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Community Servings' Dinners4Dads fundraiser in full swing

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Individuals can show their appreciation for a father figure in their life with Community Servings' Father's Day fundraiser, Dinners4Dads, which is back this year with two gourmet gift options.

JP-based non-profit Community Servings prepares nutritious, medically tailored meals to people living with chronic illness and delivers them statewide.

As part of the Dinners4Dads fundraiser this year, Community Servings is aiming to raise \$25,000, according to CEO David

Waters.

There are two choices for this year's gift, both in partnership with Eastern Standard Provisions. For \$65, the gift recipient will receive a small box of eight gourmet Liège Belgian waffles and four toppings: dark chocolate fudge sauce, peanut butter caramel sauce, strawberries and cream topper, and French toast sugar. This gift will provide two weeks of medically tailored meals.

For \$95, the recipient will receive a large box of 22 soft pret-

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JP is fourth highest for area shootings

BY LAURA PLUMMER

On Thursday, June 2, the Jamaica Plain Branch of the Boston Police Department hosted its monthly community relations meeting. The meeting is an opportunity for residents to ask questions of local law enforcement.

Sgt. Ryan Cunningham, the new Community Services Office supervisor for District E13, led the meeting. Attendees received year-to-date crime statistics compiled by the Boston Region-

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JP ocupa el cuarto lugar en cuanto a tiroteos

BY LAURA PLUMMER

El jueves 2 de junio, la sucursal de Jamaica Plain del Departamento de Policía de Boston organizó su reunión mensual de relaciones comunitarias. La reunión es una oportunidad para que los residentes hagan preguntas a la policía local.

Sgt. Ryan Cunningham, el nuevo supervisor de la Oficina de Servicios Comunitarios del Distrito E13, dirigió la reunión. Los asistentes recibieron estadísticas delictivas hasta la fecha compiladas por el Centro Regional de

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Shown above, A cake in the shape of the Three Squares Main Street logo, as well as cupcakes spelling out the three squares: Jackson, Hyde, and Canary, were offered to guests of the annual meeting at Top Mix Bar & Kitchen on Centre St.

Three Squares Main Street hosts annual meeting

PHOTOS AND STORY BY LAUREN BENNETT

Three Squares Main Street held its annual meeting on May 26 at Top Mix Bar & Kitchen on Centre St. Many residents and



The Business of the Year award was given to EISHaddai Market, accepted by Jennifer Ogbebor.

supporters came out to mingle, enjoy food and drinks, and to hear about the achievements of the organization and members of the community over the past year.

Remarks were provided by

Executive Director Warren Williams, as well as District 6 City Councilor Kendra Lara, State Rep. Nika Elugardo, and Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Op-

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Timmance McKinney's youth mentoring program back in full swing

BY LAUREN BENNETT

In 2016, JP native Timmance McKinney began a mentoring program for Boston youth who are interested in basketball. Aside from teaching basketball

and team building skills, the program aims to instill the significance of succeeding academically, as this was something McKinney himself learned was important.

As previously reported by the Gazette, McKinney's goal was to

attend a Division I school to play basketball, but his grades fell short of what they needed to be to attend. He wanted to ensure that other students did not end

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Wu announces events to highlight vision for car-free streets

STAFF REPORT

Mayor Michelle Wu announced three new Open Streets events including one in Jamaica Plain.

Shooting

Continued from page 1

al Intelligence Center. Part One crime is up 5 percent across the city but up 13 percent in Jamaica Plain.

Crimes that saw an uptick in Jamaica Plain compared to 2021 were homicide, rape, robbery, domestic assault, burglary, larceny from a vehicle and auto theft. The only crime that saw a decrease was non-domestic assault. The incidence of other larceny was unchanged.

One chart listed the specific incidents. On May 31 at 5:57 pm, there was a report of criminal harassment at 3064 Washington St. On June 1 at 12:29 pm, police arrested an individual for trespassing at the address. During the arrest, the person incurred additional charges of resisting arrest and assault and battery on a police officer.

There was also an armed carjacking on June 2 at 49 Robinwood Ave. The individual was

Plain welcoming neighbors into car-free streets for community, joy, and play. These half-day long events will stretch out over one to two miles of road, leaving am-

apprehended and charged with assault with a deadly weapon, armed robbery and armed carjacking.

Another graph showed the number of fatal and nonfatal shootings. The number of shootings in the city is down 11 percent, but it's up 100 percent in Jamaica Plain, with six shootings this year. Only Dorchester, Mattapan and Roxbury had more shootings.

District E13 officers announced that there will be street closures on June 10 from 9 am to 3 pm for the Mayor's Open Streets Day. Centre Street will be open only to pedestrians and cyclists from Columbus Avenue to South Street.

The police and community relations meeting is on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm on Zoom. The next meeting will be on July 7. All residents interested in community policing are encouraged to attend. Residents are also invited to contact the district with any concerns regarding public safety.

ple space for programming, including music, games, face-painting, business and community group tabling, fitness classes, bicycle repairs and more. The City is contracting with Shana Bryant Consulting, a Black- and woman-owned small business, to carry out Boston's Open Streets program. Mayor Wu today also announced Copley Connect, a pilot initiative that will study the future use of Dartmouth Street between Boylston Street and St. James Avenue for ten days in June. From Tuesday, June 7 to Friday, June 17, the block between Copley Square Park and the Boston Public Library will be closed to motor vehicle traffic and open to pedestrians.

Open Streets

The Open Streets events will take place in Jamaica Plain, Roxbury and Dorchester, and will last from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Jamaica Plain route is as follows:

- Sunday July 10: Centre Street - Lamartine to Soldier's Monument (Centre/South) 1.4 miles

"City streets and roadways represent a huge portion of public land, and we're eager to host these events opening up several major streets to community for summer fun," said Mayor Mi-

chelle Wu. "These events will showcase our neighborhoods and help reshape what's possible as we fuel our city's social and economic recovery."

"These open streets events are an exciting opportunity to welcome people back to our neighborhoods and support our small businesses," said Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. "We are fortunate to be able to work with Shana Bryant Consulting, a Black woman-owned business, to carry out these events as it is a reflection of Mayor Wu's commitment to fostering an inclusive economy and the equitable awarding of city contracts."

"Boston's streets belong to everyone," said Jascha Franklin-Hodge, Chief of Streets. "Opening our streets for play, active recreation and local shopping will reimagine these public spaces for a day, creating a unique, vibrant experience for residents across our neighborhoods."

"In order for our public infrastructure to be welcoming and accessible for all, we need opportunities for joy and creativity," said Kara Elliott-Ortega, Chief of Arts and Culture. "Bringing safe, outdoor community events that integrate community-building, fun, and art into public spaces will allow us to come together

and make the entire city more vibrant."

"As a community member and resident of Boston, I'm excited that my business, Shana Bryant Consulting, has been selected to work in partnership with the City of Boston and Mayor Wu to bring Open Streets Boston to life," said Shana Bryant. "My team, which has over 3 decades of experience planning events, along with working with and in the community, is excited to connect and partner with local organizations, businesses, and residents to make these events in Jamaica Plain, Roxbury, and Dorchester, fun, engaging, multi-cultural and cross-generational."

Programming will include activities unique to each neighborhood, offering a taste of culture through a variety of food trucks, big games, photo installations, exclusive performances and activations. Examples include a block party in collaboration with SEED in JP, a roller rink in Roxbury, and boxing on Dorchester Ave.

Copley Connect

Copley Connect will offer food trucks, programming from the Boston Public Library, performances, as well as various activities for youth and families.

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Tiroteo

Continued from page 1

Inteligencia de Boston. La tasa de criminalidad ha aumentado un 5 por ciento en toda la ciudad, pero un 13 por ciento en Jamaica Plain.

Los delitos que experimentaron un aumento en Jamaica Plain en comparación con 2021 fueron el homicidio, la violación, el atraco, la agresión doméstica, el robo, el hurto de un vehículo y el robo de automóviles. El único delito que experimentó una disminución fue la agresión no

doméstica. La incidencia de otros hurtos se mantuvo sin cambios.

Una hoja enumeró los incidentes específicos. El 31 de mayo a las 5:57 p. m., hubo un informe de acoso criminal en 3064 Washington St. El 1 de junio a las 12:29 p. m., la policía arrestó a una persona por entrar en el sitio

ilegalmente. Durante el arresto, la persona incurrió en cargos de resistencia al arresto y agresión a un oficial de policía.

También hubo un secuestro de vehículo el 2 de junio en 49 Robinwood Ave. El individuo fue detenido y acusado de asalto con un arma mortal, atraco armado

y robo de auto armado.

Otro gráfico mostró el número de tiroteos fatales y no fatales. El número de tiroteos en la ciudad ha bajado un 11 por ciento, pero ha subido un 100 por ciento en Jamaica Plain, con seis tiroteos este año. Sólo Dorchester, Mattapan y Roxbury tuvieron más tiroteos.

