

Happy Mother's Day

See Page 13 for Mom's Day drawing

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2019



FREE

CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

Councilor Edwards questions costs of busing students to Charlestown

By Seth Daniel

Busing students to the Edwards Middle School in Charlestown from Eastie is costing the school district more than \$400,000 per year, and Councilor Lydia Edwards is leading a charge to reconsider that practice sooner rather than later – a move that could free up valuable space in the Town for Charlestown students.

In a letter from Edwards and Councilors Anissa Essaibi George, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Council President Andrea Campbell, there is a call to end the practice of busing East Boston students to Charlestown's Edwards Middle School – where almost 90 percent of the students are not from the Town.

“With the pending acquisition of a building on Paris Street and declining enrollment at East Boston High leading to available classroom space, we believe that BPS is able to begin transitioning East Boston students from Charlestown schools to local schools in East Boston,” read the letter. “For example, East Boston High has indicated that they have a two-year plan to transition the school into a 7-12 school, which would both help save funding for the school and save the district on transporting East Boston middle

(EDWARDS Pg. 15)

UP FOR TWO



Photo by Marianne Salza

Terrell McQueeney goes high up for a tip-in during the fifth annual Turn It Around 3-on-3 basketball tournament last Saturday, May 4, at the Community Center. The tournament is for ages 10-18 and is designed to have a productive activity for youth. See Pages 8 and 9 for more photos.

Encore Boston Harbor has traffic plans in place for June 23 opening

By Seth Daniel

When thinking about the opening of Encore Boston Harbor, neighbors ought to think of it as a period of time rather than a one-day rush – that due to the fact that Encore isn't sure how long the

rush could last after they open the doors June 23.

Encore President Bob DeSalvio told the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) on Monday that they have engaged in a great

(TRAFFIC Pg. 7)

Developers, BHA ready to meet with residents and community

By Seth Daniel

Following the blockbuster commitment of \$30 million from the City, the developers of the mixed-income Bunker Hill Housing development are ready to start meeting with the community ahead of their official City filings.

Boston Housing Authority (BHA) Director Bill McGonagle said they have scheduled meetings this month with BHA residents and with the general community regarding the revised development plans.

“We're looking forward to

getting the public review process rolling and getting construction started on what we think is a long-anticipated re-development of the public housing community,” he said on Tuesday. “I think it's pretty much accepted in the neighborhood that the status quo is not acceptable. We're ready to roll out the latest plan, getting in the ground and getting this thing built.”

McGonagle said they have scheduled a meeting with BHA tenants for May 23.

(BHA Pg. 10)

New school superintendent makes first public stop in Charlestown

By Seth Daniel

New Supt. Brenda Cassellius made her first public appearance in Charlestown on Wednesday, May 8, and was quick to acknowledge there is a lot of hard work to undertake in the schools, but beyond the classroom she confessed she needs practice on her stick handling but doesn't have much trouble finding her edges on the ice.

The new superintendent, coming to Boston after a long stint in icy Minnesota, visited with residents of the Town on Wednesday at the Mayor's Coffee Hour and quickly made about 9,000 friends when she shared her love of hock-

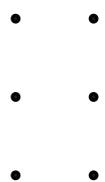
(CASSELLIUS Pg. 7)



New School Supt. Brenda Cassellius made her first public appearance on Wednesday in Charlestown at Mayor Martin Walsh's coffee hour on McCarthy Playground. Here, she is shown greeting little Callie Seney and her mother, Jess (off camera).

Cyan Magenta Yellow Black

COMPASS



Your home is our mission.

Eve Dougherty aceteam@compass.com



ACE TEAM IS A TEAM OF REAL ESTATE AGENTS AFFILIATED WITH COMPASS, A LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKER AND ABIDES BY EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY LAWS. "

EDITORIAL

BIG TOBACCO: THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK OR: IS YOUR CHILD A NICOTINE ADDICT?

In the mid-1990s, our newspaper group was honored in consecutive years by the Massachusetts branch of the American Cancer Society for our reporting and editorials regarding the regulation of tobacco products in our local communities. We wrote about every aspect of the tobacco industry, from the insidious means by which the tobacco companies were pushing their products with advertising geared toward young people, to taking to task local authorities who were not doing as much as they could have (by means of ordinances limiting smoking in public places) in order to prevent young people from becoming the future tobacco addicts of America.

This exact week in 1999, we editorialized in favor of a state law to ban smoking in restaurants.

So it was with a great deal of personal satisfaction that we took some degree of pride in what seemed to be the vanquishing of a foe -- the tobacco lobby -- that for generations in this country had reigned with impunity and that had seemed invincible until there finally were laws enacted throughout the country limiting the sale and use of tobacco beginning in the mid-2000s.

Shortly after these laws went into effect, teenage cigarette smoking rates began to decline precipitously and smoking in public became an anathema.

Big Tobacco had been defeated.

Or so it seemed.

But like one of those horror-film swamp creatures that becomes resurrected in even more ominous form when exposed to seemingly deadly radiation, Big Tobacco is back -- and in a big way -- thanks to the new, so-called e-cigarettes.

A recent article in the New York Times put it this way, "Although teen cigarette smoking rates have fallen below five percent, America is now contending with an epidemic of young people using e-cigs, vapes, and other 'nicotine delivery devices,' as the tobacco industry christened them years ago in secret memos, searching for an official alternative to describing their products as cigarettes."

Nicotine is considered by some to be the most addictive substance, legal or otherwise, known to man. In previous generations, teen smokers, encouraged by images of James Dean with a cigarette hanging from his lips, became lifetime smokers, assuring Big Tobacco of a steady stream of income ad infinitum.

Teens once again have become the target consumer group for Big Tobacco, a dangerous trend on many levels. According to one study, the effects of teens using these new products are dramatic and significant: "For a teen, becoming nicotine-addicted greatly increases the likelihood that they will graduate to traditional, combustible cigarettes. Importantly, nicotine addiction during adolescence increases the vulnerability to subsequent addictions, like opioids or cocaine. For most users of illicit drugs, their initial addiction was to nicotine."

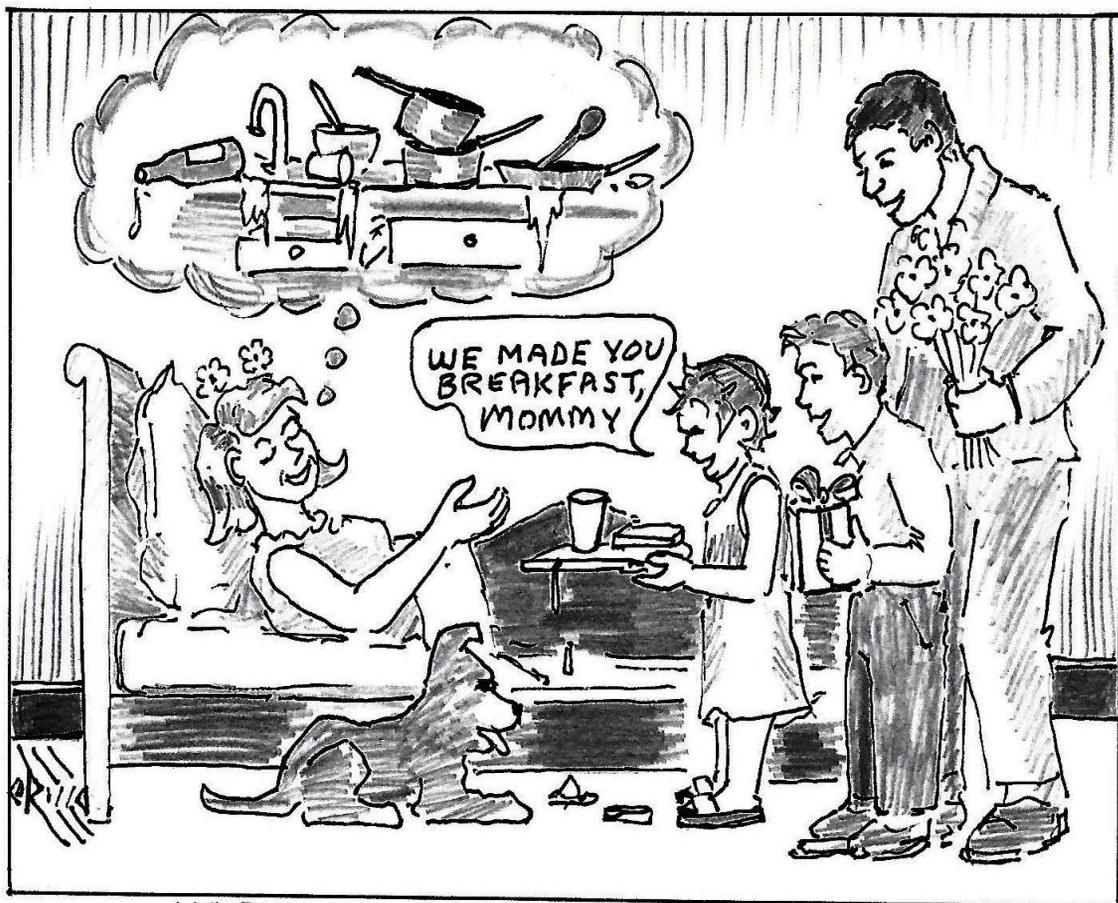
More ominously, the use of these new products, known ubiquitously as juuling, delivers as much nicotine in one pod as 200 cigarettes, all but assuring users of a fast-track to addiction.

