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## CELEBRATING ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT BRENDAN BEHAN PUB

The Brendan Behan Pub was a sought-after destination to celebrate St Patrick's Day with some Guinness, good friends, and good times. Pictured above, Ruairi Scott, Conor Magee, Chris Losty, and Cormac Eastwood came over from Ireland to see how we celebrate St Patrick's Day in Boston. Right, aspiring actor Carly Calbreath reads *Secrets Of Voiceover Secrets* in the back patio. Below, a look at Brendan Behan Pub on St Patrick's Day. See Pages 10 and 11 for more photos.



PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



## JPNC Housing Committee elects three new members; hears of plans for 1822 Arboretum Rd. project

STAFF REPORT

The Housing and Development Committee (HDC) of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) held a regular monthly meeting this past Tuesday.

Chairperson Renee Stacey Welch and the committee and community members who were in attendance took up a number of issues.

The committee initially elected new members to fill its vacant seats. The JPNC's by-laws pro-

vide that each of its sub-committees may have five members who are members of the full JPNC and 10 who are community members.

There were four candidates, Danielle Sommer, Lorenzo Bartoloni, Omer Hecht, and Peter DeCotis, all of whom are members of the full JPNC, for the two open seats for JPNC members.

After each presented the reasons why they desired to serve

*Continued on page 2*

## Residents gather to celebrate the life of Karen Wepsic

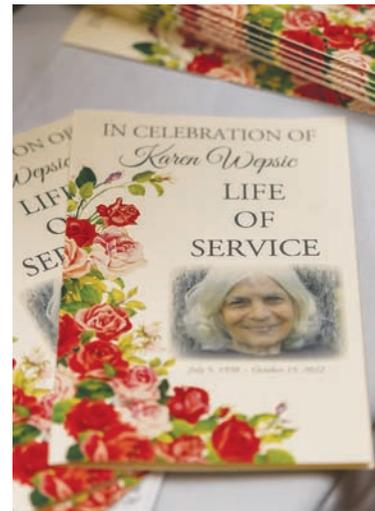
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Last Saturday afternoon, friends and family gathered at the Loring Greenough House to celebrate the Life and Service of long-time Jamaica Plain resident Karen Wepsic, who passed away on October 15, 2022.

The Invocation and Benediction were given by Rev. Ashlee Wiest-Laird of the First Baptist Church. Other speakers who spoke were from the Footlight Club, MIT Sailing, Fenway Garden Society, Peterborough Senior Center, the Jamaica Pond Association, and the Mission Hill and Fenway/South End neighborhoods.

The following is taken from the memorial booklet that was available:

Karen Wepsic was born 1938, the only child of parents Nils Okland (sea captain) and Sof-



SAM JOHNSON PHOTO

*The program from the service.*

ie Okland of Norway; Raised in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, Elementary school PS104, Karen maintained a "Victory Garden" in Brooklyn, an activity she would carry with

*Continued on page 7*

# JPNC

*Continued from page 1*

on the committee, Sommer and Bartoloni received the most votes from the committee members.

In addition, the committee voted to elect John Harding, who works for a non-profit housing developer, as a community member of the committee, though his election is subject to approval by the full JPNC.

Three other residents also expressed their desire to serve as community members. They will have to attend next month's meeting of the HDC because the JPNC's by-laws require that prospective community members candidates must attend two successive meetings of the sub-committees on which they wish to serve.

The development team from Veleney Development made a presentation of its proposed project at 1822 Arboretum Rd. The project is a so-called Article 80 development for which the JPNC will provide comments to the BPDA.

The project, which presently is the site of an abandoned industrial building, is bounded by Arboretum and Lochdale Rds. on the edge of the MBTA commuter rail line with direct access to the Arboretum. The structure will be six stories high (with a parking a garage on the ground floor) and will consist of 230 apartments (52 studios, 86 one-bedrooms, 88 two-bedrooms, and four three-bedrooms), of which 38 will be affordable (which exceeds the city's current 13% threshold for affordable housing units in new housing developments), with 124 motor vehicle parking spaces, 230 resident bicycle parking spaces, and 46 visitor bicycle spaces for those who wish a gateway to the nearby Arboretum. There also will be a public dog walk.

The lot size totals just under

100,000 sq. ft., of which 25,000 sq. ft. will be open to the public. The building will be sustainable and will be LEED-certified.

The developers already have conducted a number of community outreach events over the past year.

"We're focused on making this area better and improving it as much as we can," said one of the presenters, who added that the community feedback has been overwhelmingly positive by residents who are desirous of seeing an improvement in the area (especially for the triple-deckers that front Washington St. and back up onto the site, which presently is a trash-strewn, overgrown corridor) and better access to the Arboretum.

Members of the committee voiced a number of concerns: Some noted that although the project will consist of 16.5% affordable units, that figure falls short of the JPNC's stated goal of 25% affordability; others pointed out that the "affordable" threshold of 70% of average median income in reality is not affordable for many potential residents;

another noted that the removal of the industrial building eliminates the possibility of bringing in a business that would create jobs for local residents, which was the original intent of the zoning for that area; and others noted that the high percentage of small units will create a high-turnover of tenants that will not aid in the establishment of long-term residents of the community.

Construction is not slated to begin until 2024 with an anticipated completion date of 2026.

The committee voted to draft a comment letter incorporating the viewpoints expressed by the members for presentation to the full JPNC.

The committee then heard from representatives from the Pine St. Inn who explained the concept of Permanent Supportive Housing. They noted that there presently are more than 15,000 homeless persons in Massachusetts, an increase of more than 20 percent since 2007. The goal of Permanent Supportive Housing is to provide permanent housing with necessary services for these

tenants in order to eliminate their homelessness in a manner that is cost-effective compared to providing homeless-shelter beds.

The presenters noted that sobriety is not a requirement for Supportive Housing tenants.

The issue of housing for those who are homeless and dealing with substance abuse issues has risen to the forefront in the JP area because of the placement of temporary housing modules last summer by state and city officials in the parking lot of the soon-to-be-shuttered Shattuck Hospital in order to address the issue of the homeless encampments at the now-infamous Mass. and Cass intersection.

However, the residents, particularly in the adjacent Stoney Brook neighborhood, have been vocal in their concern that their community has become a highly-concentrated area for drug users and drug dealers, with needles littering the premises on a daily basis, creating obvious safety concerns for themselves and their families.



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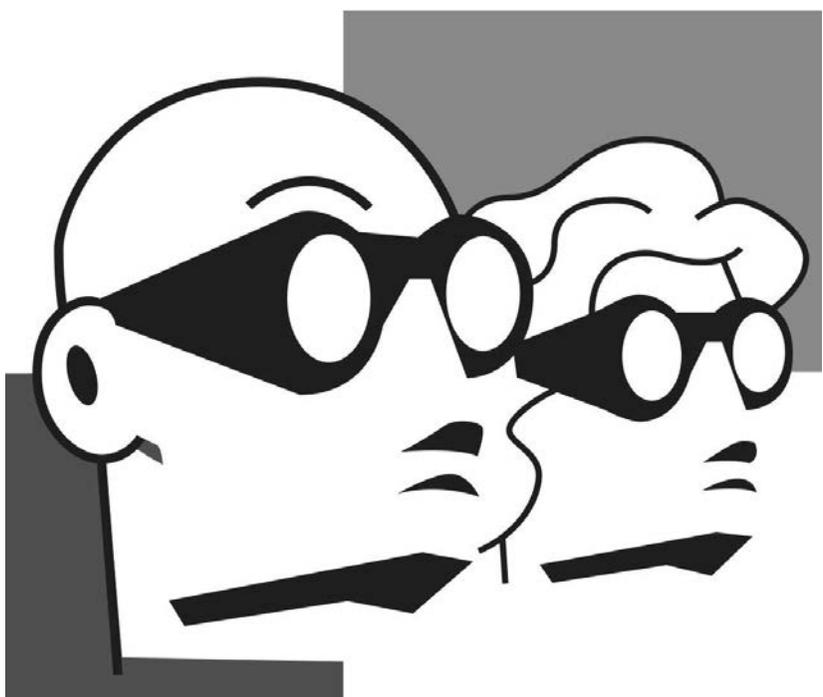
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**Clarifications**

In the December 8 issue of the Jamaica Plain Gazette in the Jamaica Pond Association story, we misspelled Karen Wepsic name wrong. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.

