



It was not just the water that was the problem, it was the very, very, cold water. Mike Cataldo and the other plungers hurried out and grabbed a towel during last week's Rotary Plunge at the East Boston Yacht Club. See Pages 4 and 5 for more photos.

Taking a cold plunge for a good cause

Last Saturday morning was a little snowy, slushy, and around 35 degrees, perfect for a dip into the Atlantic Ocean. Hearty and game for anything, members of local Rotary clubs joined in the festivities at the East Boston

Yacht Club. A buffet of local cuisine was offered to the group gathering for the event.

The Belle Isle Rotary Club consists of members from Winthrop, Revere and East Boston and the co-sponsoring Parkway Rotary Club has members from West Roxbury, Roslindale and Jamaica Plain, the clubs combined to host the first annual plunge. As a precaution a Boston EMT was on

Continued on page 4

JPNC sets June 24 for annual election

Staff Report

The Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) held its regular monthly meeting this past Tuesday evening via Zoom. The council members tackled a full agenda over the course of the 90-minute meeting.

On hand for the meeting were chairman Will Cohen and fellow members Nicholas Chaves, David Baron, Peg Preble, Renee Stacey Welch, Omer Hecht, Bernard Doherty, Michael Reiskind, Paige Sparks, Sarah Freeman, Gert Thorne, Alexis Rickmers, and Trevor Wissink-Adams.

Jamaica Plain's new State Rep., Samantha Montano, also was on hand for the meeting.

It was announced that the mayor's office will be holding a

coffee hour Friday morning (tomorrow) at the Egleston Square Branch Library from 10-11.

Welch, the chair of the Housing and Development Committee, presented a letter for approval by the full council asking the mayor's office for funding for landlord education and support regarding the rental voucher process and seeking to increase the affordable housing requirements to 25% for future developments.

There was some heated debate about the letter. Hecht, who is a landlord, responded by referring to landlords as the "leeches of society" -- a comment that drew a rebuke from Cohen -- and said that landlords don't need support.

Continued on page 7

JPA votes against First Church dog park plan

BY MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR.

During the Jamaica Pond Association's (JPA) monthly meeting on Monday, Mar. 6, a majority of the association's board voted in favor of formally opposing the First Church in Jamaica Plain's plans to create a fencedin off-leash dog park in its burial ground.

This formal opposition would

involve sending a letter emphasizing the JPA's opposition to the dog park to the Church and the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC). However, although the JPA does not favor a dog park at the proposed location, the letter would also advocate for a dog park just in a different area of Jamaica Plain.

According to Bonnie McBride, who offered a wealth of background information on the subject – the dog park is something that has been in the works since June of 2021.

"I understand that in congregational meetings in December '21 and again in May of '22, the church congregation voted to have its governing board explore this idea further," said McBride.

Continued on page 6

Community ideas wanted for Lawson Park project

BY MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR.

As the Gazette reported previously, Lawson Park did not receive around \$500,000 in Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding for planned renovations. However, that is not stopping those in the Egleston Square community from looking for ways to liven it up.

"We're just looking for things to activate Lawson Park. It's a pretty little park, and we just need some other human energy to brainstorm ideas," said Carolyn Royce during the Egleston Square Neighborhood Association's monthly meeting on Monday, Mar. 6.

"Also to help planning a lot of those things wouldn't take a whole lot of money, but it would be fun and put good energy into the park."

Royce mentioned some previous ideas that have been broached, like having a tour of the gardens around Egleston that either ends or begins at Lawson Park. She also talked about bringing an event to Lawson that included trading plants and seedlings.

Continued on page 3

Three women charged with February attack that left another woman with facial fractures

Prosecutors charged two Boston women with an attack last month on another woman that left the victim hospitalized for three days with facial bone fractures and an injury to one of the blood vessels in her neck, District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced.

A third Boston woman was arraigned on Friday in the attack.

Jalisa Banks, 31, of Jamaica Plain and Candace Phillips, 37, of Dorchester were each charged in Dorchester BMC yesterday with assault and battery and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon (shod foot) causing serious bodily injury. Prosecutors requested \$2,500 bail and GPS monitoring for Banks and \$7,500 bail and GPS monitoring for Phillips, plus revocation of prior bail for an existing gun charge. Judge Jonathan Tynes released Banks and Phillips on personal recognizance and ordered them to have no contact with the victim. Both will return to court May 10 for a pre-trial hearing.

Taranesia Williams, 33, of Dorchester was arraigned on Friday in Dorchester BMC on the same charges. Prosecutors requested \$2,500 bail and GPS monitoring. Judge Thomas Kaplanes released Williams on personal recognizance and ordered her to stay away from the victim. Williams will return to court April 28 for a pre-trial hearing.

On February 18 at about 12:49 a.m. Boston police responded to

a call for a fight at 2 Shandon Road in Dorchester. The victim, a 41-year-old woman, and a witness told police they had driven to the address to pick up a friend. The victim said she knocked on the friend's door, then walked back to the car when he did not answer. The victim said she was then attacked by a group of women. The women punched her, knocked her to the ground, then kicked and punched her in the head.

The victim indicated to police that she knew her attackers, and that they may have been motivated by their belief that she was involved in a relationship with a mutual acquaintance. The attackers were eventually identified and summonsed. Hayden said the apparent motivation for the attack echoed that of a stabbing last month that left one woman dead, another woman injured and a 16-yearold girl charged with murder.

"The impulse to resort to extreme violence amid conflicts over perceived relationships is something we see happening too often. These moments of rage can turn into lives altered or, in the juvenile stabbing case, lives ended. We as a society must do everything we can to address these impulses before they result in more tragedies," Hayden said.

All charged individuals are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Suffolk County District Attor-

LOCAL STUDENTS EARN

ACADEMIC HONORS

ney Kevin Hayden's office serves the communities of Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop, Mass. The office handles over 20,000 cases a year. More than 160 attorneys in the office practice in nine district and municipal courts, Suffolk Superior Court, the Massachusetts Appeals Court, the Supreme Judicial Court, and the Boston Juvenile Courts. The office employs some 300 people and offers a wide range of services and programs to serve anyone who comes in contact with the criminal justice system. This office is committed to educating the public about the services we provide, our commitment to crime prevention, and our dedication to keeping the residents of Suffolk County safe.

Fatal shooting Sunday night

A Dorchester man was fatally shot late Sunday night, March 5. The shooting took place in an apartment at 940 Parker St. Police are investigating, and are asking the public for help in solving this crime. Please contact the police hotline at homicide detectives at 617-343-4470 or call the tip line at 1-800-494-TIPS or text TIP to 27463 if you have information.



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: 617-524-7662

REED NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

Bryant University is pleased to recognize Karli Reed from Jamaica Plain for their unwavering commitment to academic excellence and achievement by naming Karli to the fall 2022 Deans' List. To earn a place on the Deans' List students must have a GPA of 3.4 or better for at least 12 semester hours of work. Congratulations on this outstanding achievement!

About Bryant University

For nearly 160 years, Bryant University has been at the forefront of delivering an exceptional education that anticipates the future and prepares students to be innovative leaders of character in a changing world. Bryant delivers an innovative and uniquely integrated business and liberal arts education that inspires students to excel. With approximately 3,700 graduate



and undergraduate students from 38 states and 49 countries, Bryant is recognized as a leader in international education and regularly receives top rankings from U.S. News and World Report, Bloomberg Businessweek, Forbes, and Barron's.

CRELLIN-SAZAMA NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

Adam Crellin-Sazama, of Jamaica Plain, was named to second honors on the Clark University Dean's List. This selection marks outstanding academic achievement during the Fall 2022 semester.

Students must have a GPA of 3.8 or above for first honors or a GPA between 3.50 and 3.79 for second honors.

Founded in 1887, Clark University is a liberal arts-based research university that prepares its students to meet tomorrow's most daunting challenges and embrace its greatest opportunities. Through 33 undergraduate majors, more than 30 advanced degree programs, and nationally recognized community partnerships, Clark fuses rigorous scholarship with authentic world and workplace experiences that empower our students to pursue lives and careers of meaning and consequence.

OCKENE NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

Misha Ockene from Jamaica Plain has been named to St. Lawrence University's Dean's List for achieving academic excellence during the Fall 2022 semester.

Ockene is a member of the Class of 2025. Ockene attended Brookline High School.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must have completed at least four courses and have an academic average of 3.6 based on a 4.0 scale for the semester.

