



# CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

## BPDA to hold meeting on Sullivan Square project

By John Lynds

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) will be hosting a virtual Impact Advisory Group (IAG) meeting on the Draft Project Impact Report (DPIR) for the One Mystic Avenue project.

The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 19 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm and residents can log onto <https://bit.ly/32DM-1Kh> to participate.

However, the BPDA advised that this meeting will be different from that of a traditional community meeting. As part of the development review process, IAG members work closely with BPDA staff to identify the impacts of a project and recommend appropriate community benefits to offset those impacts. IAG meetings prioritize discussion between the developer and IAG members.

Developers looking to convert a 60,089 square foot parcel in an industrial corner of Charlestown between Sullivan Square and Somerville into a 25-story mixed-use development recently filed a

(DPIR) with the Boston Planning and Development Agency in November.

The filing for the project at 1 Mystic Ave. triggered a public comment period under the BPDA's Article 80 Large Project Review and residents can submit comments until January 26 at <http://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/one-mystic-avenue>.

Since filing a Project Notification Form (PNF) with the BPDA back in January the developers, One Mystic Owner, have made changes to the project after meetings with the community and BPDA.

When the developer filed its PNF, they looked to construct 695 residential units in a 29 story building with ground food commercial space. The updated plans look to construct a 478,880-gross-square-foot, 25-story building with 639 units on the site currently occupied by the BellSimons Cos. (an HVAC, refrigeration, and plumbing service), Flynn's Auto

(BPDA Pg. 4)

The Independent Newspaper Group  
Offices will be **closed** on  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 17**  
in observation of  
**MARTIN LUTHER KING,  
JR. DAY**

The office will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 18  
**Deadlines for ads & copy is Friday, Jan. 14.**

**Charlestown Patriot-Bridge**

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Dr. Thomas Mulroy, of Charlestown, with local Peruvians from the Cusco area where he climbed Rainbow Mountain in between seeing patients at the clinic.

## Local doctor returns from mission trip

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Just a few weeks ago, Dr. Thomas Mulroy, 38, of Charlestown, was in Chiclayo, Peru, where he cared for indigenous residents in a makeshift clinic in an abandoned warehouse without modern tools or electricity. Making the best of rudimentary resources, he and his team pushed three chairs together to form an exam table and used a flashlight

app and college-level Spanish to provide expert medical care to local patients, many of whom are migrant workers and families of the remote villages in Central and South America. Seeing firsthand the disparities in healthcare access and technology in non-industrialized countries has inspired the primary care sports medicine doctor to do more.

"The nearest hospital for most people is hours away and only

accessible if they are lucky enough to have transportation," says Dr. Mulroy, a North Shore Physicians Group doctor who was introduced to the volunteer program when working as an urgent care physician in New York City several years ago. "In these remote communities, we see a lot of dietary, skeletal and muscular issues. We bring what supplies and medications we can with us, but it never feels like enough. More volunteers are needed to meet people where they live and provide the care these residents need to survive."

Dr. Mulroy typically sees patients at the North Shore Physicians Group practice in Beverly, MA, which is affiliated

(PERU Pg. 8)

### CNC CORNER

The Charlestown Neighborhood Council Development Committee will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, January 19, at 7 pm to consider the Related Beal proposal to erect a life sciences building at 420 Rutherford Avenue, Charlestown. The meeting will be held in person at the Knights of Columbus (masks required), 545 Medford Street, Charlestown.

# EDITORIAL

## WE MUST NEVER FORGET THE LEGACY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

As we were watching the recent coverage by the media of the events of a year ago on January 6, we were struck by the contrast between the Trump Mob's violent storming of the Capitol and the many peaceful marches on Washington that have occurred during our lifetime.

Perhaps the most-famous of the non-violent protests occurred on a steamy summer day in August, 1963, when more than 250,000 Americans from all across the country gathered at the Lincoln Memorial to demand "jobs and freedom," an event that was climaxed by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s immortal "I Have a Dream" speech.

The March on Washington was famous not only for Dr. King's iconic words, but also because the unprecedented mass gathering of Americans was completely calm. Pundits and others had predicted rioting, but there were no arrests, no incidents, no violence -- a stark contrast to the events perpetrated by Trump's Mob.

The March on Washington and Dr. King's many other peaceful protests of that era galvanized support for the goals of "jobs and freedom," eventually resulting in laws such as the Voting Rights Act and the Civil Rights Act that ended segregation in the South and discrimination in the North.

Even though the best efforts of a revered figure such as Dr. King could not stem the tide of violent rioting that marked the 1960s, most notably Watts in 1965, Detroit in 1967, and Chicago in 1968, it is Dr. King's legacy of peaceful protest that endures today.

For those of us old enough to remember the 1960s, it's hard to believe that it has been almost 54 years since Dr. King was assassinated while he was standing on a balcony in a motel room in Memphis, where Dr. King was marching to show his solidarity with that city's striking trash collection workers.

Every school child for the past generation knows well the story of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. But an elementary school textbook cannot truly convey the extent to which he brought about real change in our country. To anyone under the age of 50, Dr. King is just another historical figure.

But for those of us who can recall the 1960s, a time when racial segregation was lawful throughout half of our country and a stealthy racism prevailed throughout the other half, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stands out as one of the great leaders in American history, a man whose stirring words and dedication to his cause changed forever the historical trajectory of race relations in America, a subject that some historians refer to as the Original Sin of the American experience.

However, as much as things have changed for the better since 1968 in terms of racial equality in our society, the events of the past year -- from the January 6 riot to the countless voter-restriction laws aimed at minority communities in Southern states -- also have made it clear that we still have a long way to go before it can be said, as Dr. King put it in his speech at the Lincoln Memorial in 1963: "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

"What would Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. do if he were alive today?" we often ask ourselves. We can't say for sure, but we do know that although Dr. King accomplished much in his lifetime, he would be the first to understand that the work for which he gave his life still is far from done.

Dr. King advocated for non-violent protest and he practiced what he preached. That's a lesson that must be re-learned by each succeeding generation. We can only hope that his courage and perseverance will continue to inspire present and future Americans to bring about a world in which all persons are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect.

## LETTERS to the Editor

### ABOUT THAT BOX

To the Editor:

Green, blue, gray, black, short, tall, narrow, wide, metal, some with labels, some without are dispersed throughout our neighborhood. We pass by them often but never give them much thought or even maybe a glance. They keep our community humming, working, keeping us moving and adding conveniences as we go about our daily business.

They are often called "traffic control cabinets" but are more commonly known as utility boxes.

In a recent edition of the Charlestown Bridge, December 16th, 2021, there was an in-depth article regarding the City of Boston's Opportunity Fund. This announcement from Mayor Wu's Boston Cultural Council, states, "This is a huge opportunity for artists living in the City of Boston to further develop their careers and help provide access and community engagement opportunities throughout the city." In FY22 there will be around \$245,000 available for grant distribution. The deadline to apply is January 28th, 2022.

I have been thinking about these boxes for years. Each morning as I look out my window checking on the weather, etc. I am reminded of that box, not one but two boxes, one large and one smaller green box that are located right in my line of vision. Sporadically I've thought about the boxes being

painted or made to look like some beautiful repository for all the inner wires and tubes which is their purpose.

As I have traveled to other towns, cities, and communities, whether it be Arlington, Revere, or my other frequent destination, Plymouth, I am always in awe of the beautiful works of art created on these boxes. Geometric, historical, nature themes, quotes, or just plain whimsical art greets and gives pleasure to the visitor as well as the community residents.

Public art projects can build community, improve the neighborhoods, and create pride and accomplishments of the many artists living amongst us. What can be better than that?