The bottom line is that Big Tobacco (which owns or controls all of the largest of these e-cigarette companies) has found a 21st century means by which to hook a new generation of future tobacco addicts.

Parents have to take a watchful eye to make sure their children are not using these products and society needs new laws to ensure that these products cannot be sold to those under the age of 21.

Big Tobacco is back -- and we need to take action immediately.

The Independent Newspaper Group reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The Independent Newspaper Group publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Independent Newspaper Group. Text or attachments emailed to editor@reverejournal.com are preferred.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY MAY 12

GUEST OP-ED

Resiliency in Action

By Tim McKenna

Earlier this month we came together to witness the 123rd running of the Boston Marathon, an event that Mayor Walsh reminded us is a continuing symbol of the city's resilience. Resilience is a theme called upon several times by the mayor, as it weaves together the major pillars of his administrative priorities. In order to have a resilient city, we must have not only a strong infrastructure plan to prepare for a changing climate, but we also need to have strong schools, affordable housing, and a strong modern economy.

I am particularly fond of his Resilient Boston Harbor initiative as a bold, yet pragmatic approach to shoring up our shoreline while simultaneously opening up access to the waterfront for public amenities.

For Charlestown in particular, the initiative focuses on the Ryan Playground, as well as renovations to Main Street near Sullivan Square and the waterfront next to the Schrafft Center. Last week we heard the announcement of the Mayor's capital budget plan to earmark \$1 million for the planning and design of a new Ryan Playground. This is the first real

news of a plan to address that plot after the initial initiative was announced last fall. The big news though was the \$30 million for One Charlestown development. This unprecedented commitment to affordable housing will transform our community and create a positive impact for many families. However, as we welcome more families into our community we need to insure we have planned to expand our open space and public services to accommodate our growing neighborhood.

Along with several like minded neighbors, I have been spending a fair amount of time recently

thinking about the implications this commitment would mean for our organized youth sports programs and field and facilities space for sports in general. You see, like the mayor, I believe that sport has the ability to teach and reinforce resilience to the young and the young at heart as I make my pilgrimage down to the fields and the Community Center several days a week to support the programs that are open to all. We are fortunate to have several growing sports programs in town but that means we have to share the limited suitable space.

(Op-Ed Pg. 3)



THE CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE,

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CLERGY VIEWPOINT

FROM THE CHARLESTOWN CLERGY ASSOCIATION

A Day for Mothers

By Very Reverend James Ronan, VF – Pastor, St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parish

In every village throughout Latin America, no matter the size and history, it is most common to find a small park with a statue of a mother and child. It is always called “The Mothers’ Park” and throughout the year there are different celebrations there. Often the park has a fountain and flower gardens.

Each May, before Mothers’ Day, the parks are cleaned and the statues repainted and refreshed so that there can be a formal celebration in honor of the mothers, living and deceased. Throughout my years living and traveling in Latin America, I have enjoyed looking for these parks and especially noticing the art work, often exquisite, by some local artist rarely known beyond the community.

It is a simple fact that the family and home are kept intact by the heroic efforts, extraordinary resourcefulness and brutally

hard work of the Latin American women. Anyone familiar with their difficult reality realizes that it is by the sheer will and force of these women that society goes forward each day.

Here, in the United States, the unique and special gifts of women are evident in our own public square as well. Not only are women in leadership in every arena but also many women heroically balance careers with an active family life. In our own community, examples are legion. Every week, I see women who are caring for a family, serving in the parish, attending an aging parent, working full or part time, caring for one who is sick, contributing to life in the community, getting married, giving birth, going to school and on and on. The women of our parish, as in parishes everywhere, are the engines that make things happen!

Whenever I have spoken with

women about their lives in these days, it is common for many of them to recall their life growing up and their own mother. Over and over again I have heard them say something like: “I don’t know how my mother did it!” The reality is, they “are doing it” every day of their lives, as well.

On this Mother’s Day let’s take the time to give thanks to God for our mothers and pray for them. Husbands, take the time to appreciate the mothers of your children and teach your children by your example how to appreciate their mothers for their selfless generosity and loving presence in your home. Though we do not have parks, fountains and flowers in honor of our mothers in Charlestown, we can build our own monuments to our mothers by our words, actions and love this day and throughout the year.

OP-ED (from pg. 2)

It’s tremendous that the capital budget plan earmarks another \$3 million to replace the decade old turf on the fields. I’m very grateful that the mayor made this commitment to ensure that the programs that rely on those fields can continue to operate on safe and reliable surfaces. Unfortunately though, it still doesn’t solve for the challenges of sufficient land allocation for our ever expanding community, let alone the addition of One Charlestown.

That’s why we were eager to join what we thought would have been a real dialogue regarding the “Little Mystic” parcels. We were disappointed, however, that the position of the BPDA is that essentially all uses for that land besides it’s current usage were not options and that the best the community could do is to request proper mitigation. For me, that’s simply not good enough.

We understand full well that those lands are within the Designated Port Area and as such have specific usage requirements. We also understand however, that those boundaries can be reviewed. As recently as 2002, parcels along the same DPA in Charlestown

were reviewed and approved to be pulled out of the DPA and certain properties are allowed to remain in the DPA while operating within other acceptable uses. If a public boat ramp could be an acceptable use, why not a tennis court or a soccer field? The bottom line is, if there’s political will to open those spaces up for another use, the mayor’s office would get it done.

So what then can we do to encourage positive change in our community? I believe that the call initiated by the Charlestown Preservation Society, supported by several other community groups, to push our elected officials and city agencies to commit to a Master Plan for Charlestown is the best vehicle for these discussions to be had in the public square. Let’s put our resources towards planning now, not simply green-lighting new projects.

I urge my neighbors to read and sign the petition at <http://cps-ris.org/petition/>.

Tim McKenna is a Charlestown resident.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CONSIDER ADOPTING OLDER DOGS

Dear Editor:

Hello, My name is Carina Fujimoto and I am a sixth grader at The Learning Project Elementary School.

I have two dogs. One of them is an Italian Greyhound named Carmine. He is 7-years old and we have had him since he was a puppy. Last spring we lost our dog Bella, an Italian Greyhound that had lung cancer. After Bella passed, Carmine was feeling very lonely and depressed. When this happened we knew we had to do something, so we adopted Ella, a Jack Russell Dachshund mix. She is 10 and we adopted her from the NHPCA. Ella is a perfect fit for us and we are so lucky to have her. When we went to look at dogs, I saw a lot of older dogs that spent a lot of time there. For example, Ella was at the NHPCA for three months and was close to being euthanized. I realized that more people were interested in the younger dogs. I think people should consider adopting older dogs instead of puppies.

Older dogs deserve a good home to live in the rest of their lives. Most elderly dogs in shelters have probably been thrown

around from home to home and they deserve a nice place to live. Also, most puppies come from puppy mills and have just started their lives. They also have plenty of time to find a nice home. Adult dogs need to be adopted more than puppies. If older dogs are not adopted they will be euthanized.

Adult dogs are great company and usually very calm. Older dogs have a lot less energy than most puppies do. Most elderly dogs have already been trained in a previous home. My dog Ella, knows how to sit and she knows the words “walk” and “cookie” because her previous owner trained her to know these commands. It is very hard to train a dog, so it is easier if the dog is already trained because it will save you time, money, and energy. Older dogs are also great company because most often they are super sweet and caring. Also, adult dogs are great for people with disabilities because they are much lower maintenance than puppies.

