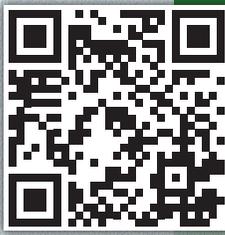




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Sen. DiDomenico's St. Patrick's Day celebration a huge success

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

The annual DiDomenico Foundation St. Patrick's Day event hosted by Sen. Sal DiDomenico has become one of the most anticipated events of the year and this year did not disappoint. Over 500 people attended the St. Patrick's Day Roast and saw the top elected

officials in the state roasting themselves and each other.

Speakers included Governor Maura Healey, Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll, Attorney General Andrea Campbell, Massachusetts State Senate President Karen Spilka, Boston

(CELEBRATION Pg. 11)



Sen. Sal DiDomenico thanks all who attended.

BPDA talks draft RFP for Austin Street lots

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) held a meeting on Wednesday, Mar. 8, to discuss a draft Request for Proposals (RFP) for development at the Austin Street lots that Bunker Hill Community College students have notoriously used.

A BPDA statement regarding the goals of the draft RFP reads, "The BPDA seeks to convey the property to allow mixed-use development that, in conformance with PLAN Charlestown, will bring a mix of housing with an emphasis on affordability to the Charlestown area along with community-driven ground floor activation and open space."

"This is a significant piece of land within the City of Boston. It has been identified as suitable for redevelopment, and that's why we're here with you tonight," said Rebecca Hansen, Director of Real

Estate at the BPDA.

The lots, which cover 5.6 acres, are the property of the BPDA. As a scale, the site's size is similar to that of the Bunker Hill Mall (six acres) and the Ink Block (seven acres), which helps demonstrate the possibilities for development at the site.

During the meeting, there were specific development objectives or guidelines for the draft RFP outlined by Natalie Deduck, Real Estate Development Officer at the BPDA.

Essentially, the guidelines or objectives will help push potential developers to emphasize aspects such as conformance with PLAN Charlestown, affordable housing, ground-floor activation, creation of open space, sustainable and healthy development, and arts and culture as part of their proposed plans. To see each devel-

(BPDA Pg. 3)

Our 02129 Senior Page See Page 7

Coletta announces Budget Town Halls

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta is hosting a series of Budget Town Halls in District 1 to speak with constituents about budget priorities in the City's upcoming fiscal year 2024 budget. Translation, babysitting, and food will be provided at all budget

town hall meetings.

"As we approach the budget season, I'm eager to hear community feedback on budget priorities for the fiscal year 2024. These budget town halls will be an opportunity for residents of District 1 to learn more about Boston's budget process and directly advocate their concerns

and priorities for the upcoming budget cycle with me. I look forward to seeing and hearing from many community members," said Councilor Gabriela Coletta.

The Budget Town Halls will take place on the following dates.

- East Boston Budget Town

(BUDGET Pg. 3)

CNC CORNER

CNC General Meeting, Tuesday, April 4, 2023. The Charlestown Neighborhood Council will hold an in-person, public meeting on Tuesday, 7-9 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus, 545 Medford Street, Charlestown. Please bring your questions and neighborhood concerns to the meeting or email us at cnc02129@gmail.com. Updates on CNC02129.org

Supplemental budget funds several DiDomenico priorities

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Last week, Senator Sal DiDomenico joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts State Senate in passing a \$368.7 million supplemental budget for Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23). Several DiDomenico priorities were included in this legislation to fund vital services that support vulnerable populations and address food insecurity, housing instability, the state's long-term COVID-19 response, economic development, essential support services for incoming immigrants and refugees, and more. Notably, the bill also extends initiatives first implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic, such as outdoor dining, remote public meeting access, and support for assisted living residences. The bill further authorizes \$814.3 in bonding to bolster the Commonwealth's clean water and other public works projects for cities and towns, as well as to support the Commonwealth's ability to compete for competitive federal grant funds.

"I was proud to vote for this supplemental budget which prioritizes feeding, housing, and financially supporting people across backgrounds in our state," said Senator DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate. "I am also especially pleased that we have included funding for several of my priorities including the extension of Universal School Meals through the end of the year, supporting early education providers, extending SNAP benefits, and providing wraparound services for immigrants and refugees. I want to thank Senate President Spilka, Chair Rodrigues, and their staff for bringing the supplemental budget to the floor."

DiDomenico spoke during the Senate debate and highlighted the fact that the bill invests \$368.7 million to address several time sensitive needs for an array of programs relied on by some of the most vulnerable residents of the Commonwealth, including \$130 million for SNAP food assistance benefits to provide a glide path for families who were receiving enhanced SNAP benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic, \$68 million for the Early Education C3 stabilization grant program, \$65 million for the continuation

of free school meals, \$45 million for emergency shelter assistance, and over \$40 million to support affordable housing for immigrants and refugees. Other measures funded in the bill include:

- \$8.3 million for judgments, settlements, and legal fees
- \$7 million for coordinated wraparound services for incoming immigrants and refugees
- \$2 million for the reimbursement of SNAP benefits for victims of benefit theft
- \$2 million for the preparation and execution of the 114th National NAACP conference, which is taking place in Massachusetts in 2023, which was adopted via an amendment from Senator Liz Miranda
- \$1 million for a public awareness campaign to educate the public about the misleading tactics of so-called crisis pregnancy centers and their lack of medical services
- \$250,000 for Reproductive Equity Now's free abortion-related legal hotline

The bill also authorizes \$814.3 billion in capital expenditures to support economic development projects. Notably, these include \$400 million for the MassWorks Infrastructure Program, which provides grants to cities, towns, and other public entities for infrastructure projects, and \$200 million for state matching funds to compete for federal grant opportunities, including those funded through the CHIPS and Science Act, which encourage innovation in Massachusetts. Other bonding items authorized by the bill include:

- \$104 million for the Clean Water Trust Fund
- \$34 million for a program to revitalize underutilized properties
- \$30 million for state matching funds to compete for federal broadband expansion grants and improve state broadband infrastructure
- \$15 million for the Massachusetts Manufacturing Innovation Initiative, which supports innovation within the state's manufacturing industry, including by offering technical assistance to manufacturers and attracting talent from outside of the state
- \$14 million for the Massachusetts Manufacturing Accelerate Program
- \$9.3 million for broadband middle mile supports
- \$8 million for the Smart Growth Housing Trust Fund

