



Giving Thanks

*for family and friends
Enjoy the spirit of the holiday*



**MAXFIELD
& COMPANY**
REAL ESTATE

617 293-8003

ACTING MAYOR JANEY DELIVERS FAREWELL ADDRESS, PAGE 3

Vol. 30 No. 21
20 Pages • Free Delivery
25 Cents at Stores



Printed on
Recycled Paper

Jamaica Plain GAZETTE

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

617-524-2626

NOVEMBER 19, 2021

WWW.JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM



Mayor Michelle Wu is administered the Oath of Office by Boston Municipal Court Associate Justice Judge Myong Joun with her husband, Conor Pewarski, and two boys Cass and Blaise at her side on Tuesday.

Michelle Wu sworn in, becoming the first female and first woman of color to serve as Mayor of Boston

BY JOHN LYNDIS

On Tuesday inside the Boston City Council Chambers, Michelle Wu made history and was sworn in, as the first female and first woman of color to ever serve as Mayor of Boston in the city's history.

After Reverend Dr. Arlene Hall delivered the invocation and Acting Mayor Kim Janey provided brief remarks, Wu was

administered the Oath of Office by Boston Municipal Court Associate Justice Judge Myong Joun with her husband, Conor Pewarski, and two boys Cass and Blaise at her side.

Keeping with her campaign promise of rolling up her sleeves and getting to work as soon as possible the short inaugural exercises took less than a half hour.

Wu started off her inaugural speech with a metaphor of how

City Hall was when she was first elected as an At-Large Councilor in 2013.

"Since we're here today, I must share that the Council floor wasn't always this way," she began. "When I joined the Council, this space wasn't fully accessible to everyone. The floor that some are sitting on right now, was much lower, designed as a pit

Continued on page 8

JPNC Public Service Committee approves licensing requests for bubble tea shop; Brendan Behan Pub

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Public Service Committee of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) met virtually on November 9, where members discussed two licensing

matters: one at 3193 Washington St., and one at 378 Centre St.

3193 WASHINGTON ST.

At 3193 Washington St., the proposal was for a Common Victualler 7-Day License with take-out for a bubble tea shop called

Happy Lemon. Jason Liu will serve as the manager, and the store is proposed to be open from 11:00am to 9:30pm.

Liu explained that Happy

Continued on page 19

Housing & Development Committee discusses Article 80 projects

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Housing & Development Committee of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) met virtually on November 16 to discuss a couple of Article 80 projects as well as a few other matters. The group head from developers before asking questions and providing feedback.

96-100 ROCKWOOD ST.

At 96-100 Rockwood St., Matthew Zucker of New Meadow Development proposed 29 residential apartments for the current surface parking lot at the address. The development will have community commercial space on the ground level, as well as seven

Continued on page 11

Reported crime in JP down 26 percent over 2020

BY LAURA PLUMMER

On Thursday, Nov. 4, District E-13 police officers presented its monthly virtual police and community relations meeting. The meeting is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions of local law enforcement.

At every meeting, Sgt. John

Dougherty provides local crime statistics compiled by the Boston Regional Intelligence Center. One chart examines Part One crime data. Part One crimes are more serious in nature, and don't include crimes such as vandalism or drug dealing.

Part One crime distinguishes

Continued on page 4

El crimen en JP ha bajado un 26 por ciento con respecto a 2020

BY LAURA PLUMMER

El jueves 4 de noviembre, los oficiales de policía del Distrito E-13 presentaron su reunión virtual mensual de relaciones policiales y comunitarias. La reunión es una oportunidad para que el público haga preguntas a las autoridades locales.

En cada reunión, Sgto. John Dougherty proporciona estadísticas de delitos locales compiladas

por Boston Regional Intelligence Center. Un cuadro examina los datos delictivos de la primera parte. Los delitos de la primera parte son de naturaleza más grave y no incluyen delitos como el vandalismo o el tráfico de drogas.

El crimen de la primera parte distingue entre el robo, el atraco y el hurto. El robo implica acced-

Continued on page 4

JP OBSERVER

Faulty formula deprives deserving residents of affordable housing here

By Sandra Storey / Special to the Gazette

“That’s not affordable here!”

Every time the federal income qualifications for a below-market housing development in Jamaica Plain get announced in public, you can hear people muttering or even calling out that the numbers look too high to be affordable to people here. Those folks with common sense—along with people make similar comments in meetings—are right.

At the root of the problem is the Area Median Income (AMI) as determined by the federal Department of Housing and Development (HUD) each year, based on census data. People making less than median income deserve to pay less, to varying degrees, so the housing is more “affordable” to them, the logical thinking goes.

But the labels and the matching math that is used cause big problems.

Ever travel out of state and meet someone who says they’re from Boston?

“Oh, I’m from Jamaica Plain,” you say. “How about you?”

“Well, I’m from Amesbury,” one person said to me in answer.

“Melrose,” another replied.

HUD makes a similar—but far more serious—geographical naming mistake when it figures out what’s called “Boston AMI” each year. Boston is actually just one city on the HUD-created region of 113 separate cities and towns in eastern Massachusetts. HUD chooses to label the whole mostly northeastern area of the state “Boston,” or sometimes “Boston-Quincy-Cambridge.”

Therefore, household incomes in well-off Wellesley and Swampscott and dozens of suburban communities are mixed in with Boston’s. In the current formula, the median of all of those incomes is used to determine affordability numbers for each household that applies anywhere in that big area.

The result: Recent numbers show the median income of HUD’s “Boston Area” households to be \$77.8k a year. The real Boston’s median is only \$55.3k. The larger area median income forms the basis for calculating what’s deemed “affordable” to local individuals and families.

Applying the large, official Boston Area Median Income number to Jamaica Plain and

other actual Boston residents is ridiculous.

The huge injustice caused by this blatant inaccuracy needs to be corrected. Deserving local residents are being left out. Boston needs to be treated as the genuine entity it is for determining housing affordability for its residents—the sooner the better.

Preliminary Election mayoral candidate and former Chief of Economic Development for the City of Boston John Barros and others familiar with “affordable” housing as HUD defines it, know about this significant problem. In a published interview with the Boston Society for Architecture Barros vowed that, if elected, he would fix it,

“I will mandate that all City sponsored affordable housing developments use a local AMI (‘area median income’) frame-

work so residents have a way of understanding if the proposed homes are affordable to them and their neighbors,” Barros promised.

A new Boston mayor and city council will be being sworn in upcoming weeks. Every one of them and any other responsible Bostonian who cares about affordable housing needs to work to change the current unfair formula.

Here and now in the digital age, HUD should consider giving each city and town its independence for determining median income of residents.

The math would be more accurate and the consideration of who needs how much help would be much fairer to Boston than it is now.

For more information on towns in the Boston AMI, household sizes and minimum and maximum

incomes to qualify for affordable housing now, see: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/erma-area-median-income-information/download> and https://statisticalatlas.com/metro-area/Massachusetts/Boston/Household-Income#google_vignette

Correction: Contrary to what I stated in the last JP Observer column, there have been three women chairs of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) in its 36-year history, not two. Jamaica Hills resident Andrea Howley was chair for two years between 2009 and 2011. She has been a member of the JPNC Zoning Committee and very active in the community.

Sandra Storey is the founder and former publisher of the Jamaica Plain Gazette.

Become a foster or adoptive parent for Adoption Month

The Home for Little Wanderers announced today that it has opened registration for a required education program for people interested in becoming adoptive or foster parents in recognition of Adoption Month. People interested in becoming foster or adoptive parents can apply to attend the free, 30-hour Massachusetts Approach to Partnerships in Parenting (MAPP) education program from 5:30-8:30 PM every Monday and Friday starting on January 10, 2022 and ending on February 10, 2022.

In Massachusetts, there are over 2,800 children in foster care with a goal of adoption and over 1,200 of these children have no identified adoption resource such as a relative or foster parent.

“The child welfare system is not designed to raise children. We are here for support and healing when they need us, but children deserve to grow up in a warm, loving home,” said Lesli Suggs, LICSW, President and CEO of The Home for Little Wanderers. “Children need to know that they have a permanent adult in their

life to take care of them and to help them grow into well-rounded adults. Children who grow up without a permanent family and “age out” of the child welfare system are more likely to experience homelessness, substance abuse, and be involved in the criminal justice system. The love and support of a family can make all the difference.”

The Home’s adoption and foster programs provide all the necessary training, licensing, matching, and supportive services for families to adopt or foster. The Home encourages adoptive and foster parents from all races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, socio-economic backgrounds and religions. Adoptive or foster parents can be couples or single individuals. Children come from a variety of backgrounds and many have experienced multiple types of maltreatment such as neglect or abuse.

To learn more about becoming an adoptive or foster parent, visit www.thehome.org/adoption or contact The Home at (617)-288-7450, adoptioninfo@thehome.org, or fostercareinfo@thehome.org.

All of Us
RESEARCH PROGRAM

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

Receive \$25*

All of Us
New England

BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL
MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL
BOSTON MEDICAL



Best Wishes for a Happy & Great Thanksgiving from all of us at

ACE Hardware City

656 Centre St. Jamaica Plain
617-983-5466

Michelle Wu holds first press conference as mayor

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Mayor Michelle Wu hit the ground running on November 17 with her first press conference since being sworn in as Boston's first elected woman mayor and mayor of color on November 16.

"I'm excited to start our first full day in the office," Wu told reporters. She said she took the Orange Line to City Hall, where she spoke with residents about their "thoughts and hopes and challenges already."

Wu said that she had plans to speak with Governor Charlie Baker as well as meet internally with staff.

She then answered questions from reporters on topics ranging from the school committee to Mass and Cass to parting gifts from Acting Mayor Kim Janey.

When asked about the school

committee, Wu said "this is a very direct and personal issue for me." She said that "larger conversations" need to be had when it comes to Boston Public Schools (BPS), and the community needs to be more involved.

Wu said she has already spoken with BPS Superintendent Brenda Cassellius and the chair of the Boston School committee "about moving toward more community listening sessions out in the neighborhoods," as well as "push for multilingual outreach. There are still very pressing issues related to pandemic recovery that I want to make sure our school leaders and district leaders have a firm grasp on," she said.

"The crises at Mass. Ave. and Melnea Cass Blvd. are top of mind for residents across Boston

as well as departments across City Hall and City government."

She spoke of the lawsuit by the ACLU of Massachusetts against the city for the removal of people from the area. Wu said that the city "will be pausing the removals while this is happening," and the goal is to address the issue from a "public health and housing lens."

She said that "we're in court today," and are "pausing removals pending the outcome of that legal process."

Wu was also asked about the recent announcement that temporary housing for up to 30 people will be established at the Shattuck site in Jamaica Plain. She said that as temperatures continue to drop, "it is life or death" for residents who do not have homes. She said that the plan is to "move quickly for short term solutions,"

and she plans on speaking with Governor Baker about this issue as well.

Additionally, Wu said that she is "grateful to Mayor Walsh for his leadership," and will "certainly be seeking his advice along with Mayor Flynn. I hope and anticipate that he and Mayor Flynn and everyone will be part of our official larger inauguration."

On taking the T, Wu said that it's the fastest way for her to get from her home in Roslindale to City Hall at rush hour.

She said that on Wednesday morning, it was a quick, easy ride with no delays, but it was "quite full already," adding that "we are seeing that there is a huge, huge demand as our businesses are opening back up."

Lastly, Wu spoke about gifts that Acting Mayor Kim Janey

left for her as the mayoral baton was transferred. She said that Janey left her a letter reminding her that it's important to "be out in the community and connect with residents to really see what's possible in our city."

Janey also left bins of activities for her two young sons, Blaise and Cass, as well as a print with the silhouettes of Kamala Harris and Ruby Bridges that she had signed with a message.

Overall, Wu said that she is ready to get to work and continue "coming into this building that I love." She said that she will ensure that city spaces are "family friendly," as well as "getting City Hall out of City Hall and into our neighborhoods" and "embrace the possibility of Boston and our city government to reach beyond how things always have been done."

Seven tips for readying your outdoor power equipment for winter storage

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

After your lawn gets its last cut before winter, it will be time to put away spring and summer outdoor power equipment, like lawn mowers, leaf blowers, and trimmers. What's next? Snow throwers, generators and other small engine equipment need to be readied for winter use. How and when you prepare your equipment for seasonal changes can save you time and money later, says the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI).

With record-breaking sales of outdoor power equipment, homeowners are spending more time during the COVID-19 pandemic working or renovating their family yards. This means more people are using outdoor power equipment, and OPEI reminds everyone the importance of proper outdoor power equipment storage, maintenance and safe handling.

"During this very challenging pandemic, we've learned our outdoor spaces are more important than ever," says Kris Kiser, President and CEO of OPEI and the TurfMutt Foundation, which encourages outdoor learning experiences, stewardship of our green spaces, and care for all living landscapes. "Our yards, parks and schoolyards are our safe space for connecting with friends and family, acting as

outdoor classrooms and offices. Green space also contributes to the health and wellbeing of people, pets and wildlife, and having the right outdoor power equipment to take care of it is key. But preparation is everything -- understanding how to store equipment and get it serviced, how to operate it safely, and how to ready your space to use that equipment."

He adds, "Always follow your manufacturer's guidelines, and remember to keep kids and dogs away from operating equipment at all times."

Here are a few tips from OPEI to ensure your lawn mower and other spring equipment will be available for use when warmer temperatures return, and snow throwers and other winter equipment will be ready for use when the snow falls.

