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LATIN QUARTER WORLD FAIR



Amanda Rodrique and Demi Romeo share a dance during the Latin Quarter World's Fair on Sept. 15 – a beloved festival resurrected after more than a decade of it being gone from Hyde Square. The Fair marked the beginning of Hispanic Heritage month as well, which runs through Oct. 15. Photo by Mike Mejia See more photos on Page 5.

In Egleston Square, officials break ground on first new firehouse in over 30 years

BY LAUREN BENNETT

For the first time in over 30 years, the City of Boston will have a brand new fire station. On September 16, Mayor Walsh and Boston Fire Department Commissioner Joseph Finn celebrated the groundbreaking of Engine 42

Fire House in Egleston Square along with neighbors and firefighters.

“This is an exciting day in Roxbury and it’s an exciting day in the City of Boston,” Mayor Walsh said at the groundbreak-

Continued on page 7

Egleston Square tiene la primera estación de bomberos nueva en 30 años

BY LAUREN BENNETT

El 16 de septiembre, el Alcalde Walsh y el comisionado de bomberos de Boston Joseph Finn celebró la nueva estación de bomberos en Egleston Square junto con vecinos y bomberos. La última vez que se construyó una nueva estación de bomberos en la

ciudad fue en 1984.

“Este es un día emocionante en Roxbury y en la ciudad”, dijo el alcalde Walsh en el evento. “Es una celebración y un problema que esto no haya sucedido antes de hoy”.

Continued on page 7

Boylston St. residents speak out against issues

BY LAUREN BENNETT

A group of concerned residents on Boylston St. in JP have banded together to try and address traffic and safety problems on their street, as they believe that the current situation poses serious safety risks to the neighborhood.

Jeremy Menchik, one of res-

idents who spearheaded the group, led a community meeting along with his neighbor Sarah McKeon on September 16, which drew in a crowd of other concerned residents. McKeon said the goal of the meeting was to build more community and discuss the traffic and safety concerns that people may have. Along with the neighbors, in at-

tendance was William Moose, a transportation planner for the Boston Transportation Department, Mayor’s Office Neighborhood Liaison Enrique Pepen, and City Councilor Matt O’Malley.

After discussing in small breakout groups, residents presented their concerns to the larg-

Continued on page 2

Wu takes citywide vote, Essaibi George comes in second

BY SETH DANIEL

Councilor Michelle Wu scored an impressive victory citywide in the Preliminary Election on Tuesday, Sept. 25, over her opponents, but Councilor Annissa Essaibi George also made a strong move in finishing second ahead of the rest of the field.

The Preliminary Election featured 15 candidates from the Council At-Large race squaring off to claim the top eight spots. The top eight now move on to fight for five seats in the Nov. 5 City Election.

There was no district seat race this time around, as Councilor Ed Flynn has no opponent.

Citywide, the vote totals were as follows:

- Michelle Wu – 26,622
- Annissa Essaibi George – 18,993
- Michael Flaherty – 18,776
- Alejandra St. Guillen - 11,910
- Julia Mejia – 10,799
- Althea Garrison – 9,720
- Erin Murphy – 9,385
- David Halbert – 6,534

The campaign will begin in earnest now through the Nov. 5 City Election.

ESTEEMING OUR ELDERERS



Marion B. Davis, President of Self Esteem Boston presents the Skills for Building Confidence curriculum in 6 languages to Claribette Del Rosario, Mental Health Services Program Manager at Ethos, to deliver Self Esteem Boston’s self-esteem and life skills curriculum for the Ethos service area. Del Rosario was trained and Qualified to deliver Self Esteem Boston’s curriculum through a grant to Self Esteem Boston from the Cummings Foundation. For 26 years, Self Esteem Boston has worked in partnership with human service providers to offer self-esteem training and education for both clients and providers. Ethos is a nonprofit based in Jamaica Plain specializing in care management, volunteer-based support and nutrition services in southwest Boston; And serves communities across Boston with community cafes and meals on wheels, the operation of 43 Community Cafes across the city of Boston. For more information about Self Esteem Boston go to: www.selfesteemboston.com, For information about Ethos, go to: www.ethocare.org.

Hyde Square, Jackson Square and Canary Square are now called Three Squares Main Street

STAFF REPORT

Hyde Jackson Square Main Street has changed its name to Three Squares Main Street JP.

A Jamaica Plain Main Streets organization established to fortify the commercial business district along Centre Street in Jackson Square, Hyde Square, and Canary Square, Three Squares Main Street uses the proven local economic development model of the National Main Street Center (www.mainstreet.org/mainstreetamerica/theapproach).

Three Squares Main Street is rebranding after more than three years of district data gathering,

cultural assets mapping, and district analysis. Their name and logo incorporates three squares in its geographic area of focus—Jackson, Hyde, Canary—and aims to clarify its unique purpose in the district. Its logo shows three small squares curved like Centre Street, surrounded by an orange line—reflecting the MBTA Orange Line—in the shape of a “3”.

“We were established a generation ago to tackle challenges in the business district with forward-thinking, local economic strategies,” said Tom Griffith, Three Squares Main Street’s Board President. “For the next

several generations, Three Squares Main Street will guide growth and instill stability in the district by welcoming new entrepreneurs and supporting existing ones, and convening residents, business owners, institutional partners, and commercial property owners to work together to advance the district.”

Three Squares Main Street’s focus area is home to approximately 10,000 residents and more than 140 store-front businesses. It is vibrant in sounds, smells, and colors, has historic sites, amazing murals, great parks, hard-working and creative merchants, and numerous

cultural events. Included in the Three Squares Main Street district is a recognized cultural district—Boston’s Latin Quarter.

To meet volunteers, learn about future initiatives, and ways to get involved in the business district, Three Squares Main Street invites the community to its Annual Meeting on Thursday, October 17 at 6 p.m. at Jamaica Mi Hungry in Jackson Square, the area’s newest restaurant, located at 225 Centre St. The Annual Meeting is free and welcome to all. Food will be provided.

Founded in 1998, Three Squares Main Street JP is a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization

whose mission is to create a safe, visually vibrant, and economically sound business district along Centre Street in Jackson, Hyde, and Canary Squares. Three Squares Main Street is one of 20 Main Streets organizations in the City of Boston and more than 1,300 across the country. Similar to other Main Street programs, HJSMS is volunteer-driven with working committees that focus on streetscape design, district promotion, and building economic vitality in the business district as well as growing the organization. More information can be found at www.threesquares-mainstreet.org.

Boylston St.

Continued from page 1

er group. One mother said she saw a car flip on Boylston St. one morning, just as her kids were leaving the house to go to school. Several issues were with the way the street itself is laid out—

Menchik said that the street narrows towards the end so people lose room to maneuver. He suggested bump outs as a possible way to incentivize cars to “treat a road like a neighborhood road,” he said.

“You have a sort of varying width of the right of way,” Moose said, adding that there are a “variety of options you could po-

tentially look at,” including a chicane—an artificial turn that would create a staggering of how cars park on the street in order to get moving vehicles to slow down. He said bumpouts at intersections would narrow the right of way at intersections where people are most likely to be crossing the street.

Another resident commented that these particular solutions might not be the best ones for cyclists, and suggested a separated bike lane with posts, which would also narrow the road but make it accessible for bike riders.

A resident on the corner of St. Peter and Boylston said that on St. Peter St., which is a single lane two-way street, she said that she does not see a stop sign

at that intersection, and there is not a lot of visibility due to parked cars. Additionally, she said that she sees a lot of people going the wrong way on Boylston St., which others confirmed. Someone else mentioned that there are a lot of noisy cars on the street, and wondered if this is something that is enforced by the police.

John Doherty of the Boston Police Department said that they don’t usually look for loud cars, but rather focus on “more high priority violations” such as speeding and running stop signs.

Speeding was a top priority for a lot of residents at this meeting, as there are a lot of children in the area. Menchik said that there are no crosswalks on Burr and Adelaide Streets and up to Belmore Terrace—“that’s shocking because of the kids who walk up Boylston to go to the Curley,” he said. “In an ideal world, there would be crosswalks with stop signs but at least crosswalks would be good.”

Moose says that there is a difference between a speed bump and a speed hump. A hump is flatter and tabled on top. “Bumps are much more aggressive,” he said, and the city doesn’t typically install those. “Neighborhood Slow Streets is the only program that installs these right now,” he said.

He said that crosswalks can typically be done following something called a warrant, in which the number of pedestrians can be counted to see if a crosswalk is warranted in a certain area. “This is something we can look

at, certainly,” he told the residents.

“The crosswalks alone—while I think it’s great to have them—if you have a speeding issue,” the crosswalk doesn’t do much to help, he said. He added that stop signs are not typically used as speed control elements, but rather more intended as a traffic flow management tool when a lot of cars are coming and need to take turns passing through the intersection.

Moose also talked about a contraflow bike lane, which would be a protected lane that can help bikes travel safely against the flow of traffic on Boylston St., which is a one way street. “I think Boylston makes a lot of sense [for this type of lane] because there aren’t a lot of alternatives,” he said.

“Volume is something we could look at, but we would probably be looking more at controlling speed,” he said. He said they want to make it safer to bike and to walk while managing the car traffic.

McKeon asked if there were limitations placed on arterial streets. Doherty said that the police department enforces “what the community wants. We enforce laws.”

Moose said that in terms of the width of the street, the bigger issue is fire trucks. When designing streets, the city must think about balancing the desires of emergency services with the day-to-day needs of the street.

“Streets have functional classifications,” Moose said. “Arterial streets do not get speed humps.”

He said he doesn’t know if Boylston is an arterial street, but “if so, there are other solutions that could accomplish the same goal.”

“Pedestrian safety is the biggest issue I’ve been working on,” said City Councilor Matt O’Malley. He said that speed humps present a challenge for snow plows in the winter, but virtual speed bumps—paint on roads that can slow down cars—could be an option, as are speed slots, which are divots in the road that catch a car’s wheels. “Parked cars on both sides act as a deterrent as well,” he said.

O’Malley said that he thinks Boylston St. could be a good candidate for the Boston Neighborhood Slow Streets program. He said he could not guarantee it will happen, but he said he will work with officials to push for it.

JP resident Christine Poff said that a study might be helpful to see where cars are coming from. “I’m an advocate of widening the sidewalks,” she added. “I walk in the street because the sidewalk is too crowded.”

At the end of the meeting, Menchik recapped all of the potential solutions discussed during the meeting, and said there will be further conversation with the Boston Transportation Department and Matt O’Malley’s office. O’Malley also said that he can donate 6-10 “Please Slow Down Boston” signs that were used in West Roxbury after a pedestrian was hit and killed in February.

“There is a real safety crisis,” Menchick said, and it “needs to be addressed.”



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Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy III announces Senate candidacy

BY JOHN LYNDS

In front of a standing-room only crowd at the East Boston Social Centers, U.S. Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy III announce his candidacy for the U.S. Senate taking on incumbent U.S. Sen. Ed Markey.

After touching on the Kennedy Family's roots in East Boston--his great-great-grandfather Patrick Kennedy immigrated from Ireland to Eastie in the mid-1800s--Kennedy laid out his vision for his U.S. Senate run.

"I know that, like my family, there are millions of others that are here, that believe in that chance," said Kennedy. "That strive for that moment to provide for their families, and build a better future for the place that they call home. And I know that through fate, but often times through choices made by this country, by our government, that those barriers have been erected, not taken down. That far too many dreams have been blocked or deferred, rather than realized."

Kennedy said he runs to tear down a system that has marginalized millions of people in the U.S.

"I know that for the first time in modern American history, we have a President that is actively trying to make that harder. We have a Senate that instead of trying to harness the opportunity and potential of every person in this country, they're trying to pull us back," he said. "And I'm running for the United States

Senate to tear that down, to fight back, with everything we've got."

Appealing to the liberal crowd Kennedy said President Donald Trump has forced a reckoning in our nation but to meet this moment requires more than just defeating him.

"It requires taking on, clearly, a broken system that calcified structures that allowed him to win in the first place," he said. "The daily acts of oppression and injustice that enabled 63 million Americans to think that he was a better steward of their dreams and hopes and aspirations. Our country deserves better. We deserve more."

Kennedy said people deserve an economic justice where a hard day's work means an honest day's pay.

"Where you can provide for your family. Where a health care system means that you can get access to the health care that you need when you need it," he said. "Where people can afford to live in the cities that they call home, the cities that they power. Where we have an immigration policy that is reflective of our humanity and makes our nation stronger. Where we have a healthy planet for our children, and their children. This is that moment. This one counts. For us, and for the generations that come after."

Kennedy added that the challenge is far too urgent for him to sit and wait for somebody else to take it on--a nod to some Markey supporters that think Kennedy should 'wait his turn' to run for Senate.