Some people will want to adopt puppies because they will typically live longer. Although that is true, older dogs need your help to have an enjoyable rest of their life. Too

(LETTERS Pg. 6)

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 t.editor@charlestownbridge.com



Public Meeting

CNY Bldg.108 Disposition Planning

Wednesday, May 22
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

300 First Avenue
Spaulding Rehab Hospital, Conference Center B
Charlestown, MA 02129

Project Description:

Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) invites the community to an informational discussion regarding Charlestown Navy Yard Building 108. This meeting will provide updates on the latest work at the site as well as future planning for a possible partnership with National Parks Service (NPS) to explore possibilities for redevelopment of the site.

mail to: **Reay Pannesi**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
phone: 617.918.6239
email: reay.l.pannesi@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period:
6/6/2019

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

Black

Black

MAYOR WALSH HOLDS ANNUAL COFFEE HOUR AT THE MCCARTHY PLAYGROUND

Mayor Martin Walsh stopped by for his annual Coffee Hour at the McCarthy Playground on Eden Street Weds. morning, May 8, and had the good fortune of getting plenty of sunshine. Hundreds of residents came out for a fun morning to interact with City leaders and discuss concerns with the mayor – including the pathways and configurations within the school system, a major issue for the Town now.

Beyond that, everyone was treated to Dunks coffee and a potted plant to take home. McCarthy will begin at \$1.4 million overhaul this coming September, according to the mayor and Parks Commissioner Chris Cook.



Theresa Fraga, with Mayor Martin Walsh, won a Dunkin' Donuts gift bag.



Amanda Zettel of the Charlestown Preservation Society with Councilor Lydia Edwards and State Rep. Dan Ryan.



Christine Vraibel, Kim Mahoney and Tiara Murphy.



Councilor Lydia Edwards, John Campbell, Jack Schievink, and Claire Smith.



Harvard-Kent Principal Jason Gallagher, Edwards Middle Principal Laryssa Doherty, and Edwards Teacher Diane Boucher.



Tom McNicholas signs a petition for a Master Plan circulated by Rosemarie Kverek.



Mayor Martin Walsh was excited to visit with and take a picture with residents from Bay Cove.



Jeppe Fredslaund and Ella Fredslaund in front of a coloring mural.



From the Golden Age Center, Rita Tierney, Janet Black, Wayne Black, Hope McGee and Kathleen Evers.



Friends of the Training Field President Billy Kelly with Parks Commissioner Chris Cook and Ryan Woods of the Parks Dept.

FRIENDS OF THE CHARLESTOWN BRANCH OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS

An evening with 2019 Friend of the Year

GERARD F. DOHERTY

Author and former political advisor

THURSDAY, MAY 16

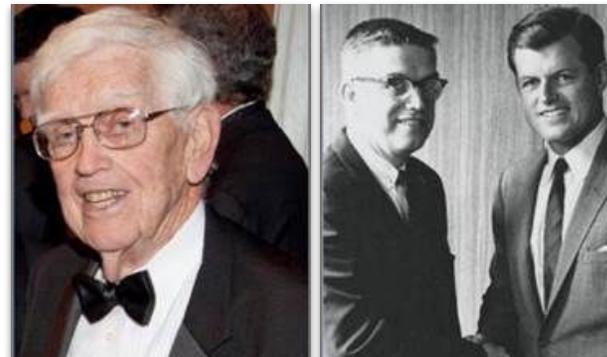
6:00 PM

CHARLESTOWN BRANCH LIBRARY

With intermittent serenading performed by tenor Wes Hunter



NEMPAC
North End Music & Performing Arts Center



"Gerard Doherty knew the number-one rule of Democratic politics in Charlestown ... loyalty to others who fought the good fight. Gerry fought the good fight for Senator Ted Kennedy in 1962. He did it for my father, Robert Kennedy in 1968, and he has done the same on every Kennedy campaign since."
(Joseph P. Kennedy II)

THE CHARLESTOWN BRANCH OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

179 MAIN ST. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT WWW.FRIENDSOFCARLESTOWNLIB.ORG



Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC)

980 Harrison Avenue
Boston, MA 02119

WATER MAIN FLUSHING NOTICE

Boston Water and Sewer Commission will begin Water Main Flushing in the Charlestown, Central and South Boston areas starting:

May 14, 2019 through June 17, 2019

The boundaries for the areas being flushed are: Medford Street to the north, Melnea Cass Boulevard to the south, Atlantic Avenue the east and Charles Street and Massachusetts Avenue to the west.



The purpose of the Water Main Flushing Program is to improve drinking water quality for residents and businesses.

Water Main flushing will take place between the hours of **10:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M.**

The flushing process may cause discolored water and a reduction in pressure. The discoloration of the water will be temporary and is not harmful. If the condition persists, please contact BWSC's 24 Hour Service at (617) 989-7000.

BWSC appreciates your patience as we work to improve the quality of drinking water we will provide to the residents and businesses of Boston.

If you have any questions, contact BWSC's Night Operations Manager at (617) 989-7000 or visit our website @ www.bwsc.org.

HARVEST ON VINE HOLDS FUNDRAISER A TOWERING PRESENCE



Facundo Coitino, Julinda Sheshi, Tom Coots, Sue Schievink, Mylene Duggan, Frederick Gillis, and Tanya Poste of The Cooperative Bank were on hand to show their support.



Kiss 108 DJ Karson Tager and local comedic legend Tony V. served as MC's of the night with young Jake McKenzie assisting them with raffle duties.

Since 2003, Harvest on Vine, located on Vine Street in Charlestown, has helped feed more than 700 Charlestown families. On April 25, they held a fundraiser at the Knights of Columbus Hall that included gift basket raffles, auctions for Cape Cod vacations, as well as a Red Sox game, and recognition of the volunteers that help Harvest On Vine achieve its goals.

With rent, living expenses, and food rising each year, the efforts to combat food insecurity has become more important than ever.

Fundraisers like this are essential, said Harvest on Vine Director Tom MacDonald.

PHOTOS BY
DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



Rev. James Ronan of St Mary-St Catherine Of Siena presents a bouquet of flowers to Mary Ellen and Tom MacDonald for their efforts in keeping Harvest On Vine, the Parish's food pantry going.



Maria Joseph showing off something from the chocolate basket she won in the raffle.



Eddie Callahan, City Councilor Michelle Wu, and Paul Hollien.



Phyllis Hickey, Lorrie Morton, Eileen Ward, David Flanagan, Crystal Galvin of the Kennedy Center, and Tom Cunha are proud to show their support.



Above: Kelly Hand, Linda and Susan Lydon, Dick Burt, Elaine Vigneau, Nancy Gentis, Janet Huetteyman, and Gina Cayecdo.



Right: Rev. James Ronan and Harvest On Vine director Tom MacDonald present volunteer Judy Burton (center) a Humanitarian Award.

Black

For the Record

COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT, AND TRANSPORTATION HEARING:

A May 10 Hearing Order at 10 a.m. Regarding the City Council Biannual Urban Renewal Progress Update. This matter is sponsored by Councilor Michelle Wu and was referred to the Committee on Planning, Development and Transportation on 5/1/2019.

The second Community Master Plan meeting will take place on Saturday, May 11, at 1 p.m. in the Bunker Hill Museum Community Room on Monument Square. The meeting is co-sponsored by the Charlestown Preservation Society and the Charlestown Historical Society, but organizers are calling for everyone to join the call to demand a Master Plan of the Town now.

BOSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING:

May 16, 10 a.m., BHA HQ, 52 Chauncy St. 11th Floor.

- Charlestown redevelopment update

- Housing choice voucher program update

- An Evening with Gerard F. Doherty

Gerard F. Doherty: a "Friend of the Year" tribute presented by the Friends of the Charlestown Branch of the Boston Public Library. There will be an award presentation, with intermittent serenading performed by tenor Wes Hunter. Free and open to all, including a reception.

When: Thursday, May 16, 6 p.m.

Where: Charlestown Branch Library, 179 Main St.

From the May 16 HUD federal funding input meeting, DND (26 Court St.), 6 p.m.:

Join us to discuss and provide feedback on our draft annual Action Plan to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Action Plan details how we will use the \$27 million in HUD funds to address the housing and community development needs in Boston.

- Zoning Board of Appeals

This is an open hearing, and the public is encouraged to

attend.

Thursday, May 16, 6 p.m.

- *1 Ludlow St

- *81 High St

Where: Inspectional Services, 1010 Mass Ave.

When: Tuesday, May 21, (9:30am - 11:30am)

- *20-22 Monument St

- *25 Monument Ave

- *2 Ludlow St (Redisussion)

Where: Boston City Hall Room 801, 1 City Hall Square, Boston

- Abutters Meeting for 1 6th St, Charlestown

A meeting to discuss a proposal for a new, full service restaurant offering lunch and dinner with beer and wine.

When: Weds., May 15, 6 p.m.

Where: 1 6th St, Charlestown

- Abutters Meeting for 38 Green St.

What: A meeting to discuss new dormers at 3rd floor facing street and backyard, existing 1.5 story rear ell made full 2.0 stories, with the new uncovered outside deck on top with walk out access from the existing 3rd floor. All work to be done within the existing footprint.

