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BARBARA RHODES CHILDREN'S ROOM NAMING CEREMONY AT JP LIBRARY – Pgs 4 & 5

Vol. 34 No. 9



# Jamaica Plain GAZETTE



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*This month, the Emerald Necklace Conservancy is excited to be planting 55 new trees along the Jamaicaway! Nine species of trees were hand-picked by Conservancy field operations staff to stay consistent with the historic characteristics of the Jamaicaway while also being tolerant to road salt and other urban conditions. The plantings will include improved soil, with the addition of gypsum to help with salt and biochar to help with water retention. The young trees will also receive mulch, fencing, staking and watering bags. The Conservancy is grateful for the advocacy of Senator Michael Rush, who secured funding from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation that allowed the Conservancy to lead this community-supported process. Keep an eye out this month for planting crews along the parkway!*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF EMERALD NECKLACE CONSERVANCY



## Residents cite need for 'deeply affordable' units at 3430-3440 Washington St. project

BY GAZETTE STAFF

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) held a community meeting this past Monday evening regarding the proposed development for 3430 & 3440 Washington St.

Ebony DaRosa, a Project Manager with the BPDA, chaired the session that was held via Zoom. This was the second community meeting for the project under the auspices of the BPDA, the first having been held last October.

The developers also have been making the rounds to meet with various JP neighborhood associations in recent months.

The proposed project will consist of two buildings that will sit across from each other on Rockvale Circle. Together they will contain 236 rental units and approximately 6340 sq. ft. of ground floor commercial space with 100 garage parking spaces. There will be 234 resident bicycle parking spaces and 54 visitor bicycle spaces.

The two sites presently are the locations of Acme Auto Body (3430 Wash. St.) and Hatoff's gasoline station (3440 Wash St.). The new building at 3430 Washington St. will be six stories high and the one at 3440 will be five

*Continued on page 3*

## JPNC Zoning Comm. rejects variances for 12 unit building at 561-579 Centre St.

BY GAZETTE STAFF

The Zoning Committee of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) held the first of its two meetings this month on Wednesday, May 7. Chair David Baron and fellow members Willie Mitchell, Peg Treble, Kevin Leary, Bernie Doherty, David Seldin, Andrea Howley, and Kev-

in Moloney were on hand for the session, as was Caroline Peters, who is the representative to JP from Mayor Wu's office,

The first item on the agenda was a continuance of a matter from April for the proposed project at 10 Westerly Rd. Nicholas Best, the owner and developer

*Continued on Page 6*

# All hotel shelters across state to close this summer

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Gov. Maura Healey announced that her administration's plan to close all hotel shelters is six months ahead of schedule, with the remaining 32 hotels expected to close this summer. Governor Healey had previously directed all hotel shelters to be closed by the end of 2025.

A new report shows that, as of April 30, only 32 hotel shelters remain, down from a peak of 100 in the summer of 2023, a 68-percent decrease. These decreases are a result of a number of reforms Governor Healey made to reduce caseloads and the cost of the state's Emergency Assistance family shelter system, including a six-month length of stay requirement, workforce training and job placement for residents, and increased case management to help families find stable housing. The total number of families in shelter recently dropped below 5,000 for the first time since July 2023 and is expected to drop below 4,000 families this summer – six months ahead of schedule.

"When we took office, homeless families were being placed in hotel shelters across the state," said Governor Healey. "A hotel is no place to raise a family, and they are the least cost effective... We also promised to close all hotel shelters by the end of the year."

"I'm pleased that we are ahead of schedule, with more families getting jobs and moving to stable housing."

"Closing hotel shelters is essential to making sure that families are set up for success and to save our state hundreds of millions of dollars a year," said Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll. "We're grateful to our team and partners for working so hard to help families leave shelter for stable housing, which is better for families and better for taxpayers."

"We want to express our deep appreciation for the extraordinary work of the frontline teams, who are vital partners in supporting families throughout this crisis," said Housing and Livable Communities Secretary Ed Augustus. "Shelter providers and their staff played a critical role in rapidly scaling up services to meet an unprecedented surge in need. Their dedication and agility ensured that thousands of families across the state had access to safe shelter and support at a time when it was most needed. We are also grateful to the communities and partners who have come together to support families throughout this emergency."

The report details the state's history with turning to hotels and motels to shelter homeless families. In 2014, 1,500 families were being sheltered in hotels across the state. The previous administration turned to hotels again in 2022 as the number of families seeking shelter began to dramatically increase due to the housing crisis, failed federal immigration policy, and a lack of safeguards to control the expansion of the shelter system.

Due to declining caseload, the Norfolk Rapid Shelter located at the former Bay State Correctional Center and the Revere CSR site at the Revere Quality Inn will close this summer. Additionally, the Lowell Inn and Conference Center will transition from a Bridge Track shelter site to a Rapid Track shelter and CSR site in July.

The Healey-Driscoll Administration inherited two dual challenges when it arrived in office in 2023: an unprecedented surge of families seeking emergency shelter and a flawed shelter system that was ill-equipped to handle

such a surge. To meet this unprecedented challenge, Governor Healey initiated a number of reforms to lower the caseload, reduce taxpayer costs and improve safety.

Governor Healey declared a state of emergency and imposed a cap on the system at 7,500 families in 2023. She also worked with the Legislature to reform the Right to Shelter law. That includes requiring proof of Massachusetts residency as well as the requirement that all family members have lawful immigration status, with limited exemptions. Governor Healey imposed

mandatory CORI checks for all adults before entry into the system.

As a result of Governor Healey's actions, caseloads and costs have decreased. The number of families in shelter dropped below 5,000 for the first time since July 2023. Since the start of 2025, double the number of families have exited shelter (approximately 2,500) than have entered shelter (approximately 1,100). Approximately 85-90 percent of families seeking shelter are now longtime Massachusetts families.

