

# Jamaica Plain GAZETTE

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FEBRUARY 28, 2025

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PHOTO COURTESY FRANKLIN PARK DEFENDERS WEBSITE

Shown are protesters against the demolition of White Stadium.

## Demolition underway at White Stadium in face of opposition

By ADAM SWIFT

The controversy over the redevelopment of White Stadium has become one of the first disputed issues between Mayor Michelle Wu and recently announced challenger Josh Kraft.

Demolition is underway at the stadium, making way for

the proposed \$200 million public-private project between the city and the Boston Unity Soccer Partners group. The cost of the project will be split between the city and the private group.

The renovated stadium would host a women's professional soccer team, which is scheduled to begin play in the National

Women's Soccer League in 2026. According to Wu, the renovated stadium will be used by the Boston Public Schools about 90 percent of the time.

However, the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, an environ-

*Continued on page 13*

## Proposed Allandale Farm upgrades discussed at public meeting

By MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR.

During a public meeting hosted by the Planning Department earlier this week, attendees heard plans from Allandale Farm at 259 Allandale Street to replace its existing retail structure and its Boston retail greenhouses in hopes of modernizing

operations and becoming more efficient.

As part of the proposal, Allandale Farm, which has been in operation for more than 150 years and has had a retail component for over 60 years, would replace its existing retail structure with an approximately 5,300-square-foot retail market barn and older

retail greenhouses with a new, approximately 5,350-square-foot retail greenhouse.

Further, the presentation during the meeting highlighted that the new retail market barn would be the headquarters for all retail operations and that

*Continued on page 9*

## Montano, Miranda tell JPNC that Arborway Garage project is dead

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The construction of a new Arborway Garage for a portion of the MBTA's bus fleet has been on the drawing boards for more than 25 years -- but it would appear that it may be another 25 years before the project comes to fruition.

That essentially was the upshot of the message presented by State Senator Liz Miranda and State Representative Sam Montano to the members of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) at the JPNC's regular monthly meeting this

past Tuesday evening.

The T first proposed constructing a new Arborway garage in 1999 for its then-fleet of diesel buses. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the city (whose signatory was former Mayor Tom Menino), state, and MBTA included the transfer by the city of its former pole yard land (which is adjacent to the garage) to the T, which in turn would transfer eight acres of another portion of land on the site to the city to be used for community development purposes.

*Continued on page 12*



CITY OF BOSTON MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ROBINSON

Snowboarders in Zones 1 and 2 jump the gap as the record-breaking crowd gazes on during the Red Bull Heavy Metal street snowboarding competition held this Saturday at City Hall Plaza. See more photos on Page 4.



# Licensing board approves 37 new liquor licenses

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The City of Boston Licensing Board has approved 37 new liquor licenses for various establishments across Boston's neighborhoods. The approved applicants—including 28 that received approval earlier today—span neighborhoods across Boston, including Charlestown, Dorchester, East Boston, Hyde Park, Jamaica Plain, Mattapan, Oak Square, Roslindale, and Roxbury. In addition to today's approvals, the Licensing Board previously approved nine applications. The Licensing Board will send applications approved today to the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) for further review.

"Each of these 37 local businesses brings vitality, jobs, and community to our neighborhoods," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm thankful to these entrepreneurs for investing in Boston, to the Licensing Board for their diligent efforts stewarding a smooth and thorough process, and to our partners at the state and local levels who advanced the legislation making this possible. I look forward to celebrating each of these restaurants and community spaces as we build opportunity in our neighborhoods."

"I am grateful to Mayor Wu

and the community leaders whose advocacy made the availability of these licenses possible, as well as the commitment of the Boston Licensing Board and the Economic Opportunity and Inclusion team to advance the intent of the legislation by centering the growth of all of our neighborhoods," said Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. "By coupling these licenses with our wrap-around support services for each awardee, we will ensure the stability of these small businesses, the growth of the local economy, and the vibrancy of our communities for generations to come."

After Mayor Wu and the Boston City Council filed a successful Home Rule Petition, Governor Maura Healey signed legislation on September 11, 2024, bringing 225 new liquor licenses to Boston. This new batch is the single largest addition to Boston's liquor license quota since the end of Prohibition. With this influx, the City has the ability to support diverse local entrepreneurs and boost economic growth. Specifically, the legislation created:

- 195 zip code-restricted licenses (both all alcohol and beer and wine) in Charlestown, Dorchester, East Boston, Hyde Park, Jamaica Plain, Mattapan, Roslindale, Roxbury, South End, and West Roxbury, to be granted

to the City over three calendar years

- 15 all alcohol licenses for community spaces, including non-profits, small theaters, and outdoor spaces
- 12 transferable all alcohol licenses
- 3 all alcohol neighborhood restricted licenses in Oak Square, Brighton

The list of approved first round applications following the 2024 legislation is as follows:

### Zip Code Restricted Licenses

- Crystal Spoons, Roxbury (02118), All Alcohol
- El Centro, South End (02118), All Alcohol
- La Parada Dominican Kitchen, Jamaica Plain (02119), All Alcohol
- justBook-ish, Dorchester (02122), Beer and Wine
- Minina Cafe, Dorchester (02122), Beer and Wine
- One Family Diner, Dorchester (02122), Beer and Wine
- Fresh Food Generation, Dorchester (02124), All Alcohol
- Murl's Kitchen, Dorchester (02124), All Alcohol
- Mofongo Factory, Dorchester (02125), Beer and Wine
- Blue Mountain Jamaican Restaurant, Mattapan (02126), All Alcohol
- Angela's Cafe Orient Heights, East Boston (02128), All Alcohol
- Cabana Grill, East Boston

(02128), All Alcohol

- Cafe Dello Sport, East Boston (02128), All Alcohol
- Con Sabor A Colombia, East Boston (02128), Beer and Wine
- El Jardin, East Boston (02128), Beer and Wine
- Florenza, East Boston (02128), Beer and Wine
- Los Alebrijes, East Boston (02128), Beer and Wine
- Mi Pueblito, East Boston (02128), All Alcohol
- Taqueria Jalisco Orient Heights (02128), East Boston, All Alcohol
- The Smoke Shop BBQ (02128), East Boston, All Alcohol
- Peruvian Taste Restaurant, Charlestown (02129), Beer and Wine
- bb.q Chicken, Jamaica Plain (02130), Beer and Wine
- Don Tequeño y Doña Arepa, Jamaica Plain (02130), Beer and Wine
- Jadu, Jamaica Plain (02130), Beer and Wine
- Mangú Dominican Bistro, Jamaica Plain (02130), Beer and Wine
- Momo Masala, Jamaica Plain (02130), All Alcohol
- Stoked Pizza, Jamaica Plain (02130), All Alcohol
- Harry's All American, Roslindale (02131), All Alcohol
- Mi Finca Mexican Restaurant & Pizzeria, Roslindale (02131), Beer and Wine
- From Scratch, Oak Square (02135), All Alcohol
- SubRosa and Humaari, Oak Square (02135), All Alcohol
- Las Delicias Colombianas,

Hyde Park (02136), All Alcohol

- Little Haiti International Cuisine, Hyde Park (02136), All Alcohol

### Community Space All Alcohol Licenses

- Huntington Theatre Company, Fenway (02115)
- Zoo New England, Dorchester (02121)
- Jeffries Yacht Club (02128)
- Roslindale Substation, Roslindale (02131)

"As these new liquor licenses start pouring into our communities, let us not only raise a glass to these businesses, but also toast to the economic growth across all our neighborhoods. We've heard from so many restaurateurs who are excited for this opportunity, and we could not be more happy for them," said City Council President Ruthzee Louijeune.