Please visit the Boston Cultural Council website or gov/opportunity-fund for more information on the many grants available. To the seasoned or budding artist, this is a great way to help our neighborhood, it's residents and the many visitors to our historical and wonderful community of Charlestown.

Ann Kelleher

### NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION- "LET'S CONNECT ALL CHARLESTOWN TO ITS WATERFRONT!"

To the Editor:

For a quarter of a century, this

has been a New Year's Resolution for some of Charlestown's residents. Will 2022 be the Year we finally "Connect All of Charlestown Residents to their Waterfront"? Yes, it could be the year, if...:

If we create an iconic, interactive, educational, environmental, historic, climate resilient Pier 5 Park at the Head of Boston Harbor.

If we have a Comprehensive and Inclusive Master Plan for Charlestown to provide connections between our Town's varied communities.

If we have a transportation linked infrastructure of open space and parks that can be accessed by All!

If we have a magnificent waterfront park at Pier 5 for all to enjoy, and a truly comprehensive Master Plan, we can do this. Then, after years of our Community's separation from its waterfront by the U.S. Navy Yard's war-faring service to our Country, we can fully open the old Navy Yard gates to a new service of Community well-faring and well-being.

We can open the gates to healthy big sky space, to our Nation's history, to maritime awareness and to climate resiliency education — Open the gates to the very special place at the Head of Boston Harbor, Pier 5 Park!

Let's do it!

Pier 5 Association  
Sherrie S. Cutler, A.I.A.

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GUEST OP-ED

# The way to combat the horror of Jan. 6, is to abolish the filibuster

By Assistant Speaker  
Katherine Clark (MA-5)

In 1787, upon exiting the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin was approached by a group of people who asked him what kind of government the delegates had created. His answer: "A republic, if you can keep it."

On January 6, 2021, we almost lost it.

As I approached the Capitol one year ago today, rioters waving white supremacist flags were at the top of the Capitol steps. The smell of tear gas and an angry roar filled the air. For seven years, I had been coming to my Capitol Hill office, prepping for hearings, writing remarks, preparing for votes and meeting with constituents. But that day, my home away from home, our nation's democratic heart, was on fire.

I spent the next six hours alone in my office checking in on colleagues and staff. I was in disbelief that this was happening in our country and praying no one would be harmed.

Even now, I can't comprehend the violence, destruction, and mayhem of that afternoon.

But finally, in the late hours of January 6, with broken glass and blood on the floors, we certified the election of Joe Biden. A few weeks later, I attended President Biden's inauguration on the very platform the rioters had scaled. As I listened to the familiar question of the national anthem—"does that star-spangled banner yet wave?"—it took on a new poignancy and answer: for now.

The Capitol building has been repaired. But the threats we face are as real now as they were a year ago. Despite a seditious coup attempt meant to overthrow the election, not a single piece of federal voting protection legislation has been signed into law.

In fact, Republicans continue to lead a coordinated effort to push misinformation and erode voting rights. Encouraged by Republican party leaders and lawmakers, 68 percent of Republican voters believe the November 2020 election was fraudulent—even though there is zero evidence to support this false claim. In 2021 alone, 33 voter suppression laws have been passed in 19 states across America, and more than 425 bills with provisions that restrict voting have been introduced.

Democracy cannot survive voter suppression laws that substitute

the will of the people for the will of a few.

In response, House Democrats passed H.R. 1, the For the People Act, in March, a package of pro-democracy and anti-corruption reforms that will reduce the influence of money in politics, strengthen ethics laws, ensure accurate elections, and protect voting rights. In July, we passed H.R. 4, the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, to restore key protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, modernize it, and protect voters from discrimination. And in December, we passed the Protecting Our Democracy Act to strengthen America's democratic institutions and protect them against future presidents who seek to abuse the power of their office.

But as of this writing, they are all languishing in the Senate.

The vast majority of Republicans in the House and Senate simply won't put democracy ahead of their own desperate pursuit of power. Every day, they attack our democracy by promoting the Big Lie, refusing to participate in the January 6 investigation, and supporting voter suppression laws. They have proven time and again that their political goal is undermining our democracy instead of standing up for its survival.

So, we must go it alone. And to do that, we must abolish the

filibuster.

In the past year, it has become clear that the Senate filibuster has been weaponized against voting rights. The filibuster was designed to give the minority party in the Senate a counter to simple majority rule. In practice, a Senator could speak on the floor to stall a vote and attempt to sway their colleagues to join them in opposition by prolonging debate. In the decades since, the filibuster rule has been modified four times, changing from a rare practice that required standing on the Senate floor for hours at a time into its current form: a routine, 60-vote supermajority requirement for almost every piece of legislation.

Our country's future depends on our ability to be honest about the prospects of bipartisanship, the state of the Republican Party, and what we all witnessed on January 6. President Biden, too, has acknowledged that we can't allow the filibuster to stand in the way of passing voting rights legislation.

We must abolish the current filibuster to protect the vote and fair elections. The future of the republic depends on it.

*Katherine Marlea Clark is a United States representative for Massachusetts's 5th congressional district, and as the assistant House Democratic leader.*

# Charlestown's weekly COVID positive test rate increases to nearly 30 percent

By John Lynds

The COVID 19 virus continues to spread across Charlestown with 3 out of every 10 residents tested for the virus last week turning out to be positive. Deaths from the virus are also rising at an alarming rate citywide as Boston hospitals deal with the latest surge.

According to the weekly report released Monday by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), 1,132 Charlestown residents were tested and 29.7 percent were found to be positive--this was a 66 percent increase from the 17.9 percent that tested positive between December 27 and January 3. So far the weekly positive test rate has increased 185.5 percent week over week since December 27.

Three hundred thirty six additional Charlestown residents tested positive for the virus last week and the number of positive cases increased to 2,701 overall since the start of the pandemic.

The citywide weekly positive test rate increased over 30 percent last week. According to the BPHC 42,254 residents were tested and 31.9 percent were COVID posi-

tive--this was a 75 percent increase from the 18.2 percent that reportedly tested positive for the week ending on January 3. The weekly positive test rate has increased 239 percent in Boston since December 27.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 23 percent last week and went from 108,336 133,501 cases to confirmed cases in a week. There were 25 additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total COVID deaths is now at 1,535. Deaths were up 257 percent last week when compared to the 7 deaths that occurred in the city between December 27 and January 3.

A reminder, beginning on January 15 both patrons and employees of indoor venues in Boston—including indoor dining, fitness, and entertainment establishments—will be required to show proof of vaccination.

## CHARLESTOWN GYM HOCKEY

### Standings for the week of 1/8/2022

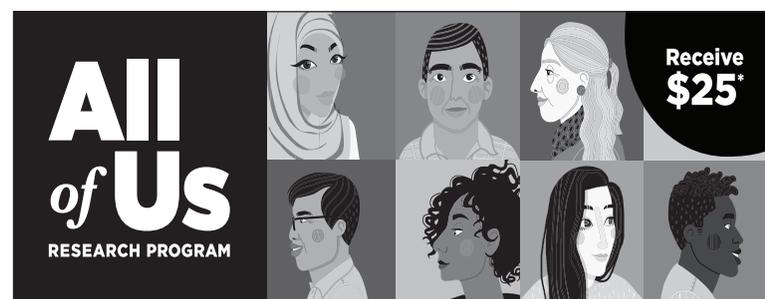
	W.	L.	T	
Bryan's Pals.		11.	1.	1
Duce 2.	4.	5.	4	
A-1 Convenience.	3.	9.	1	
Halligan Club.	2.	7.	4	

### Players of the week for 1/8/2022

- A-1 Convenience - Armand Roeder, Reese Upton
- Bryan's Pals - Michael B., Max C., Cora B., Danielle B.
- Duce 2 - Shane Herrick, Will Kolano
- Halligan Club - Samuel WALL-E's, Gavin Smith

Registration for our 2022/2023 season is being held every Saturday in January from 9:30 to 11:30 at the YMCA, 150 Third Ave. in the Navy Yard. Ages are 4 years old to 9 years old (anyone who turns 10 years old before 2/1/23 is too old). There is a fee which is not due until the fall when the season begins. Please come and watch a game while you register your child. Any questions you can call Debbie Lent at 617-241-0434

**Starting Saturday January 15th everyone 12 years old and older has to show proof of Covid vaccination to be able to enter the YMCA. There will be no exceptions!**



### Why have some communities not been a part of medical research?

You can help researchers develop new and better treatments that benefit all of us.