Los oficiales del Distrito E13 anunciaron que habrá cierres de calles el 10 de junio de 9 am a 3 pm para el Día de Calles Abiertas del Alcalde. Centre Street estará abierta sólo para peatones y ciclistas desde Columbus Avenue hasta South Street.

La reunión de relaciones comunitarias es el primer jueves de cada mes a las 6:30 p. m. en Zoom. La próxima reunión será el 7 de julio. Se anima a asistir a todos los residentes interesados en la vigilancia comunitaria. También se invita a los residentes a comunicarse con el distrito si tienen alguna inquietud sobre la seguridad pública.

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Car-free streets

Continued from page 2

Opening Dartmouth Street to pedestrians will unify and complement planned initiatives and investments into Copley Square Park and the Public Library's Plaza. The Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) committed \$200,000 to public realm and wayfinding planning in Copley Square.

"The BPDA is proud to support Copley Connect, where we will learn key information to create a more pedestrian-friendly Copley Square," said Arthur Jemison, Chief of Planning. "We are excited to study the impacts of connecting and expanding the public realm around two of our most cherished historic public assets, the Boston Public Library and Copley Square Park."

In addition to this pilot program, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of making improvements to Copley Square Park, which borders Dartmouth Street, protecting and enhancing existing trees, strengthening the connection between the Square and the Library, improving the existing fountain, providing lush green

space for enjoyment and habitat, and creating new opportunities for seating and gathering, as a way to reinvigorate the area as a community gathering space.

"Parks project managers are looking forward to hosting a table with members of the design team to share plans for improvements to Copley Square and answer questions that the public may have regarding the design," said Ryan Woods, Commissioner of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department. "Together with stakeholder agencies, neighbors, and park users, the plan will center the needs of present and future generations while preserving the Square's place as an iconic Boston landmark."

"I'm looking forward to learning from the traffic data that will accompany this experiment, and welcoming constituents, Bostonians, and tourists alike to this temporary additional pedestrian space in Copley Square," said Kenzie Bok, District 8 City Councilor.

There are a number of factors the City and BPDA will examine during the pilot initiative including the impact on the surrounding street network and the use of the open street space. This data will be tracked and analyzed over the course of the pilot to better inform future planning.

During these ten days, staff will be on hand to engage with the public about the pilot and how they think this space should be used moving forward. In addition to the community engagement throughout the duration of the pilot, the BPDA has scheduled a "Chat With a Planner" event in which community members can talk with neighborhood planners about the initiative.

This pilot initiative presents the opportunity to expand and unify the public realm in Copley Square, and ultimately better connect it to nearby open spaces and transit stations.

To learn more visit: boston.gov/copley-connect

Additionally, the Mayor announced that Open Newbury will be expanded this summer, with dates to be released shortly. In addition to Open Streets and Open Newbury, the Mayor affirmed her commitment to summer programming across downtown and Boston, kicked off by the Boston Blooms Block Party on April 13, welcoming people back to downtown. The City of Boston will continue to build on downtown and neighborhood-level programming, particularly focused on repurposing city streets for joy, play and active recreation.

our products make Father's Day even more special by supporting the health of dads in our community."

Since the beginning of the pandemic, Community Servings has more than doubled the number of people it serves, so fundraisers like these are critically important to ensuring people can continue receiving their meals, Waters said.

He said that "21 percent of Massachusetts households with

children are facing food insecurity," and "the need for our service continues to grow across Massachusetts and so the support we receive from Dinners4Dads and other gifts allows us to serve more and more people with confidence that we'll have the resources."

To purchase a Father's Day gift as part of the Dinners4Dads fundraiser, visit servings.org/fathersday/.

Dinners4Dads

Continued from page 1

zels in a variety of shapes, along with plain, white truffle, chili lime, and lemon rosemary salt. This gift provides three weeks of medically tailored meals.

Along with the treats, each recipient will receive a hand-designed Father's Day card by local artist Susy Pilgrim Waters. A personalized message can be printed inside the card.

"We were looking for something that would be appealing to many men, and we have a close partnership with Eastern Standard Provisions," Waters told the Sun, as the company was co-founded by Community Servings board member and restaurateur Garret Harker.

"They're both things designed to ship easily," Waters said of the waffles and the pretzels. "They're good for honoring dads anywhere in the country."

Harker said in a statement that "we are excited to once again partner with Community Servings on the Dinners4Dads fundraiser. It's heartwarming to see

Frederica Williams receives Dean Shinagel Award

STAFF REPORT

Frederica M. Williams, president and CEO of Whittier Street Health Center, a community health center with a mission to serve as a center of excellence that provides high-quality and accessible healthcare and social services that achieve health equity, social justice, and the economic well-being of a diverse patient population, has been named the recipient of the 2020 Dean Michael Shinagel Award for Service to Others from the Harvard Extension Alumni Association.

The award, presented on May 24 at the 41st Annual Harvard Extension Alumni Banquet, is named in honor of Michael Shinagel, the former dean of the Division of Continuing Education and University Extension at Harvard University and the longest serving dean in Harvard's history.

"I am deeply grateful to receive an award named in honor of Dean Shinagel who served as our dean during my years at the Extension School and who consistently demonstrated effective leadership and a deep com-



Frederica M. Williams, President and CEO of Whittier Street Health Center.

mitment to creating educational opportunities for others," said Williams, who received a graduate certificate at Harvard Extension before going on to earn an MBA from Anna Maria College.

In accepting the honor, Williams noted "being of service to others has been my highest purpose in life" and that the prestigious award "is an additional call to action to continue my commitment to expand, grow, share, and build on the values that I believe in."

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Thursday	Aug. 11	Lucky 13	6:00-8:00
Thursday	Aug. 25	TBD	6:00-8:00
Thursday	Sept. 8	Soul of Boston	6:00-8:00

Rain dates for each concert will be the following Wednesday after the scheduled date and same time.



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Margaret Noce, Julia Davidovitz, Carol Miranda, Sam Montano, and Olivia Bartolomei



Tomas Gonzalez, Chief of Staff of SEED, chats with Julia Davidowicz.



Three Squares Main Street Executive Director Warren Williams talks to Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion for the City of Boston.



Bevan and Rita Perrera.

Three Squares

Continued from page 1

portunity and Inclusion for the City of Boston, as well as Three Squares Main Street Board President Oliver Baez.

Several awards were given to outstanding people and organizations in the Three Squares area, including the Nubian Square Foundation for its assistance with financial matters, Carlton Buford of The Father’s Group at Mildred Hailey for Volunteer of the Year, and Jennifer Ogbebor of El Shaddai Market for Business of the Year.

Also honored was Sgt. John Doherty of District E-13, who served as Jamaica Plain’s Community Service Supervisor and has retired.

For more information about Three Squares Main Street, visit threesquaresmainstreet.org.



State Rep. Nika Elugardo chats with Carol Miranda of The Family Exchange in JP.

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Guests enjoyed trays of piping hot food from Top Mix Bar & Kitchen.



Sgt. Ryan Cunningham accepts an award on behalf of Sgt. John Doherty, who served as District E-13's Community Service Supervisor and has retired. Cunningham will be filling the role.



State Rep. Nika Elugardo provides remarks.



District 6 City Councilor Kendra Lara provides remarks.



Three Squares Main Street Board president Oliver Baez, Director and board member Fatiha Ainane, and Executive Director Warren Williams.



Eric Hall accepts an award on behalf of the Nubian Square Foundation, which was honored for its financial work with Three Squares over the last year.




The Volunteer of the Year Award was given to Carlton Buford of The Fathers's Group at the Mildred Hailey Apartments.

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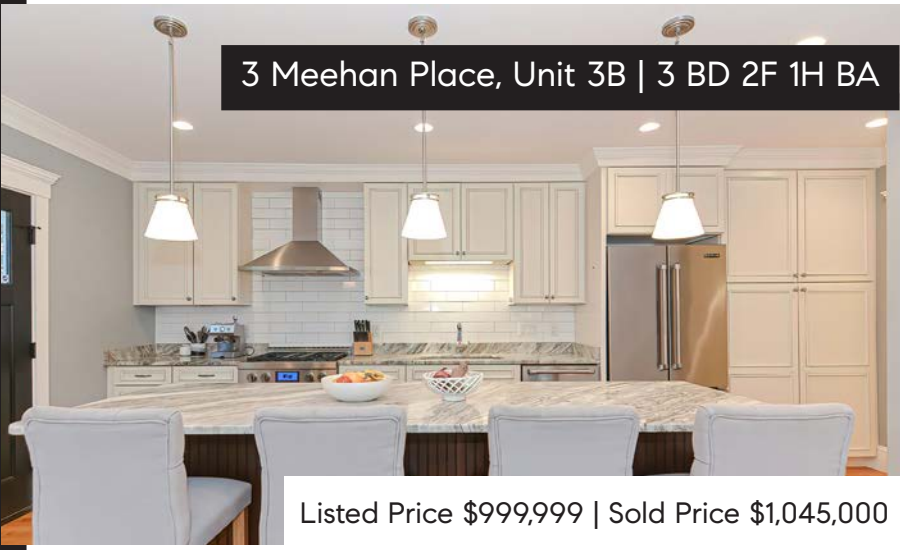
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Candidates for 15th Suffolk rep. answer range of questions

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Jamaica Plain Progressives (JPP), along with Mijente, Boston Asamble, NAACP Boston Branch, and Right to the City Vote! (RTC) held a virtual candidate forum for those running for the 15th Suffolk State Rep. seat on May 24.