Recognizing the societal shifts that have taken place during the pandemic, the bill also addresses several pandemic-era related mea-

asures, including:

- Permanently allowing public corporations and nonprofits to hold meetings by means of remote communication
- Permanently allowing notaries public to conduct remote online notarization using communication technology
- Extending the ability of graduates and students in their last semester of nursing education programs to practice nursing in accordance with guidance from the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing
- Extending the ability of municipalities to allow outdoor dining services
- Extending the ability of pub-

lic bodies to allow remote participation by members in public meetings

- Extending flexibilities given to cities and towns that allow for town meetings to be held in hybrid or fully remote capacities and that ease the threshold for a quorum
- Extending the ability of nurses employed by assisted living residences to provide skilled nursing care in accordance with valid medical orders, provided the nurse holds a valid license to provide such care

Senator Liz Miranda (D-Boston) and Senator Robyn K. Kennedy (D-Worcester) both gave their inaugural Senate

speeches during consideration of the supplemental budget. Senator Miranda spoke on behalf of her amendment for \$2 million to support the NAACP's 114th national conference, which will be taking place in Massachusetts in 2023. The amendment was subsequently unanimously adopted. Senator Kennedy highlighted how the supplemental budget's \$68 million investment in C3 early education grants will provide crucial stability to the early education sector.

As a previous version of this legislation has passed the House of Representatives, the two branches will now reconcile the differences between the bills.

City Council hearing on climate change

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta, Councilor-At-Large Ruthzee Louijeune, and City Councilor Kendra Lara will be hosting a hearing to establish a climate change and environmental justice curriculum in Boston Public Schools to be held in the City Council Committee on Education.

"As Boston continues to see the growing effects of climate change, we need to work on finding and adopting solutions that support our vulnerability and help us with Boston's climate resilience goals. While having these conversations, it is also essential that our students and younger generations understand why there is an urgency and how they can get involved in these efforts," said Councilor Coletta. "I look forward to the conversation to ensure Boston Public Schools has the resources to support our teachers and students, so our future generations are educated and prepared to become conscious citizens."

The Councilors understand the urgency in addressing the effects of climate change in a coastal city like Boston, the implications solutions would have on environmental justice communities, and the importance of centering residents and especially young people in the collaborative efforts.

"Climate justice can and should be a crucial part of our student's education throughout their years in our school systems, especially as Boston is a coastal city. Our students' education should be about real life challenges that we are all grappling with in real time and our curriculum must adjust with these changes," said Councilor Louijeune.

The Councilors seek to bring together community groups and organizations and Boston Public School teachers and administrators to discuss establishing an environmental justice curriculum while ensuring that Boston Public Schools are prepared to support teachers in the development of the program and students in learning.

"Young people will be navigating the realities of climate change in their communities first-hand. If we want to develop citizens who are deeply invested in protecting our people and our planet, this is where we start, with a curriculum that not only builds their understanding but positions them to become leaders in the field," said Councilor Lara.

Highlights of the Order Include:

"WHEREAS, By 2030, sea level is projected to rise by 0.6 to 1.1 feet above 2000 levels. By 2070, some projections estimate a rise in sea level of 2.3 to 4.2 feet over 2000 levels. Sea level rise combined with more intense hurricanes and winter storms present a serious threat to people residing in coastal areas of Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, Climate change is a pertinent part of our lives, and particularly our children's lives who will have to deal with the bulk of climate change consequences. Yet, climate change-related to; and

WHEREAS, In 2021, An Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy, also known as the 2050 Roadmap bill, was codified into Massachusetts state law. While the primary goal of the bill is to create a net-zero

greenhouse gas emission limit in Massachusetts by 2050, the law also highlights environmental justice as a necessary tenet of the state's climate policy. This specific amendment is pertinent to Boston Public School students who often live in communities most vulnerable to environmental disasters; and

WHEREAS, Recently, a study analyzed publicly available documents from boards of education and state education departments across the U.S. and ranked Massachusetts in the lowest tier — along with most of the country — with "very low" inclusion of climate change-related content in state requirements; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has a key opportunity to close the gaps within environmental education and develop a climate change curriculum for all public schools. Community resources and partnerships are readily available to address this need; and

WHEREAS, Our obligation is to foster a school environment that produces conscious citizens who understand the severity of the climate catastrophe. Additionally, it is vital to educate the next generation of leaders and to prepare them for professional opportunities that contribute to this fight;"

The Boston City Council will hold a hearing on Tuesday, March, 14th at 2pm virtually via Zoom. This hearing will be held under the Education Committee, chaired by Councilor-At-Large Julia Mejia. Members of the public are encouraged to provide written or oral comments.

Thank You
Jesus
T.F.

BPDA (from pg. 1)

development guideline in full detail, you can visit <https://www.bostonplans.org/news-calendar/calendar/2023/03/08/austin-street-parking-lots-rfp-discussion-meeting>.

Along with the development guidelines, suggested design parameters for the RFP were laid out. These parameters include a maximum FAR of 4.0 and a maximum building height of 150 feet – with the caveat that 200 feet could be possible at the Austin Street and I-93 corner for developments with “excellent affordability.” Other suggested parameters included lot coverage between 30 and 40 percent and 1.5 to three acres of open space.

In addition to the guidelines and design parameters, the evaluation criteria that will be used to pick the best development plans for the site were also discussed.

During the meeting, the evaluation criteria were focused on the potential development’s diversity and inclusion plan, development concept, design and public realm contribution, ability to execute and strength of financial plan, and sustainable, resilient, and healthy development.

To see each evaluation criterion in full detail, you can visit the aforementioned link containing the presentation slideshow.

While this meeting focused on what the BPDA had come up with to include in a draft RFP, it also allowed residents to provide feedback and address concerns about potential development at the site.

One of the main points of feedback or concerns raised regarding

a potential development at the Austin Street lots dealt with air pollution – especially if housing would be included – due to the site’s proximity to the highway.

However, Deduck tried to quell some of those concerns by saying, “We’ve been working with leading academics who have been studying this in Somerville as well as recommended project engineers who have focused on HVAC systems that mitigate against these air pollutions.”

“If they [proposed developments] want to advance and they want to score high within this evaluation process, they’re going to have to submit something that follows the utmost safety and health standards,” added Deduck.