1. Review owner's manuals. Re-familiarize yourself with how to handle equipment safely. Lost manuals can be found online. Save a copy on your computer if possible, so it can be consulted when needed. Be familiar with your equipment, and all its features, including how to turn it off quickly and safely.

2. Service all equipment. Before storing spring and summer equipment, clean and service it or take it to a small engine repair shop. Drain and change engine

oil and safely dispose the old oil. Service the air filter, and do other maintenance as directed by the owner's manual. Check winter equipment and see if any maintenance and repairs are required.

3. Handle fuel properly. Unused fuel left in gas tanks over the winter can go stale and even damage equipment. Before storing equipment, add fuel stabilizer to the gas tank, then run the equipment to distribute it. Turn the engine off, allow the machine to cool, then restart and run until the gas tank is empty. For winter equipment, buy the recommended type of fuel no more than 30 days before use. Use fuel with no more than 10% ethanol in outdoor power equipment. Use a fuel stabilizer if recommended by the manufacturer. Get more information on safe fueling for outdoor power equipment at LookBeforeYouPump.com.

4. Charge the battery. Remove and fully charge batteries before storing. Don't store batteries on metal shelves or allow them to touch metal objects. Store them on a plastic or wood shelf in a climate-controlled structure.

5. Shelter equipment from winter weather. Store spring and summer equipment in a clean and dry place such as a garage, barn or shed. Winter equipment should be kept away from the elements, but be easily available

for use.

6. Prepare, prepare, prepare. Make space in the garage or basement before the weather changes, so there is room to store larger yard items. Clean up the yard of sticks, debris, dog and kid's toys and other items that can damage or destroy equipment. Clear the paths used regularly in your yard, especially during the winter when snow can "hide" things.
7. Have the right weather

appropriate extension cord for your generator. Keep heavy duty weather proof extension cords on hand to use with it. Ensure the length of the cord is necessary to operate the generator a safe distance from the house or building. Never operate a generator indoors, in a garage, breezeway or under an open window.

The following article was submitted by Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI)



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!

JPA discusses proposed dormer at length; asks for proponent to return in December

BY LAUREN BENNETT

The Jamaica Pond Association (JPA) met virtually on November 8 where it had a lengthy discussion on a zoning matter at 20 Orchard St.

Erica Rice and her husband Justin live at the address with their three children, and have proposed to build a dormer for a new master bathroom on the third floor, as they need more space and would really like to raise their family in Jamaica Plain.

"It's really a blessing to be here and we're thrilled," Rice said. "We feel extremely fortunate to have found this house in this neighborhood."

She said they are planning on building on the existing footprint, but zoning relief is needed for the side yard setback. Rice also said that a sun study has been done, and it has been determined that there is "minimal to no impact on the shade and visual lines of our neighbors."

Joseph Wood of New England Design & Construction said that the proposal includes a double vanity and a tub, but the dormer would be "flush with the existing wall below the house."

JPA member Peter Elmut, who is an abutter to this house, referenced the sun study saying that the project would impact parts of his house.

"I am a lifelong resident of JP and have lived in my house for 54 years, and I absolutely love this neighborhood and love the neighbors," he said. He added that the "proposed dormer would block and decrease the visibility and tighten the open-air space."

He also said that the sun study does not "represent the actual total true sunlight shade," and also spoke about other issues he's had with the homeowners.

"The new owner, in less than two years, has already increased, elevated, and raised the height of his garage roof by two feet," Elmut said. He also spoke of a garage fan that had been installed and points into his backyard, which "prevents us from sitting in our yard," he said.

"This is quite inconsiderate and disrespectful of neighbors in my opinion," he said.

Arlene Rothman, who said she rents from Elmut at 19 Prince St., said that "this particular dormer will impact me because it's a huge addition on top of his regular roof."

Claire Barker, who said she lives three doors up from the Rices, said that it is "regrettable that neighbors can't talk to each other. I don't think that should affect the decision by the JPA board tonight." She said "I hope the board will vote not to oppose the project."

Rice said that she understands that they might have to give up certain parts of the proposal such as the bathtub to make this work, but the goal is to not have to do that.

Teddy Rice, an abutter who is not related to Erica and Justin Rice, said that he is "quite supportive of the project. I mostly just want to share with the group and the board that in our time living next door to the Rices... our assessment is they've done a fabulous job."

He said that changes to the fence and garage were "major improvements to the property."

JPA member Franklyn Salimbene said that "there's something here that someone needs, and depending on how you look at it, there's something that someone wants. My concern with the proposal is that it's asking for something that's more than needed. My advice would be to go back and look to see what you actually need and redesign the bathroom on that basis."

Several people mentioned a potential conflict of interest with Peter Elmut being on the board and being an abutter. Some said he should not vote on this matter because of that.

"It would be rather inappropriate and create a conflict of interest if Peter Elmut votes," said JPA member Micah Sachs.

"There's nothing in the bylaws that would preclude it," said Zoning Committee Chair Kevin Moloney.

JPA member Michael Reiskind said that the bylaws "do not speak to this matter, but I think we should come up with a policy of who can vote in issues like this." He also asked Elmut to recuse himself from the vote on this matter.

JPA member Barry Schwartz said that "maybe the two parties could remedy some situations."

Rice responded by saying "we have made ourselves available, we have offered meeting times; scheduled meetings. I'm happy to talk to the neighbors." She said

that she has tried to find a time to speak with Elmut, but "so far he has been unwilling to meet with us." She also said that the fan in question "is never on. We tried it as an experiment and it didn't work."

Elmut at this meeting agreed to meet with the Rices and also agreed that JPA member Peter Steiger would serve as a facilitator for both parties.

Because of these ongoing issues, the JPA decided to have this matter return before the board in December, when they will take a vote after abutters have had a chance to meet with the Rices again.

Crime

Continued from page 1

between burglary, robbery and larceny. Burglary involves accessing a residence or business unlawfully with the intent to remove items. Robbery is taking items off one's person by force or intimidation. Larceny doesn't involve force, and includes shoplifting, pickpocketing, stealing lawn items or taking items out of a vehicle.

According to the summary, Part One crime in Boston is down 15 percent in the city compared to this time last year. In addition, arrests in reported crimes are up almost 4 percent, so more criminals are being held accountable.

District E-13 is showing a 26 percent reduction in crime. There were 714 crimes reported in 2020 and only 530 reported this year. Most crimes have seen a decrease, including homicide,

robbery, assault, commercial and residential burglary, larceny from a motor vehicle and other larceny. Only rape and auto theft saw an increase over this time last year.

Sgt. Dougherty also provided a graph showing the number of fatal and nonfatal shootings per month over the past three years. Overall shootings are down 27 percent in the city compared to last year, and District E-13 has seen a 31 percent decrease. Precinct E-13 currently ranks fourth in shootings, behind Mattapan, Roxbury and Dorchester. Jamaica Plain saw 13 shootings so far this year, accounting for 7.4 percent of total shootings in the city.

The police and community relations meeting is held on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30pm on Zoom. The next meeting will be on Thursday, Dec. 2. All members of the public interested in public safety are encouraged to attend.

Crimen

Continued from page 1

er ilegalmente a una residencia o negocio con la intención de retirar artículos. El atraco es quitarle objetos a la persona por la fuerza o intimidación. El hurto no implica la fuerza e incluye el robo de elementos del césped o sacar elementos de un vehículo.

Según el resumen, el crimen de la primera parte en Boston ha bajado un 15 por ciento en la ciudad en comparación con esta época del año pasado. Además, los arrestos por delitos denunciados aumentaron casi un 4 por ciento, por lo que se responsabiliza a más delincuentes.

El distrito E-13 está mostrando una reducción del 26 por ciento en el crimen. Se denunciaron 714 delitos en 2020 y solo 530 este año. La mayoría de los delitos han disminuido, incluidos el

homicidio, el atraco, el asalto, el robo comercial y residencial, el hurto de un vehículo motorizado y otros hurtos. Solo la violación y el robo de automóviles experimentaron un aumento.

Sgt. Dougherty también proporcionó un gráfico que muestra el número de tiroteos mortales y no mortales durante los últimos tres años. Los tiroteos han bajado un 27 por ciento en la ciudad en comparación con el año pasado, y el Distrito E-13 ha experimentado una disminución del 31 por

ciento. E-13 actualmente ocupa el cuarto lugar en tiroteos, detrás de Mattapan, Roxbury y Dorchester. Jamaica Plain vio 13 tiroteos en lo que va del año, lo que representa el 7,4 por ciento del total de tiroteos en la ciudad.

La reunión de relaciones con la policía y la comunidad se lleva a cabo el primer jueves del mes a las 6:30 pm en Zoom. La próxima reunión será el jueves 2 de diciembre. Se anima a asistir a todos los miembros del público interesados en la seguridad pública.



**Happy and Enjoyable
Thanksgiving
Everyone!!**

**State Representative
Liz Malia**

11th Suffolk District
617-722-2380 • liz.malia@mahouse.gov

**Have A Great
Thanksgiving
Everyone!**



**475 Centre St
Jamaica Plain**
On the 39 bus and
convenient to the Orange Line

**Morrison's
Auto-Rite**

617-522-4444
www.morrisonsautorite.com
Outstanding Service since 1969

**Call for an
appointment**

Acting Mayor Kim Janey delivers farewell address days before Wu took office

By LAUREN BENNETT

A farewell event for Acting Mayor Kim Janey was held at Hibernian Hall in Roxbury on November 10, where she delivered a farewell address and reflected on her service to the City of Boston as its first woman and first Black mayor.

WCVB's Karen Ward Holmes hosted, and performances were given by singers Nia Ashleigh, Danny Rivera, and Dana Whiteside, who sang the National Anthem. Rev. Willie Bodrick delivered the invocation.

In her address, Janey spoke about how the city worked together during the pandemic and rolled out vaccines in every community, as well as enacted mask mandates and ensured homeowners, renters, and business owners were provided with resources.

"To protect the most vulnerable of our residents, particularly people within the immigrant community, we supported

asylum-seekers and invested in work-readiness opportunities for Dreamers," Janey said in her prepared remarks.

She also spoke of the JOY Agenda, which she said was created "as a strategy to heal from trauma" and brought things like public art and dance parties to neighborhoods.

She talked about Boston's observance of Juneteenth as a holiday for the first time, as well as declaring Indigenous Peoples' Day in the city.

"While ensuring stability in a time of crisis was a top priority, I also led Boston towards the more equitable and just city we all deserve," Janey said.

The Boston Home Center's first-time homebuyer program was expanded, as was down payment assistance.

"Crime is down and at its lowest in five years," Janey said, and "we must continue to address trauma, which is often the root cause of violence."

Janey also spoke of green

jobs and equitable transportation, notably her pilot for free bus service on the route 28 bus which travels through Mattapan, Dorchester, and Roxbury. The Supplier Diversity Program also now includes LGBTQ+ owned businesses.

"We also approached the dual opioid and homelessness crises with a public health lens," she said. "In our first week, we connected close to 70 people to housing, shelter, and residential treatment, and no arrests were made as part of this work."

Janey thanked her team and other city employees for their work during her time as the City's Acting Mayor. She also thanked Rep. Ayanna Pressley, Rep. Stephen Lynch, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, Sen. Markey, Gov. Charlie Baker, and state legislators.

"I also want to thank the legislative arm of the City," Janey said, adding that the Building Emissions and Reduction Disclosure Ordinance, the Black Men

and Boys Commission, and the Surveillance Oversight and Information Sharing Ordinance we all created in partnership with the City Council.

"I want to thank the Boston City Council, I am proud to have served with you," she said, also thanking new City Councilors-elect Erin Murphy, Ruthzee Louijeune, Brian Worrell, Kendra Hicks, and Tania Anderson.

Janey also expressed her pride in knowing that Michelle Wu will be the next person to lead the City.

"I know she will lift up those who have been left out of power," Janey said. "She will build upon my equity and justice work and she won't be afraid to tackle long standing problems. I am proud to pass the baton to you."

Lastly, Janey noted Boston's "museums, green spaces and beaches, and world-renowned hospitals and universities, and, of course, our iconic championship-winning sports teams. But what I love most about Boston is

her people, from the small business owners to the seniors from our veterans to our teachers; from our restaurant workers to our public servants; to ordinary people who do extraordinary things every single day that often go unrecognized. Our city is better because of you."

She thanked her family as well, and closed with "It has been my greatest honor serving my city as its 55th Mayor. Thank you, Boston. You will forever be in my heart."

The program also included a pre-recorded video of Janey's accomplishments as Acting Mayor in education, transportation, public health and equitable vaccine administration, housing stability, equitable pandemic recovery, green jobs, public safety and police reform, and more.

The full video recording of the event is available on the Boston City TV YouTube page.

Tres Gatos Ongoing

Every Monday and Tuesday in November, all items in our book and record store will be 10% off

40 South 11/12

10% of all plaid items on 11/12 with a portion of proceeds going to Spontaneous Celebrations

Boing! Toy Shop 11/13

Neighborhood toy store day

On Centre Nov 18-21

THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY KICK-OFF!

10% off holiday items (20% off holiday items for rewards members) A free gift with every \$75+ purchase

Pure Dental 11/19

Celebrate 10 years of Pure Dental with us! Stop by our brand new office for a free dental travel kit on Nov 19th from 8am-12pm.

Georges Shoes
Ongoing 100 year anniversary!
Come say congrats!

