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THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024



# CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE ——

#### THE DIDOMENICO FOUNDATION'S 11TH ANNUAL ST. PATRICK DAY'S DINNER

The DiDomenico Foundation's 11th Annual St. Patrick Day's Dinner held on March 8 drew a capacity crowd to the Knights of Columbus in Charlestown.

Sen. Sal DiDomenico led the speaking program during which leaders in state government delivered some humorous quips and

The many guests enjoyed a delicious corned beef and cabbage

Congratulations to Foundation President Trisha DiDomenico and Sen. Sal DiDomenico on hosting another outstanding celebration of St. Patrick's Day.



Former Boston Carpenters Union regional manager Richard Pedi, Tricia DiDomenico, and Sen. Sal DiDomenico.



Brian Hickey, former state representative Jimmy Collins, Gov. Maura Healey, and Jim Picciotto. See page 5 for more photos.

#### Wu comes to Charlestown

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Mayor Michelle Wu and several officials from City Departments came to the Charlestown Neighborhood Council (CNC) meeting last week at the Knights of Columbus Hall to hear residents voice their opinions on several projects that have them concerned, such as the Helm, restoring in-person meetings, the Boston planning and development Agency (BPDA), density issues and local schools. For more than two hours, Wu listened to their concerns and thoughts while not shying away from giving answers that many in the audience

of more than 100 did not want to hear, stressing that there could be a middle ground to keep the projects and to alleviate some of the residents' concerns.

"There is lot happening in Charlestown," Wu said, adding she favors fixing some controversial projects in the "details" while trying to err on the side of keeping the projects moving forward.

"Zoom does not work," Tom Cuhna, Chair of the CNC said referring to the remote way some meetings occur. Wu said that she was a huge fan of hearing feed-

(Wu Pg. 2)

#### The Irish Experience in Boston

Story & Photo by Marianne Salza

Historian, Chris Daley, presented "The Irish Experience in Boston" at the Charlestown Branch of the Boston Public Library on March 7. Daley's interest in the topic began when he started examining his genealogy. The recently retired teacher was shocked by what he had learned about Irish struggles and achievements.

"Boston is the perfect place to talk about the Irish because they came in droves," began Daley. "The Irish came to these shores as servants, prisoners, and as halfdead refugees. They endured ethnic and religious persecution and bigotry. They endured wretched

(Experience Pg. 3)



Historian, Chris Daley, presenting, "The Irish Experience in Boston," on March 7 at the Charlestown Branch Library.

#### **CNC MEETING DATES**

CNC Development Committee Meeting, Wednesday, March 27, The Charlestown Neighborhood Council's Development Committee will hold an in-person public meeting at the Knights of Columbus, 545 Medford Street, on Wednesday, March 27, at 7 PM. The sole agenda item is the proposed development of the Austin Street /Rutherford parking lots located between Bunker Hill Community College and City Square. A presentation by the project proponents, Trinity Financial, will be followed by an opportunity for the committee and community to ask questions about the project.

#### **W**U (from pg. 1)

back. She noted that Zoom does work for people like senior citizens and parents with children who could not get to the meetings but want to still voice their thoughts. She said that possibly the City could do both Zoom and in person meetings, while noting that there are three people on the city staff to work with residents "on issues in person" as follow-up to Zoom meetings.

On PLAN Charlestown, Wu noted that for the PLAN initiatives Charlestown was put together with other neighborhoods like East Boston, Downtown and Mattapan, which made objectives too complex to get accomplished. She said that she does not favor throwing away the last four years of work on these meetings and ideas, but wants to focus on two neighborhoods, Charlestown and one other, and "do right for the neighborhoods."

On the BPDA, she noted that she is proposing reforms to hold the Agency more accountable to the neighborhoods. She aims to create a city planning department and end urban renewal, in it's historically pejorative tear-it-alldown-and-build-new meaning. CNC board member Rosemary Macero wanted the BPDA to reverse the lease and transfer of the Helm Property in the Navy Yard that is geared to housing of formerly homeless people. Wu responded that these types of developments "get people back on their feet." Wu said she favors more meetings on the Helm project "to work out the concerns of the residents and not to start all over again, ... the City needs this project." Wu ended her thoughts on this project saying, "I personally promise that I will get back to you on the list of questions outstanding."

The discharge of raw sewerage into the waterways was also brought up. Wu noted the need for large infrastructure repairs to prevent Combined Sewer Overflows during heavy rains. She also noted that the Army Corps of Engineers is also doing an assessment of the problem. "No way am I going to let air and water quality slip," she added

The issue of police staffing shortages was also aired during the

meeting. Wu noted that there are police staffing shortages nationally and statewide, and that city officials need help with recruitment of new officers.

On housing shortages, Sheila Dillon, Chief of Housing for the City of Boston and Director of Mayor's Office of Housing, noted that many developers are not building for families. Wu said that city officials have the right to tell developers what can be built and where, that she is pushing for "for the right mix neighborhood by neighborhood."

This lack of housing for families for three to four bedrooms was cited as a reason that, while Charlestown leads the City on per capita children ages zero to nine years, the figure dramatically falls off as the children age.

There were other concerns brought up like the proposed soccer stadium in Everett, the destruction of the tree canopy by development and the need for recognition of the battlefield of Bunker Hill.

At the end of the two hour meeting, Wu heard what was on the attendees' minds and prom-



Mayor Michelle Wu speaks at the Charlestown Neighborhood Council meeting last week at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

ised to seek a middle ground on addressing these issues. Before leaving the hall, Wu spent another

15 minutes listening and informally conversing with members of the audience.

#### News Briefs

#### WILD AND SCENIC FILM FESTIVAL

On Saturday night April 27 non-profit "e" inc. will once again regale visitors with our annual Wild and Scenic Film Festival out of Nevada City, California.

Wild and Scenic is a wonderful evening of foods, fantastic films, and fulfilling ideas.

Come join us for wonderful stories of hope and resilience, as we learn about the many ways individuals and groups are working to make a difference for the planet.

cenotech Residence

Doors open at 6:30 as we meet old friends, learn new concepts, take chances at the silent auction, while also being feted with foods and sweets from Bakers Best.

