info. call 617-524-2626, ext. 225.

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper.

Includes photo.No word Limit.

Please send to

obits@reverejournal.com

or call 781-485-0588

Summer Safety

Continued from page 15

support residents' safety and health. Additionally, the faith organizations will partner with the City to host summer community events, food distribution events, homelessness prevention services and neighborhood cleanups. This initiative will be piloted in Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan. The following faith leaders and institutions will serve as partnering point of contacts with the City for the immediate areas surrounding their institution and the aforementioned neighborhoods:

- Roxbury: Reverend Dr. Willie Bodrick, II; Twelfth Baptist Church (160 Warren St, Roxbury, MA 02119)
- Dorchester (especially Codman Square/Four Corners): Reverend John Marshall - Mt. Calvary Holy Assembly (297 Talbot Ave. Boston, MA 02124).
- Mattapan: Bishop Nicolas Homicil - Voice of the Gospel Tabernacle (47 Edgewater Drive, Mattapan, MA 02126)

This initiative aims to build trust between the city and residents, strengthen relationships between the City and critical faith organizations, provide opportunities for community engagement and improve delivery of City services to families most impacted by violence.

"As a faith leader in this city,

I believe that it is important to prioritize our youth and provide opportunities to ensure that we have a safe summer," said Rev. Dr. Willie Bodrick, II, Senior Pastor, Twelfth Baptist Church. "We must engage families and provide wrap-around services and programs to ensure that they have the resources needed as we work to curtail violence. Our youth are important and I look forward to partnering with the City of Boston and other organizations to meet our City's needs and keep our communities safe."

The BPHC offers many violence intervention and prevention programs, including the Safe and Successful Youth Initiative (SSYI). SSYI works with teens and young adults between the ages of 17 and 24 who have been impacted by community gun violence to connect them with mental health services, educational opportunities, and workforce programs. By providing more intensive support and services to those individuals more regularly impacted by or engaged in violence, this is a program designed to address entrenched issues at the root of violence. SSYI is an ongoing program that will continue throughout the summer.

Youth and Summer Job Programs

In addition to scaling up existing programs and launching new efforts to address the root causes of violence, Mayor Wu remains committed to creating

opportunities for young people to access and pursue meaningful support networks and longer term, valuable career pathways.

The Green Jobs Initiative, led by newly appointed director Davo Jefferson, provides exciting opportunities for younger people to not only gain access to meaningful work experience, but also help make Boston a more equitable and resilient City. Inspired by the PowerCorpsPHL model, the Green Jobs Initiative connects primarily unemployed or underemployed young people and returning citizens with careers in industries addressing pressing environmental challenges. Members go through tailored training phases that provide sector-specific on-the-job training. They will also be able to get relevant credentials in a field of their choosing. The "earn and learn" model ensures that members are set up to succeed in career pathways. The Green Jobs Initiative will be supported by the Mayor's historic \$1 million investment in green jobs in the FY2022 budget.

As part of Mayor Wu's commitment to expanding opportunities for youth, the City is now accepting applications and has expanded the 2022 Boston SuccessLink Summer Youth Jobs program to include 6,000 job op-

portunities, which is 1,000 more jobs than last year. Boston youth ages 14 to 18 (14-year-olds must turn 15 by September 1, 2022) can now apply for a summer job. Youth will have the opportunity to get connected to thousands of summer jobs that aim to promote skill building and networking through the City of Boston's Department of Youth Engagement and Employment's (DYEE) SuccessLink Employment Program. The Department will grant up to \$3.8 million to local nonprofits for summer 2022.

Boston Centers for Youth & Families provides many summer programs and activities for youth and teens including summer day programs, girls-only activities, teen employment, sports leagues and many aquatics offerings. BCYF also makes their space available to youth and families across Boston as the host site for special events and activities organized by partnering agencies. On July 5th, BCYF community centers will begin their extended summer hours. Additionally, the BCYF centers are available to extend hours as needed for special situations to ensure that City programming can effectively engage youth and families impacted by violence.

This announcement builds

on Mayor Wu's commitment to transforming the structures of public safety and health to build safe, healthy communities, including yesterday's announcement of the City's Warm Weather Plan to address the ongoing challenges centered at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard and the recent historic investment in the Office of Returning Citizens. Additionally, Mayor Wu has worked to expand programming and employment for all Boston residents, including recent expansions of Early College and Innovation Pathways programming and the Summer Youth Jobs program. In January, Mayor Wu also took steps to build up public safety infrastructure, fully staffing OPAT's Civilian Review Board and Internal Affairs Oversight Panel.



Weatherite Roofing & Remodeling Co.

Many Roof Repairs Under \$500
All Gutter Work

New Roofs: Shingle, Slate, Copper, Rubber

All Decks, Porches, Wood Rot

508-942-4200

WeatheriteRoofingMA@yahoo.com

FREE ESTIMATES | 30 Years Exp.

Extend your Business's reach with Online Advertising!

Clients and Customers are just a click away!

\$300⁰⁰ per month per site



AD SIZE

in pixels
W: 160px
H: 600px

please send in "png" format

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS

REVEREJOURNAL.COM • WINTHROPTRANSCRIPT.COM
LYNNJOURNAL.COM • EVERETTINDEPENDENT.COM
EASTIETIMES.COM • CHELSEA RECORD.COM
CHARLESTOWNBRIDGE.COM • BEACONHILLTIMES.COM
NORTHENDREGIONALREVIEW.COM • THEBOSTONSUN.COM
JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM • MISSIONHILLGAZETTE.COM

Combo Rates available!
Buy any 3 sites, get 4th FREE

Call 781-485-0588 to get started!

Plaster all cracked up?

Over time, plaster walls and ceilings can sag and crack. Repair the damage with Big Wally's Plaster Magic, available at Boston Building Resources.

Why repair rather than replace?

- > Less expensive
- > A homeowner can do it
- > No major disruption
- > Reduce or eliminate waste
- > Plaster will outlast wallboard



Visit us in person or online to find out more about Big Wally's Plaster Magic. **It's everything it's cracked up to be.**



Boston Building Resources

100 Terrace Street, Boston, 02120

(near Roxbury Community College)

Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30 ■ Saturday 9:30-3:00

617-442-2262

bostonbuildingresources.com

a member-owned co-op