Many groups of people have been left out of research in the past. That means we know less about their health. When you join the All of Us Research Program, you'll help researchers learn more about what makes people sick or keeps them healthy.

**JoinAllOfUs.org/NewEngland**  
**(617) 768-8300**

\*All participants will receive \$25 after completion of their visit. To complete the visit, participants must create an account, give consent, agree to share their electronic health records, answer health surveys, and have their measurements taken (height, weight, blood pressure, etc.), and give blood and urine samples, if asked.

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New England

BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL

MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL



# CLERGY VIEWPOINT

FROM THE CHARLESTOWN CLERGY ASSOCIATION

## 1.16.22 ordinary time

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

There always seems a bit of a letdown after the holiday season passes and we roll into the winter months. Looking ahead into January, February and March, springtime seems far off. Liturgically, we enter into what is called ORDINARY TIME. This is the season when the priest wears green vestments at Mass, and there are no major feasts and celebrations like Christmas and Easter on the horizon.

After such a time like the rush of the past weeks, I think we could all use a break – time to stop, look around and kind of get our bearings. If we were to do that as individuals and as a parish, all of the readings for this weekend, especially the reading from St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians (1 Cor 12:4-11), have a beautiful message to offer us.

To me, St. Paul's letter seems to be a tribute to the complex and wondrous thing called our differ-

ences. Some might call this a tribute to diversity, a popular word these days. The sacred author acknowledges that there are many different gifts and talents and the source of them is the same: God's Spirit.

We are all so very different. We come in a variety of shapes and sizes, and our color, race, culture and background may vary. Each individual is a work of art! No two of us are exactly alike. Even identical twins are distinct as time passes. However, different as we are, we have so very much in common. God has seen to that! We share the same hopes, dreams, pains, joys, and sorrows. We worry about the same things and struggle with the same issues, and on and on. Of course, there are differences in expressions and points of view, yet at the very root of everything; we are all God's creation.

Yet, if we are so alike, why do

we have such a hard time getting along with one another? Why do we let our differences often keep us so far apart? Each of us is born with our own freedom and our own ego and will, and we are born into a sinful world that we help maintain. The choice to forgive each other our shortcomings and faults and the choice to love our neighbor is a big one and it does not come easily. Our own ego, selfishness, and righteousness often get in the way. Nonetheless, our faith points us to our merciful, loving Lord wherein we find the way to move forward daily toward that unity with one another that offers us hope and from which love blossoms.

So let us celebrate our sameness and all that also sets us apart! As we do that, perhaps in this ordinary week of this ordinary New Year, we can experience the extraordinary power of God's Grace calling us to be as ONE.



North End's Michael Bonetti was named Interim Chief of Staff for Councilor/Senator-Elect Edwards District 1 Council Office. Shown is Bonetti with Edwards.

## Bonetti named Interim Chief of Staff for Councilor/Senator-Elect Edwards

By John Lynds

Last week District 1 City Councilor (Senator-elect) Lydia Edwards announced that the North End's Michael Bonetti will serve as interim Chief of Staff for the office after the departure of Ricardo Patron to the Wu Administration.

Bonetti has worked for Edwards for four years and started as her North End liaison shortly after her inauguration in 2018. He later took over the management of her schedule in 2019. He has also led the office through outdoor dining in District One and has worked closely with many other departments in that process. As director of constituent services, Bonetti oversaw all constituent cases throughout the district and managed community liaisons within the office.

"As we transition and grow as a staff I can think of no one better than Michael to navigate the changes and to guide my team. I trust Bonetti to lead, it is his time," said Edwards.

Edwards said Bonetti knows the ins and outs of city govern-

ment and works regularly to advocate for the constituents of District One.

"I am excited to take on the role as Interim Chief of Staff and serve District One in the transition of Councilor Edwards from City Councilor to State Senator," said Bonetti. "It has been and continues to be an honor to serve this great district and work to better the quality of life for every resident."

Edwards will leave the City Council to become State Senator sometime at the end of the month but her District 1 office will remain open and staffed until a Special Election is held to fill her vacant District 1 seat, which includes the North End, East Boston and Charlestown.

In addition to his job on Edwards' staff, Bonetti serves as a Master of Ceremonies for his local parish of Saint Leonard's in the North End, and is a proud member of the Saint Anthony Society that hosts the annual Saint Anthony's Feast in the North End. He is a life-long resident of the

North End and currently lives there with his family.

## BPDA (from pg. 1)

Salvage, a transformer building, and a cell tower.

According to the DPIR the building will have studio, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom apartments, as well as 37 three-bedroom apartments added to accommodate families. In their filing the developers also call for 17 percent of the units to be income-restricted under the BPDA's Inclusionary Development Program units. This

is five percent more income-restricted units than required and first pitched to the community last winter.

At past meetings with the Charlestown Neighborhood Council members and residents expressed their opposition to the height of the building that would dwarf most other buildings in the area.

## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Vyas, Rajeev R	Ryder, Ethan C	42 8th St #2518	\$865,000
Devens, Christine	Janice A Neavitt LT	42 8th St #3403	\$650,000
Christopher, Kerry	Hebert, Kristin	9 Allston St #1	\$535,000
Cook St 16 LLC	16 Cook Street LLC	16 Cook St	\$890,000
Donovan, Ross	Webster, John	40 Cook St	\$1,325,000
Conway, Mary	Forsgard, Eric	15 Henley St #E	\$1,045,000
Sutton, Jennifer	Capota, Rodica E	7 Kelley Ct	\$1,425,000
Whitely, Laurence	Podell, Aubrey L	37 Mount Vernon St #2	\$890,000
Bartlett, Shaniah	Jacobs, Andrew	53 N Mead St #C6	\$470,000
Zachrison, Korilyn S	Seely, Joseph F	9 Sackville St	\$1,425,000
Hartnett, Christopher	Feldstein, Lynne A	70-72 School St #3	\$625,900

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### SHOVELING TODAY? REMEMBER THE MAILBOX

It takes more than a few flakes to deter letter carriers from making their appointed rounds throughout New England. "But, if they cannot reach your mailbox, they cannot deliver your mail," said David Guiney, Postmaster of Boston.

"The Postal Service treats safety and service with equal priority," Guiney said, "That's why we remind you to include that mailbox in your snow removal routine."

Letter carriers are on the front line of severe weather conditions. Doorstep deliveries, painted porches and steps quickly grow hazardous. "While salting and rubber-backed mats help, we rely on you to clear the snow," Guiney said. "If there's a warm spell, and the melting snow puddles, a quick freeze can make a sidewalk slick again."

Residents who receive delivery to roadside mailboxes also must keep the approach to, and exit from, the mailbox clear of snow or any other obstacles, like trash cans and other vehicles. "The carrier needs to get in, and then out, without leaving the vehicle or backing up," said Guiney. "The area near the mailbox should be cleared in a half-moon shape to give the carrier full visibility."