"I have traveled around this country over the past several years, and every corner of it," he said. "And I have asked people to do more, to hold on, to fight back a bit stronger, to give every little bit that they've got. And so I will too, and I hope that you will join me, for every single day, to prove that the way you fight back against the politics of 'you can't,' against the politics of division, against the politics of doubt about what we can do as a country, is to bring every voice in, to lift every voice, and to believe that if you have a country as good as the people it serves that nothing will get in the way of what we can do."



Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy III greets supporters as he announces his Senate candidacy last Saturday.

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JP OBSERVER

Ageism, flourishing these days, is also wrong

BY SANDRA STOREY / SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Thoughtful, aware people shun expressions of prejudice when they talk about and to members of different races, genders and ethnic groups. Yet lately, some of the same conscientious folks don't seem to mind stereotyping older people as a group. What's worse, they're getting away with it.

It's generally accepted that it's bad to be openly racist or sexist. Unfortunately, it seems even some liberals and progressives have forgotten that there's something called "ageist," too. And practicing ageism is just as bad as assuming that any other group shares negative traits based simply on their identity.

"We know ageism is a serious problem," said an article on the AARP website in September last year. "But does everyone? It's a kind of bigotry with insidious roots that has largely remained unchecked."

I am going to give some recent examples, but I'm not out to shame individuals, so I won't necessarily give proper names of offenders. Ageism is one prejudice people seem comfortable expressing in public these days, confident no one will complain. Older people sometimes even accept the negativity and join in stereotyping. That needs to change.

A headline in a daily newspaper after the Sept. 12 Democratic presidential debate said, "It's Time to Talk About Joe Biden's Age." Let's see. How many things are wrong with that? First, why

not Bernie Sanders' age? He's two years older than Biden. What about Pete Buttigieg, who's only 37?

So, is age really the thing we need to talk about? Are people aged 76 like Biden particularly unfit to be president or something? No, obviously not.

What we really need to talk about is Biden's difficulty expressing himself clearly and accurately enough to be president. Mentioning age, **Biden's speaking** was the actual concern the writer described in his commentary.

And that's how everyone needs to discuss anyone of any age whose abilities they are worrying about—with specificity about actions and behavior, not the person's identity. News people and pundits—anyone who speaks in public—have to be especially aware and careful.

Presidential candidate Julián Castro got called out for his ageism after the Sept. 12 debate, because host ABC had fact-checkers on the scene. Minutes after the debate was over, one reported that 45-year-old Castro was wrong when he accused Biden of misremembering what he said just said.

Castro's play to the stereotype that older people automatically have memory problems backfired on him severely. It was Castro who had remembered incorrectly, the fact-checker said, and the incident got reported again and again the next day.

Without the fact-checker

stepping in, Castro might have gotten away with his ageist insinuation when he stared at Biden and said: "Are you forgetting what you said two minutes ago? Are you forgetting already what you said just two minutes ago? I mean, I can't believe that you said two minutes ago that they had to buy in and now you're saying they don't have to buy in. You're forgetting that." Prejudice is like that.

It's not that I am a big Biden supporter; it's just that electoral politics, including the presidential race, is providing lots of examples of blatant bigotry toward older people.

In recent months I have heard and read more than one supposedly progressive person say something to the effect of: "We need to get the old, white men out of Congress." That's a recommendation based purely on identity, not behavior. Do the people who say that actually care less about representatives' stands on issues, leadership roles in Congress that come with seniority and political actions than they care about their advanced ages and other identities? That's what it sounds like. If so, for example, there go Bernie Sanders, Chuck Schumer and quite a few other quality people.

Saying older people aren't welcome in a regular workplace is against the law. Older people are a "protected class" in federal and Massachusetts anti-discrimination law. (White men are not, as that group has not experienced years of documented discrimination.) Because seniors are often victims of bigotry, employers are not allowed to consider a person's age when making personnel decisions.

Good idea. None of us should stereotype by age—just like we are not allowed to assume blanket negative characteristics about races, ethnic groups and genders—when making decisions. It's not only bad form and often illegal, it can easily lead, as with Castro, to making mistakes.

A meme on Facebook in big letters on a blue background attracted dozens of "likes" from people of various ages, including people over 55, early this month:

"You ever worked with old people? This is a real frustration. lol"

It went on to say someone asked the writer to "fax an offer," adding that the person was probably "located" somewhere way "before 2019."

Similar to Castro's gaffe, when the Facebook guy insulted older people he revealed that he and everyone who liked his post lacked the experience to know that faxes are still sometimes requested in legal, real estate, medical and banking enterprises, with the only acceptable alternative being original hard copy. lol

Massachusetts Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy III's Democratic primary challenge to Senator Edward J. Markey—known weeks before it was announced officially on Sept. 21—has brought up questions of only slightly subtler ageism. Rep. Kennedy, 38, and Sen. Markey, 73, are both left of center Democrat white males in Congress who differ very little in their stands on public policies. Markey has been a leader on environmental protection, technology and energy issues since he first went to the House of Representatives in 1977.

Unlike the successful 2018 primary challenge of Congressman Mike Capuano by local Boston City Councilor Ayanna Pressley, Kennedy's identity differs from Markey in only one way—age—and Kennedy's being a member of a political dynasty, if that should count as a good reason to vote for him.

Pressley said on WGBH's Greater Boston during the campaign that she pretty much agreed with Capuano on issues, too, but argued she is a black woman—an identity underrepresented in Congress and never before included in the delegation to the House from Massachusetts. Also in the realm of identity, Pressley is a Bostonian, like the majority of voters in the district, while Capuano lives in Somerville.

On WBZ News on Sept. 18, commentator Jon Keller described the Kennedy-Markey match-up as "a classic generational battle previewed" in the Pressley-Capuano primary.

The Kennedy-Markey con-

test will be a good test. Do JP and Massachusetts voters think youth should prevail over age—all else objectively being equal or even favoring the more experienced incumbent leader at this point? Markey, for example, just created the highly praised Green New Deal last year promoting environmental protection with progressive newcomer Congresswoman Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. We'll see.

My thoughts have been going to Nate Smith a lot these days. He was a vocal member of the Gray Panthers and an affordable housing activist who never failed to point out and work against ageism in Jamaica Plain and anywhere else he saw it. The Nate Smith House, 44 units for seniors on Lamartine Street, is named for the combination tough, smart and kind popular hero who died in 2002 in his nineties. We need to bring back Nate's anti-ageism vision and messages.

What to call people now ages 55-73 (Baby Boomers) and their elders has become controversial. Various labels offend different people, such as: senior, elder, old(er) person, aging person, geriatric person, and person **in their golden years**.

It's time to move past worrying about the names we use for the age group that makes up about 21 percent of both the U.S. and JP population [US. Census Bureau, September, 2018]. Instead, if we want a better society and neighborhood we need to focus on the complex issues of what gets said about and done to people over 55.

Maybe the Boomers had the current ageism coming to them. They are the generation that featured some members who, when they were young, wore buttons and t-shirts and carried signs saying: "Never trust anyone over 30."

I'm sure the people who said that are sorry now. They should be. Let's all work to ditch the indirectly spoken slogan that dominates today: "Don't give **credibility** or respect to most people over 55."

Thank You
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LATIN QUARTER WORLD'S FAIR ON SEPT. 15



Members of the planning committee for the 2019 Latin Quarter World's Fair.



JP resident Renato Milone and his daughter, Simona, 4, work together on a drawing. Photos by Mike Mejia

After coming to a halt in 2008, the Latin Quarter World's Fair returned to Jamaica Plain a decade later to kick off the National Hispanic Heritage Month with great flair on Sunday, September 15. Family and friends gathered in Hyde Square for an afternoon of delicious food, games, dance, and performances.



Shown right, Mandala Sindelar looks into a mirror after having her face painted.



Bolivian group Caporales San Simon performing during the Latin Quarter World's Fair.



Penny Aviles and John McCarthy dancing during the World's Fair.



Natalia Sanchez (right) watches as Chloe Waeihing (left) and Valentina Mitchell (center) play with bubbles.



JP residents Emily Tabor and Dima Kryukov share laughs during the festival.

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JPwriter honored at State House Ceremony

With hundreds in attendance, including legislators, writers, librarians and the book community, Massachusetts Center for the Book (MCB) presented the 2019 Library of Congress/Massachusetts Literacy Award and the Massachusetts Book Awards on Sept. 17 at a State House ceremony.

Representative Paul McMurttry, Chairperson of the Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development, and Representative Natalie Higgins, House Co-Chair of the Library Caucus, provided the legislative welcome.

The Massachusetts Book Awards presentations commenced with Sharon Shaloo, MCB Executive Director, reminding the audience that this is the largest state book awards program in the country. "It's a testament to the vitality of the contemporary writing community in our commonwealth," she

stated.

Representative Higgins presented citations to Susan E. Goodman of Jamaica Plain on behalf of Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz and Representative Nika Elugardo. Goodman received the 17th Annual Massachusetts Book Award in the Picture Book/Early Reader category for *The First Step: How One Girl Put Segregation on Trial*, the true story of a young African American girl who challenged segregation in the public schools of Massachusetts more than a century before *Brown v. Board of Education*.

The 2019 Massachusetts Literacy Award was given to Beacon Press in recognition of its history of ethical publishing that "elevates and actuates the promise of a literate populace." Helene Atwan, Director of Beacon Press, accepted the award and underscored the publisher's commitment to promote dialogue around

social justice and issues of diversity. The Library of Congress State Literacy Award program is funded through the generous support of David M. Rubenstein, co-founder of The Carlyle Group and a major benefactor of our nation's library.

The Massachusetts Center for the Book, chartered as the Commonwealth Affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, is a public-private partnership charged with developing, supporting and promoting cultural programming that advances the cause of books and reading and enhances the outreach potential of Massachusetts public libraries. For more information about the Library of Congress Literacy Award or the Massachusetts Book Awards, contact info@massbook.org or visit <http://massbook.org/>.



Rep. Natalie Higgins (right) presents author and JP resident, Susan E. Good with citations. Good also received the 17th annual Massachusetts Book Award.

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BLC denies replacement of Adams House windows

By LAUREN BENNETT

The Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC) on Tuesday denied without prejudice a proposal for the replacement of five windows on the Adams House at the Adams Nervine Asylum. The building is a landmark, so any changes must be approved by the BLC.

The five windows proposed consisted of aluminum clad wood windows with weather seals and a PVC jamb liner. The applicant said that the current windows are loose and rattle when the wind blows, and he would like to replace them with the aforementioned windows.

"If the original windows were wood, we'd like to see them restored if that's the first line of action," said BLC Commissioner David Berarducci.

Walker agreed that the existing windows are "not in bad shape" and "can be repaired." He said that the applicant should

continue with the triple track storm windows that the existing windows are fitted for. "You getting better energy efficiency out of a better window is not enough to replace them," adding that he "wouldn't be inclined to consider aluminum windows." The applicant said that he doesn't think there are currently storm windows on there right now.

Walker said that there are several companies in the Boston area that can do historic repairs of windows, and that he recommends the applicant ask his client to look into having the windows repaired.

"If any other windows [on Asylum buildings] are beyond repair, they should be replaced with wood," Berarducci added.

The Commission denied this application without prejudice, which means the applicant may return with an alternate plan. The Commission recommended that he send details of the restoration to BLC staff.



Mayor Walsh was joined by Commissioner Finn and other fire officials as they broke ground on the new Engine 42 fire house on September 16.

Firehouse

Continued from page 1

ing. "In some ways, it's a celebration, and in other ways it's a real big problem that this hasn't happened before today."

Once complete, the \$23.5 million fire station will house two companies and a district chief, Walsh said. It will also include a new fitness center, a kitchen, and other amenities "to help improve the quality of life" of firefighters. Additionally, the station will have a training room for technical rescue companies which will allow them to stay up-to-date on their training without having to travel to a different location.

"As a city, when we think about firefighting, 100 years ago, it was putting a burning building out. It was saving somebody's life," Walsh said. "Today it's changed. As a city we want to make sure and we're doing it here today, support the health and wellness and safety of those

who do the same for us every single day."

The station will also feature a piece of permanent public art outside, funded by the Percent for Art Program, in which one percent of the city's capital borrowing is dedicated to permanent public art. Walsh said the artist would be announced soon.

"A lot of hard work went into planning and designing this fire house," said Commissioner Finn. "Nothing would have gotten done if we didn't have the full support of the Mayor."

Finn said that the average age of a firehouse in the city of Boston is 76 years old—"that's almost criminal," he said. He added that the last time a new firehouse was built but he city was 1984.

"Our firefighters and citizens deserve a firehouse that is modern and updated to manage and meet the needs and demands of today's fire service and the global environment we now work in," he said.