Other feedback regarding development at the site was scattered from what to do about incorporating indoor or outdoor sports fields, pedestrian connections, paths to homeownership, affordable housing, and much more.

Currently, the plan from the BPDA is to use the feedback from this meeting to help supplement the creation of the draft RFP. Following the finalization of the draft RFP it will be posted on the PLAN: Charlestown website in the coming weeks and be open for public comments. Those public comments from the to-be-posted draft will then be considered before a final draft RFP is created.

“This, again, is all part of the iterative process of creating an RFP, and so when there is a final draft, it will then go to the BPDA Board for review,” said Deduck.

MBTA reminds riders to allow for extra time

The MBTA is advising riders to plan for additional travel time and longer headways on the Red, Orange, Blue, Green, and Mattapan Lines this week as MBTA engineers continue to perform repair validations and speed verifications following a Department of Public Utilities (DPU) site visit last week. Riders are encouraged to use the T’s Trip Planner tool at mbta.com/trip-planner for a list of travel options, including bus routes that run parallel to subway service.

On Friday, the T replaced the global speed restrictions on the Red, Blue, and Orange Lines with targeted block speed restrictions between 10-25 mph in areas that still needed to be inspected or where track conditions do not

permit normal speeds. The Green and Mattapan Lines remain under a global speed restriction of 10-25 mph while inspections continue.

MBTA crews remain in the field verifying that speeds are appropriate for sections of track identified by recent geometry car testing that may require mitigation, meaning the results of the testing matches field inspections by MBTA track engineers and independently verified by third party consulting engineers. Once speeds are verified, the T will proceed with validating that track defects identified in the geometry testing were repaired during previous work or report where repairs remain pending.

Block speed restrictions of 10-25 mph remain in place on the heavy rail subway lines. This re-

presents 31.9% of track. There are 19 block speed restrictions on the Orange Line, 39 on the Red Line, and six on the Blue Line. These are in addition to speed restrictions that had previously been in place on these lines prior to the March 9 system-wide slow order. A block speed restriction is a length of track that may include multiple defects that need to be investigated or mitigated. As each defect is validated and corrected as needed, the length of the block speed restriction will be reduced until the block is fully removed.

For more information, visit mbta.com, or connect with the T on Twitter @MBTA, Facebook / TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, or TikTok @thembta.

BUDGET (from pg. 1)

Hall on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 6pm at the East Boston Police Station, Community Room, 300 E Eagle St.

- North End Budget Town Hall on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 6pm at the Nazzaro Community Center, 30 N. Bennet St.

- Immigrant Population Budget Town Hall on Saturday, March 25, 2023 at 10am at East Boston Public Library, Community Room, 365 S Bremen St

- Charlestown Budget Town Hall on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 6pm at Knights of Columbus, 545 Medford Street

- Youth Budget Town Hall on Saturday, April 1, 2023 at 10am at BCYF Charlestown, 255 Medford Street

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Lever, Daniel R	9 Eden St LLC	9 Eden St #1	\$1,675,000
Merrifield, Colin	Rossi, Deanna M	42 8th St #2316	\$465,000
1306-1308 Mass Ave Re Nt	tarboard 42nc LLC	45 1st Ave #302	\$635,000
1306-1308 Mass Ave Re Nt	45 1st Ave LLC	45 1st Ave #402	\$635,000
Hanson, Ashley M	Montopoli, Jaime	206 Bunker Hill St #1	\$549,000



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- LOWELL L. RICHARDS III MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
Awarded annually to a high school senior who resides and is involved in community service in the city of Boston, Chelsea, Revere, or Winthrop, with a minimum 3.0 GPA.
- DIVERSITY STEM SCHOLARSHIP**
Awarded to high school seniors of color who reside or attend school in the city of Boston, Chelsea, Winthrop, Revere, Worcester, Bedford, Concord, Lexington, or Lincoln, and are involved in community service with a minimum 3.0 GPA.

Scholarship applications must be received by Massport no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 28, 2023. For more information on these scholarships, including application checklist and criteria please visit www.massport.com.



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EDITORIAL

SAFE CONSUMPTION SITES ARE THE ONLY WAY TO STEM THE TIDE OF DRUG OVERDOSES

The so-called War on Drugs, which began in the administration of Richard Nixon, has been ongoing in America for more than 50 years.

Putting aside the fact that Nixon began his war on drugs primarily as a means for incarcerating Black and brown Americans (especially for simple marijuana possession), the War on Drugs has failed by every metric imaginable.

We spend roughly five times as much incarcerating people with substance use disorders as it would cost us to treat them, and the return on that expenditure has been meager at best.

The economy loses an estimated one trillion dollars per year (about five percent of G.D.P.) in lost productivity, health care costs, and criminal justice expenditures, among other things.

More ominously, thanks to the recent wave of an opioid crisis that was initiated by our legal drug industry and our faulty regulatory apparatus, more than 100,000 Americans, an all-time high, died from drug overdoses last year. Life expectancy is declining in the United States for the first time in generations largely as a result.

Drug use is soaring and drugs being purchased on our streets are more lethal than ever thanks to the introduction of fentanyl into just about every type of pill and powder that is manufactured and sold by drug dealers, for whom fentanyl is cheaper to produce and easier to transport than heroin. Fentanyl is so potent that a typical car trunk filled with fentanyl would be enough to kill every single American.

Think about that figure for a moment -- and you realize that trying to interdict fentanyl shipments, wherever they might originate, is a game only for fools.

However, there is a solution to this problem which has been used in Portugal and Switzerland for almost two decades: The time has come for our society to treat substance abuse like a public health crisis. We need to repeal outdated laws that push too many people into jails and prisons and not enough into recovery; invest in treatment so that those who want and need help can get it; and replace abstinence-based policies with ones grounded in reality in order to minimize the worst effects of drug abuse.

This would include providing users with clean needles so that they don't contract or spread H.I.V. or hepatitis C and giving them overdose reversal medications like naloxone.

However, the most significant step we can take is to promote supervised consumption, which is standard in Portugal and Switzerland, so that if users overdose, they don't die. Supervised consumption programs also entail assisting drug-dependent persons with receiving access to housing and basic medical and mental health care so that they can live in relative stability even when they are not abstinent.

In short, we need to replace the futile goal of eradication with the concept of what is known as harm reduction.

Yes, we realize that some people adamantly are opposed to this point of view. But given that their solution has a proven track record of five-decades of failure, we suggest that a different way of looking at the problem of drug abuse in our country is worth trying.

