



**SAZAMA
REAL ESTATE
COMPASS**

Serving Our Community For Over 19 Years!

We Care About You, Your Home, and Our Planet
Team@SazamaRE.com | 617-308-3678 | SazamaRealEstate.com

Vol. 30 No. 18
24 Pages • Free Delivery
25 Cents at Stores

JP KIDS SPECIAL SECTION P. 12 + 13

Jamaica Plain GAZETTE

**BOOK YOUR
POST IT**
Call Your
Advertising Rep
(617) 524-7662

Printed on
Recycled Paper

617-524-2626

OCTOBER 8, 2021

WWW.JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM

Doyle's Cafe project to include six units of affordable housing

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) held a public meeting on September 23 regarding the Doyle's Cafe project at 3478-3484 Washington St. The proposal includes bringing back a new version of the historic Doyle's Cafe, along with a 4,178

square foot grocery market and a total of 29 condominium units between three buildings, six of which will be affordable units.

There have been some changes in the proposal from the last time it was presented to the public, namely the involvement

Continued on page 4

JPNC hears proposal for Arborway Yard modernization project

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) met virtually on September 28, where members heard a presentation from the MBTA regarding the Arborway Yard.

Scott Hamwey, Director of Bus Modernization for the MBTA, came to the meeting to discuss the MBTA's plans for the site as it prepares to electrify the city's bus fleet.

Continued on page 5

Annisssa Essaibi George releases equity, inclusion and justice agenda

STAFF REPORT

Surrounded by a diverse coalition of residents, community leaders and advocates, At-Large City Councilor Annisssa Essaibi

George on October 5 released her Equity, Inclusion and Justice Agenda at an event in Roxbury. The plan was, and continues to be, informed by a series of conversations and roundtable discus-

sions with communities of color, residents, faith-based leaders, organizations, businesses and Essaibi George's Listen & Learn

Continued on page 2

Essaibi George publica su agenda de equidad

STAFF REPORT

La consejera municipal at-large Annisssa Essaibi George publicó una agenda de equidad, inclusión y justicia en un evento

en Roxbury el 5 de octubre. El plan se basó en una serie de conversaciones con comunidades de color.

Essaibi George también anunció una inversión de \$100

millones en las comunidades afroamericanas, latinas, asiáticas y otras comunidades marginadas de Boston. Ella formará un

Continued on page 2

JP OPEN STUDIOS



Rich Parritz and Tom Duprey command the official JP Open Studios information desk at JP Licks on Centre Street during this year's annual JP Studios event.



Lady Bat with her human Sydney Hardin, who does contemporary portraits of pets. Alas, no portraits of Lady Bat, but there are a few of Sydney's other dog Pasa, who's a bit too rowdy to be out amongst the Open Studios crowd. See more photos on Pages 18-19.

The Independent Newspaper Group

offices will be closed on Columbus Day,
Monday,
October 11, 2021



We apologize for any
inconvenience this
may cause

Police arrest suspect in Sept. 28 JP Library break in

By JOHN LYNDS

Boston Police arrested a Jamaica Plain man last Tuesday for breaking into the Boston Public Library Branch in Jamaica

Plain. Just after 12:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 28 officers from District E-13 in Jamaica Plain responded to a radio call for an alarm that triggered at the Ja-

maica Plain Library on Centre Street. When officers arrived they found the rear side door ajar. Officers, along with Boston Police K9, conducted a search of the

building and located the suspect, Justin Caterson, 30, of Jamaica Plain on the first floor. Caterson was safely placed under arrest and charged with Breaking and Entering a Build-

ing or a Ship; Intent to Commit a Felony. Caterson was arraigned the next day in West Roxbury District Court.

Agenda

Continued from page 1

neighborhood conversation tour. In addition to the plan, Essaibi George announced a \$100 million investment towards implementing the plan in Boston's Black community and Latinx, AAPI and other marginalized communities. She will form a task force of community members, faith-based leaders, advocates and residents to lead a transparent and open allocation process that is driven by our communities and neighborhoods and speaks to their needs.

"Creating a more equitable, inclusive, and just Boston will be a charge in which I will intentionally and deliberately work towards every single day as your Mayor. That's why today I'm proud to release our Equity,

Inclusion and Justice Agenda, a plan that can only be informed by showing up in our communities and listening to and learning from our residents," said Essaibi George. "As I stated when I first announced my candidacy, I believe in a Boston that sees the inequities and everyday injustices—and then tackles them head on. It will be a constant work in progress to build a better Boston for all, and I look forward to doing that work, together, as your Mayor."

Essaibi George's Equity, Inclusion and Justice Agenda policies seek to prioritize access to and representation in city government, especially for communities of color, individuals with disabilities, the LGBTQIA+ community, women, and working class residents. It highlights how she will root out systemic inequity and dismantle racism in is-

sues such as education, housing, transportation, climate, health-care, public safety, and basic city services, and how she will work alongside Boston's residents to find solutions to the City's most pressing problems through an equity and justice lens.

"What's reflected in Annissa's agenda is the culmination of six years of listening and learning. She's done the work. We've been on many walks together, we've sat across from each other at meetings, and I know when I call her she will pick up the phone and get things done," said Anthony "Big Time Tony" Seymour, a community advocate for violence prevention and youth support

resources. "This agenda is personal to me because I helped inform it. Annissa came to talk to me and several other women about our experiences in Boston's workforce and the barriers we face in building a more equitable economy," said Renee Dozier, member of IBEW Local 103. "We have a lot of work to do. But I trust Annissa, as my mayor, will be the one to bring my voice and the voices of my community to City Hall." "Throughout her time on the Council, Annissa has championed the issues of homelessness, mental health, and substance use disorder," said Kelly Ran-

som. "Annissa was talking about these issues and trying to find solutions long before anyone else in this race. That's bold, that's leadership, and that's exactly the qualities I want to see in my next Mayor of Boston." "Just last week I had the opportunity to sit down with Annissa, as part of her Latinx Roundtable, to talk about the issues that most impact our community. Annissa will always pull up a seat next to you to listen, learn, and get to work, together. Her equity plan is a testament to that, and I'm proud to have played a part in informing it," said Felicia Teruel.

Equidad

Continued from page 1

grupo de trabajo para liderar un proceso de asignación transparente impulsado por las comunidades. "Crear un Boston más equi-

tativo, inclusivo y justo será un cargo en el que trabajaré todos los días como su alcalde", dijo Essaibi George. "Boston ve las desigualdades y las injusticias cotidianas y luego las aborda de frente". Las políticas de equidad de Essaibi George buscan priorizar

la representación en el gobierno de la ciudad, especialmente para los residentes marginados. Destacan cómo erradicará la inequidad sistémica y cómo resolverá los problemas más urgentes de la ciudad a través de una lente de equidad y justicia. "La agenda de Annissa es la culminación de seis años de escuchar y aprender", dijo Anthony Seymour. "Ella ha hecho el trabajo". "Esta agenda es personal para mí", dijo Renee Dozier. "Annissa vino a hablar con las mujeres sobre nuestras experiencias en la fuerza laboral de Boston. Confío en que ella llevará mi voz al Ayuntamiento". "Annissa ha defendido los problemas del desamparo, la salud mental y el abuso de sustancias", dijo Kelly Ransom. "Eso es exactamente lo que quiero ver en el próximo alcalde de Boston". "Tuve la oportunidad de sentarme con Annissa como parte de su Mesa Redonda Latinx para hablar sobre los temas que más impactan a nuestra comunidad", dijo Felicia Teruel. "Annissa siempre se sentará a tu lado para escuchar. Su plan de acciones es un testimonio de eso".



All of Us
RESEARCH PROGRAM

Receive \$25*

Why have some communities not been a part of medical research?

You can help researchers develop new and better treatments that benefit all of us.

Many groups of people have been left out of research in the past. That means we know less about their health. When you join the *All of Us* Research Program, you'll help researchers learn more about what makes people sick or keeps them healthy.

JoinAllOfUs.org/NewEngland
(617) 768-8300

*All participants will receive \$25 after completion of their visit. To complete the visit, participants must create an account, give consent, agree to share their electronic health records, answer health surveys, and have their measurements taken (height, weight, blood pressure, etc.), and give blood and urine samples, if asked.

All of Us and the All of Us logo are service marks of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



All of Us
New England

BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL
MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL
BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER

Arborway Auto Service Center

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXPIRES

10

2022

State Inspections No Appointment needed.
8:30am to 4:30pm Mon thru Friday.

617-524-4505

Conveniently located one block from
Forest Hills T station, 207 South St., Jamaica Plain

See us on yelp.com

300 'attend' The English High School's virtual 200th birthday celebration

Lucky it was only a virtual birthday cake. Because 200 candles might have been a fire hazard.

Some 300 alumni, family members, students, faculty and supporters of The English High School of Boston were on hand online Saturday night (Oct. 2) for the school's 200th birthday gala celebration.

English High, established in 1821, is America's first and oldest public high school. Participating alumni represented classes from the 1940s to 2021. Among the VIPs bringing congratulatory remarks during the 'Daring to Dream' video were Gov. Charlie Baker, Mayor Kim Janey, Senators Ed Markey and Elizabeth Warren, the Hon. Marty Walsh, Boston Schools Superintendent Dr. Brenda Cassellius, and many others. Event Co-Chairs were Pam Everhart, SVP, Fidelity Investments, and John Talbot ('68) Founder/CEO of Pathways Healthcare LLC.

Emcee was Karen Holmes Ward, host of WCVB's CityLine.

Highlights of the evening included the 'Daring to Dream' video narrated by Board Chair Greg Hayes ('67) tracing EHS's proud history and vision for the future, and 'A Message of Gratitude' delivered by Michael Thomas ('67), President/CEO, EHS Alumni Association and Chair, 200th celebration. Class of 1944 alumnus, Tuskegee Airman Enoch Woodhouse II, reminisced about how his EHS experience molded his life.

Following the video, attendees enjoyed online breakout Reunion Rooms where they had the opportunity to reconnect and reminisce. The event was produced by Liz Page Associates. The video was produced by Intercultural Productions.

The program marked the official launch of EHS's multi-year 'Daring to Dream' 200th Anniversary Fund Campaign. The goal is to raise \$1 million during 2021 and attain \$3 million in the next

few years.

Funds raised by the Alumni Association are earmarked to meet needs not met by the public schools such as for scholarships, learning enhancements, the Technical Pathways Program, and for refurbishments to EHS's Jamaica Plain campus. The Association has raised over \$150,000 to date.

To watch the video and Program Book, follow this link: www.EHS200thanniversary.com. For more info, visit www.EnglishHighAlumni.org or call 781-956-4774. Contact Mike Thomas for Sponsorship and Investment Opportunities, Scholarship support and more: <https://www.englishhighalumni.org/donate> - by Stan Hurwitz / stanhurwitz@gmail.com.



The English High School's Head of School Caitlin Murphy and Michael Thomas ('67), President/CEO, EHS Alumni Association, and Chair, 200th birthday celebration, display Governor's Proclamation honoring the 200th birthday of America's first and oldest public high school.

P-EBT comes to an end

By JOHN LYNDS

To address the fallout from the pandemic and economic downturn that increased unemployment and food insecurity locally the feds and the state extended the Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) program that was launched at the height of the pandemic.

P-EBT is a federal program that is jointly administered by the Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). P-EBT promotes increased food security for families whose children receive free or reduced-price school meals through the United States Department of Agriculture's National School Lunch Program (NSLP). During the COVID-19 pandemic the program covered the cost of school meals for students in remote or hybrid learning environments.

The recent American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 allowed states to continue providing P-EBT for families through summer 2021.

All students who received P-EBT during the height of the pandemic received a total of \$375 in P-EBT benefits in two equal payments of \$187.50 over the summer.

However, Jamaica Plain families may have noticed that no additional funds were added to

their P-EBT cards last month.

DTA is now reminding parents and students that the program has expired.

"Universal free school meals are available for all students this year," said DTA in a statement. "P-EBT was created to replace meals during COVID while schools were closed to in-person learning. Based on federal rules, students attending school in-person are not eligible for P-EBT. EBT/SNAP benefits."

The last payments to students was made on August 25 and once school began the program was ended.

The widely successful P-EBT brought more than \$280 million into the Commonwealth's economy this summer, providing nearly \$250 million for more than 600,000 school-aged children and \$33 million for approximately 88,000 SNAP-enrolled children under the age of six.

Massachusetts initially launched its P-EBT program in April 2020 when schools closed due to COVID-19, was one of a few states to receive federal approval for September P-EBT benefits and was the first state in the nation to receive approval to continue P-EBT through the 2020-2021 school year.

In March 2021, the program was extended to provide P-EBT benefits for children in child care.

CAN DO.

with East Boston Savings Bank

You show up, take on everything they throw at you, stand up for what you believe in, and get the job done. We're proud to stand right alongside you.



East Boston Savings Bank
Home of Respectful BankingSM

800.657.3272 EBSB.com

Facebook.com/EastBostonSavingsBank

32BJ SEIU endorses Michelle Wu in Mayoral Race

32BJ SEIU, the largest property service’s union in Massachusetts and nationwide, is announcing its endorsement of City Councilor Michelle Wu in the Boston Mayoral race. If elected, Councilor Wu would make history as the first Asian-American woman and person to become mayor of Boston.

This endorsement comes on the heels of Mayor Kim Janey’s endorsement of Councilor Wu. It is part of a growing move-

ment of Black, brown, and immigrant working families aimed at combatting income inequality through strong union jobs; addressing the skyrocketing cost of living pushing BIPOC people out of Boston; and fighting against environmental racism through solutions that center impacted communities.

“We are proud to endorse Councilor Michelle Wu as the next Mayor of the great city of Boston,” said Vice President

of 32BJ SEIU Roxana Rivera. “Throughout her years in elected office, Councilor Wu has shown up for the cleaners, security officers, and airport workers of 32BJ SEIU. Most recently, she used her voice as a Harvard alumnus to support 32BJ Black, brown, and immigrant cleaners at the University facing potential job cuts during the COVID-19 pandemic, and her advocacy helped them retain those jobs. We are eager to join Councilor Wu in

getting right to work to improve the lives of everyone who calls Boston home.”

“I’m honored to have the support of 32BJ SEIU, whose members have helped keep our city going throughout this pandemic and well before,” said Councilor Michelle Wu. “Together, we’ll keep fighting for economic empowerment, worker protections, better schools, immigrants’ rights, and a city that works for everyone. As we work to build the

city that our children deserve, I look forward to continuing to partner with these champions for working families throughout our city.”

32BJ SEIU will roll out a get out the vote effort in the coming weeks in support of Councilor Wu, with members pounding the pavement and hitting the phones in the neighborhoods where it’s members live and work, including East Boston, Mattapan, Dorchester, and Roxbury.

Doyle’s Cafe

Continued from page 1

of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation (JPND) in the building to be built at 69 Williams St. for the six affordable condos.

Lee Goodman of Watermark Development and architect Elaine Scales presented the proposal, along with Rebecca Mautner of the JPND. The proposal includes land at 3484 Washington St., which is the current Doyle’s building, along with 3474 Washington St. a two family dwelling, and 1 Gartland St. The proposal also includes 60 Williams St., which is currently the 22 car parking lot for Doyle’s, as well as 69 Williams St. where

there is currently a single family home, along with the “Meehan strip,” which consists of parking for Doyle’s.

The six affordable condos at 69 Williams St. will consist of one one bedroom unit, one two bedroom unit, two three bedroom units, and two four bedroom units.

Mautner said that the affordability level is a combination of units at 80 and 100 percent Area Median Income (AMI)—three of each.

“The most significant part is getting four three and four bedroom units,” she said, which are in demand for families.

Goodman explained that the different portions of the project fall under different names. The “Anchor” portion includes the Brassica at Doyle’s restaurant,

the grocery store, residential parking in a garage, as well as 16 condo units in a four story structure, four on each floor above the proposed market at 3484 Washington St. and 1 Gartland St.