When: Thursday, May 16, 6 p.m.

Where: 38 Green St.

- Filming on Friday, May 24

Filming is scheduled at Paul Revere Park in Charlestown on Friday May 24. Production trucks will be parked on Chelsea Street and parking there will be restricted.

- Warren Prescott School Dates

April 1 - May 31 - MCAS Testing

April 1 - April 30 - BPS Youth Arts Month Exhibit

May 27 - Memorial Day : No School

City Council Budget Hearings, ongoing, City Hall:

- Boston Public Library, May 13, 10:30 a.m.

- Parks and Recreation, May 13, 2 p.m.

- Boston Police, May 15, 2 p.m.

- Boston Public Health Commission, May 16, 10:30 a.m.

- Health Commission-Recovery Services, May 16, 2 p.m.

- Boston Fire Department, May 21, 10:30 a.m.

LETTERS (from pg. 3)

many adult dogs are being euthanized because not enough people are adopting them. If you are planning to adopt a dog, try looking at the older dogs first, instead of heading straight to the puppies. Older dogs need your help!

Sincerely,
Carina

GREENER IS BETTER

Dear Editor:

Recently, after having a discussion with my 7-year-old grandson about the five senses - seeing, hearing, feeling, smelling and tasting - I started to think about air pollution.

Just last month I came across an article entitled, "Green Spaces and Mental Health." Although this major study followed one million Dutch people for 18 years, the results can be applied to anywhere on planet earth.

The major takeaway from this study is that children who grow up with greener surroundings have a significantly lower risk of developing mental illnesses later in life. The studies found that you don't have to live near a forest to benefit from better mental health, but simply having a park among city streets contributes to better health.

The authors of the study speculate that greener surroundings may reduce stress, encourage exercise, and have less noise and air pollution—all potential mental health factors.

The authors suggest that, "better city planning can have profound impacts on the mental health and well-being of all of us."

As we are organizing and gathering signatures for a petition for a Master Plan for Charlestown, we need to keep in mind that we must have orderly development and more green space instead of one building after another being built in our one square mile.

Not only does our physical health rely on clean air to stay healthy, but our mental health needs clean air as well. More buildings, more traffic and more

pollution impact our quality of life.

Although we may not hear, taste, smell, feel or touch polluted air, it's all around us.

Please sign the petition. We are asking the Mayor and the Building, Planning and Development Agency to designate the community of Charlestown for a Master Plan study.

Ann Kelleher
Charlestown

A BIG THANK YOU

Dear Editor:

We would like to recognize all our community partners, supporters, families and teachers who supported the Harvard-Kent Parents Association Spring Fundraiser. We would also like to give a BIG thank you to The Warren Tavern for their continued support of hosting our Spring fundraiser. We are so thankful to all for helping us to raise funds that go direct back to the students and teachers at the Harvard-Kent Elementary School. The commitment of our community to making the Harvard-Kent a great place for all is truly inspiring.

The Harvard-Kent Parents
Association

UNHEALTHY GROWTH

Dear Editor:

Coming from Back Bay to Charlestown last week was a gridlock mess, which took one and a half hours.

A client went from Back Bay to Seaport, and it took an hour. Another came from New Balance to Charlestown, in a stressful hour ride on the T, which convinced her not to become a Charlestown resident.

These stories are not isolated reports.

The Casino is not open, the 3,200 units in development are not inhabited, and we cannot move on the ground now.

This over development, with no infrastructure, is strangling our beloved City. Mayor Walsh, please see and hear what is hap-

pening, for you must stop this unbridled expansion with no plan and no infrastructure improvements.

The people are already leaving our city.

The tourists are already refusing to come to Boston.

Boston is now 17 on Trip Advisor as a most desirable city to visit...and we do not make the list of many "Top 10 Cities to visit in the USA."

Will it be you Mayor Walsh, who stops this unhealthy growth in our city? Or will you hear the people?

We need a Master Plan, now. Please see what is right outside your door.

Boston is on the wrong path to progress. We are being strangled by the profit-taking of the few, with a concern for jobs for union members, to make our city a place people flee or complain about.

You can do so much better... and the people want to help.

Please start today, with a Master Plan for Charlestown, the most historic neighborhood in Boston.

Long gone is the day when "bigger is better."

It is such a tired, 'Mad Men,' unproven, outlived concept.

We can do better, not bigger. We should strive for best.

The rest of the world has leap-frogged Boston, offering amazing green, beautiful architectural buildings with living walls and mini parks, plus infrastructure that works.

We are all in favor of development. We appreciate union labor and want them to work. We just want a Master Plan to make sense, with thoughtful development. We want to work together for a Boston that we all love, and are proud of, that attracts visitors.

We are no longer "A City on a Hill" that the world looks to...

Today is a good day to begin again.

Diane Valle
Charlestown

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.

TRAFFIC (from pg. 1)

deal of planning for the upcoming opening but have no way of telling just how busy they will be, and how long they will be busy, with the initial rush that is expected.

The casino released estimates last week that they expect 8 million visitors per year to the Everett site, and hundreds of thousands are expected to pour in during

the initial days of opening in late June.

"This particular part of the project I stayed very close to," said DeSalvio. "There has been a steady topic of discussion for the past five years and it was pretty much the #1 topic at all our public meetings."

On Wednesday, Mayor Martin Walsh told the Town during his

coffee hour that they will be staying on top of the traffic situation as the casino opening rolls out.

"The casino is opening soon and that is going to bring a lot of traffic," he said. "We need to make sure we stay on top of that situation. We know there is going to be a big impact on Charlestown and we have to stay on top of it."

CASSELLIUS (continued from pg. 1)

ey and her experience playing the game.

"Yes, I am a hockey player," she said after being introduced by Mayor Martin Walsh. "I started when I was 42 and have played about nine years on a women's team. Now, I'm not the greatest stick handler, but I'm a pretty good skater...Of course I'm going to become a Bruins fan. I've already been watching them and am super excited about them. Go Bruins."

Beyond the fun of ice rinks and hockey sticks, though, there was time to get down to the nitty gritty and have a discussion with Charlestown parents about school issues – one of the key issues being space and grade configurations.

Supt. Cassellius stood in while Mayor Walsh talked with a group of parents from the Warren-Prescott and Harvard-Kent schools. While the mayor implored them to not only think of elementary school issues, but also to give the non-exam high schools a shot – Supt. Cassellius listened in and took in the concerns.

Later, she said she does support the idea of limiting transitions for students and families, but that there needs to be a discussion in the neighborhoods first.

"I do believe less transitions for students are always good for families," she said. "But then when we look at middle schools and what works at middle schools, they have specific adolescent needs we all know of as parents of teenagers. We want to make sure we develop programming and curriculum that is rigorous across our schools and there is equitable...I think they were talking about K-6, K-8, and 9-12 – however those configurations work. We'll be talking to the community about how those make sense and how to minimize the transitions. I know the mayor has talked about these things before already with families and communities. We'll continue to build on that real good work that Supt.

Pereille has been working on."

Cassellius said she was to meet with teachers late on Wednesday, and she plans to do a lot of listening to hear parents, staff and students.

"I don't want to come with assumptions that some things that worked for me in the past will work here, but I do know some things have worked in the past," she said. "It's important for me to go out and listen to the teachers...I need to find out what's working and what isn't working so we can maximize the dollars and put them where they are needed. It's a lot of listening at first, but I know people want to get going, so we'll develop some plans and work those plans... Parents are really just wanting to be listened to now and we'll see what emerges from there."

She also said she would like to get the youth more involved in the decision making process and wanted students to know their new school leader will listen.

"For kids, my message is that your voice matters and I'm going to be working with the Youth Board and try to get them truly involved in the decisions that impact them every day," she said. "For the overall community, my message is it's going to take an all-hands-on-deck approach. We

need all of us wrapping our heads around the issues. Expect me to be out and present in their communities and listening to them."

And finally, her impression of Charlestown and Boston has been quite good in the initial days – being greeted with a mob of activity and excitement at the McCarthy Playground.

"I love Boston," she said. "The people have been so friendly to me and so welcoming to me. I've met all the staff around and folks in the communities now. I'm anxious to get out and talk with more people in the communities, but folks have been so gracious and wonderful to me...The biggest thing is earning the public's trust and going out and talking with them in the community – speaking with them authentically about their hopes and dreams for their children. Once I do that it's easier to come together with a plan and get consensus. Then we can collaborate and connect the dots. I'm also very anxious to start meeting with the cabinet and bringing to bear some of the resources the City has. I have met with a lot of Cabinet members and I know the mayor is very interested in this. So, working across the different agencies is important to do the best for communities."



New Supt. Brenda Cassellius greets Warren Prescott Principal Michele Davis (center) and Kristina Reeves-Barber.