Polka Dog 11/20

11/20 to offer "10% off wonder nuggets, each bag purchased is a raffle entry to win a Polkadog Gift Pack

interrobang letterpress Ongoing by Appointment
Hand-Printed Holiday Cards, Books & Ephemera. Come see the amazing Linotype in action on 11/26 from 3-7pm. 18R Kenton Road (behind Hatoff's).

Tres Gatos 11/26

Record Store Day. Hundreds of rare and special release albums

Papercuts 11/27

Celebrate their 7th anniversary

Casa Verde 11/27-28

donating 25% of weekend sales prior to Spontaneous Celebrations.

Tres Gatos 11/27-28

the weekend of Nov 27-28th, 25% off all book store, record store and restaurant sales will go to the Emerald Necklace Conservatory

A Far Cry 11/29/21

20% off all of our virtual concert tickets and our virtual subscription.

City Feed and Supply 11/29

free hot cider and hot coffee all day at both stores, as well as 10% off all purchases and donating 10% of all sales to Spontaneous Celebrations.

Boing! Toy Shop 12/1

Santa in Store. For more info or to RSVP, email info@boingtoys.com

City Feed and Supply 11/29

free hot cider and hot coffee all day at both stores, as well as 10% off all purchases and donating 10% of all sales to Spontaneous Celebrations.

**PLAID
DAYS**

**Wear Plaid!
Support Local!
Shop Early!**



Mayor Michelle Wu takes steps to expand fare-free bus service

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu on November 17 filed an appropriation order with the City Council for \$8 million in federal funds to eliminate fares on the 23, 28 and 29 bus routes for a two-year period. Mayor Wu will seek to implement this program in close collaboration with the City Council and MBTA beginning

early next year. This program builds on the 4-month fare-free 28 bus pilot program helmed by Mayor Janey.

While overall bus and subway ridership is at 53 percent of pre-pandemic weekday ridership, the free 28 bus saw ridership surge to 92% of pre-pandemic levels, making it the most popular in the system.

The 23 Bus line (Ashmont to

Dorchester Center, Grove Hall & Ruggles) the 28 Bus line (Mattapan Square, up Blue Hill Ave, to Nubian Square & Ruggles) and the 29 Bus line (Mattapan Square, up Blue Hill Ave, to Jackson Square) each serves a diverse ridership, and each intersects with Blue Hill Ave, which has been identified by Livable Streets Alliance as one of the corridors that should be prioritized for improvements to increase reliability and boost ridership.

The two-year investment will allow the City of Boston and transit partners to measure the benefits of fare-free bus service, such as increased ridership, faster buses, less traffic, and business development along the route; ensure that word spreads across neighborhoods, and provide the opportunity for riders to integrate fare-free lines into their daily routines. The program also sets the foundation for Mayor Wu to build regional and state-level momentum for fare-free public transit, starting with buses.

"I am excited to take this key step towards a brighter transit future. Building on the fare-free 28 bus pilot created by Mayor Janey, we will expand access to transit across our neighborhoods, connecting more people to their

schools, places of worship, small businesses, and community centers—and easing congestion on our bus riders and drivers alike. With stronger ties between our communities, we'll reshape the boundaries of what's possible in our city," said Mayor Michelle Wu.

"This expansion of fare-free bus service is an important example of how municipal leadership can not only immediately improve the lives of Bostonians, but also set us on a path to a more just transit system for future generations. Fare-free bus service is an essential step in turning the page on a transit system that's been overly dependent on fares, building momentum for treating public transit as a public good and recognizing the MBTA as the economic engine of our entire region," said former Massachusetts Secretary of Transportation Jim Aloisi.

"The answer to the question of how free transportation will work is: step by step, with an implementation that allows for fully examining the process. By adding two more routes to Mayor Janey's initial pilot project of Route 28, Mayor Wu is addressing the issues of equity along with analyzing how more productive routes can be with

both dedicated lanes and free bus service. With free service, we'll grow ridership and make our city more fair for everyone!" said Tim Lasker, President of OPEIU Local 453.

"The fare-free bus pilot on these specific routes is a win-win-win for our community! Riders on these three bus routes will have one less thing to worry about: the fare. Lower transportation costs will put money back into the pockets of riders while leading to many other intangible benefits, like improved air quality—particularly important in these communities, which have higher than average asthma rates. We are hoping that public transit will be free for all in the near future," said Mela Bush Miles, Director of Transit Oriented Development at Alternatives for Community and Environment (ACE).

"As someone who has been riding the T for 30 years, this news is phenomenal! The 23 and 29 have been key, lifeline routes for over a century. The neighborhoods they serve shall benefit tremendously. Students, shoppers, and seniors, among others, will no longer need to second-guess their mobility," said Stuart Spina, transit advocate and member of the T Riders Union.

"We are thrilled to hear about the expansion and extension of the free buses pilot in Boston—and we are proud that Boston has become a national leader in the free transit movement. What the City of Boston is demonstrating is that we don't need dozens of studies and public meetings to advance free transit. The best method is to simply move forward with pilots, measure their success and then continue to expand the effort. The real winners of free transit are the thousands of riders who use the 28, 29 and -- especially 23 who's riders will also experience faster and more reliable bus service on the newly launched center running bus lane on Columbus Ave. We hope that other municipalities in the region will join Boston to advance additional free bus pilots across the region - and that the MBTA will continue to be a strong collaborator in this effort," said Stacy Thompson, Executive Director of Livable Streets Alliance.

St. John's Annual Christmas Tree Sale

Loring-Greenough House
Saturdays and Sundays 10-6
While supplies last

Sale Starts Nov. 27



ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Holidays are here!
Make this Holiday Season the best one yet with help from
Jamaica Plain GAZETTE

Showcase Your Services, advertise your specials, and get customers in the door with this advertising campaign at a price that can't be beat

2COL X 4-INCH AD

Run your ad IN COLOR
Dec. Issue
ONLY **\$125**

Published on December
3 & 17, 2021



Email deb@reverejournal.com or call the office at 781-485-0588 to get started!

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



Columbus Avenue Center-Running Bus Lanes Now Open



The MBTA, City of Boston and neighborhood leaders usher in a new era in public transit with the opening of the Columbus Avenue Center-Running Bus Lanes between Franklin Park and Jackson Square Station.

The Columbus Avenue Center-Running Bus Lanes allow for faster, more reliable service for nearly 10,000 weekday riders, by decreasing the likelihood that buses will be delayed by traffic, slowed by turning cars, or stuck behind double-parked vehicles. The project also makes significant improvements to pedestrian safety and accessibility along Columbus Avenue.

The new bus lanes save riders 4-7 minutes on the chronically delayed Routes 22, 29 & 44, serving Mattapan, Dorchester, Roxbury, and Jamaica Plain.

The \$14 million dollar collaboration between the MBTA and the City of Boston is a key component of the MBTA's Rapid Response Bus Lane Program and a major initiative to improve bus service in the wake of the pandemic.



[MBTA.com/ColumbusAve](https://www.mbta.com/ColumbusAve)

Wu

Continued from page 1

three steps down — a striking feature part of what many or I would call the beautiful architecture of City Hall. Three steps prevented Bostonians in wheelchairs and with mobility challenges from coming down directly to testify on this floor and advocate for change. Those three steps were a barrier between our government and the people we are here to serve. So we changed what this space could be, reshaped it to be accessible for everyone, and brought the floor level up three steps. When we make City Hall more accessible, we are all raised up. When we communicate in many languages, we all understand more. Most of all, when we connect the power of city government to the force of our neighborhoods and communities, we see how much is possible for our city.”

Wu said she always felt city government was special.

“City government is special. We are the level closest to the people, so we must do the big and the small,” said Wu. “Every streetlight, every pothole, every park and classroom, lays the foundation for greater change. Not only is it possible for Boston to deliver basic city services and generational change — it is absolutely necessary at this moment. We’ll tackle our biggest challenges by getting the small things right, and by getting City Hall out of City Hall and into our neighborhoods, block by block, street by street. After all, Boston was founded on a revolutionary promise: that things don’t have to be as they always have been. That we can chart a new path for families now, and for generations to come, grounded in justice and opportunity. And we can take steps to raise us all up to that promise, together.”

Wu said her administration’s charge will be to reach every corner of Boston and listen to the questions and concerns of all. “Our charge is to see every



Distinguished guests Tuesday included Senator Warren, Senator Markey, Congresswoman Pressley, Governor Baker, and many other of Wu’s colleagues in state, county, and local government.

person and listen. To meet people where they are. To give hope and deliver on it. To find joy, in the words of the amazing Kim Janey, and spread it. Let history note not just who she was in this office, but all she got done, and all she will continue to do for our city,” she said.

Wu said the first time she set foot in Boston City Hall, she felt invisible but today she sees

what’s possible in the building.

“I see all the public servants raising us up — frontline workers, first responders, teachers and bus drivers, building inspectors, city workers,” she said. “I am deeply honored to work alongside you and I ask everyone to join me in expressing our gratitude for your service. And I ask everyone to join us in service of our communities. Boston, our

charge is clear. We need everyone to join us in the work of doing the big and the small, getting City Hall out of City Hall, and embracing the possibility of our city. The reason to make Boston for everyone is because we need everyone for Boston, right now.”

“We have so much work to do, and it will take all of us to get it done. So let’s get to work,” she concluded.



Better

Bus

Project

Making transit better together

<div><div>MBTA Bus Electrification and Arborway Facility Public Meeting</div><div>Virtual Zoom Meeting Thursday, December 9 6:00 -7:30 PM</div><div>The MBTA will host a virtual meeting via Zoom Thursday, December 9th 6:00 -7:30 p.m. to kick-off its plans to replace the Arborway Bus Maintenance Facility located at 3600 Washington Street in Boston with a new, modern facility to accommodate a 100% battery electric bus (BEB) fleet and reduce emissions. At this meeting, staff will provide an introductory overview of the project and facilitate a Q&A period to gain feedback and address community concerns. Register for the meeting at MBTA.com/ArborwayBus. The meeting will be recorded and posted online for those who cannot attend.</div><div><div>Accommodations</div><div>This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. The MBTA provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request, including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language (ASL) and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, assistive listening devices, and alternate material formats, such as audio tapes, braille, and large print, as available.</div><div>For accommodation or language assistance, please contact Lydia Rivera at 617-851-1095, or email ArborwayBus@mbta.com. Requests should be made as early as possible prior to the meeting. For more difficult-to-arrange services including ASL, captioning in real time (CART), or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least seven business days before the meeting.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Reunión pública sobre la electrificación de los autobuses de la MBTA y las instalaciones de Arborway</div><div>Reunión virtual por ZOOM Jueves 9 de diciembre, de 6:00 a 7:30 PM</div><div>La MBTA convocará una reunión virtual por ZOOM el jueves 9 de diciembre, de 6:00 a 7:30 p.m., para dar inicio a sus planes de reemplazar las instalaciones de mantenimiento de autobuses de Arborway, ubicadas en el número 3600 de la calle Washington, en Boston, por unas nuevas y modernas instalaciones que albergarán una flota de autobuses 100% eléctricos a batería (BEB) y reducirán las emisiones. En esta reunión, el personal proporcionará una visión general del proyecto y facilitará un período de preguntas y respuestas para obtener comentarios y abordar las preocupaciones de la comunidad. Inscribase para la reunión en MBTA.com/ArborwayBus. La reunión se registrará y se publicará en línea para aquellos que no puedan asistir.</div><div><div>Adaptaciones</div><div>Esta reunión es accesible para las personas con discapacidades. La MBTA ofrece adaptaciones razonables y/o asistencia lingüística gratuita si se solicita, incluyendo, pero sin limitarse a ello, intérpretes en lenguaje de signos americano (ASL) e idiomas distintos del inglés, subtítulos abiertos o cerrados para los videos, dispositivos de asistencia auditiva y formatos de material alternativo, como cintas de audio, braille y letra grande, según esté disponible.</div><div>Para solicitar adaptaciones o asistencia lingüística, póngase en contacto con Lydia Rivera en el 617-851-1095, o envíe un correo electrónico a ArborwayBus@mbta.com. Las solicitudes deben hacerse lo antes posible previo a la reunión. Para servicios más difíciles de organizar, como ASL, subtítulo en tiempo real (CART) o traducción o interpretación de idiomas, las solicitudes deben hacerse al menos siete días hábiles antes de la reunión.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Reyinyon Piblik nan Etablisman Arborway + Elektrifikasyon Otobis</div><div>Reyinyon vityèl atravè Zoom Jedi 9 Desanm apati 6:00 - 7:30 PM</div><div>MBTA a pral òganize yon reyinyon vityèl atravè Zoom Jedi, 9 Desanm apati 6:00 -7:30 p.m. pou demare plan li pou ranplase Etablisman Antretyen Otobis Arborway ki lokalize nan 3600 Washington Street nan Boston avèk yon nouvo etablisman modèn pou akomode yon flòt otobis 100% elektrik batri (BEB) epi redwi emisyon. Nan reyinyon sa a, anplwaye yo pral bay yon apèsi entwodiksyon sou pwòje a ak fasilite yon peryòd K&R pou jwenn kòmantè epi adrese enkyetid kominote a. Enskri pou reyinyon an nan MBTA.com/ArborwayBus. Reyinyon an pral anrejistre epi afiche anliy pou moun ki pa ka patisipe yo.</div><div><div>Akomodasyon yo</div><div>Reyinyon sa a aksesib pou moun ki gen andikap. MBTA bay akomodasyon rezonab ak/ oswa asistans lang gratis sou demann, enkli men li pa limite pou entèprèt nan Langaj Siy Ameriken (ASL) ak lang ki pa Angle, ouwè oswa sou-tit ouwè oswa fèmèn pou videyo, aparèy pou ede tandè, ak lòt fòm materyèl, tankou kasèt odyo, bray, ak gwo enpresyon, jan sa disponib.</div><div>Pou w jwenn asistans lang oswa akomodasyon, tanpri kontakte Lydia Rivera nan 617-851-1095, oswa imèl ArborwayBus@mbta.com. Demann yo ta dwe fèt pi bone ke posib anvan reyinyon an. Pou sèvis ki pi difisil pou fè aranjman enkli ASL, sou tit nan tan reyèl (CART), oswa tradiksyon lang oswa entèprètasyon, yo ta dwe fè demann yo nan omwen sèt jou ouvrab anvan reyinyon an.</div></div></div>
---	---	---

**WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY
AND AWESOME THANKSGIVING!**

from all of us at
**Arborway Auto
Service Center**

— since 1971 —

207 South St. Jamaica Plain

617-524-4505

Conveniently located one block from Forest Hills T station

JP's Oldest Inspection Station



Jamaica Plain man charged with child exploitation for a second time

By JOHN LYND

A Jamaica Plain man who allegedly solicited a minor on TikTok while on state probation was charged again this week with child exploitation.