"These liquor licenses are great opportunities to spur economic growth in many of our neighborhoods. They are vital to empowering our black and brown business owners as well as making all of our neighborhoods a destination," said City Councilor Brian Worrell (District 4), who authored the initial legislation to create the licenses. "I applaud the Boston Licensing Board for its thoughtful approach to the distribution of these licenses, and I can't wait to raise a glass in some of these restaurants."

"I am grateful to Mayor Wu and the Licensing Board for their outreach work in communities who've historically been excluded from accessing liquor licenses," said State Senator Liz Miranda. "They are making these licenses and new small businesses come to life in our communities. Although many barriers remain, enabling our current and prospective small business owners to secure neighborhood-restricted liquor licenses will help us tackle the racial wealth gap and support gener-

*Continued on page 3*

## MASSART PUBLIC NOTICE

The Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MassArt) will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit on March 16-19, 2025, by a team representing the New England Commission of Higher Education (formerly the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, NEASC).

The New England Commission of Higher Education is one of seven accrediting commissions in the United States that provide institutional accreditation on a regional basis. Accreditation is voluntary and applies to the institution as a whole. The Commission, which is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, accredits approximately 220 institutions in the six-state New England region as well as several other states and American-style institutions overseas.

MassArt has been accredited by the Commission since 1950 (approximately) and was last reviewed in Spring 2017. Its accreditation by the Commission encompasses the entire institution.

For the past year and a half, MassArt has been engaged in a process of self-study, addressing

the Commission's Standards for Accreditation. An evaluation team will visit the institution to gather evidence that the self-study is thorough and accurate. The team will recommend to the Commission a continuing status for the institution. Following a review process, the Commission itself will take the final action.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the institution to:

Public Comment on MassArt  
New England Commission of Higher Education  
301 Edgewater Place, Suite 210  
Wakefield, MA 01880  
Email: info@neche.org

Public Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution. The Commission cannot settle disputes between individuals and institutions, whether those involve faculty, students, administrators, or members of other groups. Comments will not be treated as confidential and must include the name, address, and telephone number of the person providing the comments.

Public Comments must be received by March 19, 2025.

The Commission cannot guarantee that comments received after that date will be considered.



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# The Skating Club of Boston and J.P. Licks announce exclusive ice cream flavor The World's Swirl to celebrate the ISU World Figure Skating Championships

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The Skating Club of Boston, the local organizing committee for the ISU World Figure Skating Championships® 2025, has partnered with J.P. Licks on an exclusive ice cream flavor called The World's Swirl.

The World's Swirl features blue cake batter ice cream with marshmallow swirl that J.P. Licks created exclusively for the international skating event. The flavor will be available for a limited time, from February 19 through the end of the event on March 30.

"We are thrilled to work with an iconic local company like J.P. Licks on this perfect skating treat. We have no doubt that

skating fans from around the world will delight in one of Boston's finest offerings," said Doug Zeghibe, CEO and Executive Director of The Skating Club of Boston, the local organizing committee for the event.

"J.P. Licks is excited to partner with the 2025 ISU World Figure Skating Championships on this exclusive flavor. It's an amazing experience to be part of an event that brings so many athletes from around the world to Boston," said Vincent Petryk, Owner and Founder of J.P. Licks.

J.P. Licks has 17 locations across Massachusetts, with the Boston locations at 659 Centre Street, 1618 Tremont Street, 1106 Boylston Street, 173 New-

bury St. and 150 Charles Street being convenient for those coming for the event and staying in the Copley Square/Back Bay area.

The ISU World Figure Skating Championships® 2025 will take place March 25-30 at the TD Garden. Tickets are currently on sale, and information about tickets and the event can be found at [www.isuworlids2025.com](http://www.isuworlids2025.com). To stay up-to-date with the event, follow the official social channels on Instagram and Facebook.

Locally owned and operated by Vincent Petryk, J.P. Licks now boasts 17 store locations throughout Massachusetts and has remained homemade and locally owned and

operated. The company employs around 450 employees in the summer months and ships coffee (which is roasted in-house at the Jamaica Plain store) and merchandise anywhere in the continental USA. All ice cream and ice cream cakes are made in house in the Jamaica Plain headquarters. Since opening its doors, J.P. Licks has been committed to supporting each store's community by donating in-kind donations to small, local organizations.

J.P. Licks has won many awards over the years for their intensely flavored homemade ice cream and frozen yogurt, including a Best of Boston 2021 award from Boston Magazine. J.P. Licks has received over 300 "Best of" awards over the last 43 years. Known for their high quality, scrumptious treats J.P. Licks was named Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce's 2006 "Small Business of the Year".

The Skating Club of Boston, a

nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, is the third-oldest skating club in the country and a founding member of U.S. Figure Skating. The mission of The Skating Club of Boston is to be the leader in advancing participation, education, and excellence in all disciplines of skating for people of all ages, abilities, and means. In addition to managing numerous training programs, the Club produces many local, national, and international competitions, including serving as the local organizing committee for the upcoming 2025 ISU World Figure Skating Championships. The Club also manages the Boston Common Frog Pond in a year-round partnership with the Boston Parks Department. Its Skating Academy, New England's premiere skating school, offers skating instruction for children and adults of all ages, with nine campuses in the Boston and Metro Boston region. More information about the Club and its programs can be found at [www.scboston.org](http://www.scboston.org).

## Licenses

*Continued from page 2*

ational wealth building in our neighborhoods."

"I am thrilled to witness this legislation come to life and begin making a meaningful impact on businesses in my district and other communities of color," said State Representative Christopher Worrell. "This is just the beginning. In the coming years, waves of new restaurants, bars, and community spaces will revitalize areas of the city that have long been neglected. These new licenses are a catalyst for creating vibrant business districts that Boston residents have been eagerly awaiting. I want to commend the Boston Licensing Board for its dedication and partnership in implementing these reforms in alignment with the bill's core mission: fostering equity and accessibility."

"Jadu's concept is to be a coffee shop by day, wine bar by night and a neighborhood gathering spot, always," said Maya Mukhopadhyaya, Owner of Jadu. "We love coffee and we love wine, but really, we believe good food and beverages are conducive to conversation and connection. Obtaining a liquor license was essential for our concept to work. While coffee shops are such vibrant community spaces, they are grueling businesses. A coffee shop of our size does not make a lot of profit. Being able to operate in the evenings as a wine bar gives our business a chance

to really flourish, while giving Jamaica Plain residents a casual-yet-elevated evening meeting spot."

"We commend this first group of approved applicants for the quality and effort put into their applications," said Kathleen Joyce, Chair of the Boston Licensing Board. "By phasing the process, we aim to give applicants the time they need to present strong proposals, ensuring those granted licenses are set up for long-term success. We look forward to reviewing the next round of applications and encourage all applicants to engage with the Licensing Board as a valuable resource throughout the process."