## The Trout have been stocked at Jamaica Pond

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Moments that felt like Hozier's yell: releasing 1000+ trout into Jamaica Pond with @mass-wildlife

Every spring, over 1,000 trout are stocked into this glacial kettle pond thanks to our partners

at @masswildlife. On Friday, we continued 25 years of tradition gathering with experts from the Mass Department of Fish and Game and students from the @bostonschools Curley K-8 to learn about trout and help introduce them to their new home.

Stocking programs like this

one support healthy ecosystems and provide opportunities for outdoor recreation and environmental education. With a permit, visitors can enjoy fishing at Jamaica Pond—a peaceful way to connect with nature, learn patience, and enjoy time outdoors.

## NFPA provides top grilling safety tips for Memorial Day and beyond

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

For many of us, Memorial Day weekend marks the unofficial start of summer, when many people dust off their grills to celebrate the holiday and prepare for outdoor cooking in the warmer months ahead. As they do, the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) offers important safety tips and guidelines to help ensure that the grilling season remains fire-safe.

"Cookouts and outdoor grilling can be a great way to spend time with friends and family, but they do present potential risks," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA. "Over Memorial Day weekend and throughout the summer, we want everyone to be aware of where and when grilling fires tend to happen, along with steps they can take to help prevent them."

NFPA data show that be-

tween 2019 and 2023, gas grills were involved in an average of 9,287 home fires per year, including 4,682 structure fires and 4,605 outdoor fires. In roughly one-fifth (20%) of these fires, the grill had not been cleaned. In addition, an annual average of 21,682 patients went to emergency rooms because of grill-related injuries between 2020 and 2024, according to data from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

"By following simple safety precautions, people can greatly reduce the risk of grilling fires and associated risks," said Carli.

Here are NFPA tips, recommendations, and resources for using outdoor grills safely:

- For propane grills, check the gas tank for leaks. (Watch NFPA's video on how to check for leaks.)

- Keep your grill clean. Make sure to remove all grease and fat buildup from the grills and the

trays below.

- Place the grill far from your home, deck railings, eaves, or overhanging branches.

- Before lighting your gas-powered grill, always make sure the lid is open.

- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grilling area.

- If you use starter fluid with charcoal grilling, only use charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire once it's been lit. When you finish grilling, let the coals cool completely before disposing them in a metal container.

- Never leave your grill unattended when in use.

For additional grilling safety information, check out the NFPA podcast episode, a blog post on fire code grill requirements, or a video on some lesser-known grilling safety tips.

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## Washington St.

*Continued from page 1*

stories high. The plan includes townhouse-style units in the rear of both buildings facing the neighbors.

A three-story condominium complex on Rockvale Ave. abuts the rear of the Hatoff's site. The remainder of the neighborhood on Rockvale Circle and Kenton Rd. consists primarily of single and two-family homes.

Joe Hassell, the project's developer, and architect Marc Sullivan presented the details of the project with slides.

"There originally were 262 units in the project, but after meeting with community members, the number was reduced to 236," said Sullivan, who noted that 23.48 percent of the apartments -- 54 of the 236 -- will be affordable per the City of Boston's JP/ROX inclusionary guidelines which were developed in 2017 and that allows for higher-density.

Of the 54 affordable units, 16 will have rents at 50 percent of the area median income (AMI), 30 will be at 70 percent of AMI, and eight will be at 110 percent of AMI. There will be 25 multi-bedroom, family-intended-use units.

Sullivan noted that changes to the proposal since its inception in response to residents' concerns and suggestions have included the reduction in the number of apartment units, an increase in the amount of open space, an increase in the rear setbacks, and changes in aesthetic and design concepts, including a "step-back" design for the upper floors.

Sullivan emphasized that the height of the proposed buildings is consistent with the height of both existing and future buildings along the Washington St. corridor.

The comments from the residents in attendance generally fell into three camps: Those who completely support the project

(and who would have wanted to see an even-larger building with more units); those who support the project, but who expressed their dismay with at the lack of "deeply affordable" units (30% of area median income, also known as AMI); and those who generally support the project, but who lamented its size and what they perceive will be its adverse effects on the neighborhood.

Eric Herot spoke in favor of the project, citing the dire need for housing, and advocated for more units and a taller building.

Chris Vaughan also spoke in favor of the project, favorably noting the high percentage of affordable units, which will exceed the usual 15-20% of most new construction in the area.

Chaton Green, a Roxbury resident who is the Business Agent for the Boston Trade Unions, asked whether the developer would commit to using union labor and ensuring that the workers will receive family-sustaining wages and benefits.

"We are committed to exploring the possibility of the union bidding out and pricing this. Our goal is to work with you and hopefully work together," said Hassell.

Cathryn Stein asked about the number of family units, to which Hassell responded that many of the apartments will be family-size units with rents at the lower AMI (50%) figure.

Lucas Gruner also lauded the project, advocating for roadway and sidewalk improvements to improve safety, especially on Rockvale Circle.

Long-time resident Jan Wampler, who lives on Kenton Rd., said, "This will be a big, big change to our neighborhood. I am happy to see that you have reduced the number of units, but the size of this project essentially creates six streets-worth of new housing in our neighborhood. This is terrifying to many of us.

"But generally this is a better project than it was before," Wampler continued. "However, the building will create parking

problems in the neighborhood and has no play space for children.

"We're not only building housing, but we are also building a community, and we need much more retail space than what we have here," Wampler added.

"We have been supporting this project, but we have been inundated with development in this part of JP," said Caliga, echoing Wampler's views. "We have traffic issues. Have there been any traffic studies? What about shadow studies, because you're doing taller buildings? And wind tunnel studies? We do not want to become the Fenway, which is glass and steel towers and has become a 'wind-tunnel city'. Our quality of life is being impacted."

Hassel suggested that traffic will be reduced by 90% compared to the present uses of the sites. He also said wind and shadow studies have been performed per the city's guidelines and have been peer-reviewed by the city. He also noted that his buildings are not anywhere near as large as the buildings in the Fenway area.

