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BLACK LIVES MATTER VIGIL AT FIRST BAPTIST



Shown above, a sign is made to remind passersby that Black Lives Matter. Shown left, a member of the group stand at the edge of the Baptist Church property facing Centre Street with placards and signs reminding passerby that Black Lives Matter. See more photos on Pages 10-11.

JPA discusses controversial plan for dog run at historic First Church burial ground

BY GAZETTE STAFF

The Jamaica Pond Association (JPA) held its regular monthly meeting last Monday, April 3.

Chair Kay Mathew and fellow members Rosemary Jones, Jasmine Crafts, Tony Dreyfus, Mara Pitts, Peter Steiger, Michael Reiskind, Franklyn Salimbene, Nancy Mazonson, Barry Schwartz, Michael Frank, Mark Zanger, Kevin Moloney, and Martin Thomson were in attendance.

In addition, District 6 City Councillor Kendra Lara was on hand for the meeting.

The principal discussion of the evening concerned the controversial proposal to install a dog run in a section of the historic burial ground of the First Church Unitarian Universalist. The church is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is included in the Monument Square Historic District.

Dennis O'Brien, the co-chair of the church's governing board, presented the details of the proposal.

"This initially will be limited to a six-month pilot proposal," said O'Brien. "It will consist of a 60 x 90 foot area of the burial ground, to be fenced-in with a four-foot, wire-coated fence, with access only for members of a dog group who have gone through an orientation and who have agreed to abide by

a set of rules and conduct."

He noted that the dog run area will be placed 10 feet away from the nearest burial markers and that use of the area will be limited to no more than five dogs at a time. The enclosure will be open for three hours in the morning and three hours in the evening.

"Dogs must be removed if they are barking and disturbing the neighbors," said O'Brien, who also said that the gate to the enclosure will be locked when the dog run is not in use. "Dog owners who violate the procedure will be banned."

O'Brien said that permission from the Mass. Historical Commission (MHC) will be required for the pilot program and that at the end of the six-month trial period, if the church intends to make it a permanent feature of its burial ground, it will have to reapply again to the MHC.

O'Brien noted that cemeteries in Brookline and the Congressional Cemetery in Washington, D.C., contain off-leash dog parks. However, according to the Congressional Cemetery (which is 35 acres) web site, it derives one-quarter of its operating income from dog walking members, which pays for the cost of its grounds maintenance contracts.

Continued on page 2

JPNC sends letters to MBTA, city, developer

BY GAZETTE STAFF

The Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, March 28, via Zoom. The council members tack-

led a full agenda over the course of the 100-minute meeting.

On hand for the session were chairman Will Cohen and fellow members Peg Preble, David Baron, Renee Stacey Welch, Omer Hecht, Bernard Doherty,

Michael Reiskind, Paige Sparks, Sarah Freeman, Danielle Sommer, Lorenzo Bartoloni, Peter DeCotis, and Gert Thorne.

The various committees pre-

Continued on page 8

Senator Liz Miranda is off to a quick start

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Massachusetts State Senator Liz Miranda is bringing "hope, heart and hustle" to her new position, as well as a great deal of advocacy experience and just plain smarts. In a recent interview with Senator Miranda, she

outlined initiatives for her two year initial senatorial term, and shared some of her accomplishments, in advance of her first 100 days in office.

Miranda is accessible, both on Beacon Hill and in her District, the 2nd Suffolk, which services a population of more than 180,000

in nine neighborhoods, each with their own distinct character: Jamaica Plain, Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan, Hyde Park, Roslindale, New Mission, South End and Fenway. Since taking office in January, she has been inviting

Continued on page 4

**Check Out 02130 Senior Life
Page 16**

JPA

Continued from page 1

In addition, according to the web site, "The presence of dog walkers at almost every hour of the day constitutes a de facto on site patrol all day long. With watch dog eyes and ears on duty, Congressional is mostly free and clear of riff raff and vandals."

However, the dog run at the First Church cemetery will be free-of-charge and will only operate for six hours during the daylight hours.

O'Brien also said that enforcement of the rules will rest with the dog owners themselves. In response to a question later from a member of the association, he said that neighbors or others who have complaints will have to send an email to a contact person at the church, who in turn will notify the dog walkers' group.

"This has been a fairly-fraught issue with the neighbors," Mathew acknowledged prior to opening-up the discussion.

"My concern about that list (referring to a letter signed by 84 residents of JP in favor of the dog park) is that very few actual abutters are listed," said Mazonson. "Are we really hearing from the people who will be most impacted by those dogs?"

O'Brien said the church conducted "listening sessions and opinion was evenly-divided, pro and con. We did not get a clear delineation one way or another based on geography."

R.J. Cross of 811 Centre St., who was one of those who signed the letter, spoke in favor of the proposal.

Salimbene, who suggested that the opening hour in the morning should be no earlier than 7:00 and that the closing hour should be no later than 6:00 in the evening, also made another recommendation.

"Basically, what you're suggesting is for the dog owners to police themselves, but it would seem to me that if this is going to

work to the benefit of everybody, the church should consider that the committee that is going to enforce the rules should include an abutter," said Salimbene. "This would be a more-inclusive approach by allowing all of the interested parties to have a seat at the table."

"That's an excellent idea," said O'Brien.

"When I first heard about this, my initial reaction was that this is a bizarre request," said Frank, "but that being said, if the church is into it, and if the historical commission would allow it, I will not stand in the way."

"But it will take a lot of energy to police this and it will be very difficult to limit it to a small group," Frank continued. "I would rather see the effort be used to pressure the city and the DCR to create some dog parks. I would rather see the city or the state step up and do this."

Resident Bob Mathews of 26 Holbrook St. offered his point-of-view.

"The suggested size of a dog park is 1/2 of an acre, but this would be only a fraction of that," Mathews said.. "Yes, we need a dog park, but a more appropriate and larger area in the Jamaica Pond area would be much more appropriate for a dog park. There are plenty of areas that are potential sites for a dog park."

Association member Moloney made clear his opposition to the proposal.

"As a dog owner all my life, using a cemetery as a dog park to me is really inappropriate," said Moloney, who noted that other cemeteries in the area prohibit dogs, even if on leashes. "Nearby neighbors should not have to put up with loud talking and dogs barking in the morning and evening hours."

Andrew Raynor, a Dunster Rd. resident for 33 years, one of the organizers of the project, spoke in favor of the proposal.

"The most important thing I want to say is that a large number of people still want to be heard on this," said Raynor. "Two of our people in our organizing committee are abutters

and only one person on Holbrook St. is opposed to this. There also is one resident on Eliot St. who is opposed. There are many of us who have dogs whose needs will not be met by a dog park opening on the other side of Jamaica Pond (referring to a proposal by the city to open a dog park at Flaherty Park) and the church is trying to meet our needs."

Raynor also noted that the cemeteries that ban dogs are active cemeteries. "Nobody has been buried in this cemetery for 180 years," he said.

Another dog owner, who said he has had a dog for 10 years and has been a resident for 40 years, said, "The size of the dog park here is not appropriate for a large dog and should be limited to very, very small dogs at best."

Resident Jack Wellman said the present proposal, "is a six-month proposal, an attempt to meet the needs of an important and respected segment of Jamaica Plain residents. I think we need to be willing to take the step of a trial. It will build a better community."

However, another area resident expressed vehement opposition to the proposal.

"The church needs to know that the opposition extends way beyond the abutters on Holbrook and Eliot Sts.," she said. "An historic burial ground is no place for a dog park and should be treated with dignity and respect."

Councillor Lara also jumped into the discussion and presented the association with some new information about the steps the city is taking to open dog parks.

"This is a conversation the city has been having non-stop about dog parks," Lara said. "The Friends of JP Dog Parks have been working on this for 20 years and I'm incredibly supportive of it."

"An off-leash dog park has been approved for JP at Flaherty Playground near Brookside Ave. That's newly-approved, but how much weight do we give to abutters in the community process? Abutters at Flaherty Playground are fighting this tooth-and-nail. On the other hand, JP has the highest concentration of dog ownership of any neighborhood in the entire city," Lara continued. "Nobody wants a dog park anywhere near them and at some point we have to acknowledge that we will need more than one because neighbors have a legitimate concern that their neighborhood will become a destina-

tion unless we have more than one dog park."

Lara informed the association that Mayor Wu's office has identified 261 city-owned lots that are either too small or too awkwardly-shaped for development that potentially could be used as off-leash dog parks.

"We know that we need more than one and if we have just one in a neighborhood, it will be over-saturated. It absolutely is something we are working on. There already is one dog park approved for JP and we are working to get more," Lara continued, though noting that the state will be of no help because, "DCR has been against the idea of dog parks for years."