All applicants completed the application and community process prior to Dec. 6, qualifying them for the first round of the allocation process. The second

round deadline is Friday, May 23, 2025 at 11:59 p.m. Potential applicants are encouraged to start the process as soon as possible. The Mayor's Office of Licensing and Consumer Affairs, the Office of Neighborhood Services, and Office of Small Business staff will continue to support potential applicants through bi-weekly office hours, neighborhood information sessions, and drop-in appointments with the Boston Licensing Board at City Hall, Room 809.

When reviewing the second round of applications, the Board will continue to factor in evolving neighborhood needs, market realities, the strength and sustainability of an establishment's business plan, and the applicant's ability to further economic growth for surrounding businesses.

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## JP CHILDREN'S SOCCER

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**Volunteers needed to assure our ability to hold a Spring 2025! See details on our website at <https://bit.ly/jpcsoccer>**

**Regular season registration ends on April 18, 2025**  
 The Spring season runs from Wednesday April 30th through Sunday June 29th, 2025  
 Registration costs \$25.00 — discounts are available.  
 The spring season is 8 weeks long, every week we hold one 45 min practice for each team, with available sessions on Wednesdays at 4pm, Saturdays at 9, 10 or 11am or Sunday at 10am.  
 Volunteer Activity Leaders are needed to support every team - no experience needed! See our Website for more details or contact us directly at: [contact@jpchildrensoccer.org](mailto:contact@jpchildrensoccer.org).

**Para niños 3.5-6.5. El registro en línea ya está abierto en <https://bit.ly/jpcsoccer>**

**El registro de la temporada regular finaliza el 18 de Abril de 2025**  
 La temporada de primavera se extiende desde el miércoles el 30 de Abril hasta domingo el 29 de Junio de 2025.  
 La inscripción cuesta \$25.00 — hay descuentos disponibles.  
 La temporada de primavera tiene una duración de 8 semanas, cada semana realizamos una práctica de 45 minutos para cada equipo, con sesiones disponibles los miércoles a las 4 p.m., los sábados a las 9, 10 & 11 a.m., o los domingos a las 10 a.m.  
 Necesitamos líderes voluntarios para apoyar a cada equipo, ¡no se necesita experiencia! Visite nuestro sitio web para obtener más detalles o contáctenos directamente en: [contact@jpchildrensoccer.org](mailto:contact@jpchildrensoccer.org).





# Metal Meets Snow

## Red Bull Heavy Metal nails Boston Debut

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Boston witnessed an electrifying debut of Red Bull Heavy Metal, as the iconic street snowboarding competition took over City Hall Plaza and Faneuil Hall for the first time. The event crowned Benny Milam and Jess Perlmutter as overall champions for the man and woman categories respectively, each earning a coveted CNCPTS x Burton 'Rabbit Hole' Collection board as well as a cash prize.

Over 20,000 spectators, the largest snowboard crowd in Boston history, experienced firsthand the high-energy action of the fifth edition of Red Bull Heavy Metal, the first in the sports-obsessed city.

"This is crazy how many people showed up," said Milam. "There is a parking lot out there full of people trying to get a view. This is maybe the most insane turnout of a street snowboarding event like ever. I think its time for round two next year."

Snowboard icon, Zeb Powell secured first place in Zone 1, bringing a never-before felt energy to the iconic steps that lead to Congress Street.

"That was by far the biggest snowboard crowd I've ever seen at any event," Powell said. "The vibes that Boston brought were insane. I honestly don't have words. Simply the largest most electric crowd I've ever experi-

enced."

2025 Boston Winners

• Overall Winners: Benny Milam & Jess Perlmutter

• Zone 1 Winners: Zeb Powell

& Jess Perlmutter

• Zone 2 Winners: Benny Milam & Jess Perlmutter

• Zone 3 Winners: Benny Milam & Jayva Jordan



HEAVY METAL CIRILLI PHOTO



CITY OF BOSTON MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ROBINSON



KANE DIMASSO-SCOTT PHOTO



KANE DIMASSO-SCOTT PHOTO



KANE DIMASSO-SCOTT PHOTO



# SCENES FROM THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF BOSTON'S TRIBUTE TO BLACK LEADERSHIP

MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTOS BY MIKE MEJIA

In celebration of Black History Month, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston on February 19 at the Yawkey Club of Roxbury, hosted an evening honoring the outstanding contributions of Black leaders who have significantly shaped the youth and local communities of Boston. This leadership event offered a unique opportunity to recognize these exceptional leaders, connect across generations, and inspire a continued legacy of impactful service.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston holds a prominent position as the leading and most impactful youth organization in Greater Boston. It serves to catalyze far-reaching opportunities and create more equitable futures for 6 to 18-year-olds across eight clubs and YouthConnect in Boston and Chelsea. Since 1893, BGCB has focused on making the city thrive and has played an essential role for young people

eager to explore their passions, find their purpose, and prepare for a life of success and impact. In partnership with the public sector, private enterprise, related non-profits, donors, and volunteers, BGCB is aligned behind investing in the region's urban talent pipeline and making a generational impact that expands beyond the walls of its buildings and deep into the communities it serves. Helping urban youth navigate a fast-paced global climate steeped in change, the organization is recognized for fueling the future of the city and the Commonwealth through its innovative "readiness" programs centered on three outcome areas: Academic Success, Wellness and Workforce Readiness. It is an affiliate of the Atlanta-based Boys & Girls Clubs of America, with over 5,000 Clubs nationwide serving over 3.6 million young people.



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MONDAY MARCH 10, 2025



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- Hennigan Community Center

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Candidates must be over 18 years old & become JPCC Members

**For Additional Information Call:**  
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## COME VOTE !

**WHERE:**  
Curtis Hall Community Center

**TIME:**  
9:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.

**WHO:**  
J.P. RESIDENT 18 YRS. & OLDER

**Completed Forms Due By:**  
March 3rd, 2025 by 5 P.M.  
in person to JPCC Office at  
20 South Street- 4th Floor or  
electronically emailed to  
[JPCCINC@yahoo.com](mailto:JPCCINC@yahoo.com)



## JP OBSERVER

# There's Lots Wrong with the Current White Stadium Plan

By SANDRA STOREY / SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Demolition of 76-year-old White Stadium in Franklin Park—called the gem of Boston's Emerald Necklace—began the Thursday before the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday long weekend. Work included cutting down dozens of the 147 mature trees scheduled to be removed under a City of Boston/private equity group deal signed in late December.

Plans call for the deteriorated BPS's White Stadium—not in use since the 1990s—to be renovated to host student athletics again. In exchange for funding about half of the capital improvements, it would also be home to a Boston Unity Soccer Partners (BUSP) team owned by a private equity LLC as part of the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL).

The proposal to remake the City-owned facility, officially named George Robert White Schoolboy Stadium on the southeastern side of Jamaica Plain, was unveiled in summer, 2023 after a request for proposals was issued by the City. It's been controversial ever since.

A lawsuit filed against the

public/private sports stadium proposal by a group of local opponents calling themselves Franklin Park Defenders (FPD) and The Emerald Necklace Conservancy (ENC) is scheduled for trial on March 18.

Backed by Mayor Michelle Wu, the project has been the focus of lots of community meetings and hearings, and it's gotten government agencies' and some community residents' approvals.

"White Stadium is a generational opportunity," Wu said in a lease agreement press release, "to anchor citywide youth sports, revitalize community programming, and bolster our beloved, historic Franklin Park, all while creating a home for the City of Champions' [one of several Boston nicknames] newest professional team."