Alcortis Clark, who lives a block away on Gartland St., thanked Hassell for the changes he has made to the project. However, Clark lamented the loss of

the quality of life that has been occurring in JP in recent years. "I agree with this project, but I don't agree with how this will be affecting my life," Clark said. "JP no longer is the place I had thought I would be living in."

"It is really important to get a breakdown on the AMIs," said Benji Mauer. "I appreciate the number of 50% AMI units -- that is a real accomplishment -- but some also have to be at 30% AMI. People need to be able to afford to live here and live here now and we need the breakdown of the number of AMI units if we are to give our input to the city."

Kathy Brown emphasized that, "We need deeply affordable housing in JP, especially family-units."

"Affordability and the family-size units are terribly important to me," said Weezy Waldstein. "It really matters that these are deeply affordable as we rebuild JP."

"Parking is going to be really rough and I think we need to be creative about what this means," Waldstein added.

George Lee also said that there should be units at 30% of AMI, which he said is mandated by the JP/ROX plan.

Helen Matthews spoke of "the displacement of our neighbors on the Washington St. corridor in

recent years. We need to stick to the affordable housing standards that our community has supported in the JP/Rox guidelines."

Maria Christina Blanco noted that her daughter and son-in-law and their new baby are living with her because of the lack of affordable housing in JP.

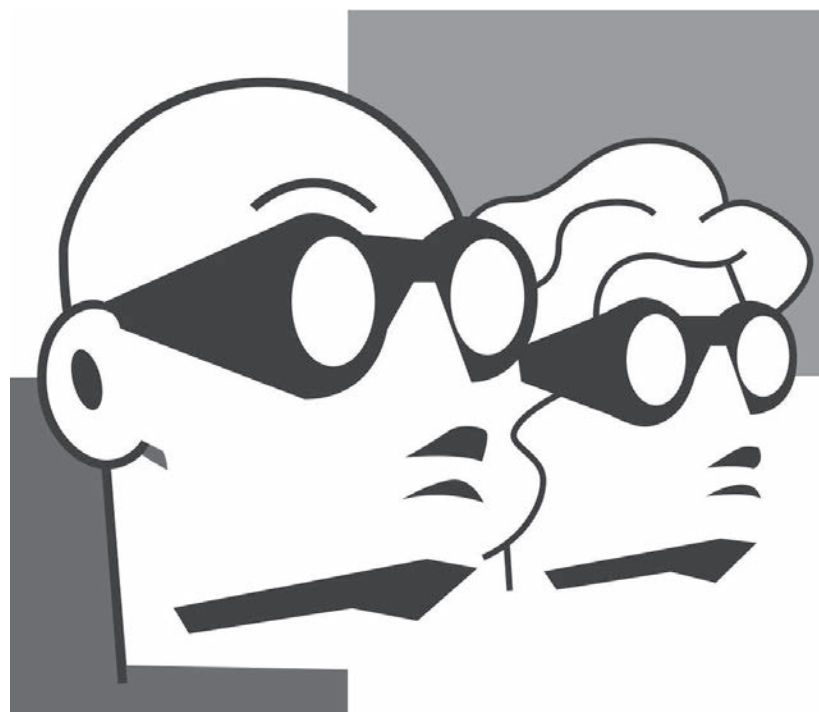
Joy Silverstein, who has lived on Kenton Rd. for 30 years, said, "Even though it is really going to change our neighborhood, I'm generally supportive of the project." She also questioned the number of cars that will be brought into the neighborhood by the new residents.

Danielle Sommer-Kieta applauded the increase in family-size units, but said that the JP community needs units that are 30% of AMI. She also said that the units priced at 110% of AMI vastly exceed what many people earn.

"I understand your points, but is the alternative to build nothing?" Hassell queried. "Construction and interest costs have soared since JP/ROX was instituted in 2017. What was possible then is not necessarily possible now."

The meeting concluded with DaRosa noting, in response to a question, that the BPDA presently does not have the project on its agenda for a vote.

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# WELCOME TO THE BARBARA RHODES CHILDREN’S ROOM AT JP LIBRARY



MAYOR’S OFFICE PHOTO BY JOHN WILCOX

The Jamaica Plain Branch Library, in collaboration with the Friends of the Jamaica Plain Branch Library, held a renaming celebration for its Children's Room on Saturday, May 17, 2025. The room was renamed in honor of beloved children's librarian, Barbara Rhodes.

The event, which took place from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM, included brief speeches from community members and others celebrating Barbara Rhodes. A reception followed the ceremony, with cake and beverages

provided by the Friends. Additionally, the Friends unveiled a newly commissioned work of art that incorporates the ribbon used during the branch's 2017 renovation reopening. Mayor Michelle Wu was in attendance



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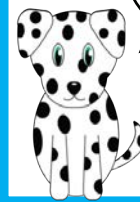


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# Boston City Council votes to advance Ranked Choice Voting

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Last week, the Boston City Council approved a Home Rule Petition to adopt Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) for city elections by a vote of 8-4.

The proposal, introduced by Council President Ruthzee Louijeune and co-sponsored by Councilors Julia Mejia and Henry Santana, now heads to Mayor Michelle Wu for approval before advancing to the Massachusetts Legislature. If passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor, Boston voters will have the opportunity to decide on RCV through a ballot referendum.

In addition to the sponsors, the measure was supported by Councilors Enrique Pepén, Gabriela Coletta Zapata, Brian J.

Worrell, Liz Breadon, and Benjamin J. Weber. Councilors Ed Flynn, Erin Murphy, John Fitzgerald, and Sharon Durkin voted in opposition. Coletta-Zapata, chair of the Committee on Government Operations, received praise from councilors voting both ways for shepherding the bill through her committee in a thorough and transparent process.

"This is a historic day for Boston," said Louijeune last week. "Today's vote brings us closer to a more inclusive, representative, and transparent democracy—one that ensures our elected leaders have broad support and are chosen by the majority of voters. Ranked choice voting is not only simple, it's powerful. It gives voters more voice and more choice."