Candidates include Richard Fierro, Roxanne Longoria, Sam Montañ, and Mary Ann Nelson. The primary election is set for September 6, and the general election will be on November 8. The seat is currently held by Rep. Nika Elugardo, who is running for the 2nd Suffolk Senate seat.

The forum was moderated by Vanessa Snow of Mijente and

RTC, as well as Cindy Lu and Melissa Beltran from JPP.

Because of redistricting, the boundaries of the 15th Suffolk have shifted, and will go into effect with this upcoming election.

Cindy Lu said that the district will now include Roxbury Crossing as well as “south to Egleston and along Columbus Ave. to Dimock Health Center.” The district also includes Hyde Square, portions of Mission Hill, the Forbes building, portions of the arboretum and Forest Hills, as well as “meets up against the Franklin Park border on Norton St.”

The district will no longer include Brookline or the Moss Hill neighborhood of Jamaica

Plain, she said. It is now a “majority BIPOC,” with 47 percent of residents identifying as white, 23 percent Hispanic, 18.8 percent Black, 13.1 percent Asian, 1.6 percent Native, and 0.3 percent Pacific Islander.

The four candidates were asked a range of long form questions ranging from leadership to affordable housing to racial equity. They were also asked a series of “lightning round” questions that required a simple yes or no response.

Candidates were asked to describe in three words their “leadership or governing philosophy or style,” as well as an example of how they have made an impact during their career so far.

Montañ said that they describe themselves as “collaborative, humorous, and empowering.” They currently work as the Director of Organizing at GreenRoots and oversee seven other organizers. “It’s a lot of work to communicate with several types of people,” but they said they pride themselves on “responding quickly” and adapting to people’s different styles as well as being able to “act quickly.”

Longoria said she believes she is “equitable, inclusive, and impactful.” She said she has done a great deal of work with youth and those experiencing homelessness, and said that working during the pandemic to get those folks a “cash transfer to support their basic needs” was something she was proud of. She said efforts like this help them “make their own decisions of what’s going to

help them in the moment. A lot of my platform is based on youth and young adults.”

Fierro said his three words are “transparency, humility, and humanity.” He said what’s important to him is to “make sure that we can have discussions, whether it’s in the legislature or in the community.” He said that “we all live our lives and we have feelings,” which is “something to be mindful of.”

Nelson said her words are “collaborative, empower, and problem solving.” She said “I like to work together with others to solve problems,” but she also hopes to “empower people” to be able to solve their own problems. She said that in Mission Hill, she “empowered other participants in the process” of opening the community garden he has been working with. “We can definitely work together to solve problems in the district,” she said.

Affordable housing is a top issue in Jamaica Plain, as well as in Boston and across the state. Candidates were asked about their priorities for the housing crisis “to prevent further displacement of residents” in the district.

“For me, housing is really a supply issue,” said Fierro. He said that there is a “lack of supply” along with a “disproportionately high demand for housing here in Boston.” He said he believes a solution is to “build more multi-story, multi-family housing” that is “at least five or six stories high.”

Fierro also called for the elimination of minimum parking restrictions, as many residents do

not need or have a car, as well as the elimination of broker fees.

He mentioned projects on Washington St. and Columbus Ave. in Roxbury in response to a portion of the question that asked for candidates to “address specific and urgent housing matters in our district.”

Nelson said that “first, we need to support the people who are already providing affordable housing,” such as seniors and other “long-term property owners” who have rented at affordable rates for a length of time. “We need to think about a state law for a tax break for these people,” she said.

She said that more affordable and middle income home ownership opportunities need to come to light, and she also believes in bringing back rent stabilization in the city.

“I think that would probably be one of my first priorities so that people can have a stable place to live,” Nelson said. For specific housing matters, she said that she is “still learning most of the district,” but “almost every owner-occupied building in Mission Hill is at risk of urgent displacement.”

Montañ agreed that rent stabilization is “first and foremost. People need to be able to invest in their community,” they said. They also spoke about “building houses that allow for electrification” and then place deed restrictions on them so folks do not get displaced.

Montañ also mentioned creating “home ownership opportunities through state funded public housing” and the creation of a state mortgage, among other ideas.

They worked on the community process for the proposed senior affordable building at 3371 Washington St., and they also cited the Forbes building as an urgent matter as many people are at risk of losing their affordable units there. They also said that “more affordability” should be advocated for in the Poor Clare Monastery project, and another urgent matter is “folks who are getting displaced when their landlord sells their triple decker.”

Longoria said “this isn’t political to me, it’s personal. I understand the fear and the shame of housing instability.” She also called for rent control, and as a

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Eliot Schoolyard concerts to showcase Boston talent every Sunday through September

STAFF REPORT

Live outdoor music returns to the Eliot Schoolyard this summer for 15 Sunday afternoon concerts spanning Boston's talent, from newcomers to legends.

The series opens June 5 with violinist Shaw Pong Liu and pianist Brian Friedland in a rare

duo appearance, playing improvisations and original tunes. It closes September 25 with local jazz legend Stan Strickland on sax, flute, and vocals joined by vocalist Lori Grimes and multi-instrumentalist Akili Jamal Haynes. In between, Niu Raza melds modern and traditional sounds from Madagascar

on June 12; Dis N Dat Band rocks neo-reggae June 19; Trio Let's Vamos brings danceable forró, accordion and percussion from Northeastern Brazil on August 28; and much in between.

Admission is free; donations are welcome. Audience members are advised to bring their own seats. A full schedule and de-

tails can be found at: <https://eliotschool.org/eliotschoolyard-concerts-2022>

The series began in the fall of 2020, when composer/keyboardist Brian Friedland gathered musical friends to perform together live in the Eliot Schoolyard after the first summer of COVID had closed all indoor events. Spon-

sors stepped forward to carry the series into future years.

The series is curated by Duna-mis X Meraki, Brian Friedland, and Hoopla Productions. Founding sponsors are Kevin Cradock Builders, Sazama Real Estate, and The Record Co.

15th Suffolk

Continued from page 6

reenter herself, "I understand the difficulties of buying here in the district."

She spoke about just cause eviction protection, and said that "we should be extending our anti-discrimination protections." She said that she has moved several times in the past couple of years—she had lived over a bodega in Jackson Square, then her rent was increased by \$1000, so she was forced to move over by the MSPCA, then COVID came, and she had to move again to Pond St.

"There's so many different parts of the district," she said, and there is a "different feel" in each of these parts, but people are being displaced in "all areas of the district."

Candidates were also asked about their "top policy proposal to address climate change and environmental justice."

Montaño said that theirs is "allowing municipalities to enforce electrification of buildings," and ensuring that older buildings like schools are upgraded as well. "I think that we also need to put in deed restrictions for these things," they said, and electrification will also lead to lower utility bills for residents.

"We cannot allow the rest of Boston to become the Seaport," Longoria said. "We need allies in the State House." She also called for the expansion of the community choice energy program, and for free transit to get cars off of

the roads. She, like Montaño, called for retrofitting of existing buildings and ensuring that they are powered completely by renewable energy.

Fierro said that natural gas needs to be replaced "with other forms of energy," such as wind and solar, and the state also needs to "explore the potential to bring back a nuclear power plant. We need to secure a better mix in our energy portfolio to wean off the natural gas," he said, just as coal and petroleum have been largely replaced.

Nelson said that she believes the state needs to "make it easier for people to reduce their own energy consumption in their homes," and subsidize the conversion to renewable energy. She called for assistance programs for low income people and people of color who "don't have the background and access to resources." She said "that's a state program we could do and have almost immediate effect." She also called for free public transit, but said "I don't know if deed restrictions are the way to go."

When asked what policies would be used to address racial inequity, Longoria said that this is also a "personal" issue for her, as her father was "incarcerated on racist cannabis charges" during the war on drugs.

"I believe marijuana convictions should not be barriers to upward mobility," she said. "I would advocate for the expungement of low-level marijuana offenses from criminal records to mitigate the impact of the racist and classist war on drugs on Black and Brown people."

She said she would also advocate to eliminate qualified immunity "for state, local, and correctional officers," as well as raise the age of juvenile jurisdiction to also include 18- and 19-year olds.

Montaño said that "investing deeply" in Boston Public Schools (BPS) is high on her list, as is creating a Massachusetts public bank. "A racial equity lens needs to be on...every single thing that

we do," they said. "For me, it's not just one policy. That is the lived reality of our political system and that is the lived reality of everyone in this district."

Nelson said "I have to agree with Sam—we need to look at everything through a racial equity lens. As a Black person, I think about it all the time, every day, every event."