"It's astonishing how many firefighters have succumbed to occupational cancer in the last 30 years," he continued. In order to address that problem, the design of this firehouse will incorporate "the latest methods" of protecting firefighters from the carcinogens their job exposes them to. Finn said there will be a decontamination zone on the main floor, and no gear will go upstairs. That floor will have its own separate heating and ventilation systems, and there will be three different mechanical systems in the building to make sure toxins and carcinogens are kept from traveling into the living space. The station will also feature storage for all of the technical rescue equipment for the Technical Rescue Component, which will allow the component to be "much more efficient on response and execution," Finn said.

"Our firefighters and the city deserve no less," he said. "For the community, I think you'll be very proud of this firehouse and the members who work here."

"Trabajamos mucho para planificar y diseñar esta estación de bomberos", dijo el Comisionado Finn. "No habría sido posible sin el apoyo del alcalde".

"Nuestros bomberos y ciudadanos merecen un parque de bomberos que sea moderno y actualizado para satisfacer las necesidades del servicio de bomberos actual", continuó. "Es sorprendente cuántos bomberos hayan muerto por cáncer ocupacional en los últimos 30 años."

Para abordar ese problema, el diseño de esta estación de bomberos incorporará métodos para proteger a los bomberos de los carcinógenos a los que su trabajo los expone. Habrá una zona de descontaminación en el piso prin-

cipal que tendrá sistemas separados de calefacción y ventilación, y habrá tres sistemas mecánicos diferentes en el edificio para garantizar que las toxinas y los carcinógenos no entren en el espacio habitable. La estación también contará con almacenamiento para todo el equipo de rescate técnico, lo que permitirá que el componente sea más eficiente.

"Nuestros bomberos y la ciudad no merecen menos", dijo Finn. "Creo que la comunidad estará muy orgullosa de esta estación de bomberos y de los miembros que trabajan aquí".

"Gracias a todos por venir", dijo Bobby Petitti, presidente de Boston Firefighters Local 718. "Me muero por ver el producto terminado".



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Remembering
Ida Graves
June 22, 1931 – Sept. 2, 2017

Ida Graves was a mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, an Aunt, and a friend who lived in the community of Mission Hill. Many knew here as Granny, and as a voice in the community who fought for equal rights. It has been two years since she has gained hew wings among our heavenly angels. You are deeply missed by your family, friends, and the community of Mission Hill.

Love Always, Your Family



bomberos

Continued from page 1

Una vez terminada, la estación de bomberos de \$23,5 millones albergará a dos cuerpos de bomberos y un jefe de distrito. También incluirá un nuevo gimnasio, una cocina y otras comodidades "para mejorar la calidad de vida" de los bomberos. Además, la estación tendrá una sala de entrenamiento.

La estación también tendrá una instalación de arte permanente en el exterior, financiado por el programa Percent for Art. Walsh dijo que el artista se anunciará pronto.

JP Agenda

The deadline for listings is noon, Tues. October 8 for the October 11 issue. Send listings to reporter@jamaicaplain-gazette.com. Note: 617 should be dialed before numbers below, unless another area code is given.

Meetings

Stonybrook Neighborhood Association. next meeting is Monday, October 21, from 7-9 p.m., back room of Doyle's, 3484 Washington St. More/latest info: www.sna-jp.org

The Jamaica Pond Association will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 7, in the Jamaicaway Tower Community Room, 111 Perkins Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass. There is limited guest parking to the right of the main entrance. All are welcome at this open public meeting.

Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council The Public Service Committee of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 1 at 7:00pm at Curtis Hall, 20 South Street. All interested residents are invited to attend.

Police Community Relations Meeting will take place on Thursday, October 3 at 6:30pm at Curtis Hall, 20 South Street. Commanders from Boston Police Area E, MBTA Police and State Police will deal with all issues of public safety raised by the community. All interested residents are invited to attend.

Vacancy on the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council People who are interested in an available seat on the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council can contact Kevin Rainsford, chair of the Council at (617) 866-7672 or kprainsford@gmail.com or come to the monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 22 at 7:00pm at Farnsworth House, 90 South Street. There is one vacancy at-large. The area map is available at <http://www.jpnc.org/jpnc-map/>.

Police Community Relations Meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 2 at 6:30pm at Curtis Hall, 20 South Street. Commanders

from Boston Police Area E, MBTA Police and State Police will deal with all issues of public safety raised by the community. All interested residents are invited to attend.

The Egleston Square Neighborhood Association will meet on Monday, October 7 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The meeting is in the YMCA Building at 3134 Washington St. Agenda to be determined.

JP Problem Properties Committee, first Wednesday of the month, 10:30 a.m., E-13 Police Station Community Room, 3347 Washington St. Info: Liana Poston, 722-2060.

Three Squares Main Street's Annual Meeting (formerly Hyde Jackson Square Main Street). Thursday, October 17 at 6pm. Meet volunteers and learn about how you can get involved. Free. At Jamaica Mi Hungry, 225 Centre Street across from Jackson Square T Station. 617-522-3694.

Youth/Families

AIR/Teen Bridge @ JP Open Studios Join Artist in Residence L'Merchie Frazier and Teen Bridge artists as they unveil "New Urban Monuments: Stand Up Inside Yourself!" at 253 Amory St., Jamaica Plain, 11am-5pm. On September 28 and 29.

Faculty Showcase @ JP Open Studios Often called one of the most family-friendly arts events, Jamaica Plain Open Studios gives the public and artists an opportunity to connect, converse and purchase works of art. We'll showcase 27 visual and craft faculty at our schoolhouse at 24 Eliot Street. Extra activities include live music, artists' demos, hands-on collaborative art projects, giant bubbles for kids and, by popular demand, the Marshmallow Garden by Andrew Riiska. 11am-6pm on September 28 and 29.

2019 South Street Youth Center Family Fun Run-Walk on Saturday October 5 The second annual Family Fun Run-Walk will be held at Arnold Arboretum. Meet at the Hunnewell parking area at 8am for registration and warm-up; the Run-Walk starts at 9am, rain or shine. Costumes encouraged! Enjoy homemade goodies,

face painting and a dance performance after the run. All proceeds benefit the South Street Youth Center. Go to runsignup.com/ssycrun2019 for register. This event is sponsored by Sazama Real Estate.

For more info, please contact Tricia Brennan at 617-645-9681 or triciabee@aol.com. Thank you.

Children Dance Classes: JP Dance Co-op is hosting two new classes this Fall: Parent & Child: Intro to Movement for ages ~3-4 on Sundays, 10-11am, Oct. 6 to Dec. 8 (Full course: \$100 / Drop in: \$15); and Pre-Ballet & Modern: Dance Basics for ages ~5-6 on Sundays, 11am-12pm, 10/6-12/8 (Full course: \$100). Classes held at Spontaneous Celebrations (FYI: no classes 10/13 & 12/1 for holidays). Email Caitlin Fisher to register: JPDanceCoop@gmail.com.

Kids on Wheels: Play and learn, every Sunday, 3 to 5 pm - Ferris Wheels Bike Shop helps kids learn and practice safe riding skills while having lots of fun at the South Street Mall and tennis courts! Free helmet adjustments and free bike adjustments available. Heavy rain cancels. At the tennis courts at South Street and Carolina Avenue. 617-524-2453.

Tuesday & Thursday a.m. bike training rides: Paceline ride, great for training for charity rides or general conditioning. Leaves from Ferris Wheels Bike Shop, 66 South St. (1/2 mile from Forest Hills) at 7:00 a.m. sharp. Rain cancels. Call 617-524-2453.

The Roberto Clemente 21 Sports program is now accepting applications (boys and girls ages 6-16). Location: The Hennigan Community Center, 200 Heath St., Jamaica Plain. Info: 617-828-9524 or alliriano@yahoo.com.

Spanish-English Language Exchange / Intercambio de Idiomas en Inglés y Español, Saturdays / sábados, 12 - 1:45 p.m. Connolly Branch Library.

Support Group for Young Parents, a program of Jewish Family and Children's Services, open to all faiths, for parents with children from birth to one-year, registration not required. Thursdays, 10:30am-noon. Info: 781-647- 5327/info@jfcsc

boston.org.

Tiny Tots World Music and Movement, music classes for kids age 2-5 by Helder Tsinine, Mondays 11-11:45am; Saturdays, 10-10:45am, \$17 per class or \$90 for 6 weeks, Egleston YMCA, 3134 Washington St. Info: htsinine@gmail.com.

Family art class, wheelchair accessible, Tuesdays 10:30am-11:30am, ages 3-5. Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m., ages 5+. Family Resource Center, 1542 Columbus Ave. Info: 522-1018.

Egleston Square Library, free homework help, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, ongoing throughout the school year, 3:30-5:30 p.m., 2044 Columbus Ave, Roxbury.

Health/Fitness

parkrun is a grassroots, community running event, run by volunteers for the local running and walking community. We hold free timed 5k events every week. Everyone is invited to run, jog or walk for 5k (two laps around the pond). We are very proud to be the first parkrun in Boston, MA. It's been a very successful initiative for getting people of all ages outside to exercise, and to meet members of their local community. We meet on Saturdays at 8:45 a.m. at the top of the Sugarbowl. Run starts at 9:00am. All welcome, all ages, all abilities.

Yoga, meditation and stress reduction classes at the MindBody Center (SJPHC-HPC) @ 10 Green Street. Low cost or free, in English and Spanish. For more information call 983-4226.

Fitness Walk, Saturdays, 8-9 a.m., Franklin Park Golf Clubhouse parking lot. Info: alison.g.m.brown@gmail.com. Care to Care, a support group for family caregivers of people with Alzheimer's and other dementias, second Wednesdays of the month, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Springhouse, 44 Allandale St. Info: Meredith Griffiths, 522-0043/mgriffiths@springhouse-boston.org.

Forest Hills Runners, several weekly group runs, info/schedule:foresthillsrunners.org.

Seniors

Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 30 South Street, Jamaica Plain (617) 524-2053.

Monthly Memory Cafe. Monday, September 30. 10:30-noon. Please join us for conversations that allow time to share memories, laughter and concerns. Participants experiencing memory lapses are welcome to attend -and anyone requiring special assistance should be accompanied by a caretaker. Refreshments will be generously provided by the Rogerson House.

MEDICARE: How does it work? Wednesday, October 9, 10:15-11:15am. If you are approaching Medicare and have questions, please RSVP to 617-522-9270 and mention this event, along with your name and phone number. Get your questions answered at this Ethos SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) program.

ABCD Good Life Healthy Living Club, monthly wellness sessions, for adults 50+, Wednesdays, 10am. My Life, My Health, class for adults 50+ with chronic health conditions, weekly classes, Thursdays, 2pm. Computer classes for adults 50 and older, Mondays, 3pm. 30 Bickford St. Info: 522-4251.

Community Arts Music Program for Seniors, Curtis Hall, 20 South St., Fridays 10:30-noon. Info: 983-3638.

Ethos workshops for healthy aging, Chronic disease management Tuesdays, 10 a.m., SJPHC, 640 Centre St., powerful tools, Wednesdays, 4:30pm Ethos, 555 Amory St. Info: ethoscare.org.

Diabetes Self-Management Program, Hyde Park Community Center, 1179 River St., Wednesdays 9:30am-noon. Info: Ann Glora at 477-6616.

Crossroads Café, free lunch and social event for seniors and their guests, often featuring live music and educational presentations. Food made with local produce and other healthy ingredients. Bread, produce, milk, and leftovers to take home as available. Saturdays, First Baptist Church, 633 Centre St., 12:00-2pm. Info: 524-3992/www.firstbaptistjp.org.

Community grown project in full swing at Leland St. community garden

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Last month, Mayor Walsh announced the five winners of the City's "Community Grown" program, which is a three year partnership between the Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics, the Department of Neighborhood Development, the Trustees, and TD Bank.

One of the winning projects is in JP's Leland St. Community Garden, for which the artists designed four tables that can be used for events featuring food, music, poetry, and social justice. Called Tended By All, Harvested By All, the program featured a kick-off event in August with JP Honk, yoga, and poetry.

Garden member DJamil Graham said that the artists, Jennie Rose Halperin and Alex Auriema, created the tables "in a respectful way," with indigenous wood treated in an ancient Japanese process without using any chemicals. She said they used a burning method that chars the wood and then applied a whey product that seals the wood, making it water and fireproof.

"The intention is to seek 20 plus people and create events where food is central—to provide the meal and offer not just food for the stomach but food for the heart and soul," Graham said.

The performance art and social organizations that participate in this project "are bringing change and comfort into the community and developing community itself," she said.

Graham said that when the tables were revealed in the garden last month, she was happy to see that the artists were respectful of the history of the cooperative garden, and "integrated indigenous connection to the importance of inclusion and respect of all people."