RCV allows voters to rank

candidates in order of preference, eliminating the fear of "spoiler" candidates and promoting coalition-building over division, according to its proponents. Under the proposal, RCV would apply to general and special elections for mayor and district councilor (when three or more candidates run), and general elections for at-large councilors.

"Ranked choice voting is a tool to disrupt the status quo, shift power to the people, and amplify the voices of communities historically excluded from decision-making processes," said Mejia. "This vote is a declaration that our democracy belongs to all of us."

Santana stated that more than 60 percent of Bostonians supported RCV in 2020.

"This isn't just about policy—

it's about trust, representation, and making sure our government reflects the diversity of our city," Santana stated.

Flynn, who voted against the proposal, expressed concerns about the city's preparedness and whether residents are asking for this reform in the first place.

"The Election Department pretty much told me that they don't want to see this implemented," Flynn said during the Council meeting before the vote. "They don't believe now is the time to make such a dramatic, significant change to how people vote."

Flynn cited issues from recent municipal elections — such as lighting failures and polling locations running out of ballots, requiring police to transport

ballots — as signs that the city should focus on fixing its current voting infrastructure before adopting a new system.

"I would have a very difficult time explaining this process to my constituents in District 2," he said. "Many of them don't speak English, many of them live in public housing, many of them are seniors, English Language Learners. [...] I don't want to set us up for failure. That's what we're doing."

Murphy, who also voted against the measure, cited concerns about accessibility and potential voter confusion. She said that the existing voting system already works and that adding new layers of complexity could have unintended consequences for vulnerable populations.

## JPNC

*Continued from page 1*

of the property, presented the application to the committee.

Best said is seeking to convert the present 2-and-1/2 story building, which has a peaked-roof, into a full, three-story structure with a flat roof in order to make the third-floor unit "more functional and more livable." Best said he intends to make the property a condo-conversion.

The property is next door to the rear of the old St. Norbert High School building which fronts on Sunnyside St. There were no opponents and the committee unanimously voted to approve the application.

Next up was the application for a proposal for a new, 12-unit, four-story residential building at 561-579 Centre St. which will include a ground-floor commercial space with six parking spaces. The present structure on the

site, a former gas station, will be demolished and the site will be cleaned up. The site has been vacant for about 10 years.

Atty. Richard Lynds presented the application on behalf of the Stamatos family, the owners of the property. He explained that the apartment mix will consist of nine two-bedroom units and three one-bedroom units, of which two-units will be affordable per the city's inclusionary development policy.

Lynds explained that the project falls within the Jamaica Plain multi-family residential zoning district and thus is a permitted use. The property lies between Lakeville and Goodrich Rds.

The project requires six variances, chief among them being for excessive height (the proposed building will be four stories and 40 feet high vs. the three-stories and 35-foot height allowed per the zoning ordinance); the commercial space (which is a forbidden use in the district); a lack of open space (1700 sq. ft. vs. the required 2700 sq. ft.); and the lack of parking (19 spaces are required per the zoning ordinance).

Lynds noted that the original plan had called for a height of 45 feet, but the developer dropped the height to 40 feet at the request of the neighbors. However, he pointed out that the area includes a number of multi-family buildings of similar height, including the condo buildings directly behind the proposed building.

The facade will consist of brick and limestone with a modified mansard roof. In addition, windows were added on the Lakeville

Rd. side of the building at the request of the neighbors. There also will be spaces for bicycle parking.

The project initially came before the Zoning Committee on February 5 at which time the neighbors expressed a number of objections and the committee members suggested that the developer work with the neighbors to resolve those issues. Lynds noted that the developer agreed to some of the neighbors' requests pertaining to the height, green space behind the building, and monitoring of the foundation of the condo building behind the project during construction.

Gordon Upton, a resident of Goodrich Rd. for 26 years, spoke against the proposal. "This project is not feasible because of the density and the canyonization of the project," Upton said. "This should be turned into green space as a pocket park."

Kevin McNulty of the condo building at 8 Lakeville Rd. also spoke against the project. "I just don't think this project is right. Apart from the parking issues, it simply is too large," he said, suggesting instead that a building of three stories and nine units would be more appropriate. "This is a monolith to slap down on Centre St."

A representative from the Lakeville Rd. Condominium Association also spoke against the project. "Their proposed driveway behind the building is just feet from ours. We support more housing, but not more commercial space and not to this scale. We want to see more discussion with the neighbors."

Another resident, who rents

at 14 Lakeville Rd., expressed frustration with the "lack of dialogue" between the neighbors and the developer.

Fran Price of 11 Lakeville Rd. raised legal issues relating to the statutory criteria for requesting a zoning variance. "This building is attractive and a three-story building with eight or nine units would be appropriate," Price said.

Lynds responded that there have been six meetings regarding the project and that some of the neighbors' concerns have been addressed.

Zoning Comm. member Kevin Leary said he is opposing the project primarily because of the commercial space and because nine units would be more appropriate.

Member Kevin Moloney noted the developer could make this project smaller by eliminating the commercial space and reducing the number of units from 12 to nine, as well as eliminating the driveway behind the building.

The committee unanimously voted against the proposal.

The next application pertained to 15 Conry Crescent and was presented by Kyle Smith of Essex Engineering and Survey, who was accompanied by William O'Dowd, the owner and builder of the proposed project. Smith said that the existing building is not structurally sound and needs to be razed. It will be replaced by a 2-and-1/2 floor structure that will be built primarily on the existing footprint, though with a slight-expansion for a new, two-car garage. The lot size is

6009 sq. ft. The most significant non-conformity with the zoning ordinances is that the height of the new building will be 34 feet compared to the present 31-foot structure.

Smith said that the developer had reached a Memorandum of Understanding with a neighbor (who was on hand to voice her support for the application) pertaining to drainage, a retaining wall, fencing, and the planting of new trees for privacy.