In the March 15 issue of the Jamaica Plain Gazette in the JPNC Full Council meeting story, we should have said that the nomination papers, not voting options will be available in paper copies and digitally. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.

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# REAL ESTATE TODAY

## Local realtors foresee strong spring season for Jamaica Plain

By STEPHEN QUIGLEY

The spring is typically the most important season for the housing market, with about 40% of existing-home sales for the year occurring from March through June, according to the National Association of Realtors (NAR), a trend that already has taken root in Jamaica Plain.

“The spring market has come to life, especially in the last week or two,” said Constance Cervone and Janet Deegan of Cervone Deegan+Associates at Coldwell Banker.

In Jamaica Plain the real estate market remains strong, though there is not a lot of inventory.

According to Paula Callaghan of Insight Realty, “Four out of the six properties that came on the market last week already are under agreement.”

“While the primary housing market in JP is for condomini-

ums, people are still holding on to their single-families,” noted Cervone.

According to Maureen McElroy of Jamaica Hill Realty, there have been only 33 sales of condominiums this year and 12 single-family home sales in the first three months, which she termed a “snapshot,” with much more data from another nine months to add in at the end of 2023.

“Interest rates are scaring the sellers, not the buyers,” said Randal Engelmann of Focus Real Estate. He further said that many owners would like to move up to a larger house, but because the interest rates on their current homes could be as low as

3%, compared to what they would have to borrow now at almost 6.5%, it has become much more expensive to own that dream home.

However, according to Callaghan, buyers are getting a lot more creative with their financing, such as choosing a 5-year ARM (an adjustable rate mortgage) with a lower initial interest rate.

Engelmann pointed out that right now there are 30 listings for condominiums with an average time of 44 days on the market. Multi-family homes have eight listings with 65 days on the market and three single-families have been 18 days on the market.

McElroy noted that many first-time buyers to the JP market are looking at condominiums.

“Buyers love new construction and it goes pretty fast,” according to Callaghan.

Nationwide, February marked the first year-over-year decline in the sale price of existing homes in a dozen years, falling by a miniscule 0.2% compared to February, 2022, according to the NAR. Regionally, prices fell more from a year ago in the West (down 5.6%) and Northeast (down 4.5%), where housing is more expensive. But prices were still climbing from last year in the South (up 2.7%) and the Midwest (up 5%).

However in Jamaica Plain, “Listing prices are almost 9% higher than last year,” McElroy said.

According to Engelmann, the Sumner Hill, Moss Hill, and Jamaica Pond areas are still the top neighborhoods in JP.

Cervone added that Central JP is right below the top three neighborhoods, with the Wash-

ington St. area, starting at Forest Hills, an up-and-coming neighborhood.

McElroy said, “This is still a good time to sell a house with so little inventory,” adding that JP is still a good bet. She noted that many properties have sold at 1% less than asking.

“JP has been in high demand for quite awhile with properties that do better if they are priced to sell -- and now is an excellent time to sell,” Cervone said.

“I have a buyer who put in a good offer, but still did not get the house,” Callaghan said.

Cervone said that she has a buyer willing to spend in the seven figures for the right house.

“If the property is priced right, it will sell quickly,” Engelmann added, and all the realtors who were interviewed for this story had the same advice — price the property right.



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# REAL ESTATE TODAY

## How a housing counselor can help prepare you for homeownership

Buying a home can be intimidating, whether this is your first time or you've been around the real estate block before. The good news? You don't have to go it alone. If you're looking for a trusted partner throughout the process, working with a housing counselor can help prepare you for homeownership.

If you're not sure what a housing counselor does or whether this service is right for you, consider these insights from Freddie Mac:

**What is a Housing Counselor?** Housing counselors are trained, independent professionals who are available to offer advice, listen and help you make informed decisions based on your financial situation and needs — often at little or no cost. Their job is to help you navigate the homebuying journey and ensure you're financially prepared for long-term, successful homeownership.

**What Services Do They Provide?** One of the primary roles of a housing counselor is to prepare you for homeownership through workshops and one-on-one coun-



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seling. The counselor will start by asking you questions about your income, credit and savings to help determine if you're ready to buy and how much you plan on spending. Similar to a conversation with a potential lender, the more organized and prepared you are, the more productive your conversation will be. Once

they understand your current financial situation, they will:

- Provide guidance on down payment options and local down payment assistance programs.
- Help you understand the features and costs associated with the various types of mortgages available.
- Teach you important finan-

cial skills, such as planning your budget and building, maintaining and improving your credit.

Advise you on the role of your real estate agent and lender.

It's important to know that housing counselors can be there for you beyond the homebuying process. For example, if you are facing financial difficulties and struggling to pay your mortgage down the line, a housing counselor can offer financial guidance and work with your lender to

help you avoid foreclosure.

**How Do You Find a Housing Counselor?** Although finding a housing counselor can be as simple as running a search online or calling a hotline, it's important to carefully consider your options. Unfortunately, scam artists abound, preying on home buyers and struggling homeowners alike. Here are three ways to find a legitimate housing counselor:

- Reach out to a HUD-certified housing counselor at one of Freddie Mac's Borrower Help Centers or Borrower Help Network for free assistance.
- Search for a HUD-certified housing counselor in your area on the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's website.
- Call the national HOPE hotline at 888-995-HOPE or visit its website at 995HOPE.org. This hotline is free and available 24 hours a day.

For more information about preparing for and sustaining long-term homeownership, visit My Home by Freddie Mac.

Buying a home is one of the largest financial decisions you can make. Having a trusted expert in your corner means you don't have to go it alone. (StatePoint)



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# REAL ESTATE TODAY

## Six things to consider doing if you can't pay rent this month

The average national rent surpassed \$2,000 for the first time ever in 2022, which has made keeping up with rent payments challenging for millions of people across the United States. In fact, a recent Freddie Mac survey found that 70% of renters are concerned about making their rent payment in the short term.

If you're among those struggling to pay rent, there is good news: many resources exist to help renters remain in their homes.

Here are six actions you can take to help keep you in your rental:

1. **Contact Your Landlord.** If you know you will be unable to pay your rent, contact your landlord in writing to explain your situation. Your landlord may be able to offer you such options as changing the date rent is due each month, lowering rent payments or creating a repayment plan.

2. **Consider More Affordable**



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Apartments. Finding a less expensive apartment may be the right solution if you anticipate having regular trouble paying

your rent. However, with rents on the rise everywhere, this can be a challenge. As you start your search, remember to factor in the

fees and moving expenses you might incur. Moving within your building or to another property managed by the same company may be one way to avoid onboarding fees.

3. **Find a Roommate.** If you have the space, taking on a roommate can significantly reduce your monthly rent and utility expenses. Make sure to follow the terms of your lease when adding a roommate to any apartment. This could include having them sign a formal lease.

4. **Access Short-Term Rental Assistance.** Local housing authorities and some national organizations have short-term rent relief funds you can apply for to help cover the cost of rent while you get back on your feet. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has a list of assistance programs for renters.

