



30 YEARS PURVEYING JAMAICA PLAIN'S FINEST HOMES
LIST YOUR HOME WITH US TODAY
617.835.0674 | CervoneDeeganRealEstate.com

Happy Spring!



30
CERVONE
DEEGAN
CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

POWERED BY
RICARDO
RODRIGUEZ
& ASSOCIATES

MOUNT PLEASANT GROUNDBREAKING — PAGE 5

Vol. 34 No. 7

Printed on
Recycled Paper

Jamaica Plain GAZETTE

781-485-0588

APRIL 11, 2025

WWW.JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM



Mayor Michelle Wu at a press conference at White Stadium on Thursday, April 3 discussing the superior court ruling allowing renovations to the stadium to continue.

Court rules in city's favor on White Stadium project

BY ADAM SWIFT

Last week, a Suffolk County Superior Judge ruled that the renovations at White Stadium at Franklin Park can continue and that the stadium is not protected as park or conservation land

under Article 97 of state land.

The \$200 million public-private project between the city and the Boston Unity Soccer Partners group calls for a major renovation of the stadium, which would be the home of Boston's new team in the National

Women's Soccer League, Boston Legacy FC, beginning in 2026. According to Mayor Michelle Wu, the upgraded stadium would be open for use for the Boston Public Schools and the community

Continued on Page 4

JPA looking to learn more about Squares + Streets

BY MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR.

Squares + Streets, a city planning and zoning initiative that has recently been a hot topic in Jamaica Plain, was discussed at the latest Jamaica Pond Association (JPA) meeting on Monday

as members sought more information about it.

The Planning Department's website describes Squares + Streets as a "planning and zoning initiative focused on adding, supporting, and improving housing, public space, small busi-

nesses, and arts and culture in transit-accessible neighborhood centers and along main streets."

Members of the Planning Department spoke about the initiative during a March meeting of

Continued on Page 15

JPNC sets June 21 for biennial election

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 25, via Zoom. Chair Renee Stacey Welch presided over the session. JPNC members in attendance included at-large members Sarah Freeman, Michael Reiskind, and David Baron; Area A members Willie Mitchell, Esther Beillard, and Peter DeCotis; Area B members Leah Dzintars and Lorenzo Bartoloni; and Area C members Bernard Doherty, Gert Thorn, Katherine O'Shea, Nick Chaves, and Carla-Lisa Caliga.

Local resident Mark Freudenberger announced at the outset of the meeting that on April 10 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Hennigan Center there will be a town meeting to discuss the various programs and the pool. District 6 Councilor Ben Weber will be in attendance.

Freudenberger also said that a group is forming among residents from the Jamaica Pond area and the Emerald Necklace group from Brookline to begin to develop an agenda and advocacy for improvements to the pond,

Continued on Page 7

Wu officially kicks off re-election campaign

BY ADAM SWIFT

Mayor Michelle Wu officially kicked off her re-election campaign for a second term in office on Saturday.

During a speech to supporters at the Boston Center for the Arts Cyclorama in the South End, Wu highlighted her administration's accomplishments over the past four years and addressed the recent challenges the city has faced from the Trump administration.

"Four years ago, we stood right here on election night, 2021," said Wu. "I told you then



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu: "I promise you that Boston will never back down...not to kings, not to bullies, and not to nay sayers that want to bring us backward. Boston is not for sale."

Continued on Page 12

Wu calls for residents to come together with acts of kindness on One Boston Day

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu and the City of Boston released the annual call to action for community-based organizations, businesses, and city of Boston residents to come together for volunteer events and acts of kindness in recognition of our City's spirit of care for one another in response to the tragic events of April 15, 2013. One Boston Day, observed on April 15, honors the victims, survivors, and first responders of the 2013 Boston Marathon. Mayor Wu is encouraging acts of kindness on Tuesday, April 15, and

for people to take part in volunteer opportunities throughout the week.

"On One Boston Day, we remember the victims, survivors, families, and first responders of 2013, and center what unites our great city," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "One of our darkest moments has become a call to carry out acts of kindness, volunteer, and make a difference for our residents and our neighborhoods. I encourage everyone to reflect on this day and join in making a positive change in our communities."

City of Boston departments and workers will again this year be hosting service projects for people to give back to their communities on April 15 and throughout the week leading up to Marathon Monday, April 21. The Mayor's Office of Civic Organizing is facilitating a neighborhood cleanup for youth and families on Saturday, April 19, 2025, starting at 8:45 a.m. at Franklin Park Playstead. Interested volunteers are asked to register for the annual cleanup

here.

"This April 15th, we join with people from across the city in remembering Martin, Krystle, Lingzi, Sean and Dennis," said Bill Richard, co-founder of the Martin Richard Foundation. "Our family continues to be humbled and grateful to all Bostonians who wish to carry on the generous spirit of One Boston Day. Choose kindness in your words and actions, volunteer, or give to your favorite charity. We are proud to call Boston home."

"One Boston Day is a powerful reminder that even in the face of tragedy, kindness and courage can shine through. After my family and I survived the Boston Marathon bombings, we learned that trauma is the leading cause of death for those 44 and younger—a reality that inspired us to create The Gillian Remy Stepping Strong Center for Trauma Innovation," said Audrey Epstein Remy, founder of The Gillian Remy Stepping Strong Center at Brigham and Women's Hospital. "Through our center's work, we honor the resilience

and generosity of the Boston community, turning heartbreak into hope and advancing trauma care to build brighter, healthier futures for all."

The Stepping Strong Center is partnering with the City of Boston to promote acts

of kindness through a life-saving blood drive. This Marathon Monday they will host a blood drive to benefit patients at Brigham and Women's Hospital, the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and Massachusetts General Hospital who are in need of lifesaving transfusions due to traumatic injuries and other serious health conditions. The Stepping Strong Center Blood Drive will take place in Kenmore Square on April 21, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. as part of the "One-Mile-To-Go Block Party". For more information and to schedule an appointment, please visit the Stepping Strong Center's website.

As the city marks 12 years since 2013, the City of Boston and the Boston Athletic Association (B.A.A.) will honor the

day with a wreath laying in the Back Bay the morning of Tuesday, April 15. More details will become available in the coming weeks.

"One Boston Day is always a special day for the City and our sport of running because we are reminded of the power and importance of uniting, recognizing, honoring, and serving," said Jack Fleming, President and CEO of the Boston Athletic Association. "The 129th Boston Marathon, presented by Bank of America, will take place in 2025 one week after April 15, and marks the 250th Anniversary of Patriots' Day. However, One Boston Day is forever connected to our Marathon and has become the day we reflect AND take action in that we acknowledge the selfless spirit and resilience shown by Bostonians."

More information about One Boston Day, including the 2025 Acts of Kindness Checklist is available on boston.gov/one-boston to provide inspiration and ideas on how individuals can get involved.



Brendan Behan Pub
378A Centre Street
Jamaica Plain

JP

CHILDREN'S SOCCER

For kids 3.5-6.5. Online Registration is NOW OPEN

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 though 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

CITY FEED and SUPPLY

SANDWICHES

Coffee & Espresso Drinks

Natural Foods & Organic Produce

LOCAL GOODS - ALL KINDS!

2 LOCATIONS IN JAMAICA PLAIN

CITY FEED and SUPPLY
672 Centre Street
617-524-1700

&

CITY FEED and SUPPLY
66a Boylston Street
617-524-1657

SHOP LOCAL J.P.!

SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE CAMERA

ADVERTISE IN THE GAZETTE

FOR RATES AND INFORMATION,

PLEASE CALL 781-485-0588

City announces \$1 million investment to expand digital literacy across Boston

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley and the Office of Workforce Development (OWD) last week announced a \$1 million investment to expand the City's Digital Literacy (DigLit) Initiative, a critical initiative that helps workforce development programs address digital literacy gaps. This investment will fund the next phase of the initiative, DigLit 2.0, and equip 20 Boston-based job readiness and occupational training programs with the infrastructure and capacity to deliver the digital skills necessary for residents to succeed in today's evolving job market. This expansion is funded by a Community Project Funding grant secured by Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley. Phase 2 of the Digital Literacy Initiative, DigLit 2.0, is fully funded by FY2023 Community Project Funding totaling \$1 million (100%) from the U.S. Department of Labor with 0% (\$0.00) financed from non-federal sources. This announcement was made at the East Boston YMCA, a committed adult basic education and job training provider.

"Closing the digital literacy gap is critical in our work to make Boston a city for everyone," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Every resident across our neighborhoods deserves to be equipped with the digital skills they need to access resources, secure good jobs in an evolving economy and be connected to more opportunities. I'm grateful to Congresswoman Pressley for securing this vital funding and look forward to coordinating with all of our partners to advance this important

work forward."

"I am proud to deliver \$1 million in direct federal funds that we secured for Boston's adult digital literacy initiative, which will expand access to digital skills, close gaps in our workforce development programs, and open doors for our workers to grow and thrive," said Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley. "I'm grateful to Mayor Wu and our local leaders for their partnership in bringing much-deserved digital literacy opportunities to our city."

This announcement builds on the City's efforts to better connect residents with job training and educational opportunities while working to close digital literacy gaps. In 2022, the Office of Workforce Development, led by the Worker Empowerment Cabinet, piloted the Digital Literacy Initiative ("DigLit") in partnership with World Education to address digital access gaps identified through extensive community-engaged research. The pilot, funded by the American Rescue Plan Act, supported 25 Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs that collectively serve 3,500 students annually. The pilot also yielded successful results for the participating programs, including the increased use of digital tools, instructional software, communication tools, and technology used for instruction. A pivotal outcome of this initiative was the Boston EdTech Routine Library, a repository that contains 70+ remedial education instructional routines that integrate digital skills.