But many people in the area are not thrilled and for good reasons. Opponents of the public/private project have formed the Franklin Park Defenders (FPD).

Stonybrook resident Allan Ihrer, a member of FPD, called the plans "a raw deal" in an interview on Feb. 22. When I asked for whom, he paused and said,

"Ultimately for the students."

A Boston City Council vote on Jan. 29 was tied 6 to 6 on asking for a pause on the construction. Josh Kraft, who recently announced he is running for mayor against Wu, has said he thinks the project should be paused and attended a demonstration saying that.

Plans call for the stadium to be open for casual community use 15 hours a day, including weekends (when not reserved for an event), which is more than it is now, according to a lease agreement signed two days before Christmas last year.

BUSP use will be limited to no more than 20 games a year and one team practice before every game. Their games must begin no later than 8:30 p.m., and they must clean up within three hours after the game is over.

BPS football games and practices used to take place at White Stadium, but they would not under the current plan, because soccer and football seasons overlap. Professional soccer gets dibs.

Much of the maintenance of the field and the stadium will be done by BUSP. Peripheral build-

ing uses at the facility will include lobbies, administrative offices, strength and conditioning space, locker rooms, concession rooms, restrooms, a bike room, in addition to two grandstands, a BPS sports medicine unit, basketball courts, etc. Construction costs for those will be divided between the two, depending on use.

BUSP will plant hundreds of saplings to "replace" the mature trees being removed.

The agreement also says a White Stadium Neighborhood Council will be created to advise the City, BPS, BUSP and the Parks Department on public programming and give feedback on stadium usage.

Opponents' lawsuit's goal is "permanently protecting public open space for future generations," ENC President Karen Mauney-Brodek said in a written statement addressed "Dear Parks Advocate."

She went on to say that ENC will argue that the "new pro-soccer stadium and entertainment complex violates Massachusetts constitutional protections against the privatization of public land."

Maundy wrote that by demolishing part of the stadium and clearing acres of trees on the Friday before a holiday weekend and continuing a month before the NEC/DFP trial date, the City and the team were "showing their disregard for the community."

Taking significant actions on significant projects around holidays, as occurred with the lease agreement and demolition start, is sometimes called a "holiday surprise" or similar terms in journalism and politics. They imply that the party(ies) taking action prefer to not get a lot of immediate public attention.

Construction began quickly, as did the public process, because the whole renovation is on a strict timeline. BUSP wants a functioning stadium by March 2026.

Originally, the proposal called for the City to pay \$50 million and BUSP the rest for renovations.

In December 2024, it was announced that cost estimates for the project had gone up, and the City would have to pay double, or about \$100 million. BUSP agreed

to pay the remainder to add up to a \$200 million total cost. No one is guaranteeing costs won't go up again. Boston taxpayers will have to pay the interest on money it borrows for the project, as well. BUSP will pay monthly rent for 10 years.

Meanwhile, the ENC released an alternate use and design concept, complete with drawings, that would renovate White Stadium only for BPS for a fraction of the \$100+ million price the City would pay as partner to BUSP.

ENC and FPD have both said they recognize there could be other proposals for renovation just for the BPS that would be less expensive than partnering with a professional sports team.

Many have suggested that BUSP consider sharing the Revolution men's soccer team at a new stadium planned in Everett, but BUSP rejected the idea because they thought it would minimize the women's team.

White Stadium seating plans offer a vivid illustration of the public/private contrast. Altogether there would be about 11,000 seats for the professional soccer fans up high in the grandstands, only 1,200 of them would be for Boston student athletics fans.

Many seats that offer views of the soccer field will get rolled out for pro soccer, blocking the view of the track. For student track and field events, the mobile seats will be pulled back.

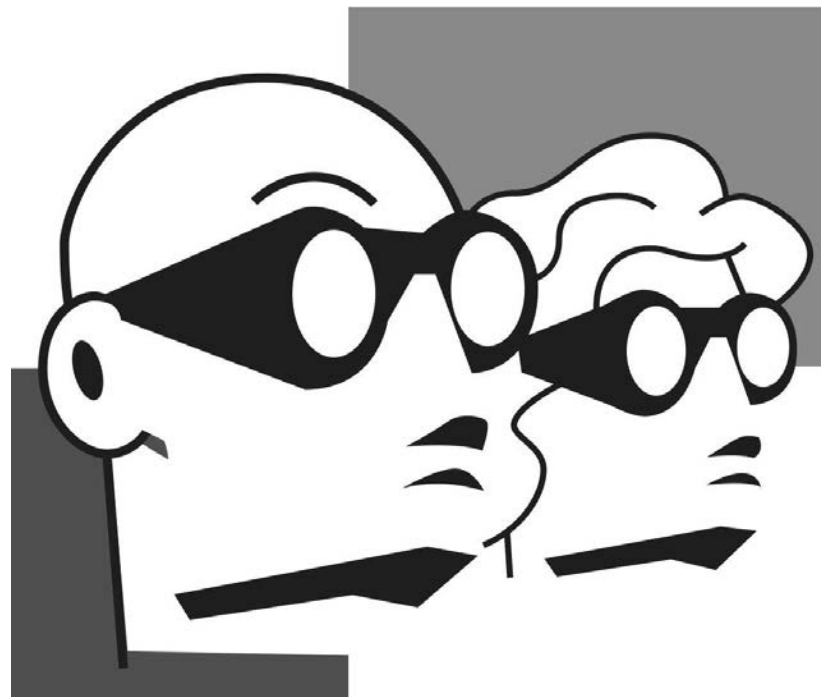
Seats for students' fans will have no cover from the sun. All seats will be 19" wide except for those in the 286 private suites for soccer fans. They will be 24" wide.

Transportation and parking plans for the 11,000 or so people expected to attend BUSP games were developed during the community process, according to the press release about the lease agreement.

The optimistic solutions include: 1) free electric shuttles for ticket holders from Orange and Red Line MBTA stations and "satellite parking lots;" 2) a new Bluebikes station with secure bike parking and a bike valet service; 3) a resident parking system near White Stadium and

*Continued on page 7*

## EYE Q OPTICAL



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# JP singer-songwriter Bob Bradshaw releases 'Live in Boston' album

After releasing ten albums of original songs, Jamaica Plain singer-songwriter Bob Bradshaw has mixed things up with his eleventh release: 'Bob Bradshaw Live In Boston' - 13 songs fine-tuned and reimagined from the many shows he has played in the bars and clubs of New York, San Francisco and Boston.

Bradshaw has been noted for his wordplay, but he likens his approach to lyrics as more akin to painting than to writing. He uses images, characters, snippets of dialogue, a dab of color here and a dab of color there ('The Art Of Feeling Blue' and 'The Wearing Of The Black' are two recent songs, there's a song called

'Blue', and even a song title with TWO colors: 'Ruby Black'). So when it came time to reimagine these songs, the word 'pentimento' came to mind - a term used in art to describe an artist making changes to a painting while it's in process, or when an earlier version becomes visible while being painted over. This can result from the artist seeing again what he may have missed in the original work. When he revisited 'Material for the Blues,' which originally appeared on his 2017 album American Echoes, he realized it felt like a new song, one that he didn't quite know how to sing right the first time round but had since reconsidered.