"Everything that we wanted they so generously complied [with]," Graham said of the artists. The tables are totally weatherproof and there are different options for storage. They can either remain outside all winter, or they can be disassembled and stored. "They're very lightweight and very easy to move around; many different configurations," Graham said. They can be placed in one long line, in a horseshoe, etc. It's customizable depending

on the event, she said.

"We're really grateful; everybody likes them," she said.

Michelle de Lima, Engagement Manager at the Trustees, said that "we've been really wanting to increase the reach of the gardens so it's not just people who garden in them, but neighbors can come in and enjoy them." The Trustees currently oversees 56 community gardens in Boston, and hoped that the Community Grown program will expand the reach of those gardens to more residents of Boston.

She said that TD Bank approached the city wanting to fund a project for city engagement, and former Parks Commissioner Chris Cook suggested that they reach out to the Trustees as well.

"We did a bunch of site visits; looked at a bunch of gardens," de Lima said. She said they put out a Request for Proposal from residents to use public space in innovative ways and engage the public in those spaces.

That was used last year, this year, and will be used next year as a means to gather artist proposals which are looked at by a committee with Trustees garden-



Residents enjoyed the new tablets and benches created for the Tended By All, Harvested By All program at the Leland St. Community Garden.

er. They pick three sites per year: two Trustees gardens and one city garden. This year, they chose five projects instead of three.

When choosing projects, they "look for a proven track record or a really good plan for community engagement," she said. "Part of this project for us has just been to expand a skill building program city wide." The Trustees has a "Seed Sow and Grow" workshop series in which they hire people

to teach different classes across the city, and some of the funding was used for this project.

Tended By All, Harvested By All has several events coming up that will make use of the new tables. On September 25, a movie night was held in the Leland St. Community Garden, and coming up on October 1 is a Dinner in the Garden that will nourish the body, mind, and soul. On October 20, there will be a conversation on community ecology in the garden.



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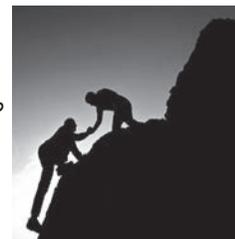
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Sights & Sounds

The deadline for listings is noon, October 8 for the October 11 issue. Send listings to reporter@jamaicaplaingazette.com. Note: 617 should be dialed before numbers below, unless another area code is given.

Special events

Jamaica Plain Historical Society. Will be having a free Guided Walking Tour of Jamaica Pond will take place on Saturday, September 28 starting at 11:00am from in front of the Bandstand, Pond Street and Jamaica Way.

The 24th Annual Taste of Jamaica Plain will be held on Thursday, November 14 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Our Lady of the Annunciation Church, 7 VFW Parkway, W. Roxbury, MA

There will be delicious food and drink from over 20 Vendors. There will be Kids Activities, Silent Auction, Live Music and Circus Fun for the Whole Family!

Tickets available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/taste-of-jp-2019-24th-taste-of-jamaica-plain-benefit-for-esac-boston-tickets-70058086623?aff=ebdssbdest-search>

Silent Auction bidding is NOW

OPEN at www.biddingforgood.com. Search for "Taste of JP"

Proceeds support the many programs at ESAC, a 501(c)3 non-profit community organization. ESAC's programs provide support for at-risk youth and low-income seniors. Each year, ESAC helps hundreds of low-income senior homeowners age in place with home repairs, falls prevention devices, mortgage assistance and benefits enrollment.

JP Toastmasters will be holding an Open House event on October 14 at 7:00 p.m. at The Footlight Club in Jamaica Plain. The meeting will feature free food and drinks, introductions, and opportunities to practice speaking. As always, meetings are free for guests.

JP Toastmasters is known for providing a warm, welcoming environment where members help each other improve their public speaking and leadership skills. The club meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at The Footlight Club in Jamaica Plain.

The Annual Roslindale Day Parade has delighted people from all over the Boston area for over four decades. Our 44th Annual Ros-

lindale Day Parade will take place on Sunday, October 6, 2019 stepping off at 1:00 p.m. from Washington Street by Adams Park in Roslindale Village, proceeding up South Street, to Belgrade Avenue, to West Roxbury Parkway, to Gottwald Rotary, to Centre Street, to South Street, and ending on Robert Street at Fallon Field. Stephen Judge and the Delfino Restaurant Family will be honored as Grand Marshals. Following the Parade, all are invited to join us in

Fallon Field from about 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. for refreshments, stage performances, a steel drum band, community information tables, face painting, and lawn games.

For information about how your group or business can participate, please call 617-327-4886, e-mail to info@roslindaleparade.com, or visit www.roslindaleparade.com.

The Jamaica Plain Historical Society will be holding a free Guided Walking Tour of Green Street will take place on Saturday, September 14 starting at 11:00 a.m. from in front of Southern Jamaica Plain Health Center, 640 Centre Street. In Spanish - Free Guided Walking Tour of Hyde Square neighborhood will take place on Saturday, September 14 starting at 11:00am from in front of Brendan Behan Pub, 378 Centre Street. Conducted by the Jamaica Plain Historical Society.

ELLIOT SCHOOL will have the following events:

Modern Monuments, family art-making with Wee The People and Eliot School Artist in Residence L'Merchie Frazier. What stories do public monuments tell, and what stories are missing? September 14, 2pm and 3pm, Eliot School, 24 Eliot St.

New Urban Monuments: Stand Up Inside Yourself! Art by Eliot School Artist in Residence L'Merchie Frazier and Teen Bridge about possibilities for public monuments. September 28 and 29, 12-5pm, Eliot School Annex, 253 Amory St. Eliot School Faculty Showcase at JP Open Studios, September 28 & 29, 11am-6pm, Eliot School, 24 Eliot St.

L'Merchie Frazier: New Urban Monuments, Eliot School Artist in Residence exhibition October 2-27. Reception October 4, 6-8pm. Artist's Talk October 20, 3pm, Galatea Fine Art, 460 Harrison Ave. #B-6, SoWa.

Lantern Making for Spontaneous

Celebrations' Lantern Parade, all ages welcome. October 14, 2-4pm, Eliot School, 24 Eliot St. Holiday Ornament-Making, family fun, all ages welcome. December 15, 10am-12:30pm, Eliot School, 24 Eliot St.

Arts, music, and culture

JESUS DRINKS FREE! 1950s-70s country, gospel, soul and RnB spun by 2 atheists (and guests) @ Jeanie Johnston 9pm-Close FREE SOUL music & COUNTRY music. Foundational sounds of the American experience spun monthly with love, admiration, and a deep want to create fun. Throw in a non-believer's true lust for spinning GOSPEL music and you have JESUS DRINKS FREE. The music comes from the 1950s thru the 1970s. We're @ The Jeanie Johnston Pub every first Thursday night of every month. Good times in Jamaica Plain."

The Haven, HOOTENANNY - JP's OPEN MIC EVERY WEDNESDAY, hosted by Tom Dowd. Sign up is 9.30pm and we have prizes every Wednesday for the most interesting acts.

Midway Café, All shows 21+ - Doors at 8:00 PM unless otherwise noted

EVERY THURSDAY 9:30 PM - 2:00 AM: QUEERAOKE (Drink - Sing - Dance - Repeat!)

Boston's very best lesbian night (but everyone is welcome and all are invited!)

EVERY FRIDAY 6:00 - 8:30 PM (FREE!): HIPPIE HOUR with Mystical Misfits and Uncle Johnny's Band (alternating weeks) and their friends playing the music of The Grateful Dead, Bob Dylan and more!

EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT 8:00 PM - 2:00 AM (FREE!): OPEN MIC AT THE MIDWAY Hosted by Angela Sawyer and Gabe Stoddard. Come one, come all! More info: <http://midwaythehighway.com/> September 2019:

FRIDAY 9/27 (after Hippy Hour) 8:30pm (\$7.00): Box of Records with very special guests The Greatest of Apes

SATURDAY 9/28 (Night Show) 8pm: Take it Out and Blow on It: A Tribute to Video Games! (Take it Out and Blow on It: A Tribute to Video Games with Burlesque, Bands, Comedy, Zelda, and more!

SATURDAY 9/28 (Day Show) 3pm (\$5.00): Scuzzy Yeti, Above the Din, Blue Manic, 25 Cent Habit

SUNDAY 9/29 (Day Show) 3pm (\$5.00): Half-Astronaut, Foley, Erin Vadala and her brother Charles Vadala and their band, TBA

MONDAY 9/30 (\$5.00): Havins, Sweet Petunia, SOVIET.JESUS. CHOIR

October 2019:

TUESDAY 10/1: TBA
WEDNESDAY 10/2 (\$5.00): The Zygote Theory, Kingshot, The Wood Floors, Mystere
THURSDAY 10/3 (before Queer-oke) \$5.00: Miilo
FRIDAY 10/4 (after Hippy Hour) 8:30pm (\$10.00): Pink Boots Punk Band Takeover! with Depressors, SkyTigers, The Downhalls, and Set Fire!

SATURDAY 10/5 (Night Show) \$8.00: Jean Paul Jean Paul plus special guests

SATURDAY 10/5 (Day Show) 3pm (\$6.00): The Spots, Charmed And Strange, Bad Idea USA, Hot Mollasses

SUNDAY 10/6 (Day Show) 3pm (\$8.00): The Sinister Six with special guests Martin / Morell / Frette and TRIPLE THICK

MONDAY 10/7 (\$5.00): The creepy freaks, The Softness Groupe, Jae Mannon, Moonbeach

TUESDAY 10/8 (\$8.00): Snow Burial (Prosthetic Records), City of Dis, Mollusk

WEDNESDAY 10/9 (\$5.00): Fully Celebrated Orchestra with special guests the Charlie Fuertsch / Corban Welter Duo

THURSDAY 10/10 (before Queer-oke) \$5.00: Britt Walsh (monthly residency)

FRIDAY 10/11 (after Hippy Hour) 8:30pm (\$10.00 in adv - \$12.00 day of): Lucifer Christmas presents: Not Your Mama's Burlesque Show!

SATURDAY 10/12 (Night Show): TBA

SATURDAY 10/12 (Day Show) 3pm (\$5.00): The Cotones, Ansonia, Sage & Syrup, TBD

SUNDAY 10/13 (Day Show) 3pm (\$8.00): The Cranktones, with Sax Gordon and DJ Todd Purple!

MONDAY 10/14 (\$10.00): Punk Rockin' And Pastie Poppin'

TUESDAY 10/15: TBA
Jeanie Johnston Pub, 144 South St. Open Mic hosted by Tony Bluze, Sundays at 8 pm. More events at jeaniejohnstonpub.com.

Bella Luna & The Milky Way Weekly events include: Radio Mamba's Family Rumba, every Sunday 5pm-8pm, live Latin music. Every Monday Stump Trivia from 8 - 10 p.m., Teacher Tuesdays and Dirty Water Saloon line dancing for queer folks and allies at 7PM. Every Wednesday live music from 6:30 - 9:30 PM. Throwback Thursday from 6-8pm with rotating DJ's barside. Visit www.milkywayjp.com for more late night events Thu-Sun.

Old time music, Southern/roots music, second and fourth Wednesdays, 7.30pm, back room at Doyle's Cafe, 3484 Washington St. Info: peggyconant@gmail.com.



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REAL ESTATE TODAY

Strong real estate market continues in JP

BY LAURA PLUMMER

According to the website of JP real estate company McCormack and Scanlan, summer listings sold like hotcakes and the trend seems to be continuing into the fall with properties being bought almost as soon as they are listed. This indicates a robust seller's market.

"However, it's more balanced than over the past five years," said Constance Cervone of Cervone Deegan & Associates at Coldwell Banker. "We're not quite ready to call it a buyer's market yet."

"The fall market is picking up and runs through Thanksgiving. It's traditionally the second busiest season in the annual cycle after spring," she continued. "We're just at the beginning of the fall season. In a couple weeks we're going to know a little more."

This fall is markedly different from this time last year, where sellers could expect an average of ten offers on a single-family home, and up to 30 offers for a small condo. Cervone said that sellers can now expect an average of two to three offers.

Offers are coming in at asking price, or between \$2,000 and \$10,000 higher. Cervone said that \$5,000 above asking is a solid offer.

According to Cervone, the

average cost of a single-family home is \$1.1 million, while the average cost of a condo is \$625,000. A search of the real estate website Zillow breaks down the numbers for single-family homes, condos and rentals in Jamaica Plain.

-Single-family Homes

There are currently 19 single-family homes listed in JP and they run from \$629,000 to \$820,000 for two bedrooms, \$549,000 to \$859,000 for three bedrooms, \$655,000 to \$849,000 for four bedrooms and \$799,000 to \$1.7 million for five bedrooms.