DeSalvio told the Commission they have been meeting regularly for several months with law enforcement from various jurisdictions, the MBTA and MassDOT.

"They have said they would assist us as long as it takes (with paid police details)," said DeSalvio. "It may take seven days or it could take 14 days. We like to think of this opening as a period of time...There's clearly going to be a New Kid on the Block syndrome. There will be tweaks and all our partners said they would be ready to work with us through that period...Every partner has chipped in to say they will help us to make sure the opening is smooth. It's impossible to say when that opening period ends. We will have to make game-day calls on a lot of these situations."

So far, the Boston Police have pledged 13 officers, Everett Police have pledged 12 officers, Medford Police have pledged eight officers and the State Police have pledged 84 Troopers. Additionally, the Transit Police will provide 13 officers, the U.S. Coast Guard has agreed to handle the waterways and the Boston Public Works Department has agreed to monitor closely the Alford Street Bridge.

As previously reported, there are several alternatives to private vehicles that Encore is unveiling as part of its traffic plan.

Those include:

- Harbor Shuttles – there will be four shuttles running a route between Encore, the Financial District and the Seaport. All of the shuttles would be ADA compliant and would cost \$7 one-way. A new connector from the Seaport to the Financial District for commuters would cost \$5. They would operate year-round, weather dependent.

- MBTA Encore Shuttle – Shuttles would run regularly from the Malden Station and the Wellington Station to Encore Boston Harbor. As part of the opening plan, these shuttle would let out on Mystic View Road, and those using them would have to walk on the new DCR connector under the train tracks to the casino entrance. That is in an effort

to keep buses and shuttles off of Lower Broadway.

- Encore Neighborhood Shuttle – This 26-passenger luxury shuttle would be free to the public and to employees and would run between Encore, the GE Site parking lot in the Village, Everett City Hall and the Chelsea Silver Line terminus (at Market Basket). It would run 24/7 on that route.

- Premium Motor Coach – these luxury buses would come to Encore from Milford (Metro West), Rockland (South Shore), and Londonderry, NH. They would run 12 hours a day, seven days a week.

DeSalvio said he was certain that there had been a great deal of thoughtful planning, and Commissioner Gayle Cameron said she was "very impressed" with the level of care and thought put into the opening plan.

"We have thought a lot about this and that this plan works smoothly," he said. "We probably haven't thought of everything and we'll make adjustments after the opening, but it has been a very, very thorough planning exercise by many different partners at the table."

City, Rep. Dan Ryan to host traffic meeting ahead of casino opening, summer work

City officials asked this week that the community join elected officials for a public meeting regarding transportation in the Sullivan Square area. During this meeting, the community will receive updates on current and future construction and transportation plans from various departments and organizations, including but not limited to: BTD, MassDOT, MBTA Green Line Extension Project, Encore Casino, and locally elected officials. There will also be time at the end of the meeting for questions to be answered.

This meeting will be held at the Knights of Columbus, 545 Medford St, on Thursday, May 23 from 6-8 p.m.

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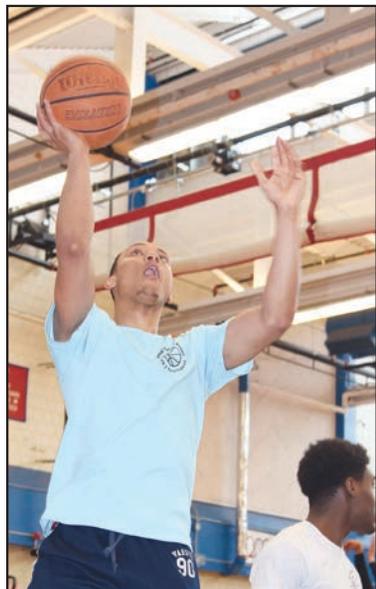


FIFTH ANNUAL TURN IT AROUND BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Photos & Story by Marianne Salza

The Charlestown Coalition presented its fifth Annual Turn It Around Basketball Tournament on May 4 at the Charlestown Community Center. Turn It Around is a component of the MGH Charlestown Coalition program. The series of three-on-three games, played by youth, 10-18-years-old, focused on perseverance and overcoming adversity.

“It’s a tournament we started in an effort to have more social activities in the community for youth,” said Director Sarah Coughlin. “Our Coalition is aimed at the aspects of health that are not behind the walls of a hospital. The kids came up with this on their own as a way to better the community.”



Renalido “Rey” Etienne goes in for a lay-up.



Daniel Ramos, David Upshaw, and Jacob Gomez.



Damian Rivera and Gary Lockett.



Neayah Evans, Alphy Vazquez, and Garvince Jean Francois.



Turn It Around youth and staff: Melissa, Shannon Lundin, Sarah Coughlin, Steven Wilson, and Phenice Zawatsky.



Brian Mullen and Devonte Teixeira.

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Rhsaun Brown takes it strong to the hoop.



Quintan Dulin (R) and Aboubakar Nimaka.

Power Plant building in Navy Yard ready for discussion

Staff Report

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) has scheduled a meeting on May 22 to begin a conversation with the community about the Power Plant (Building 108) in the Navy Yard.

The highly-contaminated plant has fallen into extreme disrepair and a contract has been approved to carefully demolish it this summer or fall. Beyond that, the BPDA would like to meet with the community to hear ideas for the re-use of the site.

The meeting will provide

updates on the latest work at the site as well as future planning for a possible partnership with National Parks Service (NPS) to explore possibilities for redevelopment of the site.

The meeting will take place on May 22 at 6 p.m. in the Spaulding Rehab Conference Center.

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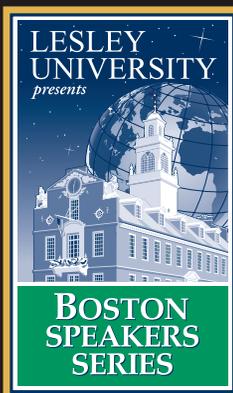
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Townie Tidbits

By Sal Giarratani

THE GREAT 1992 CHARLESTOWN POTATO SHED FIRE

During the construction of the new elevated ramps connecting Route 93 to the previous terminus of highway out by Medford near the old roller skating rink, part of all the mitigation monies were reportedly set aside to integrate public art into the surrounding landscape. Last year, I talked to a number of residents who loved the idea of moving a "secret" monument to the Potato Shed's history to Charlestown. I actually spoke with the folks who designed this monument, which is now located deep into the Community College's parking lot right next to the on-ramp to the Tobin Bridge, where it has become out of sight and mind, except if you live across the Mystic River points north.

I realize as the years passed by, the history of the Charlestown Potato Sheds fades further away from the memories of those who worked there or remember the sheds fondly. If this really great



Photo by Sal Giarratani

This photo was taken about 4:30 p.m. on May 10, 1962, as the fire rages with strong winds toward Austin Street and the bridge.

artistic monument is to be saved for history, it must be seen by the community as an important part of the Town's history.

To those who don't know about what I am speaking of, here is the whole story: The Charlestown Potato Sheds connected Boston to the potato fields of Maine. We know the Irish love potatoes and

they came from Maine. Farmers and produce owners like my Uncle Jim Callahan brought those potatoes and, onions, too, closer and closer to our kitchens and dinner tables. The conduit was the Boston & Maine Railroad. They got tracked down to places like my uncle's F.J. Ward Potatoes and then moved over from the box-cars to the trucking firms that hauled them away to restaurants and supermarket.

However, everything changed on May 10, 1962, when someone noticed smoke and pulled Fire Box 4132 at 4:01 p.m. The fire ended up being a five-alarm blaze, with many additional special calls. All in all, this really was a 10-alarm fire that pulled apparatus from across the city, as well as assistance from nearby communities.

The fire started down by City Square along both Front and Washington streets. It was a near-total destruction with only a few remaining sheds that escaped the damage near Prison Point Bridge. My uncle's shed, the second to last, was saved, and he stayed in business a few more years before being forced to retire.

Lots of people lost their jobs, as the potato sheds like the sugar refineries and chocolate factory were major employees in the town. Oh, and the two milk companies, too - Hood and Whiting.

I will never forget May 10, 1962, the day all those potatoes turned into French fries. It is now so difficult to see that event was 57 years ago. I apologize for getting off track over this last year, but I still want the monument moved closer to the people of Charlestown and not lost down in the college parking lot. I need your help again to get this idea back on track. If you wish to help, e-mail me at sal.giarratani@gmail.com. Thanks!

CONSTRUCTION LOOK AHEAD: APRIL 28 – MAY 11 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET BRIDGE (CHARLESTOWN BRIDGE)

This document provides a brief overview of construction operations and impacts for the North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project.