"We believe that all residents need intentional and comprehensive access to quality education, and skills and job training

to thrive in Boston," said Chief of Worker Empowerment Trinh Nguyen. "This expansion reflects our commitment to increasing these opportunities and our collaborative approach to meeting employer demand while tapping into Boston's talent pool. Digital literacy is no longer optional—it is critical to accessing job opportunities and economic mobility. Ensuring access to digital skills training is essential to building an inclusive economy where everyone has a fair shot at success. We are incredibly grateful to Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley whose leadership and advocacy made this investment possible. Thank you to the participating organizations whose commitment to enhancing their programming will undoubtedly result in lasting positive outcomes for our residents."

Last week's launch event featured a panel featuring employers from Eversource, Boston Medical Center, Dana-Farber, and life sciences alongside training providers from Just-A-Start, FCIT, and YMCA of Greater Boston. The panel was moderated by Priyanka Sharma, Director of World Education, and brought together voices from across Boston's workforce ecosystem to explore how technology is

transforming middle-skill roles, shifting skill demands, and how partnerships can better align training programs with employer needs, especially amid rapid technological shifts driven by AI.

"The YMCA of Greater Boston is deeply grateful for the City of Boston's continued investment in digital literacy through its DigLit funding," said David Shapiro, CEO of the YMCA of Greater Boston. "We are also grateful for the national leadership of Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, who garnered federal investment in this effort. It is an honor to host the DigLit 2.0 Launch event at the East Boston Y, the site of our very own culinary training program with the New England Center for Arts and Training. The event is a powerful reflection of the multi-sector commitment necessary to foster job preparation, skills, and supported career pathways. It also reflects the powerful efforts to advance digital literacy skills while strengthening the very foundation of our community - its people. Together, we will continue to uplift each other with the knowledge, skills, and pathways critical to a more inclusive, competitive, and dynamic economy and City."

"At World Education, we recognize that digital skills are essential for unlocking opportunities in today's tech-driven workforce," said Priyanka Sharma, Director of World Education. "We are proud to collaborate with the City of Boston and our partners to advance a shared vision for a stronger, more resilient workforce—one where every adult has the skills needed to succeed in a rapidly evolving economy. Through the DigLit project, we are activating digital skills programming into training programs, expanding career pathways, and empowering Boston's communities with greater economic mobility."

Following the pandemic, digital literacy skills have proven to be crucial for workplace success. A report from the National Skills Coalition emphasizes the critical importance of digital literacy for employment, revealing that, despite 92% of jobs requiring digital skills, one-third of workers lack the foundational digital skills necessary for success in today's job market. Recognizing this gap, the City has worked closely with various partners and employers to offer skills-based classes and opportunities for residents to be connected to digital literacy support. OWD continues to engage in field-building and



FREE

Sat. April 26

11:00–2:00

earth day

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION



MUSIC & MOVEMENT A Trike Called Funk

PLANT SWAP Bring or take or both!

ENERGY SAVINGS Reduce your bills

TIE DYE Make and take a masterpiece

FOOD fresh from the grill



Scan to find out more.



BostonBuildingResources.com

100 Terrace Street, Boston 02120 • Free Car & Bike Parking • Orange Line – Roxbury Crossing



FOR YOUR HEALTH

MIND & BODY

FITNESS TRAINING

FEEL YOUR BEST WITH 25-MINUTE SESSIONS OF PRIVATE TRAINING LIVE ONLINE OR IN PERSON

GYMAICA PERSONAL TRAINERS

FITNESS@GYMAICA.COM 2 PORTER ST, JP 617-620-8155

White Stadium

Continued from page 1

more than 90 percent of the time.

But a group made up of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy and about 20 neighbors filed suit against the project, claiming there were a number of negative impacts from building a professional sports stadium in the middle of Franklin Park.

During a press conference at the stadium last Thursday, April 3, Wu, Boston Legacy FC controlling manager Jennifer Epstein, and representatives of BPS athletics celebrated the legal victory.

“In a city of sports champions, this is a historic victory,” Wu said. “A renovated White Stadium will be open and used

by BPS students, coaches, and community 15 hours per day, more than 345 days per year. We thank the Superior Court for twice affirming this vital project for our students and community as a year-round facility that will inspire the next generation of Boston students.

“Together, after so many years of broken promises, we will give our young people and all our residents the scale of investment and opportunity that Franklin Park and our city deserve.”

Epstein said with the legal ruling, Boston Legacy FC is pleased to continue the renovation of the stadium along with the city of Boston.

“Boston Public Schools students and the communities around Franklin Park have long deserved the type of generational



Demolition work is underway at White Stadium

Enjoy Springtime!!

JP SEAFOOD CAFE

Inside Seating | Delivery & Pick-up

Voted Best Asian Restaurant!!
in
“Best of JP”
2001-2007, 2012 & 2014-2017, 2018 - 2020, 2021, 2022
Jamaica Plain Gazette

We're open
Tuesdays thru Sundays
12 Noon to 9pm

730 Center Street, JP 02130
617-983-5177 • www.jpseafoodcafe.com

Your Future. Gibson | Sotheby's
Our Expertise. INTERNATIONAL REALTY



JAMAICA PLAIN
8-12 Stedman Street, Unit 10
3 Beds | 2F 1H Baths | 1,690 Sq. Ft.
Offered at \$949,000
The Boston Home Team | 617.249.4237



ROSLINDALE
4 Cotton Street, Unit 2
4 Beds | 2F Baths | 2,046 Sq. Ft.
Offered at \$899,000
April Nelson | 401.965.2812



JAMAICA PLAIN
90 Bynner Street, Unit 12
2 Beds | 1F Bath | 759 Sq. Ft.
Offered at \$540,000
Good Boston Living Team | 617.971.7080



SCAN TO VIEW MORE PROPERTIES
GIBSONSOOTHEBYSREALTY.COM

Each office is independently owned and operated. Sotheby's International Realty Affiliates LLC fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. All offerings are subject to errors, omissions, changes including price or withdrawal without notice.

investment this project delivers,” Epstein said. “We look forward to contributing to a beautiful, modern venue to be enjoyed by everyone in the city and to playing our games in front of the best sports fans in the world.”

Avery Esdaile, the BPS executive director of Athletics, thanked Wu and Boston Superintendent of Schools Mary Skipper for their support for the White Stadium project.

“Knowing that this construction is going on now, we know that we are going to have a home and a space that is going to be able to withstand the weather,” Esdaile said. “We know that we are going to have appropriate spaces for our students to be in,

that they will be able to play a soccer game, that they will be able to have a track meet and our kids won't be out in the weather. These are big things and big movements in terms of what we've been trying to accomplish through this process.”

Esdaile said the project is an example of the schools and the city working together to make Boston a place where youth sports is available for everyone.

“White Stadium is going to play a big part in that,” he said. “It's going to help us in terms of BPS, but it is also going to give a lot of kids their first opportunity to see a professional soccer game, their first opportunity to dream about being a soccer player or

going out and running a 100 or a 200 like the students they have seen out there.”

Dr. Jean McGuire, a Roxbury resident and plaintiff in the legal case said that they were disappointed by the trial's outcome, but not surprised.

“Our community is used to seeing laws meant to protect the public get trampled when the rich and powerful see an opportunity to make money,” said McGuire. “Despite this outcome, we still believe that our community deserves an alternative to an oversized, for-profit sports and entertainment complex in Franklin Park. Losing 145 trees, two acres of green space, two tennis courts, and full use of the field for several months each year is not the price our Boston Public School students should have to pay for working plumbing and high-quality athletic facilities.

“Leasing a new and bigger White Stadium to wealthy private sports investors is not the right plan for our kids or for Franklin Park,” McGuire continued. “This is our park; the public's park. We pay for it with our taxes, and have forever. Our kids should not have to ask permission to play in a public park.”

Emerald Necklace Conservancy President Karen Mauney-Brodek said their advocacy for Franklin Park and the community is about supporting the community's kids and the park with a truly public stadium.

“The communities around the park should be central to decision making for our parks, not asked their opinion after decisions are already made,” Mauney-Brodek stated.

Plant the Seeds of Success

with our **ONLINE Spring Special**
MARCH • APRIL • MAY

Clients & customers are just a CLICK away if you advertise ONLINE
Call (781) 485-0588 or email your Rep.

160PX BY 300PX BLOCK ADS \$150/MO

PROPORTIONAL 1/2 SIZE AD SPACE

MAXIMIZE YOUR EXPOSURE

MDIBELLA@WINTHROPTRANSCRIPT.COM
CHARLESTOWNADS@HOTMAIL.COM
DEB@REVEREJOURNAL.COM

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP
EVERETTINDEPENDENT.COM • EASTTIMES.COM • CHELSEA RECORD.COM
 CHARLESTOWNBRIDGE.COM • BEACONHILLTIMES.COM • THEBOSTONSUN.COM
 NORTHEASTREGIONALREVIEW.COM • JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM • MISSIONHILLGAZETTE.COM

MOUNT PLEASANT HOME CELEBRATES THE GROUNDBREAKING OF THE FRONT GARDEN

Mount Pleasant Home residents, staff, and Trustees celebrated the groundbreaking of its redesign and update of the front garden on 301 South Huntington Avenue. The space will offer a secure, safe, wheelchair accessible, and inviting place for residents to

enjoy the outside. Residents will be able to enter the garden from the front door on South Huntington Avenue into a sunny oasis surrounded by secure fencing.