O'Brien asked the JPA members not to take a vote until May when more residents, both pro and con, can be heard from.

"There's nothing imminent that's going to happen because the congregation will not be meeting until June," O'Brien said. "In addition, there must be the development of the code of conduct."

In the end, the association took no vote on the matter.

Turning to another hot topic of discussion on the agenda, Lara acknowledged that "there will be a proper community process" regarding the proposed two-way bike lane for Eliot St. The association discussed the matter at a recent meeting and members expressed opposition to using Eliot St. as a cut-through bike-path to connect Centre St. to the Jamaicaaway.

Salimbene, a resident of Eliot St. who also is a cyclist, told the association, "The City Transportation Dept. has been slow in getting word out to the community and has not held meetings in a group setting."

"I'm opposed to the bike lane because there are better alternatives that are safer to connect the monument to the pond," Salimbene said. "Everyone would agree that increasing the opportunity for people to cycle is important for many reasons. I and others want to work with the city to come up with a safe plan that realistically connects the different bike lanes that are being created by the city."

Salimbene noted the lack of width of the proposed bike lane and that the turn for motor vehicles where Eliot St. meets the Jamaicaaway would impinge on the bike lane. He also noted that many of the driveways on

Eliot St. are blind driveways that will present safety issues for bicyclists. He further pointed out that the delivery vehicles and trash trucks that use the street will pose additional hazards.

He instead proposed a bike-way on Myrtle St., thereby connecting it with the bike lane on Green St., to make for a direct connection between the Southwest Corridor and Pond St. and the Jamaicaaway.

Councillor Lara reiterated that there will be an opportunity for community meetings and input before the proposal is finalized.

JPA member Dreyfuss voiced his opinion strongly in favor of the Eliot St. bike lane.

"Everything that Franklyn said is valid," said Dreyfuss. "Will this change Eliot St., one of the most beautiful streets in JP? Yes, a little bit. Will it irritate the residents? Yes."

"But those residents have enjoyed a tremendous benefit from the beauty of their street and they can absorb a little 'hit' to what is working for them now. I think that accepting some sacrifice on your street and in your neighborhood is something we all have to be prepared to do," Dreyfuss continued, referencing the exigencies of the climate crisis and the need to remove cars from the road. "If it means a little bit of sacrifice, we should embrace them."

Joshua Dankoff, a Holbrook St. resident, who said he presently rides on Eliot St. with his children to the Curley school, told the association, "I am absolutely in favor of this bike lane. Contraflow bike lanes are safe and I say 'Yes' to both Myrtle and Eliot."

The members then discussed the possibility of using the Curley House for in-person meetings, perhaps starting in June, together with hybrid Zoom meetings.

Members generally were in favor of the idea, though the issue of cost still has to be addressed, as well as the technical hurdles for conducting a hybrid meeting successfully.

Martin discussed the upcoming annual meeting in June, telling his fellow members that they need to convene a nominating committee 60 days prior to the meeting, which then would prepare a slate of candidates 30 days before the annual meeting.



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Emerald Necklace Conservancy's Liff Spirit Award to be presented to McCarthy

STAFF REPORT

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy will present the Liff Spirit Award at Party in the Park to Gina McCarthy, of Jamaica Plain, the first ever White House National Climate Advisor and former U.S. EPA Administrator. Party in the Park, the Conservancy's premier annual fundraising event for the Emerald Necklace, will take place in Franklin Park on Wednesday, May 17, 2023. A career public servant in both Democratic and Republican administrations, McCarthy has been a leading advocate for common sense strategies to protect public health and the environment for more than 30 years.

Gina McCarthy's leadership led to the most aggressive action on climate change in U.S. history, creating new jobs and unprecedented clean energy innovation and investments across the country. Her commitment to bold action across the Biden administration, supported by the climate

and clean energy provisions in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act, restored U.S. climate leadership on a global stage and put a new U.S. national target to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 50–52 percent below 2005 levels by 2030 within reach. Previously, she was President and CEO of the Natural Resources Defence Council, Professor of the Practice of Public Health in the Department of Environmental Health at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection and an advisor to five Massachusetts governors. McCarthy was born in Brighton and was raised in Canton and Dorchester, with degrees from UMASS Boston and Tufts University.

"One of my absolute favorite things to do is go out exploring the Emerald Necklace. Every weekend I see something new that makes me want to come back. It is truly a haven for millions of us – it allows us to go out and play



Gina McCarthy.

and reconnect with the natural world," said Gina McCarthy. "I am so grateful for the passion and dedication of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy and its supporters working tirelessly to preserve Boston's largest park system. It's not only remarkable, it's inspirational. It reminds me that by working together we can tackle tough problems. So, with the Emerald Necklace as our guide, let's seize this moment and commit to building healthier communities today and a more sustainable tomorrow here at home and across the world."

The Liff Spirit Award is given annually to an individual or individuals whose leadership, commitment to cities, passion

for public places, dedication to the democratic ideals fostered in urban parks and ability to inspire public servants and private citizens to join in common cause best reflects the spirit and legacy of Justine Mee Liff, Boston's Parks Commissioner from 1996 to 2022. Party in the Park continues Liff's legacy of bringing people together to support and champion these vital urban greenspaces.

"It is the greatest of honors to recognize Gina McCarthy's lifetime of extraordinary leadership at this year's Party in the Park. As a stalwart climate change fighter and public health advocate, Administrator McCarthy is highly regarded nationally and her decades of trailblazing advocacy is precisely the kind of work we want to recognize and celebrate," shared Karen Mauney-Brodek, President of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy. "Gina connects the environmental policies that she works towards to the life of our families, communities and cities in the same way that Justine Mee Liff did during her time as Boston Parks Commissioner. We are thrilled that Gina will accept the Liff Spirit Award at Party in the Park and hope many

will join us in honoring her and her service to our planet!"

Party in the Park will be held at Franklin Park, the largest in the Emerald Necklace at over 500 acres—considered the linear park system's crowning jewel by its designer Frederick Law Olmsted. Founded in 2003, the fundraiser attracts the area's most generous greenspace supporters and civic leaders for a stylish tented luncheon. All proceeds from Party in the Park benefit the Emerald Necklace Conservancy and its mission to restore and improve the 1,100-acre park system that serves as a backyard for residents and a destination for more than one million park users each year. The Conservancy stewards the Emerald Necklace through advocacy, maintenance and restoration, education, access improvements, public programs and the promotion of park stewardship through youth education and volunteer programs. We wish to thank Wilmington Trust, Member of the M&T Family, for its renewed commitment as the lead sponsor of 2023 Party in the Park. For more information and tickets, visit www.emeraldnecklace.org/party-in-the-park.

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COURTESY PHOTOS
State Sen. Liz Miranda with Alicia Cooney, both hailing from Wellesley College, give a shout out to their alma mater.

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Let's Protect Boston's Waterways

Miranda

Continued from page 1

residents in the district to visit her office, and she is finding ways to honor her constituents' drive and effort.

The Burke High School Boys Basketball team recently visited and was recognized during a legislative session for an incredible winning streak. Miranda has also hosted some key events already, including: the first Annual Mindful +Melanated event, which brought many black and brown women from the district to the State House to advocate for policy that will advance their health concerns; and a Youth Justice Rally, where more than 200 kids came to the State House to advocate for increased funding for youth jobs. This is just the beginning, as the Senator's goal is to have 1,000 people visit her office in the first year. While it was this newspaper's first visit, Miranda suggested we visit on a regular basis for updates on her work. When you do visit, be sure to sign in at her door to be counted among the first 1,000.

When asked what her priorities are for this 2023-2024 session, Miranda highlighted that, while her priorities are still shaping up with a goal of ensuring they are unifying across the district, her focus is on: health equity; economic equality, working on mitigating poverty; education equity; environmental justice; and the confluence of equity and justice to lower mass incarceration. Miranda knows that, given the complex needs of her district, she cannot solely focus on one or two issues, and that change takes time, typically needing two to three Senate terms to pass legislature. However through her committee assignments, her leadership roles in various caucuses, and getting her voice heard on larger issues that benefit the entire Commonwealth, Senator Miranda can make her voice heard, and elevate the conversation to the whole Senate and beyond.