At 60 Williams St., the “Bridge” portion includes covered parking for the commercial spaces, as well as seven condominium units.

At 69 Williams, the “Opportunity” portion, the six affordable condos will be located, along with both covered residential parking and surface parking for the commercial spaces.

Scales said that three bicycle racks will be added on Washington St., along with three on Gartland St.

Additionally, there will be a new traffic pattern for the Doyle’s site, where traffic would enter on

Williams St. and exit on Gartland. People will “be able to loop around as you need to instead of exiting and going down through the residential neighborhood,” Scales said. Street trees will also be added in several places.

Scales explained that the structure at 60 Williams is “designed as a four story counter-part to the three family buildings that it’s in line with,” and the front porch is intended to look like the other triple deckers already on Williams St.

She then spoke about small changes to the exterior of the proposed building at 69 Williams St. She said that the first floor units will be accessible, as well as the lobby, and there will be a “ramp on the corner that’s masked with vegetation,” and cars will enter and exit in the same space. Scales said that doing this will allow for more green space along with more parking for the commercial spaces.

“We just really want this to be a much more beautiful intersection here in front of this building and gesturing towards Doyle’s and not just to be a sea of pavement much like it is today,” Scales said.

Goodman added that the team is working with the JPND to reconfigure the inside of the building to accommodate larger units, but the outside will remain largely as previously proposed.

He also talked about parking, saying that there are 18 parking spaces proposed behind the restaurant, with another 12 on the “Meehan strip,” totaling 30 private spaces for the restaurant and the market.

“This is so much more private parking than any restaurant in JP has,” he said.

The existing Doyle’s Cafe had a capacity of 265 people, Goodman said, but the expectation is

that the new restaurant will be “about a third smaller,” though details are still being worked out.

There is also currently no official tenant for the grocery space, as Goodman said many market owners are saying the opening date for the market is too far out to make a commitment right now as there are still no permits issued for this project, but the goal is to “find a small bodega-style market,” Goodman said.

There were also some concerns from the public about maintaining the historical integrity of Doyle’s Cafe.

“We’re going to do everything we can to either save or recreate all the features...specifically the bar, the panels, the tin ceiling,” Goodman said, and “just the general feel of the barroom.”

The restaurant’s Kennedy Room will be recreated, and Goodman said that the team will “reuse any of the murals that we can to be spread throughout the space,” as well as the clocks from the original restaurant.

Some changes are in order, though, such as relocating the kitchen to make it open to patron viewing.

Goodman said that the next step for the proposal is the BPDA Board, along with the Article 85 Demolition Delay hearing that will be held this month, which will focus on the existing two family home at 3474 Washington St. Then the project will go before the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) Zoning Committee and the Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA), after which construction permits will be obtained and construction can commence.

The full video and slideshow from this meeting can be viewed on the project page on the BPDA website at bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/doyle-s-cafe-restoration.

CITY OF BOSTON MERCURY RECOVERY PROGRAM

Thermometers
Thermostats
Elemental Mercury

Mercury Switches
Fluorescent Lamps
Blood Pressure Units

PLEASE BRING THESE PRODUCTS CONTAINING MERCURY TO:

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP OFF

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2021
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

DPW Yard
315 Gardner St., West Roxbury
Boston Residents Only - Proof of Residency Required.
Find a full list of acceptable items at:
Boston.gov/hazardous-waste

SPONSORED BY



JPNC

Continued from page 1

Hamwey explained that the bus has been a “very resilient” mode of transportation during the pandemic, and is the “most flexible service we run.” However, the “mode is in significant need of reinvestment in order to deliver the type of service that our riders expect and deserve...and do that in a way that meets community goals,” he said.

He also said that the T “wants to be a leader” in electrification, as well as “support more reliable service by keeping our average fleet age down.”

The size of the fleet must be increased to meet the increased demand, he added.

“We’re optimistic that our demand will come back all the way, so we’re looking to increase capacity at our facilities through the program,” he said.

There are nine bus facilities that range in size, and “most of them are close to a half century old or much older,” Hamwey said. There are only a “couple” that are younger than 20 years old, and the Arborway Yard is one of them. The facility was intended to be temporary, but has remained.

He said that none of the bus facilities “are really set up to support a battery electric bus fleet at any scale,” and there is limited room to increase capacity as well.

“Staying ahead of the retirement cycle of our different fleets is another thing we need to consider,” Hamwey said.

“Arborway ranks at the top in terms of percentage of households of color or percentage of low income households served by the routes that we operate out of Arborway,” he added.

The natural gas fleet that runs out of Arborway currently is set to retire at the end of this decade, so the MBTA is now “in a place to convert this facility to battery buses” to “stay ahead of the retirement.”

There are currently two functions at the Arborway Yard, including the bus facility on the lefthand side of 3600 Washington St., which opened as a temporary site in 2003, as well as the MBTA office building at 500 Arborway that was built about 60 years ago as the MBTA’s headquarters.

He said that there have been “a lot of discussions about this

site over the last quarter century,” and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed in 2001 outlining several provisions for the site. Hamwey said that the “most problematic MOU provision” is the fleet size, which is to remain at 118. He said that the MBTA’s current target “to advance our modernization” is 200 buses.

The redesigned Arborway site would be the MBTA’s first multilevel bus facility, and would include employee parking either below grade or on top of the facility.

“We certainly hope that the benefits of this new facility will outweigh any of the negatives,” Hamwey said.

Additionally, the new facility would be the first to accommodate both 40 and 60 foot buses, which would allow additional routes to move to this facility and become electrified.

Right now, the MBTA is working on a conceptual design internally, and will eventually hold public meetings and meetings with other stakeholders to discuss the design.

The “subsequent phases are currently unfunded,” he said, but he said the hope is to begin construction in 2024 and complete construction by the end of 2027, which “fits nicely with the retirement date” of the current buses, which are set to retire in 2028.

Hamwey said that inside the facility, buses will be charged overnight using overhead chargers, which will get electricity from underground.

“We’re committed to preserving as much space as we can for development to happen on the site after we’ve accomplished our program,” he said.

He also spoke about the Quincy bus facility, which is the first facility to undergo work to allow for electrification. That facility is expected to be completed in 2024.

COMMITTEE REPORTS ZONING COMMITTEE:

Zoning Committee chair Dave Baron reported on several zoning matters that came before the committee in September, including 14 and 14 Porter St., 7 and 9 Wenham St. (which was not up for a vote), 97-99 Williams St., and 7 Cataumet St.

14-14 Porter St.

At 12-14 Porter St., the proposal was to build a new two family dwelling with two parking spaces, Baron said, and several neighbors came in support of the

project.

“There was really no opposition, but members of the committee thought the house looks a little funny the way it’s designed,” he said, as there is a “lack of symmetry” with the second floor, so the committee proposed to add a second floor window which was accepted by the applicants.

The full Council voted to approve this proposal.

97-99 Williams St.

Baron reported that 97-99 Williams St. “had gone through a full process” previously to build a six unit building at 99 Williams St. next to the existing three unit building at 97 Williams St.

“The original proposal had the support of the Zoning Committee and this Council, but did not have the support of the Stonybrook Neighborhood Association,” Baron said. The project was then also denied by the Zoning Board of appeal.

“This time, [the project] had the support of the SNA that certainly made our job at the Zoning Committee a lot easier,” Baron said. He said changes were made and a Memorandum of Understanding created between the SNA and the applicant “relating to open space and the maintenance of trees and of the parcel. The buildings were also made slightly smaller. The Council approved this with the same provisos in the SNA’s MOU.

7 Cataumet St.

At 7 Cataumet St., the proposal is to create a two story addition in the rear of a single family house. The Jamaica Hills

Association voted not to oppose the project, and no neighbors were in opposition either, Baron said. The Council voted to approve.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE

As previously reported by the Gazette, the Public Service Committee heard several requests for licenses at BMS Paper on Washington St., as well as Mike & Patty’s slated for the former Sorella’s space, and Ethiopian Cafe.

The BMS requests for an all-alcohol license for a proposed two floor restaurant as well as for a deli counter did not receive a vote by the committee, as they felt they needed more information before making a vote.

At Mike & Patty’s, which is proposed for the former Sorella’s space at 386 Centre St., the applicant is asking for a common victualler beer and wine with liqueurs license, as well as takeout with Robert Powers as manager and a closing hour of 11:00pm.

Committee chair Michael Reiskind reported that the JPNC Executive Committee approved this proposal because the legal hearing for the license was at

the end of August.

“Everybody felt comfortable and embraced the applicant with open arms,” Reiskind said.

Ethiopian Cafe at 377A Centre St. has asked for an all alcohol license, which also went before the city’s licensing board prior to this meeting, and was approved by the Executive Committee.

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Sam Montano reported that Michael Kane, Executive Director at the National Alliance of HUD Tenants, presented at the committee meeting about the “gridlock” tenants are experiencing with the owner of the Forbes Building as an agreement has yet to be reached regarding the future of the affordable units in the building.

Montano also reported that the Hyde Square Task Force has chosen several developers to present their proposals for the Blessed Sacrament Church. A final community meeting was held on September 30, and Hyde Square Task Force is expected to choose a final developer this month.



Faye Simon Real Estate Rentals & Sales

My Focus is on You!

Real Estate Broker

Tel: 617-524-0243

93141808

ADVERTISEMENT

CITY OF BOSTON/County of Suffolk Health and Human Services

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Facilitation services to create a community-led response to mental health crises

EV00009747

Contact Information

Krystal Garcia MSPH, Director of Policy & Research

617-635-3950

The City of Boston (“the City”), acting by the Chief of the Health and Human Services, hereinafter referred to as the Official, invites sealed bids for the performance of the work generally describe, and particularly set forth in the Invitation for Bids: Coordinate and facilitate with the Community-Led Design Group to meet the charge of designing an alternative model to respond to mental health crises to be submitted to the Mayor.

The bid documents will be accessible on line from Monday October 04, 2021 through Friday October 29, 2021 by visiting the City of Boston Public Procurement website and Supplier Portal at the following link (<http://boston.gov/procurement> and accessing the event ID #EV00009747.

All sealed bids shall be filed electronically no later than 4:00 pm on Friday October 29, 2021 by logging onto the City of Boston Procurement website as listed and accessing the above event number.

The attention of all bidders is directed to the provisions of the Invitation for Bids and contract documents, specifically to the requirements for bid deposits, insurance and performance bonds as may be applicable.

Sealed bids shall be opened electronically by the Official on Friday October 29, 2021 at 4:00 PM. The contract awarded pursuant to this invitation to bid will **commence on or about November 15 and will end on June 30, 2022.**

Marty Martinez, Chief of Health and Human Services
(October 4, October 11, October 18, October 25, 2021)

Michelle Wu will be first on the Mayoral Ballot in November

Three Ballot Questions will also appear

By JOHN LYNDIS

Mayor and At-Large City Council ballot order

At the random drawing at City Hall Monday to determine the position of the Boston Mayoral Ballot, Michelle Wu's name came out of the perforated bingo drum first and will appear on the top of the mayoral ballot in November with Annissa Essaibi George appearing second. Essaibi George was first on the ballot during the Preliminary

Election that narrowed the field of mayoral candidates down to two.

The Board of Election Commission also randomly drew the order of the At-Large ballot for November with Dave Halbert getting the top spot on that ticket.

In September voters narrowed the crowded At-Large field down to 8 and the order on the ballot will be as follows:

- David Halbert
- Bridget M Nee-Walsh
- Julia Mejia
- Carla Monteiro
- Ruthzee Louijeune
- Althea Garrison

Michael Flaherty
Erin J. Murphy

Ballot Questions

The Boston General Election November ballot will also feature three ballot questions for Boston voters.

The first question will ask whether or not to reverse the decision in the 1990s to go from an elected Boston School Committee to an appointed School Committee. Boston is the only city in the Commonwealth that does not have an elected school committee.

There's also a ballot question introduced by city councilors

on the Boston Budget Process Amendment that has been sent to the State House. It would allow the city council to engage back and forth with the mayor to check the mayor's power on the city's \$3.7 billion budget. It will give the council, just like every other legislative body, the ability to amend and to override the mayor's veto.

There's also a non-binding ballot question regarding the proposed Eversource Substation in East Boston

The question to voters will read, "Should a high voltage, electric substation be built at 400 Condor Street in East Bos-

ton, along the Chelsea Creek, near homes, parks, playgrounds, jet fuel storage, and in a flood risk area rather than in a nearby alternative safe and secure location such as non-residential Massport land at Logan Airport?"

Over the summer, ten Eastie residents petitioned the City of Boston to put the question on the ballot this fall.

Historically, a non-binding ballot question provides information to elected officials and the public of voter sentiment on a particular issue.

City workers union backs Erin Murphy for City Council at-Large

STAFF REPORT

One of Boston's largest coalition of city workers is getting behind Erin Murphy's bid for an At-Large City Council seat, the latest sign of Erin's broad-based appeal and ability to connect with working people in every neighborhood.

The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Council 93, an umbrella union organization that represents roughly 1,700 city workers, endorsed Erin's candidacy because of her

commitment to making life better for every family in every neighborhood.

"This was a pretty easy decision for us, because of the type of leadership Erin has already demonstrated before even taking office," said Tiger Stockbridge, President for AFSCME Council 93 of Local 1631 and co-chair of the AFSCME Boston Presidents. "Erin is the right person to have a leadership role in our city. She's lived here her whole life, was a teacher in the Boston Public Schools for more than two decades, and raised her kids

here. She's been an advocate for her community, and she cares about the same things that our members and their families care about: safe streets in every neighborhood, good schools in every neighborhood, affordable housing in every neighborhood."

Erin's campaign has been gaining momentum since her strong fourth-place finish among a field of 17 candidates in the September 14 preliminary election, gathering support across the city as her message of inclu-

sivity continues to connect ahead of the November 2nd final.

"Members of AFSCME Council 93 kept Boston going during the pandemic, a difficult time that created all kinds of personal and professional challenges," Erin said. "Our city workers kept busting their tails through it all, and that's the same work ethic I'll bring to the City Council. I'm honored by their endorsement and I look forward to working with them once I'm elected."

Erin's campaign has been

gathering steam all year, with a string of high-profile endorsements and a surge in grassroots support and volunteerism across the city. Erin has also been endorsed by, among others, Senator Nick Collins, State Representatives Dan Hunt, Ed Coppinger, and Dan Ryan, City Councilor Frank Baker and former City Councilor Sal LaMattina, Register of Deeds Stephen J. Murphy, the Massachusetts Nurses

Continued on page 7

ESSAIBI GEORGE'S COFFEE & CONVERSATION SERIES COMES TO ULA CAFE



Essaibi George met with residents at Ula Cafe on September 29 as part of her Coffee & Conversation series.

Unlimited

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

HOME IS THE HEART
OF OUR BUSINESS

104 Williams Street - JP
Offered at \$1,300,000
6 Bed, 3 Bath, 2856 Sq.Ft.
Brilliant Places, 617.694.9759

103 Allandale St - JP
Offered at \$899,000
4+ Bed | 2 Bath | 2472 Sq.Ft.
Mary Wallace, 617.293.8002
Susan Scheele, 857.472.4653

10 Williams St, Unit 33 - Roxbury
Offered at \$729,000
1 Bed, 1 Bath, 1443 Sq.Ft.
Good Boston Living, 617.971.7080

53 Rossmore Rd, Unit 3 - JP
Offered at \$517,000
3 Bed | 1 Bath | 921 Sq.Ft.
Roger Rodriguez, 617.504.0199

UNLIMITED SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY | 673 CENTRE STREET, JAMAICA PLAIN

jprealestate.com

© MMXX. Sotheby's International Realty Affiliates LLC. All Rights Reserved. Sotheby's International Realty Affiliates LLC fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated. Sotheby's International Realty and the Sotheby's International Realty logo are registered service marks licensed to Sotheby's International Realty Affiliates LLC.