The \$600K project includes new perennials, raised garden beds, kitchen herb garden, and a foun-

tain constructed from repurposed farm boulders. There will be seating for 40 and shade from umbrellas and trees in which to relax. Programming will be adjusted to make the most out of the space with many activities and parties held outdoors.

Will Smalley, Director of Community Life, comments “What is so exciting about this project is that Mount Pleasant Home is essentially expanding the footprint of our community and even with the fresh views of the start of construction and the promise of the beautiful blueprint plans, there is a kinetic energy and optimism being felt by the residents. Our

residents are looking forward to the future of this new garden space to socialize with friends, to energize on a sunny day, to exercise in the Jamaica Plain air, to visualize years of enjoyment and to actualize being a part of a connected community.”

Mount Pleasant Home is a

Continued on Page 9



Shown (left to right) are Carmen Wornum, Director of Nursing; Prill Ellis, Julie Taberman, Nina Lev – current and former Trustees; Kathy Seaman, Executive Director; Mary Ann Sayers, current Resident for 21 years; Audrey McKenzie, Resident Assistant Manager; Bev Brooks, Resident Assistant; Jonah Weinhardt, Director of Buildings and Grounds; and Lynn Muller, Activities Manager on porch.





Through advocacy, education, and outreach, The Olmsted Way strives to uplift our community while sharing Olmsted's timeless principles with the world.

Olmsted Birthday Celebration

Saturday April 26, 2025

'Olmsted' will be at these events!

Jamaica Plain ParkRun
9:00 am @ Pinebank Promontory

ENC Muddy River Cleanup
10:00 am @ Multiple Locations

Tom Megan Concert
3:00 pm @ First Church Unitarian Universalist

The Olmsted Way

Photo by: Gene Chambers
Portrayed by: Gerry Wright

Gene Chambers PHOTOGRAPHY

Boston officials announce launch of Urban Agriculture Ambassador Program

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The City of Boston announced launch of the Urban Agriculture Ambassador Program (UAAP) for 2025-26, a new initiative by GrowBoston: Office of Urban Agriculture, a division of the Mayor's Office of Housing. This program will provide hands-on gardening education and support to residents in East Boston, Mattapan, Roxbury, and Dorchester, building on the City's ongoing efforts to support the increase of food production, especially in communities experiencing high rates of food insecurity.

Through a competitive grant process, GrowBoston has awarded \$352,000 in federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to four local non-profits, each receiving \$88,000 to employ part-time Urban Agriculture Ambassadors. These educators will work directly in their neighborhoods to support

residents in home gardening, community gardening, and sustainable food production. The selected organizations are Eastie Farm (East Boston), Urban Farming Institute (Mattapan), Haley House (Roxbury), and The Food Project (Dorchester).

"Education and food security are deeply connected," said the Chief of Housing Sheila A. Dillon. "This program reflects our commitment to providing residents with the skills, tools, and knowledge they need to grow their own food and build healthier communities. By working with organizations embedded in these neighborhoods, we're ensuring that this support is accessible, culturally relevant, and tailored to the unique needs of each community."

The Urban Agriculture Ambassador Program was developed in response to feedback from Boston residents, who expressed a need for more robust education and support to

sustain home and community gardens. This initiative builds on the success of GrowBoston's Raised Bed Program, which will provide 800 raised garden beds to low-income households and public facilities across the city by 2026. By pairing gardeners with knowledgeable educators, the program aims to enhance food security, promote sustainability, and strengthen neighborhood food systems.

"We are pleased to be able to offer such intensive support to Boston's diverse gardening population, and hope many residents take advantage of the resource," said Shani Fletcher, Director of GrowBoston.

Each Urban Agriculture Ambassador will provide one-on-one gardening consultations, lead workshops, and offer technical assistance to gardeners of all skill levels. They will also maintain gardens at public facilities, host educational events, and serve as a bridge between lo-

cal residents and GrowBoston's resources. This program is not limited to recipients of raised garden beds but is open to all gardeners in the participating neighborhoods.

The organizations selected for this program are leaders in their communities, bringing years of experience in urban agriculture and a strong commitment to addressing food insecurity. For example, Eastie Farm will focus on assisting East Boston residents with soil testing, youth education programs, and a seed and tool library. In Mattapan, the Urban Farming Institute will develop a neighborhood-based agriculture network and provide both in-person and remote support for gardeners. The Food Project in Dorchester will run garden mentor programs and facilitate community discussions about neighborhood growing spaces. Haley House in Roxbury will offer farm-based office hours and workshops to demonstrate

effective gardening methods.

The program also aims to strengthen connections between residents and GrowBoston, ensuring that urban growers can access the City's wide range of resources. Ambassadors will engage in ongoing training and collaboration to share lessons learned and build best practices and evaluation methods across neighborhoods.

The Urban Agriculture Ambassador Program underscores Boston's commitment to promoting equity and sustainability in urban food production while empowering residents to take an active role in addressing food security challenges. Residents interested in connecting with their neighborhood ambassador can contact GrowBoston or reach out directly to the participating organizations.

Wu announces BCYF creates, an expansion of free art classes in community centers

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

At her State of the City Address, Mayor Michelle Wu announced the launch of BCYF Creates, an investment in free,

high-quality arts programming offered at Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) community centers for youth ages 8-14. Mayor Wu made this announcement as part of her 2025

State of the City annual address, more than doubling the amount of free arts instruction available at BCYF, with classes offered in 14 different community centers. BCYF Creates is part of Mayor

Wu's Connect, Learn, Explore: Commitment to Youth, a commitment to giving Boston youth an opportunity to explore and discover their passions.

"In Boston, we believe that an excellent education must include academics, sports, arts, and enrichment across every sector," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "The City of Boston is working to ensure that our young people have access to life-changing arts education through the talented, creative arts instructors right here in the City. I encourage all of our young people to get involved in BCYF Creates to hone in on their passions and discover new ones."

BCYF Creates is a two-year commitment to increasing the availability of high quality arts in BCYF centers during the school-year, made possible through a partnership between the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture, Boston Centers for Youth & Families, and the Human Services Cabinet. The program began in January 2025 with the recruitment of teaching artists who are experienced in 14 different art disciplines. The teaching artists are paired with BCYF community centers in 10 Boston neighborhoods and will teach between one to three classes per quarter. Classes take place during after-school hours on weekdays or on Saturdays.

"We are so grateful to have

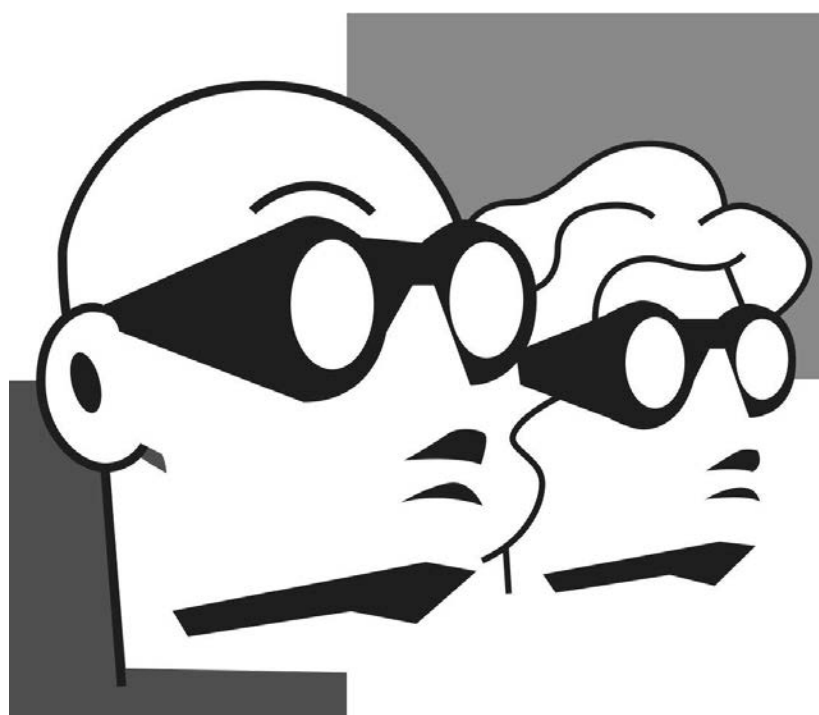
the support of the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture to offer enhanced arts programming through BCYF," said José F. Massó, Chief of Human Services. "Arts programming has the potential to expand kids' horizons, give them an outlet for their emotions and provide an avenue for self-exploration."

To participate in BCYF Creates, families must sign up directly with Boston Centers for Youth & Families through their program registration site. The enrollment platform will be updated with new classes as they come online. Classes will run through mid-June, when BCYF transitions to full-time summer programming and then will return in September 2025. Anyone needing assistance registering is welcome to call the BCYF center directly.