GUEST OP-ED

Silicon Valley Bank and your life savings

Dr. Glenn Mollette

If you have worked hard and saved money all your life you may have over \$250,000 in a bank. Or, maybe one of these days you might if you keep working and saving.

You most likely know that only \$250,000 of your money is federally insured. In other words, if you bank fails you might lose any amount above \$250,000. Let's say you have one half million in your bank. The assets of the bank would eventually be liquidated. If enough money was collected you might receive the rest of your half million or you might never see a penny above the federally insured amount unless you are in Silicon Valley.

The second largest bank failure in U.S. history occurred March 10 in Santa Clara, California. The Silicon Valley Bank failed after a bank run on its deposits. The Department of Financial Protection and Innovation revoked its

charter and transferred the business into receivership under the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

SVB is the country's 16th largest bank with \$209 billion in assets and more than \$175 billion in deposits.

A number of businesses had millions of dollars in the bank.

Roku had just under \$500 million of its 1.9 billion dollars of cash assets in the bank.

Roblox, a video game company said 5% of its 3 billion in cash was held at SVB.

Toronto-based AcuityAds Holding had US \$55 million in SVB, and just US \$4.8 million elsewhere. That means more than 90% of the company's deposits were held in SVB.

Aerospace manufacturer Rocket Lab held almost 8%, or approximately \$38 million, of its total cash at the collapsed bank, it said in a Friday filing.

Crypto lender BlockFi, which

filed for bankruptcy in November, disclosed it held \$227 million with SVB in a bankruptcy filing Friday. BlockFi said in November it had halted withdrawals after facing "significant exposure" to Sam Bankman-Fried's FTX exchange, as well as its sister hedge fund Alameda.

BlockFi's money in SVB is not FDIC-insured because it was in a money market mutual fund, the company learned from its bankruptcy trustee early this week. (Source CNN.Com)

Move the calendar from last Friday to this past Sunday.

Federal regulators stepped in Sunday March 12, to back all Silicon Valley Bank deposits, resolving a key uncertainty surrounding the second-largest bank failure in U.S. history hours before global stock markets resumed trading.

The U.S. Treasury, the Federal Reserve and the Federal Deposit

(Op-Ed Pg. 5)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

HOUSING THE HOMELESS IN CHARLESTOWN: TRUTHS AND TRANSPARENCY NEEDED

To the Editor,

I'm writing in response to the letters to the editor in the March 9th edition of the Patriot-Bridge advocating greater community communication about the Constitution Inn Housing Project (The Helm on Third). Much of what has been presented about this venture by the proponents – St. Francis House, the Planning Office for Urban Affairs of the Archdiocese (POUA) and the YMCA – is distorted and misleading. Residents of Charlestown, our public officials and our elected representatives need greater clarification and understanding of the elements and the profound impact on our neighborhood and community.

A key, misleading and disturbing aspect of the proponents' presentations is the intentional mixing and substitution of Permanent Affordable Housing for Permanent Supportive Housing. The former

most understand. The latter, poorly understood, is a specific model for housing the homeless without preconditions for treatment of addiction, substance abuse, mental illness treatment or other behavioral compliance as described in extensive medical literature. Further, by definition, tenants are "encouraged, but not required, to receive treatment and maintain sobriety."

Charlestown lacks access to services needed by this population to include public transportation, primary care, urgent care, first provider response, addiction and mental illness treatment, full police presence, affordable shopping, food shopping and employment. Permanent Supportive Housing where deployed in other cities and regions has not reduced homelessness, addiction or mental illness. Any level of success requires Intensive Case Management to include primary healthcare, specialty care, social service, life skills training and employment services.

The community as well as the homeless need consideration. The project would bring to Charlestown and the residential areas of the Navy Yard new fears of safety and security in a neigh-

borhood lacking the infrastructure to respond. The proponents in their small information sessions have provided no guidelines for housing compliance or behavior and no criteria for non-compliance eviction. Security planning for the project lies with an outside consultant. This message needs to be heard and understood directly and in open public meetings.

Charlestown is the wrong place for the proposed Constitution Inn project and should be denied approval based on its flawed design, concepts and proposed implementation. We need the understanding and support of our public officials and elected representatives to advocate for the population they were chosen to serve. We need the residents of Charlestown to understand what they have been asked to accept. We need to provide an environment which includes the needed services and resources for the homeless that truly fosters their safety, security and recovery from their illness and impairment. The science of treating the homeless is complex. A roof is not the sole answer.

Gerald H. Angoff, MD MBA



CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

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MARKETING DIRECTOR - DEBRA DIGREGORIO - DEB@REVEREJOURNAL.COM

CONGRATULATIONS, KALLIE



Charlestown resident, Kallie McHugh, 9, daughter of Colleen Considine and John McHugh recently traveled to Hartford CT to compete in the Regional Championships for Irish Step Dancing. Kallie competing against girls from dance schools all across the region and was declared the New England Regional Champion in the youngest age group of the competition. Kallie dances for the Goulding School of Irish Dance out of Medford, MA, she and other members of the Goulding School will perform at The Warren Tavern on Friday, March 17th at 6:00 PM.

OP-ED (from pg. 4)

Insurance Corp. said the government would back Silicon Valley Bank deposits beyond the federally insured ceiling of \$250,000. The decision addressed concerns around the fate of uninsured funds held at the Santa Clara, California-based bank.

“Depositors will have access to all of their money starting Monday, March 13,” the agencies said in a joint statement Sunday evening. “No losses associated with the resolution of Silicon Valley Bank will be borne by the taxpayer.” (Source NBC.COM)

If you have a half million dol-

lars in a bank, you might consider dividing it up into two banks. Maybe the U.S. Treasury will treat you and the people at your bank the same as the millionaires of Silicon Valley. Don't risk your life savings on this hope.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist - American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

HAPPY
St. Patrick's
DAY



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IN THE FINAL FOUR



The Charlestown High boys basketball team and seniors celebrate reaching the final four of the Division Two state title on Friday, March 10 with a 51-45 win over Westwood. The win advanced the team to a play-off game with Malden Catholic on Monday, March 13 at Woburn High School. Unfortunately, Charlestown lost 66-54 but ends a remarkable season at 21-4.