The Senator was able to get all the Committee assignments that she requested, believing that the legislative leadership considered her work both as a former state representative, as well as her



Staff members for Senator Liz Miranda, from left to right, Rashelle Centeio, Director of Community Development and District Director; Kevin Higgins, Chief of Staff; and Maliha Khan, Legislative and Budget Director.

public advocacy experience. She is particularly pleased to serve as Chair of the Joint Committee on Racial Equity, Civil Rights and Inclusion. As the Senator said, “while she may be a freshman in the Senate, she has been a Black female all her life.” Her additional roles are: Vice Chair of Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies; Senate Committee on Juvenile and Emerging Adult Justice; Senate Committee on the Census; Senate Committee on Ways and Means; Joint Committee on Community Development and Small Businesses; Joint Committee on Elder Affairs; Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight; and Joint Committee on Ways and Means. Some of her other responsibilities include: Co-Chair of Massachusetts Women's Legislative Caucus; Co-Chair of the METCO Caucus; Treasurer, Massachusetts Black and Latino Caucus, and Member of the Housing Caucus, and Criminal Justice Reform Caucus.

To date, Miranda has filed 75 bills, with an additional 20 more co-led, while also taking a significant portion of her time working on the Committee on Ways and Means, on the Governor's Fiscal Year 2024 budget process, requiring a tour of the Commonwealth with eight hearings having been completed, and a few more to finish.

Being a Senator is different in many ways from being a Representative. In the 5th Suffolk, Miranda was one of 160 Representatives in the House. “Although I loved my time as a Representative, I knew that I could make a bigger impact if I worked on moving up the ranks” she explained. “As one of 40 Senators, I was able to file three times as many bills. I am able to serve on many committees.” On the other hand, “being the Legislator for the 5th Suffolk District had made me no stranger to constituent casework and the 2nd Suffolk is no different. Throughout my time in the House, I was someone who understood that we needed to work within the building and within the system to deliver results, while also working on systemic long-term solutions to the inequities inherent within this building. I have already brought this lens and approach with me to the Senate.”

In her spare time, Miranda will be in the district, as an example hosting a Senate tour visit in the coming weeks, bringing her Senate colleagues to the 2nd Suffolk to see firsthand the uniqueness of the area. She is aided by three staffers, Kevin, Maliha, and Rashelle, pictured above, who reside in the district themselves. Look for the Senator and her staffers walking the district, stop and chat, and make your own concerns known to her. She will listen.

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Armenian nursing home resident Anahid Khanbegian turns 100

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

It was a joyous occasion at the Armenian Nursing and Rehabilitation Center when Anahid Khanbegian celebrated her 100th birthday on March 2. Surrounded by family members, staff, residents, and friends, Anahid enjoyed the day's festivities, which included flowers, decorations, homemade chocolate pudding, cakes, ice cream and

gifts. But most of all, she beamed with happiness being with her family. Anahid was thrilled to have her son Dichran, daughter-in-law Sandra, her grandson Peter Khanbegian and his wife Kwan, her niece Linda, and her husband Dennis Tarzian, on hand for the festivities. Born on March 2, 1923, in Portland, Maine, Anahid (Parnagian) Khanbegian was always an active, happy child. After graduating from high school,

Anahid met and married Hrayr (Harry) in 1946. They first lived in Brooklyn, NY and then relocated to Massachusetts, where they raised their son Dickran in Roslindale. Anahid spent 66 years in Roslindale, working as a hairdresser with her aunt Arousyag, her father Asadour and her uncle Dickran, both of whom were barbers, at the family-owned "Metropolitan Barbershop." The shop was located at the center of Metropolitan Avenue and Washington Street. Anahid also worked for McGraw Hill/Dodge Reports as a researcher and at "Diane's Bakery" in Roslindale Square. It was at the bakery that Diane developed her legendary "sweet tooth!" Family was always important to Anahid and she made it a priority to take good care of her mother and her father throughout their lives.

A resident at the Armenian Nursing and Rehabilitation Center for the past three years, Anahid is a favorite among both residents and staff members. Salpy Yeterian, Activities Director at the Armenian Nursing Center, noted that Anahid has not slowed down at all, even at 100 years of age. "Anahid never misses the daily activities," remarked Salpy. "Her favorites are Trivia, Bingo, religious services, and Resident's Council. Musical



Left to right, Kwan, Peter, Sandra, Richard and Anahid.



Anahid Khanbegian's 100th Birthday Celebration at Armenian Center.

activities, however, top the list. If there's any kind of music playing, you can be assured Anahid will be there, swaying to the melodies. She loves music."

Anahid is very proud of her Armenian heritage, praying in Armenian, listening to Armenian music, and savoring the traditional foods. In addition, she loves anything chocolate. Anahid can often be found snacking on Hershey kisses, chocolate ice cream or chocolate pudding.

Life at the Armenian Center provides Anahid with socialization and support. She is beloved by residents and staff alike. "We

appreciate all the staff does to elevate the care, maintenance of the Armenian Home for the elderly," said Anahid's niece, Linda Tarzian.

Salpy explained Anahid's personality best. "Anahid is always cheerful and friendly," stated Salpy Yeterian. "In fact, her favorite term of endearment is 'honey.' Every morning I end morning announcements by saying 'Have a nice day and God bless you.' Anahid never fails to respond first, always with, 'God bless you too honey.'" For Salpy, it's a wonderful way to start each day!

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Sherrill House promotes Miniello to Chief Clinical Officer

STAFF REPORT

Sherrill House located in Jamaica Plain, a not-for-profit skilled nursing and rehabilitation center, announced the promotion of Alessio Miniello, RN, to Chief Clinical Officer.

Miniello, who was previously Director of Nursing Services at Sherrill House, is a registered nurse specializing in geriatric rehabilitative and long-term care, focusing on operations management, compliance and clinical development.

"Alessio is a strong leader and effective team builder who cares deeply about our mission to pro-

vide high-quality, compassionate care to the individuals we serve," said Sherrill House Chief Executive Officer Patrick J. Stapleton. "He has demonstrated his ability to successfully lead the clinical care program at Sherrill House."

"I am excited to serve as the Chief Clinical Officer of Sherrill House," Miniello said. "It allows me to utilize my clinical experience as part of a veteran leadership team focused on providing the best care for our residents and the best place to work for our employees."

Prior to joining Sherrill House in 2022, Miniello served as Director of Nursing Services at skilled nursing facilities in Concord and



Alessio Miniello

Peabody. His areas of expertise include facility-level operations including recertification, fiscal controls, quality improvement and infection control.

Miniello, a resident of Everett, earned an associate's degree in nursing from Bunker Hill Community College.

The Art of the Brick®

LAST CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE

The world's most popular display of LEGO art exhibition extends its run one additional week

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

A captivating exhibition featuring intriguing works of art by renowned contemporary artist Nathan Sawaya—has announced that it will extend its final week in Boston, with tickets now on sale through Sunday, April 30 — this will be the last chance to experience the exhibition as it must close. THE ART OF THE BRICK displays over 90 works of art made exclusively from one of the most recognizable toys in the world—the LEGO® brick. Ticket prices start at \$28 and last chance tickets are available at www.artofthebrickexhibit.com.

Centrally located in the Back Bay area of Boston, the newly renovated Newbury Street location introduces visitors to a reimagined museum-like experience, with breathtaking contemporary art at every turn. The

collection features original pieces as well as re-imagined versions of some of the world's most famous art masterpieces made exclusively from LEGO bricks like Da Vinci's Mona Lisa and Van Gogh's Starry Night and as well as a gallery showcasing an innovative, multimedia collection of LEGO brick infused photography that Sawaya produced in collaboration with award-winning photographer Dean West.

THE ART OF THE BRICK also includes fan favorite, Yellow, a sculpture of a man ripping his chest open with thousands of yellow LEGO bricks cascading from the cavity. In addition, visitors will be able to walk beside a 20-foot-long T-Rex dinosaur skeleton made out of bricks and come face-to-face with a giant LEGO skull.

THE ART OF THE BRICK is the first major exhibition to use LEGO bricks as the sole

art medium. Sawaya transforms LEGO bricks into tremendous and thought-provoking sculptures, elevating the toy to the realm of art. Sawaya's ability to transform this common toy into something meaningful, his devotion to spatial perfection and the way he conceptualizes action, enables him to elevate what almost every child has played with into the status of contemporary art.

Seen by more than 10 million people world-wide, THE ART OF THE BRICK has inspired creativity and wonder in fans of all ages in over 100 cities in 24 countries across 6 continents. CNN rated THE ART OF THE BRICK as one of the global "top ten must-see exhibitions," PBS NewsHour hailed the artist, "Nathan Sawaya the Leonardo Da Vinci of LEGO Art," and The New York Times proclaimed "...the playfulness is contagious."