The highest cost for a recently sold single-family home was \$925,000 for two bedrooms, \$1.75 million for three bedrooms, \$1.93 million for four bedrooms and \$4.15 million for five bedrooms.

-Condos

Sixty-seven condos are currently listed for sale in Jamaica Plain. One-bedroom condos are listed starting at \$289,000 all the way up to \$627,000. Two-bedrooms begin at \$399,000 and go up to \$867,000. Three-bedrooms start at \$549,000 and top off at \$1.35 million.

Buyers looking for a condo will need to consider the Home Owners Association (HOA) fee, which can be as much as an additional \$1,000 per month on top of

the monthly mortgage payment. Boston Agent Magazine reported that HOA fees in Boston are on the rise, with an average of \$331 per month in 2015.

The highest price for a recently sold condo was \$725,000 for a one-bedroom, \$1.2 million for a two-bedroom, \$2.1 million for a three-bedroom, \$1.6 million for a four-bedroom and \$1.02 million for a five-bedroom.

-Rentals

According to RENTCafé, JP has the twelfth highest rents out of Boston's 20 neighborhoods, with the average rent costing \$2,999 per month. Based on current listings, there are 487 rental properties in JP, including single- and multi-family homes, condos and apartments.

Apartments in JP run from \$1,325 to \$5,770 for a studio, \$1,000 to \$3,297 for a one-bed-



room, \$1,500 to \$5,132 for a two-bedroom, \$2,000 to \$8,000 for a three-bedroom, \$2,400 to \$4,300 for a four-bedroom \$3,300 to \$4,600 for a five-bedroom.

Those wanting to rent a whole house can expect to shell out

\$1,900 to \$2,500 for one bedroom, \$2,000 to \$2,600 for two bedrooms, \$2,600 to \$3,400 for three bedrooms, \$3,795 for four bedrooms and \$4,200 for five bedrooms.

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JP Rentals celebrate 20 years

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Jamaica Plain Rentals and Sales, which has been in the same spot on Centre St. for 20 years, celebrates that milestone this year. The Gazette reached out to Valerie Schecter, original owner of JP Rentals, and Rachael Kulik, Broker and Office Manager, for a look at how the company and the real estate market has changed over the past two decades.

It was 1999—Valerie Schecter worked at another real estate office down the street, but decided she wanted to open her own company. "I wanted it to be

a service oriented business; relationship based," she said. "I was terrified." She rented the little space at 480 Centre St.—"what if it didn't work?" she wondered.

Schecter didn't imagine herself in the real estate business. She went to school for human services, and then headed to law school, which she said gave her the "nerve" to open the business. She had gotten her broker's license in 1980, and was working in Back Bay for a landlord. She was then asked to come to JJP to help out a dfriend, and she

Continued on page 13

REAL ESTATE TODAY

Focus Real Estate embraces technology with paperless open houses

BY LAUREN BENNETT

As citizens and businesses alike attempt to make changes to help the environment, JP's Focus Real Estate is no exception. With the increasing availability

and accessibility of technology, gone are the days of printing out stacks upon stacks of paper at open houses, said Randal Engelmann, Owner of Focus Real Estate.

Focus Real Estate used to print out hundreds of "really splashy, pretty, glossy, heavy stock brochures" containing information about a property for open houses. "We would print out between 50 and 75 brochures for each open house, each of them double sided," Engelmann said. They include floor plans, photos, and maps of the surrounding area. "It's something that's kind of nice for buyers to grab and hold onto," he said.

But then he realized that all that paper might not be so necessary. Engelmann said he sent a client something in the mail, and she said she was insulted by the amount of paper that was included. He was also shopping for a home for himself, and discovered that those brochures were "completely useless," and found himself tossing them aside. "I went on my smartphone or my tablet to see map and floor plans," he said. "As long as it's provided by the listing agent, it's all available online."

In August, Engelmann decid-

ed that he would try to reduce the amount of paper he used at the company, so he asked around if this was something people would be interested in.

He's now down to 10 or 12 sheets of paper for each open house for things like door signs to let people know they're in the right place. "I like to have a little bit of visual context at an open house," he said.

Instead of the paper, he uses QR codes—people can scan the codes using their smartphone camera, and they will be automatically linked to details about the property on a website. It's the same high quality brochure that would be printed, but is now available electronically so it is easy to access and impossible to lose. Additionally, if people sign into the open house on the provided iPad, they will automatically be sent the listing brochure via email.

He said the response has been extremely positive, and people have wondered why the paper has lasted this long. "The fact

that our technology has grown—it wasn't there a couple years ago," Engelmann said. "We feel guilty about not doing this sooner."

In addition to the minimal paper open houses, Engelmann said that they don't prepare big books anymore when meeting with buyers and sellers either. "Most of our presentations are on iPads," he said, and they also use digital signature programs—"we don't really have any paper files in our office."

If people do not have access to a smartphone or email, they will always have one or two brochures printed for people to have hard copies, and there is always one printed fact sheet, map, and floor plan for people to look at while at the open house, Engelmann said.

"We really do pride ourselves on being leaders in technology," Engelmann said. "We've tried to embrace using the latest technology to serve our clients."

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REAL ESTATE TODAY

JP Rentals

Continued from page 11

decided to move and work there.

“Before I opened, it was like the wild west,” she said. “Families owned the triple deckers, it was just families who owned everything. The owner would live on the middle floor and rent out the other two floors.”

She said when she first opened the business, her clients were “students, artists, and hippies,” and JP was an affordable place to live.

Schecter said she started to see a shift in the housing clientele when the MBTA Orange Line moved from Washington St. “It completely changed JP,” she said, and put the “whole medical community at our fingertips.” It brought in students and doctors from Bentley, Simmons, and the downtown hospitals. “It gave us this whole new pool of tenants,” she said.

“The next phase that came along was the condo craze,” she said. Buildings started to be divided into condos. “Our job was to maintain relationships with landlords and back up tenants if they needed us,” Schecter said. She said that’s what sent JP Rentals apart from other real estate companies—they got involved with both landlords and tenants and really try to be a resource for both.

“It was never about money,” Schecter said. “You make money if you create a relationship and if you do a job right. Our job was to matchmake people to places. It worked; it became very successful.”

She said that back then, “you knew all the landlords,” because they were a huge part of the community. “You knew their kids; it was really great. There was a lot of loyalty involved which is rare in business.”

She said that once her clientele shifted from students and artists to more doctors and veterinarians, they switched their rental cycle from September-September to June-June, because that’s when a lot of doctors would begin their residencies.

Schecter left the business in 2013 due to personal reasons and moved to California to be close to

her daughter, but she said they sold some larger buildings before she left, including some six family buildings that remained rental properties.

“I opened my own business to see if we could create a different kind of real estate office that was matchmaking and was fair, treated tenants with respect, and to make it work both ways—not just grab the money for the landlord and run,” she said, adding that she still considers the landlords her friends to this day.

“I miss JP, I miss my friends, and I’ll always be grateful for their loyalty and their friendship and I think Rachael is doing a great job with continuing.”

Since Schecter’s departure, JP Rentals has had two other owners. The current one is Rob Oteri, but Rachael Kulik considers all three owners to be her mentors in different ways, as she believes they all brought different things to the table. Kulik started at JP Rentals in 2013, when she “walked in with a lease and walked out with a job,” she said. She said she was attending MAssArt for art education with the goal of becoming an art therapist. She ended up working in the office at JP Rentals, and “fell in love with the environment and people.” She got her real estate license soon after, and she said that she feels the biggest change to the real estate market over the past six years has been the increase in price.

She said that while there are still some undergraduate students in the JP area, most of them have moved to Mission Hill, where prices are lower. “JP used to be known for cheaper places,” she said.

Another thing she’s noticed is that the young professionals who come looking for a place in JP are in search of “classic charm; the homey stuff,” she said. “The newer things are too Home Depot style” for them, and people like a mix of old and new.

The rapid increase of new developments in the neighborhood has also had an impact on the real estate market in JP, she said. When the Bell Olmsted Park apartments were built, she was it was something that was “new and unique” in the neighborhood, but now developments

are popping up all over the place.

“It affected the rental market hugely,” she said. Last year, there was a huge surplus of inventory, she said, with 180 units still on the market on August 15 last year.

“Developments have a plus in comparison to some other units out there,” she said, as people come from out of town and don’t always have time to walk through buildings in person. A lot of those developments have websites that give detailed floor plans, something a lot of the existing JP homes cannot offer. Additionally, the new developments are guaranteed lead free because they are built very recently.

In order to make other units more appealing to buyers and renters, Rachael said she’s taken to technology and does FaceTime showings and video tours of the properties she tries to rent and sell.

She also still works with a lot of “little guys” who only own one or a few properties, as opposed to a lot of property management companies which manage many more properties. She said that a

lot of people prefer working with someone who is more closely tied to the building, in that it may be their childhood home or they raised their kids in it.

“I’m not the type of person to make a paycheck and leave,” Kulik said. “I want to help people find a place to live and make it feel like it’s home.”

The company has also upgraded its online presence. Kulik said that when she started at the company, phone calls and voicemail were the standard. Now, she said, it’s much more efficient to communicate via text and group text, because it provides proof of something that a voicemail or phone call cannot. She said the office also gets its voicemails transcribed and emailed, because it’s more efficient than listening to each one. “Directly texting to a phone is a big change I have seen,” she said.

The website got an update, too. “Val’s old website was organized by bedrooms,” she said. She said this was helpful, but has now made changes to make it even more organized and easy for clients to search for what they’re

looking for.

The photography has changed as well—“I was tired of seeing apartment pictures and not understanding the place,” Kulik said, so they started incorporating wide angle lenses for apartment photography. “It’s made a massive difference,” she said.

The office culture is something she believes has remained the same, though. She calls the office atmosphere “a great team effort—this office was built by a team of great people.” Over time, the different owners and office workers have organized and brainstormed ways to make things more efficient, she said. “We learn from each other every day.”

Though the company has learned to grow and adapt to the changing neighborhood and world around it, Kulik said JP Rentals still commits to its original intention of making lasting connections with its clients and landlords.

“JP is all about community and arts,” Kulik said, “and I feel like we’re a pretty good statement of that now.”



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REAL ESTATE TODAY

Knowing when you're already to buy your first home

(StatePoint) For many Americans, making the jump to buying that first house is a significant achievement that allows them to put their mark on their own space, while creating room for family and pets.

But how do you know you're ready?

Americans see homeownership as an investment in their future, yet they are concerned about the steps they need to take to put themselves into a position

to buy, according to the "How Americans View Homeownership" survey conducted by The Harris Poll April 17-29, 2019, among 1,004 U.S. adults 21 and older on behalf of Wells Fargo. The study showed that 44 percent of non-homeowners identified saving for a down payment as a top barrier to buying, more so than any other obstacle.

"Homeownership is very much a part of the American Dream, yet too many first-time

buyers don't know where to start," says Liz Bryant, Wells Fargo Home Lending's national retail sales leader. "We find that a great way to get moving down the path to homeownership is with a conversation. By reaching out to your mortgage lender, your banker or even a housing counselor, you can start putting together a plan that will help get you on your way."

Here are some steps to consider:

- Research lenders and loan options. Identify a lender who has a breadth of home loan options, including low down payment mortgages, and who is willing to provide you with personalized guidance. Then just start the conversation.

- Know your goal. Your mortgage consultant can help, and so can a financial health banker or a housing counselor. A discussion about spending, saving, debt and credit will help you make decisions about what you can afford, how much you need to save and whether you need to do work to improve your credit score.

- Get your down payment ready. If you don't already have one, create a budget for your monthly spending, so you can identify areas where you can save. Set aside unexpected windfalls, such as tax refunds, to grow savings.

- Keep an eye on overall debt. While there's room for student loans and credit card debt, a good rule of thumb is to keep your

overall debt level -- including your new mortgage -- at or below 36 percent of gross monthly income.

- Think beyond the down payment. Consider setting aside 1-2 percent of the purchase price of your home each year for maintenance projects. If that seems like too much, start with less and work your way up.

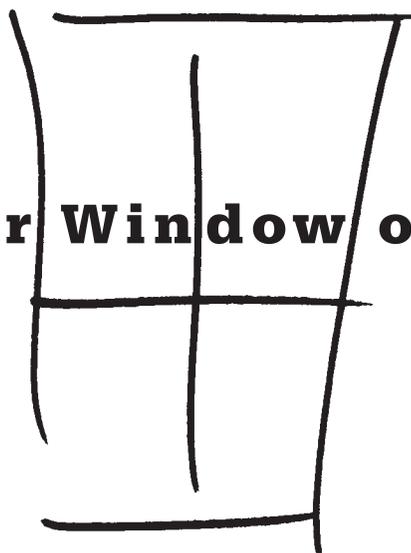
More readiness tips can be found at wellsfargo.com/financial-education/homeownership/.