Tickets can be found on Eventbrite for the Boston Wild and Scenic Film Festival program. The event will be held at Atlantic Wharf on Congress St. in Boston.

Hope to see you there! Eventbrite link for tickets:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/e-inc-presents-wild-and-scenic-film-festival-tickets.

# A Juried Art Exhibition Inspired by the Change of Season March 22 - April 14, 2024 Reception: Friday March 22, 5:00 - 8:00 GALLERY HOURS: Sat and Sun 12:00 - 5:00 March 23 + 24 | April 6 + 7 | April 13 + 14 w w w . Artists Group of Charlestown.com

#### St. John School announces new Head of School

St. John School, a prominent institution in the heart of the North End of Boston, is delighted to announce the appointment of Ms. Annmarie Quezada as its first-ever Head of School. This new position has been created to steer St. John School towards new horizons in faith-based learning and educational excellence.

Ms. Quezada brings a wealth of experience to St. John School, having served in various educational leadership roles over her career. She has led Catholic, private, and urban schools. Most recently, she held the position of Head of School at Mother Caroline Academy where she was dedicated to providing a Catholic education rooted in a strong mission to help young people immerse themselves in social justice and contribute to the greater good of our world.

As St. John School embarks on this exciting new chapter, Annmarie will play a pivotal role in enhancing the school's commitment to providing a nurturing and challenging educational environment. She will join with our current principal, Ms. Claire Cassidy, to fortify the school's mission to

offer a rigorous, Catholic education that prepares students not only academically but also spiritually for the challenges of the modern world.

"Ms. Quezada's track record of inspirational leadership and her deep commitment to faith-based education aligns perfectly with the values and vision of St. John School," said Sr. Marian Batho, Co-Chair of the Board of Specified Jurisdiction at St. John School. "We are confident that under her leadership, our school will continue to grow and excel in developing young minds and hearts in our Catholic setting."

The school community will have an opportunity to meet and welcome Ms. Quezada at the all-school Mass on March 8 at 8:15 a.m. in St. Leonard Church followed by a meet-and-greet session for parents at St. John School.

"I am honored and excited to join the St. John School community," said Ms. Quezada. "I look forward to building on the school's rich legacy and working collaboratively with staff, students, and parents to create a bright and impactful future for our students." For more information about St. John School or to schedule an interview with Annmarie Quezada, please contact Charlie Drane of ElevatEd Consulting at charlie@elevatedconsulting.org.

Nestled in the heart of the North End, St. John School has been educating children for over 125 years; some of our students represent the third generation in their family to attend. The warm and caring environment of our school is regularly something that visitors comment on whenever spending time here.

Our dedicated and hardworking teachers ensure that students feel cared for and their needs are being supported. Teachers challenge students daily to grow academically, socially, and spiritually. The academic curriculum at St. John School is structured to challenge all learners through critical thinking, student collaboration, and problem-solving.

Our graduates move on to the finest high schools in the Boston area and we are thrilled when they return and share their news of continued success.

VISIT WWW.CHARLESTOWNBRIDGE.COM

#### EXPERIENCE (from pg. 1)

poverty, and back-breaking menial labor; but in the end, they overcame, they surmounted, and they prevailed."

Daley explained that many Irish arrived in American as indentured servants. Ideally, English landlords would provide funds for passage to America. In exchange, the Irish would sign themselves over to bondage for five to seven years, during which time, they would learn a trade, and move on their ways; however, that was rarely the case.

In the 1650s, over 100,000 Irish children were taken from their Catholic parents and sold as indentured servants to the West Indies, Virginia, and New England, where they were assigned to Puritan masters...

"They arrived to Boston not willingly; probably in chains," described Daley. "A lot of times, as soon as they were placed, they ran away. Often, the Irish and Africans would help each other and run away in tandem, and hide. The Irish could blend into the population as long as he didn't start speaking Gaelic. A lot of times, too, they'd be stopped, brought back, and mistreated."

As punishment, the Irish would be restrained in stocks or pillories to be publically humiliated. Townspeople would taunt the captured, throwing offal from their farms and garbage at offenders.

"If you continued to disobey, you'd be whipped and dragged through the town so everybody could take a whack at you," Daley depicted. "Much of this punishment happened in Boston at the old Town House. It was a place for commerce and meetings. Eventually it burned down and was replaced [by the old State House]."

When rumors stirred that a Jesuit priest was holding mass in the woods and in basements, the Anti-Catholic Law of 1647 was issued by the General Court of the Massachusetts Bay Colony to prohibit the practice of Catholicism. The penalty for repeat offenders was death.

The Irish began to emerge and celebrated their first service in 1788, in a building that was abandoned by the Huguenots near the corner of School and Washington Streets, Boston. It was the first Catholic mass in all of New England.

"The first Irish migration to America was in the 1820s; and it began as a trickle. It was because, back in Ireland, which was controlled by England, laws were passed by Parliament, stripping away the rights of Irish Catholics," said Daley. "As an Irish Catholic, you couldn't run for office, practice your own religion, or work for the government. If you had land, you couldn't farm it, fish on it, use it to cut timber, or even sell the grass. The one thing you could do was sell it to an Englishman. That's what a lot of people did. They got out and they came to America.'

The population of Irish in Boston was about 2,000 in 1820; and by 1830, it had increased to an estimated 7,000, with Boston's total population at 61,392.

An early conflict arose in 1834 at the Ursuline Convent on Mount Saint Benedict, located in what was then Charlestown, and is now Somerville. The Ursuline Convent was a private school with Puritan students, such as Rebecca Reed, who, according to the nuns, was deeply involved in her studies. Reed had shown interest in converting to Catholicism, and even became a novice. A few months after Reed had abruptly left the convent, a manuscript was released detailing accusations that students were chained and being brainwashed by nuns.

"Even though this was an unpublished manuscript, it made the rounds, and people in Charlestown started clucking. People were upset," described Daley. "All the stories floating around were not true, but gossip continued to build."

On August 24, 1834, a mob formed and began looting the convent, throwing pianos out the windows, and setting it ablaze. One man stole the host from the tabernacle, and by the end of the night, was waving it around a barroom.