Follow THE ART OF THE

BRICK exhibit (@artofthebrickexhibit) on Facebook and Instagram, and at the hashtag #BostonBricks

Former NYC corporate lawyer turned contemporary artist, Nathan Sawaya is the first artist ever to take the LEGO brick into the art world as a medium. Sawaya has earned a top position in the world of contemporary art and has created a new dimension by merging Pop Art and Surrealism in awe-inspiring and groundbreaking ways. Sawaya's touring exhibition – THE ART OF THE BRICK® – has entertained and inspired millions of art lovers and enthusiasts around the world. CNN heralded, THE ART OF THE BRICK is one of the top ten "must-see exhibits in the world!" Sawaya is an author, speaker and one

of the most popular, award-winning contemporary artists of our time. For more information visit www.brickartist.com.

Running Subway is a New York-based entertainment production company that has produced a multitude of successful exhibitions and theatrical productions including King Tut, The World of DaVinci, The Dead Sea Scrolls, Harry Potter, and The Art of the Brick. Running Subway is also responsible for the highly successful, Broadway and touring production of How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical as well as

Judy Garland In Concert and Sinatra at the London Palladium. For more information about Running Subway, please visit <https://www.runningsubway.com/>.

MOH Income Restricted Rental Opportunity

250 Centre Street
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76 Income Restricted Units

# of Units	# of bedrooms	Estimated Square Feet	Rent	Maximum Income Limit	# built out for mobility impairments	# built out for Deaf/hard of hearing
7*	1 Bedroom	577-636	Income Based (Not to exceed 30% of gross income)	30% AMI	1	-
7*	2 Bedroom	883-961	Income Based (Not to exceed 30% of gross income)	30% AMI	1	-
1*	3 Bedroom	1,236	Income Based (Not to exceed 30% of gross income)	30% AMI	-	-
23	1 Bedroom	577-636	\$1,485	60% AMI	3	-
15	2 Bedroom	884-1,051	\$1,776	60% AMI	2	1
3	3 Bedroom	1,234-1,236	\$2,045	60% AMI	1	1
3	Studio	407-450	\$2,210	100% AMI	-	-
15	1 Bedroom	577-652	\$2,367	100% AMI	1	1
2	2 Bedroom	946	\$2,840	100% AMI	-	-

** (3) 1-bedroom, (7) 2-bedroom, and (1) 3-bedroom units Homeless Set-aside units will be filled through direct referral from HomeStart. For more information please contact us at the email address or phone number below. For direct referrals, please visit <https://www.homestart.org/bostonhhsa>.

Minimum Incomes (set by owner + based on # of bedrooms + Area Median Income (AMI))					Maximum Incomes (set by HUD/MOH + based on household size + Area Median Income (AMI))			
# of bedrooms	30% AMI	60% AMI	100% AMI	Market	Household size	SECTION 8/ MRVP/LIHTC/ HOME Up To 30% AMI	LIHTC Up To 60% AMI	Mass Housing Program Up To 100% AMI
Studio	N/A	N/A	\$66,300	\$68,970	1	\$29,450	\$58,900	\$98,150
1 Bedroom	N/A	\$44,550	\$71,010	\$83,550	2	\$33,650	\$67,300	\$112,200
2 Bedroom	N/A	\$53,280	\$85,200	\$117,300	3	\$37,850	\$75,700	\$126,200
3 Bedroom	N/A	\$61,350	N/A	N/A	4	\$42,050	\$84,100	\$140,200
					5	\$45,450	\$90,850	\$151,450
					6	\$48,800	\$97,600	\$162,650

Minimum Incomes Apply. Minimum incomes do not apply to households with housing assistance (Section 8, MRVP, VASH) or for the units in this development that include a project-based voucher. No maximum income requirements for Market Rate units.

Applications are available during the application period for 60 days, from **Thursday, March 16, 2023 to Monday, May 15, 2023.**

Applications are available in person on the following days, dates, and times in the following place(s)

Date/Time	Location
Tuesday - Thursday, 2:00PM - 6:00PM; Friday 10:00AM - 1:00PM	Connolly Branch of the Boston Public Library, located at 433 Centre Street, Boston MA 02130

To request an online application or to have one sent by email visit www.250centre.com or call 617-972-7900 | TTY: 711

We will be holding an informational meeting on the following date:

Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 6:00 PM
at Amory Street Apartments, 125 Amory St. Boston, MA 02119

Join virtually, too, through the following link:

May 3, 2023 at 6:00 PM <https://v.ringcentral.com/join/957234276>

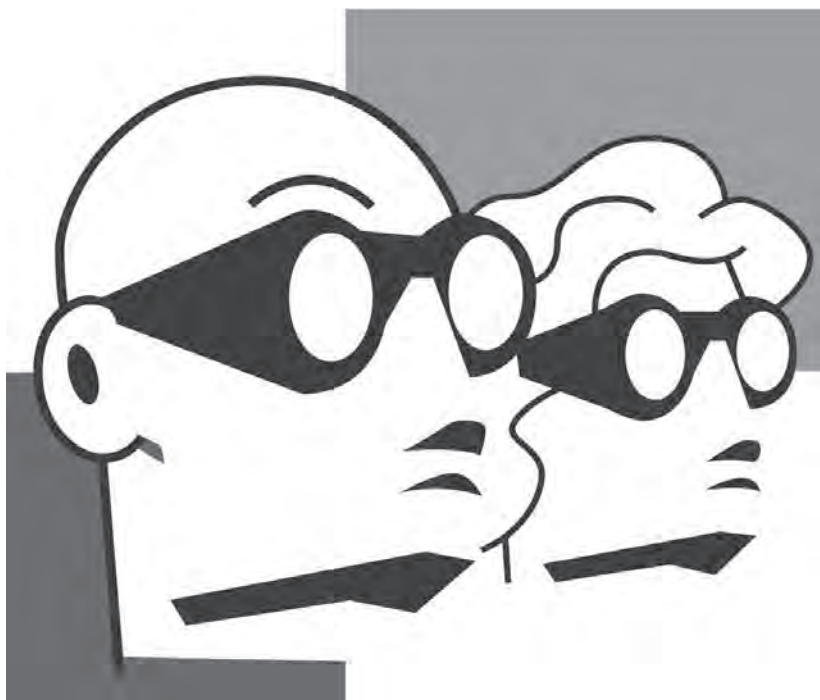
DEADLINE: Applications must be submitted online or postmarked no later than **May 15, 2023.**
Mailed to **225 Centre, Attn: Leasing Office, 225 Centre St. Boston, MA 02130**

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JPNC

Continued from page 1

sented their monthly reports:

Alexis Rickmers (who was not present) of the Parks Committee sent an email informing the group that the annual Muddy River Cleanup will take place on April 22 in Franklin Park and there will be a vendor table for the JPNC at the Wake Up the Earth event on May 6

Sparks of the Outreach Committee discussed the upcoming JPNC's election, which is set for Saturday, June 24. She made note of election information on the JPNC's web site and the need for volunteers to conduct the election. She said there will be three polling places at the Stop & Shop, the Forest Hills T station, and JP Licks on Centre St.

The principal discussion of the evening revolved around the request by the Housing and Development Committee to send three letters: to the MBTA regarding the Arborway bus garage project; to the city regarding the so-called pole yard at the garage site; and to the developer of the residential apartment complex at 1821 Arborway Rd.

Welch, the chair of the Housing and Development Committee, outlined the contents of the letters (which previously had

been made available to the members) and the reasons for each.

Welch said the letter to the MBTA seeks more insight from the T, with community input, regarding the development of the new Arborway bus garage that will house the T's new electric bus fleet.

Cohen questioned the need for a letter at this time when the T already has been willing to talk to the group.

However, Thorne suggested that the intent of the letter is to go beyond meetings that have been held only with T officials -- which Thorne suggested are merely perfunctory sessions -- to include meetings with the professionals working on the project who can answer specific questions about the design, engineering, etc.

Reiskind supported Thorne's point of view.

"The T is putting up road-blocks," said Reiskind. "They act nice, but they are not forthcoming with information that the public can get its teeth into. The T is breaking its own rules with regard to how it communicates. The T has gone significantly backwards on the Arborway Yard."

Freeman added, "It may appear that they're very nice, but when they come to a meeting, it's to tell you how they've advanced the design, but don't tell us how they've responded to our input. We want to be taken seriously, that our input matters, not just show us how it's coming along."

Doherty also voiced his support for sending the letter.

"It is paramount that we be kept informed by the MBTA," Doherty said. "This is a massive building, seven stories high, and it is imperative that we do everything we can to stay informed and be on top of what's happening."