Hector Acevedo, 31, of Jamaica Plain, who is already on probation following a state conviction for child exploitation offenses—including trafficking, was charged with one count of sexual exploitation of children.

On Oct. 20, 2021, authorities arrested Acevedo on the new charges and was in custody pending an indictment on the new charges. He will make an initial appearance in federal court in Boston at a later date.

According to the charging documents, Acevedo is a Level 3 registered sex offender. Acevedo was previously convicted in Suffolk County Superior Court on multiple child and sexual exploitation

offenses including trafficking of a person for sexual servitude, extortion by threat of injury, posing or exhibiting a child in state of nudity or sexual conduct, dissemination of matter harmful to minors, dissemination of child pornography and purchase or possession of child pornography. On Feb. 13, 2018, Acevedo was sentenced to five-to-seven years in state prison and three years of probation.

While on state probation, Acevedo allegedly solicited a minor via TikTok and coerced the victim to engage in sexual conduct over video chat.

The charges of sexual exploitation of children provides for a sentence of at least 15 years and up to 30 years in prison, at least five years and up to a lifetime of supervised release, a fine of up to \$250,000 and restitution. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based on the

U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

The case is brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In 2006, the Department of Justice created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from exploitation and abuse. Led by U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the DOJ's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

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

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. x 3 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

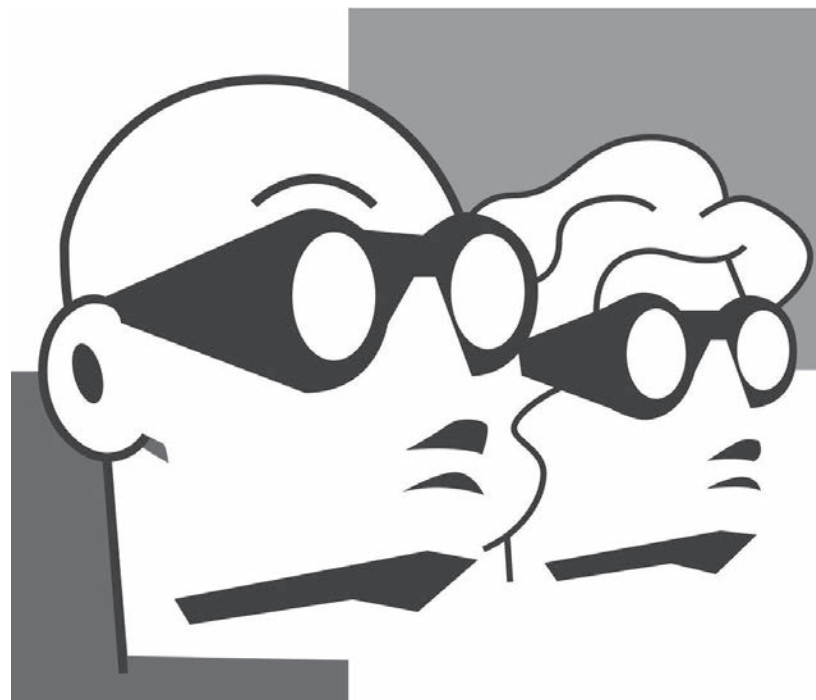
7,000 COPIES 2-COLOR \$600	7,000 COPIES 4-COLOR \$700	12,000 COPIES 2-COLOR \$800
12,000 COPIES 4-COLOR \$900	4-COLOR STICKIES CAN BE A COMBINATION OF COLORS. 2-COLOR STICKIES CAN BE MADE WITH ANY 2 COLORS	

Call or Email Your Rep Today!

PATRICIA@JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM
617-524-7662

DEB@THEBOSTONSUN.COM
781-485-0588

EYE Q OPTICAL



LOCAL - INDEPENDENT
most insurances accepted
617.983.3937

INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING?

Give Us a Call!! 617-524-2626

Baker-Polito administration refiles legislation to improve roadway safety

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The Baker-Polito Administration refiled legislation to improve safety on the Commonwealth's roadways and combat drug-impaired driving. This proposal would update road safety laws by implementing uniform standards and promoting proven strategies to reduce motor vehicle crashes, and will implement recommendations made by the Special Commission on Operating Under the Influence and Impaired Driving.

The bill, refiled by the Administration as the "Trooper Thomas Clardy Law," honors Massachusetts State Trooper Thomas L. Clardy. On March 16, 2016, Trooper Clardy was conducting a traffic stop on the Massachusetts Turnpike in Charlton when his parked cruiser was hit by a speeding motorist who swerved across three lanes of traffic. THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana, was detected in the motorist's blood. This preventable crime resulted in the tragic and untimely death of 44-year-old Trooper Clardy, an 11-year member of the state police and a United States Marine Corps veteran. He is survived by his wife and six children. The bill's refileing this week coincides with the two-year mark since the conviction of the driver in the case.

"This legislation aims to make the Commonwealth's roads safer and save lives, and we are grateful to the Clardy family for offering their family's name and support for this legislation, which will help us avoid impaired driving incidents in the future," said Governor Charlie Baker. "This bill will provide law enforcement officers with more rigorous drug detection training and will strengthen the legal process by authorizing the courts to acknowledge that the

active ingredient in marijuana can and does impair motorists. The bill draws on thoughtful recommendations from a broad cross-section of stakeholders, and we look forward to working with our legislative colleagues to pass this bill and make our roads safer."

"Our administration is refileing this legislation as part of our steadfast commitment to safeguarding our roadways and protecting the people of the Commonwealth from preventable crimes," said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. "With the continued implementation of adult-use marijuana in the Commonwealth, it is vital that we continue to focus on efforts to both combat drugged driving and raise awareness about the dangers of operating while under the influence."

First filed in 2019, this legislation is based on recommendations issued by a Special Commission on Operating Under the Influence and Impaired Driving, which was created as part of the 2017 law legalizing adult-use marijuana, to develop a series of recommendations to mitigate the negative impacts of increased marijuana use in Massachusetts, including the anticipated increase of impaired driving. The Special Commission included a diverse cadre of experts in policing, prosecution, the criminal defense bar, medicine and toxicology, and civil liberties. The Special Commission's report outlined recommendations that require legislative changes and promote consistency with state law on alcohol use and driving.

"Our family has been profoundly impacted by the tragic loss of my loving husband. Our children lost their hero, a man who had love for his family and an unquenchable love for life," said Reisa Clardy, widow of Trooper Clardy. "We wholeheartedly

support the implementation of these critical measures to improve public safety in the hope of sparing other families from our sorrow and preventing the heartbreak caused by a driver's decision to get behind the wheel when under the influence of drugs."

"It's simple: you can't drive safely when you are impaired. This legislation will improve community safety and advance good criminal justice policy by ensuring our ability to offer the public the same protections whether a driver is under the influence of alcohol or drugs," said Secretary of Public Safety and Security Terrence Reidy.

"The provisions of this legislation will be important tools to law enforcement officers to enhance interdiction of drugged drivers and reflect a necessary evolution in our criminal laws to recognize and address the significant dangers of drivers who are under the influence of narcotics," said Colonel Christopher Mason, Superintendent, Massachusetts State Police.

"It is imperative that police have the training and tools necessary to effectively combat drugged driving," said Brian Kyes, Chelsea Police Chief and President of the Massachusetts Major City Chiefs Association. "This legislation will equip law enforcement with drug recognition experts to address the dangers of impaired driving and to improve road safety across Massachusetts."

"Life can change in the blink of an eye and, because of impaired drivers, it often tragically does. To prevent these tragedies, we must do everything we can to keep impaired drivers off the roads," said Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early, Jr. "This legislation is a great step to making our roads safer for all our loved ones who use them. It will better address the issue of impairment in the courtroom and, ideally, avert a tragedy before it happens."

"AAA Northeast applauds the Baker-Polito Administration for filing this legislation, which would make the roadways of the Commonwealth much safer. Impaired driving accounts for roughly a third of roadway deaths across the county, and

the numbers are climbing. We also welcome the opportunity to honor Trooper Thomas Clardy and his family in the naming of this bill," said Mary Maguire, Director of Public and Government Affairs for AAA Northeast.

"The work of the Special Commission on Operating Under the Influence and Impaired Driving started with the basic premise that you don't, under any circumstances, drive better when you are impaired," said Shawn Collins, Executive Director of the Cannabis Control Commission and Chair of the Special Commission. "The Baker-Polito Administration's legislation seeks safer roadways throughout the Commonwealth by implementing the Special Commission's findings and empowering the public with expanded resources to prevent the risks of driving under the influence of any intoxicating substance."

The Special Commission's 2019 report contained a series of recommendations, many of them unanimous among the experts and stakeholders, to improve how Massachusetts combats operating under the influence. The proposed adjustments encompass the entire process leading up to, during and following a motor vehicle stop for suspected driving under the influence. Many of the Special Commission's 19 recommendations require legislative changes, which are reflected in "An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Special Commission on Operating under the Influence and Impaired Driving" otherwise known as the "Trooper Thomas Clardy Law."

The proposed legislative changes in this refiled bill include:

- Adopting implied consent laws to suspend the driver's licenses of arrested motorists who refuse to cooperate in chemical testing for drugs, as existing law has long required for arrested motorists who refuse breath testing for alcohol;

- Adopting a statute authorizing courts to take judicial notice that ingesting THC, the active chemical in marijuana, can and does impair motorists;

- Directing the Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) to expand the training of drug

recognition experts, and allowing them to testify as expert witnesses in civil and criminal cases;

- Prohibiting drivers from having loose or unsealed packages of marijuana in the driver's compartment of a vehicle, under the same provision of the motor vehicle code that has long prohibited driving with open containers of alcohol;

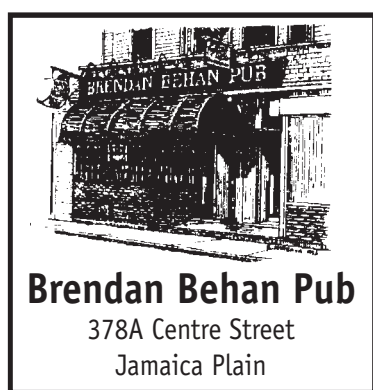
- Recognizing the effectiveness of the horizontal gaze nystagmus test, shown through scientific research to be the single most reliable field sobriety test;

- Empowering police officers to seek electronic search warrants for evidence of chemical intoxication, as is the practice in over thirty other states. Any blood draw would have to be authorized by a neutral magistrate after a showing of probable cause, and would be performed by a doctor, nurse or other appropriate medical staff at a health care facility;

- Developing educational materials and programming on drug impairment to share with trial court judges.

Recent data released by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) showed that traffic fatalities have reached a 15-year high in the first six months of 2021. More than 20,000 people have died in motor vehicle crashes so far this year. The NHTSA attributes this alarming trend to an increase in risky behavior, including driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol. Indeed, NHTSA's recent review of five trauma centers, including one in Worcester, Massachusetts, found a significant increase in the prevalence of drugs detected in seriously and fatally injured drivers with 56% testing positive for at least one impairing substance, up from 50.8% before the public health emergency.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, THC, marijuana's principal active ingredient, impairs coordination, judgment, and balance – the skills every operator needs to drive safely. A February 2020 survey conducted by Mothers Against Drunk Driving found that 1 in 8 (12%) of adults admitted to driving within two hours of consuming marijuana.



Article 80

Continued from page 1

covered parking spaces, according to the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA).

After briefly describing the design of the building, Zucker and Ken Chase of New Meadow Development talked about stormwater management and other sustainability pieces of the proposal.

Zucker said that there will be a “very significant underground system” for stormwater management, and Chase added that water will be stored for irrigation use on site. Additionally, the units will feature things like low flow fixtures, LED bulbs, and open cell foam that will allow for energy consumption to be down more than 45 percent over other homes built “as recently as 15 years ago,” Chase said.

He also said that areas have been identified on the roof for solar panels as well as “options for all electric utility management.”

Each unit will feature an electric car charging station, as well as bike racks, which will also be located throughout the building.

The developers have a goal of meeting LEED standards, but the level is not certain yet.

“This is a very unique project,” Zucker said. The lot is 12 acres and the project has “been designed by right,” he said, so the city’s Inclusionary Development Policy (IDP) is not applicable. “I’m a firm believer...we need all types of housing,” he said, though the team is unsure what their contribution will be at this point, though they said it will most likely be contributing to affordability off-site.