"With BCYF Creates, we are not just offering art classes; we are opening doors and expanding pathways for young people in Boston," said Kenny Mascary, Interim Chief of the Mayor's Arts & Culture. "This commitment ensures that every young person in our City has access to high-quality arts education in their own community. We're excited to work with our City's amazing network of community

Continued on Page 14

EYE Q OPTICAL



LOCAL - INDEPENDENT
most insurances accepted
617.983.3937

JPNC

Continued from page 1

Mitchell mentioned that a Love Your Block clean-up will occur on April 12 from 11-1. The goal of the event, which is sponsored by the city (which will provide rakes, etc.), will be to clean up the Jamaica Plain Community Garden at 15 Walden St., which is among the Trustees of Reservations' network of 56 community gardens in Boston.

Holly DeMelo from the JP Recovery Center spoke briefly to the council members about the programs offered by the center that are sponsored by the city.

The council heard reports from its committees, starting with the Public Service Committee, which was presented by Reiskind. He said the committee discussed traffic complaints from area residents at its last meeting, mostly pertaining to the lack of pedestrian-friendly traffic signals at Forest Hills.

Reiskind said the committee came up with a list of streets in JP that need attention in terms of repairs and re-lining. He said the committee will be forwarding

the list to the city's DPW.

Dzintas presented the report of the Parks Committee. She noted that the committee primarily discussed issues relating to the Arborway and traffic, with the main concerns expressed by residents relating to the plans by the DCR for revamping the rotaries on the Arborway.

Thorn asked about the problem of bicyclists using the paths designated for pedestrians around Jamaica Pond. "This issue has been brought up over and over again. People have been hurt by bicyclists using the walkways," said Thorn. "I would like to see the Parks Committee take up this issue. It deserves attention."

Freeman noted that some of the city officials had said that they would look into the issue of installing new signage on the walkways. Chaves, who is co-chair with Dzintas of the Parks Committee, said some of the signage has been repainted and some new signs have been installed. "It would seem that we can put up more signs, but people are just going to do what they want to do," Chaves said.

However, Thorn noted that for those coming up to the pond

from the Muddy River, there is a dearth of signage.

Doherty also raised the issue of safety on the pedestrian paths around the pond, noting that many residents, especially seniors, are discouraged from using the walkways because bicyclists and those with electric scooters are using the walking paths instead of the designated bike paths.

"The signs that the DCR has put up are not being seen by those on bicycles," added DeCotis. "We need large, visual signs."

O'Shea presented the report of the Outreach Committee. She presented an update on the upcoming JPNC biennial election, which she said the committee proposed to be held on Saturday, June 21. The full JPNC voted in favor of the June 21 date

O'Shea said that the committee affirmed the requirement that nomination papers must have 25 signatures to get on the ballot for one of the area seats and 50 for an at-large seat.

However, the committee proposed a new wrinkle for this year to permit nomination papers (including the signatures) to be submitted digitally, in addition

to allowing for the usual option for candidates to submit them in-hand at a designated date and location. The full JPNC also approved this measure.

O'Shea reminded the members that many volunteers will be needed to conduct the election.

Next up was the Zoning Committee, which is chaired by Baron. He told the council that his committee met on March 5 and discussed the proposals for the creation of new zoning sub-districts in Roslindale Square that are part of the city's Squares and Streets program. He said that representatives from the city's Planning Dept. spoke at the meeting and answered questions.

He noted that the proposals for Roslindale Sq. include zoning changes that could allow for high-rise residential projects that will be up to seven stories high. Baron informed his fellow council members that Jamaica Plain Center is slated to be next for similar rezoning changes.

"Many residents are leery of these changes and some are terrified," said Caliga.

Last up was Doherty, who pre-

sented the report of the Housing and Development Committee. He noted that the main discussion at the March meeting centered around the proposed development at 3330-3340 Washington St., the present sites of Hatoff's gas station and Acme Auto Body, that would include 230 rental units in two separate buildings across from each other on Rockvale Circle. Doherty said the developer, Joe Hassell, outlined his proposal to the Housing Committee members, answered their questions, and said he was open to making changes based on input from the community.

"This was one of the best designs I've ever seen come before this neighborhood," noted Thorn, who is a prominent, international architect.

Alcortis Clark, who owns a home in the vicinity of the development in the Stony Brook neighborhood, expressed her view that the project is too dense for the area and the proposed height (of up to six stories) is too high, a sentiment that is shared by many area residents.

The next meeting of the JPNC is set for Tuesday, April 22, at 7:00 via Zoom.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

REAL ESTATE



Karen McCormack & Paula Callaghan

INSIGHT
REALTY GROUP

#617-306-7804 • #857-205-6945

loveliveboston@gmail.com

Realtors with Experience

Love Where You Live

REAL ESTATE

Working for YOUR best results.

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



Joe Fallon

617-594-0761

joe.fallon@commonmoves.com

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices | Commonwealth Real Estate

REAL ESTATE RENTALS & SALES

FAYE SIMON
REAL ESTATE
Rentals & Sales

Tel: 617-524-0243

Cell: 617-438-1472

FayeSimonRealEstate.com

frmcsimon@hotmail.com

Your Personal Real Estate Professional



Faye R. Simon
Real Estate Broker

REAL ESTATE

Jamaica Hill Realty

726 Centre Street
Jamaica Plain

Maureen McElroy
Broker Owner

cell: 617.407.3638

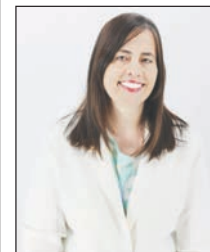
fax: 617.524.0390

email: mcelroy55@rcn.com

jamaicahillrealty.com



REAL ESTATE



Colleen Scanlan

Your local & Independent Realtor
25+ years of Experience
Put my knowledge to work for you!

"Call Colleen"

617-529-5012

jamaicaplain@gmail.com

INSIGHT
REALTY GROUP

68 South Street JP

REAL ESTATE



COMPASS

Enriching lives
through real estate

Ellen + Janis @ The Denman Group

617.971.8940

ellenandjanisteam@compass.com
ellenandjanisrealestate.com

© The Denman Group is a team of real estate agents affiliated with Compass, a licensed real estate broker, and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws.

YOUR BUSINESS HERE

SPRINGTIME AT THE WATERFRONT

Spring is here and the Downtown Waterfront is coming alive as foot traffic increases and families take advantage of dozens of activities along the water's edge.

"We are so fortunate to have such a beautiful front-row seat to our active Harbor," said Luz Arregoces, the New England Aquarium's Director of Community Engagement. "And, it's open to everyone. You can stroll along the Harborwalk, see large scale public art, and get involved in fitness and cultural activities, many of which are free or low-cost. The warmer months really showcase how lucky we are to be a coastal city, one we need to protect and prepare for the impacts of climate change, like sea level rise."

- In April, the Aquarium will host free programming on Central Wharf Plaza to mark Massachusetts Right Whale Day on Thursday, April 24, when visitors can learn more about the plight of these critically endangered whales during April School Vacation Week. Events around Boston for Earth Week are also coming together.

- Year-round, the 43-mile Boston Harborwalk affords the best views of the active harbor, and it's all free to traverse the public pathway along the ocean.

- For simple crossings between East Boston, the Seaport, and North Station, there are inexpensive public ferries that

offer short, daily rides for commuters or tourists.

- In East Boston, Piers Park offers low-cost sailing lessons and more extraordinary views and access to the water in a picturesque park into the Harbor.

- On the first and second Sundays each month, Boston Family Days continues to offer free admission to cultural institutions across Boston for students who live in Boston and their families. Participating locations along the waterfront include the New England Aquarium, Boston Children's Museum, Institute of Contemporary Art, JFK Presidential Library and Museum, and USS Constitution Museum.

- The Aquarium is hosting free, public lectures this spring. On Tuesday, April 29, the of S'well reusable, insulated water bottles, Sarah Kauss, will be the featured speaker in the Lowell Lecture Series from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

- On April 16, the Aquarium is also hosting a free event for a night of learning with the North American Indian Center of Boston's (NAICOB) Past, Present & Future. As the oldest urban Indian center in the Commonwealth, NAICOB's discussion from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. will center on the city's urban Indigenous histories and current activities. Guests are invited for light appetizers and songs



A look at the downtown waterfront as visitors make their way to the Aquarium.

COURTESY PHOTO

ALL-STAR VOICES AT FENWAY



COURTESY PHOTO

Students from the Boston Arts Academy's "Treble All-Stars" dressed for the part as they stood for a photo on the field at Fenway Park before singing the National Anthem at the Red Sox home opener on April 4. The Boston Arts Academy, whose enrollment includes students from every neighborhood in Boston, is the city's only public school for the performing and visual arts. The school is supported by the Boston Arts Academy Foundation, which is striving to raise \$35 million to ensure the long-term sustainability of the school through its ongoing "Building Our Future" campaign.

Mount Pleasant Home

now a human good community

Historic 62+ Community

Mount Pleasant Home is now managed by HumanGood one of the nation's largest and most reputable non-profit operators of senior living communities.

Residents of Mount Pleasant Home enjoy quiet and scenic views and life enrichment programs among many inclusive amenities. And team members feel rewarded by the natural engagement that comes from spending their days among these amazing and welcoming people.

To learn more please visit www.MountPleasantHome.org

301 South Huntington Avenue
Jamaica Plain

(617) 522-7600



City Councilor agrees to plead guilty to federal public corruption charges

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Boston City Councilor Tania Fernandes Anderson has agreed to plead guilty to federal public corruption charges in connection with an alleged kickback scheme to obtain thousands of dollars in cash from a staff member in exchange for a large bonus.



PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF BOSTON
Boston City Councilor Tania Fernandes Anderson.