She said that "BPS should not be threatened with receivership," and "we should use our budget process to promote racial justice and also to promote minority and women owned businesses and contractors and providers of services to government."

Fierro said that "racial equity and racial justice touches every facet of our lives," and said something that's important to him is the Student Opportunity Act

funding, as well as tax reform policies and increased access to public transportation. He also spoke about creating a "public fund for tuition-free community college and other vocational and tech programs" to "increase the opportunity for post secondary education, as well as create more youth summer work programs."

Some highlights from the lightning round included questions about housing, health care, schools, voting rights, and public transportation.

Longoria, Montaño, and Nelson said they would support providing municipalities with the authority to implement rent control, while Fierro said he would not.

Longoria, Montaño, and Fierro said they would support the legalization of safe consumption sites, while Nelson said she

would not.

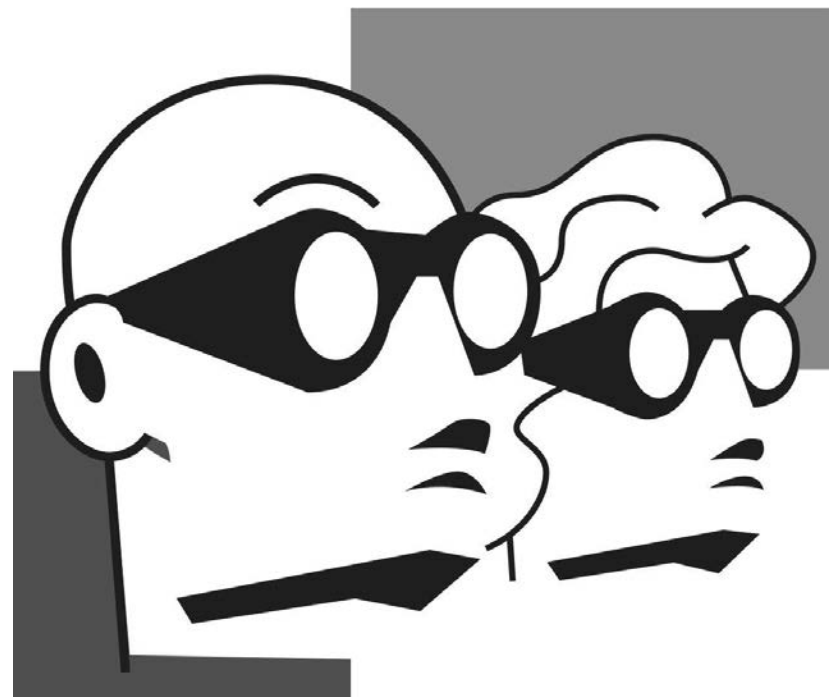
All candidates said they would support requiring health insurance plans to cover all pregnancy care costs including abortion care without cost sharing, and all also support an elected school committee in Boston.

All candidates support ending state receivership for schools, and all support granting in-state tuition and financial aid to undocumented students.

When asked if they think 16- and 17-year-olds should be allowed to vote, all but Nelson said yes, and all except Fierro think that free public transportation should be expanded in the state.

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

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Jamaica Plain's weekly COVID positive test-rate dips

Public health officials brace for spike during graduation season

By JOHN LYNDIS

Even though Jamaica Plain's weekly COVID positive test rate dipped last week, Boston public health officials are bracing for a potential new spike in cases during graduation season.

While it seems the latest surge in COVID cases is beginning to decline in some neighborhoods, the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is strongly urging students, parents and family members to take extra

precautions as they gather for graduation ceremonies and graduation parties throughout June.

Last week the BPHC put out an alert asking residents to wear masks at indoor ceremonies, be up to date on vaccinations, hold parties or graduation ceremonies outdoors when feasible and use an at home rapid test to check for a potential COVID infection before heading to a crowded ceremony or party.

Last week, 1,310 Jamaica Plain residents were tested for the virus last week and 8.4 percent were positive--this was a 24 percent decrease from the 11.1 percent that tested positive as reported by the BPHC on May 30.

One hundred ten additional Jamaica Plain residents contracted the virus between May 30 and June 6 and there have now been 9,023 confirmed cases in the neighborhood since the start of the pandemic.

Boston's citywide weekly positive test rate also decreased slightly last week but remains above 11 percent.

According to the BPHC 18,277 residents were tested citywide last week and 9.5 percent were COVID positive--this was a 14 percent decrease from the 11.1 percent that reportedly tested positive for the week ending on May 30.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its week-

ly 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 percent last week and went from 188,509 to 190,394 confirmed cases since the start of the pandemic.

There were five additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total number of COVID deaths is now at 1,474.

For this season's graduations and large events, the BPHC recommends:

- Vaccination: Attendees should be strongly encouraged to



get fully vaccinated and boosted prior to the event. Please consider sending reminder communications prior to the event.

- Respiratory etiquette and masking: Attendees should be strongly encouraged or required to wear face masks during indoor events. We strongly recommend

Continued on page 11

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YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Youth Mentoring

Continued from page 1

up in this situation, so he started Undivided Basketball.

The program paused in 2020 because of the pandemic, but McKinney brought it back this year, and is hoping to make some

exciting changes to it this coming fall.

“There are so many kids that come from different walks of life,” McKinney told the Gazette, and they “need positive guidance.”

He said not all of the students in the program aim to be professional athletes. Some aspire to be entrepreneurs or create videos or



PHOTOS BY LAUREN BENNETT

Founder Timmance McKinney, Director Leanna Knight Armstrong, Vincent Osazee, Caden Neves, John Kallon, Mazen Elbeik Jamal Mcconell, Xaivien Witherspoon, Miles Mcclentic, Alan Shi, Coach Jake Wren at Undivided Basketball’s “Pro Day” on June 4, where the kids do interviews about the program and about themselves, as well as work on their basketball skills. The event was held in the gym at Boston Prep in Hyde Park.

music.

In the fall, McKinney said that the mentorship program will begin to offer tutoring sessions and other school supports, as well as support for other interests like learning how to become a business owner.

Right now, the program serves kids in grades eight through 12, but in the fall, he expects to expand the program to kids as young as third grade. Most activities are held after school or during the weekend, but the group has also typically met four or five times a week in the summer.

Activities include visiting colleges, going to concerts, bowling, and playing basketball tournaments. Currently, the group meets a few times a week after



The boys practice their dribbling skills with a drill.

school and every other weekend, and also sometimes meets on Zoom.

“The ultimate goal is to help as many kids stay off the streets as possible,” McKinney said, and “get kids to college, no matter where you come from.”

He said there are “so many kids in the city with so much talent,” but “they don’t have a clear view of where they’re trying to go. They don’t have the guidance at home. We want to provide them with that guidance.”

McKinney has also brought on his sister, Leanna Knight Armstrong, as the director, as well as his cousin, for the restart of the mentoring program. He also hopes to bring on more basketball coaches and other staff for tutoring as the program moves forward. “That’s going to grow drastically; have more people,” he said.

Students are recruited via social media and by word of mouth as students tell one another about the program at school. He

said he receives between two and five calls a week asking about it and a lot of kids have shown interest in joining.

Right now the program is offered for free, but McKinney is still working out the details of potential costs in the future.

The Gazette also spoke with two JP students who are part of the Undivided Basketball program: Xaivien Witherspoon, Class of 2025, and Mazen Elbeik, Class of 2024.

Witherspoon said he has been a part of the program for just eight months, but has already seen the positive impact it has on students. “Coach McKinney has been putting my name in coaches’ ears,” he said, and “he got me my Bryant offer. I love what he’s doing; I like the program, and I can’t wait to keep going.”

Witherspoon said his ultimate goal is to play for the NBA, but if that doesn’t come to fruition,

Continued on Page 11

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John Kallon discusses his next move.

Youth Mentoring

Continued from page 10

tion, he said he'd like to be an English teacher because that's a subject he really enjoys.

As part of the Undivided Basketball program, Witherspoon said he's "learned that not everything's fast-paced. I've learned that I've got to slow down." He also said that he's learned to "stay together" and "have a positive mindset." He wanted to give a shoutout to South Street Apartments in JP.

Mazen Elbeik has participated in the program since its inception, and he said his favorite part is "playing basketball with these guys, working on my game." He said he has a "great" relationship with McKinney.

He, too, aspires to play professional basketball, "whether that's overseas or the NBA," he said.

Elbeik said he has learned important lessons about "teamwork, staying positive, and being a student before you be an ath-



Mazen Elbeik shoots the ball.

lete." He said he recognizes the importance of "doing good in the classroom, because you're not going to get to the next level if your academics are not good."

Elbeik wanted to give a shoutout to Curtis Hall in JP. "That's my home gym," he said.

Overall, McKinney's program is back in full swing following the pandemic shutdowns, and is gearing up to expand its offerings.

Program director Leanna Knight Armstrong told the Gazette that she believes the goal of the program is "to help as

many young athletes as possible, get them scholarships, go off to college, and have them succeed in school and their basketball career and help them live out their dream as much as we can."