A massive migration of Irish to America occurred during the Potato Famine, which began in 1845, when a fungus diseased the vital crop. At the time, the Irish were tenant farmers working on expansive, English farms. They grew corn and beans for export; but were not allowed to eat them. Whatever they could fit in their cottages was what they were able to keep.

"The only thing that you could plant in the little space, and survive on was the potato. It grew deep, and you could live for a whole year on the potato. When the blight happened, it ruined the potato crop for several years, and they were bereaved of their sustenance," exclaimed Daley. "The Great Hunger could have totally been obverted."

Soup kitchens and work houses were set in place; but when the conservative government took office, they adopted a laissez faire attitude, and blamed the Irish for the problem. While thousands were dying, Parliament passed a law deeming the landlords responsible for those suffering. Too weak to work, landlords evicted them, and many lived in the woods and roadside, struggling to find food. British newspaper artists depicted Irish families scrounging around the dirt, searching for morsels, and eating shoe leather and bark.

Often, landlords would pay for their tenants' journey to America, South America, or Canada.

"The ships they were jammed aboard were aptly named, 'coffin ships.' They were wretched, leaky, wooden, sail ships," Daley described. "Many of these people were sick already with typhoid, dysentery, and cholera. They had heard the streets were paved of gold and that there was opportunity in paradise; but what they found was quite unlike what they thought."

Those who had families in America were dropped off in Philadelphia, New York, and Boston slums. In 1846, 80,000 Irish arrived in Boston and were placed in already crowded neighborhoods along the waterfront, North End, and East Boston.

"The conditions were horrendous," exposed Daley. "They were stuffed into sheds, barns, stables, basements – wherever they could shove people in the most unsanitary conditions available. In some instances, one sink might serve a whole tenement building. These people came here diseased already, and they continued to die once they got here."

Daley discovered that the paternal side of his family migrated to America in the 1850s. His great, great, great grandfather, Michael

#### **DENTAL HYGIENE MONTH**



In celebration of Dental Hygiene month, St. John School had visitors from our community partners at North End Waterfront Health. Dr. Erika, Dr. K, and Assistant Ray, visited our Preschool recently. The dentists talked about the magic number "2"- brush twice a day for two minutes and see the dentist twice a year. Students practiced good brushing techniques on Dino, discussed foods to avoid to maintain healthy teeth, and received a goodie bag filled with a toothbrush, toothpaste, and a tooth brushing chart. Oh! And don't forget to floss!

Daly, traveled to Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, and walked to Bangor, Maine. By the end of his life, Michael Daly owned a lumber yard. Two of his sons were bare-fisted boxers. Family lore believes that an "e" was added to "Daly" to make the surname sound more American.

What was available for the Irish to work was limited. Women could serve as maids or washer women, scrubbing the floors of the Brahmins on Beacon Hill. Men had more options, such as waiters, grocers, sweatshop factory workers, ditch diggers, and longshoremen or stevedores, carrying cargo on their backs to load onto ships.

"You could literally say the city was built on the back of Irish labor. You can thank the Irish for the progression of Boston," said Daley. "A lot of these men worked themselves to death. A lot of them died before they were 50. One thing notable politicians in Boston had in common was their fathers died early and they had to take over and be the man of the house."

James Michael Curley was one of those prominent Irish, Catholic politicians. At a young age, his father, a ditch digger, died from a brain aneurysm while lifting a bolder. His mother was a scrubber woman washing floors on her hands and knees. He left school in 8th grade to work as a druggist clerk.

Curley served as a councilman, mayor of Boston four times between 1914-1955, governor once, and a congressman twice. One of the first executive orders he made when he took office was to provide scrubber women with mops.

"He had a gift of oratory. He had a booming voice. Every time he ran for office, his constituents knew he was willing to stick his neck out for his people; and it got him elected over and over again. But he was crooked as they day is long, and had a violent streak," added Daley. "They call him the first, modern politician. I think the title that he cherished the most was 'the mayor of the poor."

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#### EDITORIAL

#### THE VERDICT IS IN: WE ARE EATING OURSELVES TO DEATH

Most Americans by now are aware that we are among the most overweight people on earth: 40 percent of us are obese and another 32 percent are overweight, which means that a total of 72 percent of Americans -- that's almost 3 of every 4 among us -- have an unhealthy body weight.

That's bad enough, but scientists say that if current trends continue, by 2030 that number will increase to 80%, so in a few more years, about 4 out of 5 Americans will range from overweight to obese.

Although the new weight loss drugs -- which originally were formulated to combat diabetes (Ozempic/Wegovy by Novo Nordisk and Mounjaro/Zepbound by Eli Lilly) and then were shown to have the "side effect" of bringing about substantial weightloss in those who take the drugs -- hold the promise of solving our national excess weight problem, a host of hurdles stands in the way of helping every American who might benefit from them.

The high cost of those drugs (which presently are not covered by health insurance companies for weight loss), the potential for side-effects (they clearly are not for everyone), and the fact that they have to be taken for life, may leave many Americans who struggle with their weight on their own without the benefit of these medications.

But there may be another solution. A recent study has concluded that the true culprit for our obesity epidemic may lie in the kind of food we eat -- the so-called ultra-processed foods.

It is estimated that 70% of the food supply in the U.S. consists of ultra-processed foods. Two-thirds of the calories children consume in the US are ultra-processed, while about 60% of adult diets come from ultra-processed foods.

What constitutes an ultra-processed food is not always easy to figure out. There's a wide range of food items between fresh fruits and vegetables (which are not processed at all) and, say, Twinkies, which perhaps are emblematic of the ultimate ultra-processed "food." On the other hand, a shorthand way to think about ultra-processed foods is whether they are found in nature: Twinkies don't grow on trees.

According to the authors of a recent meta-analysis (they examined 45 studies involving almost 10 million human subjects), eating high intakes of ultra-processed foods substantially raises the risk of developing dozens of diseases and health conditions that are related to excess weight, with diabetes, heart disease, and cancer being chief among them.

That's because what goes into an ultra-processed food product is not real "food" at all. If you look at the ingredients on the label of a typical packaged-food product, they consist of chemically-manipulated ingredients such as modified starches, sugars, oils, fats, and protein isolates, with little if any whole food added,

But it is not just our physical health that is at risk from diets high in ultra-processed foods. Many of these fake foods, which are loaded with sugar, sodium, and are low in fiber and high in fat, also are thought to have negative effects upon our mental health, including anxiety, sleep disorders, and depression.