"This development team went above and beyond what they needed to do with regard to the neighbor," noted Zoning Comm. member Andrea Howley.

The committee members voted unanimously in favor of the application.

The Zoning Committee now will present its recommendations to the full JPNC, which then will take a vote on the matters. The applicants then must go before the city's Zoning Board of Appeals to obtain their variances. Rejected applicants also have an opportunity to go before the ZBA to obtain their variance requests.

In the last piece of business, the committee members unanimously voted in favor of adding long-time JP resident Alcurtis Clark to fill a vacancy for a community member on the committee.

The Zoning Committee's next meeting is set for Wednesday, May 21, which will include the application for a five-story, mixed-use building consisting of 36 residential units with a ground-floor retail space at 3458 Washington St.

## Miracle Prayer

Dear Heart of Jesus in the past I have asked You for many favours. This time, I ask you this very special one (mention favour). Take it, dear heart of Jesus and place it within Your own broken heart where Your Father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes, it will become Your favour, not mine, Amen. Say for three days, promise publication and favour will be granted.

MGD

# BPL announces \$1 million grant from Lego Community Fund U.S.

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The Boston Public Library (BPL) and LEGO Group have launched a new partnership setting in motion a citywide initiative that leverages play to address urgent early literacy challenges and ignite creativity and agency in Boston's youth.

Funded through a \$1 million grant from the company's LEGO Community Fund U.S. to the Boston Public Library Fund, this flagship collaboration between these two institutions will unlock the potential of children through joyful, hands-on learning. Timed with the opening of LEGO Group's new U.S. headquarters in Boston and aligned with the release of BPL's Strategic Plan 2025–2030, this two-year project will deliver interactive programs to more than 150,000 children ages 0–13 and their caregivers across Boston's neighborhoods.

"This partnership and investment builds on the Boston Public Library's roles of lifelong learning partner and community engager, in reaching thousands of children and families each year," said David Leonard, President of the Boston Public Library. "The transformative grant will expand what's possible—introducing more playful, creative, and civic-minded experiences for young people across all of Boston's neighborhoods. By aligning the LEGO Group's global commitment to learning through play with the Library's mission to provide free, equitable access to knowledge and opportunity, we're opening new pathways for



*BPL President David Leonard and the staff at the Children's Library welcomed the LEGO Group team to the Central Library on Monday, May 12 to launch this exciting new partnership alongside some of the Library's youngest—and most enthusiastic—patrons.*

children to learn, grow, and feel connected to their city. May we all play well together!"

"We're deeply grateful to the LEGO Group and LEGO Community Fund U.S. for this generous investment in Boston's young people," said Paula Sakey, Executive Director of the Boston Public Library Fund. "This partnership is rooted in a shared belief that every child deserves the chance to learn, grow, and engage with their community in meaningful ways. This is what it looks like to build a city's future—together."

The partnership includes three components:

1. Early Literacy & Learning Through Play (Ages 0–9)

- Hello Hatchlings: 12,000 new parent literacy kits—including multilingual resources, books, and DUPLO bricks—will be distributed via hospitals and community partners.

- 1,000 Books Before Kinder-

garten: BPL will rebrand and relaunch this campaign with digital tracking tools and LEGO Group's Learning Through Play content, reaching over 100,000 children.

- Parent Ambassadors: Ten multilingual caregivers will be trained to lead story times in neighborhoods across Boston, helping families access early learning opportunities in their native languages.

2. Tween Engagement & Build the Change (Ages 9–13)

- Build the Change x LEGO Clubs: Expanded LEGO Clubs at 11+ BPL branches will incorporate civic, STEM, and storytelling activities supported by LEGO employee volunteers.

- Author & Music Series: Twenty interactive events will highlight creative expression through writing, storytelling, and music.

- Playful Cities Mural Challenge: A summer design

competition will invite youth to reimagine Boston's public spaces, culminating in a LEGO Master Builder mural at the Central Library in Copley Square.

3. Staffing & Training

- Investment in librarians, evaluators, and musicians-in-residence to deliver high-quality programming and training on incorporating LEGO resources to engage early literacy and 9–13 audiences.

"This wide-ranging investment from LEGO Group's LEGO Community Fund U.S. allows us to meet children and families where they are, with inclusive programs that make learning joyful," said Angela Veizaga, Chief of Youth and Family Engagement at the Boston Public Library. "By embedding learning through play into everything we do—from early literacy to tween engagement—we're equipping Boston's young people with the tools to grow as readers, creators, and active members of their communities."

In addition to reaching more than 150,000 children over two years, the initiative is projected to generate over 21,000 new library card signups and more than 600,000 early literacy book checkouts. The LEGO Group employees will also have opportunities to volunteer through kit assembly, story times, and Build the Change programming.

Established in 1848, the Boston Public Library is a pioneer of public library service in America. It was the first large, free municipal library in the United States; the first public library to lend books; the first to have a branch library; and the first to have a children's room.

The Boston Public Library

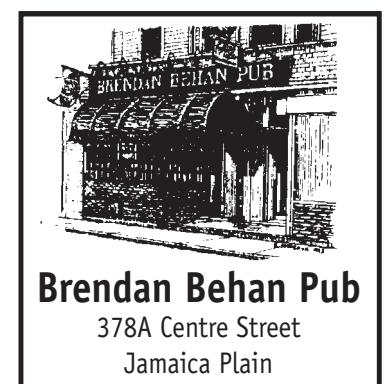
of today is a robust system that includes the Central Library in Copley Square, 25 neighborhood branches, the Norman B. Leventhal Map and Education Center, the Kirstein Business Library and Innovation Center, and an archival center, offering public access to world-class special collections of rare books, manuscripts, photographs, and prints, along with rich digital content and online services.