Charlestown Historical Society event set for tonight, March 16

The Charlestown Historical Society is hosting an event this Thursday, March 16, at Sullivans at 4:30 pm honoring the critically acclaimed Green Square Mile movie about the history of the Irish in Charlestown. This special behind the scenes event will feature executive producers Ed Callahan, Arthur Hurley, Doug Macdonald and Filmmaker Maureen McNamara, together for the first time since the movie was filmed over 15 years ago.

The "Green Square Mile" documentary is the result of a Charlestown Historical Society initiative called the "Charlestown Irish Renaissance Project", and follows Charlestown's history from its settlement to contemporary times. With an Irish perspective, the viewer relives history through the eyes of local Charlestown residents and local historians.

"Charlestown is one of Boston's oldest ethnic communities and the Irish presence here in Charlestown spans nearly three centuries," said Julie Hall, president of Charlestown Historical Society. "The Green Square Mile reflects

the dreams and aspirations of this resilient immigrant population and their descendants, who endured incredible hardship to survive." The history of Charlestown's Irish community had never been documented or recorded until CHS Board members Callahan and Hurley began planning the idea over a pint at the infamous but now defunct "Old Sullys." The documentary film presents a full portrait of Charlestown's Irish community, while at the same time project a realistic and positive picture of an ethnic neighborhood with strong survival skills and a promising future.

The first 16 people to arrive at Sullivans will get a copy of the Green Square Mile DVD and book! The Green Square Mile is 16 years old this year.

The event will be broadcast on the CHS Facebook page via FacebookLive and filmed for the CHS website and YouTube channels. The event is free to the public but a donation to CHS is always appreciated to help fund the work they do for the community.

Friends of Ryan "Duce" Morrissey Scholarship Fund

The Friends of Ryan "Duce" Morrissey Scholarship Fund is pleased to announce that scholarships totaling \$27,500 will be offered in 2023. Scholarships are available to college freshman, college upperclassmen, and high school students. Details and application forms may be obtained from our website. www.ryanmorrisesyscholarship.com
 Questions: ryanmorrisesyscholarship@gmail.com

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Our Senior Life

MEDICAL MINUTE FROM THE MGH CHARLESTOWN HEALTHCARE CENTER

National Nutrition Month: Fuel for the Future

March is here and with spring just around the corner, it is a great time to focus on healthy and sustainable eating. For older adults, it's essential to make informed food choices and maintain healthful eating and physical activity habits. But no matter your age, good nutrition is important, and everyone can do more than they realize to create a healthier lifestyle while promoting a healthier planet.

This year's Nutrition Month theme is Fuel for the Future—reminding everyone to fuel their bodies at every age in a way that is also sustainable for the planet.

8 ways to incorporate the Fuel for the Future theme in your home:

1. Work on a backyard garden.

You can keep this as simple or ambitious as you like. Quickly create small gardens by choosing a container and packing it with your favorite blooms, or tackle a larger project such as redesigning your backyard and opening up space for a vegetable garden. Gardening is one of the healthiest hobbies you can develop— for yourself and the planet! Research shows that working the soil improves land and air quality,

and it is also classified as exercise by the CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention).

2. Keep hydrated and swap sugary beverages for water.

By choosing water or zero calorie drinks like tea and coffee, you can avoid many health problems associated with high blood sugar, such as diabetes, obesity, and hypertension. Avoiding soda, which comes in cans or plastic bottles, reduces the waste produced by these products. Instead of buying highly sugary juices and soda, try investing in a reusable water bottle. Fewer pollutants and harmful chemicals will enter the ground and atmosphere, and you will save money and energy for more important things. Carrying a reusable water bottle with you throughout the day is a great reminder to regularly hydrate, a healthy habit.

3. Visit local grocery stores and make sure you are in tune with what is in season.

This will help promote healthy food choices when grocery shopping. Buying in-season produce is not only more nutritious and delicious, but more sustainable

for the environment and the economy. If you buy local, you will get nutrients that are richer in vitamins. Just think about all the gas required for produce to travel across the country. By buying local in season foods, you can reduce the energy and resources needed to transport the product from the farm to your supermarket, and you

can support local farmers and food trade companies. The greater flavor and texture of fresh, local produce will be a great incentive to keep eating healthier, too.

4. Eat as a family a few times each week. Set a regular mealtime and turn off the TV and phones to encourage mealtime talk. Generally, when you eat as a family you are cooking at home and relaxing around your dining table. Family style meals also tend to be higher in fruits and vegetables. And, many times when we buy takeout or eat on the go, we add to the food waste problem. . It is not surprising that diet is one of the biggest sources of climate emissions, one reason why sustainable agriculture that includes fruits and vegetables is key not only for a healthy diet but also for a healthy planet.

5. Eat seafood twice a week: Seafood – fish and shellfish – contains a range of nutrients including healthy omega-3 fats. Salmon, trout, oysters and sardines are higher in omega-3s and lower in mercury. We've all heard that seafood has great benefits, but in recent reports there is increasing evidence that eating sustainable seafood can help support a thriving environment along with making a positive impact on public health. Seafood has one of the lowest negative environmental impacts of all the animal protein markets. Other types of seafood like oysters, clams, mussels, and seaweed can be harvested without negative effects on their ecosystems and habitats.

6. Make an effort to reduce food waste: Take inventory of foods you have on hand before your next trip to the grocery store. Plan meals based on leftovers, and only buy perishable foods you will use

or freeze within a couple of days. Managing food resources at home can help save nutrients and money.

7. Explore new foods and flavors: You can add more nutrients when you expand your options. Next time you are at a store, select a fruit, vegetable or whole grain that you have never tried. This can increase the demand for different foods and promote a more diversified farming system. Smart nutrition tip: Eat a variety of fruits and vegetables, especially those that are colorful, dark green, red and orange, for more nutrients. (Beans, peas and lentils are also a good choice!) If you choose to buy canned or frozen vegetables, make sure you choose "low salt" or "no salt" options.

8. Always include a variety of foods, focusing on Vitamin B12 and calcium as you get older. Look for fiber-rich cereals--they are fortified with vitamin B12, which is a nutrient that decreases in absorption as we age or due to some medications. Improve bone health by consuming more calcium. Older adults need more calcium and vitamin D to help keep bones healthy. Be sure to include three servings of fat-free or low-fat milk, yogurt or cheese each day.