"Please watch for slow-moving postal vehicles, carriers on foot, and children that play near mailboxes or snow banks," he said. "And don't zip by neighbors who are clearing mailboxes or collecting their mail. Let's all stay safe."

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

### Residents can now access clean energy and save on electric

Residents within Eversource's service territory now have the option of locally produced, clean renewable energy through the Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target (SMART) Program. Located 1 hour south of the city on Cape Cod, two new community solar farms, totaling 7 MW, will produce enough energy annually to power 960 homes.

Both homeowners and renters are eligible to subscribe to this

### CHECK CO ALARMS AND KEEP VENTS CLEAR OF SNOW

With the season's first significant snow, State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey reminded residents to test their carbon monoxide (CO) alarms and keep dryer, furnace, and other exhaust vents clear of snow.

"Carbon monoxide is the leading cause of fatal poisoning, and home heating equipment is the primary source of carbon monoxide in the home," State Fire Marshal Ostroskey said. "As part of your storm planning, check your CO alarms to be sure they're working properly, and if an alarm is more than five to seven years old, replace it."

Residents should also be sure to keep outside vents clear of falling, drifting, or shoveled snow. In January 2005, 7-year-old Nicole Garofalo died when a heating vent was blocked by snow drifts outside, allowing carbon monoxide to accumulate inside her Plymouth home. This tragedy led to Nicole's Law, which requires CO alarms on every habitable level of a Massachusetts residence.

"Fuel-fired heating appliances like dryers, furnaces, boilers, and fireplaces are all sources of carbon monoxide," State Fire Marshal Ostroskey said. "If the vent or flue is blocked, this poisonous gas can reach deadly levels inside the home. Know where the vents on your home are, be sure to clear them when shoveling, and be careful not to blow snow onto them if using a snowblower."

Massachusetts fire departments reported nearly 18,000 CO incidents in 2020, officials said, and 92% were in residential settings. The poison gas can cause headache, fatigue, dizziness, and/or nausea at lower concentrations and death at higher concentra-

tions. Exposure while asleep is particularly dangerous.

For more information on carbon monoxide and CO alarms, visit the DFS website.

### FRIENDS OF THE CHARLESTOWN NAVY YARD 2022 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Joining the Friends of the Charlestown Navy Yard is a great way to get involved in the community and to stay informed on important issues and current events. Become a member in 2022 and join our Navy Yard community of over 200 individual and 50 business members.

2021 was another challenging year for FCNY since its founding in 2004, but we stepped up to meet the challenge. FCNY has donated to local non-profit organizations providing services to Charlestown residents, focusing on food insecurity, and recreational support for Charlestown youth. We held our annual outdoor summer concert featuring the Harvard Jazz Band and provided our regular dissemination of important community news and events through our website and email distribution list.

FCNY is a great way to meet your neighbors and new friends, please join today.

Membership categories are: Individual \$25, Family \$30, Supporter \$50, Patron \$100 and Benefactor \$250. Corporate memberships are also welcome. Contributions are tax deductible.

For more information visit our website [www.friendscny.org](http://www.friendscny.org) or email: [info@friendscny.org](mailto:info@friendscny.org)

FCNY is an independent, non-profit civic organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for residents, businesses and visitors to the Navy Yard while preserving its historic character.

or would like the option to take their solar with them to their next home. The electricity generated by the solar farm is delivered into Eversource's power grid and then distributed to subscribers in the form of on-bill credits.

To see your estimated savings and subscribe, please visit

[boston.rooflessolar.com/](http://boston.rooflessolar.com/). Space is limited, so act fast!

## LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

### LOCAL STUDENT INDUCTED INTO NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY AT BC HIGH

The following students have been inducted into the Robert J. Fulton, SJ Chapter of the National Honor Society at Boston College High School:

- Charlestown
- Blake Reidy (Class of 2023)

The National Honor Society (NHS) was created by the National Association of Secondary School Principals to recognize high school students who have distinguished themselves in their school and community.

Each year eligible juniors and seniors are invited to apply for membership in NHS. Applications are reviewed by a committee of BC High teachers to confirm that each student has attained a high standard of each of these characteristics: scholarship, character, leadership, and service.

At BC High, NHS members are committed to service in the school and in the broader community. All students applying for membership must be current with the completion of required community services hours for their grade level at BC High. After induction into NHS, all members are expected to offer significant service to the school community as tutors in the Academic Resource Center, as ambassadors at Open House and Admissions events, and in other capacities.

A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 is required of all applicants. Beyond the grade

point average, applicants must be a positive presence in their academic classes. They must show initiative and dependability, work well with other students, exhibit a strong work ethic, and demonstrate openness to growth.

### STUDENTS NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

The following students were named to the Dean's List at Stonehill College. To qualify for the Dean's List, students must have a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better and must have completed successfully all courses for which they were registered.

Rory Carrier of Charlestown  
Felix Tan of Charlestown  
Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 384-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton, Massachusetts, it is a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inherent dignity of each person.

Through more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional field, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for over 2,500 students.

Stonehill College educates the whole person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

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# “Captains of USS Constitution: Hail & Farewell” historic event

On Wednesday, January 19, at 1 p.m. ET, the USS Constitution Museum celebrates outgoing USS Constitution 76th Commanding Officer (CO), CDR John A. Benda and the incoming 77th CO, CDR Billie June (BJ) Farrell in a free virtual event, “Captains of USS Constitution: Hail & Farewell.”

CDR Farrell will be the first woman to take command of “Old Ironsides” in the Ship’s 224-year history. CDR Benda was the first CO to hold the position of executive officer (XO) prior to becoming commanding officer, giving him unique experience and insight into USS Constitution.

The Museum program features

these two historic commanding officers in a dynamic online event. It is also the first opportunity the public has to meet both COs together before the change of command ceremony on Friday, January 21.

During the program, the audience will hear directly from CDR Benda and CDR Farrell. What does it mean to be commanding officer of America’s Ship of State? What are the plans for the future of the Ship? And of course, whose home state has the better signature dish?

Tickets are free and available to the public. Registration is required.

The USS Constitution Museum serves as the memory and educational voice of USS Constitution by collecting, preserving, and interpreting the stories of “Old Ironsides” and those associated with her. This award-winning non-profit provides an environment where inter-generational groups seeking an enjoyable and educational experience can have fun while learning and exploring history together. The Museum’s mission is to engage all ages in the story of Constitution to spark excitement about maritime heritage, naval service, and the American experience. For more information, visit [usscm.org](http://usscm.org).



CDR John A. Benda



Photos Courtesy U.S. Navy  
CDR Billie June (BJ) Farrell

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This product has not been analyzed or approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). There is limited information on the side effects of using this product, and there may be associated health risks. Marijuana use during pregnancy and breast-feeding may pose potential harms. It is against the law to drive or operate machinery when under the influence of this product. KEEP THIS PRODUCT AWAY FROM CHILDREN. There may be health risks associated with consumption of this product. Marijuana can impair concentration, coordination, and judgment. The impairment effects of Edibles may be delayed by two hours or more. In case of accidental ingestion, contact poison control hotline 1-800-222-1222 or 9-1-1. This product may be illegal outside of MA. Marijuana is available under Massachusetts State Law; however it is illegal under Federal law. Marijuana products may be purchased or possessed only by persons 21 years of age or older. Keep out of reach of children. Marijuana can impair concentration, coordination and judgement. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence of marijuana. This product has intoxicating effects and may be habit forming. There may be health risks associated with consumption of this product. National Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222. Massachusetts State License No. MRN 282297 Maynard, MRN 282048 Dracut, MRN 282034 Chelsea.