About St. Lawrence University:

Founded in 1856, St. Lawrence University is a private, independent liberal arts institution of about 2,250 students located in Canton, New York. The educational opportunities at St. Lawrence inspire students and prepare them to be critical and creative thinkers, to find a compass for their lives and careers, and to pursue knowledge and understanding for the benefit of themselves, humanity and the planet. Through its focus on active engagement with ideas in and beyond the classroom, a St. Lawrence education leads students to make connections that transform lives and communities, from the local to the global.

News Briefs

FEMA AWARDS OVER \$2 MILLION TO CITY OF BOSTON FOR COVID-19 SUPPLIES

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will be sending more than \$2 million to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to reimburse the City of Boston for the cost of purchasing emergency supplies during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The \$2,006,134 Public Assistance grant will reimburse the Boston Public Health Commission for the cost of personal protective equipment (PPE) and supplies distributed to both its staff and community partners to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

The PPE and supplies purchased between March and December 2020 included masks, gloves, safety glasses, face shields, N95 masks, disinfecting wipes and sanitizer.

"FEMA is pleased to be able to assist the Boston Public Health Commission with these costs," said FEMA Region 1 Regional Administrator Lori Ehrlich. "Providing resources for our partners on the front lines of the pandemic fight is critical to their success, and to our success as a nation."

FEMA's Public Assistance program is an essential source of funding for states and communities recovering from a federally declared disaster or emergency.

So far, FEMA has provided more than \$1.5 billion in Public Assistance grants to Massachusetts to reimburse the commonwealth for pandemic-related expenses.

BEWARE OF SOCIAL SECURITY-RELATED SCAMS

On National Slam the Scam Day and throughout the year, we give you the tools to recognize Social Security-related scams and stop scammers from stealing your money and personal information. Share scam information with your loved ones. Slam the Scam!

Recognize the four basic signs of a scam:

1. Scammers pretend to be from a familiar organization or agency, like the Social Security Administration. They may email attachments with official-looking logos, seals, signatures, or pictures of employee credentials.

2. Scammers mention a problem or a prize. They may say your Social Security number was involved in a crime or ask for personal information to process a benefit increase.

3. Scammers pressure you to act immediately. They may threaten you with arrest or legal action.

4. Scammers tell you to pay using a gift card, prepaid debit card, cryptocurrency, wire or money transfer, or by mailing cash. They may also tell you to transfer your money to a "safe" account.

Ignore scammers and report criminal behavior. Report Social Security-related scams to the SSA Office of the Inspector General (OIG).

Visit www.ssa.gov/scam for more information and follow SSA OIG on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn to stay up to date on the latest scam tactics. Repost #SlamtheScam information on social media to keep your friends and family safe.

FEMA AWARDS OVER \$1.5 MILLION TO BOSTON FOR COVID-19 SCHOOL CLEANING

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will be sending more than \$1.5 million to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to reimburse the City of Boston for the cost of overtime to clean and disinfect public schools during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The \$1,539,097 Public Assistance grant will reimburse the City of Boston for the cost of paying 535 staff some 90,771 hours of overtime to clean and disinfect 130 school buildings during the 2020-2021 school year so that they could be safely opened and operated.

"FEMA is pleased to be able to assist the City of Boston with these costs," said FEMA Region 1 Regional Administrator Lori Ehrlich. "Providing resources for our partners on the front lines of the pandemic fight is critical to their success, and to our success as a nation."

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Lawson Park

Continued from page 1

Other ideas included history tours of Egleston, concluding with serving lemonade at the park and even figuring out a way to get temporary art to the park.

"Something just interesting there that would just be fun to maybe have a contest and pick out somebody, some temporary art piece that could go in there that was just going to last for a year or so, or six months," said Royce.

A resident, Peter DeCotis, shared one idea, saying, "Food is always a good thing, like ice cream carts or tacos. You can have something each day or whatever or taco Fridays or whatever – something like that."

Magda Drici, who has been working with Royce to develop ideas to activate the park, mentioned things like working with small businesses in the area and selling some merchandise at stands. Drici also said, "We're thinking of a couple gardening events, which we often do clean-up and gardening, maybe a Juneteenth celebration coupled with the reading of Frederick Douglass' speech."

Drici also alluded to the fact that she was thinking of doing a children's clothing and toy swap.

As spring and some warmer weather rapidly approach, it is clear that both Royce and Drici are looking for ways to make the park a fun place for people to gather.

For those who might have some ideas to liven up Lawson, the friends of the park have a public Facebook page at https:// www.facebook.com/LawsonPark-Boston and an email at lawsonparkboston@gmail.com.

"Our whole point with renovating Lawson Park was to make a space that would be more amenable for people to use. So, just thinking, what else can we do," said Royce.



contáctenos directamente en: contact@jpchildrensoccer.org.

Launch of AmplifyGSA initiative announced

$\mathsf{S}_{\mathsf{PECIAL}} \text{ to the } \mathsf{G}_{\mathsf{AZETTE}}$

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Mayor's Office of LGBTQ+ Advancement announced the launch of AmplifyGSA, a new initiative to promote, support, and protect Genders and Sexualities Alliances (GSA) in Boston Public schools. This program will officially launch tonight with support from the Boston Celtics and TD Bank at the "Celtics Pride Night" game. The Mayor's Office of LGBTQ+ Advancement will host the AmplifyGSA Youth Summit on May 21, 2023 at Boston Arts Academy.

"In Boston, we're committed to protecting and promoting our LGBTQ+ communities and the rights, dignity, and humanity of all our residents," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Currently only a handful of our schools have a Genders and Sexualities Alliance, so we're launching our new program, AmplifyGSA."

"It is our duty to provide a safe space for all of our young people and having GSAs in our schools is a proven holistic way to create the spaces needed to help our youth not just survive, but thrive." said Mayor's Office of LGBTQ+ Advancement Executive Director Quincey Roberts Sr. "With many parts of this country telling our kids they are not enough, here in Boston we have to show they are MORE than enough!"

Through AmplifyGSA, Mayor's Office of LGBTQ+ Advancement, in partnership with Boston Public Schools, is develop-

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Plunge

Continued from page 1

hand in case of any unexpected emergencies, so with everyone game for a dip, the weather was perfect and the ramp into the ocean was cleared for take-off.

There were no emergencies, all

Hitting the raffle table are Skip

and Emilia Marcella.

enjoyed a robust swim in the cold Atlantic in March. All retired to the club house and continued the day celebrating the day in fellowship and making plans for future events. The clubs would like to thank the East Boston Yacht Club for their generosity and all those who came to make the event a very successful one.



Working the crowd is the future District Governor Tom Hankard, shown with PDG Terry Curren from the Parkway Rotary Club.



A hotel somewhere is looking for their robe, John Douglas had it on Saturday morning.



Joseph Steffano Jr. is slickered out, coming in from clearing the ramp for the plungers, shown with Mike and Gianni Falzone.



Amy Miliotis with incoming President Stephen Miliotis and Lawrence Bailey selling raffle tickets.

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Commodore Larry Venezia of the East Boston Yacht Club

was on hand to welcome his

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It was cold, it was snowy, and it was a lot of fun.



President of Belle Rotary Club Isle Vera Carducci with Boston EMT at the water's edge.



Plunging support, Felicia Puopolo (center) is getting ready to plunge and brought supporters with her, Sabina DeCiccio and Janis Woodman.



Revere Rotarian and City CouncillorTony Zambuto and his friend Peter Scolaro cheer on the plungers.



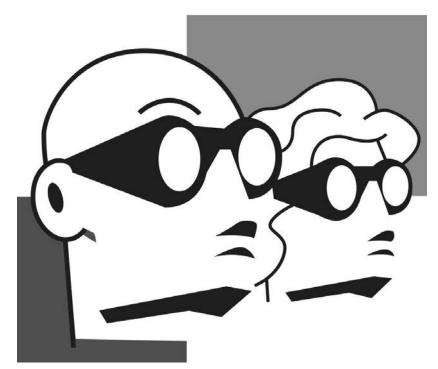
Participants in the Rotary Plunge are pictured in the icy waters of the Atlantic Ocean.

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FRESH AND LOCAL Nacho World Tour

By PENNY & ED CHERUBINO

Often, a food adventure begins when leftovers become second acts. Our non-traditional nacho world tour started with a container of roasted root vegetables, leftover braised beef, and some black beans.