She continued, "Undivided—we're awesome. It's a great team. This is a such a great group of boys. Such bright futures, all of them."

For more information about Timmance McKinney and his mentoring program, visit his website at timmancemckinney.com.

COVID

Continued from page 9

that individuals at high risk for severe COVID-19 disease, such as seniors, those who are moderately to severely immunocompromised, and those who are not fully vaccinated, use masks during indoor events given current COVID-19 community levels. Limiting consumption of food and beverages during events, particularly those that are hosted indoors, may help to minimize mask removals. Medical grade face masks should be made available during the event for attendees. Hand sanitizer should be readily available.

• **Testing:** Attendees should be encouraged to test with 1) Rapid at-home test the day of the graduation OR 2) PCR testing within 24-48 hours of the graduation. Rapid at-home testing kits should be made available to

families and staff.

• **Test for COVID-19** at least 5 days after an exposure or attending a large indoor event, such as a graduation—or sooner if experiencing symptoms of COVID-19—to prevent onward transmission.

• **Ventilation:** All events should be held outdoors whenever feasible.

• **If indoors,** use as large a space as possible with as much ventilation (fresh outdoor air, not recirculated). Please open windows whenever feasible to maximize ventilation. Tents with more than two sides count as 'indoors'.

• **Symptom screening:** Attendees should be reminded to self-screen for symptoms on the day of event and to stay home if they are feeling sick and/or experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19. Please consider adding signage in the entrance to this effect.

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NEWS BRIEFS

REGISTRATION FOR JPOS OPENS MAY 31

Registration for Jamaica Plain Open Studios began on May 31, with online registration being offered this year. Registration will remain open until June 30. For more information, visit jopenstudios.com

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.

THURSDAYS ON THE LORING-GREENOUGH HOUSE LAWN

Thursdays on the Loring-Greenough House lawn are back starting June 9. Everyone is welcome to attend. So grab food from one of the food trucks onsite, or bring your own picnic. Plus, Hive will be operating a beer garden once again on Thursday nights. Thursdays on the Lawn start at 4pm and go to sundown.

THE CITY OF BOSTON AND JACKSON SQUARE PARTNERS CELEBRATE MILESTONES IN THE REVITALIZATION OF JACKSON SQUARE

The City of Boston celebrated significant milestones in the ongoing revitalization of Jackson Square with Jackson Square Partners, a collaboration led by the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation (JPNC), Urban Edge, and The Community Builders. Three new projects will add 219 affordable units to the city's housing market, bringing the number of new homes created in Jackson Square over the past 12 years to 487, and culminating in the neighborhood's transformation into a vibrant and walkable community. Learn more on boston.gov.

APPLICATION FOR POP-UP COOLING KITS

The City of Boston, acting through Climate Ready Boston (CRB), is granting 30 Pop-up Cooling Kits ("cooling kits") to community based organizations (CBOs) that have public events this summer with access to potable water. The cooling kits are mobile water misting tents designed for short-term use to easily set up and disassemble and provide immediate cooling. Each cooling kit includes a hose, misters, and a tent to set up at public outdoor events throughout the summer. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Please apply ASAP as kits are limited.

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DONNA SUMMER DISCO PARTY

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Office of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment will host Celebration of Summer: Donna Summer Disco Party on Thursday, June 16 on Copley Square. This family-friendly event is free and open to the public and will take place between 6PM and 9PM. This annual event celebrates the start of summer with the music of Donna Summer! More info at boston.gov.

JP ARTISTS ASSOCIATION SUMMER MEMBER EXHIBITION AT UNLIMITED SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

The Jamaica Plain Artists Association (JPAA) is excited to announce our Summer Member Exhibition at Sotheby's International Realty at 673 Centre St. The opening reception was held on Thursday, June 2, 2022. The exhibit runs from May 20 to July 20, 2022 and the public is welcome to pop in any time during Sotheby's business hours. Come see the exhibit and support the local artists community and view paintings, photography, mosaics, mixed media, and more from 20 local artists: Francis Alix, Sharon Berke, Phyllis Bluhm, Katrine Burkitt, Lisa Goren, Suzanne Hoffman, Nancy Jenner, Carol Johnson, Jamie Kendrioski, Cynthia Kollios, Joni Lohr, Fiona O'Connor, Sam Price, Mary Russell, Tamara Safford, Andrea Tamkin, Barbara Ellen Watkins, Mandy Xi, Richard Youngstrom, and Ginny Zanger. Visit jpaa.org for more information.

8TH ANNUAL SATURDAY WALKING CLUB: FAMILY AND FRIENDS LIVING HEALTH (FFLH)

The Saturday Walking Club began its eighth year of walking in Franklin Park on June 4, and will meet each Saturday until September 24. Interested par-

ties should meet at the Franklin Park Golf Course Clubhouse, 1 Circuit Dr, Dorchester at 9:15 on Saturdays. The walk will begin at 9:30am. The program is free of charge, and any questions can be directed to the program's organizer, Rakiem Strickland, at rstrickland96@yahoo.com.

FREE CHILDREN'S ARTS & CRAFTS WORKSHOPS BEGIN JULY 5

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department's annual Park-ARTS participatory program is pleased to announce the return of its series of Arts & Crafts Workshops giving children the opportunity to express their creativity while working on fun projects with local artists. From East Boston to West Roxbury, kids ages three to ten can enjoy a wide variety of arts and crafts activities at the workshops held from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in parks across the city.

Participation is free and all materials are provided, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Groups of eight or more must pre-register by calling the Parks Department at (617) 961-3082 or emailing shannon.murphy2@boston.gov. In addition, the Marionette Puppet Show series will return in July and August at 11 a.m. at various children's workshops. See Boston's parks come alive with Rosalita's Puppets featuring marionettes made by professional actor-puppeteer Charlotte Anne Dore.

Arts and Crafts Workshops dates and locations are as follows, 10 a.m. to 12 noon:

Tuesdays, July 5 & 12

Brewer-Burroughs Playground, Jamaica Plain

Fridays, July 8 & 15

Mozart Street Playground, Jamaica Plain

Rosalita's Puppets Marionette Performances are at 11 a.m. Dates and locations are as follows:

For more information and updates on possible weather cancellations, please contact the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at (617) 635-4505, on our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, or by visiting www.boston.gov/parks.



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JPA discusses several community matters

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Jamaica Pond Association (JPA) met virtually on June 6, where members discussed a multitude of topics ranging from the MBTA to the Forbes building to roadway issues.

BETTER BUS PROJECT

JPA member Franklyn Salimbene spoke about proposed changes to the 39 bus as part of the MBTA's Better Bus Project.

Right now, the 39 bus begins at Forest Hills, travels down Centre St., S. Huntington Ave., and Huntington Ave., and terminates at Copley station.

"The T is proposing that when the 39 gets to Francis St. at Brigham Circle," it will take a left onto Brookline Ave., then take a right towards the Landmark Center, then cross the BU bridge over to Central Square in Cambridge, down Prospect St. to Union Square, terminating at Porter square, he said.

"I can understand what the T is proposing," Salimbene said. "There's no sense running parallel service" when the E line

serves Huntington Ave. as well.

"The problem with it of course," he said, is that there is "no longer a direct one-seat ride to downtown," and people would have to walk over to the Orange Line if they do not live near the Heath St. stop.

He also said that this newly proposed route "runs through 20 or 25 signalized intersections plus the traffic on Brookline Ave.," and the MBTA is proposing a 15-Minute headway for this route.

The MBTA plans on beginning to implement some of these route changes in 2023, adding more and more in subsequent years. The agency is also accepting testimony on the bus proposal via betterbusproject@mbta.com.

Additionally, the 41 bus is proposed to be eliminated, but the 38 bus would run the 41 route over to Nubian Square, Salimbene said.

"I think we should not be blindsided by the T's claims to assert and to have us believe that they'll have 15 minute headways on this torturous route from Ja-

maica Plain to Porter Square," said JPA member Kevin Moloney. "They can't do it on the 39 bus on its own current route."

The JPA discussed this issue further, coming to the conclusion that several people would like to see ridership data as well as how often the bus routes are able to stick to their schedules.

Salimbene said that he has sent a list of questions to the MBTA, and hopes to have a response to share by the next JPA meeting.

Salimbene also talked about the fact that he and others have testified in favor of extending the E line up to the Hyde/Canary Square area, adding that the proposed lack of service on the 39 bus "speaks favorably to extending the Green Line to the top of S. Huntington Ave."

DISCUSSION OF INVITING DCR TO MEETINGS

The JPA has discussed having a DCR representative attend JPA meetings to discuss issues like the Jamaicaaway.

Salimbene also suggested having a member of the state

police attend as well to report on accidents on the Jamaicaaway. He said that even if these representatives came quarterly, that would be helpful.

He said he will be in touch with either Rep. Nika Elugardo or Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz's office "to try to get that to happen."

JPA Chair Kay Mathew said she has "made some attempts at outreach. Not only did I not get a positive response, I didn't get any response. I'll still be trying to reach out to someone."