"Too many first-time buyers get intimidated by the down payment or the work they might need to do around credit," says Bryant. "Many don't realize that there are lending options available for homebuyers with a range of credit scores, and programs that require buyers to put as little as three percent down. It's important to explore your options, take it step by step and work toward your homeownership goals."

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JPNC hears Green Line, development, and zoning updates

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The JPNC held their monthly meeting on September 24. On the agenda was committee updates, as well as a presentation by the Arborway Committee for Public Transit, represented by Franklyn Salimbene.

Salimbene provided an update on the proposed Green Line extension to Hyde Square, which he said has gained support over the last couple of years. The City of Boston included it in its Go-

Boston 2030 plan, and it was also included in MassDOT's Focus 2040 plan.

He said that the stage the group is in now is working with the House Ways & Means State Implementation Program, and State Rep. Nika Elugardo has said she is committed to working with the Ways & Means Committee on this issue.

"The importance [of the project] is to connect Hyde Square and the institutions along South Huntington Ave. with develop-

ments that are going up," Salimbene said. Right now, the South Huntington Ave. apartment units are being built in a transit oriented fashion, said Salimbene, and the "39 bus has its limitations."

There was a public meeting at the Tobin Community Center on September 26 regarding an update on the Green Line modernization program, at which the Arborway Committee for Public Transit raised questions about service disruptions, boarding along Huntington Ave. beyond Brigham Circle, and having an inspector at Heath St. station to make it easier for boarding in a wheelchair. They also had questions about the proposed Fare Collection 2.0 that the MBTA has put forth.

For the Green Line, Salimbene said the group is proposing ADA accessible mid-street stops off the sidewalk in the center of the street, boarding on the lefthand side of the car. An alternative would be to have bump outs on the sidewalk that are of sufficient height for boarding on the righthand side of the car.

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

JPNC member Carolyn Royce said that the Housing and Development Committee met and discussed the Inclusionary Development Policy, and the IDP coalition has attended several city meetings and completed postcard campaigns to make affordable housing permanent. They are also planning another action in October, and the City has started to release data related to this issue.

A large chunk of the conversation was taken up by a draft letter regarding the Shattuck Campus to be sent to the Massachusetts Division of Capital

Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) and the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS). The letter states the JPNC's support for building affordable housing on the Shattuck Campus as well as using the site for public health purposes, though at the end of the letter they state that they hope DCAMM and EOHHS "go further and explore alternatives that may result in land use that makes the most sense for the equitable provision of supportive housing & behavioral health services (a statewide need) in other locations throughout the state."

There were arguments both from the community and the council for and against putting these health services, which many say have not been defined by the state, on the site. Some people wished to see the land be returned to Franklin Park and the services be put elsewhere, but others wanted to see supportive housing and services on the site.

Some JPNC members did not agree with sending the letter, but the council ultimately voted 12-3 to send the letter, with one member abstaining.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee met last week, and reported that State Rep. Niuka Elugardop has been working on education funding and advocating for funding to be doubled in 32 districts across the state—Boston Public Schools is one of them.

The committee also participated in an Egleston Square pop-up that handed out info on the Independent School Entrance Examination updates; they met with about 50 members. They are also working on a popup registration event for January that would make registering for BPS

easier for families who cannot make it to the other registration events, which are only held during the daytime.

ZONING COMMITTEE

The JPNC voted to approve four zoning items. At 30-32 Greenview Ave., an addition was proposed for the back of the house for a bedroom, at 6-8 Cheshire St., a proposal to finish the basement, at 74 Brookley Road, a proposal for a finished basement with bathroom, bedroom, office, family room, and workshop, and at 6 Martinwood Road, construct a carport and rear mudroom addition to existing single-family residence.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE

The JPNC voted to support the petition to change the legal occupancy at 34-50 South St. to include restaurant with take-out use. The business will be called Monumental Market, and will feature a coffee shop, a nut-free pastry shop, and an ice cream shop, according to JPNC member Michael Reiskind. The Public Service Committee voted to extend their operating hours from 7:00am-10:00pm should the operators choose, but they originally proposed a closing time of 8:00pm.

At J-Pizle Kitchen, the applicants were looking for support for a seven-day common victualler wine and malt beverage license with an 11pm closing time and three TVs. The JPNC voted to support this petition with the provisos that alcohol be served with food only, and that J-Pizle Kitchen hold a follow-up community meeting with neighbors and the JPNC six months after obtaining the license.

Registration now open for Mayor's cup soccer jamboree

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department have announced that registration is now open for the 2019 Mayor's Cup Soccer Jamboree.

The Jamboree brings together recreational soccer teams from across Boston providing young players from different local soccer programs with the opportunity to play against other area teams in a non-competitive setting.

The Mayor's Cup Soccer Jamboree will be held on the weekend of October 26 and 27 at Carter Playground located at 709 Columbus Avenue in the South End. Teams will be registered in the following divisions: Coed Grades 3 and 4, Coed Grades 5

and 6, and Coed Grades 7 and 8. There will also be Girls Grades 3 and 4, Girls Grades 5 and 6, and Girls Grades 7 and 8. The Mayor's Cup Soccer Jamboree is a 7 v 7 tournament with a 30-minute running time. All games will end at 2 p.m. on both days to accommodate regular league schedules.

The final day of registration is Tuesday, October 22. To register, please go to tinyurl.com/2019MayorsCupSoccerJamboree. For more information about the Mayor's Cup Soccer Jamboree, please contact Woodley Auguste at woodley.auguste@boston.gov or call (617) 961-3084. You may also contact Charlie Conners at charles.conners@boston.gov or call (617) 961-3093.



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Mayor's Fall Pumpkin Float scheduled for October 18

Mayor Martin J. Walsh has announced the return of the annual Fall Pumpkin Float at the Boston Common Frog Pond on Friday, October 18, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Hundreds of illuminated jack-o'-lanterns will be floated on the water accompanied by spooky family activities. Attendees are asked to bring

8-inch or smaller carved pumpkins that will be lit and then floated on the Frog Pond for a dramatic early evening display. Adults and children are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes and participate in a wide range of fun activities. Test your courage in our haunted zombie maze, take a ride on the Spooky

Mansion Slide, experience the Jumpin' Pumpkin, try your skills at the bean bag toss, and enjoy nighttime fun on our LED swings and seesaws.

The Fall Pumpkin Float is presented by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department in

Continued on page 17

Walsh appoints Dr. Taylor Cain to lead Boston's Housing Innovation Lab

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced that Dr. Taylor Cain of Jamaica Plain has been appointed as Director of the City of Boston's Housing Innovation Lab (i-Lab).

As Director, Dr. Cain will lead citywide efforts to pioneer innovative housing models and systems, and accelerate the pace of innovation in the housing sector that promotes inclusion and equity across Boston neighborhoods.

"Creating opportunities for people of all income levels is critical to ensuring that Boston continues to be a city where people want to live and employers want to locate," said Mayor Walsh. "Dr. Cain has an incredible background that will suit her well in this new role, and I look forward to the ideas that will be generated under her leadership as we work to make Boston's housing stock accessible and affordable to all."

Dr. Cain, a Jamaica Plain resident, recently completed her Ph.D. in Sociology at Bos-

ton University, and also holds a bachelor's degree from Wesleyan University. In addition to her academic pursuits, Dr. Cain has worked with local nonprofit organizations and institutions on evaluation and research projects that focus on a range of issues, including economic development, racial equity, and displacement. Dr. Cain fell 'in curiosity' with Boston during her first few years of graduate school as she experienced the city and its neighborhoods through different forms of public transportation. Deeply intrigued by how people move through and experience place, Dr. Cain brings a sociological imagination to addressing the challenges of ensuring that Boston is a city that grows inclusively.

"Since its inception, the Housing Innovation Lab has infused a sense of curiosity, creativity, and the lived experiences of Boston residents into our conversations about housing," said Dr. Cain. "As the new director, I cannot wait to grow the threads of this work. I am looking forward to partnering with the many com-



Dr. Taylor Cain, the new Director of Boston's i-Lab.

munities that care deeply about housing in Boston and exploring projects that grapple with the connections between housing, transportation, employment, and other important dimensions of urban life."

The Housing Innovation Lab under Dr. Cain's leadership will continue to take an innovative approach to addressing Boston's housing challenges. Since first being established by Mayor Walsh in 2015, the i-Lab has worked with residents and

stakeholders to encourage the creation of new housing prototypes that promote affordability and alternative living arrangements.

Earlier this year, through the work of the i-Lab, the Additional Dwelling Unit (ADU) program was approved by the Boston Planning & Development Agency, allowing owner occupants to carve out space within their homes to create small, independent rental units. The citywide expansion of the ADU program follows a successful 18-month pilot program in Jamaica Plain, Mattapan, and East Boston. ADUs provide an opportunity to use existing infrastructure to increase affordable housing options, create safe living arrangements, and support multigenerational family arrangements. As part of his FY20 budget, Mayor Walsh dedicated \$650,000 towards the program to provide zero-interest loans for income-eligible homeowners.

The i-Lab also spearheaded the City's Intergenerational Homeshare program, which leverages technology to match older adults with an extra room

in their home with a responsible young person looking for affordable rent. The program initially launched a pilot program in 2017, and following its success, Mayor Walsh dedicated \$100,000 in his FY20 budget to expand the program. This additional funding will allow the program to pair 100 matches by hiring a vendor to recruit and assist hosts, vet applicants and provide ongoing support for participants.

Building on this foundation, over the coming year under Dr. Cain's leadership, the lab will focus on projects that pertain to resilience, multigenerational living and community wealth building. Residents with thoughts or suggestions are welcome to attend the labs' office hours every Tuesday from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Department of Neighborhood Development offices at 26 Court Street. Whether it is an idea, a set of questions, or a desire to talk with a team who cares deeply about our residential environments, the lab is looking forward to connecting with different stakeholders in Boston.

Pumpkin float

Continued from page 16

partnership with the Skating Club of Boston. The title sponsor is Capital One, key sponsors are HP Hood LLC, Polar Beverages, and L.L. Bean, and the media

sponsor is Magic 106.7. Additional support is provided by Perfect Parties.

This free family-friendly event will also include glow-in-the-dark games, children's crafts, games and giveaways by Magic 106.7, and scarily delicious snacks and refreshments provided by Power Crunch Bars,

KIND Snacks, and HP Hood LLC. A monster mash of science activities will include the Massachusetts Horticulture Society, giant

bubbles with the "Bubble Guy" Jim Dichter, and Halloween giveaways.

For more information, please

call the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at (617) 635-4505 or visit www.boston.gov/parks.

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Gazette Pet of the Week
by Sarah Carroll

GUS
Three-legged Gus (pictured) and his brother Jack are looking for their new home! Chinchillas are wonderfully soft, boisterous smallies that will surely keep you entertained. They need lots of room to play and exercise, and an understanding home that will accommodate their specific husbandry needs (did you know chinchillas are originally from the Andes mountains!?). They need a cool living environment free of cords they can chew on. Interested in adding these fellas to your home? Stop on by to meet them! Email adoption@mspca.com today for more information on Gus and Jack!

For more information about Gus and or other animals in need of adoption, please contact:

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"Gazette Pet of the Week" is a biweekly submission sponsored by Sarah Carroll, Sales Associate of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
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RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Treasurer Goldberg announces starting of ‘Operation Safe Campus’

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission (ABCC), under the direction of state Treasurer Deb Goldberg, will implement Operation Safe Campus. The program objective is to proactively prevent tragedies by keeping alcoholic beverages out of the hands of underage students on and around college campuses throughout Massachusetts.

“Stepped-up monitoring and enforcement can save lives and

prevent tragedies before they happen,” said Massachusetts State Treasurer and Receiver General Deborah B. Goldberg, who oversees the ABCC. “Operation Safe Campus takes immediate and effective steps that result in the direct prevention of underage drinking and acts as a long-term deterrent to bar and package store owners serving and selling to minors.”

The initiative primarily con-

sists of enforcement in the parking lots and surrounding streets of specific liquor stores and in bars that have historically had a serious problem with underage individuals purchasing alcoholic beverages through false identification or through adults procuring alcoholic beverages for them.

The program focuses on front-line prevention, with investigators often calling a teen’s parents when violations occur. ABCC officials say that most parents are unaware that their children are involved in the use of alcohol, and that the intervention is a powerful tool toward family involvement in addressing the problem of underage drinking.

“We want to draw attention and make people aware that underage drinking can have devastating consequences on them

and the individuals they love,” said Goldberg. “By increasing awareness, we are educating college students and their families as well as proactively targeting specific events and time periods throughout the year in order to prevent these situations.”