Penny spread tortilla chips on a sheet pan; added pieces of roasted carrot, onion, potato, rutabaga, and squash; sprinkled a layer of grated cheese; dotted it with black beans; and topped that with shredded braised beef. After a few minutes under a hot broiler, she added cherry tomatoes and scallions. She served it with sour cream and lime wedges on the side.

Recipe Development Research

The following day, we began tossing ideas around for recipes. We discussed everything from Chinese nachos with char siu (bbq pork) and hoisin sauce to Polish nachos with kielbasa and horseradish.

Now in research mode, we borrowed a copy of Dan Whalen's "Nachos for Dinner" from the library. We soon learned to enjoy his system for taking foods you love and turning those flavors into nachos. Whalen starts with a chapter on building blocks. You'll find recipes for nacho-friendly sauces, salsas, guacamoles, beans, vegetables, and proteins. For most of these, he adds a few ways to use that ingredient in nachos.

He follows with chapters for turning popular soups, salads, appetizers, sandwiches, tacos, comfort foods, brunch, and snack items into trays of nachos. We've bookmarked his recipes for Chicken Larb, Banh Mi, Chicken Parm, and Italian Sub Nachos. Whalen even invented an array of dessert nachos. We can't wait to try the S'mores, Apple Pie, and Strawberry Shortcake nacho recipes.

Your Nachos

From what we learned, the dish was named for Ignacio Anaya, the inventor, whose nickname was "Nacho." The snack he created for a favorite customer in 1940 was fried tortilla triangles with shredded Colby cheese, heated and topped with pickled jalapeños. He was working with what he had– something crispy, cheesy, and spicy. We honor his creativity by using his formula with any ingredients that fit the role.

You can replace tortilla chips with any base layer that will work with your theme and be easy to pick up. We like toasted



Our non-traditional nacho world tour started with a container of roasted root vegetables, braised beef, and some black beans.

naan for Indian nachos. Whalen uses pie crust triangles for his Apple Pie nachos.

Nacho Tips

We suggest following the best tip we took from "Nachos for Dinner." Whalen wrote, "... sometimes it is better to reserve the toppings on the side for dipping. This keeps the chips crispy and the nachos themselves less messy, and it lets the eaters decide how much salsa, sour cream, or other cold topping they want."

Enjoy the fact that Nachos are casual food. Go ahead and serve them right on the baking sheet. This can be a perfect time to use smaller ¼ or 1/8 size sheet pans for individual servings. And line your pan with parchment paper or foil for fast cleanup.

Another favorite tip from the book was, "Spread them out so that every chip has at least 50 percent of its surface area exposed to the pan's surface."

Finally, many of us first tasted

Nachos in a favorite pub. These were likely to be a big pile of "loaded nachos" that became soggy long before the plate was empty. Try for a more straightforward array of ingredients with cold toppings on the side. You may find that you prefer your clean and crispy homemade nachos better than the pile from the pub.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

Dog Park

Continued from page 1

However, it was also noted that since 2021 some community members have opposed this and made it known. These feelings were communicated via a letter to the church's governing board with over 30 signatures noting community concerns in July of 2021.

Seemingly reading from that letter, McBride said the proposed dog park "is not an appropriate or respectful use of a historic and what some consider sacred space."

Even with the aforementioned letter, the church continued with its plans. "Knowing the church was continuing to explore the dog park idea, we turned to the Massachusetts Historical Commission in February '22 for possible assistance in stopping the church's efforts," said McBride.

"The MHC holds a preservation restriction on the church, which is based on the church having received development grant funds in the past. Per its [MHC] website, a preservation restriction protects historic and archaeological properties from changes that may be inappropriate."

Although the MHC, as Mc-Bride stated, protects from inappropriate changes, she explained that it was found in January that the commission granted the church a six-month pilot program for the dog park. This prompted another letter sent in February to the MHC and its Chair, William Galvin, the Secretary of the Commonwealth, in opposition to the decision.

Moreover, the church congregation is expected to vote on this pilot program just over a week from now on Sunday, Mar. 19.

"We believed then, and we believe now that the construction and operation of a dog park in the church's historic burial ground would be highly inappropriate," said McBride.

There were also several concerns about the church's efforts to keep an open dialogue with the JPA regarding the project.

"Certainly, when it comes to the JPA, we've heard nothing, and yet we tried to communicate with them ... It was a year ago at least; I remember hand delivering a letter to the church," said Kay Mathews.

However, it should be noted that Mathews did say that nobody from the church was formally invited to the meeting for representation.

Other concerns related to the park included maintenance of the site and the noise that would coincide with many dogs and owners being there.

While there seemed to be overwhelming opposition to the dog park, those who did speak in opposition at the meeting emphasized that a dog park needs to happen somewhere in Jamaica Plain. "I absolutely agree that the city and the neighborhood needs a dog park somewhere – I think it's completely inappropriate that it be in the graveyard," said Anne McHugh.

Another resident, Susan Siebert, also said, "It bothers me that it's [the dog park] at a graveyard site. It also bothers me that we've been trying for years to get the DCR [Department of Conservation and Recreation] and the City of Boston to designate a public dog park in Jamaica Plain."

In the end, although the JPA is opposing the church's dog park, it is clear that many realize the need for a dog park in Jamaica Plain – just not in a historic burial ground.

JPNC

Continued from page 1

However, Welch said that the point of the letter is to assist landlords in order to make more units available for tenants with vouchers.

Cohen, who is an urban planner, noted that there are many organizations that already address the issues raised in the letter and took exception to some of the statements in the letter. Most significantly, Cohen said that asking for an increase to 25 percent of affordable housing in developments not only is unworkable and counterproductive, but also would "reflect poorly on the council" for taking a position that has no chance of becoming policy by the city.

Doherty agreed with Cohen's comments and added that the real issue is that the median income level in Jamaica Plain leaves out many low-income residents from the housing market, even for so-called affordable units.

"Rents of \$3000, even \$2000, for a one-bedroom apartment are unaffordable for many people," said Doherty who also added that the mayor is doing about as much as possible given the present housing environment.

"Do we want to adapt a practical stance or request something that is aspirational?" asked Reiskind.

The council eventually voted not to send the letter.

Baron, the chair of the Zoning Committee, noted that the committee had not taken any votes at its last meeting, which left the full JPNC (which votes on the recommendations of the Zoning Committee) with nothing to take up at this time.

Rickmers from the Parks Committee reported that the group is focused on community outreach and its next big project will in-



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.

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volve the clean-up of the Muddy River.

Sparks, the chair of the Outreach Committee, reported that the committee spent time discussing the upcoming council election. She said that the Outreach Committee has recommended Saturday, June 24, for the annual council election. She noted that there will be paper and digital voting options.

After the council unanimously approved that date, Sparks said there will be a need for volunteers for the positions of poll workers and vote-counters.

Sparks also mentioned that the committee is discussing the possibility of having the JPNC register as a 501(3)(c) non-profit charitable organization.

Reiskind of the Business Com-

mittee reported that his group is still in the process of seeking more trash barrels in the area from the city and MBTA.

He also noted that the proposal for new bicycle lanes in various locations in JP is a hot topic in the community. He added that the committee will be asking the city for road repairs and additional street-sweeping.

Doherty informed the council of the MWRA's plans for a new, 10-foot water line that will traverse under JP at a depth of 400-500 feet.

The council members unanimously voted to elect three new members to the committee. Danielle Sommer, Lorenzo Bartoloni, and Peter DeCotis, to fill three of the five vacant seats on the council.

Initiative

Continued from page 3

ing relationships with school communities across the city to learn about what LGBTQ+ students need in order to feel more supported in their school. This program will highlight Genders and Sexualities Alliances, student-run school groups that unite LGBTQ+ and allied youth to build community and organize around issues important to them, in Boston schools. AmplifyGSA builds connections across differences by engaging with LGBTQ+ youth and their allies, teachers, school administrators, and families.