As far as the letter for markings for parking on Centre St. goes, which was discussed at the May meeting, JPA member Kevin Moloney said that he has drafted the letter and once Mathew looks at it, it's ready to be sent.

He also discussed restarting the JPA Centre St. Business Committee, which, in the past, had dealt with things like alcoholic beverage and common victualler licenses.

"I think it's important that we reconstitute that committee," Moloney said. He volunteered to be on it, as did Salimbene, Kelly Ransom, and Michael Reiskind. A chair will be designated at a later date.

FORBES BUILDING

Quentin Davis gave an update on what's going on with the Forbes Building, saying that owner Paul Clayton is "talking about putting together a preservation plan," per an article in the Boston Bulletin.

"He sent notices to more than half the people in the building with a rent increase effective July 1," Davis said, with the average increase nearing \$50 per month.

She said that the Tenant Association is asking Clayton to postpone the increase in rent while the preservation plan is

being worked out. The rent increases will affect the 13A tenants and "some of the tenants at will. An all-tenant informational meeting was held outside in the yard at the Forbes building on Thursday.

Davis suggested that the JPA send a letter "backing up the letter that we're sending" saying to postpone the rent increase. She said that the Tenant Association wants to be "part of the negotiation."

The JPA decided that they would like to see the Tenant Association's letter before sending one of their own, and Davis said that she could send it to Mathew once it is ready.

JP NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL AND JP BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

JPA member Michael Reiskind, who is also a member of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) and the Jamaica Plain Business and Professional Association (BAPA), said that the JPNC did not have anything "specific to the Pond area," but it did elect a new member and also discussed the Forbes building and the BPS receivership issue.

JP BAPA discussed a new restaurant that's coming to the former Carrot Flower location. It will be called Flavor Boom, and offer "quickly prepared Asian and Mediterranean food," Reiskind said.

There was also a proposal to "fill the empty 7-Eleven space at the end of Burroughs St. on Centre St.," Reiskind said. The proposal is for a recreational cannabis dispensary called Prolific Cannabis. He said it would take a year or a little over a year for the applicants to receive all of their licenses.



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JPNC Zoning Committee approves two projects

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) Zoning Committee met virtually on June 8 and approved two matters, one at 19 Spalding St. #3, and one at 7 Boylston St.

19 SPALDING ST. #3

Hudson Klebs, owner of 19 Spalding St. #3 has proposed to do a gut renovation of the existing third floor kitchen, bedroom, and dining room, as well as convert the existing attic space into a master bedroom with a bathroom to add approximately 200 square feet to the approximately 915 square foot unit.

Klebs said that the attic space is currently unfinished and used for storage as well as an AC unit. In order to access the new living space, a new interior staircase will have to be built from the third floor up to the attic space, replacing the existing pull down ladder.

The proposed bedroom and bathroom would be located in the center part of the attic space, and the AC unit would be moved over slightly. In between the two rooms would be two closets with doors, and Klebs said that the bedroom and bathroom area “doesn’t fully extend to either end of the building.”

In addition, four skylights are being proposed for the attic level, but no other modifications to the exterior of the building are proposed. Klebs said that the owners of the other units in the building have expressed support for this project.

The committee voted to approve the project.

7 BOYLSTON ST.

Attorney Kyle Smith, who once sat on the JPNC but has since moved to Westwood, proposed a project at 7 Boylston St. on behalf of the owners.

The project includes replacing the rear deck and front porch, as well as replacing the roof and

building two new roof dormers, finishing the attic space, installing vinyl siding, and creating two off-street parking spaces.

The building is currently a two family home and will remain a two family home, with the second unit occupying the second and third floors, and unit one will occupy the first floor.

In the third floor attic space, the owners want to add a master bedroom with an ensuite, another bedroom, a small office space, and a half bathroom.

Shed dormers are proposed for the attic level that would run “from front to back on either side of the pitch line,” Smith said, but the height of the building will not change.

Smith said that many of the surrounding homes on Boylston St. have curb cuts with driveways like the one being proposed here. He said that the driveway would be slightly wider than nine feet across, which was a concern for some committee members and brought up discussion of another matter heard at the

last two hearings for a curb cut and driveway on Union Ave.

“I just don’t see that parking being adequate for two spaces,” said committee member Bernie Doherty. “I could see one right at the front.”

Smith said compact vehicle spaces are seven and a half feet wide, and this proposed driveway is very similar to those of the surrounding homes.

Roman Dvoskin, owner of 5 Boylston St., which he said he rents out to two tenants but does not live in himself, said that “we share a chain link fence between 5 and 7.”

He said he had a few concerns with this proposal, but Smith has allayed them. He said he was worried about noise from the construction disrupting his tenants, but he said that Smith told him noise will not be an issue with the contractor that has been chosen.

Dvoskin also said he had concerns about water from the downspouts, but he has been assured that it will be taken care

of properly and proper materials will also be used for the driveway, which will abut his property.

He said he was also concerned about the width of the proposed driveway, but “I’ve been assured that if the chain link fence gets interrupted, the fence will be restored.” He said that as a direct abutter, he is in support of this project.

Committee member Omer Hecht also said he was in support. “I think this is a great project,” he said, but added that he had concerns about the discussion for this driveway versus the one proposed on Union Ave.

“I did not agree with the committee’s decision of the narrowness of the driveway on Union Ave.,” said Committee Chair Dave Baron. He said that the group talks about off-street parking “all the time,” and he is in support of this proposal.

The committee voted to approve this as presented.

COVID-19 Boosters: Fast Facts

Here’s what you need to know:

- Like other viruses, COVID-19 changes over time, leading to new variants.
- Boosters provide protection against these variants, giving your body an added layer of defense.
- You can still get COVID-19 after getting a booster, but your risk of severe illness, hospitalization, and death are greatly reduced.
- Your booster does not need to be the same vaccine brand as your original COVID-19 vaccination.

Recommended booster doses
vary by age and health status.



Massachusetts Department
of Public Health



Check with your doctor or visit
mass.gov/CovidVaccine



JP students honored at 24 Annual BPS Valedictorian Luncheon

By JOHN LYND

For over two decades the Boston Public School's (BPS) annual valedictorian luncheon has honored students from every neighborhood that have the highest academic achievements in their respective high schools.

After a two year hiatus the 24th Annual BPS Valedictorian Luncheon returned in person last Tuesday at Fenway Park with Mayor Michelle Wu, Superintendent Brenda Cassellius and the Boston School Committee paying tribute to the best and brightest graduating seniors.

Among the students honored at Fenway Park this year were three Jamaica Plain students who were named valedictorians of their class and will have the privilege and honor of delivering the keynote address at their high school graduations this month.

Jamaica Plain's Ivanna Mercado, valedictorian for English High School, Worknesh Bekele, valedictorian of Fenway High School and Hazel McLaughlin, valedictorian of Muriel S. Snowden International School at Copley were all honored at the luncheon.

Mercado will attend UMass-Boston in the fall while Bekele



Jamaica Plain's Ivanna Mercado, valedictorian for English High School, Worknesh Bekele, valedictorian of Fenway High School and Hazel McLaughlin, valedictorian of Muriel S. Snowden International School at Copley were all honored by Mayor Michelle Wu, Superintendent Brenda Cassellius and the Boston School Committee at BPS's 24th Annual Valedictorian Luncheon last Tuesday at Fenway Park.

will attend Northeastern University and McLaughlin will be heading off to Boston University.

The three Jamaica Plain students were among the 33 BPS valedictorians honored last week.

"I am so excited to see you all," Mayor Wu told the honorees. "I've been really looking forward to this and my heart is bursting with pride for each

one of you knowing how much you have fought through and barreled forward over the last couple of years. You are truly the pride of your families, your city, your communities, and you are the future that we're counting on. So I'm really excited and very honored and grateful to be here and to share this stage."

Wu told the graduating valedictorians that as they move on for high school they will face a really challenging moment.

"It's a challenging moment for each one of our families after what we have experienced over the last couple of years," said Wu. "I hope the valedictorians in this room recognize what they have experienced will be a source of strength as they forever move forward. The fact that you are where you are right now, de-

spite the impossible happening at home, at school, in all the lives of people across the neighborhoods of Boston, shows just how ready you are to emerge and carry forward our city."

Superintendent Cassellius took the opportunity to thank the student's parents and guardians for their unwavering support of each valedictorian during these trying two years.

"A special recognition to the parents and guardians who are here at our tables," said Cassellius. "Parents and families are our children's first teachers and moments like today are just a testament to the unwavering support and guidance that you all bring to your children. So to all the adults who have guided our young minds, helping them to become the students and

scholars and leaders that they are today. Well done and thank you so much."

Cassellius then went on to offer some advice to the students.