Visit [www.charlestownbridge.com](http://www.charlestownbridge.com)

## The Cooperative Bank announces two new Board members

TCB, The Cooperative Bank today announced that its Board of Directors has appointed Clayton D. Samuels and Heather B. Jenkins, to the Board of Directors. “Both Clayton and Heather’s wealth of knowledge and leadership will afford TCB the opportunity for continued success in the years ahead,” said John Battaglia, President and CEO of TCB. “We’ve been looking to fill two open board seats and I am extremely confident that TCB’s Board of Directors has chosen outstanding individuals for these openings,” continued Battaglia.

Clayton D. Samuels, of Hyde Park, has a Master’s Degree of



Heather B. Jenkins.

Science in Finance and an undergraduate degree from Boston College. He is the CFO of

MentorWorks Education Capital. He is also a Principal and Founder of Greycliff Capital Advisors. Mr. Samuels has extensive experience in finance, accounting, and strategic planning. With 15 years of experience in private equity direct investment and M&A focused corporate development, Clayton Samuels has led the deal process to originate, evaluate and structure leveraged buyouts, growth equity and recapitalization transactions of middle market companies within financial services, life sciences, software technology and business services sectors.

Heather B. Jenkins, resident of Charlestown, is a Managing Partner at Anova Consulting Group. Anova is a specialized market research consulting firm focused on providing B2B companies with insights that drive more effective sales and client retention efforts. She leads the firm’s client-facing Engagement Management team and is a key member of Anova’s global Financial Services practice. In addition to her time at Anova, Heather previously worked as the Director of Client Services at Chatham Partners, having spent the early part of her career at Sun Life Financial. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from Colby College, where she graduated with honors. She is an active volunteer with several non-profit organizations, including a community preschool that she helped to get started in Charlestown.

“We are very pleased to have Heather and Clayton join the TCB Board,” said TCB Chairman of the Board, Phil O’Connor. “The connections they have to their communities, along with their

(TCB Pg. 7)

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# Charlestown's City Councilor Lydia Edwards becomes Senator-elect Edwards

By John Lynds

On Tuesday, voters in the First Suffolk & Middlesex district went to the polls and elected District 1 City Councilor Lydia Edwards to serve as their next state senator. Once sworn in Edwards will become the first woman and the first person of color to represent the district. She will also leave her District 1 seat which includes Charlestown, East Boston and the North End.

"I am grateful to the people of Boston, Cambridge, Revere and Winthrop for sending me to Beacon Hill to fight for our communities," said Senator-Elect Edwards. "I know how to fight for what you believe in, build a movement and win, and I am looking forward to continuing the work in the state house. When in 2014 we passed the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights, we showed the world that nannies and house cleaners can write laws: they know as workers, as women, as immigrants and people of color, about the dignity they deserve and they know when our government needs



Senator-elect Lydia Edwards.

to do more to guarantee their rights and wellbeing."

Edwards continued, "Like so many in our communities, I know what it's like to be unable to afford school lunch, to lose a job and panic about next month's rent, to live each day breathing in air pollution and to worry about tomorrow as the sea levels continue to rise. Together, with our pain and purpose, we will fight for

laws and the social conditions that protect people, communities and our planet. I am excited for the journey ahead."

The election took place across the district during Tuesday's frigid state general election and included Wards and Precincts in Eastie, Beacon Hill, the North End, Bay Village, Chinatown, the South End, Winthrop, Revere, and Cambridgeport. With no Republican or Independent challenger on the ballot Edwards's win was all but guaranteed Tuesday.

On Tuesday, in a very low voter turnout election, Edwards received 1,764 votes across the senatorial district to secure the senatorial seat.

Edwards beat Revere School Committee member Anthony D'Ambrosio during the December 14 state Democratic Primary to fill the seat left vacant in the fall by Joe Boncore.

Edwards won every Precinct in her hometown of Eastie and beat D'Ambrosio nearly 80 to 20 in the rest of Boston's Wards and Precincts.

While D'Ambrosio won his hometown of Revere handily

Edwards was able to pull out a victory in the hotly contested Town of Winthrop—winning all but one Precinct in the town.

Edwards is a career advocate, activist, and voice on behalf of society's most vulnerable. She was raised all over the world by her military mom but chose to make Eastie her home.

Prior to her public service, Edwards worked extensively in the legal field and on workers rights. She worked as a public interest attorney with Greater Boston Legal Services focusing on labor issues such as fighting for access to unemployment insurance, back wages, fair treatment for domestic workers, and combating human trafficking. At GBLS, she proudly became a member of UAW 2320. She coordinated a statewide campaign to pass the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights in 2014 - and won.

She was subsequently appointed the founding Deputy Director of the Boston Office of Housing Stability and worked to prevent evictions and foreclosures in Boston, to strengthen local and state laws and to resolve land-

lord-tenant disputes.

In 2017, she won election to the Boston City Council. As a councilor, she wrote and advanced legislation to protect low-income renters and elder homeowners, combat discrimination, divest from fossil fuels, and protect civil liberties. She also partnered with state leaders to introduce legislation and passed a new state law prohibiting the naming of minors in eviction proceedings.

In addition to legislation, Edwards spearheaded a ballot initiative to reform the 1909 Boston Charter by enabling a more open and participatory budgetary process—an initiative which passed with over 68 percent of voters casting a ballot in support.

Edwards was raised by her mother, a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. Lydia graduated from American University Washington College of Law and received a LL.M. in taxation from Boston University School of Law. She lives in Eastie and loves to run along the waterfront, practice martial arts, and sometimes, she even skydives.

## TCB (from pg. 6)

skills and strategic approach will prove invaluable to TCB as we continue to grow and position ourselves as a leading community bank in 2022."

Founded in 1898, The Cooperative Bank (TCB) is a full-service community bank committed to meeting the financial needs of individuals, families, and small businesses. Offering up-to-date products, competitive interest rates and the highest quality personalized service. TCB has assets totaling just under \$500 million and provides banking services to over 8,400 customers. With cutting-edge personal and business banking services, TCB aims to serve and be Boston's Neighborhood Bank. Specializing in residential & commercial real estate and business lending throughout Massachusetts, TCB has branches in Roslindale, West Roxbury, Charlestown and Jamaica Plain. For more information on The Cooperative Bank, please stop by at one of our branches, visit [www.thecooperativebank.com](http://www.thecooperativebank.com), or call 617-329-2900.

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The Read Aloud Mentoring Program pairs volunteer mentors and elementary school students for read aloud experiences. Read to a Child's Program Coordinator is responsible for all aspects of planning and operation of the program on a part time basis during the school year. Qualified applicants will have excellent communication skills, have experience working with children, be very organized, able to prioritize and multitask, be enthusiastic about children's books, be comfortable working with email, Word, Excel, and some data entry, as well as working with and hosting group video conference platforms, and will have a professional, positive, self-directed approach. Experience managing volunteers a plus. Up to 10 hours/week. Details online at <https://readtoachild.org/contact-us/job-opportunities/>

**ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena  
 Roman Catholic Parish

This January, St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parish is offering an opportunity for those who would like to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

For details, persons 18 years of age and are invited to contact:  
[confirmation@stmarystcatherine.org](mailto:confirmation@stmarystcatherine.org)

**A BIG THANK YOU**

**To DOUG MacDONALD,  
 Pat Sullivan, Billy Kirk,  
 Stevie MacDonald  
 and all the other elves**

for the Holiday blow up extravaganza you installed in the park. We appreciate your hard work and the smiles you put on hundreds of kids faces! Well done!