Moreover, given the addictive nature of these foods (the sugar rush to the brain and the lack of fiber that leaves you never feeling full), they create a feedback loop (no pun intended), so that the more we eat of these products, the more we want to eat.

Convenience is the driving force behind the ever-increasing use of ultra-processed foods by Americans. Frozen pizzas and dinners are a quick-and-easy meal solution for harried parents. Fast-food restaurants, with their triple-bacon cheeseburgers, chicken nuggets, fries, and super-size soft drinks, are everywhere.

By contrast, it should be noted that local restaurants typically do NOT serve the ultra-processed foods of the fast-food chains and that frozen meals prepared in-house in local grocery stores do not rely heavily on ultra-processed products.

For example, the list of ingredients for french fries at one famous national restaurant chain is this: Potatoes, Vegetable Oil (canola Oil, Corn Oil, Soybean Oil, Hydrogenated Soybean Oil, Natural Beef Flavor [wheat And Milk Derivatives]\*), Dextrose, Sodium Acid Pyrophosphate (maintain Color), Salt. \*natural Beef Flavor Contains Hydrolyzed Wheat And Hydrolyzed Milk As Starting Ingredients.

(Yuk! After reading that list of ingredients, who would want to put that in their body?) On the other hand, if you order a baked potato with your dinner at a local restaurant, you get the whole potato and nothing but the potato.

We realize that eating fewer ultra-processed foods is easier said than done. On the other hand, some of the solutions to avoiding ultra-processed foods are quite straightforward: Buy real food and cook it at home; read and compare product labels and try to choose less processed alternatives (for example, swap flavored-yogurt for plain yogurt with added fruit); add fresh, frozen, or canned fruits, vegetables, beans, and legumes to your diet; avoid sugar-sweetened beverages that have no nutritional value and instead drink water; and, when eating out, go to local restaurants instead of fast-food chains.

If we can significantly reduce ultra-processed foods from our diets, we can go a long way to solving the national epidemic of obesity that literally is killing us.

#### Letters to the Editor

#### LASTING PROGRESS NEEDS TO BE MADE

To the Editor,

CNC Written Statement to Mayor Wu.

Mayor Wu, First of all I would like to sincerely thank you for attending tonight's meeting.

A theme that I have always heard from the older generations is that Charlestown, due to its small population, has historically been forgotten and unheard by City Hall. So I appreciate you coming and listening.

I have the sense that community, in particular family-oriented community is under threat not only in Charlestown but in other parts of Boston. This is due to no fault of your own as it has been taking place for several decades, however, you now have the opportunity to make a positive impact by addressing this issues.

After seeing a study by the BPDA finding that Charlestown has the highest percentage per capita of Children age 0-9 and with that number dropping in half from age 10-19, I have made it a point to find the reasons why these families are leaving as I believe Charlestown has been missing the opportunity to become a stronger and more vibrant community.

1) One of the 2 main issues that I have identified is the school system, in particular the middle and High School. Parents have to make the difficult decision to stay and hope their child gets into an exam school and if not either send them to private school or sadly move to a different public school system.

Everyone knows that our high school needs a lot of work, which is why a group of parents made a presentation to the school committee about revamping Charlestown High School that ultimately got denied. People here are truly willing to work to make this community a better place to live, but we need the city's help and partnership.

2) The second issue that I have identified is the lack of

larger 3 to 4 bedroom single family houses or condos.

There is a lot of development being planned but these plans largely consist of many 1 or 2 bedroom micrunits. And on top of that, the already limited supply of single family houses is and has been slowly eroded as they are converted into smaller condos or apartments.

We are not NIMBY'S. There is a serious need for more housing but we need to preserve our single family houses and we need new developments to focus on new single family houses or larger family sized units so more families can stay and in turn strengthen our community.

I fear, that if nothing is done, then Charlestown will become like a Disposable Neighborhood, meaning a neighborhood where people will live with no intention of staying long term, being involved, and just throwing it away when they are done.

To close, I believe that it is only when the government partners with the people that true lasting progress can be made, so please partner with us so that we can build a stronger community.

Phil Carr

#### THANK YOU, CHARLESTOWN VOTERS

To the Editor,

My name is Danielle Allen, and I was on the ballot last week for Democratic State Committee for our Senate District, Middlesex and Suffolk. I am writing to thank all Charlestown voters for turning out to vote on Super Tuesday!

Thank you for voting not only in the Presidential Primary but also in the State Committee races. Those races are so important, because the state party committees guide our political parties in shaping the landscape of our elections—who the candidates are, what the rules are for party contests, what the party platform is.

I did not prevail in the election, and I want to congratulate the winner, Henrietta Davis. A long-time elected official in Cambridge, Henrietta will represent us all well. I want to thank Olivia Walsh also, for a race well run.

At the same time, I am glad to report that I did prevail in a second contest for seats on the State Committee, the caucus process. I will join the Democratic State Committee, alongside Henrietta, to represent our Senate District, as State Committee Woman for Middlesex and Suffolk, as the holder of a caucus seat.

Over the last few years, I've been rebuilding my ward in Cambridge, Ward 2. As a State Committee member, I look forward to supporting all ward chairs in our Senate District.

And if you'd like to get involved but aren't sure how to do so yet, please drop me a line at danielle@americatheindivisible.org, and I will gladly connect you to the ward chair for your neighborhood, so you can get involved! It is fun and

(LETTERS Pg. 11)



THE CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE,

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EMAIL: editor@charlestownbridge.com • Web Site: www.charlestownbridge.com

Newsstand Price: Free / Subscription Price: \$75 Annually

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#### THE DIDOMENICO FOUNDATION'S 11TH ANNUAL ST. PATRICK DAY'S DINNER



Rep. Judith Garcia, Senate President Karen Spilka, Gov. Maura Healey, and Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll.



Charlestown Neighborhood Liaison Sean Breen, Brian Callahan, and Rep. Michael Connolly.