PAUL REVERE PARK PLAYGROUND CLOSURE:

Starting on Wednesday, May 8, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) closed Paul Revere Park Playground indefinitely in the City of Boston to accommodate the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's (MassDOT) North Washington Street Bridge replacement project. During this closure, the existing playground will be removed and a new playground will be constructed at the park, which is expected to be reopened in late summer/early fall. Additionally, the DCR is currently planning a public meeting later this month to share designs and project details of the new playground.

Parents/guardians, caregivers and residents: Thanks to a partnership between MassDOT, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), and the North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project team, the almost 20-year-old Paul Revere Park playground is being rebuilt. We will modernize and relocate it to a quieter section of the park further from the roadway, including new structures for 2-5 and 5-12 year olds, new fencing and landscaping, and new play surfaces.

While the new playground is designed and built, we encourage you to spend this spring and early summer playground-hopping around the neighborhood.

TRAVEL TIPS:

MassDOT has begun work on the Tobin Bridge/Chelsea Curves Rehabilitation Project which requires significant traffic impacts including 24/7 lane closures. Route 1 Northbound lane closures were put in place on April 1, and Route 1 Southbound lane closures will be implemented in early May. PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS: The bridge's eastern sidewalk is open and available to all pedestrians and cyclists with crossings at both Keany and City Squares. Please be advised that the DCR-controlled Charlestown locks can provide another alternate route but may close without warning and beyond control of this project. During the daytime Tudor Wharf walkway closures, pedestrian access will be provided via the Water Street underpass and guidance signage will be provided.

All users should take care to pay attention to all signage and police details and move carefully through the work zone. Police details, changes in lane markings, temporary controls such as barriers and traffic cones, signage, and other tools will be used throughout the project to control traffic and create safe work zones.

DiDomenico and Senate pass legislation to reduce traffic fatalities

Sen. Sal DiDomenico and his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate recently passed An Act to Reduce Traffic Fatalities. The bill includes new requirements for cyclists and motorists to promote safety for everyone who uses the road.

Following the vote, Sen. DiDomenico expressed his satisfaction with the Senate passage of the bill and discussed the need for this legislation to become law. "I know how dangerous driving in our Commonwealth can be and how often cyclists and pedestrians are at risk. With the recent uptick in accidents involving cyclists, many of which have happened in my district, it is clear that we must take steps to make our roads safer for all. This bill is an important part of the solution, and I look forward to continue working with my constituents and MassDOT officials to create safer roadways for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers alike" said DiDomenico.

The bill classifies several groups, including pedestrians, utility workers, first responders and cyclists, as vulnerable road users and requires motor vehicles to apply a safe passing distance of at least three feet when traveling 30 miles per hour or less with

an additional foot of clearance required for every 10 miles per hour over 30 miles per hour. The bill would further require trucks and similar large vehicles purchased, leased or under contract with the Commonwealth after a certain date to be equipped with lateral protective devices, convex mirrors and crossover mirrors to reduce the risk posed to vulnerable road users who are susceptible to being unseen by truck driver's and slipping underneath large vehicles during accidents.

The bill would additionally establish a 25 mile per hour speed limit on an unposted area of state highway or parkway inside a thickly settled or business district within a city or town that has accepted the 25 mile per hour local option, as lower vehicle speeds reduce the possibility and severity of crashes. Finally, the bill increases the flexibility of the Department of Transportation to reduce the speed limit in active construction zones thereby significantly increasing the protection provided to vulnerable workers and first responders at the construction site.

An Act to Reduce Traffic Fatalities now moves to the House of Representatives for further consideration.

BHA (from pg. 1)

Beyond that, on May 29, they plan to have a meeting with the general community – the first in many months – to talk about some of the first designs and ideas for Bunker Hill 2.0.

"That meeting will be an update on what has happened and there will be some designs to share and we'll push the Leggat McCall folks out to explain the vision they have for the public housing community," he said. "I think we've been at this four or five years and we're anxious to get the public review process underway and get into the ground."

He said times and locations for the meetings will be coming soon. He also said that after the meetings are completed, the development team would file their official notices with the City

and the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) – which triggers meetings for the public review and triggers the beginning of the Impact Advisory Group (IAG) process.

McGonagle also emphasized how critical it was, and historic, for Mayor Martin Walsh to pledge \$30 million towards the project.

"It was a huge announcement and the mayor deserve credit for stepping up to the plate," he said. "It's the first time in the 82-year history of the BHA that the City has contributed funds to the organization. That made all of this financially feasible. Without the Mayor's commitment, we would not be able to begin to push out this process and anticipate a groundbreaking."

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Edwards, Breen talk development at CNC

By Lauren Bennett

The Charlestown Neighborhood Council (CNC) held their monthly meeting at the Knights of Columbus on May 7, where they had a packed agenda with appearances by city officials and discussion of happenings in the community.

CNC Chair Tom Cunha led off the meeting by talking about the proposed billboards on Cambridge St., which were deferred at the Zoning Board of Appeal on Tuesday. People were displeased with the idea, Cunha said, adding that billboards are against the zoning for the area.

Brewer's Fork and CPA Updates

Next was a presentation from Michael Cooney of Brewer's Fork, who told the community that he is looking to take over the space that is currently occupied by the Navy Yard Bistro. Cooney said that the lease is up at the end of August, so he would like to start a new lease and put in a new restaurant that would serve both lunch and dinner with American bistro fare. He also hopes to have beer and wine, but "more on the wine side," as Brewer's Fork is already heavy on beer. Cooney proposed to gut the space to the studs and "start up fresh again."

Comments from the CNC were that the Navy Yard Bistro has been an excellent neighbor and very generous to the community, so they would like to see the new restaurant act in the same manner. Cunha said that this matter would move to committee, where it will be discussed further.

Thadine Brown, Director of Community Relations for the City of Boston, gave an update on the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Charlestown did not receive any funds during last year's pilot round of CPA, but were recipients of \$526,000 for three projects in the fall round. Charlestown received

\$500,000 to restore the exterior of Memorial Hall, \$20,000 to add new sod, benches, and fencing for Kelly McGoff Park, and \$6,000 for informational signs for Gardens for Charlestown.

Brown said that the next application round starts in August, and applicants can apply for funds for projects in the categories of affordable housing, historic preservation, and open space and public recreation. The deadline for applications is September 28.

City Councilor Lydia Edwards

Next up was City Councilor Lydia Edwards, who spoke on a number of topics ranging from development to affordable housing. She said that she thinks the CNC should consider a CPA committee to make sure Charlestown is asking for enough money from the CPA funds.

A large part of her presentation was related to the Bunker Hill development. She told the community that, as per a recent announcement from the mayor, the city would be putting out \$30 million for phases one and two of the redevelopment. This money would be paid back over time through tax dollars from the development. Edwards said that the current proposal has four phases and would take 12 years to complete. It is being done this way in order to tear down as little as possible at a time so residents can stay on site.

Right now, Edwards said the proposal is 2800 units with 100 units off-site, but she said she would like to see those units stay somewhere in Charlestown. The current 1,100 deeply affordable units would be replaced one for one. Edwards has a tentative public meeting scheduled for May 29 at the Harvard-Kent to reveal the proposed design to the public "to make sure that we all see what it's going to look like," she said. The ultimate goal is to slow down the displacement of families and

make sure they can stay on-site while their units are being rebuilt, Edwards said.

There were concerns from the CNC about how all of those extra people from the extra units would be handled, as well as parking. Edwards said the question of an infrastructure plan has been asked since day one, and said that having the phases will slow the process down and allow the neighborhood to better adjust. Though she did not have the phase-by-phase plan with her at the meeting, she said she will provide it to the community as soon as she has it available.

She also briefly discussed the capital projects that have been announced for Charlestown, including \$1 million for the Ryan playground and \$1.4 million for the Eden St. playground.

Edwards also spoke about the Cambridge St. billboard proposal, saying that she has received 59 emails in opposition of the project, as well as "calls all day for three days" from concerned Charlestown residents. "I don't think the issue is yes or no," Edwards said. "Mr. Owens is looking for ways to make money on his property." She thinks that since people have not felt that they have had a conversation with him about his project, one would be effective to come up with a solution that works.

As far as the Little Mystic parcel that has a lease up at the end of June, Edwards wondered, "What can we do for Charlestown?" She said that the likelihood of getting housing in that location is "very, very low" due to the restrictions that are placed by the state on the use of the land. She said ideas like a dock for a ferry stop and a kayaking program that have been thrown around, and they are working on ways to use part of that land to access the water for free.

She also spoke about the pilot program for the activation of the Navy Yard this summer, with a

beer garden, among other things. "I encourage folks to be attentive and express concerns," Edwards said. "If it ends up being a hot mess, it could end." She said that this is just a pilot and it is very open to changes and tweaks.

