

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2018

FREE



CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE



Commander Robert 'Bob' Gillen was laid to rest on Wednesday, July 11, after a funeral Mass at St. Francis de Sales Church in the morning. Here, sailors from the USS Constitution carry his casket into the church as a large contingent of Navy personnel and others salute. Commander Gillen was extremely active in Charlestown, but had an astounding career in Naval intelligence that many did not know about.

Commander Gillen laid to rest in grand ceremony Wednesday

By Seth Daniel

Commander Robert L. 'Bob' Gillen passed away on July 6 at the age of 85, and the life-long Townie and retired U.S. Navyman was laid to rest in a grand procession and funeral Mass on Wednesday morning, July 11.

Commander Gillen was remembered by many lately for his extreme service to his community, helping to coordinate the Battle of Bunker Hill Day Parade, the Old Charlestown Schoolboys Association and many other voluntary endeavors. He was also remember by many in the Navy for a career that was as stunning as it was surprising to those close to him here that did not know the extent of his service.

His brother, Moe Gillen, spoke for the family in saying that their brother would be dearly missed.

"He was my partner in all the things we did, and he will be sorely missed," said Moe. "He was a great big brother and he was very soft spoken and unassuming despite all of the things he accomplished in Charlestown and around the world in the Navy."

Commander Gillen's final assignment in the Navy was as the 59th Commander of the USS Constitution in the Navy Yard



Commander Robert Gillen.

– the only Charlestown sailor to command the ship.

Arthur Hurley, who was a long-time friend of Gillen's through the many organizations in the Town, said he would miss him greatly.

"More than anything, he served his country well and his community," said Hurley. "He and I were partners in crime from planning the Parade to the June 17, Monument activities with the Bunker Hill Monument Association. He's sorely missed. He really will be missed here."

Commander Gillen left home in

(GILLEN Pg. 4)

Engine 50 to celebrate 100 years

By Seth Daniel

One of the most beloved fire stations and fire companies in the City of Boston will celebrate its 100th year on July 26 with a grand ceremony put on by the Charlestown Historical Society and the Boston Fire Department – among others.

July 26, 1918, began the current Engine 50 Firehouse, and Julie Hall of the Historic Society said – even though the station is under renovations and not open this summer – they didn't want the anniversary to pass by without marking it.

"We're excited about it," she said. "It is a very unique firehouse. I think Brooklyn is the first People's Firehouse, but we're the second one. It's special because it's part of the community. I met (Firefighter) Guy Cammarata at

Whole Foods and he is such a part of the community. We take care of each other. It's a multi-generational thing because it happened long ago as well."

Hall said they will have a special celebration closing off the street in front of the Monument and bringing in antique fire trucks on July 26, at 11 a.m. They will also have an exhibit in the Bunker Hill Museum of some of the artifacts and old fire logs in the Charlestown Historical Society's records.

The Firehouse is also unique in that it was part of a major protest in the 1980s where residents staged a sit-in to keep the beloved station from closing – marking it one of the People's Firehouses.

Mark Sanders of the Boston Fire Department said it is a special firehouse in the City, and one of the oldest as well.

He said it was established before Charlestown was annexed into Boston in 1874, and that made it the oldest existing firehouse.

"It is one of the most beloved firehouses in Boston because it is truly a neighborhood firehouse built into the homes," he said. "Plus, it is on the Freedom Trail which also gets it a lot of notoriety."

Incidentally, Sanders said Engine 50 was one of the few companies that had lime green fire trucks in the 1970s. He said the firefighters' association had suggested the change, and Engine 50 was among a handful of pilot companies to use it.

"The City of Boston switched back to red in the 1980s, but for a short time Engine 50 was one that had lime green apparatus," he said.

HarborWalk coming together this summer with a finished look

By Seth Daniel

When most landscaping plans come into shape at a new building, it takes a few years for them to mature.

It's not the case at Encore Boston Harbor, where the new HarborWalk is about 25 percent complete, and the first views reveal trees that are already 20- and 30-feet tall.

"It's going to look spectacular," said Greg John of Encore. "This is going to be when you walk on the HarborWalk for the first time, it will look like it's been there decades and it's going to be amazing."

Trees in the new HarborWalk come from all over the country, with many of them coming from upstate New York.

John said there will 800 trees on the site, with many of them up to 30-feet tall already. Some 55 percent will be 20 feet or taller when planted. There will be more than 47,000 shrubs and more than

50,000 flowers when all is said and done.

Four Ficus trees have been hand-picked in California, John said, and they will flank the Popeye sculpture when the casino opens. Those trees will be delivered later this summer.

The Encore HarborWalk is approximately one half-mile long and takes up six acres of the development.

John said it is also noteworthy that the landscaping plan will continue on to the entrance of the site, and then out onto Lower Broadway.

Another interesting piece of the HarborWalk is that John said many are noticing the wildlife return to the shore – an area described as a biological desert by consultants just two years ago.

With the clean-up done on the site, and in the river bottom, life is returning to that "desert."

"One of the workers took a video of birds diving for fish," said John. "That happens a lot now



The HarborWalk along the Mystic River at Encore Boston Harbor is taking shape this summer with about 25 percent of it complete now. Remarkably, more than half of the trees are already mature at planting, with 55 percent of them 20 feet or taller.

and it's definitely turned things around. Prior to our clean up and remediation, every day contamination leaked into the water. When we cleaned it up, we reversed 100 years of neglect and brought things back to their original conditions. There aren't too many opportunities to do that – to reverse 100 years of neglect."

Councilor Edwards to hold coffee hours on Friday

Staff Report

City Councilor Lydia Edwards will hold Charlestown neighbor-

hood Coffee hours on Friday, July 13, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Grasshopper, 229 Bunker Hill St.

The Councilor or her staff will

be available to answer questions and take comments. For questions, contact Gabriela at (617) 635-3200.

EDITORIAL

MAKE THE MOST OF SUMMER

My father who lived an extraordinary life, used to say, "When you look back on your life, you realize that all you really have is a lot of memories."

What brings these words to mind is the realization that the long, hot summer is upon us. With school out and the excitement of the Fourth of July behind us, we now have arrived at what often are referred to as the dog days of summer -- humid, steamy, and languid -- that have burned indelible memories into our mind's eye from our earliest childhood into adulthood.

For those of us who live in the Greater Boston area, numerous vacation spots, from the mountains and lakes of Maine and New Hampshire, to the pastoral serenity of the Berkshires, to the world-famous beaches of Cape Cod and the islands, are within a short distance.

The Greater Boston area itself is full of summertime pleasures and recreational opportunities, whether it be a visit to the 15 beaches maintained by the state, boating in our beautiful Boston Harbor and nearby environs, concerts at numerous venues, or taking in the vibrancy of the Boston waterfront scene.