# Harvest on Vine Emergency Food Pantry

Easter Ham - SIGN UPs at 49 Vine St basement Thurs., 3/14, 1 – 7 p.m. Fri., 3/15, 10a.m. – 4 p.m. For more information call Tom at 617-990-7314 Distribution Tuesday MARCH 26 2 p.m.

#### Wishing everyone a

#### Happy St. Patrick's Day!



State Representative
DAN RYAN
RepDanRyan.com

The DiDomenico Foundation's 11th Annual St. Patrick Day's Dinner held on March 8 drew a capacity crowd to the Knights of Columbus in Charlestown.



Tom Cunha, chair of the Charlestown Neighborhood Council, and Gov. Maura Healey.



Legislative Intern Chloe Chick (right) welcomes Boston Mayor Michelle Wu to the DiDomenico Foundation St. Patrick's Day Dinner March 8 at the Knights of Columbus in Charlestown.



Chelsea City Councilor Calvin Brown, State Auditor Diana DiZoglio, Bishop Robert G. Brown, Liliana Patino of the Eliot Family Resource Center, former city councilor Vivian Nguyen, Ward 2 Councilor Stephanie Martins, Boston City Council President Ruthzee Louijeune, and Revere City Councilor Juan Pablo Jaramillo.



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#### DiDomenico hosts briefing with students to advocate for safe and supportive schools

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Last week, Senator Sal DiDomenico hosted a briefing for students from across the state and welcomed them to the State House to discuss the importance of Safe and Supportive Schools. At the briefing, middle and high school students shared their perspectives on what they need in order to do well in school and why now is a critical moment to prioritize funding for Safe and Supportive Schools.

"I was moved by the passion and activism I saw in these students, and I am proud that our office has secured funding for Safe and Supportive Schools over the last several sessions and I will continue advocating for funding in this year's budget," said Sal DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate. "Protecting and supporting our children should be our top priority, and properly funding this initiative will go a long way towards achieving that goal. I want to thank my State House Colleagues, Anne Eisner, Director of the Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative, and Michael Gregory for organizing this great event and for all their work supporting students



Senator DiDomenico and Representative Balser (front two left to right) standing alongside students and advocates on the Grand Staircase in the State House

throughout Massachusetts.

Senator DiDomenico co-hosted this event with the Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative of Harvard Law School and State Representative Ruth B. Balser, State Representative Denise Garlick, and Senator Jason Lewis. The Safe and Supportive Schools grant program

and related resources help school districts and communities build safe and supportive learning environments for all students. Senator DiDomenico has been a longtime supporter of funding this initiative and will continue to do so in this year's budget.

Friends of the Charlestown Navy Yard present Charlestown Navy Yard History

# Tuesday, March 26 7 p.m. at Pier 6 Restaurant

Know a lot about the Navy Yard or want to learn more?
Join us for a fun evening attempting to answer questions provided by the National Park Service historians.
Besides the fame and glory, top teams will receive prizes.
Bring yourself or form a team.







For more information visit: www.friendscny.org

Working to improve the quality of life for Charlestown residents & visitors



Senator DiDomenico speaking alongside students and advocates in the State House.





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#### **CHAMPIONS AGAIN**



Champions again are the Charlestown High School boys basketball team this past Saturday, March 9 after beating Newburyport 87-72 at Madison Park. The win advances the team to the final 4 round this week. As we go to press this week, Charlestown will clash with Taconic High School at Worcester State College and if successful, will contend for the Division 3

#### Boston Centers for Youth and Families announce new center directors

Boston Centers for Youth nd Families (BCYF), the City's largest youth and human service agency, announced James Burke as the new BCYF Charlestown Community Center Director, Johnnie Kindell as the new BCYF Hyde Park Community Center Director, and Raymond Heath as the new BCYF Mattahunt Community Center Director.

State Title at the weekend at the Tsongas Arena in Lowell.

"Our community centers are the heart and soul of our neighborhoods, connecting families with resources and opportunities that kids remember for the rest of their lives," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm thrilled to welcome James Burke, Johnnie Kindell, and Raymond Heath to new roles running our BCYF sites, and I'm confident their dedication to our communities will serve residents well."

This is an exciting and unique time for BCYF, bringing on three new center directors to lead community centers in Charlestown, Hyde Park and Mattapan," said Marta E. Rivera, Commissioner of Boston Centers for Youth & Families. "James, Johnnie and Raymond bring a wealth of experiences and skills to their sites. We look forward to achieving great things together."

The center directors supervise employees and volunteers, and develop, implement and monitor programs, operational policies and procedures within the community center. They also oversee building management and security, prepare and administer budgets and handle other administrative functions. A key part of the job is working closely with the volunteer councils

that support each of our centers with fundraising and program implementation. BCYF currently has additional center director vacancies. Visit the City of Boston Career Center for more information.

James Burke was born and raised in Boston and grew up attending and obtaining his first job as a teen with the BCYF Roche Family Community Center in West Roxbury. James was hired in 2018 as an athletic assistant followed by athletic director at BCYF Gallivan Community Center in Mattapan before becoming a program supervisor at BCYF Charlestown Community Center in 2021. James has held jobs at four community centers during his time with BCYF.

"I'm excited for the opportunity

to provide Charlestown with relevant and effective programming to meet the diverse needs of this historic community," said James Burke, Center Director at BCYF Charlestown Community Center. "I look forward to building new relationships and strengthening existing ones in this new role to

(BCYF Pg. 9)



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#### Fresh and Local

#### March holiday breads and pastries

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

March is a delicious month for those who indulge in the abundance of treats that celebrate the change of season and specific holidays. We're talking about Irish soda bread for Saint Patrick's Day, Zeppoles for Saint Joseph's Day, and pies for Pi Day. The Spring Equinox, Easter, Purim, Ramadan, and Holi celebrations all have associated bread or pastry. We have lovely local sources for many holiday pastries and breads.

#### Irish Soda Bread

A few years ago, we discovered Flour Bakery made soda bread as

whole loaves on special order and individual scones in the pastry case in March. We order one loaf to devour around the 17th and another to freeze for future treats. This year, we plan to try the Clear Flour bakery version, which will be available through the end of the month.

Year-round, you can pick up a delicious loaf at Greenhills Bakery in Adams Village. This bakery also supplies Irish brown bread without the raisins and caraway seeds. Plus, they carry a selection of Irish grocery items for your Saint Patrick's Day celebration.