For the ambulance bay proposal, she said that the developer is still committed to building that and making sure we have two new spots, and is working out concerns about building too high and blocking the natural sunlight that currently hits the Gardens for Charlestown.

Chris Breen, BPDA

Chris Breen of the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) gave a quick update about the BPDA activity in Charlestown. He said that there are currently no outside developers who have submitted a letter of intent with the BPDA for any other potential projects in Charlestown. There is an

upcoming meeting for the Building 108 demolition, they are working on the lease and mitigation for the Little Mystic parcel, the Request for Proposal is upcoming for the EMS station, and the Navy Yard Waterfront Activation is currently working out a lease.

He said that while there is no official date set yet, he is looking at late May or early June for an environmental meeting of the Navy Yard to discuss how things like sea level rise are going to impact Charlestown and what can be done about it. He also talked about various other projects that are currently under construction or in development, such as 100 Hood Park Drive and 610 Rutherford Avenue.

The CNC announced that there will be a public safety meeting on Wednesday, May 29, at 6 p.m. at the police station in Hayes Square.



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charlestownads@hotmail.com*

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HOW TO RESEARCH YOUR HISTORIC HOUSE



The Charlestown Preservation Society and Charlestown Historical Society hosted a joint workshop on Saturday, May 4, at the Bunker Hill Museum on "How to Research Your Historic House." The workshop walked through the research process that finds primary documents that date and tell the social history of a building. The workshop kicked off the application submission period for CPS's Historic Marker program. The deadline for applications is June 31 and installation of the markers is expected in the fall. For those interested in researching their home, step-by-step instructions as well as a marker application can be found on the website at www.CharlestownPreservation.org. Any questions regarding research and roadblocks one may have uncovered can be emailed to markers@CharlestownPreservation.org.

Happy Mother's Day

For Mom Kristen

From Rylan

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If you're renting out your home for 28 days or less, you need to register your property as a short term rental. This includes apartments, individual rooms, and entire homes.

WHY DO I NEED TO REGISTER?
On January 1, 2019, a citywide ordinance established new guidelines and regulations for short-term rentals in Boston.

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For more information call (617) 635-1010 or email us at shorttermrentals@boston.gov

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NEIGHBORHOOD ROUND UP

FREE AFTERNOON BINGO AT ZELMA LACEY HOUSE

Stop by the Zelma Lacey House for free BINGO on Friday May 11, at 3 p.m.

Hosted by Tabitha Jones of the Zelma Lacey House with Beverly Gibbons From The Golden Age Center as caller. Their will be 10 games, great prizes and tasty refreshments. All are welcomed, bring a FRIEND!

Players must be 21.

JOIN "E" INC. FOR "THIRD THURSDAYS"

Third Thursdays – at the “e” inc. Emporium -- each 3rd Thursday event is focused on a different science topic. The next fun night will be held on May 16, from 6 to 7:15 p.m. and is a event of investigation about: ‘Rocks and Minerals’. Third Thursdays begin at 6:00 PM at the “e” inc. headquarters at 114 16th Street in the Navy Yard. (Last street before the bridge). Registration is online at www.einc-action.org. We are limited to 15. The fee for Third Thursdays will be \$5 per kid-let. Parents are free. Third Thursday bonus! Take 30% off any one item at the Science Discovery Museum during third Thursday events!

2019 / 2020 REGISTRATION FOR GYM HOCKEY

Registration for the 2019/2020 season is being held on Saturday - May 11, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mishawum Community Room, 95 Dunstable Street, Charlestown, MA. There is a registration fee which is not due until September when the season

begins. Ages are : 4 years old by October 1 2019 to 9 years old (anyone who turns 10 years old before 2/1/20 is too old. You do not have to live in Charlestown to play.

SUMMER REGISTRATION "UP AT THE CLUB"

Register now for a great Spring and Summer at the Charlestown Boys and Girls Club. There are many new and continuing programs on offer for the upcoming seasons. Call 617-242-1775 or visit the Club at 15 Green Street for more information.

JOIN THE FRIENDS OF CITY SQUARE PARK

The Friends of City Square Park works in tandem with the city and other local organizations to participate in other events, such as the annual Paul Revere ride on Patriot's Day and Art in the Park with local artisans and artists. To learn more about becoming a “Friend”, please visit <https://www.friendsofcitysquarepark.org/> or contact Grace Bloodwell at 617-512-4939.

SAVE THE DATE! MORRISSEY SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS NIGHT

Friday, May 17, marks the 5th Annual Friends of Ryan “Duce” Morrissey Scholarship Awards Night.

The fun begins at 7 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Medford St.. There will be dinner, dancing, raffles and fun, as well as the awarding of the scholarship. Tickets are \$25 per person, order

online at ryan.morrisseyscholarship.com or call Donna 617-763-8527.

USS CONSTITUTION TO COMMEMORATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF VIETNAM WAR PERIOD

USS Constitution is scheduled to get underway from Charlestown Navy Yard on Friday, May 17 at 10 a.m. in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War Period. The event is in concert with the National Vietnam War Commemoration, committed to highlighting the service of U.S. Armed Forces during the Vietnam War, and to thank and honor veterans and their families and our allies.

The ship will travel to Fort Independence on Castle Island where she will fire a 21-gun salute in the direction of the Boston Vietnam Memorial at approximately 12:00 p.m. with a return salute from the Concord Independent Battery.

An additional 17-gun salute will fire as USS Constitution passes U.S. Coast Guard Sector Boston, the former site of the Edmund Hartt's Shipyard where USS Constitution was built and launched on Oct. 21, 1797.

The public is encouraged to view USS Constitution's turnaround along Boston Harbor Walk, Castle Island, or Charlestown Navy Yard.

USS Constitution will reopen for public tours from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and will resume normal tour hours on Saturday, May 18, at 10 a.m.

USS Constitution, the world's oldest commissioned warship afloat, played a crucial role in the

Barbary Wars and the War of 1812, actively defending sea lanes from 1797 to 1855.

Designated America's Ship of State, Constitution and her crew engage in community outreach and education about the ship's history and the importance of naval power to more than 500,000 visitors each year.

CITY SQUARE PARK SUMMER CONCERT SERIES 2019 - FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

The Friends of City Square Park are excited to announce the 2019 Summer Concert Series; five evenings of FREE, family-friendly music in the heart of the Park. It's a wonderful excuse to gather with neighbors and friends, pack a picnic, and enjoy lively music in our historic and bucolic Park. The series is generously sponsored and supported by the Charlestown Mothers Association, Gibson Sotheby's International Real Estate, Friends of City Square Park, and Rick DuBard's Foundation.

Rain dates will be for the following day, Thursday. On Wednesday, May 22, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The Charlestown Boys and Girls Club

Performers and the Charlestown High School Band return to the Park and will present a variety of music. Come out to support these incredible kids and young adults! June 12th from 5:30 to 7 p.m. brings The Ghetto People's Band, making their debut in City Square with fantastic beats, reggae jams, and a cool vibe. Don't miss this talent.

July 10, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The East Coast Soul Band will rock the park again this year with soul, rock and incredible charisma. Last year this was a hit with the little ones and adults alike.

Wednesday, August 14, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. City Square Park's beloved Dirty Water Brass Band will perform New Orleans-style music and crowd favorites. This band never disappoints!

And lastly, on Wednesday, September 11, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Henry Acker, a fourteen-year-old gypsy jazz guitarist with abilities far beyond his years will perform while guests enjoy lawn games and refreshments.

Support The Friends of City Square Park by becoming a member. To learn more about becoming a “Friend”, please visit <https://www.friendsofcitysquarepark.org/> or contact Grace Bloodwell at 617-512-4939

CHARLESTOWN BEAT

POLICE/COMMUNITY MEETING: Meet the police & 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.

Vandalism

04/29/19 – A victim on Cambridge Street reported he was involved in an argument with the driver of another vehicle that resulted in the suspect kicking and throwing numerous packages that the victim was delivering. Officers were unable to locate the suspect at this time.

Weapon Possession

04/30/19 - Officers responded to Constitution Road for a report

of a man threatening people with a gun magazine. As a result of the subsequent investigation, the individual was placed under arrest for assault by means of a dangerous weapon (firearm) and unlawful possession of a firearm. A silver Smith and Wesson 9mm pistol and a black Smith and Wesson revolver were seized from the scene.

Violation of the Auto Laws

05/02/19 – A victim on Bunker Hill Street reported her car was

taken without her permission. The victim said she believes a former friend who was with her might have taken her keys. The matter is under investigation.

Warrant Arrest

05/03/19 - Officers in the area of O'Brien Court placed an individual under arrest for an outstanding Bristol County warrant charging drug possession.