Jamaica Plain COVID-19 infections show decrease

By JOHN LYNDIS

After experiencing a 20 percent spike in the weekly COVID test rate between September 6 and September 13 the percentage of those testing positive decreased dramatically last week.

According to the weekly report released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), 1,923 Jamaica Plain residents were tested last week and 1 percent were found to be positive. This was a 67 percent decrease from the 3 percent that tested positive between September 6 and September 13.

Citywide, the weekly positive test rate also decreased and dropped 10 percent last week. Ac-

cording to the BPHC 24,496 residents were tested and 2.7 percent were COVID positive--this was a 10 percent decrease from the 3 percent reported by the BPHC on Sept. 27.

According to the BPHC data, Jamaica Plain's infection rate increased 1.7 percent since Sept. 13 and went from 837.3 cases per 10,000 residents to 851.2 cases per 10,000 residents.

Fifty-six additional Jamaica Plain residents became infected with COVID-19 since September 13 and the number of total cases here went from 3,381 cases to 3,437 cases in the neighborhood.

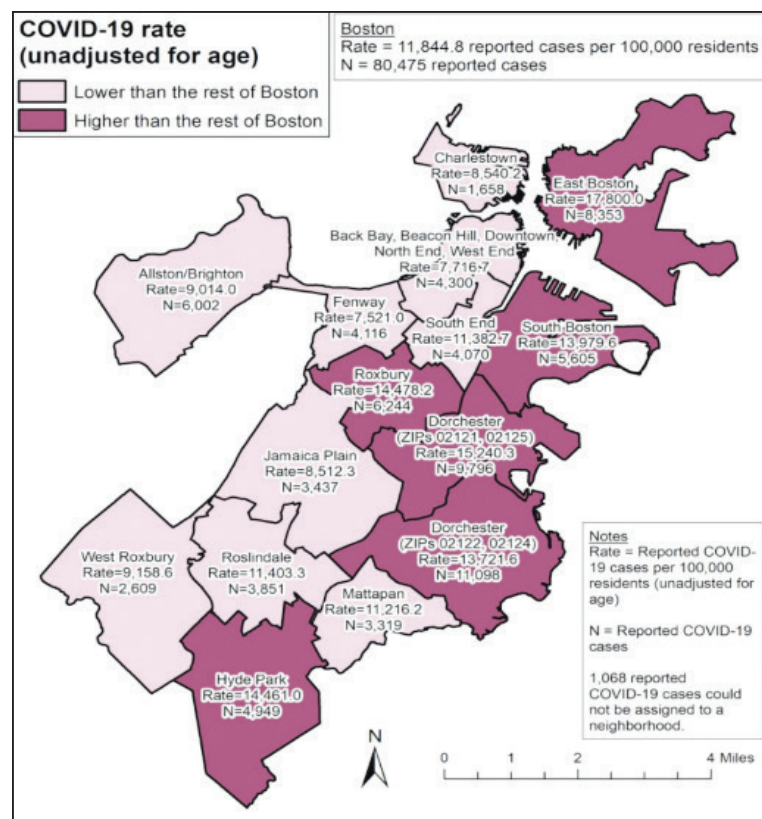
The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down

the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of

coronavirus increased 1.2 percent since Sept. 27 and went from 80,106 cases to 81,081 confirmed cases in a week. There were 11 additional deaths in Boston from

the virus in the past week and the total COVID deaths is now at 1,431.



On Friday the BPHC released its weekly COVID-19 stats by neighborhood that tracks infection rates and COVID testing results in Boston neighborhoods.

Erin Murphy

Continued from page 6

Association, Boston Firefighters Local 718, Laborers Local 223, the Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus, and Boston EMS.

A lifelong Dorchester resident, Erin has centered her campaign around being Boston's go-to call at City Hall.

Erin's vision for Boston and her campaign are built on her core beliefs:

- Thriving, best-in-class public

schools for every student in every neighborhood

- A friendlier city for seniors, with a more compassionate policy focus
- Stronger outreach to veterans, out of respect for their service and supporting their needs
- Safer streets and policing across the City, prioritizing community policing
- A firm plan to relieve the crisis at Mass & Cass that respects all stakeholder
- Reducing income inequality by promoting good jobs for all Bostonians

BOSTON'S NEIGHBORHOOD BANK™

JP meet TCB

Open a 9-month CD with TCB
in JP and earn 0.85% APY*

Come see what makes us Boston's Neighborhood Bank™

3531 Washington Street
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
857.203.9580

thecooperativebank.com

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER MEMBER FDIC

tcb THE COOPERATIVE BANK

*APY=Annual Percentage Yield effective 9/6/21. Maximum balance \$250,000. You need a minimum balance of \$1,000 in the Certificate of Deposit (CD) account to open and obtain the disclosed APY. Annual Percentage Yield based on monthly compounding of interest. Rates are subject to change at any time without notice. Fees may reduce earnings. A penalty is imposed for early withdrawal from a certificate of deposit (CD) account. Personal deposits only. Opening deposit for must be funded with money not currently on deposit with The Cooperative Bank. Account must be open in person at the Jamaica Plain office.

In addition to obtain the disclosed APY you must open your first new eLife** checking account in-person at The Cooperative Bank Jamaica Plain Branch.

SEE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF YOUR ACCOUNT DISCLOSURE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**eLIFE CHECKING ACCOUNT: Minimum balance to open the account—You must deposit \$10.00 to open this account. Requirements to avoid imposition of fees—A monthly maintenance fee of \$10.00 will be imposed every statement cycle, unless the account is set-up for electronic statements (eStatements) and Direct Deposit. Transaction Charges—This account allows for 10 written checks at no cost per monthly statement cycle. All checks written above 10 will be charged \$0.50 per check. Additional Information Regarding Your Account—Non-TCB ATM surcharges will be refunded monthly at the end of each statement cycle.

JPA discusses Forbes Building with representatives of owner and tenants

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Jamaica Pond Association (JPA) met virtually on October 4, where members had a discussion about the Forbes Building, and heard from representatives of owner Paul Clayton, as well as current tenants and Michael Kane, Executive Director of the National Alliance of HUD Tenants.

Consultant Dot Joyce, as well as Bill Reed of “regenerative development” company Regene-sis Group and attorney Jeffrey Sacks represented Paul Clayton

The Forbes Building has been at the forefront of conversation in the neighborhood recently, as the affordable units in the building are at risk of turning market rate.

Sacks presented what the team’s plans are for the Forbes Building, and included a brief history of the building. According to a slide presented, “since 1976, Forbes has served the Jamaica Plain Community, as a well-run affordable apartment building

under the Massachusetts 13A program.”

The building has 147 apartments, 25 percent of which serve “very low income” residents, 50 percent serve low and moderate income residents, and 25 percent are market rate units.

In 2019, the Massachusetts 13A program ended, but residents who were part of that program have been covered under the Massachusetts 40T program.

“In 2018 Forbes Management signaled interest in another 40-year long term preservation deal,” the slide reads. “Work began in earnest to create a plan to improve the property for residents with the ideals of environment & the human flourishing in mind.” The team stated that they had worked to create a new 40 year deal, but earlier this year, the “Forbes Preservation financing plan became obsolete,” according to the slide.

“What we’re trying to do now is work with the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD),” Sacks said, to

“help all residents with Area Median Income of below 80 percent.”

He said that the purpose of creating this “tenant protection plan” is to “create time” to work on what it takes to create a new long-term deal.

Reed said that “our work is simply to invite invested community members to find opportunities to connect and operate.” Regene-sis has met with various residents, businesses, and other members of the community about plans for the building and “how do we create life, how do we actually amplify life?”

Dot Joyce said that different residents are “covered under different programs,” and while some are covered under the 40T program, “some also have protections under a state program—they will remain, they have remained, they will continue at this point,” she said. “I believe we have about 88 people who meet the 60 percent or below AMI.”

Sacks added that about 116 of the 147 units are affordable, and “we’ve made a proposal” to

preserve the affordability of the units. However, Sacks said that Clayton has not yet committed to a “long term preservation plan to protect those units for future residents.”

Come March, the “rest of the units in the building could go to market rent if the owner chose to do that,” he said. “The owner does not want to do that,” and “has requested additional subsidies from the DHCD.”

There was a question about why Paul Clayton has not met with the community at large about this issue.

“I think that’s more me than it is him,” Joyce said. “I think Paul has a very wonderful way of thinking; I think his flourishing thoughts get misconstrued.” She said that in meetings like this where there is limited time, “there’s sometimes a disconnect.”

The team said they have been generally working directly with the agencies up to this point, but JPA member Kevin Moloney said that “unless you get the elected officials...actively involved, the bureaucrats will go about their business and do whatever they want.”

Franklyn Salimbene concurred. He asked the team why they had not spoken with Rep. Nika Elugardo, who was in attendance at this meeting and had expressed interest in reaching out to the team to see how she can help.

She said that she had been planning to reach out and had not yet done so, so “I’ll share responsibility for that,” she said, but suggested that they “meet and talk this week” as she has “strong relationships” with state housing agencies.

Michael Kane and a couple of residents then spoke about the situation from their point of view.

He said that “there’s a number of really infeasible proposals to completely rebuild the building.” He continued, “a lot of these things; they might be nice ideas, but they would also be very expensive and difficult to design in that space.”

He said that the tenants would like Clayton to sign long term contracts that the “state would be willing to offer.” He said that Clayton could pursue his proposals after the long term affordability is taken care of.

Beatrice Greene said that “it’s

very stressful for the people in the building not knowing what’s going to be happening next.”

David Nollman, a resident of the Forbes Building, said that the “tenants want long-term affordability. “If we could be assured of that long-term affordability, that would take care of a great deal of what the issues are.”

Speaking to the tenants, Sacks said that “Mr. Clayton is committed to a tenant protection plan which would permanently protect all of our tenancies for as long as you want to life in the building. That’s what we asked the state for.”

He said that no contract for a long term deal is on the table right now. “We want to get a tenant protection plan in place to create a feasible long term protection plan,” Sacks said.

“There’s a distinction between tenant-based assistance and project-based assistance,” Kane said.

After further discussion, JPA Chair Rosemary Jones asked both sides if there would be interest in having a meeting solely dedicated to this issue, as there were other things on the JPA agenda for the evening.

Joyce said that if there was an opportunity for a meeting where there are “groups where we can have a complete dialogue” and “share in a complete format that allows people to digest information...I think we would be very willing and happy to do that. In a large summit setting, things become a little more of a debate rather than a sharing of ideas an information.”

Kane said “we’re happy to meet,” adding that “we have proposed a summit meeting of the state, city, owner, tenants association, and other interested parties.”

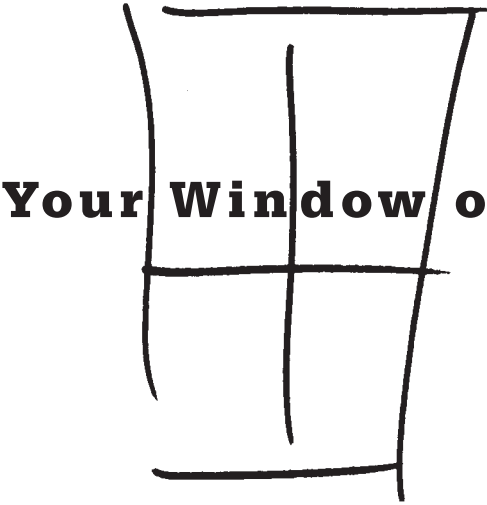
JPA member David Moir said that “where you have a complex matter like this, we have regularly turned to a task force type thing,” but Kevin Moloney said he disagreed with that idea.

JPA member Franklyn Salimbene agreed with Joyce that “having a very large group meeting is not going to be productive.”

No official further meeting of all parties was agreed upon at this JPA meeting, but REp. Elugardo stated in the chat that she will be pursuing a meeting with Clayton’s team.

October Storm Window Sale

we also install!



Your Window of Opportunity

Keep your home’s original windows and improve energy efficiency with high-quality storms.

- > **Save 5%** on storm windows from Coastal Industries and Mon-Ray
- > Reduce air infiltration and heat loss so you can be more comfortable
- > Storms also reduce noise intrusion

At Boston Building Resources, you won’t get a hard sell—just reliable information and quality products from our consumer co-op.

100 Terrace Street, Boston, 02120

(near Roxbury Community College)

Weekdays 8:30–4:30 ■ Saturday 9:30–3

617-442-2262, x1

BostonBuildingResources.com

a member-owned co-op



Local poet releases 'Bend in the Stair,' his second poetry collection

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Longtime JP resident David Miller just released his second collection of poetry, and though his love of poetry has grown over the years, he hasn't always been an avid poet.

Miller told the Gazette that his dream as a child was to become a zoologist, but in middle school he really began to fall in love with theater. After attending the University of Massachusetts Amherst and majoring in theater, "even then, I never really intended that I would pursue it professionally," he said of the art.

In the mid 1980s, Miller got a Master's degree in theater from Emerson College, where he also worked in the library when it was located on Beacon St.

After earning a third degree from Simmons College, he became a professional librarian, and spent his career at Curry College in Milton. Miller retired in 2018, but says that the experience really helped to further shape his love for theater, and eventually poetry.

In 1980, Miller became involved with the Mobius Artists Group of Boston (then Mobius Theatre) when he auditioned for a part in Persephone and Hades, and remained a member of the group through 2007. He is now on the Board of Directors.

Miller said he was very interested in experimental theater, and "most of what I did then you could call performance art" during his time with Mobius.

Though Miller has always been a reader of poetry, he says he's "only been writing poetry actively for about a dozen years."

He cited A. A. Milne, Edward Lear, and Robert Louis Stevenson as influential authors. "These fellows dug into me early," he said, and "I continued reading poems. Poetry was not an obsessive part of my reading, but was always there."

Around the year 1990, Miller said he began to befriend more poets and began attending more poetry readings, all while reading more and more poetry. For the past 30 years, he said he's "been a daily reader" of poetry.

He also took various workshops with different poets "out of curiosity," not expecting them to "make me into a poet," but they ended up being very useful to

him in writing more of his own poetry, he said.

"I don't have a thing that I'm trying to accomplish," Miller said of his poetry. "I think about individual poems. I approach the writing of individual poems the way I imagine composers approaching individual compositions. Each piece is its own world."

He continued, "I want to share stories about my life and the lives of people I know and have known in a way that people can find relatable. I care a lot about life and death. I'm 66—it matters," he said.

Much of his poetry is free verse, and "I don't write for everybody because I don't believe that's possible," he said. But he added that "I also don't only write to amuse myself."

Miller's new poetry collection, *Bend in the Stair*, includes many poems about "people who have lived and died."

The poems in the book "go back maybe a half dozen years," and he had sent the original manuscript to his editor, Eileen Cleary of Lily Poetry Review, in the summer of 2019. The manuscript was unsolicited, but Cleary accepted it and Miller worked with Lily Poetry Review Books editor Lisa Sullivan on the manuscript from the fall of 2019 through the spring of this year.

Miller's first collection, *Sprawled Asleep*, was published in 2019, but "live readings were murdered by the pandemic," he said, but added that he is "still proud" of it.

"This book is a lot more concerned with family stories than the previous one," Miller said. "The previous book has a lot more to do with daily life in the city," and includes a lot of poems about public transportation and also more poems about music than *Bend in the Stair*.

Miller said he feels "really lucky" to have two books published within two years, but he's "not currently thinking about what my third book is going to be."

In 1989, Miller moved to Jamaica Plain with his wife Jane Wiley, who's an artist and created the cover art for *Bend in the Stair*.

The two have lived in the same house near the Stonybrook T station since then, and Miller said that he appreciates "the



PHOTO COURTESY JANE WILEY

Jamaica Plain poet David Miller.

diversity of the neighborhood," as well as its rich history.

"That kind of history right under your feet is really enjoyable; really compelling," he said. He spoke of the many changes the neighborhood has undergone over the years, and thanked the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation (JPNDC) and City Life for their work on creating more affordable housing

in the neighborhood.