For a Zeppole tasting around the 19th, you can visit the North End and pick your favorite from Modern Pastry, Bovas, or Mike's. Other cities and towns in the area have many great Italian bakeries that make their version of this seasonal treat.

#### Spring Equinox and Easter

This year, the Spring Equinox is on the 20th, and Easter is on the 31st. One of the most famous easter pastries, the Hot Cross Bun, originated in pagan Spring Equinox celebrations.

The British website Chefin's article "The Pagan Origins Of Easter" explains, "These were taken from the Saxons, who would bake fresh bread in honour of the goddess Eostre. The fresh buns would be marked with a cross. At the time, the cross represented the four quarters of the moon, four seasons, and wheel of life."



Irish soda bread is one of many holiday treats available around Boston

Many local bakeries make hot cross buns in March. It's a great reason to visit your favorite bakery and try this item, especially if it is only on their seasonal menu. We'll be picking one up at Clear Flour.

If you visit the North End for Zeppole, you could select some excellent Italian Easter pastries and bread. You'll see Pane di Pasqua, Easter bread with colorfully dyed eggs as decoration. You might also want a beautifully decorated Sicilian Cassata cake or the more straightforward and not too sweet Ricotta pie.

#### Other Excuses to Indulge!

Ramadan begins on the 11th, and a special bread called Ramazan Pides is baked in the Turkish Islamic community. We have yet to find a source but will reach out to Turkish cafes and bakeries that offer Halal food to see if we can find one.

On Pi Day, the 14th, you can pick up a great pie or slice from Petsi Pies in Somerville or one of the Tatte locations in the area. Don't forget that pies and diners go together, so check out the pie selection at your favorite diner or

Purim begins on the 23rd and is known for Hamantashen pastries, which will be available at Clear Flour bakery until the 24th.

Holi, a colorful Hindu celebration of Spring, abounds with sweets and pastries. Check the dessert menus at your favorite Indian restaurant to see if they offer Holi treats for the 21st.

March is when we enjoy learning more about other cultures by eating the foods they use to celebrate their versions of welcoming spring. Indulge since acceptance and education about others can begin with their food.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

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### Happy St.Patrick's Day!



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MGH Charlestown HealthCare Center greatly values PFAC collaborations to provide the best care experience possible.

MGH Charlestown HealthCare Center PFAC membership consists of recent experience with care at MGH Charlestown as a patient, and/or family member, comfort with sharing ideas and experiences in a group setting, diverse backgrounds and perspectives, ability to participate in regular General PFAC meetings in the early evening, support of MGH Charlestown HealthCare Center's mission and passion about making a difference.

If you are interested in participating, we look forward to hearing from you. To request an application, or for more information, please email: mmontecinos@mab.org.

Your responses will remain confidential and will be reviewed by MGH Charlestown HealthCare Center clinical staff. You can expect to hear about your application status within 2 weeks.

#### Harvard Travellers Club to host record-breaking transatlantic oarsman Bryan Fuller on April 9

The Harvard Travellers Club will feature Bryan Fuller, holder of the American record for the fastest transatlantic crossing by oar, achieved in 2012. Fuller is owner and founder of Power Rowing Studio in Brookline, a company he started after giving in to his passion for rowing and making it his fulltime job. Interestingly, Fuller came to rowing relatively late, after a career in the military as a counterintelligence agent. Suffering from PTSD as he exited the service, Fuller managed to gain admission to the MBA program at Boston University's Questrom School of Business and began a new career in auditing and accounting. But then he found rowing. After experiencing a rowing machine in 2011 he became obsessed with the sport, joining Community Rowing and raising \$10,000 for veterans with his first record-breaking transatlantic crossing in 2012.

Fuller is planning another transatlantic expedition for June 2024, when he and three others will try to raise \$50,000 for veterans and attempt to cover the 3,500 miles in 50 days or less. In Bryan's presentation at the Harvard Club, he will describe the challenges faced by his first crossing and discuss "lessons learned" that will help make this second, more northerly (and thus more dangerous) crossing safe and successful.

This April 9 presentation will mark the 913th consecutive meeting of the Harvard Travellers Club since its founding in 1902. The Club traces its roots to Harvard's

eminent geographer, Professor William Morris Davis who, in association with Copley Amory, Archibald Cary Coolidge, Roland B. Dixon, and Hames J. Kidder, invited Harvard colleagues to meet in an effort to promote and discuss "intelligent travel and exploration". The Club continues to accept new applicants.

While the Golden Age of geographical exploration during which the Club was founded has long since passed, the spirit behind the founding of the Club remains intact. Today, members continue to commit themselves to intelligent travel and continue to be curious about other landscapes, cultures and scientific discoveries. Definitely unchanged is members' enjoyment in learning of one another's

In 1913 the club began to meet at the Harvard Club on Commonwealth Avenue - a tradition which continues to this day. The Club currently meets eight times a year for cocktails, dinner, and a lecture. Among the speakers this season have been Behzad Larry, who spoke to the Club about snow leopard conservation in Ladakh, India; Polly Letofsky, who circled the world on foot; and Dylan Wickrama who rode his motorcycle around the world including a stint atop a raft for part of the way. We also heard from two of our members about excavations in Ethiopia and dog-sledding on Baffin Island in the Canadian Arctic.

'Our members join together to share stories of distant places, rug-

ged climbs, boating expeditions foreign cultures and traditions" says Council member and North Shore resident Peter Creighton. "Member presence and participation propels this club forward and I love learning about other members' adventures".

To that end the Club welcomes potential new members and interested parties to attend the dinner in April to meet the membership committee. Membership in the Harvard Travellers Club is open to persons who have a background or interest in world travel.

Visit http://www.harvardtravellersclub.org for more information, and contact jenniferlenoxcraig@ gmail.com if you are interested in attending the dinner and Bryan Fuller's lecture.

#### BCYF (from pg. 7)

ensure the success of our community center."

James has officially started in his role at BCYF Charlestown.