Two other members spoke on the issue, with Hecht voicing his support for Cohen's position not to send the letter and DeCotis saying he is in favor of sending it.

Welch wrapped up the discussion.

"This is our neighborhood and we should be a part of every discussion on matters involving our neighborhood," Welch said.

The council voted 10-0 (with three abstentions) to send the letter.

The next letter, addressed to the city, dealt with the so-called pole yard at the Arborway garage site that the city currently is using as a staging area for its snow clearing equipment, including the storage of a big pile of road salt.

The city originally was going to abandon the pole yard to make way for the MBTA's new bus garage, but now has indicated that it wants to keep the yard.

The council members agreed that if the pole yard is retained by the city for DPW equipment, it will make the T's garage construction project more difficult and will reduce the acreage on the site that was supposed to be available for community development

The council voted 11-0 to send the letter, with two abstentions.

The third letter dealt with the proposed development project at 1821 Arborway Rd. The project, which presently is an abandoned industrial building, abuts the Arborway and will entail a large apartment complex with open space that will be open to the community.

The development is envisioned as a gateway to the Arboretum, for which there is an adjacent archway entrance under the MBTA's commuter rail tracks.

Although the members of the Housing and Development Committee lauded many aspects of the project, the letter from the committee addresses the twin issues of the percentage of affordable housing units in the complex, as well as the definition of what constitutes an "affordable" unit.

The city presently requires that 13% of units in new res-

idential projects be affordable (though the mayor's office is considering raising the threshold to 17%). The developer of the 1821 Arborway Rd. project intends to make 16.5% of the units affordable, exceeding the city's present threshold. However, the JPNC has had a long-standing objective of 25% affordable units. On this issue, the letter urges the developer to get closer to the 25% figure.

The other issue concerns the definition of "affordable." The present figure used for these purposes is 70% of Average Median Income in an area, which would be about \$80,000 for a family of four. The members of the Housing and Development Committee want to urge the developer to lower that threshold.

"I just have to say that based on what we heard from the developers, these are not affordable units," said Doherty, who attended the Housing and Development Committee meeting at which the developer made a presentation. "We need housing for our senior citizens, who are on limited, fixed incomes, and for the working people who make minimal hourly wages. We also need to have housing for families."

Doherty raised an additional issue.

"We also have to discuss the reality that by continuing to allow these former industrial spaces to be converted into residential housing, we are eliminating the potential for the creation of jobs within the community," Doherty said.

The council voted 10-0 to send the letter with three abstentions.

Baron presented the report from the Zoning Committee. He said the committee took up three matters in the past month, all of which they approved.

The first was the Forest Hills Housing Co-op at 201 Forest Hills St. He said the co-op is seeking to construct a separate community building because its current spaces for that purpose are not ADA-compliant. Baron told the council that the proposed new building has only minor discrepancies per the city's zoning ordinances.

Another matter pertained to 294 and 294R South St. The

owner is requesting to convert a carriage house in the rear of the property into an additional dwelling unit into which the owner wishes to move from the principal residence.

For the third matter, 34 McBride St., the owner is seeking to add an addition for a bedroom and bathroom to which there was no opposition from the neighbors.

The full council, with one abstention, gave its recommendation for approval to all three variance requests. The owners now must go before the City of Boston Zoning Board of Appeals for issuance of the variances.

Baron noted that the next meeting of the Zoning Committee is set for April 12 when the committee will take up two matters, 87 & 91 Parkton Rd. (extending a shared driveway to create two off-street parking spaces at the rear of the property) and 11 Plainfield St. (a shed dormer in order to extend and enlarge a bedroom).

Reiskind of the Public Service Committee reported that the committee is continuing with its efforts to get more trash barrels and receptacles in the business district, as well as along the Jamaica Pond parking area at Perkins St.

He said the city will clear sidewalks during snowstorms. Reiskind also said the city has been asked to add Pond St. from Center St. to the Jamaicaaway for street sweeping.

Reiskind also noted that the dozens of poles that supported catenary wires (the overhead wires that supply electricity to trolley cars) for the old trolley cars, which have been out-of-use since the 1980s, are in the process of being removed by the MBTA.

Before the meeting concluded, Ben Weber stepped up to fill one of the two current vacancies on the council. Weber is an attorney who has been a JP resident for 14 years and whose children attended Boston Public Schools. The council unanimously voted to accept Weber as a new member of the council.

The council then adjourned until its next meeting on Tuesday, April 25.



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JP's Drew Breuninger in Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk

STAFF REPORT

Jamaica Plain resident, Drew Breuninger, registered for the Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai in memory of his dear friend and roommate, Marcos, who was diagnosed with cancer in 2017.

"We were roommates in August 2017, and I happened to be on vacation," Drew details. "I remember Marcos texted me to say that he was moving out, but he wouldn't tell me why. He said that we could talk about it when I got back...I had no idea what I could have done to make him move out so unexpectedly." Finally, Drew was able to get Marcos to give him a call. "I'll never forget when he told me. My jaw dropped. I felt numb. I asked why he didn't let me know when he found out. He replied, 'I wanted to let you enjoy your vacation.' That's the type of guy Marcos was. He always thought of others before himself - even during the hardest parts of his treatment, the lowest of lows. He never complained. He never wanted anyone to worry or to be

a bother."

Drew had met Marcos at Babson College where they played rugby together. They met during the first day of school and became inseparable. They joined the same fraternity where Marcos became Drew's "big brother," a role which he took seriously. Marcos was an imposing figure at 6'3" 250lb but had a heart of gold. "He was funny, kind, strong as an ox, successful, and an all-around awesome guy," Drew writes. "He lived life with a contagious smile, goofy laugh, and genuine kindness in his heart. He was a gem."

After Marcus was diagnosed with cancer in August 2017, Drew became involved with the Jimmy Fund Walk and is now the Team Captain of Viva La Marcos. They walked just one month after Marcos was diagnosed. "I was just desperate to help him and do anything I could to try to help and show support," Drew describes. "I shaved my head and signed up to start raising money for the walk. We have done it ever year since."

But on December 21, 2020, Marcus lost his battle with cancer.

"I lost a best friend, a mentor, a brother...someone whose last request to me was to make him proud," Drew describes. "I have no idea how I'll live up to his legacy, but I'm going to try like hell." This year marks the team's 7th year and they hope to reach \$100,000 cumulatively raised. They only have \$22,000 to go.

"Cancer sucks," Drew writes. "There's no doubt about it. But it's about not letting the diagnosis dictate how you will live your life. Certainly there will be ups and downs, but it's about fighting like hell and bringing the battle to cancer - mentally, physically, emotionally, etc. It's what Marcos did. He lived his life the best he could and didn't anything other than he was going to keep on moving. So, that's what we have to do as supporters - just keep on moving and try to help others overcome this larger battle with the disease."

The 2023 Jimmy Fund Walk will take place on Sunday, October 1, and raises funds to support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at the nation's premier cancer

center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Whether participating for themselves, loved ones, neighbors, or co-workers, each walker shares a common purpose: to defy cancer and support breakthroughs that will benefit cancer patients around the world.

Participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options: 5K Walk (3.1 miles from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute), 10K Walk (6.2 miles from Newton), Half Marathon Walk (13.1 miles from Wellesley) or Marathon Walk (26.2 miles from Hopkinton). All four routes of the Jimmy Fund Walk end at the Finish Line Powered by Schneider Electric.

Walkers can also participate virtually by "walking their way" from wherever they are most comfortable—whether that be in their neighborhood, on a favorite hiking trail, or on a treadmill at home.

The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$167 million for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in its 34-year history. The 2023 Walk will be held during the Jimmy Fund's 75th anniversary year and will aim to raise \$9 million in the effort to prevent, treat, and defy cancer. To register for the Walk (#JimmyFundWalk) or to support a walker, visit www.JimmyFundWalk.org or call (866) 531-9255.



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Volunteers needed to assure our ability to hold a Spring 2023! See details on our website at <https://bit.ly/jpcsoccer>

Regular season registration ends on April 19, 2023
The Spring season runs from Wednesday, April 26th through Sunday, June 25th, 2023
Registration costs \$25.00 — discounts are available.

The spring season is 8 weeks long, every week we hold one 45 min practice for each team, with available sessions on Wednesdays at 4pm, Saturdays at 9, 10 or 11am or Sunday at 10am.

Volunteer Activity Leaders are needed to support every team - no experience needed! See our Website for more details or contact us directly at: contact@jpchildrensoccer.org.