**The Friends of the Training Field**

PLEASE RECYCLE

PERU (from pg. 1)

with Salem Hospital and Mass General Brigham. This was the fifth year he has traveled with a group of physicians, physician assistants, medical students and other clinicians through FNE International, a nonprofit that partners with communities in developing nations to advance housing, health and education. His fiancé, Patrick Calder, and North Shore Physicians Group (NSPG) colleague, Katherine Moskal, of Beverly, an athletic trainer, joined him.

On a typical day at his Beverly practice, Dr. Mulroy will see up to 20 patients. During this trip to Peru, he estimates seeing more than 100 a day, a high volume considering how difficult it is for

the local farmers, loggers, and other laborers to take time off and afford to see a doctor. Dr. Mulroy joined six other medical providers working in clinics reaching five Peruvian villages in the area. "These people are truly heroic," says Mulroy, "and they teach me so much about happiness and resilience."

His colleague, Moskal, enjoyed the extra honor of having her 51st birthday celebrated while on the mission trip.

"It was an EPIC day," says Moskal. "We saw more than 250 patients among all of the providers, but when the mayor of that community heard it was my birthday, she presented me with a cake. When we returned to the place we



Moskal and Dr. Mulroy stand with fellow volunteers and local policemen who served as translators beside tables between their beds which served as injection sites at the clinic.

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were staying, they threw a huge party for me. I had my own cake, there was music and dancing and decorations. COVID pretty much ruined my 50th, but this so made up for it! Trips like this remind me of how fortunate we are in this country. We have so much and we take so much for granted. It was incredible to watch those who have so little continue to live such full and happy lives."

Throughout the calendar year, Dr. Mulroy raises money to pay for mission trips and sponsor

other volunteers to join him. He also participates in triathlons, training that came in handy during his down time in Peru when he hiked Rainbow Mountain, 17,000 feet above sea-level. To learn more about the need and support Dr. Mulroy's work with FNE International, the public can visit: [www.fneinternational.org](http://www.fneinternational.org).

Salem Hospital is a member of Mass General Brigham, an academic healthcare system founded by Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and

Women's Hospital that is uniting great minds to make life-changing impact for patients in local communities and around the world. Serving the North Shore community for more than 100 years, Salem Hospital provides innovative medical, surgical and psychiatric care through an array of inpatient, outpatient and virtual settings including Salem Hospital, the Epstein Center for Behavioral Health, North Shore Physicians Group and a medical staff of nearly 700 physicians practicing in a wide range of specialties. For more information, please visit [nsmc.partners.org](http://nsmc.partners.org). For information about Mass General Brigham, visit [massgeneralbrigham.org](http://massgeneralbrigham.org).

Mass General Brigham is an integrated academic health care system, uniting great minds to solve the hardest problems in medicine for our communities and the world. Mass General Brigham connects a full continuum of care across a system of academic medical centers, community and specialty hospitals, a health insurance plan, physician networks, community health centers, home care, and long-term care services. Mass General Brigham is a non-profit organization that is committed to patient care, research, teaching, and service to the community. In addition, Mass General Brigham is one of the nation's leading biomedical research organizations and a principal teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School.

**Charlestown Towel Drive!**  
 sponsored by St Vincent de Paul Society of St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parish in collaboration with St. Francis de Sales Parish

*please help us collect*  
**1000 NEW BATH TOWELS!**  
*to distribute to those in need*

Between January 26 & February 9, please drop off new bath towels, in bags for cleanliness, at these locations:  
**St. Mary's Church & St. Francis de Sales Church** – before weekend masses  
**St. Mary's Parish Center - 46 Winthrop St.**  
**Harvest on Vine Food Pantry - 49 Vine St.**  
**Cooperative Bank - 201 Main St.**

**THANK YOU!!**  
 If you are unable to get out to buy towels, donations can be mailed to St. Mary Parish Center 46 Winthrop St.

Online donations  
  
 Via PayPal

# Eliot School parents circulating petition to Mayor Wu over exam school entrance plan

By John Lynds

Parents at the North End's Eliot School are fuming over the introduction of the so-called '10-point' penalty placed on some high performing Boston Public Schools in order to level the playing field for entrance to Boston's exam school like Boston Latin, Boston Latin Academy and the O'Bryant.

The Eliot, which serves many students from Charlestown, the North End, Beacon Hill, Back Bay and East Boston, has for years enjoyed a high success rate of students getting into one of the three exam schools.

Eliot School parents are now arguing the introduction of what they are calling the '10-point penalty' will hinder their child's ability to get into the top Boston Public High Schools.

The Eliot, and five other schools have been deemed high performing schools with a lower percentage of low-income students than most other BPS schools, so a student at the Eliot getting straight As in 6th or 8th grade hoping to get into an exam school will get

100 points in the exam school admissions system. This score will be used to determine the students' eligibility for an exam school seat. The other schools are the Lyndon and Kilmer Schools in West Roxbury and the BTU Pilot School in Roslindale.

However, at all other BPS schools straight A students will receive 110 points. Not only will Eliot School students rank below all other straight A students at other BPS schools, they will also receive fewer points than any BPS student who receives an A- average.

Charlestown resident and Eliot School parent Kelsey Barrett began an online petition hoping to get 1,000 signatures. Once the petition receives 1,000 signatures it will be sent to Mayor Michelle Wu.

"Because of this 10 point penalty, the top achieving students at the Eliot and four other Boston Public Schools will have no access to Boston Latin School, Boston Latin Academy or the O'Bryant," said Barrett. "The original justification for these 10 points was to offset the higher performance

of privileged students on the BPS entrance exam. However, no entrance exam was given last year due to the pandemic. Therefore, for this year's 6th and 8th grade students, only the GPA will be used. In the absence of an exam, adding 10 points to the GPA scores of all BPS students except those attending five BPS schools serves only to penalize these BPS students. It will unfairly limit the academic opportunities of these students compared to students of similar socioeconomic status at the other BPS schools. I am a single mother with mixed race children in the Boston Public School system, including a 6th grade student. I am writing this petition, together with other concerned BPS parents, asking you (Mayor Wu) to act immediately to suspend the plan to apply a 10 point penalty to the 6th grade students attending five BPS schools that are being alienated by this year's BPS exam school admissions process."

Barrett argues the 10 point penalty introduces a systematic bias against the students attending the Eliot and the other four BPS schools.

"The 6th and 8th grade students at these five BPS schools are being penalized because fewer than 40% of students at these schools meet the definition of low income," she said. "Students at these five BPS schools come from a range of socioeconomic and racial backgrounds. Their access to a middle and high school education at Boston Latin School (and other exam schools) is being blocked by BPS itself, even though BPS, through its lottery system, assigned these students to these schools. This 10 point penalty sends a clear message to my daughter and all students at these 5 BPS schools that the city of Boston cares less about them than the students attending other BPS schools."

The online petition, which can be found at [www.change.org/p/mayor-wu-no-10-point-penalty-for-students-at-boston-public-schools](http://www.change.org/p/mayor-wu-no-10-point-penalty-for-students-at-boston-public-schools), has already gained over 600 signatures.

"I'm signing this because equity means helping the dreams of marginalized students to provide equal opportunity but it does not mean squashing the dreams of

exceeding hard-working students regardless of background in the process," said Rose-Marie Gomez who signed the petition.

Chris Coche said, "I'm signing because of the lack of transparency in pushing this change in admission through and intentionally putting barriers against students from a handful of schools-schools that due to a lottery system they had no control over where they get assigned."