"I thought of three things to share with you," she said. "The first is to never let others define you. You get to decide your identity. You get to decide who you love, and you get to decide what your contributions are going to be in this world. Second, be mindful of the choices that you make these next several years as you embark on this new journey because the choices you make today, impact what choices are available tomorrow. And third, don't beat yourself up. If you do make a poor choice or mistake, look at what went wrong and think through it and learn from it. I wish I had learned this earlier. All of us here know that you are already hard working and that you certainly know how to persevere through tough times and that you don't give up."

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FRESH & LOCAL Rice Entrées

BY PENNY & ED CHERUBINO

Asian Fried Rice, New Orleans Jambalaya, Spanish Paella, Korean Bibimbap, Thai Pad Kra Pao, Italian Risotto, and Cuban Arroz Con Pollo are a few of the many rice entrées from around the world. Some are reserved for special occasions, while others are quick meals that use up leftovers. A few are adaptable to any rice you have on hand. Today we'll share our favorite rice entrées.

Fried Rice

Sam Sifton of the New York Times called fried rice, "... a brilliant and addictive way to use up leftovers that comes together in about 20 minutes. It can accommodate practically any vegetable languishing in your refrigerator, and adding leftover cooked chicken, pork, beef, shrimp, or tofu isn't a bad idea either."

Fried rice is made all over Asia. Today cooks from well-known chefs to students cooking in college quarters add their twist to this classic fast meal. When we have leftover rice, our approach is to pull out the wok or a skillet and a couple of eggs and clean out the vegetable bins.

Our best tip is to have everything: rice, protein, aromatics like ginger and garlic, and your favorite sauce mixture ready to go into the pan as needed. Fried rice is a fast stir-fry and will be most successful when the cook keeps moving.

Risotto

Once you master making risotto, you can have dinner on the table in about half an hour. Put your broth on the stove to warm, chop an onion, sauté it,



Stuffed vegetables are another great rice entrée. What's more, you can make something like these stuffed Yummy Peppers from leftovers!

add the rice to toast, give it a dose of wine, and begin adding your broth. Stay nearby and stir every so often. When you're not mixing or adding stock, grate the cheese and prepare your butter for the last step of enriching and adding creaminess to your risotto.

You can add pre-prepped vegetables, meat, or seafood. Think asparagus in spring and sautéed winter squash in fall. Mushrooms, shellfish, and lemon are other favorite risotto flavors around here.

Yes, you can make it with supermarket arborio rice. However, you can up the dish's quality by finding a carnaroli or vialone nano rice at an Italian market. Carnaroli, our favorite, is starchier rice with grains that hold their shape well and makes it easier to create a successful risotto.

Spanish Paella

Paella is a complex dish that is easier with more minds and hands to execute the steps. We have made it with friends on their outdoor grill. Cooking it over glowing coals adds a smoky flavor. Paella is a perfect summer gathering project. The non-cooks can bring the wine, cheese, and bread and do the cleanup!

We are fortunate in Boston to have delicious paella on the menu at area restaurants, including Atlantico Boston and Toro, both in the South End, and Taberna de Haro in Brookline.

Chicken and Rice Variations

Many cultures have a chicken and rice combo as an entrée. We made a successful Arroz Con Pollo for a Cuban friend who missed this dish when she moved to Boston. All around the Caribbean, each island has its version of this meal. The Brazilian version is Galinhada.

We often order Chicken Biryani as Indian takeout and have recently discovered West African Jollof rice with chicken as a new favorite.

One more bonus for rice entrées is that some can accommodate dietary needs and choices from gluten-free to vegan. In the case of dishes like fried rice or risotto, you can serve a base dish with add-ins available for those with specific preferences or needs.

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

ZBA approves change to 3371-3375 Washington St. proposal

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) heard a Board Final Arbitrator case for 3371-3375 Washington St. on June 7, where a minor change to the proposal was approved.

The project, which is a 39 unit, 100 percent affordable senior housing building, was approved by the ZBA last February, according to Brian Goldson of New Atlantic Development. Monty Gold, landlord of 3377

Washington St. which abuts this project and is home to Turtle Swamp Brewing, filed a lawsuit in May 2021 against the ZBA decision to approve.

Goldson reported at this ZBA hearing that during a mediation process, the two parties came to a settlement.

"That settlement included minor modifications to the footprint of the building, pulling the building back from the abutters' property line, and we're before the board today just to propose

that modification to you and confirm compliance."

He said that as part of the mediation, the development team "agreed to pull the building back five feet from that side yard property line," and now the Floor Area Ratio is "slightly reduced" from what was previously approved as a result.

The ZBA voted to approve the change with Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) design review, as this is an Article 80 project.

Embrace Ideas Festival: King Boston to host city's first-ever Juneteenth celebration

STAFF REPORT

The inaugural King Boston Embrace Ideas Festival brings together local, state, and national leaders ahead of the Juneteenth holiday to amplify anti-racism and a vision for a transformed Boston by 2030. Rooted in racial equity, healing, wellbeing, and joy, the theme of Embrace Ideas 2022, is "Building A New Boston Together."

Keynotes, panels, and live music will shine a light on how we can interrupt our zero-sum game thinking when it comes to racial justice and realizing a democracy worthy of us all. Topics will include: zero-sum thinking, culture's role in saving a city, healing from racialized trauma, and reparations and reconciliation.

"This festival is a launch point – for ideas and important discussions about how to create a new and inclusive Boston," said Imari Paris Jeffries, executive director of King Boston. "The Embrace Ideas Festival offers a first-of-its-kind opportunity to connect, educate, and energize our communities to help cultivate our vision for the future of our city by 2030."

King Boston, the non-profit behind the groundbreaking festival, honors the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott's time in Boston by dismantling structural racism, at the intersection of arts and culture and is the driving force behind the 22-foot monument set to unveil on Boston Common next year.

The festival concludes with the Embrace Ideas Block Party hosted in Nubian Square Business District. The Block Party will be an evening celebration with dancing, music, community, and food provided by the area's best BIPOC-owned food trucks.

The multi-day event takes place at several venues. The venues can be accessed by public transportation or carsharing app. Click here to see the full schedule for the Embrace Ideas Festival.

Guests can purchase tickets, which will be released in waves, for a single day on a sliding scale of \$0-25, or an all-week pass for \$75. The Block Party is free and open to all. For ticket sales and more information on the Festival, please visit the Embrace Ideas Festival website at embraceideasfestival.org/tickets.

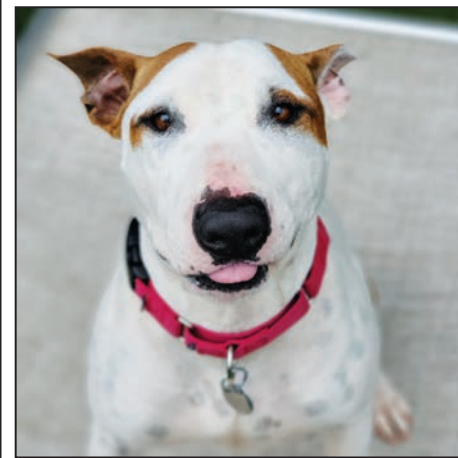
Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll



'LEMON'

Lemon is a happy and energetic 2 year old who loves



attention. He enjoys doing zoomies and would love a fenced yard. He's adventurous and would be the perfect companion for hiking or long walks. After a good workout, Lemon is ready to have downtime and snuggle on a couch.



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EDITORIAL

Exasperated by high energy costs? Wait until this winter

Barely a day goes by without a news story about the high cost of gasoline and energy prices in general.

Economists and energy market experts point to a host of reasons as to why the market prices for oil and natural gas have skyrocketed in the past three months. The war in Ukraine only exacerbated what in any event would have been a world-wide energy crisis thanks to the decision by the OPEC+ nations and U.S. oil companies to limit output -- in order to reap huge profits for their shareholders -- despite increased world-wide demand in the aftermath of the pandemic.

However, whatever the reasons may be, they are of little consolation to Americans who must drive a car every day and who face record-high prices of more than \$5.00 per gallon for regular gasoline.

It often is said by economists that higher energy prices effectively are a tax on consumers. But higher energy costs are even worse than a tax. We're paying higher gasoline prices for the exact same product, but with higher taxes, at least in theory we'd be getting more services for our tax dollars.

The only ones directly benefiting from higher energy prices are the shareholders of the major oil companies and the dictators in places like Saudi Arabia and Russia.

But as painful as higher energy costs are right now, the real crunch will come this winter, when Americans in the northern half of the country will face costs for heating oil and natural gas that never have been seen. We paid \$3.00 for a gallon of heating oil this past winter -- but the price right now from our heating oil dealer is nearly \$6.00. At that price, a delivery of heating oil of 175 gallons -- about 2/3 of a tank -- will be more than \$1000, a figure that truly will be a hardship for many of us.

So let's start praying now for a mild winter -- and get used to the idea of taking shorter hot showers, dropping the thermostats in our homes, wearing sweaters during the day, using extra blankets at night, and sealing up the drafts through our doors and windows.



LETTERS

We just won producer

Dear Editor,

We are proud to let you know that Boston Design Week has announced the Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts as winner of its Producers' Choice Award. The awards celebration will took place May 6 at Boston Design Center, in the Seaport District.