However, what summertime always has meant to us -- the time we spend with our families, friends, and children -- reinforces the notion that the best things in life are free.

While life itself is short and passes all too quickly, summer is even briefer. There are just eight weeks from now until Labor Day weekend. All of us will lament, "Where did the summer go?" when we return to work and school on the day after Labor Day.

Let's make sure that when we do so, we can look back on a summer that created memories that will last a lifetime for ourselves and for those whom we love.



SOMETHING THERE FOR EVERYONE

GUEST OP-ED

Curing Alzheimer's in America

By Kenneth E. Thorpe

Imagine waking up one morning and not knowing whether you're in your own home, let alone your hometown. The faces around you are unfamiliar, and you don't know who to ask for help -- or what to say.

This is a daily reality for more than 5.7 million Americans. These people suffer from Alzheimer's disease, a debilitating, ultimately fatal chronic condition that destroys nerve cells in the brain. Currently, there is no cure.

Alzheimer's disease takes a huge toll on patients and our health system. It also significantly impacts caregivers, who are often unpaid family members who sacrifice their own wellbeing to tend to their loved ones.

This financial and human toll can no longer be dismissed. It's time to intensify our efforts to develop new treatments and cures.

Every 65 seconds, someone in America develops the disease. Their prognosis isn't good. The disease kills one in three patients. Between 2000 and 2015, deaths from Alzheimer's skyrocketed more than 120 percent. It's currently the sixth leading cause of death in the country.

Alzheimer's disease is costly. In 2018, medical care alone

will cost \$277 billion. Between 2017 and 2030, Americans will cumulatively spend \$7.7 trillion on the disease, accounting for both medical and unpaid caregiving costs according to a study from my organization, the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease.

Family members and friends provide staggering amounts of uncompensated care to Alzheimer's patients. More than 16 million Americans act as unpaid caregivers. Among caregivers with full or part-time jobs, nearly three in five have missed work to care for their loved one. More than one in six had to stop working entirely.

America's Alzheimer's caregivers dedicated more than 18 billion hours to helping their loved ones in 2015. The value of this care exceeded \$232 billion.

These costs are rising. Nationwide, the value of unpaid care will reach \$4.5 trillion by 2030 -- that is 60 percent of the total projected cumulative cost of Alzheimer's disease.

To reduce this toll, we must invest more in the research and development of new Alzheimer's cures and treatments.

Fortunately, the public sector is doubling down on its efforts. Congress increased Alzheimer's research funding at the National Institutes of

Health by \$400 million from 2016 to 2017.

Private companies also are forging ahead to find a cure. There are nearly 100 potential new treatments in clinical trials today.

Universities and civic organization are doing their part to fund research and development, too.

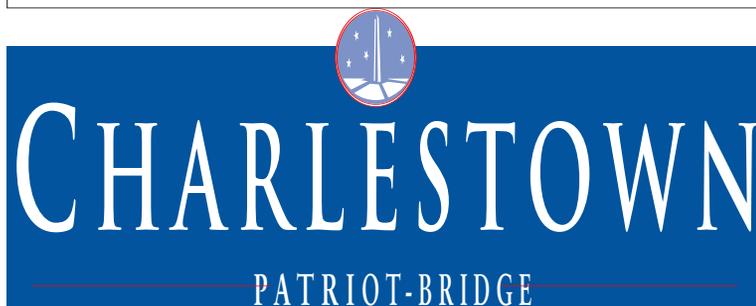
Across the United States, more than 630 cities will host a Walk to End Alzheimer's this year. These walks will raise funds to support the Alzheimer's Association care and research efforts.

Any research breakthroughs could be momentous. Diagnosing patients earlier and more accurately could save almost \$8 trillion in medical and care costs over the coming decades. And should a breakthrough treatment be found, then within just five years, 2.6 million Americans could avoid an Alzheimer's diagnosis. The nation also would save \$650 billion on healthcare costs and unpaid caregiving.

We must prioritize Alzheimer's research. Doing so will save lives, reduce healthcare costs, and give time back with our loved ones while lessening the load on caregivers.

Kenneth E. Thorpe is a professor of health policy at Emory University and chairman of the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease.

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EMAIL: editor@charlestownbridge.com • WEB SITE: www.charlestownbridge.com

PRESIDENT - STEPHEN QUIGLEY - EDITOR@CHARLESTOWNBRIDGE.COM

MARKETING DIRECTOR - DEBRA DIGREGORIO - DEB@REVEREJOURNAL.COM

REPORTER - SETH DANIEL - SETH@REVEREJOURNAL.COM

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Townie Tidbits

CALL GOING OUT FOR ALL CHARLESTOWN POTATO HEADS

A while back Charlestown started a town-wide conversation right here concerning the recently discovered Charlestown Potato Shed fire of 1962 Monument over on Bunker Hill Community College property near the on-ramp for the Chelsea-bound Tobin Bridge. It has been there for a while and until recently really unknown to anyone in the community.

I believe it is time as I have already written to relocate this monument to a more appropriate site where all can see it. Hiding it as has been done is an injustice to Charlestown history. Many have contacted me about sharing my vision and now is the time to do something. Send me an email now to start the potato rolling no spud intended at sal.giarratani@gmail.com. Let's create a Potato Brigade.

ENGINE 50 TURNS 100

On Wednesday, July 26, Engine 50 will be celebrating its 100th anniversary which is a big deal for the Boston Fire Department and the people of Charlestown. Plans are in the works to celebrate the history of Engine Company 50 on July 26 up at the Monument. A number of folks in the community including the Charlestown Historical Society Everyone seems excited. Big plans for July 26 are being put together as we speak. Keep the day open on your calendar.

As a member of the Peoples Firehouse Committee #2, I will be there representing how Townies saved Engine 50 from getting deactivated in 1981.

Attention, if you were part of the Peoples Firehouse contact me at sal.giarratani@gmail.com. Let's get a big showing. Engine 50 Strong!



Here's a photo of Engine 50 in the 1983 Bunker Hill Day Parade. By 1983, the apparatus was restored to traditional red. During the occupation of the Winthrop Street Firehouse in 1981, the apparatus had been repainted an ugly lime green. Thank God it was only a temporary painting job.

COMMANDER ROBERT GILLEN, RIP

Everyone was shocked to hear of the passing of Bob Gillen. UAp until recently, he had still been pretty active in town. I caught up with him at the Chief Marshal's banquet for the Bunker Hill Day Parade. I had no idea he would be gone so soon. When I picture him, he is in his full dress uniform. I am sure the highlight for this Townie had to be his term as commander of the USS Constitution. I remember when he was the parade chief marshal too. He will be missed, a bright light in town has faded into history.