Kathleen Chardavoyne, who has closely followed the School Committee proceedings on the new exam school assignment process said BPS knows that the distribution of the 10 bonus points will be unfair.

"Their own simulations show that 568 of the students receiving the 10 high-poverty bonus points are not economically disadvantaged while 131 students who are economically disadvantaged do not receive bonus points (just because they attend the Eliot or one of the other four BPS schools)," she said.

## CITY PAWS

### Winter exercise

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

We all know how tempting it can be to look out on a winter day with snow, rain, icy sidewalks, or below-freezing temperatures and decide to forgo a substantial walk with your dog. It's so easy to promise you'll make it up tomorrow. For us, it is even more tempting because our dog, Poppy, prefers to stay inside and is an expert in using her puppy pads as needed.

There are a few days each winter when staying in or a quick trip to do what is absolutely necessary is the right decision. However, we admit that it's often just the easy way out, and we should give our dog and ourselves the exercise we need.

#### Muscle Tone and Winter Weight!

Remember your vet is happy to encourage you to monitor and control your animal's weight. If you have a large dog, you may need to drop into a veterinary clinic to check on weight status. We expect that most vets and their staff will allow you to use their scales if you are willing to wait for a time between clients when it is

free. In many cases, the scale may be in a waiting area.

For dogs you can lift, use the subtractive method. Weigh yourself on your bathroom scale. Then, pick up your pet, get a total for the two of you, and deduct your weight from the total. Ed likes to follow schedules and keep logs, so he weighs our dog Poppy every week. That helps both of them get more exercise since he notices when she is more than a few ounces up from the week before.

Two things come with a reduction in exercise: weight gain is noticeable, but muscle reduction is not. What's more, since muscle is more dense than fat, you may be fooled into believing that your dog is not gaining weight until it is a more serious problem. Regular exercise will help tone the body, strengthen bones, and help control weight.

"A tired dog is a good dog" is an old saying with a ring of truth to anyone who has lived with an energetic dog during a blizzard. Keeping your dog physically fit, socialized, and well-behaved requires a winter workout plan.

We have to be aware that dog walks in winter require more energy and can leave older or frail dogs exhausted and plan accordingly. However, for a healthy high-energy hound, a quick trip outside may not be enough. The excess energy they need to burn off with a good romp could result in behavior issues at home.

#### Socialization Too!

Contact and interaction with other dogs and people is another benefit of outdoor winter exercise. The pandemic has already prevented some companion animals from being well socialized. Fortunately, over the summer and fall, we saw more casual meetings between canines and their people and fewer warnings that the dog was not used to strangers.

Mikkel Becker, Vetstreet.com's Certified Behavior Consultant Canine (CBCC-KA) writes, "My rule of thumb is to provide your dog with at least two interactive activities per day along with several socialization opportunities throughout the week."

Since your friends with dogs



Contact and interaction with other dogs and people is another benefit of outdoor winter exercise.

have the exact needs, you could set up playdates or at least a texting system that lets others know when you are on your way for a walk. What's more, what is good for your dog is good for you. Social interaction with other dog people can be the encouragement

you need to take a longer walk each day, even when the weather makes you want to stay inside and hibernate.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to [Penny@BostonZest.com](mailto:Penny@BostonZest.com) with your request.

# Kevin Hayden sworn in as Suffolk County DA

District Attorney Kevin Hayden hit the ground running on his first day after being sworn into office by Gov. Charlie Baker by naming Boston defense attorney Kevin R. Mullen as his first assistant district attorney and announcing the formation of a transition team to help review office policies.

“The Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office is staffed with exceptional attorneys and non-lawyers who are dedicated to justice and nurturing safe communities. That will not change with my administration,” DA Hayden said. “I am returning home by coming back to the office where I started my legal career. I could not be prouder to lead this office, which is so critical to preventing crime and harm in Boston, Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop.”

DA Hayden’s first action was to name Mullen, who was an ADA with DA Hayden in the 1990s, as his first assistant. In addition to his work as a Suffolk County prosecutor, Mullen, from Dorchester, has worked as a criminal defense attorney and been appointed a special prosecutor in other counties, frequently for cases where the DA’s office was presented with a potential conflict of interest. First ADA Mullen was sworn in today as well.

One of the priorities of DA Hayden is to reduce the number of illegal guns in the county to determine the proposer course of prosecution in each situation. “I am beginning a comprehensive review of all the gun cases pending in this office; each one has the potential to cause great harm to our com-

munities,” said DA Hayden. “The harm that guns cause is incalculable and we must do everything in our power, use every tool at our disposal, to reduce that harm.”

In addition, DA Hayden said he will meet with staff members, law enforcement partners, elected officials, and community partners, to engage in how best to support the communities of Suffolk County. He is also forming a transition committee which will be comprised of people who live, work and worship in Suffolk County to review SCDAO policies and make recommendations on how to improve performance.

“I am excited to start and humbled by the appointment,” said DA Hayden.



Gov. Charlie Baker (left) and District Attorney Kevin Hayden.

# Former Suffolk County DA Rollins sworn in as the United States Attorney

Former Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins was sworn in as the United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts. U.S. District Court Chief Judge F. Dennis Saylor IV administered the oath of office in federal court in Boston during a private ceremony. A formal investiture will be planned for a later date.

U.S. Attorney Rollins was nominated by President Joseph R. Biden on July 26, 2021 and was confirmed by the United States Senate on Dec. 8, 2021 in a tie-breaking vote cast in favor by Vice President Kamala Harris.

“Today’s swearing in was a proud and humbling moment for both myself and my family. It was particularly special for me to have my parents with me, on my father’s 74th birthday,” said U.S. Attorney Rollins. “Their support has been unwavering, and I owe so much of this moment to them. As I reflect upon the path that led me here, I cannot help but think about the many colleagues and mentors who have supported me along the way. I want to acknowledge my friends, colleagues and law enforcement partners at the Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office whose steadfast commitment and dedication to keeping our neighborhoods healthy and safe has truly made a difference in the lives of so many. I am enormously proud of what we accomplished together.”

Rollins added, “As I begin this next chapter as the United States Attorney, I look forward to the challenges ahead. There is much to be done and I am blessed to be walking into an office with highly skilled attorneys and staff who have the same commitment to public safety and community wellbeing and health.”

U.S. Attorney Rollins, 50, of Boston, is now the top-ranking federal law enforcement official in the

District of Massachusetts, which comprises 14 counties. With over 20 years of legal experience, U.S. Attorney Rollins will lead a team of more than 250 federal prosecutors and staff with three offices located in Boston, Worcester and Springfield.

U.S. Attorney Rollins has been the Suffolk County DA for the last three years. In 2019, the people of Suffolk County elected her as the first woman to serve as their DA and the first woman of color to serve as DA in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Rollins is now the first Black woman to ever serve as U.S. Attorney in the District of Massachusetts, one of the two first U.S. Attorney’s Offices in the nation, established in 1789.

U.S. Attorney Rollins previously served as Chief Legal Counsel to the Massachusetts Port Authority. Prior to that she served as General Counsel for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority. From 2007 to 2011, she was an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts serving in both the Civil and Criminal Divisions.

Earlier in her career, U.S. Attorney Rollins was an attorney at Bingham McCutchen LLP and from 1999 to 2002 she was a field attorney for the National Labor Relations Board. U.S. Attorney Rollins began her legal career as a clerk for Associate Judge Frederick L. Brown of the Massachusetts Appeals Court.

U.S. Attorney Rollins earned a Juris Doctor from Northeastern University School of Law and a Masters in Law from Georgetown University Law Center. She received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education and African-American Studies from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

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# CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

## North Washington Street Bridge construction look-ahead through January 22

This is a brief overview of construction operations and impacts for the North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project. MassDOT will provide additional notices as needed for high-impact work and changes to traffic configurations beyond those described below.