"I owe a debt to my songwriting heroes - John Hiatt, Nick Lowe and Guy Clark", Bradshaw says. "From their example I've learned to use humor and storytelling in the lyrics, while the music reflects my interest in a wide range of Americana: from the country-politan sweep of 'Albuquerque' to the rock and roll of 'Hot In The Kitchen'; from the heartfelt folk of 'Material For The Blues' to the guitar-driven roots-rock of 'Talkin' About My Love For You'."

Irish-born Bradshaw began his musical journey as a street performer in Europe, living mostly in Germany and Portugal. In the early 90s he found

himself in San Francisco, becoming bandleader of the noted roots/folk-rock group 'Resident Aliens', before moving east to enroll at Berklee College of Music, where he graduated in 2009. Bradshaw has earned widespread praise for his Americana songs and recordings. Folk Radio UK has called him a "masterful storyteller", No Depression hailed his tunes as "instant classics" while The Telegraph UK, lauded his writing as "wonderfully atmospheric," and The Patriot Ledger declared, "Bradshaw is an exceptional songwriter."

'Live In Boston' was recorded in a single day at Q Division Studios, Massachusetts by Rafi

Sofer. Dave Westner mixed the album, and Adam Ayan mastered it. Bradshaw is on vocals, acoustic and electric guitar, accompanied by Andrew Stern (electric guitar), Andy Santospago (electric and steel guitars), James Rohr (keyboards), John Sheeran (bass) and Mike Connors (drums).

For more information contact: Maria Judge at jsmpromotions20@gmail.com (617) 320-9211

Bob's music is at <https://soundcloud.com/bob-bradshaw123/sets/bob-bradshaw-live-in-boston>

## Observer

Continued from page 6

an app-based parking system for non-game visitors to Franklin Park. 4) funding of parking enforcement and oversight by BUSP.

This is assuming that the professional women's soccer fans will be willing to take some time to get there and get home, and that nearby neighborhoods won't get over-run with visitors' cars. Maybe it's even dreaming. City and BUSP agreed to "create an open dialogue" on transportation

and parking with the community, including through the new Neighborhood Council.

Linda Henry announced on Feb. 21 that she was leaving the investment group of BUSP, it was reported by several media outlets last weekend. The co-owner and CEO of Boston

Globe Media Partners, Henry was said to have written online that she gave notice in December. She did not give a reason for her exit.

While everyone is talking about White Stadium, it could have a different name or be combined with a new one if this deal

goes through, and BUSP will probably want naming rights.

I'd say it's a clear thumbs down for this proposal and a cheer for the City of Boston getting the stadium fixed up for the school kids. How about some public fundraising to help pay for that?

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# Friends of the Kelly Rink celebrate outdoor skating center's 25th year

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The Friends of the Kelly Rink, a nonprofit volunteer organization that supports inclusive access to ice skating in Boston is celebrating the 25th anniversary of the only outdoor skating rink in the Commonwealth operated by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). Located in Jamaica Plain, the Kelly Rink has become a vital space for urban youth and families to enjoy.

The rink's creation followed years of tireless advocacy after the closure of the original Kelly Rink and the Melnea Cass Rink in Roxbury left both neighborhoods without public outdoor winter recreation facilities. In the late 1990s, local residents, led by Bill Allan, Michael Frank, and Steve Glickel rallied to bring back a rink for the community. Their persistent advocacy and leadership were pivotal in making the temporary rink behind the Stony Brook T stop on Marbury Terrace a reality.

Friends of the Kelly Rink board members share, "The Kelly Rink is a beloved community asset offering ice skating and all sports associated with ice skating. For 25 years, it has served as a symbol of community advocacy, providing accessible recreation for youth and families in Jamaica Plain and beyond."

Since opening in 1999, the Friends of the Kelly Rink have managed the rink's skate rental operations, initially working out of a used trailer with donated skates. Today, the organization



Students, families, and instructors are all smiles following Saturday morning lessons at the Kelly Rink.

has maintained affordable rentals for local youth and families during public skate sessions and lessons, renting 6,000 pairs of skates last season alone. It also employs local youth and offers a Learn-to-Skate program recognized by U.S. Figure Skating, the sport's national governing body.

The rink was renovated with DCR support in 2009, and the Friends of the Kelly Rink continues to raise funds to keep it accessible and improve its facilities.

State Sen. Liz Miranda and state Rep. Sam Montaña, both strong supporters of the Kelly Rink, emphasized the rink's importance to the community.

"The Kelly Rink is not just

a recreational facility, it is a cornerstone of community spirit in Jamaica Plain and Roxbury," said Sen. Miranda. "It provides not only a place for physical activity but also for connection, inclusion, and opportunity for our youth."

"I've seen firsthand the positive impact the Kelly Rink has had on the families and young people of our neighborhoods," added Rep. Montaña. "This is a space where everyone can come together, and we're proud to continue supporting it. I live around the corner from the Kelly Rink and often hear the screams of joy as families and individuals experience affordable ice time



City Councilor Ben Weber (L) and State Representative Sam Montaña (R) celebrate 25 years of the Kelly Rink.

in the city. My landlord is also an original Friend of the Rink,

so my commitment runs deep! Looking forward to celebrating the work of our community to keep the rink alive."

As the Kelly Rink looks toward its next 25 years, the Friends of the Kelly Rink welcomes support from the community. Volunteers, board members, and donors are needed to help ensure the rink remains a vital resource for future generations.

To learn more or to get involved, please contact friendsofkellyrink@gmail.com or visit friendsofthekellyrink.org.

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## Allandale Farm

*Continued from page 1*

the new retail greenhouse would enable the farm to meet demand and sell plants year-round.

“We started this commercial farm in the 1960s and have used facilities that we inherited that were built back in the 1920s—they are definitely in need of improvement—we are very excited about our new market barn and retail greenhouse as they enable us to be more efficient, to be open year-round for our customers and to continue to help us to save this wonderful piece of land,” said Edward Lawrence, an Owner and Founder of Allandale Farm.

Helen Glotzer, Allandale Farm’s CEO and President, discussed the facility’s need for upgrades. For example, she outlined how the existing retail store is looking to modernize in the simplest ways, such as adding heating, cooling, and even walls.

“For our staff’s comfort, for our customer’s comfort, for the quality of the product that we’re bringing to you, this improved store is going to just go such a long way to us being able to do what we do even better,” said Glotzer, who indicated that the new retail structure would be in the same area the existing one is now.

Glotzer also explained that this proposal would help increase store accessibility for drivers and pedestrians. She highlighted improvements in organization and safety through the planned store layout and the separation of operations and retail.

“Right now, when you come to the farm, if there’s a delivery, it’s happening out in the customer parking lot, so we’re being very careful and thought-

ful about having a back of the house so that we can separate those operations from the front of the house,” she said.

As the presentation progressed, the floor was eventually turned over to Kaki Martin of Klopfer Martin Design Group, the project’s landscape architect, who provided more information on the proposal.

While providing an overview of the site plan, Martin said the farm crosses jurisdictions into Brookline. Though this week’s meeting focused on the above-mentioned upgrades in the Boston area, she briefly mentioned that improvements are proposed to the east and west bay pits and the cider house on the Brookline portion of the land.

Concerning the Boston plan, which includes the new market barn and greenhouse, Martin indicated that the parking lot would remain in its current location, have the same entry and exit areas, and be upgraded with ADA spaces.