Miller wrote a poem about his JP home, called "From a House," for which he had to do some fairly in-depth research to write.

He said he spent some time at the city's Registry of Deeds to find out who the home's previous owners had been, and he discovered the names and occupations of those who have occupied the house. He mentions in the poem

that those occupations ranged from knitters to tailors to insurance clerks to stagehands.

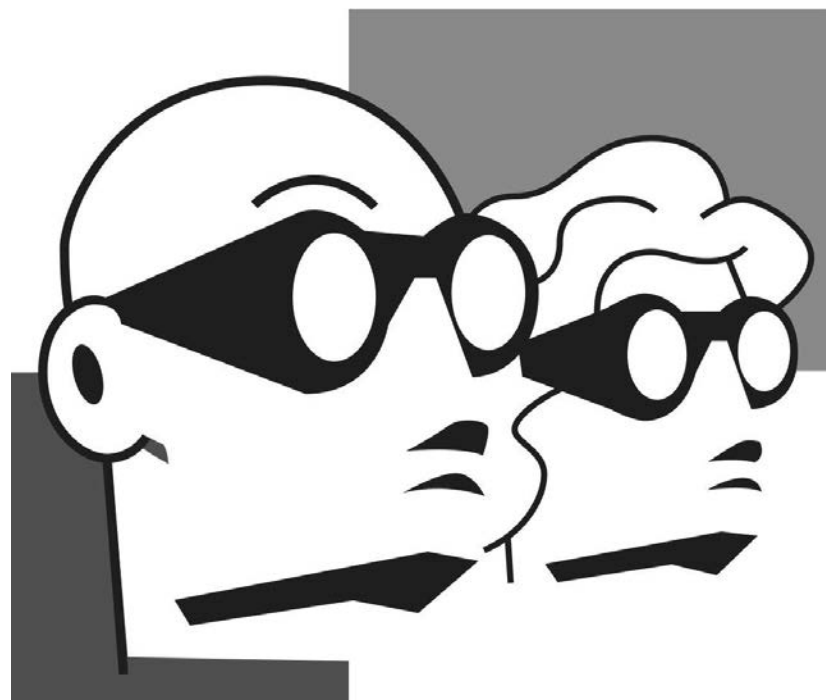
"At one point, someone had four mortgages on the house," he said.

Miller said that he would like to express his "gratitude for everyone that's involved in the book. It's sort of generic, but a true, real feeling of thanks and gratitude and appreciation. This is one of those things in life that didn't have to happen, but it did."

Miller has several virtual readings lined up for *Bend in the Stair*, including an official launch with Lily Poetry Books on Sunday, October 10. Information can be found at facebook.com/events/267103828571136, and those interested in attending the virtual event should reach out to eileen.poet@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

On Friday, November 12, Miller will do a reading with Jamaica Pond Poets' poetry series Chapter and Verse. More information can be found at jamai-capondpoets.com/chapter-and-verse-by-zoom/, and interested parties should email sandeestorey@fastmail.fm to RSVP for the event and receive the Zoom link.

EYE Q OPTICAL



LOCAL - INDEPENDENT
most insurances accepted
617.983.3937

Boston At-Large City Council Candidates Forum set for Oct. 19 on Zoom

STAFF REPORT

Jamaica Plain: Ward 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 19 and 20 Democratic Committees will jointly host a Forum on October 19, with At-Large City Council candidates in advance of the Election on November 2. The Candidates Forum will be held as a Zoom Webinar from 5:30 – 7:00 PM. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

All eight At-Large City Council candidates have been invited. Michael Flaherty, David Halbert, Ruthzee Louijeune, Julia Mejia, Carla Monteiro, Erin Murphy, and Bridget Nee-Walsh have confirmed their participation; Althea Garrison pending.

The Forum will be moderated by Jacquetta Van Zandt, Vice President of Engagement at The Partnership, Inc:

5:30 pm – Greetings and

Opening Statements

5:45 pm – Q and A

6:45 pm – Closing Statements

This Forum will provide an opportunity to learn more about the candidates on issues of importance to voters citywide. Voters can vote for up to four At-Large City Council candidates. These seven Boston Democratic Ward Committees are collaborating to ensure that voters are aware of their choices in the final

election on November 2.

Attendees can register to attend the Zoom Forum at this link - <https://bit.ly/Oct19BostonForum>

This Candidates Forum is sponsored by Wards 8 (Downtown/North End, South End, North Dorchester, Roxbury), 9 (Downtown/North End/South End), 10 (Mission Hill, Jamaica Plain), 11 (Jamaica Plain, Roxbury), 15 (North Dorchester,

South Dorchester), 19 (Jamaica Plain, Roslindale) and 20 (Roslindale, JP, West Roxbury).

The same Boston Democratic Ward Committees are planning a Zoom Forum with the two Mayoral Candidates – Michelle Wu and Annisssa Essaibi George – tentatively scheduled for October 26th. Check <https://bostonward-19dems.org> for updates.

NEWS BRIEFS

FALL-O-WEEN CHILDREN’S FESTIVAL COMING TO BOSTON COMMON OCTOBER 22
Mayor Kim Janey and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department will host the Fall-o-Ween Children’s Festival on the Boston Common Parade Ground near the corner of Beacon and Charles Streets on Friday, October 22, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Adults and children are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes and participate in a wide range of fun and spooky family activities. Test your skills and courage to find your way out of the Haunted Fun House Maze, hop on the train hosted by Cabot Creamery Co-operative, and make your way over to our glow in the dark play space for some nighttime fun featuring LED illuminated swings, seesaws, and cornhole. Join LEGO-LAND® Discovery Center Boston to build a LEGO® pumpkin for our pumpkin patch and learn how to build spooky creatures with Lego Master Model Builder, Sean. Enjoy exciting acts from the Boston Circus Guild with performances by an aerial artist and stilt walker between 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

The Fall-o-Ween Children’s Festival is presented by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department in partnership with the Skating Club of Boston. Key sponsors are LEGOLAND® Discovery Center Boston, the Farm Families who own Cabot Creamery Co-operative, HP Hood LLC, Dunkin’, and L.L.Bean. The media sponsor is Magic 106.7. Additional support provided by Perfect Parties and the Boston Circus Guild.

This free family-friendly event will also include glow-in-the-

dark games, children’s crafts, scarily delicious snacks and refreshments provided by Cabot Cheese, Dunkin’, and HP Hood LLC. Join Harvard University’s Stress & Development lab for fun games focused on learning about the brain and how we think. A monster mash of activities will include a visit from the Massachusetts Horticulture Society, the Mass Audubon Society, an art activity with the Mayor’s Mural Crew, and other fun fall and Halloween activities.

To stay up to date with news, events, and improvements in Boston parks, register for our email list at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails and follow our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

EMERALD NECKLACE CONSERVANCY OFFERS INTRO TO ANIMAL TRACKING

Wonder what marks and signs are left behind by wild animals in the Emerald Necklace? What animals live in the parks we share with? On Saturday, October 23 from 10am-12pm, the Emerald Necklace Conservancy presents an “Introduction to Animal Tracking” class. In this fun guided walk through Franklin Park, we will look at animal tracks, scat and other signs they leave behind, and learn how to identify which animal left them. This experience will be facilitated by Bob Metcalfe, an excellent tracker with over 30 years of experience. Bob’s passion to share his love of nature permeates his teaching style. The class is suitable for families and children ages 12 and up and is free but registration is required online here.

DAVY-FALCONI GRADUATES FROM BU
Francesca Genevieve Davy-Falconi of Moss Hill, graduated Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, from Boston University’s Kilachand Honors College in May, with a major in Philosophy and Neuroscience and a minor in Psychology, after making the Dean’s List for all of her eight semesters. She was named a Harold C. Case Scholar for the 2020-21 school year, in recognition of “scholarly accomplishment and potential and extra-curricular activities which contribute to the University.” She also won a Karbank Fellowship in Philosophy, and was named a Provost’s Scholar, given to students who “take significant risk by pursuing the unknown and unpredictable—in short, to demonstrate the spirit of a true scholar at a research university.”

At Boston University, Francesca researched biological mechanisms underlying Alzheimer’s disease, as well as the interaction of political tribalism and social media, and for her senior Keystone Project, designed and conducted a study on memory, storytelling, and COVID-19 which can be seen at viralrecall.org. She is particularly interested in the intersection of the humanities and cognitive neuroscience, and hopes to attend graduate school in the future.

OCKENE ENROLLED AT ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY

St. Lawrence University welcomed Misha R. Ockene of Jamaica Plain as a member of the Class of 2025. Ockene attended Brookline High School.

St. Lawrence University enrolled more than 640 new students this fall, including 625

members of the Class of 2025 and 17 transfer students.

Founded in 1856, St. Lawrence University is a private,

independent liberal arts institution of about 2,500 students located in Canton, New York.

Continued on page 16

72102903
ADVERTISEMENT
CITY OF BOSTON/COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
BOSTON CENTERS FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES (BCYF)
INVITATION FOR BIDS

Snow Clearing Services for the BCYF Central Office
and its Community Center Sites and Pool Sites

EV00009824
Contact Information
Varnie Jules, Finance Unit Manager
617-635-4920 x 2149

The City of Boston, Boston Centers for Youth & Families (the City), acting by its Commissioner, hereinafter referred to as the Official, invites sealed bids for the performance of the work generally described above, and particularly set forth in the Invitation for Bids. **The bid documents will be accessible online from Monday, October 04, 2021 through Monday, October 18, 2021 by visiting the City of Boston Public Procurement website at boston.gov/procurement/ and clicking on the supplier portal button to access event ID # EV00009824**

Sealed bids shall be opened electronically by the Official on Monday, October 18, 2021 at 4:00 PM. The contract awarded pursuant to this invitation to bid will commence on or about Monday, November 01, 2021 and will end on June 30, 2022.

All bidders are hereby notified that they shall provide a unit price for each category of service to be procured under this contract subject to the following terms that will govern price adjustments. Bidders are further notified that they shall submit a unit price for plowing & salting of all selected locations after occurrence of snowfall of 5" (Five Inches) or more, and a unit price for salting only of all of the selected locations for snowfall occurrence of less than 5". The bid prices shall be compared on the basis of the unit price for each category of service.

The attention of all bidders is directed to the provisions of the Invitation for Bids and contract documents, specifically to the requirements for bid deposits, insurance, and performance bonds as may be applicable. All bids for this project are subject to **M.G.L. c.30, s. 5** and in accordance with the terms and provisions of the contract documents.

The City of Boston affirmatively ensures that Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE), Small Local Business Enterprise (SLBE), Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Women Business Enterprise (WBE), and Veteran Owned Small Business Enterprise (VOSBE) firms shall be afforded full opportunity to submit qualifications in response to this and will not be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, gender, transgender status, political affiliation, age, sexual orientation or religion in any consideration leading to the award of contract. No qualified disabled person shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participating in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination in any consideration leading to the award of a contract.

The award of any contract shall be subject to the approval of the Mayor of Boston and the Awarding Authority. The maximum time for bid acceptance by the City after the opening of bids shall be ninety days (90 days). The City/County and the Official reserve the right to reject any or all bids, or any item or items thereof if found to be not in the best interest of the public.

William Morales, Commissioner
(October 04, October 11, 2021)

HOME SERVICE GUIDE

PAINTING & CARPENTRY

PAINTING
INT. **JP** EXT.
CARPENTRY

617-852-7409 JP resident

LANDSCAPE DESIGN & INSTALLATION



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

Creating Unique Landscape Solutions

WOODWORKING CLASSES



Woodworking class
No experience needed

Michael Keohane

mickkeohane@gmail.com
617 909 4050

ASBESTOS AND MOLD

Asbestos & Mold issues?

Call & **Asbestos**

For removal of Asbestos and Mold Office: 781.817.6146 erieenviro@gmail.com

For a Licensed Inspector Neal's #: 617.970.2572

Partners with over 25 years of experience!

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

MSS ELECTRICAL

LICENSED, INSURED
IN COMM OF MASS



Serving Jamaica Plain and Surrounding Communities

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



781-727-3694

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

SULA VALLEY

Additions kitchens bathrooms
New construction - General remodeling

617-981-9456

60 Amory St, Boston, MA 02119 info@sulavalley.com
Res. Comm. Insured Licenses: HIC 185545 CS-113672

ROOF REPAIR

Roof Repairs
Gutters ▲ Roofing ▲ Skylights

Alexander Doyle
617-522-6116

All Work Guaranteed
Fully Insured
Free Estimates

CSL 99361 - HIC 127365

alexanderdoyleconstruction.com

ROOF REPAIR

ROOF LEAKING?

• Emergency Leak Repair 24/7 • Ice & Snow Removal
Asphalt Shingles • Rubber Roof Systems
Flat Roof of all kinds

• Gutters - Downspouts • Chimney - Dormers - Skylights

Senior & Vets
20% Discount

(617) 888-8058

Family owned & operated.
28 years in business

Licensed Free Estimates Insured

Finely Detailed Interior & Exterior Painting



Female owned & operated. 20+ years experience. Honest & affordable. No job too big. Free estimates. NO RIP-OFFS!

Ask about our
LOWEST PRICE GUARANTEE.

Cynthia "Kare" Shephard
617-930-0582(cell) • karespainting@aol.com

HANDYMAN

ACE HANDYMAN



Gutter cleaning, fences, sheetrock, roof leaks, brick pointing, carpet inst. & removal, masonry, carpentry, painting, & odd jobs.
Doors and Windows. Fast & reasonable.

Call Phil at 857-312-0543

PLUMBING

Karem Plumbing

Plumbing, heating & gas work

No job too small

(617) 361-6532

Member Better Business Bureau

Free estimates

Licensed & Insured
Mass lic # 9290

LANDSCAPING/LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION

VALENTIN
LANDSCAPING &
CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Call for Estimates

- Landscape maintenance
- Hydroseeding
- Seed • Sod
- Tree service
- Commercial & Residential
- Free estimates

- Fence installation
- Paving



617-590-2510

FULLY INSURED
& BONDED

HOME IMPROVEMENT



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

Licensed Contractor
(lic #CS 088319)

(617) 549-6029

Free estimates

Advertise in the Guide 617-524-7662

Advertise in the Guide 617-524-7662

JP Kids
Special Section

As in-school after school programs return, kids can once again express themselves through art alongside peers

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Heading into the second full school year during a global pandemic, many changes have been made to keep students and educators safe as they return to in-person learning. The Gazette spoke with the Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts, JP KidsArts, and the Tony Williams Dance School to hear how they are all adapting to COVID guidelines while still providing critical outlets for kids to express themselves artistically.

ELIOT SCHOOL OF FINE & APPLIED ARTS

The Gazette spoke with the Eliot School's Executive Director, Abigail Norman, and new Associate Director, Alison Croney Moses, to learn more about how the Eliot School has adapted to the changing COVID-19 pandemic while still being able to serve its students.

Norma said that this summer was "very exciting," as it was the first time the school had re-

opened in person. Students participated in activities outdoors under colorful tent canopies in the school yard for seven weeks of outdoor classes.

"It was full and it was a very, very happy place," she said. But heading into the fall, the school is "facing a different challenge brining indoor safety."

Croney Moses added that the school received funds from the Boston Private Industry Council to hire more students than in the past through the city's Successlink Youth Engagement and Employment program. Additionally, students in the TeenBridge program were able to work both inside and outside over the summer.

"This year was our first year that we have a set of graduating seniors" from the TeenBridge program, Croney Moses said, all of which moved on to college this fall.

Eliot Schools BPS partnership program is also back this fall, beginning in eight Boston

Public Schools (BPS). Croney Moses said that Eliot School "follows all the same guidelines as BPS teachers," including vaccination and testing protocols. This program will serve about 1000 students to start, but the program is "quickly increasing" she said, though Eliot School is taking it slow to ensure proper protocols are always followed.

"Our teachers are so excited to be back in person," she said, and "our students as well." She said the students are "using art to re-regulate and get used to routines they haven't been participating in. We're really happy we can be there for our young people in this way."