Zucker said that this is “not really a transit project,” and they are working with the BPDA to increase pedestrian safety, as well as advocating for bike use.

There were also discussions about the potential for this development to be gated, and discussion about the private roads and the public walkway proposed between Rockwood and Avon Streets.

Committee member Carolyn Royce said her request would be to not gate this development, and

asked what the developers’ level of contribution to affordability will be.

Zucker said that there is no decision made on what the contribution will be, but he said they are open to ideas and suggestions as well as a conversation about that.

Committee member Sarah Horsley said that the typical request from the JPNC is that 25 percent of a new development be affordable. She said that request was developer “20 years ago and the need has only gotten greater.”

Zucker also talked about electrification options, saying that is “definitely an option that we’re going to offer,” though he said that “there are some folks that are likely going to be resistant to that.” He said that they will be “encouraging” people to choose electric over natural gas and the ability to do so will be offered for all units.

“For me, hearing this is like creating an exclusive development...affordability is really important,” said committee member Kathy Brown. She said that other developers have included affordable units even if they were not subject to the IDP policy.

She said she has “concern about supporting an exclusive community. I don’t think we need any more of those.” Brown added that she wants to see more affordability, particularly on the site but if that is not possible, then somewhere “as close as possible.”

Committee member Kevin Rainsford asked what the reception from the community has been so far.

The team said that a large piece of feedback has been about access to the development, as the proposal right now is for cars to come into and out of it on Avon St. They did say there was also a good deal of support for the project.

Chris Tracy said that the unit count has been reduced from 48 to 36 “in response to community members.”

Andrea Howley, president of the Jamaica Hills Association, gave some feedback from the position of the neighborhood organization, saying that they prefer that affordability be on the

site. Another resident on Avon St. expressed opposition on the basis of traffic.

Committee chair Marvin Mathelier said that the committee is “not in a position to support this in terms of affordability,” and suggested the proponents come back next month when they have spoken with the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation (JPNDC) “or any other agencies” and can provide more information about the affordability aspect of this proposal.

Zucker said he couldn’t promise it would be next month, but “I’ll keep you up to date on where we are,” he said, adding that additional updates will be provided for things like traffic and sustainability.

3409 WASHINGTON ST.

Dave Traggorth of Traggorth Companies came before the committee to present updates from the last time the proposal was presented.

The proposal is for 29 apartment units with ground floor community space in a four story building. The space is currently a tow lot.

Traggorth said that there will be 14 studios, eight one bedrooms, and seven two bedrooms. The community commercial space will be about 410 square

feet, and there will be seven parking spaces and 42 bike parking spots.

Originally, there were five affordable units proposed, but now there are six, and the affordability includes a two bedroom unit.

He said that the retail will be leased out to a “community business,” and LEED Gold status is a goal for the project. The team has also committed to installing solar panels.

Traggorth said that a one bedroom unit at 50 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) would be about \$875 a month, and a one bedroom at 70 percent AMI would be around \$1250.

Carolyn Royce asked about a dropoff/pickup area, as well as where the garbage cans will go.

Traggorth said that there is “potential” for a pickup and dropoff area, and they are “open to feedback from folks.”

There will be internal trash storage and the team will have to “work with the city in terms of pickup operations.”

Additionally, “we will be providing people with the information and providing some discounted passes for sure to residents,” Traggorth said when asked about public transit incentives.

“I don’t think it’s going to be

fully subsidized, but it will be discounted.”

Traggorth also said that “there’s absolutely a market for these units,” as there were concerns raised about the number of smaller units.

“It certainly can’t be everything to everyone,” he said.

Royce said that a comment letter from the committee should include several items. She said that the “outstanding issue is to make sure that this project meets the density bonus affordability required,” which is six units plus a percentage that would get contributed to a fund for affordable housing.

She also said that the developers should continue speaking with abutters about the step back as it relates to PLAN: JP/Rox guidelines “as well as any other issues those neighbors have.”

Positives for the project, according to Royce, are the energy efficiency and the promise to hire locally starting at \$20 an hour. She said that additional conversations should be had on the pickup/dropoff situation and trash pickup. Foley added that the lack of outdoor space is “a little concerning.”

The committee voted to send a comment letter with the comments provided by Royce.



Don't wait — insulate!

Fiberglass pipe insulation will prevent heat from being lost in your basement and keep it in the pipes until it gets up to your living space. We will show you how to measure your pipes and explain the easy installation process. This investment will pay for itself in heating dollars saved—so don't cool your heels!

For homes with hot water or steam heating systems

100 Terrace Street, Boston, 02120
(near Roxbury Community College)
Mon-Fri 8:30-4:30 ■ Saturday 9:30-3 ■ 617-442-2262
bostonbuildingresources.com
A member-owned co-op

Boston Building Resources

INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING?

Give Us a Call!! 617-524-2626

Jamaica Plain Arts Council hosts annual meeting virtually

By Lauren Bennett

The Jamaica Plain Arts Council (JPAC) held its annual meeting virtually on November 17, where the board talked about this year's Open Studios and events.

According to the Jamaica Plain Open Studios website, "the Jamaica Plain Arts Council is a working board, made up of individuals from the arts, business and local community. Board members participate in the planning, organization and the heavy lifting to support artists and create arts related events in Jamaica Plain, in accordance with its mission statement."

Susan Duprey talked about this year's Open Studios, which took place entirely outdoors this year on September 25 and 26.

She reported that there were 115 artists and artist collaboratives registered for the event,

surpassing the goal of 80 to 100.

She said that JPAC was prepared for people who did not feel comfortable coming out into a public space, and they weren't sure what the response would be from artists or the public.

"Overall, we were really, really happy with the turnout," she said, and got "a lot of positive feedback about the event."

The group also talked about fundraising efforts and how they might approach that heading into next year's Open Studios, which is scheduled for September 24 and 25.

Additionally, Duprey talked about classes and workshops that were offered by JPAC this year.

In total, there were four workshops; three virtual and one in person.

The free workshops were hosted by Anna Koon. On Feb. 28, a virtual artist bootcamp was held

with the title "Selling Your Art Online/Maintaining Your Brand Online." On March 27, "Accounting for Artists" was held, on April 2, a workshop titled "Finding the Right Formula; How to Confidently Price Your Products and Services" was held, on August 28 was the "Open Studios In Person Intensive," and on September 2, the organization offered "Virtual Making the Most of Open Studios."

Duprey said that there were between 10 and 15 artists at each workshop.

JPAC also hosts "small works and projections every other year," Duprey said, and this year a projection event was held outside at First Unitarian Universalist Church on September 12. No food or drink was allowed, but the group said that the event's success came partially from those walking by on the street who stopped to admire the art, as

they may not have known about it otherwise.

It was a juried show, and artists Brian Bishop and L'Merchie Frazier served as jurors. Three winners were selected: Best in Show went to "Black Brilliance" by Sharif Muhammad of Jamaica Plain, Juror's Choice 1 was "At the Edge of Despair and Possibility" by Ruth Rosner of Watertown, and Juror's Choice 2 went to "Ekim" by Duygu Aytac of Roslindale.

"It was great; it was a nice atmosphere," said board member Constance Cervone. Music was provided by HONK!, and attendees of the meeting said that they really enjoyed the music.

The group also spoke about plans for next year and what the organization will look like moving forward. Annie Cardinaux said she wants to "hear about vision and impact" as well as the group's work on diversity

and inclusion.

"This is going to be a big transition year for us," said board member Anne Brown, and she said the "biggest change" at first is the election of a new board.

At the meeting, the group elected Anne Sasser to be the new president, as longtime president Joy Cochran is stepping down. Members expressed their gratitude for Cochran's service over the years and spoke very fondly of her.

New member Glen Hawkins was elected vice president, and Anne Brown will be the treasurer. Other members include Robin Radin, Gail Bos, Alison Cupples, Constance Cervone, Keyse Angelo,

Susan Duprey, and new member Cristina Hajosy.

For more information about JPAC and JP Open Studios, visit jopenstudios.com.

Now you can enroll in a health plan with Medicare's highest quality rating: CCA Senior Care Options.



Commonwealth Care Alliance® is dedicated to helping people with chronic illnesses and disabilities live safely and independently in their own homes and communities. Over 70% of the members in our CCA Senior Care Options plan are nursing home certifiable, but continue living well at home with our care and support. That's what we call *uncommon care*.® And that's one reason why the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services awarded CCA Senior Care Options five stars – their top quality rating – for 2022.*

*Every year, Medicare evaluates plans based on a 5-star rating system.

To learn more about CCA Senior Care Options, visit ccama.org/sco or call:

866-ASK-1CCA (TTY 711) 866-275-1222

Oct 1-Mar 31: 8 am-8 pm, 7 days a week
Apr 1-Sep 30: 8 am-8 pm Mon-Fri, 8 am-6 pm Sat-Sun



Jamaica Plain's weekly COVID test rate increases; Curley School outbreak forces closure

By JOHN LYNDIS

After experiencing a fifty-five percent spike in the weekly COVID test rate between October 25 and November 1 the Jamaica Plain test rate spiked once again last week.

Adding to the recent spike in the neighborhood, an outbreak of cases at the Curley School in Jamaica Plain last week forced the school to close and set off a showdown between local and state officials.

According to the weekly report released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) 1,677 Jamaica Plain residents were tested last week and 2.9 percent were found to be positive. This was a 70.5 percent increase from the 1.7 percent that tested positive between October 25 and November 1.

At the Curley School, cases swelled to 46 and school officials decided it was best to close the school, isolate those who were exposed, switch to remote learning and reopen on Monday, November 22. School officials said the decision and process followed the Boston Public Health Commission's recommendations for switching to remote learning during an outbreak of cases.

However, the decision to close the school sparked a battle be-

tween Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Jeffrey Riley and Boston Public Schools. Riley ruled this week that only four days of remote learning at the Curley would count to the required 180 school days per school year.

He demanded the Curley reopen no later than Wednesday and refused to grant the school's request that seven of the 10 remote days be counted toward the required 180-day school year.

In a letter to the Mayor's Office, Boston School Committee Chair Jeri Robinson, and Boston Public Schools Superintendent Brenda Cassellius, Riley defended his decision and wrote, "I am particularly concerned that remote learning will not fully meet the academic and social emotional needs of our students, especially students with disabilities, English learners, and other vulnerable students."

The decision caused ire among the Boston Teachers Union (BTU), school officials, and Jamaica Plain's elected officials.

On Monday, the BTU released a statement and called Riley's decision "bizarre".

"Amidst this kind of public health crisis, state bureaucrats should be listening to local families, and not threatening them, especially when the state itself

is still cutting corners on safety measures and has failed to make the necessary robust investments in testing capacity," BTU Executive Vice President Erik Berg said in a statement. "The state should not be playing politics around school schedules or gambling with the health of students and their families. The idea that the state is not going to give students credit for learning days that are remote under these circumstances strikes most parents and educators as bizarre. Instead, the state should be focusing on improving their own implementation of pool testing and 'test and stay' programs in order to keep students safe and to ensure the continuity of in-person learning. We all want to be teaching in-person every day, but when public health officials warn about the safety of doing so, we need the state to listen."

Sen. Sonia Chang-Díaz and Rep. Nika Elugardo both blasted Riley's decision with Chang-Díaz applauding the school's decision and blasting DESE. Díaz committed that at the end of the day, the buck stops with Boston Public Schools, not DESE, for keeping their students, staff, and families safe.

Elugardo applauded the school's staff and said they have gone above and beyond to ensure there's no break in the Curley children's education while they are forced by public health guide-

lines to study from home.

Last week, the citywide weekly positive test rate also increased. According to the BPHC 22,322

Continued on page 19

RARE 1897 ANTIQUE FOR SALE! 307 LaGrange St. West Roxbury



Iconic Arts and Crafts Colonial circa 1897 located in the desirable "Bellevue Hill". Built for renowned American watercolor artist Sears Gallagher and featured in past publications such as Boston Landmarks Architecture, this property will appeal to the sophisticated & discerning buyer! Abundant period detail & character abound in this 10 room, 4 bedroom home featuring: 9' ceilings, wood burning FP, custom built-ins, bay/box windows, window seats, plate rails, formal DR, CAC w/new condenser. Lovely landscaped gardens and side yard. Corner lot. Off st pkg. This beauty's attractive approach and curb appeal is a head turner! Walking distance to Commuter rail and local shops!