Tania Fernandes Anderson, 46, of Boston, has agreed to plead guilty to count one of wire fraud and one count of theft concerning a program receiving federal funds. A plea hearing has not yet been scheduled by the Court. In December 2024, Fernandes Anderson was indicted by a federal grand jury. Per the plea agreement, the government is recommending a sentence of one year and one day in prison to be followed by three years of supervised release and restitution in the amount of \$13,000.

Fernandes Anderson currently serves as City Councilor for Boston's District 7, which includes Roxbury, Dorchester, Fenway and part of the South End. She was first elected to a two-year term in November 2021 and won re-election in November 2023.

According to the charging documents, in or about 2022, Fernandes Anderson hired two members of her immediate family as salaried employees of her City Councilor Staff. Because City Councilors are prohibited by law from hiring immediate family members to their paid staff, Fernandes Anderson was required to terminate their salaried employment in or about August 2022. Additionally, from in or about March 2023 to May 2023, the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission notified Fernandes Anderson of its findings and that it would be seeking a \$5,000 civil penalty payment from her.

It is alleged that, in or about November 2022, Fernandes Anderson allegedly emailed a City of Boston employee regarding

bonus kickback arrangement she had made with Staff Member A to the City of Boston employee.

Staff Member A deposited the bonus check on or about May 26, 2023 into their account at Santander Bank. It is alleged that, at Fernandes Anderson's direction, Staff Member A then made separate cash withdrawals of the payment on three separate dates: \$3,000 on May 31, 2023; \$3,000 on June 5, 2023; and \$4,000 on June 9, 2023.

It is alleged that, on June 9, 2023, immediately following the final cash withdrawal, Fernandes Anderson and Staff Member A arranged to meet in a bathroom at Boston City Hall. There, Staff Member A allegedly provided Fernandes Anderson with \$7,000 in cash.

According to the signed plea agreement, for tax years 2021, 2022 and 2023, Fernandes Anderson filed fraudulent federal income tax returns with the IRS. Specifically, it is alleged that Fernandes Anderson willfully omitted: approximately \$11,000 in income that she earned from a Massachusetts-based corporation from her 2021 tax return; campaign funds that she used for her own personal enrichment from her 2022 and 2023 tax returns; and the \$7,000 kickback that she received from Staff

Member A from her 2023 tax return.

The charge of wire fraud provides for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000. The charge of theft concerning programs receiving federal funds provides for a sentence of up to 10 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

United States Attorney Leah

B. Foley, Jodi Cohen, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division and Thomas Demeo, Acting Special Agent in Charge of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, Boston Field Office made the announcement today. Assistant U.S. Attorneys John T. Mulcahy and Dustin Chao of the Public Corruption & Special Prosecutions Unit are prosecuting the case.

The details contained in the charging documents are allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

WILLIAM RAVEIS

GABRIELLE BARON

C: 617.447.5350
O: 617.266.5200
Gabby.Baron@raveis.com

Trusted Neighbor
Real Estate Expert

Groundbreaking

Continued from page 5

Massachusetts-licensed rest home, serving 60 seniors aged 62+. Residents enjoy their own private room with private bath, 3 homestyle meals daily, personal care assistance and medication administration overseen by the Director of Nursing, and robust

health and wellness activities including offsite trips and many special celebrations. Mount Pleasant Home is 124-years old, was founded in Dorchester in 1901 and moved to 301 South Huntington Avenue in 1925. In 2010, the building underwent a \$20 million expansion and renovation. For a tour or application information of this very special home, please call 617-522-7600.

TONY WILLIAMS DANCE CENTER

SUMMER DANCE CAMP

AGES 5-14

AUG 4-8
AUG 11-15
AUG 18-22
AUG 25-29

WWW.TWDANCE.COM | TWDINFO@GMAIL.COM

City Councilor agrees to plead guilty to federal public corruption charges

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Boston City Councilor Tania Fernandes Anderson has agreed to plead guilty to federal public corruption charges in connection with an alleged kickback scheme to obtain thousands of dollars in cash from a staff member in exchange for a large bonus.



Boston City Councilor Tania Fernandes Anderson.

Tania Fernandes Anderson, 46, of Boston, has agreed to plead guilty to count one of wire fraud and one count of theft concerning a program receiving federal funds. A plea hearing has not yet been scheduled by the Court. In December 2024, Fernandes Anderson was indicted by a federal grand jury. Per the plea agreement, the government is recommending a sentence of one year and one day in prison to be followed by three years of supervised release and restitution in the amount of \$13,000.

Fernandes Anderson currently serves as City Councilor for Boston's District 7, which includes Roxbury, Dorchester, Fenway and part of the South End. She was first elected to a two-year term in November 2021 and won re-election in November 2023.

According to the charging documents, in or about 2022, Fernandes Anderson hired two members of her immediate family as salaried employees of her City Councilor Staff. Because City Councilors are prohibited by law from hiring immediate family members to their paid staff, Fernandes Anderson was required to terminate their salaried employment in or about August 2022. Additionally, from in or about March 2023 to May 2023, the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission notified Fernandes Anderson of its findings and that it would be seeking a \$5,000 civil penalty payment from her.

It is alleged that, in or about November 2022, Fernandes Anderson allegedly emailed a City of Boston employee regarding

bonus kickback arrangement she had made with Staff Member A to the City of Boston employee.

Staff Member A deposited the bonus check on or about May 26, 2023 into their account at Santander Bank. It is alleged that, at Fernandes Anderson's direction, Staff Member A then made separate cash withdrawals of the payment on three separate dates: \$3,000 on May 31, 2023; \$3,000 on June 5, 2023; and \$4,000 on June 9, 2023.

It is alleged that, on June 9, 2023, immediately following the final cash withdrawal, Fernandes Anderson and Staff Member A arranged to meet in a bathroom at Boston City Hall. There, Staff Member A allegedly provided Fernandes Anderson with \$7,000 in cash.

According to the signed plea agreement, for tax years 2021, 2022 and 2023, Fernandes Anderson filed fraudulent federal income tax returns with the IRS. Specifically, it is alleged that Fernandes Anderson willfully omitted: approximately \$11,000 in income that she earned from a Massachusetts-based corporation from her 2021 tax return; campaign funds that she used for her own personal enrichment from her 2022 and 2023 tax returns; and the \$7,000 kickback that she received from Staff

Member A from her 2023 tax return.

The charge of wire fraud provides for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000. The charge of theft concerning programs receiving federal funds provides for a sentence of up to 10 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

United States Attorney Leah

B. Foley, Jodi Cohen, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division and Thomas Demeo, Acting Special Agent in Charge of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, Boston Field Office made the announcement today. Assistant U.S. Attorneys John T. Mulcahy and Dustin Chao of the Public Corruption & Special Prosecutions Unit are prosecuting the case.

The details contained in the charging documents are allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

WILLIAM RAVEIS



GABRIELLE BARON



C: 617.447.5350

O: 617.266.5200

Gabby.Baron@raveis.com

*Trusted Neighbor
Real Estate Expert*

TONY WILLIAMS DANCE CENTER

SUMMER
DANCE
CAMP

AGES 5-14

AUG 4-8
AUG 11-15
AUG 18-22
AUG 25-29



WWW.TWDANCE.COM | TWDINFO@GMAIL.COM

Groundbreaking

Continued from page 5

Massachusetts-licensed rest home, serving 60 seniors aged 62+. Residents enjoy their own private room with private bath, 3 homestyle meals daily, personal care assistance and medication administration overseen by the Director of Nursing, and robust

health and wellness activities including offsite trips and many special celebrations. Mount Pleasant Home is 124-years old, was founded in Dorchester in 1901 and moved to 301 South Huntington Avenue in 1925. In 2010, the building underwent a \$20 million expansion and renovation. For a tour or application information of this very special home, please call 617-522-7600.

WHERE TO FIND THE GAZETTE?

Post Office Centre St	Happy Market 128 South St	Citizens Bank 696 Centre St	Bank Of America 677 Centre St	Tropical Market 371 Centre St
JP Licks 659 Centre St	Tikki Masala 3706 Washington St	True Value 698 Centre St	Dunkin' Centre St	CVS Centre St
On Centre 676 Centre St	Blanchards 741 Centre St	City Feed and Supply 672 Centre St	Latino Restaurant 304 Centre St	Laundromat 270 Centre St
JP Realty 7 Harris St	Dunkin' 755 Centre St	East Boston Bank 687 Centre St	Freddy Market 302 Centre St	Camillo Liquor 280 Centre St
Cooperative Bank Washington St	Bank of America 677 Centre St	CVS 407 Centre St	Kappy's Pizza 304 Centre St	Check Cash 282 Centre St
JP Seafood 730 Centre St	Eastern Bank 687 Centre St	Whole Food Centre St	Square Market 331 Centre St	JP Laundry Center 410 Centre St
The Real Deal 732 Centre St	CVS 704 Centre St	MSPCA 350 S Huntington St	Rizzo's Pizza 347 Centre St	Zesto's Pizza & Grill 460 Centre St
Gibson/Sotheby's Realty 713 Centre St	Ace Hardware 656 Centre St	Stop & Shop 301 Centre St	Martial Academy 363 Centre St	Ideal Caffe & Pizza 484 Centre St

HOME SERVICE GUIDE

PAINTING & CARPENTRY

617-852-7409 JP resident

LANDSCAPE DESIGN & INSTALLATION

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

Creating Unique Landscape Solutions

LANDSCAPING

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

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Additions kitchens bathrooms
New construction - General remodeling
617-981-9456
60 Amory St, Boston, MA 02119 info@sulavalley.com
Res. Comm. Insured Licenses: HIC 185545 CS-113672

ASBESTOS AND MOLD

Asbestos & Mold Issues?