I have learned his brother Moe has been hospitalized recently. Condolences go out to the Gillen Family and prayers for Moe too. These two brothers were pillars of this community that had a lifetime commitment of making Charlestown the best neighborhood of Boston.



Shown in photo at the recent chief marshal's banquet are City Councilor Michelle Wu, Moe Gillen, City Councilor Lydia Edwards and Bob Gillen (l to r).

BE THE TALK OF THE TOWN

The Charlestown Patriot Bridge is interested in publishing the memories of Charlestown residents in print. If you or someone you know would like to share your experiences, please send email to editor@charlestownbridge.com

Short-term rental hosts applaud new ordinance from City Council

By Seth Daniel

Joe Bianco has been one of the most popular short-term (Airbnb) hosts in Charlestown for quite some time at his Green Street home.

Many tourists rent a unit from him, and many from the Town put up friends and relatives in his home.

He's been doing it for years, and also for many years, he's been involved in the fight to regulate the short-term rental industry – something he got into to help save the family home as property taxes and property values surged in Charlestown.

This week, he said he is pretty comfortable with the new regulations, despite the fact that they took a long time.

"It seems like it took so long to come up with this legislation," he said. "I pretty much am not affected, other than the \$200 licensing fee. The investor types are getting spanked, and I understand the problems they cause. Whether this levels the playing field, time will tell. I wonder how it's going to be regulated."

The Boston City Council voted on June 13 to adopt Mayor Martin Walsh's amended short-term rental ordinance by a vote of 11-2, eliminating the controversial investor units that have been described as "de facto hotels," but also giving some new leeway to owner-occupants to rent out their units for short-term platforms.

"We have eliminated the investor units that are putting pressure on our housing market and we're also allowing this industry to operate and grow," said Councilor Michael Flaherty, who chaired the committee that looked at the new effort. "Next year will be a learning experience. The members of the City Council can come back and revisit any part of this if we need to. Not everyone is going to be completely pleased, but I believe we've found the middle ground."

Mayor Martin Walsh introduced his second effort earlier in the year, and the most important part of that ordinance – which was preserved June 13 – was eliminating the investor short-term rentals. Those units were described as putting pressure on the housing stock due to anecdotes about corporations and entities buying up apartment buildings and evicting the tenants to provide short-term rentals for tourists and visitors.

This was particularly a problem

in the downtown neighborhoods such as Charlestown, Chinatown, the South End, Back Bay and South Boston.

With those eliminated, the discussion shifted to what to allow, and the consensus was to allow owner-occupants to rent out empty bedrooms in their own units for short-term up to 365 days a year, and also to be able to rent out a short-term adjacent unit for 365 days per year as well.

That was the new twist, and it was controversial because many believe that the new ordinance will protect the downtown neighborhoods, but transfer the problem to two-families and three-family homes in the outer neighborhoods.

Councilor Matt O'Malley of Jamaica Plain introduced an amendment that would have capped the adjacent unit at 120 days, but it was shot down on a 6-7 vote.

"I am a fan of the game Jenga," he said. "I reference that because I think it's analogous to crafting legislation; if you pull the wrong block, it all collapses. I think this new draft is in jeopardy of pulling the wrong block and making this all collapse. I say that because we are removing the 120-day cap and allowing the 365 days."

Councilor Michelle Wu reversed her previous thinking on the matter, which was to allow the 365 day provision. She said corporations and companies are moving faster than government to upend the protections.

"I am going to be voting to err on the side of the more restrictive legislation," she said.

Those voting for the 120-day cap on adjacent units were Councilors Anissa Essaibi-George, O'Malley, Ayanna Pressley, Wu and Josh Zakim. Councilor Ed Flynn initially voted against the cap, but later changed his vote – making it a 6-7 vote.

The reaction from Airbnb over

the new regulation was one of disappointment.

"For two years Airbnb and our Boston hosts have worked closely with the Mayor and members of the City Council to share helpful data and collaborate on fair home sharing policy," read their statement Wednesday afternoon. "Today's disappointing vote is proof that our community's feedback and concerns were not heard. The new ordinance unfortunately creates a system that violates the privacy of our hosts, and prevents Boston families from making much-needed extra income in one of the country's most expensive cities. We're hopeful there will be an ongoing discussion on these topics so that our community can continue to fight for their ability to share their homes and make ends meet."

On the flip side, the Massachusetts Lodging Association CEO Paul Sacco said the new ordinance showed true leadership.

"Today, Mayor Walsh and the Boston City Council demonstrated true leadership by acting to protect Boston from exploitation at the hands of wealthy, out-of-town interests who have been buying up thousands of housing units in order to turn them into illegal hotels," he said. "Today's action preserves the rights of real home-sharers while reining in the bad actors who are contributing to Boston's skyrocketing housing costs and wreaking havoc on many of our neighborhoods."

Many observers pointed out, however, that the next step will be in the State Legislature where frameworks for taxing short-term rentals is still lingering – as well as regulations for health, safety and non-discrimination rules. A bill discussing just that has been in a Conference Committee since April, where the taxing system has been a point of contention.

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GILLEN (from pg. 1)

1950 at the age of 17 to join the Navy, much like his late brother, Francis, left Charlestown at an early age to join the priesthood – also serving overseas in the

Philippines. Commander Gillen, like his late brother, never forgot his roots though.

His service in the Navy was a list of amazing accomplishments

that many of his closest friends in Charlestown weren't aware of.

He quickly rose to Chief Petty Officer and in 1962 got a commission as an Ensign, special duty cryptologist.

He served in the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

He served on a wide variety of surface airbourne platforms in the Pacific, Atlantic and Mediterranean, as well as with the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade in Danang, Vietnam where he earned the Fleet Marine Force Combat Insignia. He served in other areas such as Morocco, Germany, Philippines, Winter Harbor, ME, Adak, Alaska, Spain and also with the National Security Agency (NSA).

In the Navy, he was known as the pioneer in developing operations security, signal security and special planning techniques that provided tactical commanders with greatly enhanced electronic warfare capabilities.

That led him to author many papers on electronic warfare, and he produced training books for the U.S. and NATO forces.

Later, his extensive knowledge of Naval Security group acquisition systems and familiarity with special communications requirements resulted in his being assigned to the staff of Commander Second Fleet and then to the Commander in Chief Atlantic Fleet's staff. There, in 1978, he was DEP selected to the rank of Commander.

For his last active duty assignment, though, was not with the Naval Security Group once again, but rather back home in Charlestown. He was assigned as the 59th Commander of the USS Constitution in the Navy Yard. Shortly after, he retired from the Navy and became the head of the Naval Science program NJROTC at West Roxbury High School.