Asking \$1,229,900



NW-CN13994294

Deirdre White Vice President
Carole White Associates Real Estate Group
Cameron Prestige
1766 Centre St, Boston, MA.
dwhite@isellboston.com www.isellboston.com



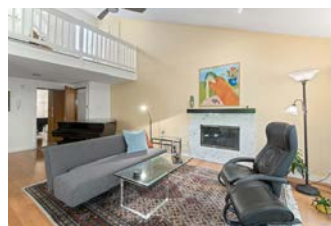
ANTHONY WILLIAMS' **Urban Nutcracker**

20TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

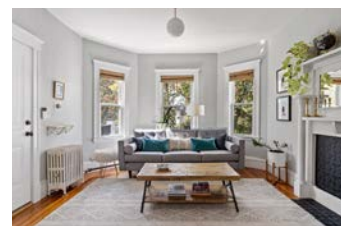
DEC 18-23

BOCH CENTER SHUBERT THEATRE
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE BOCH CENTER BOX OFFICE
BOCHCENTER.ORG | 866.348.9738

Unlimited Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY HOME IS THE HEART OF OUR BUSINESS



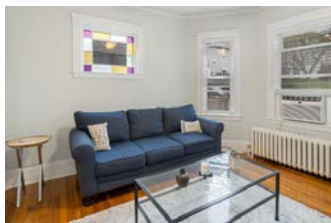
241 Perkins St #E204 - JP
Offered at \$719,000
2 Bed | 2 Bath | 1267 Sq.Ft.
Beverly Berman, 617.515.5744



64 Williams St #3 - JP
Offered at \$579,000
2 Bed | 1 Bath | 1112 Sq.Ft.
Melony Swasey, 617.971.7080



1 Westinghouse Pz #C303 - Boston
Offered at \$515,000
3 Bed | 1 Bath | 921 Sq.Ft.
Roger Rodriguez, 617.504.0199



185 Cornell St #1 - Roslindale
Offered at \$495,000
2 Bed | 1 Bath | 1123 Sq.Ft.
Jesse Gustafson, 617.642.4787
Sean Preston, 617.855.8502



314-330 W 2nd St #308 - Boston
Offered at \$465,000
1 Bed | 1 Bath | 570 Sq.Ft.
BJM Realty Group, 617.249.4237



306 Cummins Hwy #2 - Roslindale
Offered at \$429,000
2 Bed | 1 Bath | 993 Sq.Ft.
Brilliant Places, 617.694.9759

UNLIMITED SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY | 673 CENTRE STREET, JAMAICA PLAIN
Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated. Equal Housing Opportunity.

jprealestate.com

Temporary housing and services for 30 individuals announced at Shattuck Campus

By Lauren Bennett

Secretary of Health and Human Services Marylou Sudders wrote a letter on November 15 explaining that temporary housing for up to 30 unhoused individuals will be created on the existing Shattuck Campus site in Franklin Park and is expected to be up and running next month. “In response to the humanitarian crisis in an area of Boston referred to as “Mass. and Cass”, there is an urgent need for both temporary and perma-

nent low-threshold transitional housing for individuals who are homeless,” Sudders said in the letter. She said that the housing will be “temporary” and “low threshold” and will also come with services. The housing will be called the “Temporary Cottage Community,” and Pallet, “a leader in rapid-response shelter villages and a local human service provider with experience serving individuals who are homeless,” will be a partner in the effort. Sudders said that the housing

“will serve as a safe place for those in transition from homelessness to more stable housing.” It will consist of 18 private sleeping cabins with locks. One or two beds will be provided in each cabin, and there will be “personal climate control and storage for possessions” as well, she said. There will also be around-the-clock security. Additionally, meals will be provided onsite, along with laundry, services for mental health and addition, and case management “with the goal of supporting res-

idents in their transition from the streets to permanent housing and longer-term stability.” Sudders said this will be done in conjunction with a local provider of health and human services. “The establishment of the Temporary Cottage Community will address an immediate need and aligns with the Vision Plan for the Redevelopment of the Shattuck Campus at Morton Street, the product of a 12+ month vision planning process for the future use of the 13-acre Shattuck Campus,” Sudders

said. “The Temporary Cottage Community, although temporary, represents the first phase of implementation of the longer-term plans for supportive housing and services envisioned on the campus.” Sudders concluded by saying that this housing will not impact the operation of the Shattuck Hospital “nor the longer-term redevelopment plans for the campus.” Any questions about the housing can be directed to Josh.Cuddy@mass.gov.

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



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

“Call Colleen”
617-529-5012
jamaicaplain@gmail.com



McCormack & Scanlan Real Estate
68 South Street JP

REAL ESTATE RENTALS & SALES

FAYE SIMON
REAL ESTATE
Rentals & Sales

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

FayeSimonRealEstate.com
frmcsimon@hotmail.com



Faye R. Simon
Real Estate Broker

Your Personal Real Estate Professional

REAL ESTATE



Building
community
together.

E ELLEN+JANIS
REAL ESTATE TEAM

617.971.8940
ellenandjanisteam@compass.com
ellenandjanisteam.com

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

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

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



ACUPUNCTURE



Give someone the gift of Vibrant
Health, Harmony & Peace of Mind
Gift Certificates Available



Rana Hamdan
Licensed Acupuncturist
929.326.1957

Acupuncture helps with
Pain, Stress, Anxiety, Digestion
Issues, Migraine, Insomnia,
or just overall wellness!

hello@res-acu.com
resonance-acupuncture.com

YOUR BUSINESS HERE

INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING IN THE JAMAICA PLAIN GAZETTE?
Give Us a Call!! 617-524-2626

Opioid-related overdose death rate up 1 percent in the first nine months of 2021

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Opioid-related overdose deaths in Massachusetts rose slightly in the first nine months of 2021 compared to the same time last year, according to preliminary data released today by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH). In the first nine months of the year, there were 1,613 confirmed and estimated opioid-related overdose deaths, approximately 21 more deaths than in the first nine months of 2020, or a 1 percent increase. Data released earlier this year noted that Black non-Hispanic men made up the largest increase in opioid overdose death rates, a finding reinforced by today's report, and which underscores the importance of the Commonwealth's continued investments to address this issue with a focus on equity.

Throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and related public health challenges, the Commonwealth has continued to focus on the opioid epidemic, most recently investing over \$45 million in federal dollars to support prevention, treatment, and recovery programs for vulnerable populations. This includes a combined \$19 million for early childhood and youth substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery programs; \$9 million for low-threshold access to treatment for people struggling with opioid use disorder; \$2.8 million for treatment for people experiencing homelessness; and a combined \$11.3 million to support transitional and permanent housing programs for adults, families, and young adults in treatment and recovery from substance abuse disorder.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated substance misuse not only in Massachusetts, but across the country. Our Administration has continued to tackle both the opioid epidemic and the COVID-19 pandemic with a focus on equity," said Governor Charlie Baker. "Since 2015, we have more than doubled spending on substance misuse programs across state government, boosted the number of treatment beds, and signed two landmark laws to respond to this public health crisis. We continue to invest in treatment, support, intervention, and education programs, primarily for residents experiencing the

highest burden of this epidemic."

"We remain committed to increasing resources to battle the opioid crisis amid the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic over the past 20 months, particularly for those struggling with substance use and mental health disorders," said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. "We will continue to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to ensure residents struggling with addiction have access to necessary supports."

The Baker-Polito Administration has continued to build on its work and funding to address this crisis, more than doubling investments in this area since 2015. The Fiscal Year 2022 budget includes a total investment of \$408 million across various state agencies to address substance misuse, a 22 percent increase over last fiscal year, and an increase of \$288.8 million (242%) since FY15.

Since the early days of the pandemic, the Administration has continued to expand overdose-targeted initiatives to ensure uninterrupted substance use treatment and support. DPH has distributed more than 124,000 naloxone kits to opioid treatment programs, community health centers, hospital emergency departments, and houses of correction since March 2020. With a blanket exception from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), 35 percent of Massachusetts opioid treatment program patients have been receiving take-home doses of medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) as of September 2021, compared to the pre-pandemic average of 16 percent in December 2019.

Massachusetts is among the states with the smallest increases nationwide in all drug overdose deaths between March 2020 and March 2021, according to the latest preliminary data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The data show that while drug overdose deaths surged by 31 percent nationally in that time period, Massachusetts' increase was in the single digits.

"We have seen the impacts of the intersecting COVID-19 pandemic and opioid epidemic on some of our most vulnerable communities," said Health

and Human Services Secretary Marylou Sudders. "As the Commonwealth emerges from the pandemic, we must engage with trusted community-based health care providers to provide culturally responsive support and treatment."

"Prior to the pandemic, opioid-related overdose death rates in Massachusetts had been stable. Unfortunately, the pandemic exacerbated the opioid crisis, particularly in communities of color which have also been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19," said Acting Public Health Commissioner Margaret Cooke. "Our goal is to reverse this troubling trend by continuing to build on our aggressive, data- and equity-based public health approach to prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery."

Overall, there were 2,106 opioid-related overdose deaths in 2020, a 5 percent increase over the previous year and just shy of the 2016 peak of 2,110 deaths, according to the latest preliminary data. The 2020 opioid-related overdose death rate of 30.2 per 100,000 people was approximately 1.6 percent lower than in 2016 (30.7 per 100,000), the latest data show.

In 2021, the powerful lethal synthetic opioid fentanyl continues to be the main driver of opioid-related overdose deaths in Massachusetts. In the first half of 2021, fentanyl was present in 92 percent of opioid-related deaths where a toxicology report was available, preliminary data show.

Cocaine is the next most prevalent drug among opioid-related overdose deaths after fentanyl, present in 52 percent of toxicology reports in the first six months of 2021 – a 13 percent increase over 2020. In 2017, cocaine was present in 39 percent of opioid-related overdose deaths.

The rate of heroin or likely heroin present in opioid-related overdose deaths was 9 percent and has been declining since 2014. The presence of benzodiazepines, amphetamines, and prescription opioids in opioid-related overdose deaths remained stable in the first half of the year, toxicology screens show. The percentage of benzodiazepine has been declining since 2018.

In the first half of 2021, males ages 25-34 continued to repre-

sent the greatest number of suspected opioid-related incidents treated by Emergency Medical Services (EMS), accounting for 22 percent of opioid-related incidents with a known age and sex.

Among the other findings of the latest opioid report:

- Between 2019 and 2020, the confirmed opioid-related overdose death rate for white non-Hispanic residents decreased slightly: 33.4 per 100,000 in 2019 to 33.1 per 100,000 in 2020. Meanwhile, the rate for all Black non-Hispanic residents increased 63 percent from 22 to 36 per 100,000.

- The confirmed opioid-related overdose death rate for Asian Pacific Islander non-Hispanic residents increased about 27 percent from 2.6 to 3.3 per 100,000 between 2019 and 2020. For Hispanic residents the rate increased over 12 percent from 32 to 36 per 100,000.

- In the same time period, the confirmed opioid-related overdose death rate per 100,000 for Black non-Hispanic, Asian Pacific Islander non-Hispanic, and Hispanic men increased, while it decreased for white non-Hispanic men.

- Between 2019 and 2020, the opioid-related overdose death

rate among all females increased by 15 percent, from 14 to 16 per 100,000.

- In the same time period, the confirmed opioid-related overdose death rate increased for Black non-Hispanic, Hispanic, and white non-Hispanic women:

- Black non-Hispanic up 32 percent from 12 to 16 per 100,000
- Hispanic up 68 percent from 8 to 14 per 100,000

- White non-Hispanic up 8 percent from 17 to 19 per 100,000

- Males comprise 73 percent of all opioid-related overdose deaths occurring in 2020.

- In 2020, 50 percent of opioid-related deaths occurred in people who were between 25 and 44 years old; 40 percent were between 45 and 64 years old.

- Naloxone was administered in 96 percent of acute opioid overdoses during the first six months of 2021. Of all opioid-related EMS incidents in the first half of 2021, 53.1 percent were categorized as acute opioid overdoses.

- Approximately 469,000 individuals in Massachusetts received prescriptions for Schedule II opioids in the third quarter of 2021, a 44 percent decrease from 841,990 in the first quarter of 2015.

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

HOME SERVICE GUIDE

PAINTING & CARPENTRY



617-852-7409 JP resident

LANDSCAPE DESIGN & INSTALLATION



earthen stoneworks
Design and Construction

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  & 

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
Licenced Free Estimates Insured

Finely Detailed Interior & Exterior Painting

Kares 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** Free estimates
Member Better Business Bureau 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

ADVERTISE IN THE GAZETTE

FOR RATES AND INFORMATION,

PLEASE CALL 617-524-7662

AN INVESTMENT IN TOMORROW

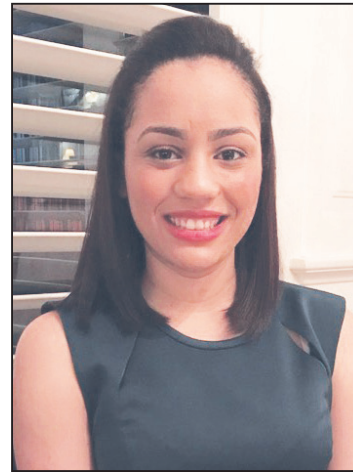
The EHS Alumni & Friends Tutoring Center

When Mayra Volquez (EHS '07) came to America from the Dominican Republic 15 years ago with her parents and siblings, she

entered the 10th grade at English High where she learned a new language – and a lot about her new country. It's also where she started 'Daring to Dream' about how she could change the world.

Years later, Mayra returned to English High School, joining the Alumni & Friends Tutoring Center, directed by Sage Marsters. Sage recruits, trains and coordinates a team of tutors who support learning in classrooms and works one-on-one with students on college application essays and coursework. Tutors build positive relationships with students, share learning strategies, and model learning processes. The payoff comes in getting to see students reach that "Aha!" moment when they understand a new concept or skill, or write an essay they feel proud of. Sage says increased donations would enable expansion of the Center and help more students.

Mayra earned her degree in Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Adult Echocardiography at Mass. College of Pharmacy and her Master's in Project Management with a specialization in Population Health from Colorado State University Global. Today she's a Research Echo Analyst performing echo



Mayra Volquez.

analysis for Cardiovascular clinical trials at Brigham and Women's Hospital, performing patient test analysis and training new staff. She's also a volunteer Honorary Director, Project Lead for the Public Health Literacy organization – her true passion!

"My goal is to earn a Ph. D. in Public Health," says Mayra, "to create my own worldwide organization to educate people about the importance of maintaining good health and teach the value of disease prevention. I want to bring change."