For a Licensed Inspector Call Neal
617-593-1664
neal@nealcoinspects.com

Over 25 Years of Experience!

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

MSS ELECTRICAL
LICENSED, INSURED
IN COMM OF MASS

Serving Jamaica Plain and Surrounding Communities

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

781-727-3694

Finely Detailed Interior & Exterior Painting

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

ROOF REPAIR

ROOF REPAIRS
Gutters ▲ Roofing ▲ Skylights

Alexander Doyle
617-522-6116
All Work Guaranteed
Fully Insured
Free Estimates
CSL 99361 - HIC 127365
alexanderdoyleconstruction.com

GENERAL CONTRACTING

Carpentry • House Painting • Masonry
Full or Partial Restoration of Home
Exterior Shingle • Clapboards • Decks

40 years in business
References, Licensed & Insured

617-327-2231 617-953-8523

WOODWORKING

CREIGHTON CABINETS

Architectural Millwork
Custom Cabinetry
General Contracting

JIM CREIGHTON
617.655.2642
www.creightoncabinetry.com

WHERE TO FIND THE GAZETTE?

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| Clean Getaway Laundry
546 Centre St | Unlimited Realty
633 Centre St | Rosmore Landry
Washington St | JP Apts
3200 Washington St | Santander Bank
Columbus & Washington |
| The Forbes Building
545 Centre St | Polkadog Bakery
42 South St | JP Kitchen
3510 Washington St | Papi's Market
3145 Washington St | Landromax
Washington & Columbus |
| Gentle Dental
612 Centre St | Flore's Bakery
55 South St | Braddock Café
3484 Washington St | YMCA
3134 Washington St | Walgreens
Columbus Av |
| JP Health Centre
640 Centre St | Italian Pizza
172 South St | Bmc Market
3390 Washington St | 10 Store
3122 Washington St | Academy Market
1580 Columbus |
| Same Old Place
662 Centre St | Evergreen Café
154 Green St | Santia's Bakery
3381 Washington St | Chancy Liquor
Washington St | Goddar House
201 Huntington St |
| Smoke Shop
566 Centre St | Metro Mark Apt
3615 Washington St | Ruggiores Market
3345 Washington St | Praviana
3093 Washington St | MT Pleasant Home
301 Huntington St |
| The Purple Cactus
674 Centre St | Metro Mark Apt
3611 Washington St | Brookside Community Health Center
3297 Washington St | Egleston Pizza
3080 Washington St | |

HOME SERVICE GUIDE

ROOF REPAIR

MICHAEL F. NASH & SONS INC
Roofing
Siding • Gutters
Carpentry • Painting
Flat Rubber Roofs

Fully Licensed and Insured
Call Today!
617-293-7143
781-963-5055

Family Owned

LANDSCAPING/LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION

ENZO LANDSCAPING & CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Call for Estimates

- Landscape maintenance
- Seed • Sod
- Tree service
- Commercial & Residential
- House Cleaning
- Service Available
- Free estimates
- Fence Installation
- Paving

617-590-2510
FULLY INSURED & BONDED

Bobcat Service

HANDYMAN

ACE HANDYMAN
Years of experience in carpentry, masonry, painting, fencing
Odd Jobs Big or Small | References Available
Always Reasonable Prices! 617-279-9815

WOODWORKING CLASSES

Woodworking class
No experience needed

Michael Keohane
mickkeohane@gmail.com
617 909 4050

PLUMBING

Karem Plumbing
Plumbing, heating & gas work
No job too small
(617) 361-6532
Member Better Business Bureau

Free estimates
Licensed & Insured
Mass lic # 9290

HOME REMODELING & CONSTRUCTION

Home Remodeling & Construction
Alexis

Decks, Porches, Siding, Doors
Windows, Kitchens and Bathrooms

CSL #78062 617-719-4200 HIL #178014
alexisremodeling@yahoo.com

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Thomas Murray Home Improvement
Carpentry • Painting • General Home Repairs
Remodeling
(Interior & Exterior)

Licensed Contractor (lic #CS 088319) (617) 549-6029 Free estimates

Advertise in the Guide 617-524-7662

ROOF REPAIR

ROOF LEAKING?

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

Senior & Vets 20% Discount
(617) 888-8058
Licenced Free Estimates Insured

Family owned & operated.
28 years in business



ADRENALINE RUSH!

You'll also get career training and money for college. If you're ready for the excitement, join the Army National Guard today.



I-800-GO-GUARD • www.I-800-GO-GUARD.com

Wu

Continued from page 1

that we would build a Boston for everyone. I told you that we don't have to choose between the big and the small, between filling potholes and fighting to protect our neighbors, and I told you that Boston's promise and possibility are on our shoulders right now together.

"This is our city," she continued. "Over the past four years, I have seen Boston's promise and possibility every day over every part of our city."

As both a city councilor and then as a mayor, Wu said she has been fighting for people over profits and to make Boston a city that everyone can be proud of.

"I believe in the promise and possibility of Boston, because this city has given me everything that I cherish in my life, and as mayor, I promise that I will never back down from fighting for our families and our future," Wu said. "Boston will not back down; not to kings, not to bullies, and not to naysayers who want to take us backward. Four years ago, gun violence in Boston had just hit a 10-year high.

"Every year since taking office, we've set new record lows and now we are the safest major city in America."

Wu also touted efforts to increase affordable housing in the city, and major gains in climate resiliency action. She also highlighted the gains the public school system has made during her time in office.

"Four years ago, the Boston Public Schools had a revolving door of leadership and no real plans for systemic improvement," she said. "We fought off state receivership, built a foundation for steady progress, and now we're investing to solidify literacy and academics, update

more school buildings than ever before, and serve every student according to their needs and their talents. We boosted universal pre-K and early college to the highest levels ever, and we won't stop until the oldest school district in the country is the best."

The mayor touted efforts to connect residents to good jobs in the city and to help local entrepreneurs open small businesses.

While highlighting the progress the city has made during her first term, Wu also talked about the challenges Boston has faced since President Trump came back into office at the beginning of the year.

"Four years ago, none of us could have imagined what these past three months have looked like," she said. "Today, it is not just our country and democracy that is under attack, it's communities like ours, our lives and our livelihoods, our identities, and our independence. It feels like everything that makes Boston, Boston is being threatened by the administration that is clearly threatened by who we are as a city.

"We face serious challenges in this moment, and now is not a time for a mayor who needs on the job training."

Over the next four years, Wu said she will continue to be a mayor who will fight for Boston and the interests of its residents.

"Together, we have spent the last four years making big progress on the big challenges the city faces, and we have much more work to do," she said. "More work to keep the city safe, more work to lower costs, more work to keep investing in our schools, combating climate change, caring for our seniors, and continuing to deliver top-notch services. It's not easy making the greatest city on earth even better, and it's not easy, especially in times like these; but we can, and we will,

because here in Boston, we don't back down.

"Here in Boston, we stand up, we fight, we win, and we show the world that when we work together, because we work together, anything is possible."

Wu's declared opponents for mayor this year include Democrat Josh Kraft, who heads Kraft Family Philanthropies, and independent community activist Domingo DaRosa.

In a statement, Kraft said Wu has taken an ideology-first, results second approach to governing that has resulted in record high rents and home prices.



Massachusetts State Rep. and Campaign Manager for Michelle Wu Aaron Michlewitz begins the program.



Community activist José C. Massó III lauded Mayor Wu's commitment to affordable housing and standing up against bullies and oligarchs.



Fenway High School senior Joliné Brito thanks Mayor Wu for her support of public education and determination to make Boston a safe city for everyone.



Co-Executive Director of The Fenway Alliance Genevieve Day the fenway alliance, senior advisor to Mayor Wu Stephen Chan, Director of Public Affairs at the Huntington Theatre and Temple Gill with Massachusetts State Rep Jay Livingstone.



Before US Representative Ayanna Pressley introduced Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, she remarked "I thank God that we have a Mayor that doesn't back down."



Massachusetts State Senator Lydia Edwards with Kelli Forbes and Amy Yandle.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu with her children Mira, Blaise, and Cass met with supporters.



President of Union Local 26 Carlos Aramayo noted how Mayor Wu stood by striking hospitality workers.

WU KICKS OFF HER RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



Boston City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta Zapata and her husband Sebastian.



Massachusetts State Rep John Moran with Chester Square Neighbors President Carol Blair.



Business manager for Painter's Union District Council 35 Chris Brennan, President of AFSCME Tiger Stockbridge (3rd from right), Massachusetts State Senator Lydia Edwards, State Reps Chris Worrell, Jay Livingstone, and Dan Ryan.



Massachusetts State Rep Jay Livingstone Bob Binney, Gretchen Bennett, and Patrick McDonough of Ward 5.



Massachusetts State Senator Lydia Edwards and State Rep Dan Ryan with Members of Painter's Union District Council 35.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu with her children Mira, Blaise, and Cass met with supporters.



Supporters for Boston Mayor Michelle Wu cheer when she declared her intent to run for re-election.



US Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley with Sharita Fauche, Marta McClung, and Karen Maxwell.

EDITORIAL

No good can come from the new tariffs

It was 95 years ago in June, 1930, that President Herbert Hoover signed the Smoot-Hawley Tariff law (which had been passed by a Republican Congress) that imposed draconian increases in tariffs on more than 20,000 imported goods.