On the side, he also remained active in special intelligence and electronic warfare as the owner of a consulting firm.

His activities in Charlestown were numerous, from the Bunker Hill Monument Association to the Constitution Museum Board to the Old Charlestown Schoolboys Association. He was also on the American Legion Bunker Hill Post #26, the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts, Charlestown Historical Society and the Kennedy Memorial Post #5880 VFW.

That's to name a few.

Gillen, however, was well-regarded in the Town for his ability to tell a great story, from the story about how he met and courted his wife, Eileen 'Paula', to the stories of how he



Command staff from the USS Constitution, as well as Gillen's long-time friend, Bob Flynn (right) of Charlestown, stood at attention.



A contingent of command staff and sailors from the USS Constitution, as well as the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company (MA) stood at attention on Bunker Hill Street.

Those were the stories he could tell about his life, and they were often shared over a "covert" lunch or Sunday supper at the Mt. Vernon Restaurant – where he was addressed as 'Commander' and he rarely had to order. They usually knew what he wanted to eat.

At his funeral on Wednesday, the funeral party entered as the choir sang 'Amazing Grace.' Just as they finished, the bells at St. Francis tolled for the 11 a.m. hour.

Father Daniel Mahoney conducted the service, with Gillen's son, Commander Robert L. Gillen Jr., giving the remembrances of his decorated father.

Father Mahoney concluded his remarks by saying all were fortunate to have known Commander Gillen.

"Yes, today there is sadness and sometimes even anger, but beyond all of that is love – love that God has for his family and a love that Bob had for the US Navy," said Mahoney. "Every one of you in the Navy here

today can be proud to know he was one of you and you were one of him. With no headlines, no TV reports, no breaking news, no TV reports, no breaking news, Bob lived out his life with that love...We were fortunate to have known him...There is an age-old Navy saying that is 'To fair winds and following seas.' The fair winds and following seas are now Bob's for eternity."

Commander Gillen is the beloved husband of 61 years to his wife, Eileen 'Paula' (Foran) Gillen – born in Dublin. He is the devoted father of Commander Robert Gillen Jr. (retired) and his wife, Kathy, and Eileen Dannemiller and her husband, John. He is the loving grandpa to Tara, Samantha, Lt. John Dannemiller USN, Robert and Steven.

He is the beloved brother of Irene 'Renee' Moffatt, Maurice 'Moe' Gillen and the late Brother Francis 'George' Gillen and Barbara Salvador.

He was buried in Bourne National Cemetery.

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U.S. Department of the Interior
Boston National Historical Park
Boston, Massachusetts

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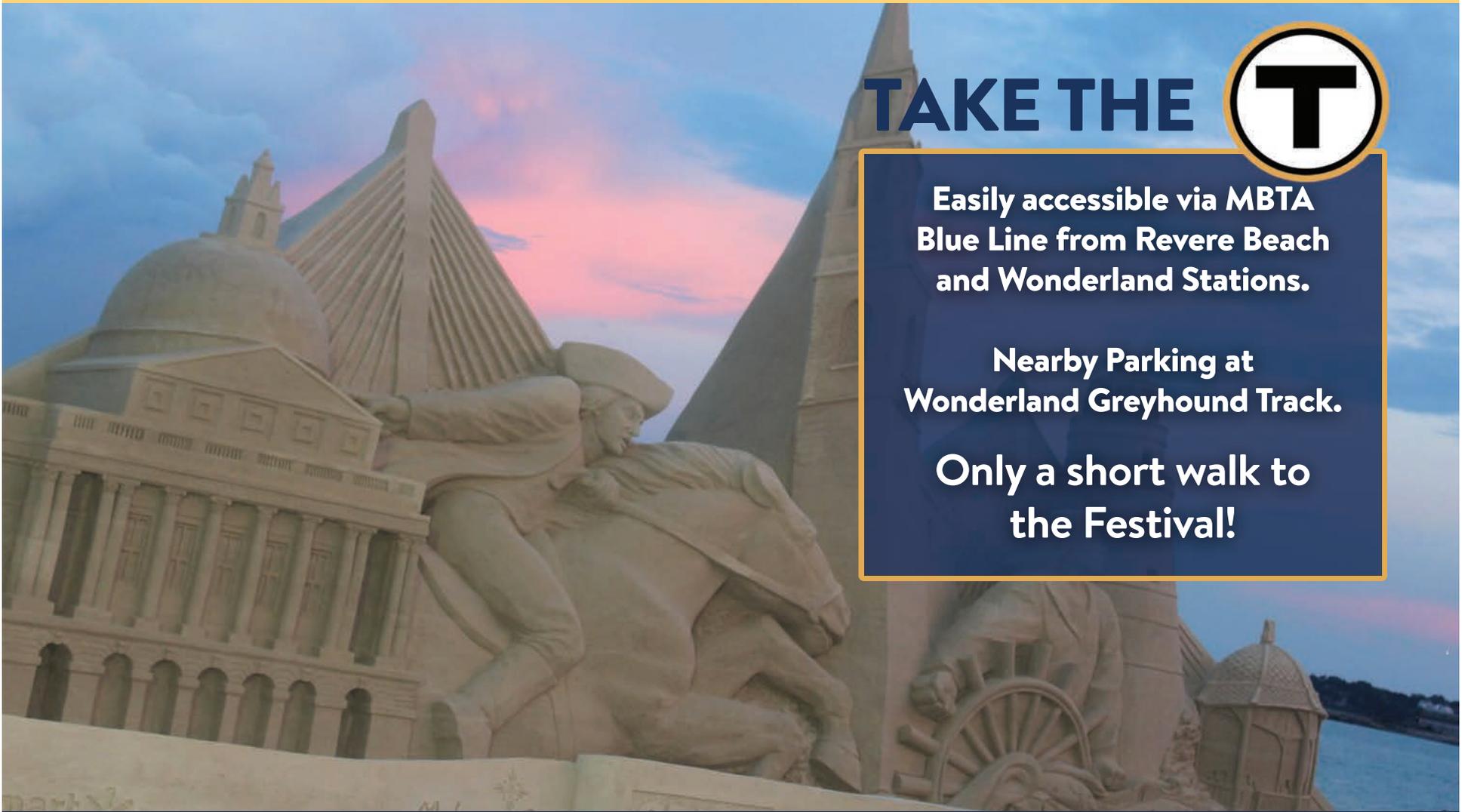
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Black

Boston Landmarks Orchestra season begins July 11

By Lauren Bennett

The Boston Landmarks Orchestra is gearing up for their 2018 season of free concerts at the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Hatch Memorial Shell on the Esplanade.