Now Mayra devotes two or more hours per week to the EHS Alumni & Friends Tutoring Center: "Of course I understood its importance from personal experience, but the Alumni Association's 'Daring to Dream' 200th Anniversary event motivated me to look at the englishhighalumni.org website. I jumped at the volunteer opportunity to help new immigrants in EHS's 10th and 11th grades. I'm excited to spend time with students and to work with Sage, to help kids learn English, but more importantly, to focus on how they can follow their dreams – just as I have done."

If you would like to volunteer at the EHS Alumni & Friends Tutoring Center, contact Sage Marsters:

smarsters@bostonpublicschools.org. Subjects and schedules are very flexible!

You can help other EHS students who are 'Daring to Dream.' We welcome your year-end tax-deductible donation! To support the Tutoring Center, visit www.englishhighalumni.org/donate or contact Michael Thomas: 781-956-4774 / mthomas@englishhighalumni.org.

-By Stan Hurwitz

THANKSGIVING DAY TRASH COLLECTION

There is no collection on **Thursday, November 25.**

For neighborhoods with two collections a week on Mondays and Thursdays, Thursday is **canceled.**

The next collection will be **Monday, November 29**

For more info visit: boston.gov/trash

CITY of BOSTON



Public Works

Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll

'HUNNIE'

Hunnie is a sweet pup. She can be initially shy, and loves her humans and enjoys being petted and fussed over. She enjoys exercise and would be a great walking buddy. She was given up after being with her family for 5 years because she did not get along well with the new dog. She is happiest as an only pup. Hunnie is housetrained, does fine with older kids, and even has some training under her belt, so you can test out some of her commands. Hunnie will make a great companion!



"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



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



THE RESIDENTIAL
GROUP

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

We're not kitten you!



Quality vet care is right in your neighborhood.

Angell Animal Medical Center's compassionate team provides state-of-the-art care for your best friend. From wellness checkups to allergies, from cancer treatment to neurosurgery, our specialists work together to provide services tailored to your pet's individual needs.



animal medical center

angell.org | 350 South Huntington Ave | Boston, MA | 617-522-7282

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

Jamaica Plain/Mission Hill Gazette

2022 Publishing Calendar

Tel. 617-524-2626 • FAX 781-485-1403 • 7 Harris Ave., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 • JamaicaPlainGazette.com

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Post Offices closed in observance of Thanksgiving

Curley School

Continued from page 13

There will be no regular mail delivery or retail services available on Thursday, Nov. 25, as postal employees across the commonwealth celebrate Thanksgiving. But our carriers will still be delivering Priority Express and other guaranteed next day services.

This holiday, the Postal Service is reminding customers to shop and ship early. Our online store is open 24/7 at usps.com and boasts plenty of gift-giving ideas from T-shirts to framed prints, toys and tote bags.

The 2020 holiday season was a record-setting year for the Postal Service. Specifically, 13 billion

letters, cards and packages were processed and delivered under some of the most difficult circumstances we've faced in the past century.

For the 2021 peak season — the period between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day — the Postal Service will deliver more mail and packages to homes than any other shipper. It's anticipated that between 850 million and 950 million packages will be delivered for the holidays. The total number of letters, cards and packages processed and delivered is estimated to be more than 12 billion.

The Postal Service will ex-

pand Sunday delivery, beginning Nov. 28, to locations with high package volumes. USPS already delivers packages on Sundays in most major cities and expects to deliver more than 9.7 million packages each Sunday throughout the holiday season. Mail carriers will also deliver packages for an additional fee on Christmas Day in select locations.

The Postal Service plans all year for the peak holiday season. This year's preparations include leasing 7.5 million square feet of additional space across more than 40 annexes to handle the increase in the number of packages being mailed. The Postal Service

is also currently hiring for more than 40,000 seasonal positions to help process and deliver the mail.

Since April, the Postal Service has installed 97 of 112 new package sorting machines, reflecting the Postmaster General's "Delivering for America" plan's \$40 billion of planned investment over 10 years. Additionally, more than 50 machines that can sort large packages are expected to be up and running prior to December. The new machinery gives the Postal Service the capacity to process an additional 4.5 million packages each day.

residents were tested and 3 percent were COVID positive--this was a 15.4 percent increase from the 2.6 percent reported by the BPHC on November 8.

Forty-nine additional Jamaica Plain residents became infected with COVID-19 since November 8 and the number of total cases since the start of the pandemic increased to 3,515.

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 1.6 percent since November 8 and went from 84,353 cases to 85,672 confirmed cases in a week. There were six additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total COVID deaths is now at 1,462.

JPNC

Continued from page 1

Lemon is a Taiwanese brand that "exploded in the Asian market" in 2009, and "expanded to the US market in 2013."

Liu is the owner of Happy Lemon Boston, and said that "Boston's the area I'm responsible for developing." He already owns a Happy Lemon location in the food court in Downtown Crossing, and said he believes Jamaica Plain is a great location for another store because of the "diversity of the people, schools, [and] professionals."

Aside from different flavors of bubble tea, the shop will offer small snacks like Belgian waffles. Liu said that the kitchen vent will be on the rear of the building and is not near any windows of nearby apartments.

He proposed 18 seats with tables inside the shop, but he said that when the store first opens, "we want to serve the community first," and "takeout comes secondary."

The Happy Lemon name will be on cups and takeout bags, he added, as that is a question the committee typically asks of food establishments who request a takeout license.

"I love boba tea; I drink it a lot," said committee member Robin Cheung. She asked if Happy Lemon's cups and straws are going to be compostable, and whether or not plant-based milks will be offered.

Liu said that the shop exclu-

sively uses Lactaid milk, which is a lactose free cow's milk. He also said that the shops will "eventually" use more environmentally friendly materials, but right now plastic cups are used.

"Unfortunately you might get some slack for that in JP," Cheung said, who also asked about trash receptacles outside the store.

Liu said that there will be "plenty of garbage cans for customers." Additionally, the menu will be in both English and Spanish, and there will also be a "Spanish speaker in every shift," Liu said.

Resident Peter Favorito, who lives in the residential units above the commercial space at 3193 Washington St, said he is in "full support. I love bubble tea; I think it's a great idea."

Resident Lyndon Fuller said that he has done some research on Happy Lemon, and it "looks like a very successful franchise," he said. He asked about the parking, especially when it comes to delivery drivers like Uber Eats and DoorDash.

Liu said that they are going to apply for a temporary parking permit in front of the building for delivery drivers.

Additionally, Liu said that Happy Lemon is looking to hire JP residents to work in the shop.

The committee ultimately voted to approve the application with the proviso that trash cans are installed outside for cups and bags and that Liu is responsible for keeping them clean.

378 CENTRE ST.

At 378 Centre St., attorney Kristen Scanlon proposed to extend the current seasonal outdoor patio at the Brendan Behan Pub to be used year round.

Scanlon spoke of the pub's owner, Michel Soltani, calling him a "longtime business and community leader in Mission Hill and Jamaica Plain." She said that Soltani bought the business in 2007 and the building in 2013.

"With the success of outdoor seating," Scanlon said, "we'd like to be able to utilize the outdoor patio year round."

There is no change to hours, capacity, or number of seats on the patio, nor is it an expansion of the restaurant. Scanlon made it clear that the only request is to continue using the existing patio all year long.

Soltani said that the patio is heated, and there is also no music played on the patio.

While the pub does not have its own kitchen, Pikalo restaurant is right next door, and there is an indoor window in between the Brendan Behan and Pikalo so customers can purchase food to have with their drinks.

The small patio in the front of the building will have to be removed in early December to comply with the city's guidelines about outdoor dining on public property, Scanlon said, but the "patio in question here is on private property," said Committee Chair Michael Reiskind.

Warren Williams, Executive Director of Three Squares Main Street, said that the organization is in support of the patio being

used year round.

Lyndon Fuller said he is also in support, praising Soltani and saying "he's an absolutely wonderful addition to the neighborhood."

Dermot Doyne, owner of The Penguin in Mission Hill, said that he "can't say enough good things about Michel. His business plan and his attitude to work is amazing."

Olga Batyuk, a neighbor, said she enjoys the patio and supports it being used year round.

A concern was also raised about illegal parking near the pub.

"I understand the concern," Soltani said. "I'm not responsible for the behavior of other people who do not follow the rules."

Williams said that "after talking to the other businesses and residents," it was determined that "there are multiple restaurants and multiple businesses in the district that don't have parking." He said that Three Squares can reach out to the Boston Transportation Department and the police department "to see if they can ticket more or enforce the rules more. We cannot put that on the Brendan Behan."

Williams added that there might be fewer issues with parking once the front outdoor patios are removed from the area.

Fuller said "I see it every day. These cars...playing Russian roulette" when trying to get takeout orders.

The committee approved the request to use the patio year round.

**ADVERTISE IN
THE GAZETTE
FOR RATES AND
INFORMATION,
PLEASE CALL
617-524-7662**

**Mammograms
Save Lives.**

All women over 40 should have a mammogram once a year. Breast cancer found early offers the best chance to be cured. Free or low cost mammograms are available.

For more information and answers to any of your cancer questions, contact us any time, day or night.

**www.cancer.org
1.800.ACS.2345**



As Thanksgiving nears, State Fire Marshal offers safety tips

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

As we prepare for the Thanksgiving holiday, State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey offered a safety message in advance of the #1 day for residential fires in Massachusetts.

“Over the past five years, there have been more than twice as many fires on Thanksgiving as on the next-closest day,” State Fire Marshal Ostroskey said. “Thanksgiving is a time for coming together with family, but it’s also a time for fire safety. You can start now by making sure you have working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms that can alert you to danger.”

Cooking Safety Tips

There were 711 Thanksgiving Day fires from 2016 to 2020, and 86% of them started with cook-

ing activities. These fires caused seven civilian injuries, eight fire service injuries, and more than \$3 million in estimated losses. State Fire Marshal Ostroskey offered cooking safety tips that everyone can follow to keep their kitchens fire-safe this year:

Check to make sure your oven is empty before turning it on.

Wear short or tight-fitting sleeves when cooking.

Turn pot handles inward over the stove.

Remember to “stand by your pan” and stay in the kitchen when boiling, frying or broiling.

Use a timer when baking or roasting and never leave the house with the oven running.

The best way to respond to a stovetop fire is to “put a lid on it” and turn off the heat.

The best way to respond to an oven or broiler fire is to keep the oven doors closed and turn off the heat.

If the fire is not quickly snuffed out, leave the house and call 9-1-1 from outside.

Thanksgiving 2020

Firefighters responded to 145 fires across the Commonwealth last Thanksgiving, including one in a New Bedford apartment building that spread to nearby structures. The fire started with an attempt to cook a turkey in a gas-powered deep fryer. One occupant was severely injured and nearly 30 people were displaced. The combined estimated damages incurred totaled \$1 million.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) strongly discourages the use of outdoor

gas-fueled turkey fryers that immerse the turkey in hot oil. There are no outdoor turkey fryers that have a listing from an independent testing laboratory such as UL or ETL. The NFPA states that home use of “turkey fryers that use cooking oil, as currently designed, are not suitable for safe use by even a well-informed and careful consumer.” This risk of an oil spill or the ignition of spilled oil is quite high. They recommend using new “oil-less” turkey fryers.

Gas Ovens: A Source of Carbon Monoxide

Generally, the confined space of a closed gas oven used for cooking does not produce enough carbon monoxide (CO) to present any dangers, unless it is used for several hours consecutively like

when roasting a turkey. If you have a kitchen exhaust fan, use it; if not, crack a window for fresh air when using the gas oven for a prolonged period.

Home Heating: #2 Cause of Fires on Thanksgiving

Heating is the second leading cause of fires on Thanksgiving. Give your furnace an annual check-up, have chimneys cleaned and inspected by a professional at the beginning of heating season, and place space heaters on flat, level surfaces where in locations where they won’t be bumped or tripped over. Keep a three-foot “circle of safety” around all heat sources.

For more information, contact your local fire department or the Department of Fire Services’ Thanksgiving web page.

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission releases October 2021 Gross Gaming Revenue

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission reported today that the month of October 2021 at Plainridge Park Casino (PPC), MGM Springfield and Encore

Boston Harbor generated approximately \$96 million in Gross Gaming Revenue (GGR).

PPC, a category 2 slots facility, is taxed on 49% of GGR. Of that

total taxed amount, 82% is paid to Local Aid and 18% is allotted to the Race Horse Development Fund. MGM Springfield and Encore Boston Harbor, category 1

resort-casinos, are taxed on 25% of GGR; those monies are allocated to several specific state funds as determined by the gaming statute. To date, the Commonwealth

has collected approximately \$921 million in total taxes and assessments from PPC, MGM and Encore since the respective openings of each gaming facility.



REVENUE REPORT

OCTOBER 2021

GROSS GAMING REVENUE

TAXES

MGM SPRINGFIELD SUBJECT TO 25% TAXES	TABLE	\$4,562,730.75	\$5,360,141.23
	SLOTS	\$16,877,834.17	
	TOTAL	\$21,440,564.92	
ENCORE BOSTON HARBOR SUBJECT TO 25% TAXES	TABLE	\$30,580,470.32	\$15,699,930.27
	SLOTS	\$32,219,250.76	
	TOTAL	\$62,799,721.08	
PLAINRIDGE PARK CASINO SUBJECT TO 49% TAXES	SLOTS	\$11,741,676.26	\$5,753,421.37
	TOTAL	\$11,741,676.26	
TOTAL TAXES			\$26,813,492.87

FRESH AND LOCAL**MIT campus dog walk**

BY PENNY & ED CHERUBINO

Recently we met up with friends for a dog walk on the MIT campus. It proved to be a convenient and delightful way to spend time together with our dogs. This campus is very dog friendly, and many MIT employees take their dogs to work with them.