The Boston Public Library serves nearly 4 million visitors per year and millions more online. All of its programs and exhibitions are free to all and open to the public. The Boston Public Library is a department of the City of Boston, under the leadership of Mayor Michelle Wu. To learn more, visit [bpl.org](http://bpl.org).

The mission of the Fund is to provide financial support to the Boston Public Library, ensuring that it remains viable, engaging, accessible, and free to all. The Fund fulfills this mission by working in partnership with the Library, donors, and other funders in supporting BPL programs and special initiatives. Support from the Fund supplements, but does not supplant, other BPL resources, including City of Boston funding.



*Felicity Hammond (6yo) from West Roxbury participate in a hands-on activity with the LEGO Group volunteers at the Central Library in Copley Square on Monday, May 12.*



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Jamaica Plain

MAYOR WU HOSTS NEIGHBORHOOD COFFEE HOUR IN JAMAICA PLAIN



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JOHN WILCOX

Mayor Michelle Wu held a Neighborhood Coffee Hour in Jamaica Plain on Wednesday, May 8, at Mozart Park. The event provided residents with a direct opportunity to engage with the Mayor and City department staff on City services and concerns.

Attendees enjoyed complimentary iced coffee and donuts from Dunkin', who also provided lawn games and gift card giveaways. The Boston Parks and Recreation Department distrib-

uted free flowering plants, and Star Market provided fresh fruit.

During the coffee hour, Mayor Wu highlighted various community accomplishments in Jamaica Plain, demonstrating the City's ongoing commitment to improving local services and public areas. The initiative allows the Mayor to gather direct feedback from residents through personal conversations and a suggestion box.





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**East Boston Bank**  
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304 Centre St

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302 Centre St

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# State Seal, Flag, and Motto Advisory Comm. calls for public submissions to reimagine state emblems

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The Massachusetts Seal, Flag, and Motto Advisory Commission has launched an open call to artists, historians, educators, students, and members of the public to participate in the effort to redesign the state's seal, flag, and motto.

Established by the Legislature in 2024, the Commission is tasked with developing and recommending new symbols to represent the state through a statewide public process. Those who wish to submit ideas may do so by June 18, 2025.

"This is an exciting moment for Massachusetts. As we open the call for public submissions, we are inviting everyone across the Commonwealth to help re-

imagine the symbols that tell our story," said Education Secretary Dr. Patrick Tutwiler. "Our seal, flag, and motto should reflect not just our history, but the vibrant, diverse community we are today – and the future we are building together. I can't wait to see the creativity, ideas, and sense of belonging that people across Massachusetts will bring to this process."

"We invite everyone, including artists, designers, culture bearers, and community members, to contribute ideas that reflect who we are and who we strive to be," said Kate Fox, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism and Co-Chair of the Advisory Commission. "It's an opportunity to ensure that every

community sees itself in our story."

The Advisory Commission is seeking potential design elements that might include nature-based symbols native to Massachusetts, such as the right whale, a critically endangered species for which Bay State waters serve as a vital habitat, the eastern white pine or elm tree, and cranberries. Other potential design elements may include the geographic shape of Massachusetts and coastline imagery that reflects the state's historical connection to the Atlantic Ocean and maritime industries. These examples are not intended to limit potential submissions. The Commission encourages and welcomes a broad range of designs that capture the full creativity of

our citizens.

## What to Submit

- Design sketches or ideas for a new seal
- Design sketches or ideas for a new flag
- Motto proposals

## How to Submit

A public submission portal is available on the Advisory Commission's website. Individuals and organizations can submit written ideas, visual sketches, or full design concepts until June 18, 2025. Following the gathering of submissions, the Advisory Commission will select three final options for each category and hold public hearings to solicit feedback and input on the state emblems.

The Massachusetts Seal, Flag, and Motto Advisory Commission is tasked with recommending new designs for Massachusetts' official seal, flag, and motto.

For more information, updates, and to submit your ideas, visit <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-seal-flag-and-motto-advisory-commission>, or scan the QR code.



## Wu announces expansion of free swim lessons for local youth

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu, the Office of Human Services (OHS), and Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) marked yesterday's International Water Safety Day with the award of \$230,000 in grant funding to support free youth swim lessons and \$10,000 for the launch of a MBTA bus campaign that highlights the importance of water safety. In 2024, Swim Safe provided lessons to over 6,000 youth, and since its launch under Mayor Wu in summer of 2023 has provided lessons to 8,100 kids. Swim Safe 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. The Swim Safe initiative affirms Mayor Wu's commitment to ensure all Boston kids learn to swim and can safely enjoy the City's coastline and pools.

"This International Water Safety Day, Boston is working with our partners to make it easier and more affordable to teach

our kids to swim," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "As warm weather returns, we're investing in free Swim Safe lessons and making progress in renovating our City pools to ensure families have a safe, fun way to cool off and enjoy the summer."

The \$230,000 in grants funded in BCYF's annual operating budget will support free swim lessons for Boston youth, ensuring families have access to affordable, beginner-level swim lessons. This year's grantees include the YMCA of Greater Boston, Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston, Boys & Girls Club of Dorchester, and West End House, among others. Additional recipients of this year's grant include summer camp programs that will use the funds to incorporate beginner swim lessons into the camp curriculum. For more information, families can visit the website of participating organizations to learn more about swim lessons.

"We are excited to partner with many of our existing Swim Safe providers to offer swim lessons to youth," said Chief of Hu-

man Services, José F. Massó. "I am also thrilled that there is a new group of grantees who will be offering lessons as part of the summer camp experience."

Mayor Wu, the Public Facilities Department, BCYF, and Boston Public Schools have prioritized investing in the city's pool infrastructure and streamlining processes to prevent the deferred maintenance that has caused closures in recent years. The BCYF Draper and Curtis Hall Pools reopened in April. The outdoor, seasonal pools (BCYF Clougherty and BCYF Mirabella) are expected to open Saturday, June 21 for the summer. The new Clougherty Bathhouse will be completed early this summer, and the BCYF Condon Pool is expected to finish renovations and reopen in the coming months. Despite national challenges, BCYF has hired lifeguards to fully staff City pools for the summer season.