"We are proud to expand

our partnership with the Boston Celtics, under Mayor Wu's leadership, and the City's Office of LGBTQ+ Advancement to launch AmplifyGSA, endeavoring to increase the number of GSAs across our schools," said Boston Public Schools Superintendent Mary Skipper. "Every student, family, and staff member should be celebrated and fully accepted for who they are and their unique contributions to our classrooms and district. Every aspect of each person's identity, experiences, culture, and talents enriches our learning community and we are committed to making every effort to welcome and affirm each individual and group, particularly members of groups that have

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Wu announces awardees of returning citizens support grant

Mayor Michelle Wu, the Office of Human Services (OHS), and the Office of Returning Citizens (ORC) announced the award of over \$1 million in funding to 35 organizations including North Suffolk Community Services that provide reentry support services to individuals who are returning to Boston after being released from federal, state, or county correctional facilities. Of the 35 grantees, 29 organizations are either led by people of color, led by a returning citizen, or both. Over 80% of the total funding being awarded will be going to those 29 organizations. Today's awards of the Returning Citizens Support (RCS) grants mark the first-ever City funding to support community-based organizations that serve returning citizens. This is a key component of the historic investment of \$2.6 million made by Mayor Wu in the FY23 budget for the ORC. The awards are the result of a competitive grant process announced in December.

"Wrapping around our returning citizens with programming and services is vital to ensuring formerly incarcerated individuals are able to return to their lives and community successfully," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm so grateful to all our partner organizations for their commitment to supporting our community members in their reentry."

"This investment in services will boost the overall impact of the Office of Returning Citizens and help to provide relief and support to individuals who are returning to Boston from incarceration," said Chief of Human Services José Massó. "In addition to the grants for services available to all returning citizens, we are making a special effort to fund organizations that are led by returning citizens and people of color, and those that have unique expertise in providing support to underserved populations of returning citizens, such as women and people who identify as LGBTQI."

"Even though there's still work to be done, it is gratifying to begin to build a network of resources for returning citizens and especially to be able to support so many of our partners that have been doing this work as a labor of love for so many years," said David Mayo, Executive Director of the Office of Returning Citizens. "Partnerships like these are what will make Boston a better place to return home."

"Today, we take another step to right past harms by investing in organizations and nonprofits centering the needs of those returning home from incarceration, many of these led by those very same individuals," said Councilor Ruthzee Louijeune. "When we talked about investing in our returning citizens during last year's budget, this is a model for what my office wanted to see: organizations led by those directly impacted leading the way for mental health services, family reunification, supportive housing, substance abuse counseling, and workforce training. There's more to do, but this is a start."

This announcement marks a significant milestone in the city's efforts to create a network of services available to formerly incarcerated individuals returning home. The RCS grant will provide non-profit organizations with vital funding to support a variety of services including: family reunification; services specifically tailored to the unique challenges facing LGBTQI returning citizens; services specifically tailored to the unique challenges facing women returning citizens; education; career and employment trainings and professional skills development; clothing, food, and other basic needs; CORI sealing and expungement; transitional and permanent housing supports; Know Your Rights legal trainings; mentorship; and mental health and substance use counseling.

The following organizations have received grants as part of

this funding round:

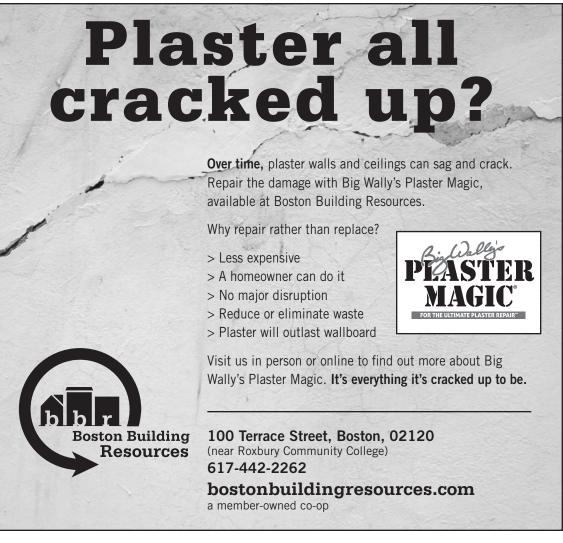
- Baystate Reentry Network
- Big Hope Project
- Black and Pink
- Boston Lesbigay Urban Foundation
- Charlestown Adult Education
- City Church Boston
- College Bound Dorchester
- Family Nurturing Center
- Fathers' Uplift
- Future Hope Apprenticeship
- God's Soldiers, Inc.
- Greater Boston Legal Services
- Haley House
- Healing Our Land
- Jericho Circle Project
- Justice 4 Housing Hands on Defense Program
- Justice Resource Institute, STRIVE
- Lawyer's Clearinghouse on Affordable Housing & Homelessness
- Lena-Park Community Development
- Louis D Brown Peace Institute
- New Beginnings Reentry Services
- New England Innocence Project
- North Suffolk Community Services

- Nubian Square Foundation
- Out for Good Behavioral Services
- People Affecting Community Change
- Prophetic Resistance Boston
- Project Smile, Suits and Smiles
- Project Turnaround
 The Center for Teen Empowerment
- Union of Minority Neighborhoods
- United Baptist Church
- Voices of Liberation
- We Are Better Together
- Working Credit NFP

"Massachusetts residents returning home from incarceration deserve safe and dignified housing. Instead they face stigma, barriers and discrimination. Stable housing is the most crucial resource to promoting public safety, public health and circumventing recidivism. Justice 4 Housing (J4H) is an organization whose leadership is directly affected. Our knowledge and expertise has been paramount to our success." said Leslie Credle, Founder & Executive Director of Justice 4 Housing. "I am living proof that housing is the gateway to a suc-

cessful reentry. Our programs have provided permanent housing and legal advocacy support for over 100 formerly incarcerated people in our communities. Justice 4 Housing is proud to be one of the first recipients of the Returning Citizens Support (RCS) grant. We look forward to continuing working side by side with the ORC and its new Executive Director, David Mayo. This year, we will continue to provide the most critical resources which include permanent housing solutions and homeownership to the most vulnerable population in the Commonwealth."

The ORC was established in 2019 to serve as a central hub for all services related to the reentry of formerly incarcerated individuals into Boston. The ORC's mission is to support individuals returning from incarceration by providing case management, referrals and connections to essential resources and services that can help them rebuild their lives and contribute to their communities. The RCS grant is a crucial part of the ORC's efforts to achieve this mission.



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Special Section

Sherrill House, providing exceptional care for more than one hundred years

Sherrill House is a not-forprofit skilled nursing facility in Jamaica Plain that provides long-term residential care to older adults and short-term care for adults who need rehabilitation after surgery or complex injuries. They support a diverse population of adults who come from communities across Boston and Greater Boston.

ENIOR

Sherrill House offers an onsite rehabilitation gym and a dedicated floor for adults who have Alzheimer's Disease or other forms of dementia. In addition to rehabilitation and recreational activities, Sherrill House prides itself with exceptional programs including Art Therapy, Music Therapy, and Spiritual Support. They are building 18 new private rooms and an on-site Sensory Room, both of which will be ready later this summer. In addition, Sherrill House launched Longwood Hospice in 2022 to provide dignified and compassionate comfort and quality overall.

Led by Patrick Stapleton, CEO, Sherrill House ensures patients and residents experience the highest quality clinical and rehabilitative care, while also receiving social and emotional support, spiritual support, and expressive therapy to improve their happiness, quality of life, independence, and dignity.

For more information, call them at 617-731-2400 or visit www.sherrillhouse.org.



A unique look at the main entrance.

Ethos celebrates 50 years of supporting older adults in Boston

On March 27, 2023, Ethos, the Jamaica Plain-based nonprofit, will celebrate 50 years of providing vital services to older adults in the Boston community.

Founded in 1973 as Southwest Boston Senior Services, Ethos has been dedicated to improving the quality of life for seniors throughout Jamaica Plain, Roslindale, Hyde Park, Mattapan, West Roxbury, and beyond. Over the past five decades, Ethos has grown from a small organization with a handful of volunteers to a multifaceted agency that provides a wide range of services and programs to thousands of older adults each year.

Ethos has been an integral part of the southwest Boston community for 50 years, providing a range of services including Meals on Wheels for the entire city of Boston, home care, case management, health and wellness workshops, social activities, mental health counseling, and support for caregivers, to name a few. With the support of its dedicated staff, volunteers, and community partners, Ethos has been able to make a difference in the lives of countless older adults over the years.

In 2022 alone, Ethos served

2.5 million+ meals to approximately 10,000 older adults at home and across 40 community dining sites throughout every neighborhood in Boston. In addition, Ethos provided more than 650,000 hours of home health

Continued on page 11

Sherrill House

A Not-for-profit Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

Our Return to Home[™] program will take you from the hospital back home

Our Return to Home[™] program is designed to prepare patients to return to their homes as quickly as possible following a hospitalization. Exceptional short-term rehabilitation is delivered by our experienced in-house clinical team.