“The parking lot is really being sort of organized and made more safe, better for stormwater, the surfaces, et cetera, so in all ways, we’re working on accessibility, safety, and also navigating stormwater regulations and improving the collection of the stormwater on-site,” said Martin.

Further, Martin discussed plans for a crosswalk on Allandale Street, which would take you through the new parking lot to another crosswalk and into what is referred to as the outdoor marketplace between the parking lot’s edge and the new buildings.

Later, Joe Haskett, the project architect of Union Studio Architecture & Community Design, Inc., spoke about building architecture and incorporating sustainability and some history

into more contemporary designs.

Eventually, the floor was opened for attendees to comment and ask questions. As the question-and-answer portion of the meeting progressed, many attendees expressed their support for the proposal.

Additionally, there were some questions. For example, one attendee had asked about a potential cafe at the site.

Glotzer noted that a commercial kitchen is part of the proposal but indicated that a cafe is not currently in the plans. However, they are excited about the idea and could potentially examine it in the future.

A question about the new parking lot was also raised concerning whether it could handle a potential customer increase.

Barry Fogel of Keegan Werlin, LLP, the project’s legal counsel, mentioned that the number of spots in the parking lot would not change very much, but efficiency would improve because spaces would be marked. He also indicated there would be room for 58 vehicles.

Glotzer also emphasized that efficiency will be improved by having designated areas for deliveries and other back-of-house functions.

“Sometimes the spaces that we have out there now are being used for things that aren’t customer vehicles, and because we

have to sort of double purpose them, and that will be much less of the case moving forward,” she said.

Other topics, such as plans for new trees, were discussed, and Fogel mentioned that the hope for construction, following various permit approvals, is to begin at the end of this year.

For more information about the project, visit its webpage at <https://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/259-allandale-street>. The current comment period for the project closes on March 3rd. You can make comments using the link above or by emailing [dylan.norris@boston.gov](mailto:dylan.norris@boston.gov).

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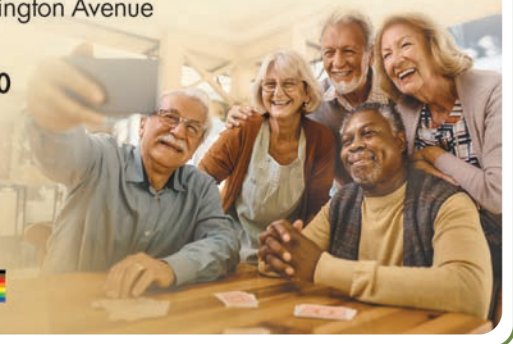
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# JPNC

*Continued from page 1*

Jamaica Plain residents have long sought to use those eight acres for affordable housing and commercial space to benefit the JP neighborhood.

That original project went nowhere. However, fast forwarding to 2022, the T, which was placed under a mandate by the state legislature to electrify its buses by 2040, renewed the project, calling for the construction of a garage facility that would be compatible with an electric bus fleet.

A sticking point with the JP community arose however, because in the intervening 25 years, the city decided it would keep its pole yard property for use as a DPW yard, which in turn caused the T to renege on its

previous commitment to transfer eight unencumbered acres to the city for community development. The T was willing to transfer the land, but insisted on using a good portion of it for an employee parking lot.

However, in light of the news presented by Montano and Miranda at Tuesday night's meeting, all of the discussions pertaining to the garage are now a moot issue.

Sue Cibulsky from the Arborway Yard Subcommittee of the JPNC's Housing and Development Committee began the meeting by presenting an update to the group on the status of the project. She said that the MBTA has paused work on the garage because although the legislature has provided funding for the design phase of the project (which is close to 15% complete), it has not appropriated the funding for the construction of the garage.

"Where we're at now is not going to make anyone happy," said Montano. "The MBTA has not identified the necessary funds to fund the whole project." She noted that the T budgets its capital expenditures in five-year cycles, but the Arborway Garage project is not in the latest five-year plan.

"This has left us with a project that cannot advance and has pigeon-holed us in a lot of ways. We can no longer move forward with the community planning and process," Montano said.

Montano further added that this in turn has left the city "hamstrung" in terms of the proposed transfer of the eight acres of land on the site from the T to the city for community development.

"The MBTA is undergoing a fiscal crisis that will require a half billion dollars annually. Otherwise, there will be reductions in bus and train service,"

continued Montano, who also added that the T still is under a legislative-mandate to electrify all of its buses by 2040 for which the new Arborway Garage would have served as a terminal for about 200 electric buses.

However, without the funding for the garage, that mandate, which also involves issues of environmental justice for communities served by the T buses, also would appear to be a moot issue.

"It's bad news all around," added Miranda, who noted "how bleak" the T's budget issues are.

"In FY 26, the T's operating deficit will be \$700 million and it is projected to grow by about \$50 million per year, which means that the T's annual deficit will be about \$1 billion by 2029," Miranda said.

"The budget shortfalls in recent years have been patched by federal COVID money, but that patch no longer is there and the MBTA's reserves are all but exhausted," continued Miranda. "We've invested almost \$1 billion of the revenue from the millionaire's tax in transportation and 50% of that is going to the MBTA. So we're pumping a lot of money into it, but there still is a shortfall and the shortfall is growing."

She noted that the garage will cost hundreds of millions of dollars, but without the necessary funding to continue with the project, the T is not inclined to transfer the land to the city for community development purposes.

"We're in a situation now where your elected leaders are thinking about how we can work with our community groups such as the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council to address this issue to find funding, because right now, this project is a 'No go,'" said Miranda, who then went into detail about the T's budget woes.

"Right now, the political framework we're working in is that it's really hard to get the rest of the Commonwealth to fund the MBTA," said Montano. "Even though we know it's an economic driver and essential to the economy of Massachusetts, there are regional transit authorities competing for funds and a lot of resentment toward Boston for getting a lot of this money. It's more than the fact we can't find it. There are multiple competing factors as well."

"Governor Healy has expressed her desire to fix the MBTA, but with the current federal administration always barking at Massachusetts, it's going to be a quite difficult two

years to pull the resources we need to keep everything afloat," Miranda added.

"It's kind of mind-boggling how we have these mandates for electricity, but we do not have a roadmap for how to fund these projects," said JPNC member Sarah Freeman.

Cibulsky asked Miranda and Montano about ideas for advocacy for the group.

"We all should be fighting for long-term MBTA funding," said Miranda. "We all need to start sounding the alarm that the MBTA needs billions of dollars. There has to be a comprehensive plan that says that if we want the transportation of the future in order to build the Commonwealth of the future, we're going to need to make the investment."

"The MBTA has had a crisis with competent staffing for a long time, but I'm surprised that there haven't been more dangerous situations. Committing to getting better staff should be a priority," Miranda continued, adding. "MBTA chief Philp Eng has done amazing things in the short time he has been here."

Montano noted that the T's present crisis can be traced to the lack of investment and funding by prior administrations over the years and that the T helped absorb the debt for the Big Dig project.

"One of the things we noticed is that there are many worthy initiatives being proposed by the MBTA," said Carolyn Royce, a member of the Arborway Yard Subcommittee. "There are lots and lots of initiatives, but these can't go anywhere without funding, both for the way the T is operating now and how it plans for the future."

"It's a big mess," said JPNC member Carla-Lisa Caliga. "It's not really fair that we are suffering because our prior leaders mismanaged the T's funds. But the reality is that this project is not going to happen given the current administration in Washington, which doesn't care about transportation for working people."