Smoot-Hawley has been recognized by economists and historians of all political persuasions as having been one of the key elements in destroying the world's economy that fueled the Great Depression over the next 10 years, resulting in the massive unemployment world-wide that led to the rise of Adolph Hitler and the horrors of World War II.

This is the commentary about Smoot-Hawley that presently can be found on the official website of the U.S. Senate:

"On June 13, 1930, the Senate passed the Smoot-Hawley Tariff, among the most catastrophic acts in congressional history. As economists had predicted, the high tariff proved to be a disaster. Even before its enactment, U.S. trading partners began retaliating by raising their tariff rates, which froze international trade. The tariff did not sit well with the voters. In 1932 they turned the majority in both houses of Congress over to the Democrats, by large margins, and booted both Reed Smoot and Willis Hawley out of office."

Last week's announcement by President Donald Trump of massive tariffs on every country in the world already has resulted in a huge drop in stock markets world-wide, especially in the U.S., and has led to retaliation from the Chinese.

Trump's absurd tariff levels not only have no basis in reality, but they have made the U.S. an international pariah, turning us into arguably the most-hated nation on earth (except by Vladimir Putin's Russia, which is the only major economy that escaped the Trump tariffs).

The United States has enjoyed unprecedented economic growth over the past 30 years, with our per capita GDP zooming way past Japan and our European peers. A cover story in the Economist Magazine last year rated the U.S. as the top economy in the world in the aftermath of the COVID pandemic.

However, this week's Economist cover depicts Trump isolating the U.S. from the rest of the planet and refers to Trump's tariff announcement as "complete drivel," a sentiment shared by the Wall St. Journal, among others.

The Trump tariffs will lead to higher prices for all Americans in just about everything we buy. The tariffs will lower our standard of living, with most economists predicting that a serious recession is likely in the months ahead. As the Wall St. Journal noted, tariffs are essentially a tax upon consumers, raising the prices of our everyday goods.

For the rich however, the tariffs will be a mere annoyance. Whether they pay an extra \$50,000 for their new Ferrari means nothing. But for the average American, an extra \$5000 for a new car will represent a significant cost that inevitably will lead the typical middle-class consumer to scale back on discretionary items, such as dining out.

The only real question is not whether, but to what extent, Trump's actions will hurt the economic well-being of every American both today and, as the Smoot-

Hawley Act proved, for years to come.

Task force launched to address public safety in Downtown Boston

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

A cross-sector coalition of city and state officials, law enforcement, shelters and churches, institutional partners, business and trade associations, and civic organizations last week officially launched the One Downtown Task Force - a strategic initiative aimed at improving public safety, reducing crime and homelessness, and enhancing the overall experience and quality of life for all who live, work, visit, and do business in Downtown Boston and surrounding neighborhoods.

The Task Force was created as a follow-up to the Downtown Boston Public Safety Summit, which included participation from 92 stakeholders representing 45 organizations and agencies.

The 10-member Task Force is charged with driving measurable outcomes by coordinating

efforts and aligning resources across several agencies and organizations. Focus areas include congregating drug use, criminal activity (including retail theft), and homelessness.

Task Force Co-Chairs include Mayor Michelle Wu, Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden, State Rep. Aaron Michlewitz, City Councilor Ed Flynn, and Downtown Boston Neighborhood Association Co-Founder, Rishi Shukla.

Task Force Members include Kellie Young, Director of the Coordinated Response Team for the City of Boston; Karen LaFrazia, President and CEO of St. Francis House; Capt. Richard Driscoll of Boston Police's District A-1; Leslie Adam, Chair of the Friends of the Public Garden board; and Michael Nichols, President of the Downtown Boston Alliance.

Embedded within the Task Force is the Joint Strategic Ac-

tion Team (JSAT) - a cross-functional group composed of public officials, city and state agencies, law enforcement, shelter and outreach leaders, and civic organizations. Leveraging the group's collective expertise, perspective, and resources, JSAT will work closely with Task Force leadership to deliver coordinated, area-wide solutions.

Additionally, specialized Working Groups will focus on four high-priority areas and develop actionable recommendations in coordination with the Task Force and JSAT, including Boston Common; Winter Street; streets and sidewalks; and business, hospitality and tourism.

The Task Force is expected to remain active through fall 2025, providing a full spring, summer, and fall cycle to implement targeted strategies, make adjustments, and measure impact.

BCYF

Continued from page 6

centers to nurture the next generation of creatives, thinkers, and leaders."

Classes include an array of visual arts, from arts and crafts to printmaking and sewing, as well as performance-based arts such as spoken word, dance, and music arts including music production, modern band, and vocal performance. The goal of the program is to increase the availability of high quality youth arts programming in Boston's neighborhoods and to bring youth into the community centers who are not currently connected to BCYF.

"It is so important for children to learn, create and experience the Arts. Beyond self expression, it builds their confidence to imagine and explore new skills," said Marta E. Rivera, Commissioner of Boston Centers for Youth & Families. "And, BCYF Creates is an exciting initiative that has the potential to engage youth who are not typically involved with our community centers."

The program is administered

by Elizabeth Santiago, PhD, the Founder of The Untold Narratives, a Boston-based nonprofit dedicated to surfacing the voices of underrepresented communities through storytelling. Dr. Santiago brings decades of experience as a teaching artist herself, who leads workshops in

creative writing. In addition to pairing the artists to community centers, Dr. Santiago and her team are also supporting the teaching artists as they develop their skills. The program also has an evaluation component that will track the impact of the arts investment.

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

Jamaica Plain GAZETTE

Circulation 16,400

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

Patricia DeOliveira
Advertising Manager

Sandra Storey
Founder/Publisher Emerita 1990-2011

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP

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

The Jamaica Plain Gazette is delivered free to households and businesses in the neighborhood 26 times a year on Friday and Saturday. It is for sale in stores for 25¢. Subscriptions: \$75 for First Class Mail. Independent Newspaper Group will not assume financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements. Questions or complaints regarding advertising must be sent in writing to the billing department within seven days of publication in order for adjustments to be made to the account. We reserve the right to use our discretion in accepting or rejecting advertising copy.

Telephone: (781) 485-0588

JamaicaPlainGazette.com

PLEASE RECYCLE

JPA

Continued from page 1

the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) Zoning Committee.

Specifically, the Squares + Streets process has been underway in areas such as Cleary Square in Hyde Park and Roslindale Square.

As part of the process, small area plans are developed for the study areas, which contain recommendations for aspects like transportation, open space, land use, and design framework. These small area plans then inform the second part of the Squares + Streets process, a zoning map amendment, which attempts to implement the recommendations from the small area plan.

Moreover, members of the Planning Department noted at that meeting that the Squares + Streets process has its own zoning districts—S0 through S5, each with different regulations for aspects like use and building scale—which can be mapped in the study area.

The JPA had initially planned to have a guest speaker discuss Squares + Streets during its meeting, but this did not occur.

However, the group still decided to discuss the initiative with several attendees, who provided their thoughts, since areas in Jamaica Plain are among the 17

locations listed on the Planning Department’s website that could be eligible for Squares + Streets zoning after a community process is conducted.

For example, Rosemary Jones wondered about affordability as it related to Squares + Streets and what the city was thinking in terms of what is considered affordable. While Mark Freudenberg could not answer that question, he mentioned that he knew this topic was being raised in the Codman Square area.

Kevin Moloney discussed some of the proposed zoning updates in Roslindale Square. He pointed out that in the initial draft zoning map, the S5 zoning district was mapped in the area, which allows buildings up to 145 feet tall.

“I would not like to see Jamaica Plain become a victim of 145-foot-tall buildings,” said Moloney.

Franklyn Salimbene noted that there has been much discussion surrounding Squares + Streets in Hyde Park and Roslindale and mentioned “a lot of dissatisfaction with the process and with some of the results, particularly relating to the height.”

In Roslindale Square’s case, some concerns have been voiced through groups like the Roslindale Coalition, which has visited other civic associations around the city and highlighted issues with aspects of Squares + Streets such as the engagement pro-

cess, potential displacement, and more.

However, it should be noted that a presentation from a March Roslindale Square public meeting hosted by the Planning Department indicated that about 75% of those who commented supported the proposed zoning updates in the area, while about 25% had concerns.

Later, Jones mentioned that learning about this process from other neighborhoods would be good, and JPA Board Chair Kay Mathews noted that she has tried to put something like that together the past couple of months, but it has fallen through.

“Next month we’ll have somebody,” said Mathews.

Eventually, Caroline Peters, Jamaica Plain’s liaison from the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services, joined the conversation.

“I know that this is a popular point of conversation going around, given that Roslindale and Hyde Park recently went through this process and are still finishing it up,” she said, indicating that the Egleston Square Neighborhood Association discussed Squares + Streets at its meeting last month.

Peters then spoke about the goal of Squares + Streets and potential pilot neighborhoods, saying, “[it’s] trying to identify areas where you kind of get this trifecta of a business district, existing public transportation, and

residential areas. Centre Street is a perfect example, Egleston Square, Forest Hills.”

“That’s the goal of Squares + Streets: to identify those areas to really maximize existing infrastructure, support business districts, and add housing to those areas.”

Peters also talked about the aforementioned meeting the JPNC Zoning Committee had with members of the Planning Department and suggested it’s something the JPA could do. She emphasized that there has been a lot of learning throughout the existing processes in Roslindale Square and Hyde Park since they have gone on for over a year, which is longer than the initial planned timeline.