Johnnie Kindell comes to BCYF from Boston Public Schools where he was a community connection coordinator. He worked at BCYF for fourteen years before leaving for BPS. Johnnie started his career at BCYF as a BCYF Holland Community Center Council employee in 2002. He then went on to be a youth worker at the Holland for eight years and then a program supervisor at BCYF Roslindale Community Center for six years.

"I am thrilled and honored to

be rejoining this incredible organization as the new BCYF Hyde Park Community Center Direcsaid Johnnie Kindell, Center Director at BCYF Hyde Park Community Center. "It is a privilege to be part of a team with such a stellar reputation for making a positive impact in the community. I look forward to working alongside the dedicated staff and volunteers to further the center's mission and make a meaningful difference in the lives of the people we serve."

Johnnie officially started at BCYF Hyde Park on Monday,

Raymond Heath was born and

raised in Dorchester and attended the former John Marshall Elementary School which is the current location of the BCYF Marshall Community Center in Dorchester. After school he would swim at the Marshall and that is where he encountered former Center Director JD Dawson. JD made the Marshall pool a sanctuary for local youth and would always make the youth feel welcome. Raymond started with BCYF in 2012 and worked at two other BCYF centers before becoming a program supervisor at BCYF Gallivan in 2019.

"I'm excited to become a Center Director because of people like ID," said Raymond Heath, Center Director at BCYF Mattahunt Community Center. "He was a community person who made kids feel like we belonged. I want to give kids a safe place to express themselves, have fun, learn new skills with a sense of community. There's nothing compared to being at a community center that's the lifeblood of the neighborhood. I'm grateful for the opportunity to do the work I love and thankful for getting the privilege to serve the Mattapan community in any way

A ribbon cutting for the newly

renovated BCYF Mattahunt with Mayor Wu is scheduled for Thursday, April 25 at 11 a.m. The public is encouraged to stop by this event and learn more about Raymond and the center.

Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) is the City of Boston's largest youth and human service agency. BCYF operates 36 community centers in Boston that offer a variety of engaging and enriching programs for people of all ages created through community input and need. BCYF also oversees many citywide programs.

#### LEGAL NOTICE

#### **LEGAL NOTICE** COMMONWEALTH OF

MASSACHUSETTS SUFFOLK. ss. PROBATE COURT. Case No. SU 23E0139 To: Lauren E. Ingegneri and to all other persons interested. A petition has been presented to said Court by Matthew C. Cioffari of Charlestown, MA, in the County of Suffolk, representing that he holds as tenant in common 1/2 undivided part or share of certain land lying in Charlestown, in said County Suffolk, and briefly describes as follows: The Condominium Unit known as Condominium Unit No. 5 in the Condominium known as 5-9 Franklin Street Condominium, a Condominium

established by Master

Deed dated March 18,

2015 and recorded at the

**Suffolk County Registry** of Deeds on March 24, 2015, in Book 54216, Page 136, as amended by First Amendment to Condominium Master Deed dated July 19. 2016 and recorded at **Suffolk County Registry** of Deeds in Book 56467, Page 274 and 5-9 Franklin Street Condominium Second Amendment to Master Deed Phase Two Phasing Amendment, dated July 19, 2016 and recorded at **Suffolk County Registry** of Deeds in Book 56467, Page 276. setting forth that he desire that all the following described part - of said land may be sold at private sale for not less than \$1,405,328.00 dollars and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner will be appointed to make sure

partition to be ordered to

make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the C ourt finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof. If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Boston before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the 18th day of April 2024. The return day of this Citation. Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, Esquire, First Judge of said Court this 7th day

3/14/24

**LEGAL NOTICE** 

of March 2024.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND

FAMILY COURT **Suffolk Division** 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PFTITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE **SETTLEMENT** Docket No. SU22P0920EA Estate of: Robert F. Rooney, Jr. Date of Death: 10/12/2020 A Petition for Order of **Complete Settlement** has been filed by Ani N. Rooney of Charlestown, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including a determination of testacy and heirs at law and the 1st and Final Account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition. IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attornev must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 04/09/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J.

Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: March 06, 2024

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate 3/14/24

#### CHARLESTOWN GYM HOCKEY

2024/2025 Charlestown Gym Hockey Registration

Registration for our 2024/2025 season will be taking place: Saturday April 6, 2024 9am to lpm Special Townies 314 Main Street Charlestown, MA

Ages are: 3 to 10 years old Anyone who turns ll years old before January 1, 2025 is too old. You do not have to live in Charlestown to play!!!

#### Spring lawn care tips to keep your grass healthy this year

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

With the first day of spring approaching, warmer weather signals plants to come out of dormancy and start flourishing again. The time for spring lawn care tips is right around the corner! Even if your lawn and garden never went fully dormant, you can still expect your home landscape to begin thriving with warmer temperatures

Pretty soon, your lawn and garden will be full of color and activity again! If you have a warm season lawn, your turfgrass will come out of dormancy and if you have a cool season lawn, snow in your area will start to melt and you'll enjoy a greener environment.

Youtube video link: https://youtu.be/ErmL0TMpNys

1. Begin Mowing Your Lawn at the Proper Height Again

The timing for which the first mow of the spring for your mature, established turfgrass widely varies depending on the area you live in. Grasses come out of dormancy differently depending on the environ-



PHOTO COURTESY SOD SOLUTIONS CONTENT STRATEGIST, VALERIE SMITH.

ment and temperatures your area encounters.

For example, if you live in South Florida, your grass may have never entered dormancy at all during the winter. Many homeowners who live in South Florida will mow their lawn every other week during the winter—oftentimes starting in September and resuming a regular, weekly mowing schedule again in mid-March.

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Generally speaking, however, mid-March is about the time for you to begin your regimen for spring green-up and mowing. It's important to note that the first mow of the spring shouldn't take place while warm season grass is dormant.

Mowing heights vary for each grass type, but you should never remove more than a third of the leaf blade from any grass type. If you mow less than this, you may risk scalping the grass.

Lastly, a good tip for spring is to make sure your lawn mower blades are sharpened so that the mower blades neatly slice through the grass in place of ripping them. If the grass blades aren't cut neatly, the mower is ripping them and opens the grass up to the possibility of disease.

Performing regular maintenance on your mower is good practice for the end of the mowing season or before spring takes place.