Try putting these tips into practice, and you will see that healthy eating with the environment in mind is easy to implement in your daily routine! It can help keep food costs down and increase nutrient density in your diet.

To find out more about this year's Fuel for the Future Campaign visit: https://www.eatright.org/-/media/files/campaigns/eatright/nnm-2023/english/tip-sheets-english/nnm_2023_20-health-tips.pdf



Senior Health Education Series

Join us for a special two-part presentation by RN students from the MGH Institute of Health Professions on Tuesday, 3/14, and 3/28 from 10-11:30 AM
55 Bunker Hill Street.

For inquiries and more info, please contact:
Kimberly Kyle, Senior Services Coordinator
617-341-3866 x.1351 or kyle@kennedycenter.org

Several Boston Water and Sewer Commission projects coming to Charlestown

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

As 2023 rolls on, residents should be aware of multiple improvement projects from the Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) that are slated to begin in the coming months.

“Construction at this time looks like we will have a large presence in Charlestown over the next few years,” wrote Eileen Snedeker, BWSC’s Communications Program Manager, in an email.

One of the first projects projected to begin in April deals with sewer replacement and rehabilitation on Vine, Chelsea, School, and Bartlett Streets, as well as Bunker Hill Avenue. As part of this project,

4,329 feet of sewer replacement and rehabilitation will be done, along with 1,909 feet of storm drain relay and rehab. As of now, the projected completion date for this project is sometime in November of 2025.

Another project slated to begin in April is for water main replacements and other sewer and drain CIPP work. Snedeker explained that the CIPP technology “Is a trenchless sewer pipe repair alternative to traditional repair and replacement of damaged sewer lines.”

Work from this project will be taking place in the areas of Tufts, Vine, Medford, Corey, Moulton Streets, and Moulton Way. This

work is projected to be completed sometime in November of 2023.

Looking further ahead, another water main replacement project will begin this summer on Bunker Hill, Chelsea, School, Vine, and Bartlett Streets.

“This contract was prioritized in response to a review of the break history (School Street) and pipe age/risk scoring on 1880s cast iron mains in Bunker Hill and Vine Streets,” wrote Snedeker in an email.

The work will involve replacing 8,800 feet of eight and 12-inch water mains and is scheduled to be finished by November of 2025.

In addition to the aforementioned projects that will highlight

the spring and the summer, the BWSC is also in the process of approving a contract for an infiltration and inflow Sewer System Evaluation Survey (SSES).

According to Snedeker, the SSES would “identify sources of extraneous flow in the Commission’s wastewater collection system.”

She also wrote that aspects of the survey would include “flow monitoring, manhole inspection, smoke testing, dye testing, and television inspection of sewer pipes.” The findings from the survey would then provide recommendations to eliminate the sources of those extraneous flows.

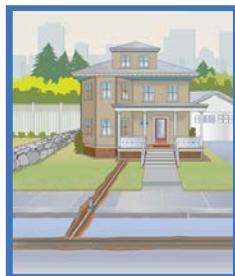
As for the effects these projects might have on residents, Snedeker

explained, “Some temporary, minor modifications to traffic patterns and parking will be necessary. This work may also require a temporary disruption of water service to residents.”

She also added, “Residents will be notified by the onsite contractor approximately 48 hours in advance of any disruption.”

Residents should also keep an eye on their mail to stay up to date on upcoming projects; as Snedeker wrote, “Once we receive a notice to proceed date, letters are mailed approximately two weeks in advance of work commencing to addresses within the project limits.”

Private Lead Replacement Incentive Program



Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) is offering Boston property owners free inspections of their water service pipe. Some older properties built before 1978 may have lead pipes. Lead is known to cause

serious health risks. BWSC has accelerated the incentive program by identifying and eliminating lead service lines, both in the public and on private property. In 2022, BWSC removed over 300 lead services. For more information on the lead program visit www.bwsc.org.



BWSC encourages Boston property owners to contact our offices for a free inspection of the property’s water service pipe. If the pipe is lead, receive a no obligation estimate of the cost for

replacement. Eligible property owners may qualify for a credit of up to \$4,000 towards the cost of replacement by taking advantage of this voluntary program.



Boston Water and Sewer Commission

**Lead Hotline:
617 989 7888**

Charlestown activist and local realtor sets sail on new business

Chris Remmes, a longtime resident and realtor in Charlestown with over 20 years of experience in the residential real estate industry, announced recently that he has opened an independent real estate brokerage in Boston. Remmes

& Co, with offices at The Park Plaza, is a full-service real estate firm aimed at providing innovative marketing and exceptional service for sellers and buyers in Charlestown and the neighborhoods of Boston.

“After 20 plus years working as an agent, I’m ready to set up my own shop to work directly with residents and families to meet their housing needs in an increasingly competitive and complex market,” said Chris Remmes of Remmes & Co. “I know how important real estate decisions are for people, and me and my team have the expertise and cutting edge multi channel marketing plan to make the process as productive and stressLESS as possible.”

When asked about the current state of the market he notes, “I am cautiously optimistic that the spring market will be brisk. Limited inventory combined with moderating interest rates will favor the sellers as demand is brisk.”

Joining Remmes & Co are Jack Walsh and Sam Schwarz, Marketing Director.

Remmes, 57, is a board member of the Charlestown Preservation Society and active member of the Charlestown community. A graduate of Catholic Memorial High School and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Chris received his Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Boston University.

To discuss your questions or schedule an individual consultation, please visit www.remmesco.com or call Chris directly at (617) 398-0015.

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NEWS BRIEFS

The Bunker Hill Associates: Politics, punch lines and a parade

The Bunker Hill Associates have been bringing the people of Charlestown together in support of youth programming and other neighborhood organizations since 1986. But if you ask our Charter Members, this story begins two years earlier, in a kitchen on Trenton Street with a slightly different goal in mind.

Sports. Street Names. Nicknames. Crime. There are just some things Charlestown does better than Southie. And in 1984, James Carroll was determined to add another thing to that list. Pre-Parade Breakfasts!

At the time, a century old tradition, South Boston's St. Patrick's Day Parade Breakfast was the only show in town - an old-fashioned political roast, made famous by Master of Ceremonies, Senate President Billy Bulger. If not for a TV contract with NECN, many Charlestown homes would still be willfully ignorant of this tradition.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the tunnel and over a few beers at Old Sully's (as many great Charlestown stories begin), Jimmy Carroll, Eddie Callahan and Jim Walsh thought, "Screw Southie. We can do it better!" And so they set out to beat Southie at their own game!