On July 11, the first ever "Season Tune-Up" will be held at the Hatch Shell one week before the concerts begin. Landmarks Orchestra conductor and music director Christopher Wilkins described the event as "a little bit of a circus atmosphere." Attendees can try out orchestral instruments at the "Musical Playground" or try their hand at conducting in the "Maestro Zone," which will be manned by Wilkins himself. Dozens of arts organizations and other community groups will be there, as well as face painting and

exhibits from such places as the Boston Children's Museum and the New England Aquarium, which is bringing a touch tank.

The full concerts will begin on July 18, at 7 p.m., and will be held every Wednesday until August 29.

"Every program is built to be memorable and ambitious and hopefully a one of a kind experience," Wilkins said. He said that the orchestra reaches a lot of people who have never attended a rehearsal or been up close to an orchestra, and that watching the faces of kids light up as they experience the music is one of his favorite parts of being a conductor.

Wilkins said that the Landmarks Orchestra aims to perform the best orchestral music out there, and he appreciates "the closeness to the music and a chance to go through it every step of the way to get it as

magnificent as it can be."

The theme for the concert on July 18 is Gustav Holst's "The Planets," and will feature young musicians from ZUMIX and the St. Paul's Girls' School Choir from London. The St. Paul's Girls' School Choir will be performing Holst's The Planets for its 100th anniversary. Holst taught at the school, and the finale of the piece was originally composed for the choir. On July 25, the concert highlights teenagers from the Boston University Tanglewood Institute. The Young Artists Orchestra will perform Igor Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring, and the Young Artists Wind Ensemble will be performing music of Leonard Bernstein, who was a student at Tanglewood in 1940.

The August 1 concert features the Boston Landmarks Orchestra in collaboration with One City Choir, the Back Bay Chorale, and four soloists who will perform Giuseppe Verdi's Messa da Requiem.

Wilkins said in a press release from the orchestra, "A spirit of joy and openness lies at the heart of all Boston Landmarks Orchestra programs. Families, children, newcomers, and first-time concertgoers all have a welcome place at our concerts. The 2018 season celebrates great orchestral literature, innovation and creativity in our city, and the diverse talents of our many collaborators." The Boston Landmarks Orchestra, which was founded by conductor and community advocate Charles Ansbacher, "is comprised of many of the area's finest professional musicians," the release states. The orchestra has performed at such places as Franklin Park, Jamaica Pond, and the USS Constitution. For the full concert lineup, visit landmarksorchestra.org.



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WARREN-PRESCOTT STUDENT ARTWORK FEATURED AT LOCAL GALLERY

On Friday, June 15, The Warren-Prescott Elementary School kicked off its annual Spring Art Show at the Stove Factory Gallery, located at 523 Medford St. The art show featured more than 300 works of art from students across all grade levels from kindergarten to eighth grade.

“It’s exciting to have your work hanging in a real gallery so everyone can see it,” said Maddie Buksbaum, a fifth grader at the Warren-Prescott School who had three pieces in the art show representing the students’ focus last year on abstract art, surrealism, realism, cubism and self-portraits.

More than 200 students, family and community members came out to view the artwork and enjoy food and refreshments donated by Whole Foods and the Garlough family. Parent volunteers made sure it was gallery worthy, by professionally matting and hanging the artwork under the direction of Emily Gray, Warren-Prescott’s art teacher.

“I think that the quality and vibrancy of the artwork speaks volumes about the positive power of art in our school and community,” said Gray.

Sereen Hariri, a sixth grade student at the Warren-Prescott, stood proudly by her cityscape of Boston featuring young girls of many cultures to represent the diversity and vitality of Boston’s youth.

“I enjoyed taking the time to add a lot of detail to the pieces I made this year and I’m happy to see my

art in this space,” said Hariri.

In addition to the Friday evening reception, the exhibit was open to the public Saturday for viewing.

“We are proud to share so many of our students’ artistic talents with the community in a professional gallery space,” said Michele Davis, principal of the Warren-Prescott School. “It’s a wonderful opportunity for the students to see their creativity highlighted and appreciated, and for the community to see our students’ hard work and dedication on display.”



Maddie Buksbaum, a fifth grader, was proud to have three pieces in the Warren Prescott Art Show at the StoveFactory Gallery last month.



Students in the gallery taking in their work on the walls.



Sixth-grader Sereen Hariri shows her cityscape.



Principal Michele Davis and Art Teacher Emily Gray.

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FIRST CHURCH IN CHARLESTOWN 10 GREEN STREET

Charlestown officers awarded for April response on Walford Way

Staff Report

Several Boston Police officers from the Charlestown station were awarded Commissioners Commendations for a great response in April last week during a ceremony at Police Headquarters.

On Friday, April 20, Officers Wong and Henriquez responded to the area of 106 Walford Way for an emotionally disturbed person armed with a knife. The officers responded to past incidents at the location where they had to use reasonable force during an incident where the emotionally disturbed person had been stabbing himself. The officers conferred with the family who confirmed that the male subject was off of his prescribed medication, acting strangely and armed with a knife again. He was locked inside the apartment and could be heard barricading the door. Sergeant Mazzola and Sergeant Toner responded. Officer Henriquez attempted to begin a dialogue with the suspect in Spanish, while the male subject could be heard shouting and breaking things inside the apartment. The officers were able to unlock the door with a key provided by the family.

BPD Units were set up tactically in the hallway. Sergeant Mazzola was able to partly open the door and observed the male subject with

a lighter in his hand, the stove ajar from the wall, while hearing and smelling gas coming from the broken stove gas line. Officers were advised that the deployment of the electrical charged Taser could have a negative outcome.

These officers began evacuating the building with EMS and requested BFD to the scene. Sergeant Toner arrived on scene with the less lethal shotgun at which time they determined that a quick resolution to the matter was necessary due to all the issues they were dealing with, in order to save the male subject. Sergeant Mazzola forced open the door enough for Sergeant Toner to deploy one beanbag from the less lethal device. The bean bag struck the male subject in the side rib area that caused him to drop the lighter and fall to the floor. These officers quickly moved in and apprehended the male subject. Emergency Medical Services transported the male subject to Mass. General Hospital for evaluation and from there he was transported to Bridgewater State Hospital by Judicial Order.

The combined actions of Sergeant Mazzola, Sergeant Toner, and Officers Wong and Henriquez saved this individual's life and likely averted a tragedy.

For their brave efforts, they were each awarded a Commissioner's Commendation.



Four officers from the Charlestown station were awarded Commissioners Commendations last week for their response to a dangerous situation on Walford Way with an emotionally disturbed person. Sergeant Mazzola, Sergeant Toner, and Officers Wong and Henriquez are pictured here with Chief Bill Gross.