Para niños 3.5-6.5. El registro en línea ya está abierto en <https://bit.ly/jpcsoccer>

El registro de la temporada regular finaliza el 19 de abril de 2023

La temporada de primavera se extiende desde el miércoles el 26 de Abril hasta domingo el 25 de Junio de 2023.
La inscripción cuesta \$25.00 — hay descuentos disponibles.

La temporada de primavera tiene una duración de 8 semanas, cada semana realizamos una práctica de 45 minutos para cada equipo, con sesiones disponibles los miércoles a las 4 p.m., los sábados a las 9, 10 & 11 a.m., o los domingos a las 10 a.m.

Necesitamos líderes voluntarios para apoyar a cada equipo, ¡no se necesita experiencia! Visite nuestro sitio web para obtener más detalles o contáctenos directamente en: contact@jpchildrensoccer.org.



MONTHLY BLACK LIVES MATTER VIGIL AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Every month an informal, loose group of neighbors come together to stand vigil in front of the First Baptist Church on Centre Street to remind all that

Black Lives Matter. They have been doing this for five years, reminding people that the issues of systemic racism and violence are still important and affecting many people.



Administrative And Human Resources Manager Alethia Pratt and Marketing Director Taylor Lee from the Lewis D. Brown Peace Institute were the guest speakers before the vigil.



Neighborhoods from throughout Jamaica Plain reflected on what the guest speakers from the Lewis D. Brown Peace Institute had to say about the organization's latest activities and plans for their annual Mother's Day Parade.



Taylor Lee, marketing director from the Lewis D. Brown Peace Institute, speaks before the vigil.



Neighborhoods from throughout Jamaica Plain reflected on what the guest speakers had to say.

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MONTHLY BLACK LIVES MATTER VIGIL AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



Andrea Fleck Clardy reads the names of victims of violence from systemic racism.



Christine Carlsen reads the names of victims of violence from systemic racism.



David Libbey stands across the street from the Baptist Church at the Southern Jamaica Plain Health Center with a sign reminding passersby that Black Lives Matter.



Alison Gottlieb stands by the corner of Centre and Myrtle Streets.



Bonnie McBride thanked the speakers from the Lewis D Brown Institute for appearing before the vigil.



Mike Wolfson stands in front of the First Baptist Church to remind passersby that Black Lives Matter.



Dusty McGuire stands in front of the First Baptist Church on Centre Street reminding passersby that Black Lives Matter.



Manny Knaggs and Joe Parrish.



Penny Wells speaks of the victims of violence from systemic racism.

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WEIL ON DEAN'S LIST AT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

The following student has been named to the dean's list at Washington University in St. Louis:
Sophia Weil of Jamaica Plain

is enrolled in the university's College of Arts & Sciences. To qualify for the Dean's List in the College of Arts & Sciences, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 or above and be enrolled in at least 14 graded units.
Washington University in

St. Louis is counted among the world's leaders in teaching, research, patient care and service to society.
The university draws students to St. Louis from more than 100 countries and all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the

Northern Mariana Islands. The total student body is more than 15,000 undergraduate, graduate and professional students.
The approximately 4,300 faculty teach in eight schools: Arts & Sciences, Brown School, Olin Business School, Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts,

McKelvey School of Engineering, School of Law, School of Medicine and University College. The university has been affiliated with 26 Nobel laureates, many of whom did a significant portion of their award-winning work at the university.

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Chief Jemison welcomes new Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Luis Frias

STAFF REPORT

Chief of Planning Arthur Jemison announced the hiring of Luis R. Frias II as the new Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) for the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA). Frias will serve as a member of the Agency's senior leadership team and be charged with the development and over-

sight of the Agency's equity and diversity priorities. In this capacity, he will work to establish collaborative partnerships with internal and external stakeholders and foster a more diverse, inclusive, equitable, welcoming, and supportive agency. "I'm happy to welcome Luis to the Agency, and look forward to the important and positive impact he will have on helping us plan a more equitable Boston," said Chief of



Luis R. Frias II, new Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the BPDA.

Planning Arthur Jemison. "I am excited to work with him to en-

Continued on page 19

LELAND CO-OPERATIVE GARDEN HOSTS COMMUNITY DAY

It's Spring! The Leland Co-operative Garden wants you to come visit on April 29, from 2-4. (Rain date : April 30).

Located at 15 Leland Street off Wachusett, it is an oasis of flowers, vegetables and herbs for all. There will be tours of the garden, information about gardening and a discussion of mutual aid. It is truly a cooperative garden because it does not have individual plots or fences. Everyone is welcome. Please come. For more information: lelandgarden@gmail.com.



A view of the Leland Co-operative Garden.

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. SU23P0738EA Estate of: Karen K. Parker Also Known as: Karen Alena Kemper Parker, Karen Kemper Date of Death: 03/08/2023 To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Richard Ronder of Newburyport, 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: Richard Ronder of Newburyport, 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 05/16/2023. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 04, 2023 Vincent Procopio Register of Probate 4/14/23 JP

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Division INFORMAL PROBATE

PUBLICATION NOTICE Docket No. SU23P0486EA Estate of: Selma Abigadol Newburgh Selma A. Newburgh Date of Death: November 26, 2022 To all persons interested in the above captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner Edward P. Lyon of Newton, MA. A Will has been admitted to informal probate. Edward P. Lyon of Newton, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 4/14/23 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. SU23P0625GD Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 In the matter of: Joes A. Dejesus Of: Jamaica Plain, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Damali Vidot of Chelsea, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Jose A. Dejesus 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 04/20/2023. 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: March 21, 2023 Vincent Procopio Register of Probate 4/14/23 JP

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND

FAMILY COURT Suffolk Division INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE Docket No. SU23P0605EA Estate of: George W. Fifield Date of Death: November 12, 2022 To all persons interested in the above captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner John Fifield of Shelter Island, NY. John Fifield of Shelter Island, NY has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 4/14/23 JP

LEGAL NOTICE

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, Section 5-304 Docket No. SU23P0544GD Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston MA, 02114 In the matter of: Debra Floyd of: Jamaica Plain, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Mass. Dept. Of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Debra Floyd is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (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 AM on the return date of 04/27/2023. 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 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: March 13, 2023 Vincent Procopio, Register of Probate 4/14/23 JP

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING DOCKET NUMBER: SU22D2090DR Rodolfo Canale Plaintiff VS. Bookdei Canale 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. As 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: Rodolfo Canale 330 Bowdoin St. Apt. 615 Boston, MA 02122, your answer, if any, on or before 05/23/2023. 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 at 24 New Chardon St., Boston, MA 02114. Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: March 20, 2023 Vincent Procopio Register of Probate 4/14/23 JP

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DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

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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@Jamaica-PlainGazette.com. Please include address and telephone number for verification purposes.

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Our Senior Life

Know the Early Warning Signs of COPD

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a long-term lung disease that makes it hard to breathe. A leading cause of disability and death in the United States, more than 12.5 million people have been diagnosed, and millions more may have the disease without even knowing it. While there is no cure, knowing COPD's early warning signs can lead to earlier treatment and may prevent its progression.

The American Lung Association, funded with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is sharing the following insights to help Americans recognize the warning signs of COPD and take action:

Early Warning Signs of COPD

Not everyone has the same COPD symptoms, but some of the more common early warning signs and symptoms may include shortness of breath, a cough that may bring up mucus or phlegm, chest tightness, fatigue and reoccurring lung infections. People may think these symptoms are because of aging, smoking or being out of shape and become less active to avoid experiencing them. These signs and symptoms shouldn't be ignored. Speak with your healthcare provider if you experience any of these symptoms and discuss any activities you are avoiding due to breathing difficulties.

Risk Factors and Diagnosis

Anyone can develop COPD, but people aged 40 or older and those who smoke or used to smoke are at higher risk. Cigarette smoking is the leading cause of COPD, however 1 in 4 people with COPD never smoked cigarettes. Secondhand smoke, air pollution, workplace exposures to dust, fumes and chemicals, and a genetic condition called alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency (AATD) are also causes and risk factors for

COPD.

People are often diagnosed at later stages of COPD when the disease has progressed because they delayed sharing their early symptoms with their healthcare provider. Everyone with risk factors and those experiencing early warning signs should talk to their healthcare provider about any breathing issues. It's especially important for women to do so. Because COPD has been historically thought of as a "man's disease" or an "old person's disease," women are sometimes misdiagnosed or receive a delayed diagnosis. But overall, more women are affected by COPD than men and the death rate is higher in women. In addition, women tend to develop the disease at a younger age.

To diagnose COPD, the healthcare provider will evaluate symptoms, gather a complete health history, conduct a health exam and perform a pulmonary function test called spirometry. The results of the spirometry test can determine if you have COPD.