5. **Understand Eviction Protections.** Be aware of the eviction protections you're eligible for should you be unable to pay rent.

The CFPB has a list of states with protections in place that prevent landlords from evicting renters for failure to pay rent.

6. **Work with a Renter Resource Organization.** There are many nonprofit Renter Resource Organizations throughout the country that can assist you if you are facing a housing-related challenge. These entities provide services and resources to help you maintain housing, including eviction prevention and landlord-tenant mediation. They also can assist you in locating alternative housing and provide financial planning advice. Services offered may vary by provider. To find an organization that can help you with your situation, contact Freddie Mac's Renter Hotline at 800-404-3097.

For more information about renting, including resources to help you determine how much you can afford, visit My Home by Freddie Mac at [myhome.freddie-mac.com](http://myhome.freddie-mac.com). (StatePoint)

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## Welcome home – unexpectedly useful housewarming gifts

Attending a housewarming is a great way to celebrate a friend's new home, but how do you find the perfect present to accompany the visit? These unique gift ideas are not only bound to make a statement, they're incredibly useful to boot.

**Fix-It Essentials:** For practicality at its absolute best, pack up some must-haves for the house. Include a hammer, screwdrivers and some Original Duck Tape brand duct tape to help your friends get all those initial DIY projects handled – and cover bases for any future projects and everyday fixes that may pop up.

**Plant Some Love:** Flowers are always a great way to brighten a day, but why not offer something that can brighten a space for years to come and grow with the household? Bring over a gorgeous houseplant or orchid for a gift that lasts and makes your friends think of you every time they see it. Tie on a sweet note and a ribbon for a fun, personal touch.



**Organization Must-Haves:** Create a welcome home gift that will prove useful for years to come. Put together a basket that includes all those essentials we

sometimes forget, like high-quality hangers, drawer organizers, rubber bands and paper clips for paperwork. Include additional essentials, such as Duck Max

Strength Nano-Grab Gel Tape for securing miscellaneous items, photos and temporary seasonal décor, along with EasyLiner Brand Shelf Liner with Clorox

for upgraded home organization.

**Stock the Bar:** Wine is fine, but why not equip your friends with what they need to entertain in the future? Bring over a favorite spirit, mixer and cocktail recipe book to keep the party going. Round out this gift with a cute set of rocks glasses or drink shaker.

**Take a Photo:** In the age of digital photography, you can help make memories more permanent. Bring your newly relocated friends a large empty photo album and toss in a few disposable cameras or instant film camera to start capturing the fun right away. Kick off the entries by including a cute photo of yourself!

Gift giving at a housewarming doesn't have to be stressful. By getting creative with a variety of useful items, you can help make a house a home while making a lasting impression on those you love. (StatePoint)

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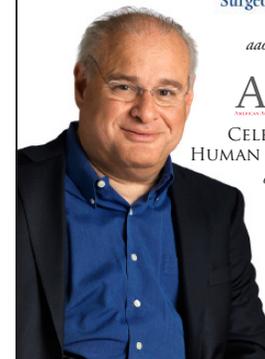
Dr. Galpin actually credits his own incurable condition for giving him the focus that made him so passionate in his research. His story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.

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# Wepsic

*Continued from page 1*

her to Boston. She moved, with her family to Elmont, Long Island and attended Sewanhaka High School.

Upon graduation she enrolled and matriculated from Cornell graduating with a degree in Chemistry. She had a long science-orientated career including as a lab assistant at Woods Hole Oceanographic in 1959. She obtained a Doctorate (PhD) from Yale in 1967 in BioPhysics. Her thesis, using radioactive thymidine, evidenced that chromosomal DNA could replicate while in circular form. Her thesis was published while attending the MGH School of Nursing, where she graduated as an RN in 1968. At MGH she worked in the recovery room. She continued working at MGH through the birth of her only child and son, Eric.

Karen was a Hospital Albert Schweitzer volunteer in Haiti in 1972. She was a staff member at Harvard Medical School's Department of Biochemistry from 1978-2012.

A fixture in Jamaica Plain and dedicated to community service, Karen served on a variety of local community organizations, including The Footlight Club; Arborway Committee, Jamaica Pond Association, MBTA Riders hip Oversight Committee, Fenway Victory Garden, MIT Sailing, Friends of Melnea Cass Boulevard and others. She loved her community and neighbors.

Notwithstanding her tremendous intellect, she always served humbly, selflessly and faithfully. She touched many during her travels across the City of Boston. Her presence was felt in several neighborhoods including Jamaica Plain, Mission Hill, the Fenway, South Boston and Roxbury. The Galway House was a place where she held strategy and organizational meetings, broke bread with friends and enjoyed a Manhattan or Pint. She was an exceptional friend, colleague, committee member and community activist. Karen will be remembered as warm and iconoclastic. She projected love and was loved by all whom she touched.

Karen is survived by Eric Wepsic, and her two grandchildren in New York City.



Rev. Ashlee Wiest Laird, First Baptist Church, Jamaica Plain and Franny Charles, MIT Sailing Master.



SAM JOHNSON PHOTOS

Left to Right: Barbara Zighera (JP), Alison Pultinas (Mission Hill), and Sarah Freeman (JP).



Left to Right: Kay Mathews, Jamaica Pond Association and Liz Bean, President - Footlight Club.



Sarah Freeman (JP).



Alison Pultinas, Mission Hill.

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**JP OBSERVER**

**Tree protections back to square one—on the way to final passage**

BY SANDRA STOREY / SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

A tree ordinance that would protect Boston’s tree canopy from random tree removal was discussed at the Boston City Council Committee on Government Operations recently. The ordinance was met with the same strong enthusiasm that it did on August 25, 2021.

This time it won’t take a year-and-a-half for a tree preservation ordinance to just go back to a committee hearing, according to City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, the original sponsor.

At the hearing, Arroyo said, instead of presenting one big ordinance to the City Council, it would be divided into four “buckets” to make it simpler to shepherd it piece by piece through the full council.

“We’ll take it gradually,” he said. “We’ll be done in a year,” he promised several times.

The current ordinance is the result of several drafts that mostly simplified, reorganized

and added details to the 2021 version.

A very important process transpired during the gap between the tree protection ordinance hearings: community people worked with experts and officials to create a detailed, illustrated Urban Forest Plan for Boston. They looked at the tree canopy that exists and talked about how to preserve and enlarge it. Trees are extremely important to climate and to peace of mind.

Liza Meyer, chief landscape architect of the Parks Department, pointed out that the tree canopy covers 27 percent of the city. Some neighborhoods have more trees than others. And some experienced tree loss between the study period of 2014 to 2019. “Most loss has been on residential land,” she said.

No one used the word “controversial” to describe the “bucket” that will hold the regulation

of tree removal from privately-owned residential land that’s being developed, but it well may be controversial. Some other cities, when their tree ordinances were created, put a moratorium in place as soon as the regulation was introduced to prevent a rush to cut down trees willy-nilly for development before it went into effect.

Sponsors of the ordinance that drew comments for almost four hours in City Hall on March 13 were Councilor Arroyo from Hyde Park, now the chair of that committee, Councilor Liz Breadon of Allston/Brighton, and Councilor Kendra Lara of Jamaica Plain. Other councilors, City administrators and members of the public spoke about the now streamlined ordinance and process for passing it.

Remaining bunches of the regulations will be about trees on public land and trees on private land where buildings already ex-

ist, as well as the establishment of fines for breaking different tree removal rules.

“We are creating opportunities for sister agencies,” Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space for the City, added, referring to all the different City agencies that end up dealing with tree preservation issues in the course of their work.