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Sherrill House also provides long-term care, Alzheimer's and Dementia care, Longwood Hospice, and a Dialysis Den coming soon!

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135 S. Huntington Ave Boston, MA 02130 (617) 731- 2400 www.sherrillhouse.org

Senior JIFE Mount Pleasant Home serving the community since 1901

Since 1901, Mount Pleasant Home on South Huntington Ave., has been offering the elderly a lovely, caring rest home to live out their golden years. Since its origin, the home's mission is to serve the low income and needy around the City of Boston. But a lot has changed since 1901.

The facility underwent a \$20M renovation in 2010 that increased the number of residents from 44 to 60 and was certified as a LEED-GOLD green building.

All residents have a private bedroom and bathroom. The home offers 24-hour personal care assistance, emergency response, medication administration by certified staff, 3 homestyle meals daily, complete housekeeping and laundry services, and a variety of interesting and fulfilling activities including outside trips.

Kathy Seaman, Executive Director at Mount Pleasant Home said, "We are very proud of the diversity that Mount Pleasant Home brings to the JP community," Seaman said, adding that they co-host a monthly dinner with Ethos for the outside LGBT senior community and their residents called "Out4Supper." About 10% of Mount Pleasant Home's resident population identifies as LGBT. The Home recently welcomed their first gay resident couple.



A look at the lobby of Mount Pleasant Home on South Huntington Ave.

One of the things that makes Mount Pleasant Home unique is staff longevity. According to Seaman, over 50% of their staff has worked for the facility for more than 10 years, with two recently celebrating 30 and 40 years at MPH. Seaman noted that they just recently lost their longest-residing resident who had called Mount Pleasant "Home" for 32 years. "This facility is very much a family for our staff and residents," Seaman said. Please see their website, www.mountpleasanthome.org or call 617-522-7600 for more information.

Ethos

Continued from page 10

aide and homemaker services to more than 1300 older adults in Boston. Ethos' nursing team completed 1000+ health screenings to determine eligibility for services. Additionally, Ethos assisted more than 3,000 disabled Boston residents through its Personal Care Attendant (PCA) program.

Nearly 1400 older adults attended 400 individual health and wellness classes and events throughout 2022, totaling 500 hours of programming. Ethos also hosts the largest Pride event

SSAGE

617.820.1156

for LGBTQ+ older adults in New England, attracting over 300 attendees from across the Commonwealth.

As part of the 50th anniversary celebration, Ethos will be hosting a series of events throughout the year to honor its history and the individuals who have made its work possible. These events will include a cornerstone event, hosting a 50th Anniversary Gala, "Where the Heart is" on September 28th, at the 521 Overlook at Fenway Park, where supporters will come together to celebrate the achievements of Ethos and its contributions to the community. This year will also mark

16 COHASSET ST.

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the return of their annual Senior Prom on Thursday, May 25th, at the Irish Social Club of Boston in West Roxbury, where older adults will dance, be treated to a special luncheon, and enjoy a special afternoon with their friends.

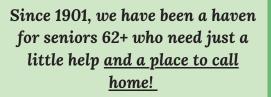
"We are thrilled to be celebrating 50 years of serving older and disabled adults in Boston and surrounding cities and towns," said Valerie Frias, CEO of Ethos. "We are proud of the work that we have done over the past five decades, and we are grateful to the individuals and organizations who have supported us along the way. As we look to the future, we remain committed to our mission of empowering older adults to age in community with dignity and independence, having meaningful lives and engagement as a part of the tapestry of their communities."

For more information on Ethos and its 50th anniversary celebration, please contact Raymond Santos, Chief Development & Community Relations Officer at 617-477-6638, email rsantos@ ethocare.org, or visit www.ethocare.org.



• 60 private bedrooms with private baths

- 24-hour personal care assistance
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- Scheduling of transportation to medical appointments
- 3 home-style meals daily
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- Light-filled atrium for socializing
- Computer center and WiFi
- Professional medical care available
 onsite



www.MountPleasantHome.org 617-522-7600 Info@MountPleasantHome.org



Retired Boston legends, Brady, Ortiz, Garnett, and Rask have unclaimed property

Massachusetts State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg has announced the latest grouping of names added to the state's list of unclaimed property owners, and fortunately for you this is one shot that Tuukka Rask can't stop.

Over 50,000 new properties worth millions of dollars belong to individuals and businesses throughout the Commonwealth including Tom Brady, David Ortiz, Kevin Garnett, and Tuuuuuuukka Rask.

is more of a slam dunk when you visit findmassmoney.com. One in ten Massachusetts residents are owed money. And unlike athletes that retire, your unclaimed property is always on the roster.

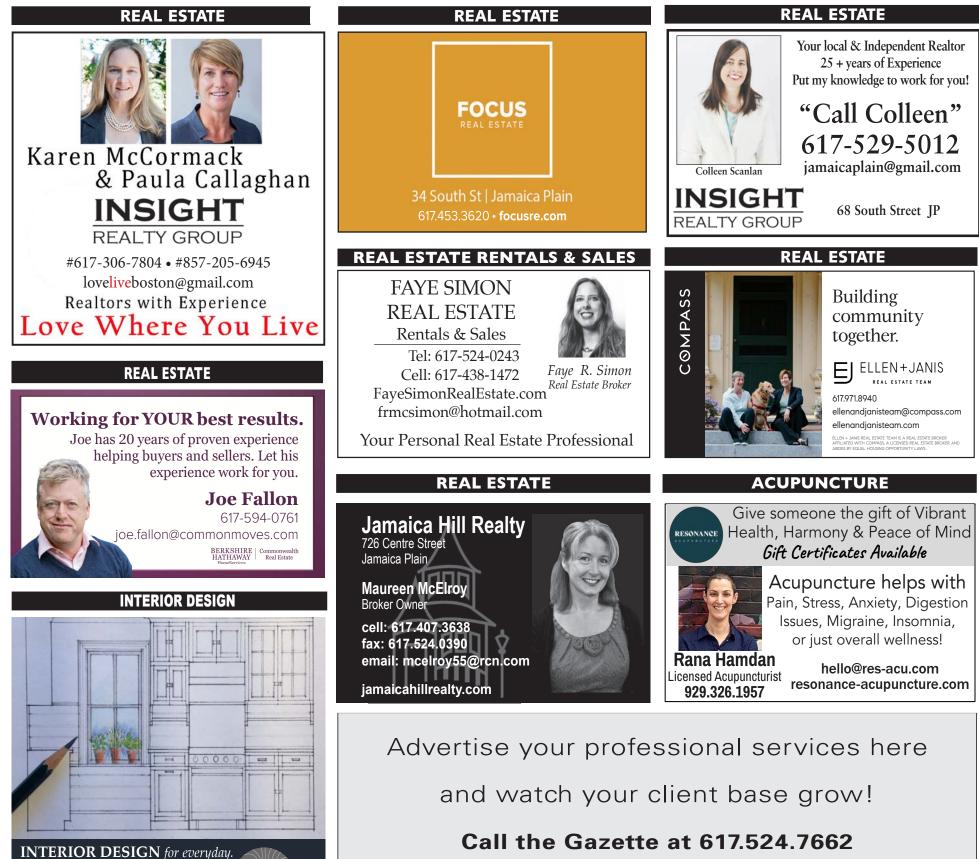
"As Tom Brady likes to say, This is no Hail Mary pass; it let's go!" said State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg. "And to quote Kevin Garnett after winning the 2008 NBA Championship, anything is possible...... especially when you visit findmassmoney.com."

Unclaimed property includes forgotten savings and checking

or email ads@jamaicaplaingazette.com

accounts, un-cashed checks, insurance policy proceeds, stocks, dividends, and the contents of unattended safe deposit boxes. These accounts have had too much hang time and are turned

Continued on page 13



Christine Cavataio, LEED AP, NCIDQ and CCF 617-510-8659 livingbeingdesign@gmail.com

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DESIGN

CITY PAWS

Including your dog

BY PENNY & ED CHERUBINO

You must consider many factors to decide if you will include your dog in a specific social event or activity. We've had three dogs and have learned first-hand that what is comfortable and fun for a dog and us depends on both our needs and those of the dog.

Our Three-Dog Experience!