Lifestyle Changes

In addition to treatment, certain lifestyle changes may make a difference, as patients living with COPD know firsthand. After being diagnosed with stage 2 COPD in the wake of a COVID-19 infection, Bob F. partnered with his doctor and started monitoring his breathing at home

and leaned into exercise. His hard work has paid off, with his last pulmonary function test showing that the disease has not progressed, and he is in better overall shape than before.

"Most of the advice you should follow is no different than what doctors tell us all. Eat right, exercise, sleep, drink plenty of water, manage your weight and don't smoke. If you do these things, you may slow the progression of your COPD," says Bob.

But you shouldn't wait until a COPD diagnosis to make these changes. Lifestyle changes like quitting smoking, avoiding secondhand smoke and reducing your exposure

to air pollution may reduce your risk for developing COPD. If you are experiencing shortness of breath or other respiratory symptoms, do not delay talking to your healthcare provider about your symptoms or COPD risk factors. For more information about COPD, visit [Lung.org/COPD](https://lung.org/COPD). (StatePoint



PHOTO SOURCE: (c) SDI Productions / Getty Images



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Mayor Wu announces grant for services to individuals experiencing homelessness

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu last week announced the City of Boston has received more than \$42 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to support nonprofit organizations providing services to individuals experiencing homelessness. This award represents the largest Continuum of Care award ever for the City of Boston. The funds will be distributed among 14 nonprofit organizations that provide critical services and support to Boston's unhoused residents and advance Mayor Wu's goals to end homelessness in the city.

The funding is made available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) annual Continuum of Care awards, a grant program that the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH) has applied for and been awarded every year since 1995. Over the last 8 years, MOH has grown the funding the City receives from this grant by more than 85 percent, from \$22.6 million in 2015 to \$42 million this year, as a result of their competitive application and demonstrated ability to deliver results in collaboration with partner agencies.

"Boston residents and families across every neighborhood deserve to live in safe, stable and affordable housing," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "As we work to ensure that Boston is a city where all can live and thrive, these Continuum of Care Grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will help us empower and support organizations that provide crucial services and support to our unhoused residents. I want to thank HUD Secretary Fudge and the entire Massachusetts Congressional delegation for the City of Boston's largest Continuum of Care award ever and continued federal support as we work together to end homelessness in our city."

The City will allocate this federal HUD funding to organizations that offer a range of services and supports including housing search, the creation of housing for people experiencing long-term homelessness, rapid re-housing funds, and stabilization services to allow newly housed households and long-term-homeless individuals to receive the support they need to succeed.

"Boston has a successful network of experienced non-profit organizations committed to housing

our homeless," said Sheila Dillon, Chief of Housing. "This funding award allows us to continue the important work of moving our homeless residents from shelters and the street into housing that they can afford with the services they need to be successful. Given the high cost of housing in Boston and the region, this funding award, the largest in our Continuum's history, is more important than ever."

The funds will also support a number of permanent housing models including permanent subsidized housing, transitional housing, and short-to-medium-term rental assistance and case management for participants to find and maintain housing on the private market (rapid re-housing). The permanent supportive housing that is supported by this funding will combine subsidized housing with individualized support services so that individuals with a range of needs can receive the assistance they need to stay housed. The services are designed to build independent living skills and connect people with services such as community-based health care, help with mental health issues, substance use counseling, and employment services.

Organizations receiving funding include:

- Bay Cove Human Services

- Bridge Over Troubled Waters
- Casa Myrna Vazquez
- Roxbury Stone House
- FamilyAid Boston
- Heading Home
- HomeStart
- Justice Resource Institute
- Kit Clark Senior Services
- Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance
- Metro Housing Boston
- New England Center and Home for Veterans
- Pine Street Inn
- St. Francis House
- The Home for Little Wanderers

"The Continuum of Care awards reinforce the Biden-Harris Administration's continued commitment to addressing the nation's homelessness crisis using equity and evidence-based solutions," said Juana B. Matias, Regional Administrator of HUD New England. "Of the \$2.8 billion recently granted, the State of Massachusetts received more than \$110,000,000, and I am very pleased that the City of Boston is putting its share of the funding to good use helping individuals and families experiencing homelessness move into permanent housing."

Three new programs received funding through this year's award. Casa Myrna and Stone House received additional funding to provide permanent housing

and supportive services to households fleeing domestic violence (DV), sexual assault, and commercial sexual exploitation/sex trafficking with permanent housing. St. Francis House will provide additional permanent supportive housing with wraparound services and onsite support to long term homeless households. Funding for these programs will allocate an additional \$3.2 million to house vulnerable populations.

"We are immensely grateful to the City of Boston and HUD for their unwavering support of our efforts to combat homelessness in the community," said Karen LaFrazia, President and CEO, St. Francis House. "This funding will enable us to continue providing vital services to those in need, supporting our commitment to developing strong relationships with individuals who come to us for assistance. By instilling hope and belief in their ability to make positive change, we empower formerly homeless individuals to move forward with their lives. We appreciate the ongoing partnership with the City of Boston, and look forward to continuing our work together to end homelessness in Boston."

"We are incredibly grateful to the City of Boston and HUD for their continued support of our mission to end family homelessness in Greater Boston," said

Larry Seamans, President, FamilyAid. "With this funding, we can continue to empower parents and caregivers, providing them with the resources they need to secure stable and sustainable housing, and build strong foundations for their children's futures. The ongoing partnership with the City of Boston and HUD has been instrumental in our ability to make a positive impact on the lives of families in our community. Together, we can make a real difference in ending homelessness for families in Boston."

Mayor Wu has made ending homelessness a priority. Boston offers services to homeless individuals by offering wraparound services to those who require the additional level of care. Chronically homeless individuals have barriers that create challenges to remaining housed. These barriers can include physical disabilities, substance use disorders, and mental health challenges. As part of Boston's plan, the City is committed to a "housing first" approach to homelessness which is based on the belief that everyone should have access to permanent housing. In 2022, Boston housed 2,420 people experiencing homelessness including 461 family households and 1,054 adult individuals. Among those are 113 youth and young adults as well as 149 veterans.

Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll



'MAYA'

Maya is 2 and adores other dogs of all ages and sizes. She's a little shy with new people and needs a quiet neighborhood. She is housebroken, walks well on a leash, enjoys car rides, and loves a good snuggle.



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EDITORIAL

The Marathon bombing, 10 years later

This week marks the 10th anniversary of the tragic Boston Marathon bombing which occurred on April 15, 2013, when two brothers set off a pair of bombs near the finish line of the marathon, killing three persons (Krystle Marie Campbell, a 29-year-old restaurant manager from Medford; Lü Lingzi, a 23-year-old Chinese national and Boston University statistics graduate student; and 8-year-old Martin William Richard from Dorchester) and injuring 281 persons, of whom 16 lost limbs.

In addition, during the manhunt for the bombers in the ensuing days, the brothers shot and killed 27 year-old Sean Allen Collier, an MIT police officer, who crossed their path, and shot two Boston police officers, one of whom, Dennis Simmonds, died on April 10, 2014, from head injuries he received during the shootout in Watertown.

One of the brothers was killed during the shootout and the other eventually was captured, tried, convicted, and sentenced to death, and now is imprisoned in a federal Supermax facility.

For those of us who are lifelong Boston-area residents, the horror of that afternoon, as well as the three-day manhunt for the suspects, will remain etched in our memories forever as no other local event ever has.

We will never forget the tremendous performance of the medical and emergency crews on the scene and at our area hospitals, who miraculously saved the lives of scores of victims who otherwise might have died from their wounds.

Ten years later, the memory of that day gives all of us pause to reflect, both to remember the innocent victims and to honor those whose heroic actions saved lives.

Clarence Thomas: Supreme Hypocrite

"I prefer the RV parks. I prefer the Walmart parking lots to the beaches and things like that. There's something normal to me about it." -- Judge Clarence Thomas in a recent interview.

The revelation this past week that Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and his wife have been accepting luxury vacations from a Texas billionaire for the past 25 years, including a recent vacation that is estimated to have had a price tag of \$500,000 (that's not a typo -- there are no added zeros), is absolutely sickening.

For his part, this billionaire said he never discussed any cases with Thomas and reportedly never had any specific cases pertaining to him in front of the court.

However, among the other guests on these vacation junkets were top executives of major U.S. corporations, so it certainly is conceivable that some of these companies may have had matters that came before the Supreme Court during the 25 years that Thomas has been receiving these extraordinary gifts from the Texas billionaire.