Everyone in attendance at the hearing seemed thrilled when Parks and Recreation Department Commissioner Ryan Woods announced a director of Urban Forestry and three more arborists have been hired to work with Max Ford-Diamond with support and help from the community.

Councilors Ed Flynn, Tania Fernandes Anderson, Kendra Bok, Julia Mejia, Ruthzee Louijeune and Gabriela Coletta voiced support for the ordinance.

JP’s Councilor Lara said, “It’s past time to have this ordinance”

and spoke of the importance of having community involvement with tree maintenance.

Sarah Freeman of the Arborway Coalition in JP, too, said, “We’ve been waiting a long time” for the tree protection regulations. She said the department of health and hospitals in Louisville mobilized recently when the tree canopy went down to 37 percent. “We need to do more education,” she said.

This is the fifth column I’ve done in eight years on the topic of preserving our trees—especially our mature ones. I got so many calls when I was editor of the Gazette from unhappy people watching and/or listening to neighborhood trees being hacked down. They usually didn’t start crying or swearing until I had to tell them there was nothing they or the City could do about it without regulations.



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# CELEBRATING ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT BRENDAN BEHAN PUB

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUJIAN



Haley Norris, Read Jones, Mia Govoni.

The Brendan Behan Pub was a sought after destination to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with some Guinness, good friends, and good times.



Bar Manager Michelle with bartender Jessica.



Jack Demarco and Ethan Michaels.



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Mairead Murphy is at the bar serving up the Guinness pints.

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# CELEBRATING ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT BRENDAN BEHAN PUB

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUNJIAN



Dyanna Jaye, Dani Moscovitch, Sarah O'Connor, and Jonathon Feinberg of Boston band Tigerman Woah.



Brendan Behan Pub on St. Patrick's Day



Chrisper and Michel share a laugh.



Michel and Lyndon.



Jack and Charlotte are enjoying their St. Patrick's Day drinks.

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BWSC encourages Boston property owners to contact our offices for a free inspection of the property's water service pipe. If the pipe is lead, receive a no obligation estimate of the cost for replacement. Eligible property owners may qualify for a credit of up to \$4,000 towards the cost of replacement by taking advantage of this voluntary program.



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# Expansion of 2023 SuccessLink Summer Youth Jobs program announced

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity (YEO) last week announced the expansion of the SuccessLink Summer Youth Employment program for 2023. The program is now accepting applications. Boston youth ages 14-18 can apply for in-person and hybrid summer job opportunities at nonprofits, community-based organizations, and City agencies. This year, the City made an unprecedented \$18.7M investment in youth jobs, the largest in Boston's history. This funding will support 5,000 youth jobs in partnership with local nonprofits and community organizations and 2,000 City based youth jobs, making the City the largest em-

ployer for youth summer jobs in Boston. The program's expansion is part of a larger effort to incentivize both nonprofit and corporate employers' commitment to reach pre-COVID summer job levels.

"Ensuring that every young person across our city has access to job opportunities is critical in our work to lay a foundation for Boston's youth to grow and thrive," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "The City's youth summer jobs program is critical in empowering our youth and connecting them with opportunity. This year, we are expanding the number of youth jobs available and deepening our partnerships which will allow our young people ex-

plore careers and develop their skills. I'm grateful to all of our partners and employers for their commitment to our young people and encourage every teenager and young adult to apply for a summer job."

"As a city, choosing to invest in young people will always be the right decision. Youth jobs are essential to giving young people a space to develop themselves into young professionals; exposure to various industries and occupations; explore where their interest can intersect with the impact they desire to have in the world; to build relationships with trusted advisors and develop skills to be prepared for future career and educational opportunities," said Rashad Cope, Deputy Chief of the Worker Empowerment Cabinet and the Office of Youth Employment & Opportunity. "We know how critical it is to ensure every young person has access to job opportunities, and collectively we are committed to this, alongside our incredible partners and employers who make these employment experiences possible for Boston youth."

Led by the Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity, SuccessLink is designed to not only recruit and hire youth, but also to ensure that their employment experience is engaging, meaningful, and advances their professional and personal development. Last fall, Mayor Wu established the Worker Empowerment Cabinet to advance the wellbeing of Boston workers, led by Chief Trinh Nguyen. Expanding economic opportunities for youth through access to quality jobs, skills training, and career pipelines is a key priority of the cabinet. The Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity, formerly the Department of Youth Engagement and Employment (DYEE), was moved to the Worker Empowerment Cabinet to lead this work.

"Getting a summer job can be life-changing for young people in terms of gaining work readiness skills, identifying career interests, obtaining a mentor, and in many instances, getting that first, memorable paycheck," said Trinh Nguyen, Chief of Worker Empowerment. "The City of Boston is grateful to the many community partners coming together to provide these opportunities for our young people. We look

forward to working with all of them to help build for the future."

Each year, YEO partners with a wide range of nonprofit organizations, City agencies, and lead youth employment providers, including Action for Boston Community Development, the Boston Private Industry Council, Artists for Humanity, John Hancock MLK Scholars, and the Boys and Girls Club of Boston to create youth summer jobs. Youth have the opportunity to get connected to various industries that provide inspiration for long-term careers such as the arts, health care, STEM, sports and recreation, education, and public administration.

"SuccessLink is the foundation for the entire Mayor's Summer Jobs Program. It is the one source for summer youth employment that is open to all Boston teenagers, regardless of neighborhood or high school," said Neil Sullivan, Executive Director of the Boston Private Industry Council. "The young people who connect with private sector opportunities through the PIC often credit their prior SuccessLink job as preparing them for a summer internship in healthcare, finance, life sciences, architecture, or other profession."

"ABCD is pleased to partner with the City of Boston to ensure that young people of Boston have an abundance of summer employment options," said Sharon Scott-Chandler, President & CEO of ABCD, Inc. "As a longstanding provider of access to youth employment and career development services through our SummerWorks program (and other programs), ABCD understands very well that these initiatives build a foundation to support academic achievement and future employment successes."

"Artists For Humanity is excited to grow our partnership with the City of Boston's Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity this summer by providing hundreds of teen jobs with meaningful summer learning experiences for our City's young people," said Anna Yu, Executive Director of Artists For Humanity. "With the ambitious vision of YEO, and hundreds of amazing partner organizations, Summer 2023 is on track to be the best and biggest year ever for creative teen employment in Boston! We are honored to play a part in

helping to make this possible."

This year, YEO has expanded its youth jobs grantmaking efforts to provide more funding directly to nonprofit organizations to design job experiences, remove barriers to enrollment and transfer administrative responsibilities to allow for a more streamlined process. These expanded efforts will encourage greater collaboration, coalition building, and learn and earn models among higher education institutions and job providers in the youth employment space.

To ensure that all youth have equitable access to these opportunities, the City will continue to support organizations that focus on proven at-risk youth populations (e.g. justice-involved youth, foster care, youth experiencing homelessness, etc.) YEO will work to ensure that disadvantaged youth get access to employment opportunities through the Massachusetts Commonwealth Corporation YouthWorks partnership. Additionally, the department will again work with the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement (MOIA) to provide immigrant youth with hands-on leadership and skills training, regardless of immigration status.

"People don't realize how quickly your status can change and how much it can limit your opportunities. As a former Dreamer, I know what it's like to feel frustrated by that because I had so much to offer to the world," said Monique Tú Nguyen, Executive Director of the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement. "Through opportunities like this, we can ensure that this generation of youth has opportunities that I didn't have, and the world can benefit from their full potential."

The SuccessLink webpage has been updated to make it easier for young people to navigate the application process. Youth can view job postings, see a list of required documents, and apply directly to the organizations. The Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity also offers application assistance. Youth can visit the office in person, Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 1483 Tremont Street in Roxbury, or call 617-635-4202 to get help.

The Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity will also

Continued on page 13

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7*	2 Bedroom	883-961	Income Based (Not to exceed 30% of gross income)	30% AMI	1	-
1*	3 Bedroom	1,236	Income Based (Not to exceed 30% of gross income)	30% AMI	-	-
23	1 Bedroom	577-636	\$1,485	60% AMI	3	-
15	2 Bedroom	884-1,051	\$1,776	60% AMI	2	1
3	3 Bedroom	1234-1236	\$2,045	60% AMI	1	1
3	Studio	407-450	\$2,210	100% AMI	-	-
15	1 Bedroom	577-652	\$2,367	100% AMI	1	1
2	2 Bedroom	946	\$2,840	100% AMI	-	-

\*\* (3) 1-bedroom, (7) 2-bedroom, and (1) 3-bedroom units Homeless Set-aside units will be filled through direct referral from HomeStart. For more information please contact us at the email address or phone number below. For direct referrals, please visit <https://www.homestart.org/bostonhsa>.

# of bedrooms	Minimum Incomes (set by owner + based on # of bedrooms + Area Median Income (AMI))				Maximum Incomes (set by HUD/MOH + based on household size + Area Median Income (AMI))			
	30% AMI	60% AMI	100% AMI	Market	Hous ehald size	SECTION8/ M RVP/ LIHTC/ HOME Up To 30% AMI	LIHTC Up To 60% AMI	MassHousi ng Program Up To 100% AMI
Studio	N/A	N/A	\$66,300	\$68,970	1	\$29,450	\$58,900	\$98,150
1 Bedroom	N/A	\$44,550	\$71,010	\$83,550	2	\$33,650	\$67,300	\$112,200
2 Bedroom	N/A	\$53,280	\$85,200	\$117,300	3	\$37,850	\$75,700	\$126,200
3 Bedroom	N/A	\$61,350	N/A	N/A	4	\$42,050	\$84,100	\$140,200
					5	\$45,450	\$90,850	\$151,450
					6	\$48,800	\$97,600	\$162,650

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Applications are available during the application period for 60 days, from Thursday, March 16, 2023 to Monday, May 15, 2023.

Applications are available in person on the following days, dates, and times in the following place(s)

Date/Time	Location
Tuesday - Thursday, 2:00PM - 6:00PM; Friday 10:00AM - 1:00PM	Connolly Branch of the Boston Public Library, located at 433 Centre Street, Boston MA 02130
Monday - Friday 8:30AM - 5:00PM	225 Centre, 225 Centre St. Boston, MA 02130

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We will be holding informational meetings on the following dates:  
Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM  
at the South Boston Library Branch located at 640 East Broadway, South Boston, MA 02127

Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 6:00 PM  
at Amory Street Apartments, 125 Amory St. Boston, MA 02119

Join virtually, too, through the following link:  
April 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM <https://v.ringcentral.com/join/580646994>  
May 3, 2023 at 6:00 PM <https://v.ringcentral.com/join/957234276>

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# Youth Jobs

*Continued from page 12*

be hosting a Youth Job and Resource Fair at the Reggie Lewis Center on Saturday, April 22, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Youth will have the opportunity to connect with 100+

summer employers, access youth resources, receive job application assistance, and win prizes. Refreshments will be provided. Parents and/or guardians are welcome to attend with their youth.

Applying for a summer position with SuccessLink does not guarantee a job but the goal is to

place as many youth as possible. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Youth are encouraged to get their applications in early. For more information on the 2023 SuccessLink Summer Youth Employment program, visit [boston.gov/summer-jobs](http://boston.gov/summer-jobs).



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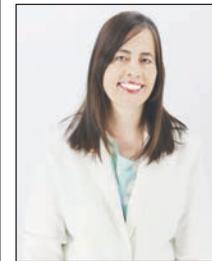
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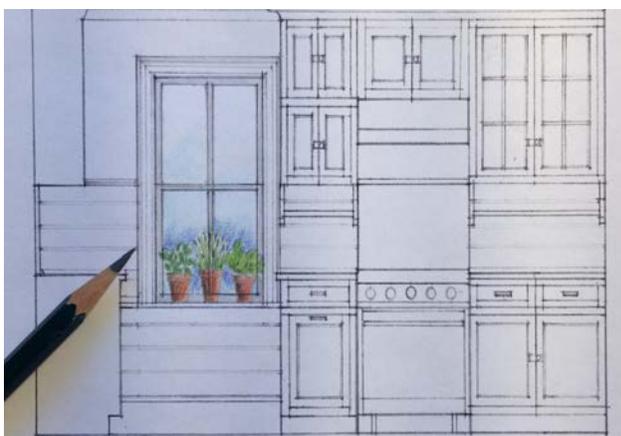


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## Whittier Health Center stresses importance of colorectal cancer screening awareness

In an effort to help stem the rise of colorectal cancer in underserved communities of color, Whittier Street Health Center, a community health center with a mission to serve as a center of excellence that provides high quality and accessible health care and social services that achieve health equity, social justice, and the economic well-being of a diverse patient population, is stressing the importance of screenings and early detection of the disease.

According to the 2020 Data Report on Colorectal Cancer in Massachusetts, colorectal cancer is the most commonly diagnosed and third cause of cancer deaths among men and women in the state, with the highest incidence between 2012-2016 among Black non-Hispanics.

Whittier hosts specialized colorectal cancer workshops for staff on clinical guidelines and protocols on screening options, an initiative that underscores the value of early screening and proven strategies to reduce and prevent colon cancer. In addition, Whittier conducts community-based outreach to deliver promotion of and education about the importance of screening and preventative measures as well as lifestyle changes to avert the disease. Smoking cessation, a healthy balanced diet, limiting alcohol intake, routine exercise, and maintaining a healthy weight are all proven measures to help guard against colorectal cancer.

"We are dedicated to closing the disparate gap of high mortality rates resulting from colorectal cancer in minority, low-income, and immigrant communities," said Frederica M. Williams, president and CEO of Whittier Street Health Center. "Our capacity to do so hinges not

only on delivering necessary innovative programs, but bringing them directly to the populations we serve."

Whittier Street Health Center is an independently licensed community health care center with a mission of providing high quality, reliable and accessible primary healthcare for diverse populations while promoting wellness and eliminating health and social disparities. A champion of equitable access to high quality, patient-focused care, social justice and economic equity, Whittier Street Health Center is accredited by The Joint Commission (TJC), certified by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) as a Patient-Centered Medical Home, and recognized by the NCQA for its Behavioral Health Integration. Through its locations in Roxbury and North Dorchester, and its Mobile Health Van program, Whittier Street Health Center serves more than 30,000 patients and 20,000 community outreach visits annually; its ethnically and racially diverse patient base is primarily made up of individuals from Roxbury, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, the South End and greater Boston. Approximately 28% of Whittier's patients are uninsured. Whittier Street Health Center provides a comprehensive array of 40 healthcare programs and services designed to meet the primary health care, behavioral health, and social needs of the community. For more information, please visit [ww.wshc.org](http://ww.wshc.org) as well as Facebook ([www.facebook.com/WhittierStreetHealthCenter](https://www.facebook.com/WhittierStreetHealthCenter)), Twitter (@Whittier\_Boston), or LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/whittier-street-health-center>), or call 617-989-3221.

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# Activist with local ties stands strong to one more challenge: Stage 3 ovarian cancer

Most of us work not only to get a living wage, but also to access a safety net that will protect us when age or infirmity reach us. We chain ourselves to jobs that pay into social security, 401 K or other such funds in fear of being left out when we need it most. Yet very often an unexpected accident or illness leave many in our communities without any resources. This is particularly true of those that don't qualify for employer benefits or government programs or pensions, or whose work life has been non-linear. Artists, restaurant workers and small business owners often come to mind. But this is also true of our many community activists who forgo more stable careers to work and advocate for underserved communities. This is the case of Karen Kieffer.