Westie, number one, Sassy, was a great traveler. She loved the car and was good around adults but avoided children. She was not good with other dogs. She had spent most of her life in a suburb with a big yard and lacked city smarts and canine companionship until we moved to Boston.

Dog number two, Maggie Mae, was a social butterfly. She loved people, dogs, and city life. We took her to outdoor concerts and meals at dog-friendly restaurants. We could trust her to walk on busy streets. However, she suffered from motion sickness and was very unhappy whenever we put her in a car.

Our current canine family member is a special-needs dog who is noise-averse and very unhappy outside. She ignores most dogs, but she's good in a car or on the MBTA. She is only interested in a few special human friends.

Expert Advice A recent article by certified dog trainer Kathy Callahan, CP-DT-KA, in The Whole Dog Journal, offered some great advice on deciding to include your dog in a social situation.

After asking that we not expect every dog to be able to handle every situation, she wrote, "Instead, with your dog's specific skills and limitations in mind, take the time to think through situations ahead of time, and make adult decisions about whether and how to safely include the dog."

Practice Is Important

To expand the number of places and activities you and your dog can enjoy together, begin with training. We recommend preparing for The American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen test (CGC.) Once you know if your dog can pass or will fail the test's requirements, you'll make better decisions about when and where you can safely include your dog.

For a CGC certificate, your dog should be able to greet a friendly stranger; sit politely for petting, welcome being groomed; allow paws and ears to be handled; walk as directed on a loose leash; move politely through a crowd; sit, lie down, and stay in place on command; come when called; behave politely around other dogs; react with confidence to distractions and can be left with a trusted person.



Continued from page 12

over to the state after three years of inactivity. This newly released list includes only individuals and businesses with unclaimed property over \$100.

All new individuals and businesses added to the unclaimed property list will be published in the Boston Globe on March 5th and will be in the Boston Herald on March 12th. In addition, the names will be published in over 30 regional and local papers.

So, if you are looking to hit

"one out of the pahkk", remember that Treasury releases an updated list of unclaimed property assets every six months as the new accounts are turned over to the Commonwealth. Last year, Treasury processed over 151,000 claims of over \$176 million in property to its rightful owners.

This newly released list includes only individuals and businesses with unclaimed property over \$100. Treasurer Goldberg urges all citizens to check the comprehensive list for all amounts at www.findmassmoney.com or call our live call center at 888-344-MASS (6277).



While perfect for this beagle, a hike in the woods might not be suitable for your dog.

Considerate Decisions

Anytime we planned an outing, we had to decide if including one of our dogs was a good idea. We omitted Sassy when we visited people with dogs or when other dogs would be at an event. We left Maggie at home to go on hikes with one of her favorite doggie companions and his people. We knew she would be miserable and probably sick in their car on the ride. Poppy is better off at home when we're going to any place where there will be trucks or loud noises.

Once your dog is reliable with a skill, start with a small outing. Try having a coffee at a cafe instead of a long meal on a patio. Take a day trip with another dog family before you decide to share a vacation week at the beach. Test how you and your dog react to a minor challenge before you take on a big one. Then practice until you are both comfortable.

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

Feb. State revenue collections total almost \$2B

Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR) Commissioner Geoffrey Snyder announced that preliminary revenue collections for February totaled \$1.979 billion, \$163 million or 9.0% more than actual collections in February 2022, and \$49 million or 2.5% above benchmark.1 February 2022 revenue collections were impacted by the elective pass-through entity (PTE) excise. After adjusting for PTE excise, February 2023 collections are \$171 million or 9.5% above actual collections in February 2022, and \$1 million or 0.05% less than benchmark.

 $FY 2023\,year\text{-}to\text{-}date\,collections$

totaled approximately \$23.651 billion, which is \$37 million or 0.2% less than collections in the same period of FY2022, but \$999 million or 4.4% above the year-todate benchmark. After adjusting for PTE excise, FY2023 year-todate collections are \$1.058 billion or 4.7% more than collections in the same period of FY2022 and \$572 million or 2.5% more than the year-to-date benchmark.

"February collections increased in withholding, sales and use tax, and 'all other tax' in comparison to February 2022," Commissioner Snyder said. "These increases were partially offset by decreases in non-withholding income tax. The increase in withholding is likely related to labor market conditions and the increase in sales and use tax reflects, in part, continued strength in retail sales. The increase in 'all other tax' is primarily attributable to estate tax, a tax category that tends to fluctuate."

February has historically been the lowest month for revenue, contributing less than 6% of annual collections. Neither individual nor business taxpayers are required to make estimated payments during the month. February is also the month in which refunds reach substantial levels as the tax filing season begins.

Our Senior Life

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Wu, Immigrant Advancement award mini-grants to promote U.S. citizenship

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement (MOIA) are awarding \$50,000 in mini-grants to five nonprofits for creative initiatives that help green card holders become U.S. citizens. The grants range from \$2,000 to \$12,000 for programs including citizenship classes, education, and outreach.

"Becoming a U.S. citizen is an important milestone yet we know for many in our communities that it can be an expensive, intimidating and never ending process," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm grateful to MOIA and these organizations for their critical work in reducing barriers to citizenship with creative and community-driven initiatives."

"Many immigrants want to become U.S. citizens but are deterred because of how much it can cost, questions about the process, and even anxiety about navigating the system," said Monique Tú Nguyen, Executive Director of the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement. "By giving diverse nonprofits minigrants, immigrants can get help through trusted sources in their communities."

Five local organizations are selected to receive funding from the MOIA Promoting Access to Citizenship Mini-Grants. They are:

Agencia ALPHA: Funding will increase capacity to provide citizenship classes.

Azerbaijani Society of New England: The organization will hold a citizenship awareness workshop and start test preparation classes for the Azerbaijani community.

Nigerian American Multi-Service Association: The mini-grant will help launch a new "Citizenship Pathway Program" that focuses on outreach and application help to green card holders in African communities.

Project Citizenship: Funding will support the creation of a free online self-navigated portal to guide people through the naturalization application process.

Vietnamese American Civic Association: The organization will help the Vietnamese community prepare for citizenship interviews through individual and group practice sessions.

There are several benefits to becoming a U.S. citizen including being more active in the community, having the right to vote, and living in the United States without risk of deportation. About 30,000 Boston residents are eligible for U.S. citizenship.

"The fulfillment of being citizens of a country after living here for years is something that many in our community earnestly look forward to," said Godwin Nnanna, President of the Nigerian American Multi-Service Association. "This grant will help make that a dream come true for a number of green card holders in our community."

"We're grateful for the City's support on this critical issue," said Thuan Tran, Executive Director of the Vietnamese American Civic Association. "This shows the City's understanding and recognition of the public issues faced by immigrant communities today. This mini-grant will certainly support our continuing effort to assist Vietnamese green card holders in performing their citizenship interviews competently."

These mini-grants will support programming from March through September 2023. Anyone interested in joining these programs can contact the organizations directly.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Statewide poll finds issues among the state's Latino population are related to affordability

Amplify Latinx, Mas-sachusetts-based nonprofit non-partisan, collabora-tive convener advancing Latino leadership rep-resentation, economic prosperity, and civic en-gagement, along with the MassINC Polling Group released the findings of a recent poll among about 1,200 Latino residents of Massachusetts. It is the largest ever Latino focused poll on civic en-gagement and economic prosperity in Massachu-setts. The project also in-cluded two focus groups of Latino residents and a series of interviews with Latino elected officials.

The survey found Lati-no residents want state leaders to focus most on economic issues. Housing costs and healthcare costs were the top priorities fol-lowed by jobs and unem-ployment. Education was fourth on the list. A series of focus groups among Latino residents and in-terviews with elected offi-cials found the same issues of concern. Immigrant rights fell in the middle of the list of issues, while transit improvements and climate change were near the bottom.

Full toplines, crosstabs, slides, and quotes from elected officials and focus group respondents are available here.

A key part of the research project was exploring ways to boost civic engagement among Latino residents including activities such as participation in campaigns and public meetings, and contacting elected officials. A quarter or less report participating in each of these activities in the last year. Currently, civic engagement is higher among English speaking only households, those with higher education levels, and those born on the US mainland.

"We are thrilled to unveil this informative landscape of Latinos in Massachusetts, the most expansive of its kind, that presents a snapshot of our community's priorities, such as economic development including affordability, jobs, and education, among others," says Amplify Latinx CEO & President Eneida Román. "Amplify's commitment to high-

FIND US ONLINE: WWW.JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM lighting this data presents an opportunity for our coalition to increase Latino civic engagement by leading advocacy efforts statewide. Our ongoing research projects give us the necessary tools to advocate for transformative initiatives that drive pathways for economic prosperity for all residents and business owners of our great Commonwealth."