Eddie, one of the key Ward Coordinators for Mayor Ray Flynn, grabbed his brother Brian Callahan and other Charlestown political actors Jack Pierce, John

Reveliotis, and Tom Cunha for gathering at the Callahan kitchen table, which would later be considered the first meeting of the Bunker Hill Associates, to discuss logistics of a pre-parade breakfast.

With the "When" decided, the "Where" seemed just as obvious! Since 1780, revolutionary war heroes, politicians, patriots and thirsty patrons have convened at the Warren Tavern for refreshments, conversation and celebration. 200 years later, nothing's changed! It seemed only right for the beloved watering hole to host the inaugural Bunker Hill Day Parade Breakfast.

And with the 1984 Senate election in Massachusetts heating up, the "Why" was quickly established. Charlestown was backing John Kerry, and the Breakfast offered the perfect stage! Townies packed the Tavern on the morning of the parade, to the surprise of a few critics! A sold out Breakfast filled with political satire and speeches. The idea was to send attendees out into the parade laughing and in good spirits, and in that first, proof of concept Bunker Hill Day Breakfast, the boys from Trenton Street nailed it!

2 years and 35 members later, the Bunker Hill Associates and their accompanying charter were officially established, with a mission "to promote both the social interest and welfare of its members and the youth of Charlestown."

MICHAEL P. QUINN DINNER DANCE RETURNS APRIL 1 TO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL

Michael P. Quinn's mission of assisting the talents youth of our beloved town has been made possible by your continued support.

Preparations are now underway for the 54th annual Michael P. Quinn Dinner Dance on Saturday, April 1, at the Bunker Hill Knights of Columbus Hall, 545 Medford St. in Charlestown.

The 2022 Quinn Scholar, Elle M Woods, will be saluted during the Dinner Dance. Elle is a 2022 graduate of Boston Latin School who is matriculating at Northeastern University, Bouve College of Nursing.

The program book will be dedicated to John A "Jack" Whelan, who passed away on July 12, 2022. Jack was a legendary Townie who gave much for the betterment of the community. Commanding Brigadier General Kyle B Ellison, Marine Corps, War fighting Laboratory/Futures Directorate, Vice Chief, Officer

of Naval Research, will be the featured speaker.

The evening meal will be prepared by Sandra McLaughlin, and entertainment provided by Alan La Bella. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased by writing to P.O. Box 290216, Charlestown, MA, 02129; emailing maryfitzpatrick10@comcast.net; or calling Ronan at 617-242-5493.

APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR '23 QUINN SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for 2023 Michael P. Quinn Scholarships are being accepted through April 15.

All applicants must be a resident of Charlestown for the past five years, as well as a graduate with the Class of 2023

Be advised this scholarship award is for \$16,000 for the recipients first year of college only. Applications can be picked up at Guidance Department at Charlestown High School, Boston Latin, Boston Latin Academy, the Boys & Girls Club, Charlestown Library, and Malden Catholic High School.

If you have any questions regarding the scholarship, call Ronan J. FitzPatrick at 617-242-5493 or email maryfitzpatrick10@comcast.net.

OLD CHARLESTOWN SCHOOLBOYS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIPS

The Old Charlestown Schoolboys Association has announced that a number of scholarships are available to any Charlestown schoolboy who: is a senior in high school; is a resident of Charlestown; and will be entering college or preparatory or technical school or will be entering the sophomore, junior or senior year in that school.

Applications are available from the Charlestown Branch of the Boston Public Library, the Boys & Girls Club, St. Mary/St. Catherine of Sienna offices, and the St. Francis de Sales office.

Applications must be received no later than March 24.

If you have any questions, call James O'Brien at 617-543-5384.

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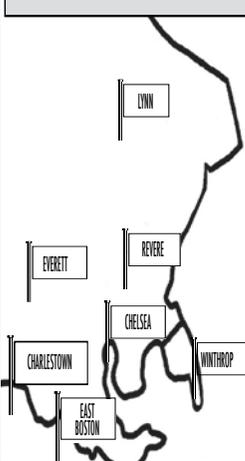
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COVID-19 public health emergency in Massachusetts to end

The Healey-Driscoll Administration announced that the state's COVID-19 public health emergency will end on May 11, 2023, to align with the end of the federal public health emergency. The announcement this week, ahead of the 45-day notice required by state law, allows additional time for impacted organizations to prepare for the end of the public health emergency.

Governor Healey will also file legislation that would extend key flexibilities provided by the public health emergency, particularly around staffing for the health care industry and emergency medical services (EMS). The Governor also announced that on May 11 she plans to rescind Executive Order 595 that required all Executive

Branch state employees to have received their primary series COVID-19 vaccines.

"Thanks to the hard work of our health care providers and communities, we've made important progress in the fight against COVID-19," said Governor Healey. "We know that we have the tools to manage this virus – vaccines, masking, testing, getting treatments and staying home when sick – and we've reached the point where we can update our guidance to reflect where we are now. I'd also like to acknowledge the leadership of Governor Baker and his administration, who saved countless lives by putting these important measures in place in a time of immense crisis."

"Executive Order No. 595 has been a successful tool for boosting

vaccination rates and reducing the spread and severity of COVID-19 in Massachusetts. We're grateful to the state employees who did their part to keep themselves, their coworkers and their communities safe," said Lieutenant Governor Driscoll. "We encourage Massachusetts residents to continue taking important prevention measures to keep our communities healthy, like getting boosted, masking and staying home when you're feeling sick."

"We are fortunate that in Massachusetts, the wide availability of vaccines, tests, effective treatments, and PPE changed the course of a pandemic that brought loss and hardship to so many. Three years on from the start of the pandemic, we are now in a very different place," said

Secretary of Health and Human Services Kate Walsh. "While we will continue living with COVID-19, we can now incorporate the tools to manage this virus into our standing response to respiratory illness within our communities and healthcare system."

Governor Healey's legislation would:

- Continue flexibilities currently in place regarding staffing for out-of-hospital dialysis centers. This would apply for 6 months to allow dialysis centers time to return to pre-COVID staffing levels.

- Authorize certain non-Medication Administration Program (MAP) certified staff to administer certain prepackaged medications in community settings. This would apply for 6 months to enable DPH

to finalize reforms that streamline the MAP program training requirements.