High bail in Charlestown armed robberies case

Staff Report

A Dorchester man identified in a string of armed robberies was ordered held on high bail at his arraignment last week.

Brandon McCallop, 29, of Dorchester, was arraigned in Charlestown Municipal Court on three counts of armed robbery while masked in connection with armed robberies of Charlestown businesses that occurred in March and June. Assistant District Attorney Vincent DeMore requested bail on the three dockets totaling \$1 million; Judge Lisa Grant imposed \$450,000 bail.

During the course of a lengthy investigation by Boston Police into a series of armed commercial robberies in and around Charlestown, McCallop was identified as the man who robbed a Thompson Square liquor store on March 19 and again on June 27 and a Bunker Hill Street dog groomer on June 15. During all three robberies, McCallop covered his face with a mask or scarf and pointed a gun at employees while demanding cash, prosecutors said.

Boston Police obtained security camera footage from the area of the robberies, as well as witness statements and additional evidence linking McCallop to each of the robberies. Footage from outside the Thompson Square business on June 27 captured a black Mercedes Benz in the area of the robbery, as well as footage of the man who robbed the store walking in the direction of the vehicle after the robbery. The vehicle was registered to an associate of McCallop and he had previously been observed driving the car during earlier traffic stops

by Boston Police.

On Thursday, July 5, in a joint effort between Boston Police Department A-1 detectives, S.I.U., S.W.A.T., and members of the Boston Regional Intelligence Center, Brandon R. McCallop of Boston was arrested and charged with armed robbery while masked.

Armed with three arrest warrants for masked armed robbery and a search warrant for the body of McCallop, members of the Boston Police Department secured the perimeter and made entry at 84 Walnut Ave. in Dorchester where McCallop was arrested without incident on July 5.

An investigation continues into similar armed robberies in Boston, Braintree, Brookline, Cambridge, Everett, Lynn, Revere, and Somerville.

"I'm grateful to Boston Police and members of my office who worked together to ensure that everyone who works, lives, and goes to school in the City of Boston can do so with the confidence that they are safe," DA Dan Conley said. "We continue to work with our partner agencies in and outside Suffolk County to investigate other robberies with similar fact patterns, and we expect additional charges to be filed." McCallop returns to court August 3.

CHARLESTOWN BEAT

POLICE/COMMUNITY MEETING: Meet the police and discuss public safety issues on the last Wednesday of every month at the police station, 20 Vine Street, at 6:00 p.m., 2nd floor, community room.

POLICE RELATED INFO: Contact the District A-1 Community Service Office at 617-343-4627.

REPORT DRUG DEALING: Contact the District A-1 Confidential Drug Line at 617-343-4879.

CHARLESTOWN POLICE STATION: Contact at 617-343-4888.

RESERVE THE COMMUNITY ROOM: Contact Christine Vraibel at christine.vraibel@pd.boston.gov.

O.U.I.

06/28/18 - As a result of a traffic stop on Alford Street, an individual was placed under arrest for operating a motor vehicle under the influence.

Robbery - Bank

06/28/18 - Officers responded to a radio call for a report of a bank robbery in Thompson Square. A description of a suspect was provided to police, as was the direction of his flight. As a

result of the subsequent search, the suspect was taken into custody a short distance away from the bank.

Robbery

07/01/18 - A victim reported two suspects approached him from behind as he was walking down Polk Street and knocked him to the ground. The victim's backpack was then taken before the suspects fled in an unknown direction.

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Powerful Wynn executive Kim Sinatra to step down July 15

By Seth Daniel

When Kim Sinatra appeared beside Matt Maddox for Wynn Resorts' high-stakes meeting before the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) in early May, many thought her to be on shaky ground with the company – though that day she appeared to be every-bit in control and ingrained in the company.

It is no longer the case.

In a quiet announcement buried within a federal Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) document, the company announced that Sinatra would be leaving her general counsel post on July 15.

Wynn Resorts did not respond to the Independent for comment

on the shake-up, and hasn't issued any statements or talked to any other media. There has been no reason given for her departure.

Las Vegas media reported that Sinatra would have a severance package of up to \$9.5 million.

Wynn Shareholder Elaine Wynn – now the company's largest single shareholder – has disputed that severance package in media statements.

Sinatra was a powerful force in the early days of Wynn's entrance into the Boston market via the Everett site. She was front and center during many of the licensing hearings, in particular a very intense deliberating process at the Boston Teacher's Union Hall in Dorchester in 2014.

During that meeting, Sinatra talked for many nervous moments on the phone with Steve Wynn about whether or not he would commit to additional mitigation measures – that happening in front of the entire room and in front of the competitor, Mohegan Sun.

After brokering that deal, Sinatra emerged from the phone with a 'yes' to the commitments, virtually sealing the license for Wynn at the time.

Since those early days, however, Sinatra has not been at the Encore site too often – only during a few permitting meetings and the major Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) meetings.



Wynn General Counsel Kim Sinatra speaks to the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) during license hearings in 2014. She is flanked by former Gov. Bill Weld and current Encore President Bob DeSalvio. Sinatra will resign from Wynn Resorts on July 15, and is remembered here as being a key negotiator in helping Wynn make the final push to secure the Greater Boston region gaming license.

Charlestown organizations, residents getting on board with CPA

By Seth Daniel

Earlier this year, some \$20 million came knocking at the door of the Town, but surprisingly, no one answered the bell.

That large bundle of cash came from the Community Preservation Act (CPA) that was ushered in over the past 12 months following approval on the November 2017 citywide ballot – with millions of dollars from first distribution going to organizations all over the city.

With the exception of Charlestown, which had no applications in the opening round of the CPA funding.

Director Christine Poff said they were surprised that Charlestown didn't apply for any funding, which can be used for historic preservation, open space or affordable housing. However, since the opening awards were announced last month, she has been working in Charlestown and meeting with organizations and residents to drum up interest in

the annual giveaway.

Already, they have had one meeting last month with about 30 people, and they will have another at St. Francis Church on Aug. 14 at 6 p.m. The only other neighborhood besides Charlestown that didn't have an application was Mattapan.

"We're pretty excited about how things have been going in meeting with a lot of groups in Charlestown over the last month," she said. "After there weren't any applications here, we came out to meet with people in the Town and let them know what CPA is, that it is an option for them and that it's available for them."

The second round of funding grants is about to begin, and applications will become available on Aug. 15. They will be due by Sept. 28.

Poff said she sees a lot of possibilities in Charlestown for CPA funding, and said the misnomer that CPA is only for other parts of Boston isn't true.