Other results of activities reported include: posting about political views on social media was most common (26%), followed by attending government meetings (23%) and displaying a campaign sign, button, or bumper sticker (22%). One of the least frequent activities was contacting an elected official (17%). Out of all eight activities, Latino residents took part in an average of 1.43 in the last year. Activity levels decreased among residents who only spoke Spanish, lived outside of the U.S. and Puerto Rico and those without a college degree. The highest engagement was from Latino residents who identified as LGBTQ+.

The focus groups found that for many, a key hurdle was the sense that their voices were not heard or represented in the political process and that they were disappointed in past political outcomes. Even so, 73% think their community could make "a lot" or "some" difference if they pushed for change.

When polled about voting, there was considerable optimism, with 82% saying they agree voting "has a real impact on the way decisions are made" (52% strongly agree). The poll suggests boosting registration rates will require both addressing structural barriers to registering and overcoming disaffection and distrust of the political system among potential voters. Those who could potentially register but have not done so cited a range of barriers including a lack of time and little interest or faith in the political system.

About three-quarters (76%) said electing more Latinos to office was somewhat or very important. In a series of focus groups with residents and interviews with elected officials, the issue of representation came up frequently as essential to boosting civic engagement among Latino voters. Some described voting exclusively to support Latino candidates. One elected official said Latino residents would sometimes reach out to their office even if they were not their constituents.

When it comes to specific policy proposals, over three-quarters (78%) of Latino residents support "making buses and trains free to ride in Massachusetts." A majority of Latino residents support limiting rent increases (79%), helping families pay for childcare (87%), and expanding programs that support small businesses to access funds (90%).

Among other major findings:

• Abortion is not the most salient issue to most respondents, falling below many other issues in terms of priorities for state leaders. Even so, 59% say abortion should be legal in all or most cases, while 34% say it should be illegal. Support is highest among college degree holders, (71%), people under 30 (67%), Democrats (64%), and those who are registered to vote (65%). Its lower position on the priority list suggests it's less salient than



other issues in Massachusetts, where abortion rights are more secure than elsewhere.

• Elizabeth Warren is the most commonly known Massachusetts politician while Katherine Clark is the least well known of those included in the poll. Those who were familiar with these officials were also more civically engaged and more likely to contact their public officials. Registered voters and the senior population were more likely to have heard of each of the elected officials.

• More respondents say they prefer Hispanic, Latino, or refer to their place or country of origin to describe themselves. Just 5% identified with Latinx. On this and on many other items, there were considerable differences by nationality / ancestry.

• Overall, 10% identify as LGBTQ+. Among younger Latinos (those under 30) the figure is 19%. This echoes national surveys which have suggested younger Latinos identify as LGBTQ+ at higher rates than others, a figure which has grown in recent years.

"This effort is absolutely unique in scope and scale," said Steve Koczela, "President of The MassINC Polling Group, which oversaw the poll. "The survey includes a very large sample size of Latino respondents in Massachusetts and sits alongside resident focus groups and elected official interviews."

Amplify Latinx is a Massachusetts-based nonprofit formed in 2018 by The Latina Circle, Inc. that serves as a non-partisan, collaborative convener advancing Latino leadership representation, economic prosperity, and civic engagement.

The MassINC Polling Group is a nonpartisan public opinion research firm serving public, private, and social-sector clients. MPG elevates the public's voice with cutting edge methods and rigorous analysis. Based in Boston, MPG serves a nationwide client base.



<u>Women's History Month</u>

Boston Women's Memorial is a place for interaction

BY PAM STEEL

One memorial on Commonwealth Avenue Mall always stands out for me—the Boston Women's Memorial!

Unlimited

Unlike the other statues of

Sotheby's

statesmen, politicians and men of history—high on their pedestals— the figures of the Women's Memorial are casual, approachable and they are WOMEN!

Over the years I have noticed



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73 Sheridan Street - JP 1-3 Bedroom Units Available Occupancy slated Spring 2023 Jay Balaban, 617.293.8932 Susan Zutrau, 617.240.0912



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The Boston Women's Memorial on Commonwealth Avenue Mall.

there is a dialog between people and these statues. On Election Day 2016, when Hilary Clinton was running against Donald Trump, formal floral arrangements appeared at the memorial—I assume in anticipation of a victory for the first woman president.

I passed by days after Hillary's defeat and wondered if I'd see dead flowers. Thankful-



IS ONLY A PHONE CALL AWAY

If you or a loved one, are 60 years or older, and are interested in learning more about free home-delivered meals and other services that provide support in the home, please contact Ethos.

- Home Delivered Meals
- Home Care
- Wellness Classes
- Mental Health



ly the flower arrangements had been removed and instead a few simple chrysanthemums were in place. Then I noticed a crumpled handwritten note attached to the Women's Memorial: "Ladies, I'm so sorry. We worked so hard. (heart shape)(We'll) continue to fight for equality.

As women, we must stand together stronger than ever to make the future brighter for our daughters and the entire world. Thank you, Hillary!"

In addition several people had applied " I VOTED" stickers one placed near the Susan B. Anthony quote: "The legal right for woman to record her opinion wherever opinions count"...

Another time, on International Women's Day, March 8, I noticed a bouquet offering in Abigail Adams arms with a note saying: "A tribute to women who work for equality, justice and peace—past, present and future...Stronger women = stronger nations"

The Boston Women's Memorial was a long time in coming. Conceived in 1992, it took ten years to raise the money, chose the subjects, and select the artist. In 2003, Boston finally ded-

Boston sees continued improvement in COVID-19 metrics

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) shared that the city continues to note downward trends in several key COVID-19 metrics. Suffolk County is now at low community level, per the CDC.

While these data are a positive sign, residents who are at high risk of severe illness and hospitalization should continue to take precautions.

The amount of new COVID-19 cases per day have decreased

Memorial

Continued from page 16

ton public art celebrating the contribution of women, thanks to efforts of the Boston's Women's Commission, the former First Lady Angela Menino, the Commonwealth Avenue Mall Committee and the Massachusetts Historical Society.

In 2018, Boston city officials. joined representatives from many of these organizations to celebrate the Memorial's 15th anniversary. In attendance was the sculptor Meredith Bergmann, who recently completed the Women's Rights Pioneers monument in Central Park, commemorating women's right to vote.

Located on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall, between Fairfield and Gloucester Streets. the three bronze women, who all share a Boston connection, form an outdoor space between them.

Abigail Adams stands tall and her your eyes meet hers as you approach. She was the wife of the second US president, and mother of the sixth. She reminded her husband that when forming the new code of laws to: "Remember the Ladies, and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors." (1744 - 1818)

Lucy Stone leans forward as if on a desk. She was an abolitionist and suffragist— a renowned orator and leading figure in the women's rights movement. (1818 - 1893)

Phillis Wheatley, holds a quill as if writing one of her poems. She was brought from Africa as a slave, but became a literary prodigy and the first African American writer to have her poems published, (1753-1784).

by 36% over the past two weeks (data through 2/24). Boston hospitals had 143 new hospital admissions through February 27, which marks a 23% decrease over the past two weeks.

Analysis of the city's wastewater shows the level of COVID-19 particles has remained stable over the past two weeks, having decreased by 14%. Nine of the 11 neighborhood testing sites had rates that were below the citywide average of 1,222 RNA copies/mL (data through 2/19).

Indoor masking remains an important strategy to decrease transmission risk. Individuals who are at higher risk of severe illness and hospitalization due to

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COVID-19 are highly encouraged to mask while indoors.

In addition, individuals with COVID-19 symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a high-quality mask or respirator in public indoor spaces. BPHC reminds residents that staying up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations by getting the bivalent booster is the most effective way to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection and severe illness that can result in hospitalization. If you have not received a COVID-19 booster since August 2022, you are due to receive the updated bivalent booster.

Bivalent boosters, as well as the

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primary COVID-19 vaccination series, COVID-19 testing, and flu shots are free and available at BPHC's standing clinics throughout the city. At-home rapid testing kits and \$75 gift cards for individuals who receive a COVID-19 vaccination are also available at these sites, while supplies last. Walk-ins are welcome and no IDs or proof of insurance are required.