Karen came to Jamaica Plain right out of college. The community spirit and aspirations of the time echoed her own. Like her brother, Tom, a lifelong activist, Karen saw the sense of urgency in the plight of others, whether



Karen Kieffer.

at home or elsewhere. Inspired by Puerto Rican organizing she witnessed in Boston, Karen began to work with some rural communities being displaced by the civil war that was raging in El Salvador. She made various trips with a sister city organization in Ohio until 1989 and then again during the early 1990s while doing her masters research at Tufts University.

It was during one of those research visits, that Karen decided to stay as a human shield to Bishop Medardo Gomez, a Lutheran

pastor who had been detained and tortured in 1983 and was facing continuous death threats. These were not idle threats. In 1980, four American nuns and a laywoman, had been killed, and, in 1989, six Jesuit priests and their housekeepers were similarly murdered. Her commitment to the people of El Salvador continued, working with the SHARE Foundation between the years 1995-97, investigating and making recommendations for the UN Peace Accords after the civil war. She engaged in work on environmental issues in Latin America and at home. But it was in El Salvador that she fell in love, married, became a parent, and where she continued to go and call second home long after that young marriage and the twelve-year civil war were over.

Though her initial interests and career aspirations related to food systems and the environment, she saw all of these movements as inextricably connected. Karen came back and continued to work with different commu-

nities as she got her degree in social work. Focusing on issues of mental health and disability, she worked with people recovering from trauma, did training in self-advocacy and wellness, and worked to change treatment systems at the systemic level. These were the things that kept Karen busy until her diagnosis surprised her this past December. She had just transitioned between jobs and had not worked long enough to accrue much sick time. With a work life characterized by pivots, as is sometimes the case, Karen now finds herself unable to qualify for any disability benefits. Without accumulated resources to support herself during this time where there is no income coming in from working.

Karen's activism and social work has always come from the experiences related to her own life, addressing issues of whiteness and racism with white people, promoting collaborative decision making and being active in the LGBTQ community with

a special place in her heart for trans people. She has always valued listening to people life experiences, paying close attention to their ideas of what solutions look like for them.

Karen's has been constantly present in community efforts for a better world—immigration, the environment, mental health, LGBTQ. Now that Karen is battling Stage 3 ovarian cancer, it is time to remember to look after each other. And with all that Karen has given, I guess it is time for the community to give back.

A Go Fund Me page has been set up to help Karen with immediate needs such as paying rent, food, transportation, and the burden of out of pocket treatment expenses. Let us help. There is an upcoming special event on April 8, 2023 listed there involving karaoke, trivia and an auction. To donate and for more information, here is the link: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/supporting-karen-through-cancer-treatment>.

## Suffolk County remains at low COVID-19 community levels according to the CDC

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), is encouraging residents to be mindful of the risk of COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses. While Suffolk County is still at low COVID-19 community risk level according to the CDC, gathering in large groups, particularly indoors, increases the risk of transmission.

New COVID-19 cases have decreased 10% over past 7 days and by 34% over past 14 days. New COVID-19 related hospitalizations have stabilized over the past week (1% increase) but have decreased by 34% over the past two weeks. The latest data from Boston's wastewater surveillance program show a city-wide average of 479 RNA copies/mL, representing a 46% decrease over the past 14 days. Nine of the 11 neighborhoods surveyed are below this average.

Residents should also make sure they are up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations, and those interested in receiving the \$75 gift card incentive for a vaccine or booster should do as soon as possible. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is ending this incentive program

after March 31, meaning BPHC will no longer give out the \$75 gift cards at its standing clinics.

COVID-19 testing, vaccines, and boosters are free and widely

available at BPHC's five standing sites.

Boston City Hall – 1 City Hall Sq., Boston.

Open Mondays 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

and Wednesdays 12-5 p.m.

Bruce C. Bolling Building – 2300 Washington St., Nubian Square.

Open Tuesdays – Saturdays

12-8 p.m.

For more information on testing and vaccination sites around Boston, visit [boston.gov/covid19](https://boston.gov/covid19).

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## Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll

### 'CHIEF' & 'BLACKIE'

Chief and Blackie are looking for a home together! No kids or cats for them, but they like other dogs and warm up quickly to adults! They are 1 year old.

"Gazette Pet of the Week" is sponsored by  
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THE RESIDENTIAL GROUP

# Wu announces \$626,000 in Boston Cultural Council grants

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture, in collaboration with the Boston Cultural Council (BCC), last week announced 160 arts and cultural organizations have been awarded grants totaling \$626,000 through this year's Boston Cultural Council grant program. The Jamaica Plain Music Festival for music was a recipient.

"Boston's arts and cultural organizations play a vital role in ensuring everyone in our city has access to opportunities for creative expression and cultural celebration," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "This continued investment is an important step in building a sustainable and thriving arts ecosystem in Boston."

The Boston Cultural Council (BCC) works under the umbrella of the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture to annually distribute funds allocated by the City of

Boston and the Mass Cultural Council for local arts and cultural programming. The BCC distributes grants for general operating support to organizations with budgets under \$2 million that offer arts or cultural programming in Boston, and helps to ensure that the City's grant-making responds to the needs of the cultural community. This year's total of \$626,000 in grant funding consisted of \$297,200 from Mass Cultural Council, \$250,300 from City funds, and an additional \$78,500 from the Boston Red Sox to support Fenway-based organizations.

"As a participatory grant-making body, the Boston Cultural Council believes that through supporting a vibrant and equitable arts ecosystem in the city, and committing to effecting positive change, we together can inspire the transformative arts landscape that our communities need

and that artists can grow within," said Jennifer Falk, Chair of the Boston Cultural Council. "We celebrate all our awardees and their unwavering commitment to value artistic expression in all forms as a necessary language of the human condition."

Grantees receive \$2,000, \$3,500, or \$5,000 grants depending on the organization's budget size. In 2021, the BCC made the decision to shift the funding structure so that organizations with the lowest budgets receive the highest grant amounts. This funding strategy aims to better support emerging to medium-sized organizations who typically do not have scaled fundraising initiatives to support their programming.

"Nearly half of this year's BCC grantees fall under the smallest budget tier, and many are receiving grants from us for the first time," said Kara Elliott-Ortega,

Chief of Arts and Culture. "We're excited to continue expanding access to creativity and diverse arts and cultural programming across the city."

The BCC focused on small to mid-sized organizations that uniquely serve the City's arts ecosystem and prioritize cultural diversity, economic diversity, inclusion, and equity, through both their staffing and audiences served. Nonprofit cultural organizations whose missions or programming are focused on music, film and video, traditional and folk art, visual art, theater, dance, humanities, literary arts, performing arts, social/civic practice, and multidisciplinary arts were eligible to apply as long as they were based in the City of Boston, or offered programming in Boston.

87% of grantees are based in Boston and 27% are receiving Boston Cultural Council grants for the first time. Nearly \$14 million of grantees' total operating budgets goes toward paying artists. The breakdown of grantee organizations by discipline is as follows:

- Music (28.8%)
- Multidisciplinary Arts (21.9%)
- Dance (12.5%)
- Performing Arts (7.5%)
- Visual Arts (6.3%)
- Traditional and Folk Art (6.3%)
- Social/Civic Practice (4.4%)

- Theater (4.4%)
- Film and Video (3.1%)
- Literary Arts (2.5%)
- Humanities (2.5%)

"Artisans Asylum is thrilled and thankful to have this financial support from the Boston Cultural Council," said Antonio Viva, Executive Director of Artisans Asylum. "We hope to inspire makers from all backgrounds to explore their creativity and bring their inspired ideas into form. As we welcome makers from around the greater Boston community, this grant will help us with our commitment to providing access to classes and programs."