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Encore asks for 23 licensed alcohol locations, including a 4 a.m. gaming floor license

By Seth Daniel

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) is considering Encore Boston Harbor's plan for alcohol service within the facility, including a special 4 a.m. license for those engaged in gaming on the gaming floor.

Of the 23 alcohol venues (three of which are leased to outside providers) that will be licensed to serve, most all of them have had a closing time of 2 a.m. requested, though many of the restaurants like Sinatra's and Rare Steakhouse predict a true closing time of 10 p.m.

The most controversial license of the 23 revolves around the 4 a.m. license for the gaming floor. That license is only available to gaming facilities – with almost all other licenses in the state good for a 2 a.m. closing. Already the 4 a.m. license is in place at MGM Springfield, and the MGC put out Encore's request for the extended license to the public for a two-week comment period.

"We are planning on having a last call of 1:30 a.m. at most of our venues with the taps shutting off at 2 a.m.," said Jacqui Krum, senior vice president of Encore. "With respect to the gaming floor, if approved, we would have a last call of 3:30 a.m. with the taps being shut off at 4 a.m."

The 4 a.m. license would be very specific, she said, and would only be for those actively gaming.

"That would be for actively gaming guests only," she said. "It's not guests sitting next to someone actively gaming, but guests who are truly engaged in gaming. You can't just put a dollar into a slot machine to get a drink. That is how our servers and our security personnel will be trained with respect to that license."

Krum shared that all of the taps, except those on the gaming floor, will be controlled by a central computer that cannot be overridden by anyone except IT computer personnel. That is the same case for the point of sale

machines – where buttons used to sell alcohol would be disabled when serving hours are done.

She said the protocol for the extended hours would be at the Center Bar, which is located in the middle of the massive gaming floor. Servers would take an order from an active gaming guest and would swipe their ID card and give an alcohol order to a bartender. The bartender would provide the drink and the server would deliver it to the guest.

However, if a guest is no longer gaming, they can't have the drink.

"If that guest is no longer gaming when the server comes back, with the alcoholic drink, the server wouldn't be permitted to sever that drink to a guest," said Krum.

She said there would be a last call at 3:30 a.m., and guests would be able to order and get their last drink within that last half-hour.

For the comp drink policy, there could be no free drink costing more than \$25, and servers could only provide a free drink

for every 20 minutes of active gaming by a guest.

The other venues are listed as 2 a.m. licenses, and there are 15 on the ground floor.

They include:

- Sinatra's (formal Italian)
- Mystique (casual Asian fusion)
- Waterfront (shared plates, snacks, craft beer)
- Oyster Bar (casual dining)
- Red 8 (Chinese Casual, open until 3 a.m. for food)
- Grand Buffet (all you can eat casual dining)
- Fratelli (casual dining adjacent to the gaming floor)
- Bru (grab and go, 24 hours a day food)
- Rare Steakhouse (Classic formal steakhouse)
- Center Bar (gaming floor bar, 24 hours)
- VIP Registration Desk and Lounge

•Retail sales (wine and champagne)

•Meeting and Convention Space (portable bars)

•HarborWalk Concessions (portable bars outside on the gazebo and events lawn)

•Five back of house bars serving the gaming floor.

The second floor/mezzanine includes:

•Garden Café (casual dining)

•Garden Lounge (upscale craft cocktails, bottle service)

•In Room Dining (delivered)

•Memoire (nightclub/lounge, bottle service)

•On Deck Burger Bar (casual sports bar)

The third floor includes:

•The Beauty Salon (wine and champagne)

•The Spa (wine and champagne)

•Gaugin Boardroom

EDWARDS (continued from pg. 1)

school students to Charlestown."

In a recent Council Budget hearing, BPS Transportation confirmed that, based on routes in October, the Eastie to Charlestown busing costs are about \$380,000 annually. With two routes added since then, Edwards said the costs are now in excess of \$400,000.

"As far as we're concerned, we think there is a quick solution here," she said. "There is opportunity here. I think people in Charlestown are saying they don't have enough K-0 and K-1 seats. We know the Edwards Middle School is 80 percent East Boston kids. At the same time, we have the opportunity to use space in Eastie to streamline the student experience back to East Boston. You keep the middle school in East Boston, save money on transportation and then you open up a lot of space for Charlestown families in the Edwards. To me, that's how you save money and create more opportunities for education."

The Boston City Council is currently reviewing the FY20 budget, including the BPS budget. In addition to advocacy within Boston Public Schools, the Council recently endorsed legislation filed by Sen. Sonia Chang-Díaz, the PROMISE Act, to reform the formula for statewide education funding. Among other changes, the PROMISE Act would ensure adequate resources for low-in-



Mayor Martin Walsh and new Supt. Brenda Cassellius spoke at length with parents from the Warren-Prescott and Harvard-Kent Elementary schools on Wednesday morning at the annual Coffee Hour. Councilor Lydia Edwards this week called for an end to busing East Boston students to Charlestown's Edwards Middle School.

come and English Language Learner students.

For nearly a year, parents and school leaders at the Harvard-Kent have been advocating for an expansion to sixth grade, taking their school from a K-5 to a K-6. That, they have said, allows for a much easier transition for families so they don't have to scramble to find a one-year option in sixth grade.

Meanwhile, parents at the Warren-Prescott have been clam-

oring for additional space for kindergarten seats, as well as to maintain budget allocations for programs like art and languages – something that is threatened due to a lack of space in their building.

That issue was brought up by an active group of parents at Wednesday's Coffee Hour with Mayor Martin Walsh and new Supt. Brenda Cassellius. The group debated the need for more space and increased funding for nearly 20 minutes.

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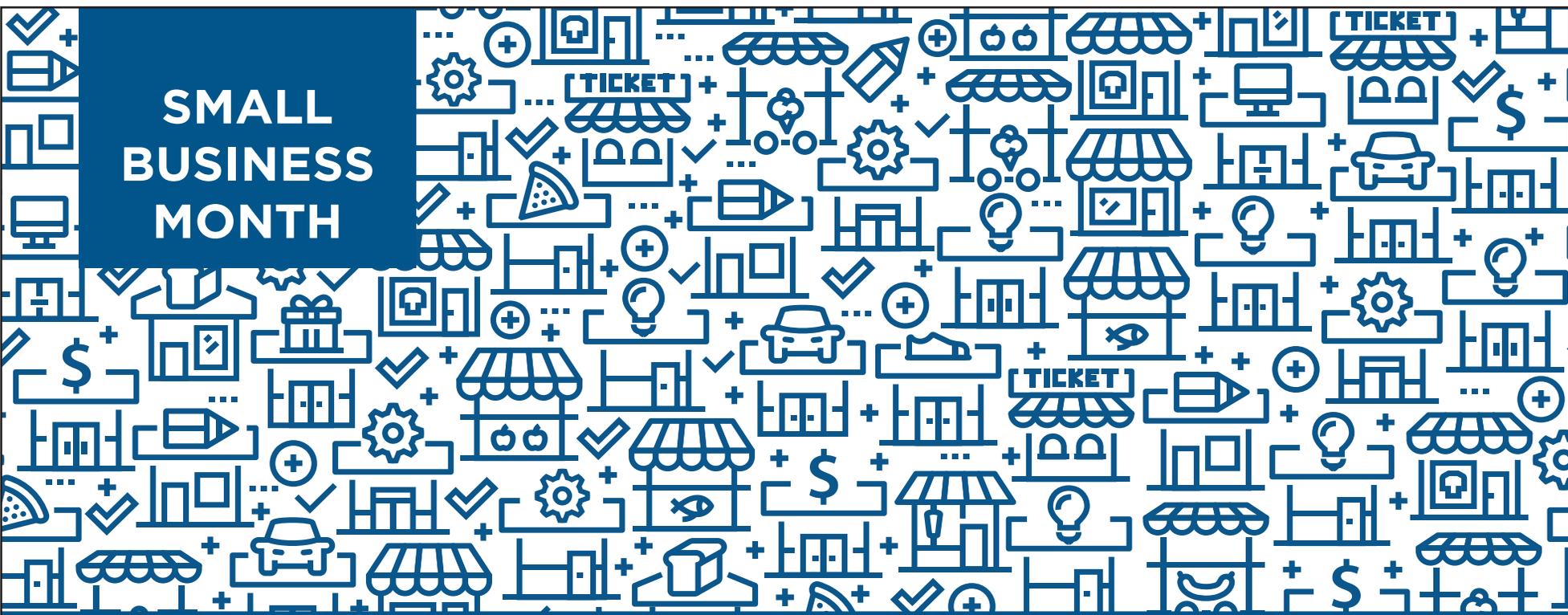
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