There are many iconic MIT places to meet up. We picked a spot between the chapel and the Stratton Student Center as our starting point and enjoyed a late breakfast on a nearby picnic table.

While we walked with friends, we would recommend this as a dog walk, even if it is just you and your dog looking for a change of scenery. As on most college campuses, students often miss their dogs and are very happy to spend a few minutes engaging with you and your pup. In exchange, they can answer your questions about the area, recommend a great food spot, or tell you about their favorite MIT walk.

Resources

Even during the pandemic, the Stratton Student Center (Building W20 on campus maps) welcomed visitors and offered food and restrooms 24 hours a day and seven days a week. As always, we recommend you check for possible changes before you visit.

Numerous food options are available in Central Square and along Massachusetts Avenue. We opted for takeout from Flour Bakery, less than a quarter of a mile from our meeting spot. As for where to dine, there are picnic tables and seats scattered throughout the campus. We think this is going to be one of our favorite new picnic spots!

Getting There

The MIT campus sprawls over 168 acres. It reaches from Kendall Square to a spot near the Longfellow bridge. Moving west, it extends to the BU Bridge. Massachusetts Avenue intersects the campus where the Harvard Bridge crosses the Charles River. From there, the campus continues north for about a mile into Central Square.

On a Sunday, our friends were able to find on-street parking. There are also numerous parking lots nearby. You can also arrive at MIT via the MBTA from the Central or Kendall Square stations or on the Number 1 bus down Massachusetts Avenue. Well-behaved dogs are allowed on the MBTA outside of rush hours and at the discretion of the driver.

Art Walk for the Humans!

A bonus for us was exploring the public art scattered all over the campus. Even more admirable is that MIT offers visitors valuable resources for learning



Duchess Poppy and Lady Cha Cha paid rapt attention as an MIT Neuroscientist explained how the sculpture behind them, Alchemist by Jaume Plensa, impacts their brains.

more about the artwork you find. If you search for "MIT Public Art" online, you'll find maps, information about each piece of art, a link to a series of self-guided walking tours, student-led tours, and even a GPS-enabled self-guided tour designed to work on your cell phone.

Quiet and Welcoming

We had an excellent walk with

our anxious and noise adverse little Westie Poppy. We don't know if it was the mention of our friends' names, the new route, or the quiet, welcoming feel of the campus and the people around us, but she trotted along calmly, happily, and even wagged her tail a bit.

Poppy has always adored our friends and was happy to share all of us with their dog Cha Cha.

It was one of her best outings, and we plan to go back often and explore more of the artwork, architecture, peaceful spaces, comfortable seating, and river views on an MIT campus walk.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.

Copley Square tree lighting set for Nov. 29

The City of Boston, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, and the Friends of Copley Square welcome the holidays with the annual Copley Square Tree Lighting on Monday, November 29, starting at 5 p.m.

This free event will feature appearances by Santa Claus, Frosty the Snowman, and Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer along with musical performances by vocalist Aceem Hill, the Boston Children's Chorus, the Boston Pops Esplanade Brass Ensemble, and Berklee College of Music's own Esperanza Delgado.

Additional support provided by AT&T Mobility and H.P. Hood, LLC. Light refreshments provided

by H.P. Hood, LLC. Event production partners include Boston Properties, Encore Global, and Fairmont Copley Plaza.

Other 2021 holiday celebrations hosted by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department include the lighting of the trellis at Christopher Columbus Park on the Boston Harbor waterfront November 22, the lighting of the ship in Martin's Park at the Children's Wharf Harborwalk on November 27, and the Boston Common Tree Lighting followed by the lighting of the trees on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall on December 2. The arrival of Boston's official 2021 Christmas tree, a 48-foot white spruce tree



The tree lighting at Copley Square last year.

donated by L'Arche Cape Breton of Orangedale, Nova Scotia, will be celebrated on Boston Common

at approximately 11 a.m. on November 17.

Visit bit.ly/LightsOnBos or

call 617-635-4505 for more information.

EDITORIAL

Progressives? No -- they are Regressives

There are a lot of reasons why the Democrats and President Joe Biden have plummeted in the polls and then absorbed a huge defeat across the country in the recent election.

As often is the case in politics, the party in charge gets the blame even if they arise from circumstances beyond its control.

Almost all of the issues that have been troubling Americans in the past few months are no fault of Biden and the Democrats. The ongoing pandemic, supply-chain snafus, labor shortages, inflation worries, weather-related crises, and soaring energy prices all either were inherited by Biden or are the result of unforeseen circumstances.

The Biden administration could have done better with the withdrawal from Afghanistan, but that too, was a circumstance he inherited and that spiraled out of control.

However, there is one aspect of the Biden Presidency and the Democratic control of Congress that is within their control. And that is their ability to get things done.

On August 10, a bipartisan vote of the Senate approved the \$1 trillion infrastructure bill. However, the bill sat for months in the House because of the efforts of a willful group of Democratic House members who held it hostage to their demands for the \$3.5 trillion Build Back Better legislation.

We would note that we fully have supported every aspect of the Build Back Better Plan, including the Green New Deal which we endorsed from the outset when it first was introduced by Senator Ed Markey and Rep. Alexaandra Ocasio Cortez in January of 2019.

In fact, we would support an even-larger bill in order to bring America into the 21st century.

However, the reality is that there are Democratic members of Congress who do not agree with all of the proposals in the Build Back Better Plan and who have been saying so for months.

Yet the so-called Progressives in the House refused to accept this reality. Democrats promised the voters that if they were put in charge, they'd get things done -- but the intransigence of the so-called Progressives served not only to undermine the Biden administration and Democrats in general, but also sank their own cause as well.

For all of their posturing and demand-making, they have nothing -- nada -- zero -- to show for their efforts.

As we have said many times in this column, politics is the art of compromise. Or, as Kenny Rogers put it,

"You've got to know when to hold 'em,
Know when to fold 'em."

The Progressives' hubris served as a gift to the Republicans.

Instead of Progressing the country forward, their political gamesmanship has undermined Americans' faith in the democratic process and Regressed us back to the era before 2020.

Op-Ed

The Haiti kidnapped missionaries, consider the costs of such trips

By Glenn Mollette

The missionaries consisting of sixteen Americans and one Canadian kidnapped by the Haitian "400 Mawozo" gang October 16, is extremely scary. The gang has threatened to kill the humanitarian Christians if a million dollar per person ransom is not fulfilled. The group consists of men, women, children and an eight-month-old baby.

These missionaries have sacrificed their time and paid their own way to go to the poorest place in the Western hemisphere to try to spread God's love and save some souls. In turn, the missionaries are experiencing a nightmare like they've never imagined. They're imprisoned and being threatened with a bullet in the head.

Most of us will never get over seeing journalists being beheaded and tortured in Syria and Iraq by the barbaric Islamic extremist group called ISIL. Burning people alive and beheading others were too graphic and gruesome to ever be forgotten.

Why do journalists, missionaries and humanitarian aid workers go to such places to risk kidnapping, rape, torture and unimaginable deaths? There is always the belief that "it will not happen to me." Some might view such a trip as a vacation.

Years ago, I traveled to a third world country on a "missionary trip" with others thinking it would be a nice break. I've never worked so hard in my life.

Sadly, the 17 missionaries in Haiti are undergoing a cruel experience that may end with the cost of their very lives. What are they thinking now? What is going through the minds of the little children who traveled to a world to help others and spread God's love?

Haiti has been the site of years of humanitarian efforts. The United States and other countries have given billions of dollars to help Haiti. Sadly, hurricanes, political unrest, underdevelopment and extreme poverty have all made for a sad scenario.

How much money would the world have to give to Haiti to make life better for this nation? This is a question no one can answer because usually aid is a short-term solution. We spent a trillion dollars in Afghanistan and they aren't any better off today.

Good missionary people went to Haiti with good hearts for helping others in the name of God's love. They went to share a message they hoped would bring about change and better lives. They may now lose their lives.

Christians point to Jesus as the model for such missionary efforts. He came preaching and teaching in an effort to demonstrate and spread God's love and it cost him plenty -- his life, executed in public on a cross.

There are some Christians today who, like Jesus, are willing to risk their lives for the sake of others. Did these men

and women literally go to Haiti taking their children with them truly believe they could be killed? Would they purposefully do this to their children? Who convinced these people that such a trip with small children was a good idea?

My goal here is to simply say, think about such trips to places like Haiti. Afghanistan, Iraq, Northern Nigeria and numerous others countries are not vacation spots. Foreign travel may sound exotic and adventurous but consider the possible cost.

Many missionaries and Christian workers have paid the ultimate price in order to spread the gospel of Christ. Only eternity will reveal what their selfless sacrifice has meant to those whose lives they impacted.

By chance, if you decide such an international trip is not for you, don't feel bad. Consider helping in an American inner city, Appalachia or maybe your own neighborhood. Service at home is needed across America.

Let's pray for the safety of these missionaries and for those negotiating their release. May God help them and all who may consider such endeavors.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist -- American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

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

INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING?

Give Us a Call!!
617-524-2626

OBITUARIES

Ellen Carol Gower

Scientist, musician and artist

Ellen Carol Gower, 81, of West Roxbury, died peacefully on Friday, October 15, at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston with her family by her side.

Born on June 10, 1940, in Paterson, New Jersey, she was the beloved daughter of the late Byron and Emily (Oldenburg) Gower.

Ellen earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Swarthmore College in Swarthmore, Pennsylvania and a doctorate in the field of neuroscience from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Thereafter, she established her own laboratory and continued her dissertation research on the neuroanatomy of the rhesus monkey, shedding light on how conduction of sensory information in certain areas of the brain may play a fundamental role in human and primate memory. She was affiliated with the Department of Neurology at the Boston

University School of Medicine, the Department of Anatomy and Cellular Biology at Tufts University and the Boston Veterans Administration Medical Center.

For most of her adult life, Ellen was active in Boston's musical community. She sang for several decades in the King's Chapel Choir and was a member of the Harvard Musical Association where she played the viola and served as Orchestra Committee Chair. She also enjoyed playing her viola with informal chamber music groups.

A talented artist, Ellen focused in recent years on drawing, painting, and photography, especially of the natural world and exhibited her work through the Jamaica Plain Artists Association and other local arts organizations. Always an independent spirit, she loved the Maine coast, gardening, cooking, opera and reading, and built an extensive

personal library that reflected her intellectual curiosity and her passion for science, philosophy, and literature.

She is survived by her sister, Holly Gower Boots and her husband, Jack of New Canaan, Connecticut, her nephew, Byron Boots and his wife, Jamie of Seattle, Washington, and her cousins: Noel, Colin, Elaine (Ed), and John.

Ellen's burial was private, but a concert dedicated to her memory will be scheduled next fall at King's Chapel in Boston.

Donations in her memory may be made to King's Chapel Concert Series, 64 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02108, the Menino Arts Center, 26 Central Avenue, Hyde Park, Massachusetts 02136, or Brigham and Women's Hospital, 116 Huntington Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02116.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Looking for someone to shovel out two cars after snowfalls near the Monument this winter. Call 617 524 4488.

SERVICES

David at kNURD on Kall: 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.

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

LEGAL NOTICE

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. SU21P2189EA
Estate of: Elizabeth Ann Craven
Date of Death: 08/03/2021
To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Jacqueline D. Creaven of West Roxbury, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Jacqueline D. Creaven of West Roxbury, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said

estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/16/2021. 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: November 4, 2021
Felix D. Arroyo
Register of Probate
11/19/21 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. SU21P1065EA
Estate of: Gaspare Robert Ferraro
Date of Death: 05/23/1995
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Sally F. Dean of Jamaica Plain, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that Sally F. Dean of Jamaica Plain, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/14/2021. 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: November 02, 2021
Felix D. Arroyo
Register of Probate
11/19/21 JP

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

Do You need to run a legal? Don't forget to check at the court to see if you qualify for a fee-waiver!



Community Servings Pie in the Sky! Buy a Pie and Feed a Neighbor in Need



Did you know you can feed a family for a week by buying one Community Servings Pie?



Buy A Pie!
Scan the QR code with your
mobile phone's camera.

Cervone Deegan + Associates is your source for Pie in the Sky. We hope you continue to join us as you have every year for the last 28, by buying your Thanksgiving pies from us to support this generous endeavor. **Every \$30 pie provides a week's worth of scratch-made, medically tailored meals for the critically ill.**

Pre-pandemic, **Pie In The Sky**, sold close to 25,000 pies annually, raising more than \$850,000 and providing tens of thousands of meals. With an even greater need, this the year the goal is to sell more pies than ever before. **Scan the QR code, visit the website or call us to select pumpkin, apple and pecan.** When checking ordering online, be sure to select "Cervone Deegan + Associates".

The order deadline is November 20th, and there are limited supplies. Buy a gift for clients, friends or family. Donations are welcome and encouraged during these challenging times.

Pick-up on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, November 23rd. There are 20+ pick-up locations and times spread out across Eastern Massachusetts. Find the full list of locations at PieInTheSky.Org.



Questions or Orders?
Contact us:
617.835.0674
Info@JamaicaPlainRealEstate.com



CERVONE DEEGAN
+ ASSOCIATES



COLDWELL
BANKER