The bars and liquor stores that are charged will be summoned for a hearing before the ABCC; if found to have violated the law, the bar’s liquor license could be subject to suspension, modification or revocation.

In 2018, ABCC programs produced the following results: 998 minors in possession or transporting alcoholic beverages; 174 adults procuring alcohol for minors; 164 individuals in possession of false identification; with 378 cases of beer and 508 bottles of alcohol confiscated by Inves-

tigators, preventing delivery to approximately 6,592 underage individuals. In addition, 89 bars and liquor stores were charged with 209 counts of sale to underage persons.

Alcohol studies have reported:

- 1,825 college students between the aged 18–24 die each year from alcohol-related injuries, including motor vehicle crashes;
- 696,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are assaulted by another student who has been drinking;
- 97,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 report experiencing alcohol-related sexual assault or date rape; and
- the overall cost of alcohol abuse by youth in Massachusetts is estimated at \$1.4 billion.

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ANNUAL MEETING

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Thursday, October 17
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Jamaica Mi Hungry
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At Jackson Square T Station




Bootstrap Compost of JP honored for employment program

Bootstrap Compost, a residential and commercial food scrap pickup service, was honored this week by Triangle, Inc. for the organization’s commitment to employing people of all abilities in playing a meaningful role in its warehouse operations. With a strong focus on employment, em-

powerment, independence, and community engagement, Triangle, Inc. reaches more than 4,000 people with disabilities and their families across eastern Massachusetts each year, empowering them to live rich, fulfilling lives.

Spirit Awards are given to those that have exhibited leader-

ship, kindness and compassion, excitement and positive support to other members of the Triangle, Inc. community. Bootstrap is a rare repeat winner of the honor.

“We love this event,” President and CEO of Triangle, Inc. Coleman Nee said. “It gives us an opportunity to bring our entire community together to celebrate our accomplishments, give deserved recognition to all those that do the hard work every day, and to thank our partners who help us achieve our goals.”

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INVITACIÓN

Plazo para la sección de eventos: martes, 8 octubre para la edición 11 octubre. Mande eventos a reporter@jamaicaplaingazette.com. Los números telefónicos que siguen empiezan con 617.

Reuniones

JPNC, reunión mensual martes, 1 oct, 7pm, Farnsworth House; Vacantes en Area A y Area C: 866-7672, kprainsford@gmail.com;

Comité de casas abandonadas en JP, primer miércoles del mes, 10.30, en la comisaría del distrito E-13, salón comunitario, 3347 Washington St. Liana Poston, 722-2060.

JP Problem Properties Committee, first Wednesday of the month, 10:30 a.m., E-13 Police Station Community Room, 3347 Washington St. Info: Liana Poston, 722-2060.

Asociación de Jamaica Pond, lunes, 7 oct, Jamaica Way Tower, 111 Perkins Street, 7pm.

ESNA, lunes, 7 oct, 6.30-8.30pm, YMCA.

Policía y Comunidad, jueves, 3 oct, 6.30pm, Curtis Hall, 20 South Street.

Asociación de Vecinos Stonybrook, lunes, 21 oct, 7-9pm, Doyle's, 3484 Washington Street. sna-jp.org.

Noticias publicas

Programa de comida comunitaria, comidas gratuitas, con opciones veganas. Comida casera sana. Cena cada miércoles, 6.30pm. Almuerzo, Crossroads Café cada sábado, 12pm. 524-3992, Churchoffice@firstbaptistjp.org

Just Cookin' Kitchen es una colaboración entre servicios de catering que necesitan acceso a una cocina. Ofrecemos una cocina económica, para pequeñas empresas de catering, preparación de comida para camiones de comida, y experiencias culinarias educativas. Kennia: 524-3992, Churchoffice@firstbaptistjp.org.

Buscamos a pequeños empresarios para nuevo programa de tutoría, para ofrecer una red de interconexión para pequeños empresarios. Con oportunidades de hacer conexiones con asociaciones de negocios. Con Renee Wong, una consultante económica de JP. Renee Wong: w.renee@gmail.com. Ginger Brown: directorjpcsms@gmail.com.

Línea de quejas sobre el ruido del aeropuerto, línea de quejas

de Massport sobre el ruido, abierta 6 am to 6 pm. Llame cuando le molesta el ruido de aviones de la pista 27 de Logan: 561-3333. Los Congresistas Mike Capuano (621-6208) y Steven Lynch (428-2000) también quiere que la gente llame sobre ruido de aviones.

La eliminación de agujas, Las agujas/jeringas no se pueden tirar en la basura normal de la casa. Lugar para depositar: AIDS Action Committee, 75 Amory St. Programa de intercambio de agujas para los usuarios de drogas inyectables disponible en AHOPE Boston en 534-3963. Si ha encontrado una aguja en un área público, llame a la línea directa del alcalde: 635-4500.

Compostaje comunal, sábados, 10am-2pm, mercado de agricultores de Egleston Square, 45 Brookside Ave. greenovateboston.gov.

Spotholes, herramienta para reportar hoyos, 635-4500, con la aplicación móvil Citizens Connect, cityofboston.gov/mayor/24, y usando #spotholes en twitter.

Jóvenes/familias

Arte de L'Merchie Frazier y Teen Bridge, 28 y 29 septiembre, 11am-5pm, 253 Amory Street.

Exhibición de arte, JP Open Studios, 28 - 29 septiembre, 11am-6pm, 24 Eliot Street.

Paseo de familia, paseo anual de South Street Youth Center, sábado, 5 octubre, 8am, área de estacionamiento Hunnewell del arbolito. Con comida, pintacaras, baile. runsignup.com/ssycrun2019.

Clases de baile para niños, introducción al movimiento para niños y padres, los domingos 10-11am; básicos de baile, los domingos 11a.m.-12pm. Spontaneous Celebrations. Registración: jpdancecoop@gmail.com.

Noches de Perros Calientes, todos los miércoles, 4.30-6.30pm, 42 Horan Way. Con música y comida.

Clases de música y movimiento para niños edades 2-5, con Helder Tsinine, los lunes, 11 - 11.45 am; los sábados, 10-10.45 am. \$17/clase o \$90/seis semanas, Egleston YMCA, 3134 Washington St. htsinine@gmail.com.

Clase de arte para la familia, accesible a las sillas de ruedas, los martes, 10.30 - 11.30 am, edades 3-5. Los martes, 3.30 - 4.30 pm, 5+. Family Resource Center, 1542 Columbus Ave. 522-1018.

Programa de Deportes Roberto

Clemente acepta aplicaciones para niños y niñas 6-16. El centro comunitario, 200 Heath St. 828-9524 o alliriano@yahoo.com. Intercambio de idioma inglés-español, sábados, 12-1:45pm, Connolly Branch Library.

Grupo de apoyo para padres/madres jóvenes, un programa de Jewish Family and Children's Services, para gente de todas religiones, para padres/madres de niños con menos de un año, no se requiere inscribirse. Los jueves, 10.30am-noon. 781-647-5327, info@jfcsboston.org.

Intercambio de idiomas inglés-español, los sábados, 12-1.45pm. Connolly Branch Library.

Egleston Square Library, ayuda con la tarea gratuita, los lunes, martes, miércoles y jueves, durante el año escolar, 3.30-5.30pm, 2044 Columbus Ave, Roxbury.

Niños en ruedas, cada domingo, seguridad de bicicleta 3-5pm, en las canchas de tenis en South y Carolina.

Paseos en bici, martes y jueves, 7am, Ferris Wheels, 66 South Street.

Salud/Bienestar físico

parkrun, evento comunitario de correo, con eventos de 5 kilómetros cada fin de semana. Todos los sábados, 8.45am, Sugarbowl. Carrera: 9.00am.

Paseo para el bienestar, los sábados, 8-9am, Lote de estacionamiento del club de golf de Franklin Park. alison.g.m.brown@gmail.com.

Clases de yoga, meditación y la reducción del estrés, bajo costo, algunas gratis, inglés y español, MindBody/Health Promotion Center, 10 Green St. 983-4226.

Care to Care, un grupo de apoyo para la familia de personas con Alzheimer y otras demencias, segundo miércoles del mes, 6.30-7.30pm. 44 Allandale St. Meredith Griffiths: 522-0043, mgriffiths@springhouseboston.org.

Corredores de Forest Hills, varias corridas en grupo semanales, info/horario: foreshillrunners.org.

Adultos Mayores

Medicare, ¿cómo funciona? Miércoles, 9 oct, 10.15-11.15. Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 30 South Street.

Café mensual de la memoria, lunes, 30 septiembre, 10.30am-12. Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 30 South Street.

Café mensual de la memoria, para la gente que sufre de la pérdida de la memoria y los que les cuiden, Amory Street Housing Development, 125 Amory St., El último jueves de cada mes de 1.30 - 3pm. Gratuito para todos. 440-

1615 / bmclaren@uphams.org.

Programa de música para los ancianos, Curtis Hall, 20 South St., los viernes, 10.30-12. 983-3638.

La Vida Buena Club para la Vida Sana de ABCD, sesiones mensuales del bienestar, para los adultos con más de 50 años, los miércoles, 10am. Mi Vida, Mi Salud, clase para adultos 50+ con condiciones de salud crónicas, clases semanales, jueves, 2pm. Clases de computadora para adultos 50+, los lunes, 3pm. 30 Bickford St. 522-4251.

Talleres de Ethos para el envejecimiento sano, el mantenimiento de las enfermedades crónicas los martes, 10am, SJPHC, 640 Centre St., herramientas poderosas los miércoles, 4.30pm, 555 Amory St. ethoscare.org.

Programa de auto-mantenimiento de diabetes, 1179 River St., los miércoles, 9.30am-12. Ann Glora, 477-6616.

Crossroads Café, almuerzo gratis y evento social para ancianos y sus invitados, con música en vivo y presentaciones educacionales. Comida de ingredientes locales. Pan, vegetales, leche y comida para llevar disponibles. Los sábados, 633 Centre St., 12.00-2pm. 524-3992, firstbaptistjp.org.

Trabajo Voluntario

Programa de aprendizaje para

adultos, se busca voluntarios para enseñar inglés a adultos, orientación gratuita. jpcctutor@gmail.com o 635-5201.

The Boston Teachers Union School busca voluntarios para tutelar a alumnos de la secundaria, los martes y/o miércoles, 3-4.30pm. David Weinstein, maestro de matemáticas: dweinstein@bostonpublicschools.org, 857-334-9855.

Mentor o tutor, matemáticas, ciencia, historia, inglés, idiomas extranjeros, SAT, y más. Los martes, miércoles, jueves, 3-8pm, sábado 10am-2.30pm. hydesquare.org/get-involved/join-our-programs.

Chelsea Jewish Hospice & Palliative Care (CJHPC) busca voluntarios para ayudar a las personas con enfermedades terminales en JP, 1-2 horas/semana. Formación gratis. Aimee: 889-0779, afarrell@chelseajewish.org.

Coalición de Franklin Park busca miembros para la junta directiva, miembros del comité y voluntarios. admin@franklinparkcoalition.org (junta directiva y comité); volunteer@franklinparkcoalition.org, 442-4141.

Ethos busca compañeros para visitar ancianos en casa. Se requieren una orientación y un compromiso de una hora por semana. JP, Hyde Park, West Roxbury, Roslindale y Mattapan. ethocare.org/volunteer/application, 522-6700.

Egleston Square Babies & Toddlers Clothing & Toys Swap



Sunday, September 29, 2019
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM at the Lawson Park
(corner of Washington & Atherton St.)

Bring any baby or toddler gently used clothes and toys you have been meaning to donate. This event will take place at the Lawson Park located in 1 Atherton Street (where JP meets Roxbury, corner of Washington street and Atherton street. In exchange feel free to grab anything you want to take home for your kiddo(s).

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Gang member charged with distributing crack cocaine in public housing development

A man identified as a member of the Heath Street Gang was arrested yesterday and charged in federal court in Boston with distributing crack cocaine in a public housing development.

Michael Pridgen, 35, was charged with distribution and possession with intent to distribute controlled substances, and distribution and possession with intent to distribute controlled substances in a public housing development. Pridgen was detained following an initial appearance yesterday in federal court.

According to court docu-

ments, Pridgen distributed crack cocaine in and around the Mildred C. Hailey Apartments, formerly known as the Bromley Heath Housing Development, in Boston on June 5, 2019, and July 2, 2019. During the June 5 sale, Pridgen allegedly stored the crack cocaine and a digital scale in an electrical box affixed to the wall in the stairwell of the public housing complex. Both drug sales occurred in common stairwells in the complex. Pridgen has been identified by law enforcement as a member of the Heath Street Gang, but was liv-

ing in Westborough at the time of these sales.