Boston City Hall - 1 City Hall Sq., Boston

Open Mondays 7am-1pm and Wednesdays 12-5pm.



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

GROUP

Editorial

Spring forward this Sunday

This Sunday, March 12, marks the start of Daylight Savings Time when we set our clocks ahead an hour.

Yes, we lose an hour of sleep, but the time for sunset magically will move from 5:46 PM on Saturday to 6:48 PM on Sunday, giving us an extra hour of daylight in the evening. (Conversely, we lose an hour of daylight in the morning because sunrise also moves up an hour, from 6:01 AM on Saturday to 6:59 AM on Sunday.)

Even though Daylight Savings Time has occurred in March for quite a few years, for those of us who grew up when Daylight Savings Time did not begin until mid-April, the earlier start to the Daylight Savings season is a bit jarring.

When Daylight Savings began in April, it was a sure sign that spring was in the air and that summer was around the corner. It also coincided with the start of the Little League season, another harbinger of summer.

But with Daylight Savings now coming in mid-March, when the weather is still chilly, Daylight Savings occurs when the weather is not even remotely spring-like.

Still, we're happy to have that extra hour of daylight in our evenings. The weather may not be great, but at least it's bright at 7:00 PM -- a signal that although spring may not quite have arrived, winter surely is fading fast.

Mark your calendars -- the Revere Beach Sand Sculpting Festival is July 28-30

Speaking of the coming summer season of 2023, the Revere Beach Partnership, in coordination with the City of Revere and the Department of Conservation and Recreation, recently announced that the 19th Annual Revere Beach International Sand Sculpting Festival, one of the premier events of the summer season in Greater Boston, will take place from July 28-30.

The theme for this year's event will be "Celebrating 90 Years of Kong" and will feature a centerpiece sand sculpture highlighting an epic King Kong battle. The event's signature master sand sculpting competition will feature 15 master sand sculptors, three days of live entertainment, gourmet food trucks, specialty food vendors, exhibitors, and amusement rides, as well as some special King Kong-themed surprises that will be announced closer to the event.

As always, the festival promises to be fun for everyone, regardless of age, and will be a family-friendly event.

Revere Beach proudly is America's oldest public beach and has been undergoing a new Renaissance-era in the past decade and the festival will give long-time residents of the Boston area an opportunity to see first-hand the transformation that has occurred in recent years.

With good weather, the festival could attract up to a million people. Fortunately, the Blue Line has a stop at Revere Beach (and at Wonderland) and offers the best means of transportation for visitors.

So mark your calendars now to be sure to check out what has become one of the most-anticipated events of the summer season in the Greater Boston (and beyond) area.

Working together, an essential for every family

DR. GLENN MOLLETTE

I was not quite five years old when I stood, looking up the steps to our upstairs, yelling "Mommy hurry, Mamaw is dying." My grandmother Ina Hinkle and aunt Maude Hinkle were in the room trying to comfort my Mamaw Mollette. Throughout the morning she had been sick. She had complained about pain and Grandma Hinkle and Aunt Maude were constantly rubbing her arms trying to comfort her.

Life was different back in that day. My dad had driven our only car to West Virginia to work his shift in the coal mine. We didn't have a hospital in our county and Doc Ford was the lone medical doctor. He routinely had 10 to 20 people waiting to see him.

We didn't have a paramedic unit in Martin County. Our local funeral home would take people to the hospital in their hearse but there was no medical care rendered on the way. I got that ride twice. Once, when I split my head open playing with a first cousin. The second time was after a bad car wreck while driving my first old Chevelle to high school.

We didn't have a telephone at that time. We didn't have a telephone until I was nine years old and then it was an eight-family party line. Thus, there was no way my mother could call for help or drive to ask for help for my Mamaw.

Racing down the steps to my plea and the calls of Grandma Hinkle and Aunt Maude, who were now calling in unison with me to my mother Eula, "Come Eula, she is dying!" As we gathered around Mamaw's bed we stood as she breathed her last few breaths and departed her body to be with Jesus. There wasn't anything else we could do but cry as we held to her lifeless body.

The words of those Saintly women standing in the room that day were "She is now with the Lord."

My sister Wanda recalls she was a junior in high school at that time. There were semester tests that particular day at school. "Mamaw asked me not to go to school that day saying, 'Don't go, I'm going to die today." As many of us would probably reply, she said "Mamaw, you aren't going to die. You're going to be fine." As we age, we know our bodies and we know when things have changed. Mamaw knew it was her last day.

When my dad came home from the coal mine, he went into Mamaw's room where her body lay and bent over and hugged her. A little later the funeral home came for her body.

The funeral home brought her body back to our house where her casket and flowers were placed in a bedroom just off from our living room. Many family members and friends visited our house the next couple of days.

Mamaw Mollette's husband, my grandfather Lafe, whom I never met, died about a year or so before my dad and mom married. For the next 19 to 20 years, I don't know the exact number, Mamaw Mollette lived with Mom and Dad and our fanily. She visited for weeks with her other sons who lived in West Virginia but most of her time was spent with us. I got less than five years with Mamaw but my two sisters and two brothers spent many years with her.

We grew up in a small house with one bathroom. There were eight of us living in the house. We only had four small bedrooms and a hallway with a twin bed. We had guests all the time. Very often other family members were visiting and my mother worked nonstop to feed and take care of everybody. Looking back, I wonder how Mom and Dad were able to keep it all together. I was on the tail end of the family so being worried about access to the bathroom and space wasn't much of a concern at that stage.

My hat is off to my dad and mom for making a place for Mamaw all those years. They worked together. Life was not always easy but it was all we knew and we did the best we could. Mom and Dad stayed together for over 60 years and both are now buried in the garden where they worked together for most of their lives.

The point of all this is that families can make it if they will work hard, love each other, and be very patient. Every family has ups and downs. No family is perfect. No one lives life without problems and troubles. Treating each other with love and respect, and everyone working together are essentials for every family.

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.



Op-Ed

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth o Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and **Family Court CITATION GIVING** NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF **GUARDIAN FOR** INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. C. 190B, §5-304 Docket No. SU23P0312GD Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 In the matter of: **Alexis Bello** 0f· **RESPONDENT Alleged** Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested

persons, a petition has been filed by Lemuel Shattuck Hospital in the above captioned matter alleging that Alexis Bello is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Stephanie Biggs of Boston, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 03/30/2023. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the

above-named person's right to make decisions

about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 13, 2023 Felix D. Arroyo **Register of Probate** 3/10/23 **LEGAL NOTICE**

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN Docket No. SU20P1484GD Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family** Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston MA, 02114 In the interests of: Clinton Forbes of: Jamaica Plain, **RESPONDENT** Incapacitated

Court

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Person/Protected Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by the Mass. Dept. Of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent. The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM on the return date of 03/28/2023. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to vou. In addition to filina

the written appearance,

you or your attorney must

file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer. one may be appointed at State expense. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 24, 2023 Vincent Procopio **Register of Probate** 3/10/23 IP

LEGAL NOTICE COMMONWEALTH

OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT **PROBATE AND FAMILY** COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 **DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND** MAILING DOCKET NUMBER: SU22D0014DR Amina Sharif Janav . Plaintiff VS. Mahdi Ahmed Ali Defendant To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a **Complaint for Divorce** requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411. You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Shilpa lyyer, Esq. Foundation Medicine, One Marina park Drive, Boston, MA 02210 your answer, if any, on or before 04/04/2023. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to

file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court. Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 13, 2023 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate 3/10/23

JP

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF **GUARDIAN FOR** INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. C. 190B, §5-304 Docket No. SU23P0356GD Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 In the matter of: Jennie Rodriguez Of:Jamaica Plain, MA **RESPONDENT Alleged** Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Brigham And Women's Hospital of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Jennie Rodriguez is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 03/16/2023. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the

written appearance, you or

days after the return date. IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 16, 2023 Felix D. Arroyo **Register of Probate** 3/10/23 IP

your attorney must file a

written affidavit stating the

specific facts and grounds

of your objection within 30

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 **CHANGE OF NAME** Docket No. SU21C0153CA In the matter of: Edryn Gonzalez A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Edryn Gonzalez of Jamaica Plain, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Jhona Xaviera Fabian IMPORTANT NOTICE Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at:Suffolk **Probate and Family** Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/30/2023. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court Date: February 23, 2023 Felix D. Arroyo, **Register of Probate** 3/10/23 IP

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