Norman added that "we're so aware—on Zoom and coming back in person—what a critical role art plays I young people's and all people's outlet for expression and understanding and connection with others," especially following the pandemic when kids were isolated from one another and the routines they were familiar with.

The Eliot School also hopes to "slowly reopen in person classes" at the schoolhouse sometime later this month, and they are "working on the logistics about

how COVID protocols work with the registration process," including showing proof of vaccination, Norman said.

She also said that local architect Ed Forte has created a map of all the classrooms to figure out how students could distance properly. Norman said that masks will be required indoors, and an air exchange system with air filtration has been installed in the school.

"We want to bring people in just little by little as we test out the safety and how it feels in the building," Norman said. "It's an exciting time," but also "a little bit of a daunting time."

Additionally, the Eliot School recently celebrated 10th year of its scholarship fund with an outdoor party last Sunday.

"Today, after 10 years, the fund was worth \$473,400," Norman said. "Over the course of that 10 years, we gave 991 classes for free to 243 scholarship recipients. It's like an amazing accomplishment and something to celebrate."

She thanked all those who have donated to help keep the school afloat during the challenging time of the pandemic. "Without those resources, we would not be where we are today," she said.

"We're grateful to the entire community for stepping forward."

Croney Moses added that she is also "grateful for the support and the opportunity to work with young people again. It's been on my mind a lot about how much they need the arts."

For more information about the Eliot School and its classes and programming, visit eliot-school.org.

JP KIDSARTS

"Our whole mission is empowering our communities through expressive arts programming," Ray-Ray Farralles, Executive Director of JP Kids Arts, told the Gazette. "We hire artists as teachers," they said, and are "very proud of that fact."

They said that JP KidsArts "started as a grassroots parent organization" after arts programs were increasingly cut from schools. In 1994, the organization was incorporated as a nonprofit, and continued to hire artists as teachers for its programming. The organization operates out of the First Church in Jamaica Plain on Eliot St.

"Something that drew me," Farralles said, is that KidsArts is "creative with the classes that we offer." These classes offer a place for kids "to really be themselves and play and be like friends," they said.

"We serve kids from all different schools," as well as home-school families, Farralles added.

JP KidsArts also offers a summer program, which was virtual last year due to the pandemic. The organization also offered a "virtual learning help school" that started in January, which offered help for students who needed help with their virtual learning. The program ran from 8am to 3pm on school days, and there were also outdoor after school community workshops where kids could create art more safely in an outdoor setting.


Last summer, some outdoor activities were held such as

TONY WILLIAMS DANCE CENTER

Come dance with us!

*professional ballet training
*dance styles for ages 3-18
*Accepting enrollment for Ballet, Hip Hop, Folklorico Mexicano, Tap & Lyrical
space permitting

OPEN NOW!



284 Amory Street | Jamaica Plain | 617.524.4381
suzytwdc@gmail.com | www.TWDANCE.com
Home of Releve and the Urban Nutcracker

JP KidsArts

Empowering our Communities through Expressive Arts Programming

after-school, vacation weeks, summer
ages 5-14 yrs

jpkidsarts.org
617-524-0818



JJP Kids

Special Section

Kids

Continued from page 12

drumming workshops and engineering projects that were created for entire families to participate in, they said.

"This year, we did an outdoor summer program," Farrales said. "Every morning, we did art workshops either at the pond or the arboretum," where there was "plenty of ventilation."

Each Friday, a new play would be produced, and during the week, kids chose whether they wanted to be part of the drumming squad that provided music and sound effects, act in the play, or be part of the set and costume design group.

"Every Friday, we showed off what the kids created and collaborated on together," Farrales said.

As far as COVID precautions go, Farrales said that masks have been required both indoors and outdoors, and kids have been very cooperative. A HEPA filter was installed in the space at the First Church, and most activities are done outside "except in extreme inclement weather," they said.

"It was a process; we really learned a lot from our virtual school being open."

This year for the after school program, there are only 40 kids as opposed to the typical 55, and "we have waitlists for pretty much every day except Friday."

As part of the afterschool program, kids are offered "free choice time," a snack, homework time, community circle time, and classes that they choose that are led by artists, Farrales said. Some of the options include a clothing DIY class, silent movies, and songwriting for beginners, just to name a few.

The after school program is offered to students ages five to 14, including a middle school program, which is "more of a leadership alumni program" that is "youth led," Farrales said.

"The best thing is getting to see kids really be in their power," Farrales said. "I think they've just been so restricted and not getting to be with their friends and see them," and with this program, they can "sort of explore new things that they're interested in and do it with artists that

are stoked to be doing it with them."

She said that kids being able to unwind after school and express themselves through an artistic outlet that they choose is extremely helpful to them.

"I'm so proud of our KidsArts team and the ways that we as a team have collaborated to transform and shift things as needed and really having a team that's open minded to wanting to be what our families need and what we need, and also really shifting to how that needs to be done."

KidsArts also has a Patreon called KidsArts CSA—Community Supported Art, where donations are collected to provide art supplies and projects to kids and families at their home. There is also a virtual team of teachers who taught classes online and created videos for kids to watch to create art projects.

Additionally, the organization's outdoor Haunted House fundraiser will take place on Sunday, October 31, with the theme and storyline to be announced soon.

For more information on JJP KidsArts, visit jpkidsarts.org.

TONY WILLIAMS DANCE CENTER

Tony Williams Dance Center has been adapting to changing pandemic guidelines for more than a year, but classes are back in full swing after a summer of full dance camps, according to owner Tony Williams.

"We are around 60 percent of where we were pre-COVID," Williams said of this season. "We were at around 35 to 40 percent of pre-COVID" this time last year.

He said that classes for kids under the age of nine are at full capacity, but the teen programs are down.

"We find most of the kids who are 12 and up have been vaccinated in my school," Williams said. Staff and faculty are required to be vaccinated, he added.

Williams said he'd like to thank the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation (JPNDC), who is the landlord of the Brewery Complex where the dance center is located.

"We wouldn't be here today if they weren't flexible with the

rent during lockdown during spring and summer of 2020, and I'm really grateful to them for their consideration to renegotiate my terms of the lease that allowed us to continue on and because of that, it's allowing us to grow back our business because we have a facility to make that happen," he said.

The Urban Nutcracker is back on for this year, after a pandemic-related hiatus last year. Last year also marked the 20th anniversary of the show, which will be celebrated this year instead.

There will be nine shows at the Shubert Theater on Tremont St., from December 18 through December 26. Tickets can be purchased at <https://urbannutcracker.com>.

He said that children ages 12 and up are required to be vaccinated to be in the cast, and numbers were down during the auditions this year from a typical 100 to about 35, Williams said.

"As far as the adult cast, we're doing something very interesting this year," he said. The show will be "sharing dancers with the Brooklyn Ballet." Williams said that seven dancers are commuting to Boston every weekend to rehearse the Urban Nutcracker.

He said that part of the reason he did this was to get more women of color into the show, as there is more diversity in the Brooklyn Ballet than there is in Boston.

Williams also spoke about the various grants that kept the dance center afloat over the past year and a half, including one from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Carl and Ruth Shapiro Family Foundation, which has been funding the center's apprenticeship program for the past three years, the City of Boston Cultural Council, as well as a state grant, and support from Phil and Liz Gross, who provided a "substantial grant to City Ballet of Boston, Williams' professional dance company that is in residence at the Tony Williams Dance Center.

"These grants have really kept us afloat," Williams said. "That's been terrific."

Williams said he is thrilled to see everyone so excited to be back dancing again.

"We're excited about our 20th anniversary," he said of the Urban Nutcracker. Some of the

original cast from the 2001 production will return and perform in the show this year.

He said that he feels there are some parallels between that original show and the one to happen this year. The first production took place after 9/11, and Williams said that people came to three sold out shows at The Strand Theater, where there was "a lot of pent up stress that came out."

He said that he expects a similar energy this year "post COVID."

"There's so much division going on with the politics in the

country and the hate and the murder," Williams said. He said he is "struck by the young kids. They have so much vim and vigor and love and energy and desire. Besides the young kids that I'm surrounded by, that not only the new generation coming up, but they are so mature and evolved than I was when I was a young kid."

He said it is so important to "support their growth. I'm all about those families."

For more information on Tony Williams Dance Center, visit tony-williamsdancecenter.com.

If you'd like for your scholar to go above and beyond their current achievement level or prep for major testing, then you need to call me,

**SUPER MRS. C,
THE UNTIRED TEACHER!**

READING & LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Beginning through Advanced Reading
- Vocabulary Development
- English Language Improvement
- Close Reading and Comprehension
- Subject-Area Writing and Composition
- Study Skills



untiredteacher@gmail.com

A retired teacher who's never tired of teaching!

Inspiring
lifelong learning in craftsmanship

**CLASSES FOR
ALL AGES** Wood Fashion Art

eliotschool.org



Urban Forest Plan aims to protect and expand city's tree canopy

By Lauren Bennett

Trees are a vital part of life, providing shelter, shade, and air quality benefits. The City of Boston is on a mission to preserve and expand its tree canopy in an equitable, collaborative way with its Urban Forest Plan.

According to the City of Boston website, the city's Urban Forest Plan "is a strategic long-term investment in the health of the trees and canopy in Boston, and the City's diverse residents."

The Gazette spoke with the city's Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Spaces, Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, to learn more about the Urban Forest Plan and its current status, as well as about moving forward

with building and preserving tree canopy equitably throughout the city.

White-Hammond said that to get going, the city completed a tree assessment to see where different trees are in the city, and "then the next question is, 'what can we do to strengthen the canopy?'"

She said that currently, the city has a "clear assessment of street trees," but is working on taking a deeper dive into open space and private trees.

In Jamaica Plain, tree canopy findings from the Tree Canopy Assessment show that between 2014 and 2019, the neighborhood saw a net loss of about eight acres of canopy coverage, most of which can be seen on "residen-

tial, mixed use, and public open space," according to the Boston Parks and Recreation Department.

Additionally, the tree canopy is 7 percent on right-of-way; 32 percent on residential land; 51 percent on public open space; 8 percent on institutional land; less than one percent on mixed use land; one percent on commercial land; and less than one percent on industrial land.

The city is now coming up with ways about how to effectively and efficiently increase tree canopy in the city, including everything from the loss of private trees to educating residents on how they can contribute to the process.

The education component is one of the leading parts of this effort, and White-Hammond said that "part of the reason we're losing private trees" is because many residents are not educated on trees and tree care, and therefore are not able to advocate on their behalf.

"People will fight for something if they value it," she said, adding that she's "not sure everyone knows enough to value it." Trees offer many public health benefits, including effects on air quality and providing shade from the dangerous rays of the sun.

While questions about how to engage residents have already been raised, no definite solutions have been identified as of yet. She said there have been discussions of introducing "an official program" that would help residents "engage in a more consistent way," as the city will have to rely on the help of residents due to a lack of staff.

Until this year, the city only had one full time arborist, which has increased to two this year, but the goal is to increase the number even further to match that of other cities.

Additionally, there is no current plan to regulate the removal of trees on private property, but White-Hammond said that is something that is definitely being considered. She said that an ordinance limiting tree removal will be filed with the City Council next spring.

"We want to make sure that

if we put an ordinance in place, it will be effective and enforceable," White-Hammond said, adding that some other cities have ordinances that have not always been enforced, which is something she wants to avoid in Boston.

White-Hammond also said that the city has to "be honest that we have some limitations in our own resources," and to make more enforceable laws around trees, more staff will be needed.

Tree care includes protecting larger, older existing trees as well as planting new ones. In parts of the city like Jamaica Plain where the tree canopy is more dense, those trees need to be cared for and protected from being torn down for development purposes.

"For those folks in Jamaica Plain who have backyards," White-Hammond said, "we want to see people value trees as an integral part of any neighborhood at the private level, not just the public level."

Caring for new, smaller trees has also proven to raise some challenges across the city, as varying conditions can lead to many of them not surviving and being able to contribute to the canopy.

"Climate change has radically shifted conditions," White-Hammond said, which can lead to over or under watering trees if the watering schedule is "based on previous historical conditions."

She said a solution to combatting this is to "figure out how to be responsive to climate change creating such variability," and this is another instance where residents can easily lend a helping hand.

A resident who lives down the street from a new tree can monitor it and decide when it needs watering, and doing this can supplement the work of the city.

White-Hammond said that when it comes to "things like watering," it's "helpful to have residents" step up and pitch in. The city is thinking about ways it can educate residents and encourage them to become involved, as well as ask their neighbors to help out by adopting trees.

During the tree inventory, the city collected information on what trees are most prevalent in each neighborhood, which White-Hammond said is being used to determine the success of certain trees in certain areas and how to best care for them.

She said that the city is examining which trees work best in urban environments, where they are frequently subject to things like snow removal chemicals and gas leaks, which can impact a tree's health. The way a tree's roots grow is also pertinent information in an urban setting when looking at placement.

White-Hammond said that the city wants to "make sure we have a diversity of trees so that if any particular pest comes along or disease comes along that affects one species, we don't lose every species."

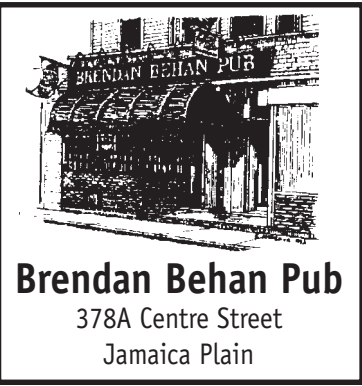
In Mission Hill, the Honeylocust is the most common species of tree, followed by the Callery Pear, the Red Maple, the Japanese Zelkova, and the Northern Red Oak rounding out the top five. The full tree inventory can be found on the city's website.

In moving forward with the Urban Forest Plan, White-Hammond said she's most excited to see the interest residents have expressed in caring for the trees in their neighborhoods, as well as tackling the equity issues that come with managing the city's tree canopy.

"A lot of where our canopy is and is not has to do with historic issues of race and class; what parts of the city were redlined," she said, as well as "who we thought was deserving of that open space."

She said that the desire from residents to put in the work is there when she talks with community groups, and she's excited to "get creative" about different solutions and "the idea that we could right some historical wrongs that would make our city more resilient," she said. "I see that happening every time we meet."

To view the interactive map and see where Boston's tree canopy is, visit <https://story-maps.arcgis.com/stories/43dccc3f51104a86ac8c4790a13e9d71>.



Online Advertising is Available

Showcase Your Business, Open House, or More with an online ad!

Clients and Customers are just a click away!

— \$300⁰⁰ per month per site —

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS

REVEREJOURNAL.COM • WINTHROPTRANSCRIPT.COM
LYNNJOURNAL.COM • EVERETTINDEPENDENT.COM
EASTIETIMES.COM • CHELSEARECORD.COM
CHARLESTOWNBRIDGE.COM • BEACONHILLTIMES.COM
NORTHENDREGIONALREVIEW.COM • THEBOSTONSUN.COM
JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM • MISSIONHILLGAZETTE.COM

Combo Rates available!
Buy any 3 sites, get 4th FREE

Call the office to get started!
781-485-0588

AD SIZE

in pixels

W: 160px
H: 600px

please send in "png" format

Question & Answer with Mass Gaming Commissioner Brad Hill

STAFF REPORT

The MGC is pleased to welcome Bradford R. Hill as a member of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission. Commissioner Hill was sworn into office on September 16, 2021.

Hill was appointed to the Commission by Governor Charlie Baker, Attorney General Maura Healey, and Treasurer Deborah Goldberg, effective September 16, to fill the experience in gaming regulation and administration or gaming industry management seat. He will fulfill the balance of a term that ends in 2025.

Commissioner Hill recently participated in a Q&A to discuss his prior experience in politics and how he hopes to contribute to the work of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission going forward.