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

Its ninth Annual Boston Design Week Awards celebrate the diversity of the design community in greater Boston. Boston Design Week producers chose

the Eliot School for its Producer's Award to recognize our educational achievements in the world of craft and creativity, our drive to inspire lifelong learning, our efforts to contribute to a more just and equal world, and our commitment to provide a safe, creative learning environment for all.

We are honored to receive this award from Boston Design Week, which does so much to celebrate the great array of design work done here in Boston. We're proud of the work we do to inspire learning in craft and design, from the youngest children to people past retirement, and everyone in between.

Of course, we have an event coming up in Boston Design week as well: a conversation about Identity in Art - Representation, Culture and Belonging with three Boston artists: Ayanna Mack, Stephen Hamilton, and Cagen Luse.

The Eliot School cultivates

welcoming environments where people convene across a continuum of age, economic means and backgrounds to build skills, craftsmanship and community. Our offerings satisfy the human desires to create, engage in self-expression and learn by doing; and our vision builds upon the school's historic role in shaping arts education.

The Eliot School teaches art and woodworking in Boston's public schools and community centers. We offer classes to people of all ages in fine and applied arts in our Jamaica Plain school-house, including woodworking, upholstery, sewing, fiber arts, visual arts, and more, for adults outside of work and young people outside of school. In addition, our Teen Bridge and Artist in Residence programs support art making, youth development, and community,

Abigail Norman
Executive Director

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

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The Gazette welcomes letters to the editor.

Word limit: 500. Deadline: Friday at 5 p.m. one week before publication.

Letters may be emailed to letters@JamaicaPlainGazette.com. Please include address and telephone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters will not be published.

More information: 617-524-2626

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
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

DOCKET NUMBER: SU21D0537DR
Katherine Morales Plaintiff

VS.
Jorge Olmedo Henao Defendant

To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for irretrievable breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.

You are summoned and required to serve upon: Katherine Morales, 150 Roland Road, Apt. 1 Revere, MA 02151 your answer, if any, on or before 08/11/2022. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 23, 2022
Felix D. Arroyo
Register of Probate

6/10/22 JP

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Docket No. SU22C0165CA
In the matter of: Andre Suber

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Andre Suber of Jamaica Plain, MA requesting that

the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Egon Einstein-Tesla-Kardashian Bright
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/23/2022. 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: June 01, 2022
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate

6/9/22 JP BH

LEGAL NOTICE

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, Section 5-304
Docket No. SU22P1173GD
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
In the matter of: Stacy Gaines of: Jamaica Plain, MA

RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Mass. Dept. of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Stacy Gaines is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (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 AM on the return date of 07/01/2022. 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 to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 2, 2022
Felix D Arroyo, Register of Probate

6/10/22 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
CITATION ON PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Docket No. SU22C0177CA
In the matter of: Xandria Grace Knife

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Xandria Grace Knife of Dorchester, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Xanthe Grayson Knife
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/06/2022. 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 11, 2022
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate

6/10/22 JP

LEGAL NOTICE

The Mildred Hailey Housing project is soliciting public bids for sitework, earthwork, ground improvement, utilities, and related scope of work. Documents can be reviewed on the link below. Bids are due 6/29/2022 at 12 p.m. and should be sent to The Community Builder's Inc. Office at 185. Dartmouth Street, Boston, MA 02116 attn - Ivey Bueno.

6/10/22 JP

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Division INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Docket No. SU21P2484EA
Estate of: Christopher William Eyer
Date of Death: August 20, 2021

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner Randall Eyer of Springfield, MA and P Patricia Eyer of Springfield, MA Randall Eyer of Springfield, MA and Patricia Eyer of Springfield, MA have been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute

formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

6/10/22 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
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. SU22P0968EA
Estate of: Janet Ralston Chase Stokes
Date of Death: 12/10/2021

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Samuel N. Stokes of Silver Spring, MD requesting that the court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Samuel N. Stokes of Silver Spring, MD be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/30/2022.

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 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 25, 2022
Felix D. Arroyo
Register of Probate

6/10/22 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
CITATION ON PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Docket No. SU22C0183CA
In the matter of: Johnny Arisian Andryanoff

A Petition to Change Name of

Adult has been filed by Johnny Arisian Andryanoff of Jamaica Plain, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Johnny Anderson
IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/30/2022. 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: June 01, 2022
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate

6/10/22 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 ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT
Docket No. SU20P2103EA

Estate of: Margaret Chambers
Date of Death: 09/12/2020

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Laurie McKeown of Jamaica Plain, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, First and Final and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

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 06/30/2022. 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 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.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 25, 2022
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate

6/10/22 JP

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Jason Gallagher to become next headmaster of Boston Latin School; Principal of the Harvard-Kent Elementary School is 1991 BLS grad

By JOHN LYNDIS

Last week it was announced that the principal of the Harvard-Kent Elementary School for the last 11 year, Jason Gallagher, will become the next headmaster of Boston Latin School (BLS).

Gallagher, who led Harvard-Kent's transformation into a top performing school in Boston culminating with the prestigious 2019 EdVestorsThomas W. Payzant School School on the Move prize, will take over the reins of the country's oldest public school from outgoing principal Rachel Skeritt in the fall. Skeritt announced in March she was leaving her post as headmaster of BLS after five years leading the school. Skeritt successfully navigated the school through two years of the pandemic as well as a change in how students are accepted to Boston's exam schools.

For Gallagher, heading to BLS in the fall is a sort of home-

coming. He graduated from BLS in 1991 and his two sons also graduated from BLS in 2018 and 2021.

Gallagher, a lifelong Charlestown resident, returned to his home neighborhood after serving as a history and special education teacher at Braintree High School.

He kicked off his 21 year career with Boston Public Schools (BPS) serving first as a class teacher at the Harvard-Kent and then as an assistant principal at the District Office of Special Education before becoming principal of the school.

Over the past decade during Gallagher's tenure the Harvard-Kent has experienced rapid academic growth. Harvard-Kent's student population is uniquely diverse within Boston Public Schools. The school community is racially diverse, with nearly equal numbers of Latino, Asian, Black and Cauca-



Jason Gallagher was named the next headmaster of Boston Latin School.

sian young people represented in the student body. Over half of the student body are English Learners, a quarter are students

with disabilities, and more than two-thirds are economically disadvantaged.

Under Gallagher's leadership

the school has met or exceeded MCAS targets The 400-student school has also seen steady improvement over the past few years in both literacy and math while also narrowing achievement gaps.

The school was recognized for exceeding performance targets set by the state, one of 14 BPS schools to do so in 2019, and one of four BPS schools to do so for two years in a row.

Of his work at the Harvard-Kent Gallagher has said, "The most important thing we do every day is offer a safe and welcoming school to our students and families. We want to make our kids feel like they are in the best school not just in Boston, but in the country. If you are a member of the Harvard-Kent school community, we want you to feel important, loved and valued. And, we want you to become a proficient reader, writer and mathematician."

City of Boston Credit Union Credit Union receives three national awards by the Marketing Association of Credit Unions

STAFF REPORT

City of Boston Credit Union, one of the oldest Credit Unions in the United States, today announced its marketing team was selected for two gold and one silver award by the Marketing Association of Credit Unions (MAC).

Awards were as follows:

Gold - Category: Video - Boston Historic Sports Spot (<https://youtu.be/8kCqCOvJPYe>)

Gold - Category: Image Enhancement/Public Relations - Investment in Women's Athletics Campaign (https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcwrFMw_VdgLxCW9uJ06WvdHewgA95Apa)

Silver - Category: Product Development - Oops Proof Auto Loan

"As one of the oldest Credit Unions in the country, we have continued to evolve throughout

our history while making sure to keep our dedication to our membership at the very forefront," said City of Boston Credit Union Chairman of the Board Gregory Rooney. "People Helping People is the Credit Union philosophy, and we are proud to be recognized by the Marketing Association of Credit Unions for showcasing that philosophy!"

By providing financial assistance, education, and supporting local businesses and organizations, the credit union takes great pride in serving the community. The subjects of national awards highlight the philosophies of CBCU and the values we uphold. The Credit Union prides itself on being small enough to have deep relationships with each of member but big enough to meet all of their financial needs. CBCU aims to support all members through every one of life's milestones and is grateful

to be recognized for their hard work.

For more information on how to become a member of the City of Boston Credit Union, visit <https://www.cityofbostoncu.com> or a branch location.

Since 1915, the City of Boston Credit Union has provided its members with personal, convenient and value-priced financial services that support them through all of life's milestones. Big enough to serve all your needs, and small enough to know what they are, the City of Boston Credit Union fosters a culture where relationships matter. As a credit union, we are owned by and accountable to our members, who each have an equal vote in our direction, regardless of the size of their accounts. We believe we have a responsibility to support the health and wealth of our members and their communities, and over the past five years have

donated over \$2.4 million to hundreds of local organizations. For

more information, visit Cityof-BostonCU.com.

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