"Financially we're in a bad place, federally, state, and municipally," concluded Montano. "Things are much less hopeful than when we started this process two years ago. We had made a lot of really good progress, so this is quite frustrating. But the bottom line is that the loss of federal funding has left the state with a lot of holes and restricts where we can allocate finances for big projects such as this."

## Jamaica Plain/Mission Hill Gazette

### 2025 Publishing Calendar

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Mission Hill Gazette Jamaica Plain Gazette





# Boston Forging & Welding owner at home on the job

By DAN MURPHY

Chip Giovanni, the third-generation owner of Boston Forging & Welding, has early childhood memories of accompanying his father to work, and even then, he said he felt right at home there.

"It never felt like work or a chore," said Chip, who as the eldest of three siblings always diverged from his younger brother and younger sister in that unlike them, he always wanted to join the family business.

His paternal grandfather, Joseph Giovanni, started Boston Forging & Welding, around 70 years ago, setting up its operations on the Fish Pier in South Boston. For more 40 years, the business served exclusively the fishing fleet. But the company relocated to East Boston in 1998, amid new regulations on the fishing industry, which meant less work for them.

Chip's father, Ronald Giovanni, went to Valley Forge Military Academy before graduating from Northeastern University around 1970. He then went to work full time at Boston Forging & Welding before assuming the reins of the company when his father retired circa 1980.

Throughout high school and college, Chip worked for the business during summer and school vacations. He started working there full-time in 1989 upon earning a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y.

Subsequently, Chip completed his AutoCAD training at Wentworth Institute of Technology. He has also earned a construction supervisor license, and is a licensed fire escape installer/inspector per the City of Boston.

When his father died in 2000, Chip assumed the company's reins. Sales have since tripled, making it a profitable business again after previously being in the red for a number of years.

"Everyone, family members, tell me their proud of me, and that my father would be proud of me," said Chip.

Boston Forging and Welding Corp. today has the experience and credentials to respond to a wide range of commercial, marine or residential concerns, from fabrication to repair to fire escape inspections, and the company is fully insured/bonded.

Past customers have included U.S. Coast Guard-approved



Chip Giovanni, the third-generation owner of Boston Forging & Welding.

COURTESY PHOTO

jobs, Mass Turnpike-approved jobs, City of Boston-approved jobs, and Boston Redevelopment Authority jobs, and for Logan International Airport, and the company has also done work for the World Trade Center, Prudential Center, Au Bon Pain, and various property management companies.

The vast majority of the company's residential work is

in Boston and Cambridge, with the Back Bay and South End accounting for the bulk of that, Chip said.

And of the approximately 20 welding companies now operating in the City of Boston, Boston Forging & Welding has distinguished itself with a stellar track record over the years, including not having a single customer complaint against them.

Chip points to this as perhaps the truest testament to Boston Forging & Welding's unwavering reputation for quality work.

Boston Forging & Welding is located at 336 Border St. in East Boston. For more information, call Chip Giovanni at 617-567-2300 or email him at [chippaggio@comcast.net](mailto:chippaggio@comcast.net), or visit the company's website at [bostonforgingandwelding.com](http://bostonforgingandwelding.com).

## White Stadium

Continued from page 1

mental nonprofit group, is suing to stop the project.

This week, the group criticized recently publicized emails that they said showed there were behind the scenes negotiations with Boston Unity Soccer Partners to bring a soccer team to the stadium before an RFP for the renovation of the stadium was issued.

"The details reported today regarding the secretive and rigged RFP process between Mayor Wu's office and Boston Unity Partners is extremely concerning, and demonstrates misdirected energy and the wrong priorities, with BPS kids left behind, a community feeling ignored, and Boston taxpayers holding the bag," said Kraft.

On Tuesday, Wu stated that there was a full RFP process that

followed all the standard timelines established by state and city law. Wu added that the city was contacted by the members of the ownership group to keep the city in the loop about the potential to bid for a new team and that the city has been supportive of bringing in as many new opportunities as possible.

A spokesperson for Boston Unity Soccer Partners stated that in pursuit of the NWSL Boston franchise, and a suitable venue for the team's home games, Boston Unity engaged in preliminary and exploratory discussion with the city, and that such exploratory discussions are typical of many municipal processes, and a completely fair and open Request for Proposals process followed.

Last weekend, members of the Franklin Park Defenders, a group of advocates and neighbors opposed to the White Stadium project, gathered at the stadium

to protest the demolition of the stadium and the associated cutting down of trees in Franklin Park.

"Despite mounting public opposition to a planned professional soccer stadium in Boston's historic Franklin Park, construction crews began demolishing White Stadium and clear-cutting trees in the park Friday afternoon," stated a press release from the Franklin Park Defenders. "Dozens of mature trees have been cut down, and crews have begun demolishing the stadium's grandstands."

According to the group, half of the Boston City Council called for an immediate pause on White Stadium demolition and construction until the city releases a fully public renovation option and solidifies other missing plans and commitments.

"The Emerald Necklace Conservancy has proposed such an alternative concept: a high-quality,

fully public renovation of White Stadium that would avoid the many negative impacts of building a professional sports venue in the middle of historic Franklin Park," the group stated. "A detailed cost estimate conducted by Vermeulens, Inc. included in the report found that Boston could renovate White Stadium as a high-quality, fully public high school stadium for \$28.9 million — a fraction of the \$200 million cost of the professional soccer stadium plans, at least \$100 million of which will be covered by Boston taxpayers."

According to the city's website, the goal of renovating White Stadium is to establish it as a premier venue for the Boston Public Schools Athletics Program and a vibrant community hub serving Franklin Park and surrounding communities. The rehabilitation project will expand public access from 9 weekday hours to 15 hours a day, 7 days a week, ac-

ording to city planning officials.

According to the administration, the stadium, built in 1949, currently lacks the necessary facilities and amenities to serve as a comprehensive citywide resource and center for BPS Athletics.

"Through a strategic private partnership, this generational investment in White Stadium is designed to enhance its role within Franklin Park, ensuring greater public access, expanded community programming, and enriched athletic opportunities, all while respecting the historic legacy of Frederick Law Olmsted's design," the city stated on the project website page.

Members of the Franklin Park Defenders also had a standout planned in front of Attorney General Andrea Campbell's office on Wednesday afternoon to fight against what they stated was the privatization of White Stadium and Franklin Park.



## EDITORIAL

### It was great to see Captain Mike Eruzione at the big game

We just wanted to mention that it was great to see Winthrop's own Mike Eruzione serving as the honorary captain of Team USA for the big game with Canada (whose honorary captain was Wayne Gretzky) at the TD Garden last week for one of the biggest international hockey games in several years.

It was 45 years ago this past week (on Feb. 22, 1980) that Mike scored his epic, game-winning goal vs. the Russians at the Winter Olympics at Lake Placid and two days later led the U.S. to the gold medal victory vs. Finland -- the Miracle on Ice that Sports Illustrated labeled as THE #1 sports event of the 20th century.

Capt. Mike's presence on occasions such as these not only brings back those stirring memories ("Do you believe in miracles!!!" in the immortal words of Al Michaels), but also reminds us of a time when sports uniquely had the ability to bring us together and to transcend whatever forces might divide us as a nation.