"I think in Charlestown I've

specifically been hearing about Memorial Hall," she said. "It's a beautiful old building that needs financial support and restoration. A volunteer committee has worked very, very hard...and they could benefit from CPA. There's a very interesting proposal to light the statue on the Training Field too. There have been some neighborhood people particularly interested in affordable housing. There is the One Charlestown development that could have more affordable housing with these funds. One particular concern is the lack of playing fields for athletics. The Charlestown youth sports leagues have been supporting other neighborhoods. That's putting pressure on the playing field space. There is some interest in looking at creating more fields. People could start to think about historic properties and open space areas where new playing fields and recreational facilities could also be created."

One caveat with playing fields, however, is the original state law

governing CPA bars anyone from using the money to build turf fields. Poff said that's probably because when CPA came into existence some years ago, turf fields were less environmentally friendly. Now, however, they are very common and essential for keeping regular athletic schedules in the unpredictable New England climate. She said many CPA communities are talking about lobbying state lawmakers to change that provision.

There are also no indoor recreational facilities allowed, such as an indoor gym or swimming pool.

The funding is available for non-profits, for profit entities, public agencies or even groups of residents banding together on an issue.

She said in some cases, public agencies have acted as the go-be-

tween for groups of concerned residents. In one case in another part of the city, Boston Public Schools accepted the money to build a playground that neighbors really wanted.

Such things could be recreated in Charlestown too, she said.

One thing is certain, the amount of money isn't getting smaller. In fact, Poff said from here on out they expect at least \$20 million per year to distribute to those who have applied. Applications are reviewed by the CPA committee, and then are forwarded to the mayor, and finally approved by the City Council.

"This \$20 million will just keep growing every year," she said. "It's about \$20-22 million each year, we anticipate. We really do expect it to grow as well."

Pressley for Congress holds endorsement event with Wu

Boston City Councilor Michelle Wu this week announced her endorsement of Ayanna Pressley's campaign for Congress at an event at Vejigantes Restaurant in Boston's South End.

Councilor Wu is the first Asian-American woman to be elected to the Boston City Council, and became the first woman of color to serve as City Council President, a position she held from 2016 - 2018.

"Throughout her eight years on the Boston City Council, Ayanna has been a tireless advo-

cate for reducing inequality in all forms," said Councilor Wu. "From founding the Committee on Healthy Women, Families, and Communities to her work to reform Boston's liquor license system, among many other issues, I've been proud to stand with her in our shared fight to build a more just society and create opportunity for the residents of Boston. I'm excited to endorse her candidacy for Congress because I know she'll bring the same type of leadership, compassion, and determination to Washington."

Said Pressley, "I am proud to call Michelle a colleague and a friend. She is an incredible advocate for the people of Boston and a trailblazing member of the Boston City Council in her own right. I've been honored to serve alongside her since her election in 2013, and I'm humbled to have earned her support. Michelle's work to make Boston a more inclusive, affordable, and livable city is incredibly admirable, and I look forward to continuing our partnership to help find creative solutions to the real challenge."

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CLERGY VIEWPOINT

Not now!

By Rev. James Ronan - Pastor, St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena

All of us have seen or heard of this example: a child wants something seen at the store and insists a parent purchase it – say a candy bar. The parent patiently explains that it

is close to dinner and there will be no candy before supper. After the child sulks and whines, the parent offers to purchase the candy, but the child cannot have it until after supper. The child's anger and insistence on being given the candy bar – right now - is on display for everyone to see in the check-out line at the supermarket!

A recent television commercial promises that if you act NOW, this new carpet will be delivered to your home tomorrow. Another promises a new flat-screen TV can be had with super speed. And yet another indicates that with just one click of the mouse, one can have much faster internet service and instant access to The whole culture of "instant" and "faster access" to whatever seems to be spreading to everything, and I wonder what it means.

Remember the term delayed gratification? The whole point seemed to me to be about realizing that something good was going to come one's way – but only after waiting, working, saving, studying, learning And instant gratification is all about having that "good thing" right now!

Is it just me or do we seem to have slipped into a culture where instant gratification is now becoming the only norm? Why does everything have to be faster? Who has placed this high value of every-

thing happening in an instant? Who or what is pushing this illusory truth? And at what cost do we have "faster and instant"?

One of the dangers of this immediate gratification mentality is that we can find ourselves dismissing as of little value or reducing to irrelevant achievements, knowledge, institutions and people who do not conform to the philosophy of the immediate. If something cannot be summed up in a sound bite, it is boring or insignificant. If persons cannot satisfy our "perceived" need in the twinkling of an eye, then they become disposable.

Let's stop and take some time to reorient ourselves. All around us we delight in God's creation – nothing too instant about that. People – you and me and everyone else - we are not instant. Relationships and experiences, growing and learning, working and sweating brought you to be the person you are. A friendship is a precious jewel and gift – not an instant thing. Love – while the culture might say otherwise – is an infinite, mysterious, overwhelming and wonderful experience that takes work and grows over time – never instant. Infatuation, yes, that is instantaneous; love is another matter.

And so, let us give ourselves permission to yearn for and look forward to. Let us savor whatever is before us instead of looking for the next "thing" coming down the pike. Let us take time to value the people we love, the experiences we cherish, the accomplishments we have labored to achieve. Let us give ourselves the gift to stop, reflect, assess, and take account of what is truly important in our lives instead of getting high on the newest fastest whatever. Let us responsibly discern that which truly requires immediacy and that which is at risk if we do not give it the time and attention it truly requires and deserves.

Children do not have the ability to delay gratification on their own. They need the adults in their lives to teach them how to make good choices and how to soothe themselves when they can't immediately get their own way or when they have to forego something because it is not good for them. As adults, we need to do this for ourselves. We need to do it...for the sake of our children...for the sake of our world.

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NEIGHBORHOOD ROUND UP

CHARLESTOWN & BEYOND TV SHOW

No show this week but you can catch last week's program on Facebook at Charlestown & Beyond or Youtube at Charlestown and Beyond. The program appears on the Boston Neighborhood Network, BNN-TV Comcast channel 9, RCN channel 15 and Verizon channel 1961 every other Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Reruns can be seen on the same TV stations on Thursday at 11:30 p.m., Saturday at 9 a.m. and Sunday at 5 p.m. The next scheduled show is on July 19.

To contact host Kathy "Cookie" Giordano go to kathy.gio46@gmail.com or call her at 617-447-1406. She is also available during the summer months at the outdoor seating at Starbucks in Thompson Square on Tuesday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

HARVEST ON VINE FOOD PANTRY

The Harvest on Vine Food Pantry this week is requesting bags of rice and cans of ravioli, two of the most popular items that fill the shelves. Any donation on non-perishable foods that you could make would also be greatly appreciated.