"The Boston Cultural Council's grant to the International Women's Writing Guild provides extraordinary support for our young writers in Boston and our ability to support their literary goals," said Michelle Miller, Executive Director of International Women's Writing Guild. "These young poets and storytellers have written together about racial identity and social justice, providing inspiration and accompanying lesson plans for generations of students to come!"

The City of Boston will celebrate this year's grantees at a reception on Wednesday, May 10 from 6:30-8 p.m. at Artisans Asylum.

## Meet Boston to host Regional Career Fair April 11

Meet Boston, the official destination marketing and sales organization for the Greater Boston area, will host a second annual Regional Career Fair on April 11, at The Hyatt Regency Hotel in Boston. The fair will connect over 200 students and job seekers with nearly 70 top hospitality employers in the region, providing a valuable opportunity to explore exciting career options and connect with industry leaders.

As part of their post-pandemic recovery efforts, Meet Boston is committed to supporting the regional hospitality industry through initiatives like this career fair. Hotel occupancy numbers, which plummeted to 25% in Boston and Cambridge in 2020, reached 68% in 2022 and are projected to exceed 74% in 2023. According to US Department of Labor Jobs Reports for January and February, the US economy has gained over 800,000 jobs thus far in 2023 and nearly a third of them are in leisure and hospitality sector.

"As the hospitality industry continues to rebound, Meet Boston is thrilled to bring together members of our community to support its workforce and propel its growth," said Martha J. Sheridan, President & CEO of

Meet Boston. "With new non-stop routes from Boston Logan International Airport to South America, Canada, Europe and Asia, we will see a surge in international visitation this summer as well. This is the perfect time for job seekers and employers to connect and explore the exciting career options available in this industry."

The April 11 event will be the second career fair that Meet Boston hosts in collaboration with Tourism Diversity Matters (TDM). TDM is Meet Boston's strategic partner in pursuing and advancing diversity and inclusion goals for the travel and hospitality sector in Boston and beyond. Last year, the two organizations joined forces to present a Town Hall and Career Fair, while also launching an Apprenticeship Program that will diversify the travel and hospitality industry through robust workforce development initiatives that emphasize the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in this industry.

"We're proud once again to collaborate with Tourism Diversity Matters on this important event," said Hilina D. Ajakaiye, Executive Vice President, Meet Boston. "We believe that our con-

tinued partnership will have a substantial impact on how we strategically think about diversity, equity, and inclusion in the tourism sector."

Meet Boston's Regional Career Fair will showcase a diverse range of career options within the hospitality industry, with confirmed employers spanning hotels, restaurants, universities, attractions, event management companies, and more. The festivities begin with an invite-only reception the night before, bringing together diverse hospitality workers. Then on Tuesday morning, job seekers will have the opportunity to hear from notable speakers during the Business Leadership Workshop, which both Governor Maura Tracy Healey and Mayor Michelle Wu have been invited to attend.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to:

- Participate in professional development workshops
- Get a free headshots
- Network with industry professionals
- Schedule on-site job interviews and more

The career fair is free and open to the public. For more information and to register, please visit, [meetboston.com/career-fair](http://meetboston.com/career-fair).

## LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

### STUDENTS NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST AT BATES COLLEGE

The following students have been named to the dean's list at Bates College for the fall semester ending in December 2022. This is a distinction earned by students whose grade point average is 3.92 or higher.

Sadie Murray of Jamaica Plain is the daughter of Terrence J. Murray and Nicole S. Murray, is a graduate of Milton Academy. She is a senior at Bates majoring in sociology and minoring in education.

Sarah Jane Gavin of Jamaica Plain is the daughter of Sean P. Gavin and J. Anne Gavin, is a graduate of Winsor School. She

is a first-year at Bates.

Located in Lewiston, Maine, Bates is internationally recognized as a leading liberal arts college, attracting 2,000 students from across the U.S. and around the world. Since 1855, Bates has been dedicated to educating the whole person through creative and rigorous scholarship in a collaborative residential community. Committed to opportunity and excellence, Bates has always admitted students without regard to gender, race, religion, or national origin. Cultivating intellectual discovery and informed civic action, Bates prepares leaders sustained by a love of learning and zeal for responsible stewardship of the wider world.

# Tufts Medical Center provides \$225,000 grant to SOS program, DA Hayden announces

Services Over Sentences (SOS) a program dedicated to presenting lower-level offenders with alternatives to traditional sentencing, has received a \$225,000 grant from Tufts Medical Center, District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced.

The grant, to be paid out over three years, will help the Suffolk district attorney's office and its SOS partner, North Suffolk Mental Health Association, to offer assistance in substance use disorder treatment, housing, employment, job training, therapy and other services to SOS participants, including those from the area of Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard (Mass and Cass), where SOS expanded last year.

"Tufts Medical Center has played a critical public health role in Boston for more than two centuries, and with this generous grant they are proving once again that their commitment to Boston's citizens goes beyond the top-notch medical services they provide day after day and year after year. This gift will help many lower-level offenders find a path out of addiction and all of its damaging personal and community impacts. We are deeply

grateful for this wonderful and meaningful grant," Hayden said.

"We are proud to support this critically important program, which provides a compassionate and effective approach to addressing the behavioral health needs of high-risk individuals," said Michael Tarnoff, MD, CEO of Tufts Medical Center. "This program helps participants achieve long-term recovery and diverts people away from the criminal justice system. We believe in the importance of community collaboration and are honored to be a part of this vital effort."

Since June 2022, the SOS program has received 107 referrals, 73 of them from the Mass and Cass area. As of today the program has 32 active participants.

All charged individuals are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden's office serves the communities of Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop, Mass. The office handles over 20,000 cases a year. More than 160 attorneys in the office practice in nine district and municipal courts, Suffolk Superior Court,



Michael Tarnoff, CEO, Tufts Medical Center; Marc Tohme, Chief of the District and Municipal Courts, Suffolk DA's office; Caitlin Gillespie, SOS Coordinator, North Suffolk Community Services; Katie O'Leary, Director of Recovery, North Suffolk Community Services; Sherry Dong, Senior Director of Community Benefits and Health Equity, Tufts Medical Center; Diana Richardson, President, Tufts Medical Center.

the Massachusetts Appeals Court, the Supreme Judicial Court, and the Boston Juvenile Courts. The office employs some 300 people and offers a wide

range of services and programs to serve anyone who comes in contact with the criminal justice system. This office is committed to educating the public about the

services we provide, our commitment to crime prevention, and our dedication to keeping the residents of Suffolk County safe.

## A SHORT STORY ABOUT A HARD CURVE. AND A HOME RUN.

Carol Truncale's story isn't just about how she prevailed through a severe childhood case of scoliosis, or curvature of the spine. It's about what she did when she grew up.

She became a nurse—a decision inspired by the support and dedication she received from her own medical team during her long years of treatment and successful recovery.

Carol Truncale's story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know: don't give up, and remember to give back. If Carol's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.



aaos.org/75years



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## EDITORIAL

# The St. Patrick's Day Parade: The good, the bad, and the ugly

For those of us of Irish descent, whose great-grandparents came to this country at the turn of the 20th century with not much more than the clothes on their backs, whose grandfathers served in WWI, and whose fathers and uncles fought in WWII, it has been with a mixture of pride and some degree of bemusement to see St. Patrick's Day become widely-observed by Americans of all ethnicities all across the country over the past 20 years.