"Given Boston's prime waterfront location and the wealth of recreational opportunities it presents during the summer months, ensuring equitable ac-

cess to water safety education for all young residents is crucial, empowering them to confidently and safely engage with our city's pools and beaches," said Marta E. Rivera, Commissioner of Boston Centers for Youth & Families.

"I didn't think my kids would be as excited and happy as they are – I thought they would be scared, [but] all they want to do is go to class and learn," said Ericka Rodriguez, mother to Ezrael (5), Emir (7), Elianna (8) and Erik (10) who are learning to swim at the YMCA of Greater Boston. "They have learned so much already. I am so thankful for the Swim Safe program."

The City's efforts to expand swim lessons is a public health issue. Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that drowning is the leading cause of accidental death in children and that the risk of drowning is higher for children of color. Black children are more than twice as likely as white children to die of drowning. For every child who dies of drowning, there are seven non-fatal drown-

ings, which are traumatic and can lead to health issues later in life. Swim Safe Boston seeks to improve water safety in Boston, address the public health threat posed by drowning, and increase access to swimming for Boston families.

To mark International Water Safety Day on May 15, the City launched an ad campaign, featuring water safety ads on MBTA buses that travel through Boston. The information reminds parents and caregivers of important water safety tips in advance of summer. First, lessons are a great way to reduce drowning risk. Second, people should never swim alone. It is better to swim in a pair and to swim only in designated areas where a lifeguard is on-duty. Finally, if a person gets in trouble in the water, experts advise bystanders to call 9-1-1 for help and throw a float to the person rather than trying to attempt a water rescue, due to the added risk of drowning during a rescue attempt.

To learn more about Swim Safe Boston and water safety, visit [boston.gov/swim-safe](https://boston.gov/swim-safe).

*Please  
write...*

The Gazette welcomes letters to the editor. Word limit: 500. Deadline: Friday at 5 p.m. one week before publication.

Letters may be emailed to [letters@JamaicaPlainGazette.com](mailto:letters@JamaicaPlainGazette.com).

Please include address and telephone number for verification purposes.

Anonymous letters will not be published. More information: 617-524-7662

CITY PAWS

# On the road again

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Taking your pet on vacation can be fun. You spend some quality time with a creature you love. You don't have to worry about your cat or dog getting along with a pet sitter or in a kennel.

### Getting Around No Pets

Scan vacation rental classifieds, and you'd think that "No Pets" is automatically added to every ad. How do those of us who want to take the whole family on our family vacation find a rental home? Simple: We do our homework and answer the homeowners' objections one by one.

You need references. Stay at a "pet-friendly" inn or bed and breakfast. Assuming all goes well, ask the owner to be a reference for your dog.

Find a sympathetic real estate agent. We've had the best results with agents who love dogs. If all else fails, call a local veterinary hospital and ask

whether they can recommend a rental agency.

Start your search as early as possible. In the slow season, agents have the time to negotiate special arrangements. Be prepared to offer a refundable security deposit. That could turn their "No!" into a "Yes!"

### Transportation

Pack up the bags and go once you've found a destination where pets are welcome. Driving is the easiest way to travel with critters. For safety's sake, we use a dog crate in any car. In case of an accident, the crate will help keep your dog or cat safe and contained. It also gives you more control when you make stops along the way.

You can fly with small pets in the cabin of some airliners, if you get the proper health certificate and make a special reservation. If your dog is too big for the cabin, you should consider what the experts have to say. "The AS-

PCA urges pet owners to think twice about flying their pets on commercial airlines, especially if they plan on checking them in as cargo."

### Paperwork and ID

Identification is very important for a pet when you're away from home. If separated on vacation, be certain someone can return your companion to you. Our dog, Poppy, wears a tag that says she's traveling with us, with our cell phone numbers. Keep copies of rabies certificates, microchip number, and photographs of her on your phone. We carry a wallet card that says a pet is waiting for us, where she is, and who to contact to care for her.

### Packing for a Pet

If your cat is a fussy eater or your dog has a sensitive tummy, you might have to bring the right food or at least call ahead to be sure it's available at your destination. It's easiest to go to your



Taking your pet on vacation can be fun. You spend some quality time with a creature you love.

vet for extra supplies of any medications you might need. If you give a monthly heartworm medication, check your pet's schedule to see if you should take it.

### Check the Rules and Make Friends

In recent years, most places we've stayed have formal, written pet rules. Cities, towns, parks, beaches, and dog parks also have regulations. If you ask about the rules and follow them, you'll make friends and be wel-

comed back.

Making new friends, meeting locals, and meeting other travelers are clearly advantages of traveling with a dog. Pets are great icebreakers! What's more, you and your pet could make the day of a lonely traveler who is suffering separation anxiety because they left their pal behind.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.

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## EDITORIAL

## Memorial Day

Although the Memorial Day weekend signifies the start of the summer season and is observed by families and friends who gather for barbecues and similar festivities, we should keep in mind that Memorial Day is our most solemn national holiday.

Memorial Day reminds us that freedom isn't free. The holiday makes us aware of the Supreme Sacrifice that has been made by so many of our fellow citizens, providing us with an opportunity to honor their sacrifice.

Memorial Day has its roots in what originally was known as Decoration Day in the aftermath of the Civil War, when the women of communities in the North decorated the graves of the soldiers who perished in that horrific and tragic conflict.

Decoration Day became an official holiday with the proclamation by Gen. Logan on May 5, 1868, in which he declared:

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

In keeping with the spirit of Decoration Day (and the 160th anniversary of the end of the Civil War), we are reprinting below President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, considered by many to be one of the greatest speeches of all time and which states far more eloquently than we ever could the debt that each of us owes to the brave men and women who have fought and died to defend our nation's freedom and liberty.