The charge of distributing or possessing with intent to distribute controlled substances provides for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, three years and up to a lifetime of supervised release and a fine of up to \$1 million. The charge of distributing or possessing with intent to distribute controlled substances in a public housing development provides for a mandatory minimum of one year and up to 40 years in prison, six years and up to a lifetime of supervised release and a fine of up to \$2

million. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based on the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling; Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Field Division; and Boston Police Commissioner William Gross made the announcement today.

This case is part of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), the centerpiece of the Department of Justice's violent crime reduction efforts. PSN is an evidence-based program proven to be effective at

reducing violent crime. Through PSN, a broad spectrum of stakeholders work together to identify the most pressing violent crime problems in the community and develop comprehensive solutions to address them. As part of this strategy, PSN focuses enforcement efforts on the most violent offenders and partners with locally based prevention and reentry programs for lasting reductions in crime.

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.

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, s 5-304
Docket No. SU19P2123GD
In the matter of: Gail Jones RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person
Of: Jamaica Plain, MA
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 alleging that Gail Jones is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Rosalind Jones of Roslindale, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 10/17/2019. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance 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: September 18, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

9/27/19 JP

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK DIVISION INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Docket No. SU19P2068EA
Estate of: Christos A. Maravelis
Date of Death: April 7, 2019
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner Arthur Maravelis of Jamaica Plain, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Rep-

resentative 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.

9/27/19 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 ALLOWANCE OF ACCOUNT
Docket No. SU18P0941EA
In the matter of: Frances Marie Razwad
Date of Death: 04/18/2018
To all interested persons:
A Petition as been filed by: Julianna L. Bruce

of Jamaica Plain, MA
Requesting allowance of the 1st ANNUAL account(s) as Personal Representative and any other relief as requested in the Petition.
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 10/14/2019.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: September 12, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

9/27/19 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. SU19P2029EA
Estate of: John Martin Matthews, Sr.
Date of Death: 08/23/2017
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal

Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by John M. Matthews, Jr. of Taunton, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: John M. Matthews, Jr. of Taunton, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an 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 date of 10/17/2019. 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: September 05, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate
9/27/19 JP

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF A GUARDIAN OF AN INCAPACITATED PERSON
Docket No. SU04P2655G12

In the interests Of: Gail Jones Of: Jamaica Plain, MA
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Boston Medical Center, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Terminate the Guardian. The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court.
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 10/17/2019. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance 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: September 18, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

9/27/19 JP

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK DIVISION 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300

CITATION ON FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU19P1960EA
Estate of: John M. Fitzgerald
Date of Death: 08/03/2019
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Linda Olmstead of Jamaica Plain, MA requesting that the

Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Linda Olmstead of Jamaica Plain, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an 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 date of 10/17/2019. 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: September 20, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

9/27 JP

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. Please include address and telephone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters will not be published. More information: 617-524-2626

EDITORIAL

Let's keep in mind the facts about health care costs in this country

The issue of national health care is now front and center in the debate among the presidential candidates of both parties, with each offering their vision of what should be done about this important issue.

Some favor a repeal of Obamacare, some wish to improve upon it, and still others want to implement a "Medicare for all" system.

However, regardless of where one stands on the issue, it is important to keep in mind some basic facts about the costs of the present health care system in this country.

The United States presently spends far more on health care than any other nation in the world. Our health care costs amount to a whopping 17% of our gross national product, compared to 10% for countries in Europe and elsewhere that offer national health insurance. Ironically however, despite our huge expenditures, we rate near the bottom among developed nations in every category of measures of national health.

Moreover, gaps in our present health insurance system either leave many uncovered or underinsured. As a result, millions of Americans go bankrupt or become impoverished every year when faced with a catastrophic illness because they lack adequate health insurance.

Job mobility, which is a significant factor in the ability of employees to improve their financial circumstances, is hindered because of the lack of a uniform national health insurance system. The fear of losing their existing health insurance prevents millions of Americans from either taking a new job or starting their own business. Study after study has shown that our economy is being weighed down by the burden of a health insurance system that is inefficient and inflexible.

The costs of a Medicare-for-all system frequently are cited by those opposed to a national health insurance plan, but that is only one side of the equation.

The profits of the health insurance industry, about \$20 billion annually, are cited by proponents of Medicare-for-all, but think about this figure: The gross revenues of the health insurance industry are about \$500 billion. In other words, a half a trillion dollars is being spent annually in our health care system for a product that contributes nothing to anybody's health or well-being, other than increasing the wealth of the shareholders of the health insurance industry.

In short, Medicare-for-all in nations throughout the world is both more cost-efficient and produces better overall health outcomes for the citizens of those countries compared to the U.S.

When the various candidates discuss their solutions to the health-care crisis in our country, every voter should keep those two facts uppermost in mind.



OP-ED

Saving for your child's future can be overwhelming, but Boston is here to help

BY MAYOR MARTIN J. WALSH

The start of kindergarten marks the beginning of a child's educational future and here in Boston we believe nothing should hinder a child's path to success. That's why, in 2016, and in collaboration with Boston Public Schools, we launched Boston Saves as a three-year pilot program. Our goal was to build strong career pathways by helping families of BPS kindergarteners save money for their children's college or career training. Throughout those three years, our efforts worked. We provided children's savings accounts to 1,600 students from eleven BPS schools for a total of \$80,000.

Beginning this fall, Boston Saves will expand citywide, providing more families with the tools to invest in their children's future. The program provides each kindergartener enrolled in BPS with a savings account, automatically started with \$50.00. This money can then be used to help pay for the costs of college or career training once a student finishes high school.

Families have the opportunity to grow the money in their child's Boston Saves account by earning Boston Saves Dollars for specific actions that plan for the future. For example, if a

family saves \$25 for their child in a three-month period, Boston Saves will add another \$5 to their child's account. All told, families can earn up to \$65 in incentives for their child's Boston Saves account in the program's first year. Another way families can earn Boston Saves Dollars is by reading with their child for 20 minutes a day for 20 days per month in a three-month period. Once the reading is complete, families can fill out a reading self-reporting form and earn \$5 for each three-month period, or up to \$20 per year.

Families can also view their child's Boston Saves account on an online platform, called the Savings Center, which will open later this fall. When families use this platform to link their own financial account to their child's Boston Saves account, they will be able to track all their savings for their child in one convenient place online. This will add an additional \$25 Boston Saves Dollars to their child's account.

We understand that saving for a child's future is a collaborative effort that includes financial education, planning and ongoing support services. Boston Saves recruits program partners, such as nonprofits and financial institutions, to offer resources that range from financial education activities for students

to college planning and credit-building workshops for their families. Peer support is also available through Family Champions, trusted family members in a school community who are trained by Boston Saves. Family Champions are able to explain the program to fellow families and encourage their saving progress – often in families' native languages.

Children's savings accounts are building blocks of financial education for both children and their families. By equipping the youngest generation of Boston residents with these resources, we are investing in our City. There is no better time than now to begin saving for the future.

We are grateful to the many partner organizations who made the expansion of Boston Saves possible, including the Eos Foundation, Berkshire Bank, Boston Builds Credit, Boston Educational Development Foundation, Colatos Family Foundation, City of Boston Credit Union, Commonwealth, Inversant, Junior Achievement, Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority, Metro Credit Union, National Grid, ReadBoston, Rockland Trust Back, Tech Goes Home and The Boston Foundation.

Martin J. Walsh is the Mayor of Boston.

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

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GAZETTE**

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LETTERS

Implementation of policies regarding immigrants is important

Congressman Stephen Lynch
Washington DC 20515

Dear Congressman Lynch:

At your August 22 Town Hall in Braintree, you gave a brief report of your trip to visit immigrant camps on both the Texas and Mexican sides of the border. As comments at the Town Hall made clear, constituents in your district are very concerned about the immigration policies that have been implemented by the current administration, many of which are cruel and often of questionable legality.

One of the major responsibilities of Congress is oversight. The House Committee on Oversight and Reform, of which you are a member, is charged with holding the Executive Branch accountable for its policies. This includes investigating fraud and abuse in federal government programs, such as those related

to immigrant detention. The Subcommittee on Government Operations, of which you are also a member, is responsible for oversight of the federal workforce, which includes ICE employees. The missions of these committees clearly include oversight of the administration's immigration policies.

Having personally investigated conditions in immigrant camps at the southern border, you should be fully apprised of the situation in the camps. As concerned constituents, we would like more detailed information about the conditions that immigrants are facing in the camps, as well as about what types of oversight you are conducting of the administration's immigration policies. We are thus requesting that you provide a detailed report on these issues.

We would like the report to in-

clude the following information:

- What are conditions like for immigrants being held in camps along the southern border of the United States? We would like to know about immigrants' safety and access to food, fresh air, showers, hygienic products, and medical care. For those children still detained without their parents, we would also like to know what physical and intellectual stimulation and what psychological care and nurturing they are receiving.

- Similarly, what are the conditions for immigrants being held on the Mexican side of the border, only a few of whom are allowed to cross the border each day to apply for asylum? We have the same questions about the conditions in these camps as we do about the camps on the U.S. side of the border.

- Are procedures for process-

ing asylum claims being carried out in a legal manner? We understand that families with children may now be held indefinitely, in contravention of the Flores Agreement, which only allows detention for a limited amount of time. Holding children in long-term detention can produce serious trauma that is hard to reverse.

- It is not clear whether making immigrants remain on the Mexican side of the border until they can apply for asylum is lawful. We would like to know if appropriate procedures are being followed.

- Finally, we would like to know if enough immigration judges are available to hear asylum cases in a reasonable amount of time and whether immigrants are able to access attorneys to assist them with their claims. We understand

that immigrants who have attorneys fare much better in their hearings, but that few are able to access legal help.

We are sure that the implementation of policies regarding immigrants is as important to you as it is to us. We look forward to receiving a report that responds to our concerns.

Sincerely,

JAMAICA PLAIN PROGRESSIVES
AND THE JP PROGRESSIVES
IMMIGRANT RIGHTS ACTION
COMMITTEE,
INCLUDING THE UNDERSIGNED 8TH
DISTRICT CONSTITUENTS:
EMILY ACHTENBERG
ZIBA CRANMER
JENNY HOCHSTADT
CINDY LU
MARTHA MERSON
FRANCINE PRICE
ANNE WHEELOCK
VIRGINIA ZANGER

We have grave concerns about future use of Shattuck site

Dear Editor:

We are writing to express our grave concerns about the State's community process regarding the disposition of the Shattuck Hospital site after the hospital moves to the South End in two years. Also, we believe the State has not expended maximal efforts in its efforts to find a site appropriate to the needs of newly housed mentally ill and addicted residents. We are both health providers, Franklin Park Coalition members for over 20 years and one of us is a past president.

Frederick Law Olmsted designed Franklin Park for the public's health, clearly fulfilling the State mandate to use the Shattuck acres for public health purposes. Every path and vista reflect a choice to provide relief for the anxieties and tension of city life. Studies show less diabetes with proximity to safe Parks. Parks counteract the effects of global warming. Most importantly, Franklin Park provides a beautiful backyard where diverse communities meet, play and join in communal enjoyment of Nature – truly the most health restorative quality of Franklin Park.

The State government, in an

effort to save money short term, is continuing a travesty committed years ago, before it was illegal, when it took 13 acres of Franklin Park to build the Shattuck Hospital. Just as we wouldn't sell off pieces of the Mona Lisa in a financial crisis, we should not tolerate the carving up of one of the most renowned Parks in the nation. Now is our opportunity to set this right.

The three community meetings held by the State were disjointed; discussions and de-

isions made at one meeting did not carry over to the next. The most recent meeting in June was chaotic, breakout groups allowed only for input on minor decisions. There was no report on the community advisory process. The Emerald Necklace Conservancy which believes this is a historic opportunity to restore the integrity of the Franklin Park and that there are other venues for supportive housing, was not allowed a hearing. A Community Advisory Board member was overheard to say that after this

meeting she felt like her time on the Board had been wasted.

We believe building 70 – 100 units of supportive housing, isolating a vulnerable population, far from decent public transportation and from any neighborhood, is political opportunism. Services such as methadone and mental health programs will be hard to access for people who do not live there.

At a minimum the State Department of Public Health should engage more deeply with the Department of Capital As-

set Management and Maintenance to locate suitable State-owned properties where people who struggle with addiction and mental health problems are in a community and near adequate public transit. We urge both the City and the State to seize this opportunity to both restore our historic Park which improves health in the heart of the City, and to construct supportive housing with programs in accessible neighborhoods.

MARTHA KARCHERE, MD
AND LEE GLENN, PHD

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED INFO:

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