- Tell us a little bit about yourself and your background prior to joining the Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

My career in public service started at the local level as a member of the Ipswich Board of Selectmen in 1997. It is hard to believe it was that long ago. I was subsequently elected to the Massachusetts State Legislature in 1998 as the representative of the 4th Essex District, which is part of the North Shore of Massachusetts. I served for 22 years until my recent appointment to the Gaming Commission.

As a member of the Legislature, I dealt with a lot of environmental and educational issues. During my tenure, I also filed bills to bring casino gaming and sports betting to the Commonwealth.

- What led you to your career in government, specifically

in Massachusetts?

My parents were two individuals who cared very deeply about the community in which they lived. They always were out helping people, they were local store owners, and they used that store to be able to help people as best they could. That value was instilled in me, and I wanted to dedicate my career to helping others.

Being in the Legislature afforded me that opportunity to be able to help the senior citizens of my area and young kids of our area, and that's what really got me into it. And then of course, once you get into public service, you realize there are so many ways you can contribute to your community and make a difference.

- What do you think you will bring to the table as you start your work as a member of

the Commission?

I have a unique vantage point because I was a member of the Legislature that passed the Expanded Gaming Act here in the Commonwealth in 2011. Because of that experience, I think I have the advantage of bringing to my work at the MGC firsthand knowledge of the legislative intent informing the Expanded Gaming Act.

In addition, at the MGC, we work with numerous municipalities. I was a local official, so I understand firsthand what local officials are going through. I want them to know they have someone with experience in local issues who understands what

they're feeling, what they're debating, discussing.

- What are you most looking forward to as you get settled in your new role?

One of the things I'm looking most forward to is touring all of the facilities here in the Commonwealth, and more importantly, getting to know the people who are involved in gaming here in Massachusetts.

I'm someone who loves to meet people, and more importantly, become someone who they can depend on moving forward as gaming continues to thrive here in Massachusetts.

BLS releases Massachusetts employee and wage data

STAFF REPORT

The New England Information Office of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has released data on employment and wages in Massachusetts. The data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) which obtains data from unemployment insurance (UI) summaries. Some highlights from the attached press release are listed below.

- Employment fell in the nine largest counties in Massachusetts from March 2020 to March 2021, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Employment also fell over the year

Nationally and within the State by 4.5 and 6.6 percent, respectively.

- Across the nation, employment decreased in 324 of the 343 largest counties from March 2020 to March 2021.

- Among the nine largest counties in Massachusetts, employment was highest in Middlesex County (871,300) in March 2021 and accounted for 26.1 percent of total employment within the state. Within Middlesex County's private industry, professional and technical services accounted for the largest employment. Nationwide, the 343 largest counties made up 72.3 percent of total U.S. employment.

- All nine large Massachusetts counties reported average weekly wage gains from the first quarter of 2020 to the first quarter of 2021. Middlesex County had the largest gain, up 9.3 percent. Average weekly wages increased 5.6 percent nationally. Statewide, average weekly wages increased by 7.8 percent over the year.

- Weekly wages in the four of the nine largest counties in Massachusetts were above the national average of \$1,289 in the first quarter of 2021. Average weekly wages in three of these counties ranked among the top 50 nationwide: Suffolk (\$2,545, 5th), Middlesex (\$2,107, 11th), and Norfolk (\$1,462, 47th).

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

Fall Special

Oil, Filter & Lube, Rotate Tires, Inspect Brakes, Suspension, Cooling System & Exhaust

Most cars & light trucks. Please present this advertisement at time of check-in. Cannot be combined with other offers.

Only \$59.95

Morrison's Auto-Rite

475 Centre St
Jamaica Plain
on the 39 bus line and
convenient to the Orange Line

Call for an appointment

617-522-4444
www.MorrisonsAutoRite.com

Outstanding Service since 1969

Enjoy The Fall Season!!!

Visit Us!

INSIDE SEATING AVAILABLE

Let us create an amazing experience in authentic Indian cuisine

DELIVERY OR PICK UP

617-942-2966 or www.tikki-masala.com

Open 11:30 am till 10:00 pm

3706 Washington St. JP, At Forest Hills

**PLEASE RECYCLE
THIS NEWSPAPER**

News Briefs

ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON RAISE \$442,000 FOR HAITIAN RELIEF

The parishes of the Archdiocese of Boston raised \$442,000 through a special collection in late August for earthquake relief efforts in Haiti. On August 14th a deadly earthquake struck Haiti causing great loss of life and enormous damage. The special collection supports relief efforts

operated by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the Church in Haiti.

Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley, OFM said, "We are blessed by the generosity of our parishioners and the deep and prayerful concern for the suffering being experienced by the Haitian people. The funds raised by the special collection will be a great help to meeting the many diverse needs in Haiti."

The Cardinal added, "Having

recently visited Haiti, it is clear the people of Haiti are experiencing devastating poverty and dislocation. This is the result of a number of natural disasters over the past ten years, most recently a massive earthquake on August 14th. Political turmoil, the impact of COVID and ongoing threats posed by gangs have contributed greatly to a lack of stability for the Haitian people. We continue to join in solidarity with the Haitian community in

the Archdiocese of Boston praying for their loved ones in Haiti."

LOCAL POST OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED TO CELEBRATE COLUMBUS DAY

Local Post Offices will be closed on Monday, October 11, in celebration of the federal holiday Columbus Day. There will also be no collection or street delivery of mail on Monday, except for

guaranteed overnight service.

What never closes is usps.com, where you can order shipping supplies, buy and print postage, track a parcel or apply for job with the Postal Service. We're hiring now in a community near you.

Full retail and delivery services will resume on Tuesday, Oct. 12.

The Postal Service generally receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

REAL ESTATE



Karen McCormack & Paula Callaghan



#617-306-7804
#857-205-6945

loveliveboston@gmail.com

Realtors with Experience
Love Where You Live

REAL ESTATE



34 South St | Jamaica Plain
617.453.3620 • focusre.com

REAL ESTATE

Jamaica Hill Realty

726 Centre Street
Jamaica Plain

Maureen McElroy
Broker Owner

cell: 617.407.3638
fax: 617.524.0390
email: mcelroy55@rcn.com
jamaicahillrealty.com



To advertise, Call the Gazette at
617.524.7662 or email
ads@jamaicaplaingazette.com

REAL ESTATE

Working for YOUR BEST RESULT



Joe Fallon

New digs for me, and even better service for my clients and YOU!
Contact me, and be sure to ask for Joe!

617-594-0761
jpfallon@gmail.com



REAL ESTATE RENTALS & SALES

FAYE SIMON
REAL ESTATE
Rentals & Sales

Tel: 617-524-0243
Cell: 617-438-1472

FayeSimonRealEstate.com
frmcsimon@hotmail.com

Your Personal Real Estate Professional



Faye R. Simon
Real Estate Broker

REAL ESTATE



Colleen Scanlan



McCormack & Scanlan Real Estate
68 South Street JP

Professional Real Estate Guidance.
Specializing in residential sales.
Estate Sales. Downsizing.

"Call Colleen"
617-529-5012
jamaicaplain@gmail.com

REAL ESTATE

COMPASS



Building community together.

ELLEN+JANIS
REAL ESTATE TEAM

617.971.8940
ellenandjanisteam@compass.com
ellenandjanisteam.com

ELLEN + JANIS REAL ESTATE TEAM IS A REAL ESTATE BROKER AFFILIATED WITH COMPASS. A LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKER AND ABIDES BY EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY LAWS.

Advertise your professional services here and watch your client base grow!

Call the Gazette at

617.524.7662

or email

ads@jamaicaplaingazette.com

PLEASE RECYCLE

Advertise your professional services here and watch your client base grow!

Call the Gazette at

617.524.7662

or email

ads@jamaicaplaingazette.com

New grant program to help historic places challenged by pandemic

STAFF REPORT

The National Trust for Historic Preservation announces a new \$3.5 million program designed to help preserve and interpret historic places that reflect the inclusive narrative of American cultural history, made possible through a generous grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities' American Rescue Plan Humanities Grantmaking for Organizations.

The goal of Telling the Full History: Sustaining the Stewards of America's Diverse Historic Places, the National Trust's new grant program, is to sustain diverse cultural sites of importance to underrepresented communities, especially those that have been critically impacted during almost two years of pandemic closures. The National Trust expects to be able to award \$25,000 and \$50,000 grants to 60-80 humanities-based organizations through this initiative, in an effort to sustain an inclusive American narrative that represents all of the peoples involved in shaping our history and identity.

In the last two years, loss has had an abiding impact on our families and our economy, and recovery efforts have rightly been focused on those aspects of our lives. However, without notice or fanfare, the dedicated stewards of important cultural resources have also quietly struggled during this crisis to protect important places that tell the full American story. This grant program is a recognition of the vital roles that historic places and humanities-based organizations play in defining the American experience and is meant to directly benefit the stewards of diverse historic places as they recover momentum that was lost during two years when operation was critical, yet impossible.

"So many cultural institutions often operate without the material resources they really need," said Paul Edmondson, president and CEO of the National Trust, "but they survive by the grit and sheer determination of a committed few. This program is a visionary effort by the federal government through the National Endowment for the

Humanities to recognize these keepers of American identity and strengthen their capacity to tell the full American story. In many cases, these grants will serve as a lifeline to institutions operating in the margins, but who hold the keys to our American past." The National Trust sees

"The National Trust sees historic places as powerful primary sources and their preservation and interpretation advances our quest for a more perfect union," said Katherine Malone-France, chief preservation officer of the National Trust. "The very presence of these places and the institutions that steward them makes a positive difference in our country. They tell us the truth about ourselves and affirm the fact that it took many cultures, a variety of peoples, who all contributed their strength, ingenuity, and sacrifice to help build our nation. That is the unifying shared national narrative that these grants are meant to express and to help sustain."

A broad range of humanities-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations are eligible for these grants, including state and local preservation organizations, historic sites, museums, historical societies, and genealogical associations, as well as accredited academic programs in historic preservation, public history, and cultural studies of underrepresented groups. Additionally, local and state governmental agencies, such as state historic preservation offices, tribal historic preservation offices, city and county preservation offices

and planning departments, state and local commissions focused on different aspects of heritage, and publicly owned historic sites and museums also are eligible.

The grants will help preserve and interpret historic places of importance to underrepresented communities including, but not limited to, women, immigrants, Asian Americans, Black Americans, Latinx Americans, Native Americans, and LGBTQA communities. Funding will be awarded in these categories:

- Research, planning, and implementation of humanities-based public interpretive programs that utilize diverse historic places to tell the full history of the United States;

- Humanities-based research and documentation to enable local, state, and federal landmark designations to recognize places of importance to underrepresented communities;

- Architectural design and planning to advance preservation and activation of historic buildings and landscapes that tell the full history of the United States; and,

- Humanities-based training workshops to support underrepresented groups in preserving and interpreting historic places that tell the full history of the United States.

To sign up for updates on this grant program, please click here to join our grants interest list.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a privately funded organization that works to save America's historic places. www.savingplaces.org

Obituary

Rose Edstrom

Lemuel Shattuck Hospital Pharmacy Retiree

Rose R. Edstrom of Jamaica Plain, beloved wife of the late William F. Edstrom, Jr., passed away peacefully at home at the age of 105 on October 3.

Rose worked at the Lemuel Shattuck Hospital in their pharmacy for 32 years. She enjoyed cooking for her family and friends as well as sewing and quilting, stain glass woodworking and gardening.

She was the daughter of Italian immigrants, Peter J. and Maria (David) Randon; mother of Rosemary E Nichols. of Sandy, OR, Rosetta R. Martini of Jamaica Plain and Jane R. Onessimo of Rowley, MA; grandmother of William J. Martini, Raquel Onessimo, Josette Renda, Jennifer Pellecer and Ben Nichols; great grandmother of Cameron and Raquel Pellecer, Joey and Reese Renda, Sophia and Austin Martini and Talia and Luna Nichols and great, great grandmother of Rylieand Weston Pellecer.

Her Funeral will be from



Mann Rodgers Funeral Home, 44 Perkins Street, (corner of So. Huntington Ave) Jamaica Plain on Friday at 9:15 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass at St. Mary's of the Assumption Church, 5 Linden Place, Brookline at 10 O'clock. Relatives and friends are invited. Visiting Hours are THURSDAY 4 to 8 p.m. We ask that a mask be worn by everyone entering the funeral home.

Interment at St Joseph's Cemetery.

Guestbook@mannandrodgers.com,



FOR YOUR
HEALTH
MIND & BODY

FITNESS TRAINING

PRIVATE 25 & 40-MINUTE FITNESS SESSIONS
FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES NO CONTRACTS

WikidFit PERSONAL TRAINING

2 Porter St, JP Info@WikidFit.com 617-620-8155

MASSAGE



Imani ~ a relaxation place
Christine Rose, LMT

Trained in Lymphatic Drainage, Deep Tissue/Sports and Swedish Massage

3464 Washington Street JP.

www.imanimassage.com • 617.821.2875!

OBITUARIES

Effective Jan. 1, 2021

All obituaries and death notices

will be at a cost of
\$150.00 per paper.

Includes photo.No word Limit.

Please send to

obits@reverejournal.com

or call 781-485-0588

JP OPEN STUDIOS

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

This year the annual JP Open Studios was held in mostly outside locations. Visitors were able to view the work of the artists of Jamaica Plain as well as support them by bringing the art home.

The weekend provided beautiful weather to match the striking, unique art that was on display. It made for excellent exploring of the diverse Jamaica Plain neighborhood.

Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll



‘KOBE’

Kobe is a handsome and intelligent dog whose previous owner loved him very much but worked long hours, leaving Kobe wanting for attention and adventure. He is housetrained and knows a few commands, such as “sit”, “lay down”, “spin”, and “speak”. He plays well with other high energy and playful pups, but might bother calm, timid, or grouchy dogs with his energetic playstyle. He should not live with cats and does not have a history with kids, but would likely do well with kids 10 and up who don’t mind big and jumpy dogs. An apartment would leave him feeling cooped up and cramped; a home with a private fenced-in yard would be ideal!



BUDDY DOG HUMANE SOCIETY, INC.
www.buddydoghs.org

“Gazette Pet of the Week” is sponsored by
Sarah Carroll, REALTOR®
The Residential Group at William Raveis Real Estate
16 Clarendon St., Boston MA 02116
781-820-0280 or sarah@residentialgroup.com



THE RESIDENTIAL
GROUP



Rocklen Designs star artist Melissa Rocklen shows off a mobile to ceramic artist Michelle Rapp.



Syriah Burke-Hammond looks at some fabric art by Annie Cardinaux while her aunt Debra Burke looks on.



Artist Annie Cardinaux uses fabric to create unique patchwork landscapes.



Eric Pow with his screen prints.



In front of On Centre, Janet Cormier has her work displayed. Shown left, Janet Cormier with a portrait of “George” a person who the artist reinterpreted from someone unfortunate that she knows. She was amazed that despite the fact this man doesn’t actually exist as depicted in the painting, those that see it claim to know him. Cormier has an ongoing art exhibit at the Connolly Branch of the BPL.



24/7 Emergency Vet Care
Weekend Appointments | Free On-Site Parking

**WORMS?
INFECTIONS?
DISEASE?**
BYE FELICIA!



Angell is Here to Help!

With services ranging from 24/7 emergency & critical care to cardiology; from behavior services to surgery, Angell has everything you need to keep them healthy and happy.

 **angell**
animal medical center
angell.org

Angell Animal Medical Center | 350 S. Huntington Ave, Boston | 617-522-7282

- 24/7 Emergency & Critical Care
- Anesthesiology
- Avian & Exotic Medicine
- Behavior
- Cardiology
- Dentistry
- Dermatology
- Diagnostic Imaging (with on-site CT)
- General Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Neurology
- Oncology
- Ophthalmology
- Pathology
- Physical Rehabilitation
- Surgery

JP OPEN STUDIOS

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



An interested patron looks at the work of and converses with the woodwork artist Andy Osborne.



Robin Krovit sold out of her fanny-packs but still has purses looking for good homes.