Donations can be dropped off at the Food Pantry at 49 Vine St. (Hayes Square), The Cooperative Bank at 201 Main St. and at the Parish Center on 46 Winthrop St. (across from the Training Field). Financial donations can be sent to: Harvest on Vine, Parish Center, 46 Winthrop St., Charlestown, MA 02129. For more information, call Tom MacDonald, director, at 617-990-7314.

BRUINS ACADEMY - LEARN-TO-PLAY HOCKEY PROGRAM

The Boston Bruins will again be bringing its Learn-to-Play Hockey program to Charlestown this fall.

Charlestown Youth Hockey will be hosting and staffing the program. The program is available to boys and girls ages 4-8 that have not participated in an organized hockey program before. Sign-up will be July 19, at the Bruins website. This four week program will be on Saturdays. There will be two sessions, one at 10am and one at 11 a.m. and will run from October 13 to November 3. Please visit the "Bruins Academy" tab at the Charlestown Youth Hockey website (CYHA.COM) for information on how to register. This program is limited to 50 kids per session and will fill up quickly. Engine 50 Celebrates it's 100th anniversary. Help celebrate 100 years of Engine 50 "The People's Firehouse" on Thursday, July 26, head over to The Bunker Hill Monument at 11 a.m. and join the fun.

KENNEDY CENTER GOLF TOURNAMENT

John F. Kennedy Family Service Center, is proud to announce our first annual golf tournament at the Nahant Golf Club in Nahant, MA on Friday, September 7, 2018. Register Now to play as a single golfer, a pair, or a foursome. Interest levels are high so register early as space is limited. We look forward to seeing you there. Not a golfer? Join us for dinner. Join us from 4:30-5:30 p.m. for cocktails and take in the beautiful views. Enjoy music and get a sneak peek at all of the raffle and auction items. A delicious dinner buffet will be prepared by John Moore, Owner of the Navy Yard Bistro, and starts at 5:30 p.m., with plenty of seating capacity to accommodate all of the Kennedy Center's supporters! Call for more information on attending Dinner Only! Contact Crystal Galvin 617-241-8866 ext. 1352 or email to: info@kennedycenter.org.

FIRST CHURCH BLOCK PARTY

On Thursday, July 19, The First Church at 10 Green St. will host a Block Party from 6-8 p.m. Stop by for free fun and games including a bounce house and petting zoo. Enter the raffle to win Red Sox tickets. Meet Wally The Green Monster! All are welcome to this free event.

REGISTER FOR "E" INC.'S AUGUST SUMMER SCIENCE DISCOVERY PROGRAM

"e" inc.'s Summer Science Discovery Program is back with all new activities for kids ages 6-12. Become a paleontologist and learn about all the different types of dinosaurs from the Triassic to Cretaceous Period. Or, see our Earth from the beginning of time and explore how continents move and weather is created. With a variety of activities – conducting science experiments, building models, observing live specimens, artistic expression, field trips, etc. – there's something for everyone at "e" inc.! Kids will gain an appreciation for the natural world, as well as, learn skills to become planet stewards. "e" inc. camp has two one-week sessions (Aug 20-24 and Aug 27-Aug 31). Hours are 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. with extended day options. Families can sign up for both or either session. For weekly themes and more information visit www.einc-action.org



Congratulations to the Charlestown Blue Diamonds 10U team for taking second in the Intercity League late last month. It was an exciting, hard-fought game to conclude an amazing season for these girls.

TOWNIE SPORTS

Staff Report

TOWNIES TOPPLE WATERTOWN

Backed by fireballer Hayden Groh, who tossed a complete game three-hitter (including 11 strikeouts), the Charlestown 13-15 year-old Babe Ruth team outlasted Watertown by a score of 5-2 to pick up their first victory of the summer season.

The Townies' (1-3) offense has been led by Groh, Teddy Chisholm, Noel Gallagher and Aidan Boucher, who have consistently sparked one rally after another. Also showing great improvement with the bat have been the Flanagan brothers (John and Joe), Jonathan Duncan, Connor Boyle, Sean Sullivan and Glenangel Acosta.

Defensively, Brendan Lynch has emerged as the team's best outfielder while Groh, Chisholm, Boucher, Duncan and Joe Flanagan (who has flashed a cannon arm) handle the catching duties. Pitching is solid with Groh, Chisholm and Boucher anchoring a talented starting rotation.

With continued improvement from Eoghan Delvalle, Oliver Bryan and Orlando Martinez (who are each sidelined with injuries), the Townies seemed primed to make some noise in the Middlesex Summer League standings.

UPCOMING HOME GAMES (Ryan Payground - "The Neck")

•Tuesday, July 15 at 7:15 p.m. versus Lexington

•Monday, July 23 at 7:15 p.m. versus Waltham
•Monday, July 30 at 7:15 PM versus Watertown
•Thursday, August 2 at 7:15 p.m. versus Somerville

CHARLESTOWN LITTLE LEAGUE

9's and 10's Mayor's Cup teams advance! 11's and 12's start next weekend!

The 9's dropped a tough one 10-5 to the South End July 8, and the 10's held on to beat Regan 5-3. They both will advance to next weekend's single elimination playoffs. The 11-year-olds and 12-year-olds start their Mayor's Cup tournaments next weekend at Parkway in West Roxbury. The 11's play at 5:45 p.m. on Saturday vs South Boston. The 12's play at 1 p.m. vs Regan. Come cheer them on.

•Mayor's Cup playoff schedule: Saturday, July 14 at Moakley 9-year-olds 4:30 p.m. vs. Hill House 10-year-olds 2 p.m. vs Allston-Brighton

•12-year-old All Stars win Tuesday night

It was a huge win Tuesday for Charlestown 12-year-old All-Stars, 8-3, over Dorchester. This puts them in the finals on Thursday (July 12) 7 p.m. vs the winner of Dorchester vs. South Boston (which happened late July 11). Come out Thursday to cheer the boys on to a District championship.

MAINTAINING THE URBAN TREE

Watering, fertilizer and pest control maintenance are the three key ingredients for healthy trees in the urban jungle. Newly planted trees require continued watering, 10 gallons per week on the average throughout their active growing season. If you have a watering hose, set it at low pressure and water once a week for approximately one-half hour or more often during periods of hot weather. Best times to water are early morning or evening.

When fertilizing young trees, one application in the spring is adequate. A slow release, high-nitrogen fertilizer can be used for the first four years. Do not fertilize any tree in midsummer. Mature trees need not be fertilized on a yearly basis.

The days of public spraying of trees with insecticides and pesticides are a thing of the past. Contact a certified arborist to diagnose and manage insect and disease problems.

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