### SCHEDULED WORK

- Inside warehouses – repairing backwall substructures
- North abutment (near Chelsea Street) – drilling, drainage work, and barrier slab installation
- Installing north and south fender piles, utility work on Charles River Ave
- Form East Vehicle Barrier and

### Bike Wall

- Fixing potholes

### WORK HOURS

- Most work will be done during the daytime and evening (6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.)

### MARINE IMPACTS

- Routine closures of the north and south channels continue. Only channel will be closed at a time.
- Work hours are during the day (6:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)
- Vessels may continue to transit through the work site through the open channel.
- While transiting through the open channel, pay close attention to signage and the multiple boats, barges, cranes, and other work

vessels on site.

Use VHF-FM Channel 13 to contact work- and push-boats. If access to the commercial lock is required and work barges are in the channel, 24-hour notice to J.F. White is required to clear access to the lock. The on-scene Superintendent for the J.F. White Contracting Company is Patrick Wilson, and can be contacted at (617) 680-7537.

### TRAVEL TIPS & THE WINTER SEASON

As winter starts, we will be clearing the bridge during & after snow events. In November, we reapplied the anti-skid coating to the bridge walkway. For everyone

using the temporary bridge, please help share the space: walk to the right, walk bikes, and be mindful of people coming from both directions, if walking in a large group.

Drivers should take care to pay attention to all signage and move carefully through the work zone. Police details, lane markings, temporary barriers, traffic cones, signage, and other tools will be used to control traffic and create safe work zones.

The Tudor Wharf Walkway (under the bridge next to the water in Paul Revere Park) will be intermittently closed for safety during construction operations, with access provided via the Water

Street underpass. The Boston Harborwalk under the bridge and eastern/harborside bridge sidewalk remain closed until rebuilt.

For your awareness, the following events are scheduled during this look-ahead period:

- BRUINS: 1/12/22 at 7:00 p.m., 1/13 at 7:00 p.m., 1/15 at 7:00 p.m., 1/18 at 8:00 p.m., 1/20 at 7:00 p.m., 1/22 at 3:00 p.m.
- CELTICS: 1/10/22 at 7:30 p.m., 1/15 at 8:30 p.m., 1/17 at 12:30 p.m., 1/19 at 7:30 p.m., and 1/21 at 7:30 p.m.
- EVENTS: 1/9/22 at 5:00 p.m., 1/14 at 7:00 p.m., and 1/16 at 8:30 p.m.

# Cold Weather Advisory: Practice home heating safety during cold snap

With bitter cold temperatures heading our way, State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey is reminding residents to “Keep Warm, Keep Safe” and avoid fire and carbon monoxide hazards while heating their homes this week.

“Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are your first line of defense,” State Fire Marshal Ostroskey said. “They should be installed on every floor of the residence and tested monthly to be sure they’re working properly. If an alarm is ‘chirping’ due to low batteries, replace the batteries right away – don’t disable the alarm. If the alarm is more than 10 years old, it’s time to replace it.”

### Space Heaters

“It’s important to keep space heaters at least three feet from curtains, bedding, and anything else that can burn,” State Fire Marshal Ostroskey said. “Plug them directly into a wall socket, not an extension cord or a power strip, and remember that they’re for temporary use. Always turn a space heater off when you leave the room or go to sleep.”

When purchasing a space heater, select one that’s been tested and labeled by a nationally recognized testing company, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL). Newer space heaters should have an automatic shut-off switch that turns the device off if it tips over. Unvented kerosene space heaters are illegal for sale and use in Massachusetts, officials said: the risk of fire and carbon monoxide poisoning that they pose is too great.

Fireplaces, Woodstoves, and Pellet Stoves

Fireplaces, woodstoves, and

pellet stoves should also be used safely. Open the dampener before lighting a fire; use only dry, seasoned wood; don’t use flammable liquids to start the fire; and keep a three-foot “circle of safety” around the fireplace or stove free of anything that can burn. Shovel ashes from the stove or fireplace into a metal bucket with a metal lid and place it outside on the ground away from the building. Officials recommend having the chimney inspected and flue cleaned at the beginning of the heating season: most chimney fires occur because of a build-up of creosote, a tarry byproduct of burning wood.

### Natural Gas and Oil Heat

If you have a furnace, water heater, or oil burner with a pilot light, keep the three-foot “circle of safety” clear of anything that

could catch fire, and don’t store gasoline, painting supplies, or other flammable solvents in the home: their vapors can be ignited by a pilot light. These heating systems should be checked each year, as well. If you smell gas, don’t use any electrical switches or devices: get out, stay out, and call 9-1-1 right away.

### Carbon Monoxide (CO) Reminder

“Carbon monoxide is the #1 cause of fatal poisonings, and home heating equipment is the leading source of carbon monoxide in the home,” State Fire Marshal Ostroskey said. “We can’t see, smell, or taste carbon monoxide, but CO alarms can alert you to the danger. If your CO alarm activates, leave the residence and call 9-1-1.”

### Create and Practice a Home Escape Plan

Everyone should have a home escape plan that accounts for two ways out of every room, and everyone should be able to open the doors and windows along the way. Remember that children, older adults, and people with dis-

abilities may need extra assistance.

### More Home Heating Safety Tips

The Department of Fire Services offers a wealth of home heating safety information, including the “Keep Warm, Keep Safe” tool kit for local fire departments and care providers, on the DFS web site.

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# MFA celebrating 20 years, dreaming a future together

On Monday, January 17, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), and Citizens Bank will invite the community to commemorate the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at a free open house. This year's event marks the 20th anniversary of the MFA's partnership with Citizens on this annual celebration, which has welcomed more than 120,000 attendees over two decades. The event offers free admission—including access to special exhibitions—to Massachusetts residents, and tickets will be available in person on a first-come, first-served basis. Upon entry, visitors will be asked to validate their Massachusetts zip code to enjoy free admission.

The open house runs from 10

am to 5 pm, welcoming visitors to experience over a dozen exhibitions on view, including Paper Stories, Layered Dreams: The Art of Ekua Holmes. Also sponsored by Citizens, the exhibition features more than 40 vibrant illustrations by the Roxbury native that reflect her commitment to Black imagery and representation. Visitors will also have their final chance to experience Black Histories, Black Futures, the teen-curated exhibition focusing on works by 20th-century artists of color, which ends its successful run on MLK Day—the same day its opening was celebrated in 2020. Programming offerings connected to both exhibitions will be announced in January.

“Thank you to the MFA for their continued partnership in this effort to honor and celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.,” said Lisa Murray, Massachusetts State President, Citizens. “This annual event is an opportunity for families and friends to come together and enjoy the incredible artwork on display, and we encourage everyone to take advantage of it this January.”

Effective Monday, January 3, 2022, the Museum will be open for visitors Thursday through Monday and remain closed to the public on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

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Visitors to the Museum of Fine Arts take a selfie in front of one of the exhibits.

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About the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Founded on February 4, 1870, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), stands on the historic homelands of the Massachusetts people, a site which has long served as a place of meeting and exchange among different nations. The Museum opened its doors to the public on July 4, 1876—the nation's centennial—at its original location in Copley Square. Over the next several decades, the MFA's collection and visitation grew exponentially, and in 1909, the Museum moved to its current home on Huntington Avenue. Today, the MFA houses a global collection encompassing nearly 500,000 works of art, from ancient to contemporary.

The Museum is located at 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115. For more information, call 617.267.9300, visit [mfa.org](http://mfa.org) or follow the MFA on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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