- Allow staffing of Advanced Life Support level ambulance transports with a single EMT provider and a first responder driver (rather than 2 certified EMTs). This would be a permanent change based on the positive experience of this staffing model over the last three years.

Executive Order No. 595 helped raise the percentage of fully vaccinated executive department employees from around 76 percent to over 99 percent. Mandates for staff in certain roles and settings will remain in place, per CMS and EOHHS regulations.

NEIGHBORHOOD ROUND UP

USS CONSTITUTION OPENS LOTTERY FOR EASTER EGG HUNT, THREE WINNERS TO BE SELECTED FOR AN UNDERWAY

USS Constitution is scheduled to open a lottery, March 14, for the chance to participate in an Easter egg hunt aboard the ship from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Saturday,

April 8.

The Easter Egg hunt is intended for children ages 12 and below and can be entered through the following link: <https://invitations.afit.edu/inv/index.cfm?i=715659&k=-0560470F7E5E>

The deadline to enter the lottery is March 21 with the winners notified on March 22.

50 winners and their immediate families will be selected to join

Old Ironsides' crew in an Easter egg hunt across the ship's decks.

Children and their families will be able to hunt for a total of six eggs to turn in for a candy reward.

Additionally, three golden eggs will be included in the hunt. The finder of each egg along with their immediate family will be awarded a seat on our October 21, 2023 underway. One will be placed on each deck.

USS Constitution Sailors will also host activities such as knot tying, cornhole, ladder ball, and a hard-boiled egg toss for families to enjoy before the egg hunt begins.

USS Constitution is scheduled to open at 11 a.m. for public visitation on April 8.

USS Constitution is the world's oldest commissioned warship afloat, and played a crucial role in the Barbary Wars and the War of 1812, actively defending sea lanes from 1797 to 1855.

The active-duty Sailors stationed aboard USS Constitution provide free tours and offer public visitation as they support the ship's mission of promoting the Navy's history and maritime heritage and raising awareness of the importance of a sustained naval presence.

USS Constitution was undefeated in battle and destroyed or captured 33 opponents.

The ship earned the nickname of Old Ironsides during the War of 1812 when British cannonballs were seen bouncing off the ship's wooden hull.

FRIENDS OF RYAN "DUCE" MORRISSEY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Friends of Ryan "Duce" Morrissey Scholarship Fund is pleased to announce that scholarships totaling \$27,500 will be offered in 2023. Scholarships are available to college freshman, college upperclassmen, and high school students. Details and application forms may be obtained

from our website. www.ryanmorrisesyscholarship.com Questions: ryanmorrisesyscholarship@gmail.com

FREE AFTER SCHOOL HOMEWORK CLUB

Charlestown Lacrosse & Learning Center welcomes all Kindergarten through 9th graders to join our weekly in-person homework support! Homework club runs Tuesday and Wednesday from 4:30pm-6:00pm (except for dates on which BPS is closed for weather, school breaks or otherwise) following the BPS school calendar and will run through the end of the school year. Email Blake Riley, clclearingdirector@gmail.com for more information.

FRIENDS OF CITY SQUARE PARK BOOK CLUB

Join fellow residents as we read and discuss nature-inspired books, as chosen by the group. If you are interested in joining, please contact Grace Bloodwell, bloodwell@gmail.com.

CAREER FAIR

Saturday March 25th from 12-3pm at the Harvard Kent Elementary School, 50 Bunker Hill St. Learn about the opportunities happening with the Bunker Hill Housing Redevelopment. Careers include construction, property management, union membership, office/administrative, youth employment and more.



Virtual Public Meeting

PLAN: Charlestown

March 30, 2023

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/PLAN-Charlestown-033023

Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 160 160 7048



Project Description:

Please join the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) for a virtual community meeting at 6pm on March 30th, to discuss PLAN: Charlestown's latest updated scenario for the neighborhood's future. PLAN: Charlestown is the neighborhood's ongoing comprehensive planning initiative, considering how to plan for new development, open space, and mobility, among many other topics. This update builds on the surveys and comments the community has filled out and shared over the course of the last two years, as well as analysis by a team of expert consultants. We hope you will come to share your thoughts and ask questions!

mail to: **Jason Ruggiero**

Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

phone: 617.918.4383

email: jason.ruggiero@boston.gov

website: www.bostonplans.org/planning/planning-initiatives/plan-charlestown

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

CELEBRATION (from pg. 1)

Mayor Michelle Wu, State Auditor Diana DiZoglio, Senator Lydia Edwards, Representative Dan Ryan, and Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta. In addition, over 75 elected officials from state and local government attended, including a large group of DiDomenico's colleagues from the Senate. County officials also included Middlesex County District Attorney Marian Ryan, Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden, Middlesex County Clerk of Courts Michael Sullivan, Governor's Councilor Terry Kennedy and more!

Rock & Roll, Vocal, and Grammy® Halls of Fame group, The Platters® ("Only You", "The Great Pretender", "Twilight Time")

flew into Boston for a special performance that included several Irish favorites. In addition to the traditional Irish dinner, blessing by Bishop Robert Brown of Zion Church Ministries, live Irish music, and bag pipers, there was the presentation of the Golden Shamrock Award to Liliana Patino of the Eliot Family Resource Center.

Proceeds from the event go to The DiDomenico Foundation, which funds educational scholarships for graduating high school students, as well as a large toy drive during the holiday season for domestic violence and homeless shelters throughout the Greater Boston area.



Gov. Maura Healey and Everett City Council Al Lattanzi.



Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll and Everett City Councilor Al Lattanzi.



Charlestown Neighborhood Council President Tom Cunha, with Sen. Sal DiDomenico.



Sen. Sal DiDomenico, his wife, Trisha DiDomenico, who is the president of the DiDomenico Foundation, and members of the DiDomenico family.



Councilor Ruthzee Louijeune, Senator Lydia Edwards, Mayor Michelle Wu and Councilor Gabriela Coletta with members of GreenRoots.



Members of the CBC organization enjoying the evening.



Representing the For Kids Only AfterSchool Program, front row, from left, Lisa Carrieri, Gabe Carrieri, Chris Crombie, and Daniel Shenk-Moreno. Back row, from left, FKO Executive Director Deborah Kneeland Keegan, Briana Flannery, Nicole DeSimone, Linda Vecchia, and Ron Vecchia.

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