Andrea Brown was set up at the Loring Greenough House.



Kasey Davis Appleman points out that a mixed media piece of hers matches the dress of Jo Persad who is admiring her work.



The earrings made by Deborah MacFall incorporate vintage Swarovski rhinestones



Elena McGinnis and Talia Lewis take a break from art viewing to enjoy some ice cream and the beautiful day.



At Sotheby's Jamie Kendrioski stands by his works *Untitled* and *Vibrant Decay*, his favorite piece.



Artist Brendan Killian has a tent set up on Brookside Ave.



Shown above and below, some of Brendan Killian's works.



Kal Anderson offers a look at his paintings on Brookside Ave.



Graphic designer Kaitlyn Ripaldi has her work to be viewed on Brookside Ave. Inset: Kaitlyn Ripaldi's illustrations depict the unique architecture of Boston.

MOUNT PLEASANT HOME



Since 1901

Quality, Affordable Residential Care for Seniors 62+



NO entrance fee
income or asset
restrictions!

- Private bedrooms with full bath
- 24-hour personal care assistance
- Medication administration
- 3 Home-style meals daily
- Laundry and housekeeping services
- Leisure and wellness activities
- Lovely common areas
- 100% accessible



301 South Huntington Avenue, Jamaica Plain
www.MountPleasantHome.org
617-522-7600



ADVERTISE IN THE GAZETTE

FOR RATES AND INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 617-524-7662

Mayor Janey signs ordinance requiring zero emissions for large buildings by 2050

STAFF REPORT

Mayor Kim Janey on October 5 signed the City of Boston Building Emissions Reduction and Disclosure Ordinance (BERDO), which was unanimously approved by the Boston City Council with the goal of significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions, encouraging efficient use of energy and water, and developing investments in a green economy. The amendment to BERDO gives the City

greater authority to set carbon targets for existing buildings that decrease over time with all buildings achieving net zero emissions by 2050. This policy is the single most impactful initiative to curb Boston's carbon emissions.

"BERDO 2.0 is a monumental achievement that will have positive impacts on our residents for generations to come," said Mayor Janey. "We know that the negative effects of climate change bear a disproportionate burden

on our most socially vulnerable communities. I am grateful for this collaboration with the City Council to actively minimize the challenges associated with climate change and create more resilient communities."

The BERDO amendment, sponsored by Council President Pro Tempore Matt O'Malley, sets emissions targets and reporting requirements for buildings greater than or equal to 20,000 square feet, establishes the Emissions Review Board with community

representation to increase accountability and transparency, and establishes an environmental-justice focused Equitable Emissions Investment Fund. In order for buildings to reduce their emissions, building owners may choose to carry out: energy efficiency improvements, switch to clean, efficient and electric heating systems, or fossil fuel free systems, and purchase clean energy.

"Today is a historic day for Boston. By passing and signing this transformative climate legislation into law, we are codifying equity and resilience in our city's large buildings," said Council President Pro Tempore O'Malley. "I am proud to have led and partnered with environmental justice organizations and various stakeholders across the city to create aggressive, but achievable sustainability goals for a carbon neutral future."

"The amended ordinance was designed with an equity lens to accomplish strategic emissions reductions, and prioritizes benefits to environmental justice communities, green jobs, and transparency," said Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. "Through BERDO 2.0 we will ensure that climate justice is achieved so that those who have contributed the least to climate change do not continue to face the most extreme effects."

Buildings in Boston account for nearly seventy percent of citywide greenhouse gas emissions. Four percent of buildings in Boston are covered by the ordinance and they account for approximately sixty percent of Boston's building emissions. The ordinance was originally passed in May 2013, and required that all commercial and residential buildings that are 35,000 square feet or have 35 units or more report their energy and water use to the City of Boston every year. Buildings covered were also required to show concerted efforts to reduce their energy use or emissions every five years through energy actions or audits. The ordinance required the City of Boston to make this data publicly available.

The 2019 update to Boston's Climate Action Plan identified a building emissions performance standard as a principal tool to help the City accomplish a net

zero transition for existing buildings and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. The FY21 Climate Action Report includes the most recent updates regarding the status and implementation of the City of Boston's plans and initiatives around climate, energy, and waste. The signing of the amended ordinance is part of a broader push by the City of Boston to lead on climate action and was supported by the Bloomberg Philanthropies American Cities Climate Challenge. Boston is one of the 25 winning cities in the Climate Challenge, which is helping cities set and surpass ambitious climate goals.

"With its new Building Emissions Reduction and Disclosure Ordinance, Boston is taking a bold step to equitably lower its carbon footprint and achieve net zero by 2050. Designed in partnership with local stakeholders and community, this policy will also help make Boston cleaner and healthier, while creating new jobs," said Kelly Shultz, who leads the sustainable cities program at Bloomberg Philanthropies. "Bloomberg Philanthropies is proud to partner with cities at the forefront of the climate fight to push for the climate policies we know can reduce emissions and bring substantial benefits to communities."

"Our collaboration with the Mayor's Office and City Council is groundbreaking because it puts just transition theory into practice," said Dwaigh Tyndal, Executive Director of Alternatives for Community & Environment (ACE). "The Environment Department, the City Council, community groups including ACE, and stakeholders co-created a policy that will decrease emissions and support environmental justice populations. We look forward to continuing to partner with the City on its implementation."

"We are proud to have involved over 100 residents who live in buildings over 20,000 square feet in the design of the ordinance. This was a great model of the City partnering with community organizations to equitably involve residents in the decision making process and centering the most impacted. This ordinance will not only greatly reduce greenhouse gas

Continued on page 21

STICK TO IT!

Share your message in our paper with a STICKY NOTE

OPEN HOUSE?
STICK IT!

FUNDRAISER?
STICK IT!

NEED-TO-KNOW
INFO?
STICK IT!

Keep your name in the eyes of our thousands of readers!

Sticky size: 3 in. x3 in.
Shown sized to scale above
covers approx. 2 columns

Copy for a Sticky due
3 weeks prior to run date

Four Options to Choose From

7,000 COPIES 2-COLOR \$600	7,000 COPIES 4-COLOR \$700	12,000 COPIES 2-COLOR \$800
12,000 COPIES 4-COLOR \$900	4-COLOR STICKIES CAN BE A COMBINATION OF COLORS. 2-COLOR STICKIES CAN BE MADE WITH ANY 2 COLORS	

Call or Email Your Rep Today!

PATRICIA@JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM 617-524-7662

DEB@THEBOSTONSUN.COM 781-485-0588

Blue Cross Blue Shield offers free Bluebikes rides on ‘World Mental Health Day’

Bikers will also receive a complimentary Bluebikes pass to share with a friend

STAFF REPORT

In recognition of World Mental Health Day and to shine a light on improving health and wellness within its communities, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts (“Blue Cross”) is offering free Bluebikes rides on Sunday, October 10. Complimentary trips will be available across the Bluebikes system’s 11 municipalities: Arlington, Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Newton, Revere, Salem, Somerville, and Watertown.

Blue Cross is the title sponsor of Bluebikes, a publicly-owned bike share managed by municipal staff.

Research continues to demonstrate a link between biking and mental health. A survey by Cycleplan found that 75% of people noticed an improvement in their mental health upon taking up biking, with 45% realizing improved sleep patterns, which can help reduce anxiety and depression.

“As we continue to experience heightened anxieties from the ongoing impact of the pandemic, it’s important for all of us to prioritize our mental health,” said Jeff Bellows, vice president of corporate citizenship and public affairs at Blue Cross. “We’re excited to recognize World Mental

Health Day through our Bluebikes sponsorship by offering free rides, encouraging everyone across Metro Boston to get outside and experience the full benefits of biking.”

For the second consecutive year, riders can take advantage of free two-hour Bluebikes trips any time during World Mental Health Day by downloading the Bluebikes app on a mobile device and selecting “Get a Pass.” The initiative also includes a “Take a ride, Give a ride” offer, courtesy of the state’s largest health plan. Any rider who takes a Bluebikes trip on World Mental Health Day will receive a free pass to share with a friend, reinforcing the importance of supporting and reaching out to those who may be struggling with their mental

health. Riders will receive a code for the free pass via email during the week of October 11.

Blue Cross is in the fourth year of a six-year Bluebikes title sponsorship, which launched in May 2018. Through its partnership with the municipal owners of Bluebikes, Blue Cross continues to support system growth and accessibility, including station expansions, upgrades, and additional bikes.

Bluebikes is public transportation by bike. The system is jointly owned and managed by the Cities of Boston, Cambridge, Everett, Salem, and Somerville and the Town of Brookline. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts is the system’s title sponsor. Riders can find 400 stations and 4000 bikes across 11 municipali-

ties in Metro Boston. Since 2011, more than 14 million trips have been taken by bike share. For more information about Bluebikes, visit bluebikes.com.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts (bluecrossma.org) is a community-focused, tax-paying, not-for-profit health plan headquartered in Boston. We are committed to the relentless pursuit of quality, affordable and equitable health care with an unparalleled consumer experience. Consistent with our promise to always put our members first, we are rated among the nation’s best health plans for member satisfaction and quality. Connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

Zero emissions

Continued from page 20

emissions, but also improve air quality for environmental justice communities and enact rent stabilization measures for low-income tenants whose buildings receive assistance in retrofitting their buildings,” said Mark Liu, Operations and Development Director, Chinese Progressive Association.

“The Longwood Medical and Academic Area is home to mis-

sion-driven, non-profit health-care, educational, and medical research organizations that deeply understand the public health impacts of climate change. Longwood shares in the commitment to make Boston a carbon-neutral city by 2050 and we want to thank Mayor Janey, Councilor O’Malley, and Chief White-Hammond for their leadership on BERDO 2.0. We look forward to our continued work together to advance climate solutions and sustainability city-wide,” said Tom Yardley, Vice President of Area Planning and

Development, MASCO (Medical Academic and Scientific Community Organization).

This ordinance builds on Mayor Janey’s work to create a climate-ready, resilient Boston. Mayor Janey’s Fiscal Year 2022 budget includes significant investments for environmental justice and resilience, including:

\$48 million for Phase 2 and 3 of Renew Boston Trust, which is designed to identify energy retrofit project opportunities in City-owned buildings to create future energy savings.

\$5 million to support the de-

velopment of a Climate Ready Boston Harbor Study that will examine the feasibility of measures along and within the harbor to reduce vulnerability of coastal flooding due to sea level rise caused by climate change. \$20 million to design and implement a signature, climate resilient waterfront park along the Fort Point Channel.

\$4 million in workforce development and training opportunities for green jobs in the environment.

\$1 million in workforce development and training opportuni-

ties for zero waste and mobility jobs.

\$500,000 to support residents in making energy efficient upgrades to their homes.

\$340,000 to support a new Healthy Places Initiative targeted for environmental justice populations, who often live in hotter neighborhoods with less tree canopy cover.

\$200,000 towards the preservation and maintenance of historic and cultural sites in Boston.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME Docket No. SU21C0391CA In the matter of: Lauren Provencher Ganti

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Lauren Provencher Ganti of Jamaica Plain, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Taylor Provencher Ganti Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/30/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but

a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: September 16, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate 10/8/21 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 NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME Docket No. SU21C0096CA In the matter of: Carlai Phuong Danh A Petition to Change Name

of Adult has been filed by Carlai Phuong Danh of Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Carlai Phuong Phan Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/12/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: September 28, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate 10/8/21 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. SU21P2012EA Estate of: Michael McGriff Date of Death: 04/12/2021 To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Miya McGriff Lee of Edgewood, MD requesting that the court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of

11/04/2021. 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 23, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo

Register of Probate 10/8/21 JP

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 Docket No. SU21P12072GD In the matter of: Walter Phillips RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person

Of: Jamaica Plain, MA To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department Of Developmental Services of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Walter Phillips is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other 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 11/04/2021. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written

appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: October 4, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate 10/8/21 JP

EDITORIAL

Progressives are Trump’s new best friends

As our regular readers know, we have been fully supportive of everything that entails the Progressive agenda in Washington, from the Green New Deal to tax increases on the wealthy and everything in between. If anything, we’d like to see the \$3.5 trillion Democratic spending bill be even larger in order to do what truly is needed to bring America into the third decade of the 21st century. However, we recognize that not everyone agrees with our view, both as to the costs and goals of the legislation put forward by President Joe Biden. In addition to some Democratic moderates in the House, there are the two U.S. senators, Joe Manchin from West Virginia and Kyrsten Sinema from Arizona, who publicly have stated that they only will support a scaled-down version of the \$3.5 trillion package. Senator Manchin has been fairly specific in his position, whereas Senator Sinema has been silent and erratic -- both publicly and privately among her colleagues -- suggesting that her psychological fitness to be a U.S. Senator is in question. But regardless of their motivations, Manchin and Sinema constitute a roadblock to passage of the \$3.5 trillion spending bill. So what is a Progressive to do? We could suggest the usual cliches, such as, “Half a loaf is better than no loaf at all,” or, “Don’t make the perfect the enemy of the good.” But we prefer one of our own: Politics is the art of compromise. If a politician who comes into office expects to be a rigid ideologue, then he or she is in the wrong business. Refusing to compromise is like the little boy or girl who doesn’t like the way the game is being played and takes his or her ball home. We urge the legislators from our districts in Congress to get their act together and get something done. We didn’t send them to Washington to accomplish nothing. In our view, the longer that this gets dragged out -- especially with the Democrats having no room to spare in terms of their majorities -- the more that the average voter will think that maybe Donald Trump wasn’t so bad after all.

School masking is not a parental matter

According to an interview in the Boston Globe, a member (who is a medical doctor) of the unpaid COVID-19 advisory panel to Gov. Charlie Baker made this statement regarding masking by children in public schools: “Regardless of science, and there isn’t a lot of science, it’s important that parents feel strongly and that needs to be at the forefront of decision-making.” We’ll just state our view bluntly: That is the most idiotic statement we have heard from anyone (other than a Republican governor from the South) on the issue of whether students should wear masks in school. There IS a lot of science about the benefits of masking to halt the spread of the disease. But beyond that, parents are the LEAST competent persons to weigh in on this issue. The average parent has no expertise about COVID-19, both as to the health of their own child and as to the overall health implications for other students and school employees. Until we have the pandemic under control, masking (and vaccinations) should be mandatory in our public schools for everyone, a few ignorant and loudmouth parents notwithstanding.

Sober October: Now more than ever

We all know that the pandemic has not been great for either our physical or mental health. One of the strongest indicators of this is that overall alcohol consumption increased by 14 percent among Americans in 2020 and 23 percent of Americans reported drinking more each day to cope with pandemic-induced stress. Those are startling statistics. Alcohol in any amount is not good either for our mental or physical well-being. The panel that advises the FDA about the food pyramid recommended that adults should have no more than one drink per day. However, during the pandemic, the routine for many adults included two or three or more drinks each and every day. Many people recognize that their pandemic-induced drinking behavior has to change, Although Alcoholics Anonymous may not be the right program for many people, there are other options for support, among the most popular being The Naked Mind LLC, Luckiest Club, and Tempest, all of which charge a fee and are on-line. Alcohol Use Disorder already was an enormous problem for millions of Americans and it was exacerbated by the pandemic. Sober October is a good place to start to reverse that trend.