We trust that our readers will agree that Lincoln's words are as inspiring today as they were when he uttered them in November of 1863 at Gettysburg -- and have special resonance today, when the democratic values and institutions for which so many of our fellow Americans gave their lives are being challenged more so than at any time since the end of the Civil War:

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

"Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

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

## Enjoy the weekend -- safely

Memorial Day weekend marks the traditional start of the summer season, bringing with it the anticipation of sunshine and warmth, of vacations, and of time spent with family and friends.

So we ask our readers to stop right now — and think for a moment — about all of the good times that we will be sharing with our friends and our loved ones over the next three months.

But then think for a moment about how quickly all of that can dissolve in the blink of an eye if we make a wrong choice — if we drink and drive a car or a boat while under the influence, if we abuse drugs, or if we use fireworks or other dangerous incendiaries. If friends or family members are showing clear signs of intoxication, we should not hesitate to take their keys, whether from a car or a boat, to prevent a tragedy from occurring.

It is inevitable that the TV and newspapers will inform us of the hundreds of tragedies that will occur this holiday weekend because of poor choices made by our fellow Americans. It is up to each of us to ensure that we do not become just another sad statistic.

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

## LETTER

Lets raise money for the  
Bikes not Bombs Bike-A-Thon 2025

**Dear Editor,**

I'm participating in this year's Bike-A-Thon 2025 to raise money for Bikes Not Bombs, an organization that has been using the bicycle as a vehicle for social change for 40 years!

This year I'm riding in memory of my best friend Jim Baker who passed away in January from prostate cancer. With the help of the thousands of bicycles they reclaim each year, Bikes Not Bombs provides skill development, jobs, and sustainable transportation to underserved youth and adults in Boston and across the Global South. The need for this work has only increased in recent years, and since Bikes Not Bombs' mission is so important to me, I'm working hard to support them. When I thought about people who would be willing to help me raise money, I thought of you. Would you be willing to donate to my ride? This Bike-A-Thon is Bikes Not

Bombs biggest fundraiser each year.

If you'd like to help me reach my goal, you can visit my page and make a donation here: <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/bike-a-thon2025/account/1919788/>. You can also leave a message for me about why you decided to donate — I'd love to hear from you!

If you can think of others who might be interested in making a donation in support of Bikes Not Bombs, please forward this email to them or share it on social media. You'd be helping a truly unique and powerful organization (and me) by spreading the word.

Thank you so much for helping me reach my goal. I couldn't do this without you!

For additional information about Bikes Not Bombs or this year's Bike-A-Thon 2025, please visit <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/bike-a-thon2025/>.

**Daniel Krulewitch**

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

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# Register now for the 2025 BNBL

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department is now accepting team registrations for the 2025 season of the Boston Neighborhood Basketball League (BNBL), the oldest neighborhood basketball league in the United States.

Established in 1969, BNBL has been a cornerstone of summer youth sports in Boston for over five decades, offering a fun, safe, and competitive environment for players ages 6 through

18. The league provides an opportunity for youth across the city to build skills, form friendships, and compete for the championship title in three age-based divisions for both boys and girls:

- 18 and Under
- 15 and Under
- 13 and Under
- 11 and Under

Teams compete weekly from July 7 through August 22, culminating in an exciting championship series in August. Coaches must pre-register their teams during the month of May to se-

cure a spot in the league. Registration is now available online at [boston.gov/parks-sports](http://boston.gov/parks-sports). For questions, contact Charlie Connors at [charlie.connors@boston.gov](mailto:charlie.connors@boston.gov) or Roger Roberts at [roger.roberts@boston.gov](mailto:roger.roberts@boston.gov).

To stay up to date with news, events, and improvements in Boston parks visit [boston.gov/parks](http://boston.gov/parks), call (617) 635-4505, join our email list, and follow our social channels @bostonparksdept on X, Facebook, Instagram, and @parks.boston.gov on Bluesky.

## 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@JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM](mailto:CLASSIFIEDS@JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM).  
For more info. call 781-485-0588

## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU25P0921EA Estate of: Altigrace Pompilus Date of Death: 05/28/2023

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Guerdy Jean-Poix of Cranston, RI requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Guerdy Jean-Poix of Cranston, RI be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/09/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a

written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 28, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate 05/23/25 JP

### LEGAL NOTICE

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN Docket No. SU09P1709GD Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Suffolk Probate and Family Court

24 New Chardon Street Boston MA, 02114 In the interests of: Richard Dorian of: Jamaica Plain, MA RESPONDENT Incapacitated Person/Protected Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department Of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent. The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM on the return date of 06/05/2025. 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: May 12, 2025 Stephanie Everett Register of Probate 5/23/25 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 Docket No. SU25D0696DR Federico Reynoso Plaintiff vs. Johanny Reynoso Defendant

To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact

the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411. You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Federico Reynoso 155 Williams St. Apt. 12 Jamaica Plain, MA 02130, your answer on or before 07/17/2025. 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, Esquire, First Judge of this Court. Date: April 29, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett Register of Probate Court 5/23/25 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 (617) 788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU25P1096EA Estate of: David Sargent Birkett Also known as: David Sargent Birkett, David S. Birkett Date of Death: 04/02/2025 To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal

Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Martha Bordwell of Minneapolis, MN requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Gregory T. Pearce, Esq. of Cambridge, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/09/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty days (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly

from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: May 19, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate 05/23/25 JP

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN Docket No. SU23P0076GD In the Interests of: Claudio Fontoura Of: Jamaica Plain, MA RESPONDENT Incapacitated Person/Protected Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Boston Medical Center of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on

file with the court. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 05/29/2025. 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: May 06, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett Register of Probate 05/23/25 JP

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT

PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Division (617)788-8300 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE Docket No. SU25P0973EA Estate of: Manuel J. Perry, Jr. Date of Death: 02/26/2025 To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Mark S. Perry of Nantucket, MA Mark S. Perry of Nantucket, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 05/23/25 JP

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