The contributions of Irish immigrants to America's greatness, similar to those of other ethnic groups, have been ignored for decades, so to the extent that St. Patrick's Day has served to highlight both the plight and pluck of our Irish forebears has been extremely gratifying.

It was not all that long ago when John F. Kennedy became the first Irish-Catholic President, though his candidacy was seriously debated in political circles because of the widely-held belief that he would be taking his orders from the Pope. Kennedy felt compelled during the primary campaign, when it was clear that he was the front-runner for the Democratic nomination, to give a long speech about "the Catholic question," which he concluded by stating, "So I hope we can see the beginning of the end of references to me as 'the Catholic candidate' for President."

Though St. Patrick's Day has been a major celebratory holiday for generations of Irish-Americans in enclaves such as New York City, Boston, and Chicago, it only has become a major event across the country, from east to west and north to south, fairly recently.

But unfortunately, the recognition of the achievements of Irish-Americans also has been accompanied by the sort of revelry that has fed into the worst stereotype of Irish-Americans -- and of course, we're referring to the heavy-consumption of alcohol that has become part and parcel of St. Patrick's Day celebrations everywhere.

That brings us to the St. Patrick's Day parade in South Boston this past Sunday. While it was nice to see the parade return in full force for the first time in a few years because of the pandemic, the degree of public intoxication by those along the parade route was both frightening and disgusting.

Here's an excerpt from the Boston Globe story about the parade:

"In the days leading up to the parade, authorities warned people not to use it as an excuse for public drinking. Liquor stores, bars, and restaurants were required to close early Sunday in South Boston. Despite the warnings, many people were drinking along the route and on the subway Sunday...Some walked the South Boston streets carrying borgs — the nickname given to a 'blackout rage gallon,' a concoction of hard booze, water, and electrolytes, mixed together in a gallon jug. Left behind along the parade route were broken bottles, empty borgs..."

We had the misfortune to be traveling on the Red Line southbound at 4:00, soon after the parade had wrapped up. Every car was packed with young people, almost all under the age of 20, who were heavily-inebriated -- and we're not talking about just a few bad apples. The entire train was filled with underage-drinkers from Quincy, Weymouth, Abington and other So. Shore communities, who were openly imbibing beer and hard-seltzer drinks, throwing their empties around the cars and striking other passengers, even as others among their group were falling into other passengers and vomiting along the route.

By the time the train pulled into No. Quincy station, the Red Line essentially had shut down because of the unruly, drunken youths who were running amuck in the trains and on the platforms. MBTA police had been visible on the platforms during the ride, but they were pulling a Sgt. Schultz (from Hogan's Heroes) -- they feigned obliviousness to the chaos around them.

With the brawls and melees leaving us sitting at No. Quincy for more than 15 minutes, and escalating, we decided to get off the train and meet our ride (who had been having her own bad experience with drunken youths at Braintree Station, who were pounding on cars as they rambled through the parking garage) on Hancock St.

The image that came to mind from the "Last of Us," the HBO hit series in which humans are infected by a rapidly spreading pandemic in which a mutated fungus morphs people into zombie-like creatures -- except in this case, the "infection" was caused by heavy-alcohol intake.

So to the politicians and civic leaders who extolled the "success" of this year's St. Patrick's Day parade, we suggest that next year they get on the Red Line as we did after the parade and see if they still feel the same way about turning a blind eye to the heavy drinking in public along the parade route.

Yes, it was a great day to be Irish, but it also was a sobering (no pun intended) reminder that permitting public intoxication, especially by young people, should never be tolerated even -- and especially -- on St. Patrick's Day.

## OP-ED

## Love cares enough to try

BY DR. GLENN MOLLETTE

Honesty is not always the easiest path but it's usually the most loving path.

Let's say you have a loved one or friend who is diabetic but they eat crazy stuff every day from pizza to cookies to soda pop without regard for personal health. Is it best for you to treat them to treats containing white flour and sugar every chance you can or to have a talk with them? Of course, you run the risk of hurting feelings or making the person angry but chances are they are going to die sooner than they should. It's best to try to save the person's life by being honest. You don't have to cut the person's head off with a verbal assault or face slapping rhetoric.

Love doesn't attack people. You shouldn't get preachy because this runs most people away. Simply preface your remarks by saying, "I'm your friend. I care about you and your life. I want you to live a long time. However, if you don't stop eating what you eat all the time you are probably going to shorten your life." This could pertain to any negative activity or addiction.

Having serious conversations with people is not easy. We are all busy. We aren't close enough to most people to be this direct. Plus, we really have to care a lot about someone to be lovingly honest. We run the risk of the friendship becoming strained or evenly totally severed. The bottom line is do you care enough to be honest? Plus, don't ever start making life recommendations to someone unless you truly love the person and are willing to help the individual work through the issues.

It's easier to let people continue on their negative path to self destruction. Fast food and unhealthy food items are unfortunately much more affordable. It's not cheap to eat healthy. It's not cheap to be sick either. Medical bills can pile up quickly. Trips to the doctor are expensive. Diabetic medications are expensive. Kidney issues result in death for many Americans every year. Funerals are expensive. Giving up a good friend or family member is life changing.

Disease happens to us all in some way. These bodies are very vulnerable to cancer, diabetes and so on.

Chances are you may have tried. Most likely you have talked your head off to someone you love but they continue in their negative behavior. It seems many people under 50 can't fathom sickness or death. The consequences of their behavior seem remote or even impossible. Thus they continue on their way.

Of course we all have to look in the mirror. We all wrestle with our private and public demons. Most of us know we aren't perfect and if we take a serious inventory of our lives and habits we realize we all come away short of perfection, this is especially true of me. I have lots of personal work to do and it's all I can do to try to do my own daily diagnosis and repair work. This is why we don't take the time to try to help others; we have enough problems of our own.

Therefore, this is why you have to really care a lot about someone to take the time to try to help the person.

If you had the gift of premonition and could keep someone from being killed in an accident you wouldn't hesitate to speak with them about it. So, why, if you can help someone address personal issues/addictions that might be deadly, wouldn't you try? Unfortunately, addictions and mental illnesses are issues that people seem to be afraid to address. If someone you love was inside a burning building, most of us would risk our own lives to rush in and save them.

Why is it so hard to risk hurt feelings to save a life?

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

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

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# LEGAL NOTICES

## LEGAL NOTICE

Felix D. Arroyo,  
Register of Probate

3/24/23  
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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 Docket No. SU23P04396D In the matter of: Anna Adams Of: West Roxbury, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Brigham and Women's Faulkner Hospital of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Anna Adams is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Raffaella Witkin, Esq. of Wellesley, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 04/20/2023. 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: March 01, 2023

## LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR REMOVAL OF A GUARDIAN OF AN INCAPACITATED PERSON Docket No. SU06P0951G11

In the interests of: Cathlene Farrell Of: Jamaica Plain, MA To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Lutheran Home of Jamaica Plain of Jamaica Plain, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Remove the Guardian. The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 04/27/2023. 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: March 10, 2023 Vincent Procopio, Register of Probate

3/24/23  
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## 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. SU23P0494EA Estate of: Ladislaa Espinola De Balbuena Date of Death: 11/02/2020 To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Julio Balbuena of Stoughton, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Julio Balbuena of Stoughton, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond 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 04/18/2023. 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: March 07, 2023 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate

3/24/23  
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## LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Division 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU23P0526EA Estate of: Rosa Lopez Date of Death: 05/16/2022 To all interest persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Stephen Whelton of Bradenton, FL and Lisa Whelton of Bradenton, FL requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Stephen Whelton of Bradenton, FL and Lisa Whelton of Bradenton, FL 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 04/19/2023. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty days (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: March 08, 2023 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

3/24/23  
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