However, the focus on whether any one of these wealthy and influential persons had any specific matters before the Supreme Court misses the point entirely, which is this: Thomas is hobnobbing with, and accepting gifts of immense value from, individuals who have a great deal of general interest in cases that come before the Supreme Court.

For example, the infamous Citizens United case in 2010 (in which the court held that the free speech clause of the First Amendment prohibits the government from restricting independent expenditures for political campaigns by corporations, thereby striking down a federal law that had placed a limit on donations by corporations) was brought by billionaires -- and who have been influencing U.S. elections ever since with what is known as "dark money" (because its source is unknown). Thomas -- surprise! -- voted with the majority in a 5-4 decision.

But beyond what, in our opinion, constitutes an obvious conflict of interest by Thomas, this is just another example of the hypocrisy that has marked Thomas's tenure ever since he was appointed to the Supreme Court more than 30 years ago.

Thomas rates as the most unqualified person ever to sit on the court. He never tried a case in a courtroom and had no substantive legal experience prior to being appointed to a seat on the federal Appeals Court. (He was incapable of having been named as a federal district court judge because he would have been clueless as to how to conduct a trial.)

He often speaks and writes of his humble beginnings growing up poor on a farm in Georgia, but he never acknowledges that it was thanks to de facto affirmative action programs at Holy Cross and Yale Law School that gave him the opportunity to rise to the highest court in the land. Nor does he acknowledge that it essentially was affirmative action by President George H.W. Bush that elevated him to his judicial posts, because Thomas by any objective measure was unqualified to be a judge.

But here's the irony of Thomas's personal affirmative action story: He is among the leaders of the Supreme Court faction that no doubt soon will be striking down affirmative action programs that have existed for decades in universities across the country.

Thomas's stance on affirmative action is the height of hypocrisy -- he benefited from programs that afforded him opportunities, but he is pulling up the proverbial ladder so that others cannot follow him -- that goes way beyond taking expensive vacations in the face of his laughably stated preference for "Walmart parking lots."



LETTERS

Attention Hospital CEO's: Please 'Share the Wealth' to Support Bedside Nurses...

Dear Editor,

Nurses have been long overdue for better salaries and the accommodation of on-site call rooms. Hospitals generate billions of dollars in revenue annually. Hospital CEO's receive salaries that range from \$1 to \$7 million annually. Is sitting in an executive suite of a hospital behind a mahogany desk, floors away from the frenetic patient care taking place 24/7 really worth a salary of \$1 to \$7 million dollars per year? How much would a safe on-site overnight suite for nurses including beds and shower facilities cost? Could those million-dollar CEO salaries instead go toward significantly increasing bedside

nursing salaries? Could hospital CEO's find it in them to "share the wealth" to improve the working conditions and life of the bedside nurse?

Nurses are leaving bedside nursing in hospitals at alarming rates. Bedside nursing work is stressful both physically and mentally. Staffing and scheduling challenges plague the nursing profession.

Hospitals need to make improvements to the poor work environment that often leads to nursing burnout and turnover. Due to continual understaffing, nurses feel like they are constantly on call, even if they are

Continued on page 19

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

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Letter

Continued from page 18

not. In order to attract more nurses to working in hospital settings, hospital environments are going to have to become more attractive for nurses. This means incentives such as increase in salaries and providing on-site nurse call rooms. If hospitals want to recruit and retain the nursing workforce needed to provide optimal patient care, they must offer nurses more than a pat on the back and the occasional 10 boxes of pizza lunches.

Many nurses travel to large Boston hospitals from Cape Cod, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont and they sometimes work double and triple shifts. Nurses often resign from their positions at hospitals for a variety of reasons such as understaffing, stressful conditions and lousy pay scales. However, many nurses resign due to costly parking fees and commuting long hours for their 12 hour shifts.

Many younger new nurses have mounds of student loan debt and are unable to afford hotels for overnite stays due to a long commute. They instead, sometimes sleep overnight in their cars in order to make the next early morning 12 hour grueling shift.

Hospitals have always provided residents and MD's overnight on call rooms within the hospital, rightly so, given their busy schedules and overnight on call duties. However, nurses are not provided with safe, overnight on-call rooms within hospitals. If anything proved there is a need for this it was the COVID pandemic. In order to recruit, retain and accommodate nurses for unexpected double and triple shifts, they should be generously compensated and be provided with safe, on-site overnite nursing call rooms within the hospital at no cost.

Nurses are the lifeblood of any hospital. MD's and nurses work hand and hand and hospitals cannot function effectively without both. Therefore, hospi-

tal CEO's should be making efforts to support the bedside nurse with what they need and deserve to perform their jobs well. Providing a significant increase in salary and on call overnight accommodations would help in the short term and long term to recruit and retain highly skilled nurses. Nurses do not need more pizza or "Cookie Appreciation Days" in appreciation for their work. Bedside nurses need and deserve to be paid well for the backbreaking, exhausting, physical, mental and emotional work they perform on a daily basis. So hospital CEO's, how about "sharing the wealth" to support bedside nurses?

Mary Beth Muckian, BSN, RN is a graduate of Boston College and Regis College. She has been a nurse for 17 years and currently works as a Utilization Review Manager. She has worked over her nursing career in the areas of bedside nursing, Nursing Research and Occupational Health Nursing.

Frias

Continued from page 13

sure that diversity, equity, and inclusion are priorities in all of the BPDA's work, and to ensure we are building a City that best serves our residents."

"I'm pleased to join the BPDA and to help advance its mission to create and guide inclusive and equitable growth in our city," said Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Luis Frias. "In my short time here, I've already witnessed the passion, dedication, and brilliance of this

team. I'm deeply honored to be in this role, as we work together to shape Boston's future."

Frias has spent the last decade working in higher education. He joins the Agency from Northeastern University, where he served as the Program Manager for Engineering PLUS, a National Science Foundation grant focused on creating networked communities and inclusive infrastructure across the nation to achieve the transformative, systemic, and sustainable change needed to increase undergraduate and graduate degree attainment for BIPOC and women engineering students.

He also served as the Associate Director for Diversity Programs for Northeastern's College of Engineering, where he focused on both College and University level DEI initiatives.

While working at Northeastern, he also received the Black Heritage Award, given to Northeastern staff and administrators in recognition of their years of dedicated service to Northeastern, to students, and to the John D. O'Bryant African American Institute. A Worcester native, he graduated from Anna Maria College in Paxton, Massachusetts in 2013 with a major in Legal Studies. He also received a Master's from Northeastern in Applied Educational Psychology in 2020.

The work of the Director of DEI will build on efforts already underway to support equity by creating affordable housing, jobs, resilient infrastructure, and open space in every neighborhood. Additional efforts underway include leveraging funding from large real estate development to support workforce development and training, equitable procurement policies, requiring diversity criteria for developing publicly-owned land, and the BPDA's DEI in Development Policy, announced in 2022, to promote diversity within large private development projects in the City of Boston.

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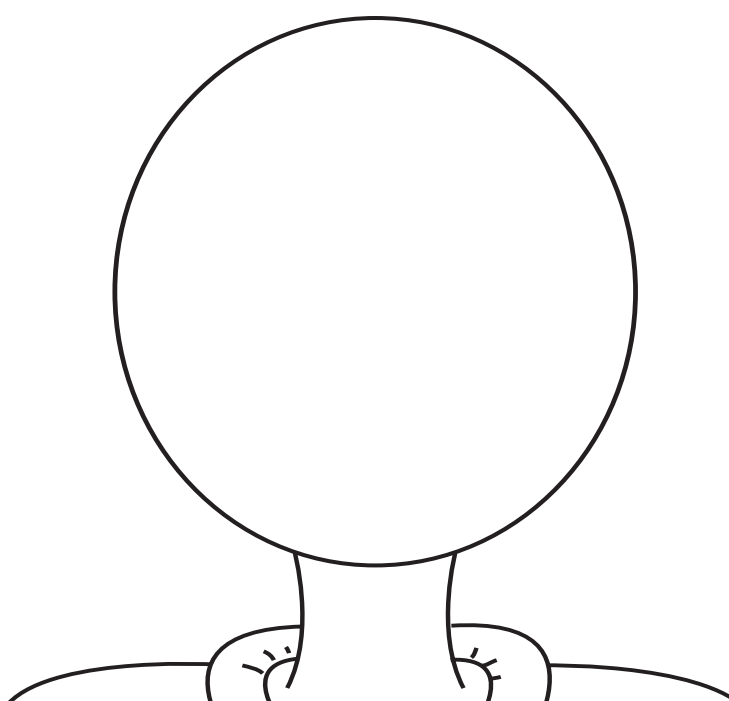
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