Ultimately, it appears the JPA will get some information

about Squares + Streets they are looking for in the future.

“I’m anxious to hear from the neighborhoods who are experiencing it...so hopefully we can do that soon,” said Mathews.

It should be noted that at the previously mentioned JPNC Zoning Committee meeting, Planning Department staff emphasized that there were no plans to launch anything in Jamaica Plain this year other than Neighborhood Housing, another zoning initiative that had already started.

Peters reinforced this point on Monday, indicating there was no timeline for when Squares + Streets may come to the neighborhood.

For more information about the JPA visit, <https://www.jamaicapondassociation.org/>.

CLASSIFIEDS

SERVICES

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

HEDGE CUTTING: Looking for help landscaping? Call Glenn 617-477-7669

EMAIL YOUR AD TO
CLASSIFIEDS@JAMAICPLAINGAZETTE.COM.
 For more info. call 781-485-0588

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 The Trial Court
 Probate and Family Court
 CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, ss5-304
 Docket No. SU25P0711GD
 Suffolk Probate and Family Court
 24 New Chardon Street
 Boston, MA 02114
 (617) 788-8300
 In the matter of: Julio Torres
 Of: Jamaica Plain, MA
 RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person
 To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Lemuel Shattuck Hospital of Jamaica Plain,

MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Julio Torres is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Marco Torres of Lowell, MA (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 A.M. on the return date of 04/24/2025. 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 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 31, 2025
 Stephanie L. Everett
 Register of Probate
 04/11/25 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. SU25P0612GD
 Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 The Trial Court
 Suffolk Probate and Family Court
 24 New Chardon Street
 Boston MA, 02114
 In the matter of: Samuel Williams 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 Samuel Williams 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 04/17/2025. 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: March 20, 2025
 Stephanie Everett, Register of Probate
 4/11/25 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
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING
 Docket No. SU22D1315DR
 Nitzza Rodriguez Toussaint
 Plaintiff
 vs.
 Roody Toussaint
 Defendant
 To the Defendant:
 The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for irretrievable breakdown of the marriage.
 The Complaint is on file at the Court.
 An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered

in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.
 You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Nitzza Rodriguez Toussaint 7 Maplewood St. West Roxbury, MA 02132 your answer, if any, on or before 05/09/2025. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of said Court.
 Date: March 06, 2025
 Stephanie L. Everett
 Register of Probate
 04/11/25 JP

ESNA updated on Egleston Square Redesign Project

By ADAM SWIFT

Work on the Egleston Square Redesign Project, which has been in the works since 2020, could get underway in the 2026 construction season.

The project, with an estimated cost of between \$7-\$10 million would stretch over two years, according to Boston Transportation Department planner William Moose.

“We finished our 25 percent plans just last month, and we are working on what the next design milestone plan, the 75 percent plan,” Moose said at this week’s Egleston Square Neighborhood Association meeting. “Those are expected in September, if all goes well, and our final plans we would expect late this year or early next year. It’s a little bit soon to put a date on when construction would start, but the project is financed already.

“We have most of the money we need already allocated

through the budget, through the city council,” he continued. “I would love for it to be done in the 2026 construction season, and it’s probably going to take two full construction seasons to do all the work entailed in the project.”

Currently, there is \$7 million allocated through the city’s capital plan for the project, Moose said.

With the rising costs for construction projects across the board, Moose said the city may need an additional allocation of up to \$3 million for the project to fully fund it by the time construction gets underway.

While he could not guarantee the additional funding, Moose said there is a good chance the council would allocate it, since the majority of funding has already been set aside and design plans are well underway.

Moose added that the start date for the project is also dependent on the schedules for other major capital streets projects planned for the city in the near

future.

Moose gave a brief overview of the Egleston Square redesign, as well as some of the changes to the plan since he last met with the neighborhood association in 2024.

“The project ... runs from the southwest corridor to the west over to Walnut Avenue to the east,” said Moose. “It includes a pretty significant chunk of the Washington Street corridor as it runs through Egleston Square, and then a lot of the neighborhood streets.”

The boundaries of the project were in large part the result of a number of earlier planning initiatives for the area.

“Many of those recommended projects are captured within this,” Moose.

One of the key areas of the project is the Columbus Avenue/Washington Street/Atherton Street intersection.

“We have a big redesign with significant investments in making this intersection a lot safer

and simpler,” Moose said. “That is a top priority for us.”

That intersection ranks within the top three percent of high-crash intersections in the city, he added.

In addition, there are also a series of safety improvements planned for Washington Street from Brighton Street/Chilcott Place to Dimock Street.

“That is focused primarily on pedestrian safety with curb extensions where we push the sidewalks out at the corners, and traffic calming on most streets in the form of speed humps,” Moose said.

Many of those speed humps were installed last year, he added.

As part of the project, Moose said the city has also been looking to make a better and safer bicycle and pedestrian connection between the southwest corridor and Franklin Park.

“After a lot of discussion and public meetings, we landed on a design that uses a combination,

because no street actually connects directly between them,” Moose said.

That design uses a combination of Atherton Street and School Street to connect the corridor with the park, he said.

Moose also provided an update on the Atherton Street repaving project, which will take place this year.

Once that street is repaved, Moose said speed humps will be added.

“National Grid has finished work on Atherton Street, and the city has scheduled (repaving) for 2025,” Moose said.

The entire street will be repaved, and there will also be improvements to the sidewalks and pedestrian ramps that are not ADA compliant.

“That should all get done this year,” said Moose. “I do not have the exact timeline yet, but if I do get updates, I will share them.”

Boston Public Library receives the 2025 AIA Collaborative Achievement Award

The Boston Public Library (BPL) has been recognized with the prestigious 2025 American Institute of Architects (AIA) Collaborative Achievement Award for its visionary approach to people-centered architecture—preserving history while shaping inclusive, inspiring spaces for the future.

As the first large, municipally funded urban public library in America and one of only two public research libraries in the U.S., the Boston Public Library has long been a leader in innovative public space design. Across its 27 locations, BPL blends historic preservation with modern functionality, ensuring its buildings serve as both cultural landmarks and dynamic community spaces. From its landmark 1895 Central Library to today’s reimagined neighborhood branches, the architecture of BPL’s spaces has continuously evolved to meet the changing needs of its neighborhoods.

“This recognition from the American Institute of Architects underscores the Boston Public

Library’s dedication to creating spaces that inspire and serve the community,” said David Leonard, President of the Boston Public Library. “The principle of ‘Free to All’ is not just etched in stone above our doors—it guides our commitment to designing welcoming, accessible spaces that enrich lives. Our libraries are more than just buildings; they underscore the importance of creating spaces that reflect the vibrancy of our neighborhoods and the evolving needs of the people we serve. We are grateful to our partners—architects, City leaders, and community members—who help us bring this vision to life.”

BPL’s commitment to good design is patron-focused and rooted in inspiring a sense of curiosity and connection in its visitors. Public input drives the planning and design of library spaces; BPL’s partnership with Boston’s leading architects, designers, City leaders, and most importantly, its community, enables the creation of welcoming, transformative spaces that are

accessible, sustainable, and responsive to community needs.

A statement from AIA’s Jury Chair notes, “The Boston Public Library focuses on providing accessible, community-driven, and architecturally significant public spaces. Their work aligns with AIA’s values of inclusivity, sustainability, and civic engagement, ensuring that library spaces evolve to meet the changing needs of Boston’s diverse population. BPL has contributed to the city’s fabric by strategically placing libraries in underserved areas and ensuring that 70% of residents live within a 15-minute walk of a branch. The statement of contributions emphasizes BPL’s long history of commissioning visionary architects to design and renovate its buildings - from 1895 until the present day. There is an impressive emphasis on thoughtful design excellence (demonstrated by many design awards). It also details the library’s commitment to sustainable and inclusive design, ensuring that public spaces remain welcoming, adaptable,

and functional. The submission underscores how BPL’s capital projects reflect a deep understanding of urban design, public engagement, and environmental responsibility.”

Boston Mayor Michelle Wu’s FY25 capital plan allocates \$134 million to library projects, funding new branches and essential renovations. In 2025, BPL will break ground on the new Fields Corner Branch, while designs advance for new branches in Chinatown, West End, Uphams Corner, Egleston, and the South End. Several of these projects, including the new Chinatown, Uphams Corner, and West End branches, are part of Boston’s ‘Housing with Public Assets’ initiative—integrating library spaces with affordable housing to strengthen communities. Meanwhile, significant investments continue at the Central Library in Copley Square, supporting repairs, renovations, and long-term master planning. More details on these projects can be found at apps.boston.gov/capital-projects.

“The Boston Public Library’s

recognition by the American Institute of Architects highlights its commitment to creating inspiring, community-centered spaces,” said Dion Irish, Chief of Operations for the City of Boston. “The Public Facilities Department is proud to partner with BPL in designing and renovating libraries that are both architecturally significant and deeply connected to the neighborhoods they serve. This award underlines the power of collaboration in shaping public spaces that will enrich Boston for generations to come.”

The AIA Collaborative Achievement Award will be presented at the AIA Conference on Architecture 2025, where the Boston Public Library will be honored alongside other leaders shaping the future of architecture and public space design.

For more information about the AIA Collaborative Achievement Award, visit <https://www.aia.org/design-excellence/award-winners/boston-public-library>.