LETTER

With regards to domestic violence

Dear Editor,
In the editorial, “A Sad But Predictable Outcome,” you examine the tragic death of 22-year-old Gabby Petito in Utah. The detailed statistics are indeed startling, and we appreciate your illustrating the sheer prevalence and pervasiveness of domestic violence. While often perceived as intractable, we never want it to be perceived as normal or irremediable. There are warning signs of unhealthy and unsafe relationships as well as red flags that can help predict if a situation is potentially deadly. Promoting respect, gender equity and racial justice are also effective prevention strategies. And therein lies the hope. The more we all know about these dynamics and signs, the more prepared we can be to offer non-judgmental and meaningful support, intervene safely, and hold people accountable for their actions. We can also become more comfortable talking about these issues and role modeling positive and respectful relationships. Given the high prevalence of domestic abuse, there’s also a high probability that someone reading your paper is experienc-

ing or possibly causing harm – or knows someone who is in an unhealthy and unsafe relationship. In fact one of this year’s campaigns for Domestic Violence Awareness Month is: #Every1KnowsSome1. We want to make sure people know that they are not alone. Located near Jamaica Plain and serving the greater Boston area is Stone House who offers housing, support groups, and other services. When their new center opens in a few weeks, they will also offer daycare for survivors’ children. If you or someone you know is experiencing abuse, please contact them at 617-427-9801 or info@stonehouseinc.org. Stone House is part of a network of over 60 sexual and domestic violence organizations across Massachusetts. You can find these and other resources at <https://janedoe.org/findhelp>. We invite you and your readers to learn more and take action to help prevent and end domestic violence.

**Nancy Owens Hess, Chief Executive Officer
Toni Troop, JP resident and Director Communications and Development at Jane Doe Inc.**

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

Jamaica Plain
GAZETTE

Circulation 16,400

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

Patricia DeOliveira Advertising Manager	Sandra Storey Founder/Publisher Emerita 1990-2011
	Lauren Bennett, Reporter lauren@thebostonsun.com

©INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP

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

The Jamaica Plain Gazette is delivered free to households and businesses in the neighborhood 26 times a year on Friday and Saturday. It is for sale in stores for 25¢. Subscriptions: \$75 for First Class Mail.

Independent Newspaper Group will not assume financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements. Questions or complaints regarding advertising must be sent in writing to the billing department within seven days of publication in order for adjustments to be made to the account. We reserve the right to use our discretion in accepting or rejecting advertising copy.

Telephone: (617) 524-2626 • Fax: (617) 524-3921
7 Harris Avenue, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
JamaicaPlainGazette.com

OP-ED

Thank You for a wonderful 28th annual Jamaica Plain Open Studios!

BY THE JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS COUNCIL

It is with sincere thanks that we send this note to you. Your support of the JP Arts Council, Projections on September 12th, and the JP Open Studios event on September 25th and 26th is greatly appreciated.

Optimism and hope and planning and lots of helping hands shone through. The ability of art to transform was apparent throughout our neighborhood during two weekends in September of 2021.

Jamaica Plain danced with creative energy. In addition to painting, printmaking, drawing, photography, fiber arts, ceramics, mixed media, jewelry, sculpture, glass, woodworking, furniture-making, assemblage and every art form there were artist demonstrations, giant bubbles, music, poetry, and much, much more throughout Jamaica Plain. A huge Thank You to all who volunteered their time and energy, sponsored the event, hosted artists, opened their studio or porch or yard, created art to share, and came to enjoy and celebrate the arts in Jamaica Plain.

Whether you were among the 100+ businesses and individuals who contributed financially or with in-kind support or you volunteered your time in any number of ways, your generosity made the 2021 Open Studios a success.

Each year we strive to recognize and display the vibrancy of artists creating throughout Jamaica Plain. Thank you to the audience and community members who came to view and purchase art and to celebrate the amazing creativity of our neighbor and community member artists!

Special thanks to each of the

artists who opened their studio doors and came outside to display on porches, fences, sidewalks and more and to the First Baptist Church, First Church Unitarian Universalist, Loring Greenough House and Jameson and Thompson Picture Framers for their kindness in accommodating artists at their locations and for their continued commitment to hosting artists. A round of applause to the JPOS group site coordinators, Kasey, Deborah, Mary, Keyse, Kingsley, Kristen, Elysabeth, Melissa, and Syd for their time, energy, and dedication to the artists at the group sites. And thank you to the Eliot School, Stonybrook Fine Arts, Rogerson House and several businesses for providing private shared studio space. To Hyde Square Task Force and The Eliot School for providing special music presentations on Saturday and Sunday. To Glen Hawkins for the beautiful design of the JPOS 2021 map booklet, poster, insert, to Ginger and Centre/South Main Streets for an online version of the map, and Jennifer Hill for the always evocative cover art which signifies JPOS.

Many thanks to the many, many volunteers it takes to make JPOS successful: To our intern for Artists of JP campaign, our sponsorship leader, our website volunteers, distribution of banners, yard signs, signage, map box construction, distribution and re-stocking, Information Booth volunteers who assured the public got around, a myriad of other tasks, and the Clean-up crew!

JPOS 2021 Volunteers: Mary Birnbaum, Brian Bishop, Gail Bos, Anne Brown, Joy Cochran, Abby Clabaugh, Constance Cervone, Alison Cupples-Archila, Saug Datta, Izzi Duprey, Susan Duprey, Tom Duprey, Thomas Durand, Mary Festa, Rob Festa,

Bob Field, L' Merchie Frazier, Marc Goldring, Lisa Goren, Cristina Hajosy, Glen Hawkins, Amy Hitchcock, Kymberlee Keckler, Jamie Kendrioski, Anna Koon, Joe Koon, Hilary Law, Sasja Lucas, Kristen Macdougall, Hunter McKee, Shay McKee, Kris Manjapra, Mariana Negron-Quinones, Rich Paritz, Robin Radin, Anne Sasser, Dale Savit, Bill Shamlian, Suzanne Salem Schatz, Bryan Tucker, Dani Schechner, Becca Vanneman, Zara Woodhead and Deborah J Karston Photography, and the many friends, partners, family members and others who assure the preparation, creation, and presentation occur.

A standing ovation to Susan Duprey, for her 7th year our JPOS Coordinator, who orchestrated so many moving pieces into a comprehensive event.

This weekend, for us, showcases the best of JP and the best of living in this city. We thank each one of you who generate and encourage the energy buzzing through our community open studio's weekend. Thank you for your dedication to the artists and community of JP. And to the artists of Projections and JPOS, thank you for allowing us to be part of a creative community of gifted, generous, and dedicated artists; thank you for feeding our souls, inspiring us, and compelling us to continue.

Please save the date for the 29th Jamaica Plain Open Studios, September 24 & 25, 2022!

The Jamaica Plain Arts Council is a non-profit organization supporting artists in the Jamaica Plain community, through its annual Open Studios, periodic exhibitions, professional development offerings, and a commitment to cultivating local audiences for the visual arts.

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

CLASSIFIEDS

OFFICE FOR RENT

Offices JP over Eastern Bank: 1 person dark wainscot cream walls, \$750/mo. Incl. electric, internet, air conditioning, large desk & chairs. 2 Office suite large windows, hardwood floors, \$1,500/mo. Absolute move in condition. Professional, quiet, no retail. 617-277-5900

SERVICES

David at kNURD on Kall.com can help with PC computers, networks, audio/video/multimedia, phone solutions. \$Reasonable\$. House calls. 617-676-5676 or 617-522-6090.

CLASSIFIED INFO:

Fax your ad to 617-524-3921 or mail it to Gazette Publications, Inc., PO. Box 301119, JP, MA 02130. Or email it to classifieds@JamaicaPlainGazette.com. For more info. call 617-524-2626, ext. 225.

USE CODE HUBBLE FOR \$40 TICKETS!

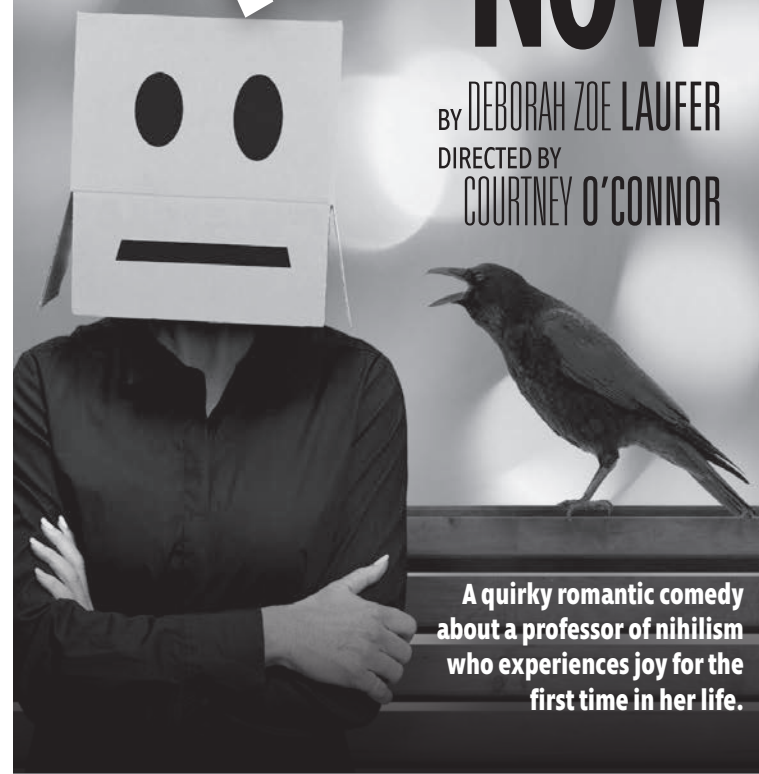
THE LYRIC STAGE
YOUR THEATRICAL HOME

NOW —
OCT 17

BE
HERE

NOW

BY DEBORAH ZOE LAUFER
DIRECTED BY
COURTNEY O'CONNOR



A quirky romantic comedy
about a professor of nihilism
who experiences joy for the
first time in her life.

LYRICSTAGE.COM | COPLEY SQ. | 617.585.5678



Former head of homeless shelter indicted for stealing nearly \$1.5 Million

STAFF REPORT

The former executive director of Casa Nueva Vida (CNV), a publicly funded non-profit homeless shelter with locations in Boston and Lawrence, has been indicted in connection with stealing nearly \$1.5 million from the organization and lying under oath to conceal his self-dealing, Attorney General Maura Healey announced last week.

Manuel Duran, age 69, of West Roxbury, the former executive director and board president of CNV, was indicted on Monday by a Suffolk County Grand Jury on charges of Perjury (4 counts), Larceny over \$1,200 (3 counts), and Making False Entries in Corporate Books (2 counts). He will be arraigned in Suffolk Superior Court on Oct. 20.

An investigation was initiated by the Massachusetts Office of the Inspector General (OIG) in response to an anonymous tip. These criminal charges are a result of a joint investigation conducted by the AG's Office and the OIG, with assistance from Massachusetts State Police assigned to the AG's Office.

CNV, headquartered in Jamaica Plain, houses over 150 families at 14 locations in Boston and Lawrence. As CNV's Executive Director, Duran essentially had complete control of CNV's \$7 million budget, directed procurement and site selections, and managed facility maintenance and staffing across all locations.

The investigation revealed that Duran allegedly used this power to lease four of his privately owned properties and one owned

by a relative to CNV as shelter locations, hiding his interests in the transactions through use of limited liability companies. On behalf of CNV, Duran allegedly signed four annual disclosure forms under oath, attesting falsely that the organization, among other things, was not a party to any transaction in which any of its officers, directors, or trustees had a material financial interest. The forms were submitted to the AG's Non-Profit and Public Charities Division.

The investigation further revealed three different fraudulent financial schemes that Duran allegedly used to steal from CNV.

From 2014 to 2021, the AG's Office alleges that Duran skimmed rent money paid by CNV for a shelter site in Lawrence by using a shell company he set up as a middleman. Au-

thorities allege that Duran made inflated rent payments from CNV through the shell company to the owners of the property and siphoned off more than \$1.1 million for his personal use.

The AG's investigation also revealed that between 2012 and 2020, Duran allegedly created fraudulent invoices and contracts to obtain checks made out to three different vendors for work they never performed. The named vendors would cash the checks with Duran present, and provide the cash directly to him. Duran allegedly stole \$242,012 from CNV in these fraudulent vendor payments for purported services including renovations, lead abatement, and asbestos abatement.

The AG's Office further alleges that between 2014 and 2019, Duran stole approximately

\$140,831 from CNV by depositing directly into his own business bank account paychecks issued to a seasonal maintenance employee for CNV who was in Puerto Rico when the paychecks were issued.

These charges are allegations, and the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty. CNV fully cooperated and assisted with the AG's investigation.

This criminal matter is being prosecuted by Assistant Attorney General Mindy Klenoff and Chief Trial Counsel James O'Brien, both of AG Healey's White Collar and Public Integrity Division, and Victim Witness Advocate Lia Panetta, with assistance from Massachusetts State Police assigned to the AG's Office, and Senior Investigators Jack Meyers and Will Bradford from OIG.

Monica Roberts named New Executive Director at City Year

STAFF REPORT

City Year Greater Boston, an education nonprofit that recruits young adults for a year of service in public schools, is pleased to announce Monica Roberts has been selected as the organization's new executive director.

"We are pleased to welcome Monica Roberts as the new Executive Director of City Year Greater Boston," said Joe Nedder, chief operations officer at Edelman Financial Engines and board chair of City Year Great-

er Boston. "Monica has been a champion of education equity and youth development efforts in our community and will bring that passion and commitment to the great work of City Year Greater Boston."

Roberts brings to her work a passion for serving students and families holistically. For the past six years, she has led family and community engagement at the Boston Public Schools (BPS), most recently as the chief of family and community advancement, where she led partnerships and

engagement, and school assignment and constituent services. Roberts is a BPS alumna who has a Bachelor of Arts from Brandeis University, master's degrees in political science and business management from Boston College, and holds a superintendent's license.

"I have devoted my career to advancing opportunities for our community's students and their families," offered Roberts. "This is an incredible opportunity to join a talented team of professionals dedicated to advancing

equitable outcomes for the young people in my hometown and continue this work that is so very important to me."

BPS Superintendent, Brenda Cassellius shared, "City Year has a long and established partnership with BPS and I'm excited to have a trusted colleague leading the organization. A BPS graduate and powerful community leader, Monica reminds us of the incredible potential of each of our students, and the work Boston Public Schools does to produce successful citizens of the world."

This year, City Year Great-

er Boston AmeriCorps members will serve fulltime in 21 schools in Boston and the nearby city of Everett, reaching more than 12,000 students each day. During their year of service, AmeriCorps members serve as student success coaches—tutors, mentors and role models who help make school a welcoming, joyful place. In a survey last year, 98% of partner principals and administrators said they were very satisfied with the quality of service provided by City Year Greater Boston.

Boston's Higher Ground is hiring for two full time roles on their growing leadership team. Job Descriptions and application details at: www.higherground-boston.org/careers or hr@higherground-boston.org

Deputy Director: Reporting to the Executive Director, the Deputy Director will have responsibilities including operations, finance, program and partnerships management including service providers, funders, school partners, and resident families. Previous leadership experience required.

Family Led Stability Initiative (FLSI) Manager: Reporting to the Deputy Director, the FLSI Manager will be responsible for the management of programs related to housing homeless students and families in Higher Ground partner schools, supervision of parent advocates, and coordination of partnerships with schools, housing agencies and other housing service providers. Experience in housing required.



TSA PreCheck online renewal fee decreasing

STAFF REPORT

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) announced that it has lowered the online renewal fee for TSA PreCheck® from \$85 to \$70.

"TSA PreCheck was launched 10 years ago to provide expedited airport security screening for low-risk travelers," said TSA Administrator David Pekoske. "Our TSA PreCheck program improves overall security and we will continue to look for ways to enhance the benefits of this program for our trusted travelers."

This fee change represents a \$15 reduction in the cost of renewing online, while still allowing TSA to cover the costs of operating the program, which includes per-

forming a security threat assessment and adjudicating applications. Over 95 percent of renewals occur online, as most travelers find this to be a quick and easy way to maintain membership in the program. The cost for an initial enrollment and in-person renewal will continue to be \$85.

TSA PreCheck allows low-risk travelers to enjoy a streamlined screening experience at more than 200 U.S. airports and with 80 participating airlines. For TSA PreCheck travelers, there is no need to remove shoes, laptops, 3-1-1 liquids, belts or light jackets. This past month, 96% of passengers in TSA PreCheck lanes waited less than five minutes to go through airport security checkpoints.