### State, municipalities must adjust ASAP to the new reality

For those of us who have been around for a while, the warning signs are flashing red for the prospects of a budget crisis for our state and our cities and towns thanks to the promised changes in policies by the new administration in Washington.

It is (in the immortal words of Yogi Berra) *deja vu* all over again

We are not making a political judgment or statement of any kind. We simply are explaining what we see as the new reality for which our elected officials must be prepared.

We were around for the fiscal crises of the late 1970s under Gov. Michael Dukakis; the late 80s/early 1990s under Dukakis and Gov. William Weld; the early 2000s under Gov. Mitt Romney, and the period of the Great Recession under Gov. Deval Patrick in 2010.

Two of those governors were Republicans and two were Democrats, but they all shared one thing in common: Our state's finances were at the mercy of national politics and the national economy, both of which were beyond their control.

The consequences of those fiscal crises were profound and long-lasting. Cities and towns laid off scores of local employees, including teachers, police, and firefighters. Fire stations were closed and athletics and extracurricular activities were cut from school budgets.

At the state level, there were hiring freezes and layoffs. Many state employees, including those in the judiciary, agreed to pay cuts in the 1990s and again in the early 2000s amounting to two-weeks of their salary so that the jobs of their co-workers could be preserved. We would note that such drastic action had not been seen since the Great Depression among the state and local government workforce.

Part of the problem in the 1980s was that cities and towns had become dependent on the revenue-sharing program by the federal government (which was the pet project of Wilbur Mills, the powerful U.S. House Ways and Means Chairman) in the 1970s. Every city and town in the country received a nice check directly from the feds with no strings attached. However, under President Ronald Reagan, revenue-sharing eventually disappeared (to pay for Reagan's tax cuts and defense spending) and cities and towns were left with gaping holes in their budgets that led to the layoffs of the 1980s. A similar scenario is playing out today with promised reductions in funds to the states from the federal government.

In addition, cities and towns in the early 1980s were greatly affected by the passage of Prop. 2 and 1/2, which reduced their revenue-raising capacity.

All of those fiscal crises also shared something else in common: Our officials did not realize until it was way too late that revenue was declining, month-by-month-by-month. The longer they waited to do the obvious, the more pain it caused.

Simple arithmetic informs us that those four financial crises from the late 1970s through 2010 occurred basically in 10-year cycles. We have been fortunate that we have avoided a similar fiscal calamity for almost 15 years. But it would appear that "the times they are a' changin' " and we soon will be in for a rocky road ahead.

Finally, we would note that the breadth of state government has grown hugely in the past few years. Former Gov. Charlie Baker's proposed budget for FY 2022 was about \$45 billion (the legislature eventually passed a budget of about \$48 billion), but this year's proposed budget by Gov. Maura Healey is about \$62 billion, which is more than 25% greater than the final budget of four years ago (and almost 40% more than what Baker initially had proposed).

While it is true that the state has about \$8 billion in its Stabilization Fund (a/k/a the Rainy Day Fund), state coffers have been reduced by more than \$1 billion in the past year and are facing further depletion because of the immigration crisis.

As we write about the goings-on in the local communities we cover, we are amazed at the growth of the bureaucracies at the state and local levels. There are new departments and new jobs that could not have been imagined back when we started our career in journalism 50 years ago. But we think the time is now for our elected officials to face reality and make the difficult decisions to ensure that government's core functions, public safety and public education, are maintained, and eliminate things that are non-essential.

Maintenance for the MBTA is essential. Constructing new, seldomly-used bicycle lanes is not. (We ourselves are dedicated cyclists who train for triathlons, but as much as we'd like to see bike lanes everywhere, we have to concede that they rate at the bottom of the list of government priorities.)

In short, if our elected officials do not take steps now to pare back public spending, then, as history has shown time and time again, when the opportunity for making responsible choices has passed, the eventual day of reckoning will be far worse than we could have imagined.

## LETTERS

### EXTRAORDINARY GENEROSITY

To the Editor,

Jamaica Plain residents, your generosity in 2024 was extraordinary! Together, you donated over 575 thousand pounds of clothing and household goods to Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries, a community-based nonprofit organization.

Last year, Goodwill served more than 6,600 people in its job training programs and career services, helping individuals facing barriers find jobs and create new lives.

Donating to Goodwill is an easy way to reuse and recycle, and it provides those who need to stretch their budgets in today's economy access to quality goods at affordable prices. Your donations make a difference.

Please continue to bring your gently used clothing and household items to the attended trailer inside the Goodwill Store, at 678 Centre Street in Jamaica Plain. (open Mondays-Saturdays 10 am to 7 pm)

Thank you for supporting Goodwill!

Joanne K. Hilferty  
President and CEO

Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries

### ON TRAFFIC CAMERAS

To the Editor,

I am sorry I missed last week's edition where I understand you expressed the view that speed-detecting cameras are ill advised. If we want to address the traffic problem I can't imagine why we would turn our back on this tool. Let me relate a recent experience.

I had the pleasure of driving around New Zealand and Australia for a month last year. When you pick up your rental car you are clearly warned that cameras are in wide use and you will be ticketed; everywhere! City and country.

As I left Melbourne heading west (think leaving Boston on the Mass Pike) I was struck by a strange observation. Everyone was going the speed limit. No one was passing on the wrong side, no tailgating or excessive lane changing. There was an unfamiliar civility about the entire driving experience.

Compare that to home where for 25 years I have been walking my dogs on Commonwealth Ave. It has become a drag strip. High speeds, constantly seeing red lights ignored. And don't get me started on the new scourge: that of the wrong way, unlit, sidewalk driving food delivery motorbikes.

By the way, I've never seen a traffic stop of a passenger vehicle on Comm Ave by the BPD.

So to those charged with making our world safer, let's use cameras to address the speeding and red light infractions. Let's use traffic calming devices seen elsewhere such as city street style speed bumps.

Oh and by the way, Australia, with a road system profile similar to ours, has 40% of the per capita driving deaths we have.

Michael Gallup

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## PLEASE WRITE...

The Gazette welcomes letters to the editor.

Word limit: 500.

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

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[JamaicaPlainGazette.com](mailto:letters@JamaicaPlainGazette.com).

Please include address and telephone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters will not be published.

More information: 617-524-7662

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For more info. call 781-485-0588

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# Jamaica Plain GAZETTE

Circulation 16,400

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

Patricia DeOliveira  
Advertising Manager

Sandra Storey  
Founder/Publisher Emerita 1990-2011

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Stephen Quigley, *President* [stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com](mailto:stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com)

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT Docket No. SU24P0458PM Estate of: Samuel Dhoray A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Armenian Nursing & Rehabilitation Center of Jamaica Plain, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, of the Amended First and Final Account 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 the return date of 03/12/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 05, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett Register of Probate 2/28/25 JP

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 & §5-405 Docket No. SU25P0144PM In the matter of: Jeannette Dieudonne Of: Boston, MA To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Sherrill House of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Jeannette Dieudonne is in need of a Conservator or

other protective order and requesting that Jonathan J. Davey, Esq. of Quincy, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve With Personal Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 03/13/2025. 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: February 12, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett, Register of Probate 02/28/25

JP

### 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. SU25P0295GD Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston MA, 02114 In the matter of: Larry Zanders 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 Larry

Zanders is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve 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 03/11/2025. 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: February 11, 2025 Stephanie Everett, Register of Probate 2/28/25 JP



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