2. Start Your Lawn Off Right

with the Appropriate Spring Fertilizer This Year

Spring is one of the most important times of the year to use fertilizer. Warm season grasses are coming out of dormancy, so you will want to promote healthy roots and the return of green leaf blades.

Be careful when making your first fertilizer application of the year though—a lot of homeowners see their grass green up and immediately pull out the fertilizer and lawn mower.

We advise that you typically wait until the last frost has hit.

If you fertilize your lawn and another frost hits, your grass will go right back into dormancy, and you'll have a harder time getting it to green up again. This does more harm than good.

With that being said, the date of the last frost varies from location to location. In the Florida Panhandle, for example, grass doesn't ever go truly dormant and reaches its full green-up in early February (depending on how cold the winter was).

Even then, you won't want to apply fertilizer until after Easter once the last frost has passed.

Sod University recommends two different options for spring fertilization: Lawnifi® Foundation, a slow-release granular option that comes in 25 lb. bags and lasts for three months, and our Lawnifi Spring Fertilizer Box, a liquid fertilizer program that includes three bottles of liquid fertilizer that can be applied monthly with a hoseend sprayer.

Each option covers 5,000 sq. ft. Our patented nano-fertilizers with Catalyst TechnologyTM give your lawn the jump-start it needs to emerge from dormancy, green

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up fast and thrive throughout the spring months.

Check out Why Use Lawnifi Fertilizer? for more information about Lawnifi.

Next, it is important to mention that if you have a warm season lawn, you may start to notice spots of brown or straw-like grass while the rest of your lawn comes out of dormancy. This is usually a sign of disease.

You do not want to apply fertilizer to a lawn with disease as the nitrogen in the fertilizer will feed the disease and promote its growth.

Apply a systemic fungicide first and then wait several weeks before following with a fertilizer application.

3. Set Up a Spring Irrigation Schedule

Dormant, warm season turfgrass doesn't need much water until the active growing season kicks in and your grass starts to green up. If you have a dormant, warm season lawn, it is not dead it's just "sleeping".

Although dormant grass requires much less water than it would while it is actively growing, it will still need water. Once your grass starts to green up from winter dormancy, you should resume watering your lawn with about 1 inch of water per week including rainfall.

If you aren't sure how to measure how much water your lawn is receiving, an irrigation audit may be beneficial to you. Irrigation audits provide measurable information about how much water each area of your lawn is receiving

(Lawn Care, Pg. 11)

Miscellaneous

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#### LAWN CARE (from pg. 10)

within a given amount of time.

If you're a homeowner who lives far enough south and your warm season grass doesn't go dormant during the winter, you may continue to regularly water your lawn in the winter.

However, if you live in South Florida, for example, you may turn your irrigation off completely during the winter and during the months of June–August when it rains a lot.

The atmosphere in South Florida isn't usually evaporating much water and the grass isn't using it much during the winter, so frequent irrigation isn't needed.

The next few tips in this article discuss spring lawn treatment with fungicides, herbicides or insecticides. If any of these control products or fertilizers are granular, you will need to water the product in so that your lawn absorbs it.

When watering granular products in, you will already be watering your lawn with the appropriate amount of water during the week of application.

The same can be said with any liquid products as they are either products that attach to the end of your garden hose or require tank mixing with water.

Above all, read and follow label instructions thoroughly before watering any products in.

4. Control Weeds with a Pre- or Post-Emergent Herbicide

Pre-emergents should be applied during the spring when ground temperatures reach about 55 degrees Fahrenheit. A pre-emergent herbicide functions to prevent weeds from emerging from the surface of the soil, as its name suggests.

The exact dates for these applications differ depending on the area you live in, but generally speaking, pre-emergents should be applied between the beginning and middle of March in the spring.

Apply post-emergent herbicides throughout the spring as needed to control summer annual and perennial broadleaf weeds like crabgrass, goosegrass, sandspurs, dallisgrass, dandelion, chickweed, white clover, knotweed, spurge, dollarweed, doveweed and lespedeza.

5. Watch Out for Insects That May Begin Coming Out

If your lawn has suffered from insect damage around this time in the past, it is a good idea to apply a

broad spectrum insecticide at this time to prevent them from coming back again.

If the insecticide is a granular product, be sure to water it in so that it soaks into your soil. On the other hand, if it's a liquid product, you will either need to attach it to the end of your garden hose or tank mix it.

Some of the most common of insects in the springtime are white grub worms, chinch bugs, sod webworms and billbugs. White grub worms can be found in most turfgrasses at this time while chinch bugs are more likely to be spotted in St. Augustine grass, sod webworms in bermuda grass and billbugs in zoysia grass.

Sod webworms are typically more of a summer or fall pest, however, they can still cause a significant and costly nuisance to lawns located throughout the Southern regions of the U.S. during the spring season.

Want to learn more about achieving a great lawn? Check out more Sod University tips here and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

This article was written by Sod Solutions Content Strategist, Valerie Smith.

#### LETTERS (from pg. 4)

rewarding to play a role in shaping the direction of our communities. I hope to hear from you!

Yours sincerely,

Danielle Allen

#### PLEASE HELP

To the Editor.

Our children today too often lack a critical understanding of our Nation's history, including the revolutionary days here in Boston. With the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill fast approaching in 2025, and the 250th anniversary of our Nation's

founding in 2026, we at the Bunker Hill Monument Association are working on an exciting new educational project and we need your help.

We have contracted with J. Dennis Robinson, a popular New England history writer and illustrator Robert Squier to create a graphic history of the Bunker Hill Monument and Revolutionary Boston. Our goal is to raise \$40,000 for production expenses. We are asking our sponsors for a minimum of \$5,000 to \$10,000, however any amount would be appreciated. We are expecting to

have Bunker Hill Time Machine available for 2025.

Our version of The Bunker Hill Time Machine will present young (and old) readers with a visually thrilling adventure through time.

BHMA is the oldest monument association in the Nation, founded in 1823. We are a non-profit 501 (c)(3) with an enduring mission to memorialize the Battle of Bunker Hill. We would be honored to have you as a sponsor of this fun and educational project.

Bunker Hill Monument Association Director Kevin Burke

#### **OBITUARIES**

#### Alice Mortali

Devoted wife, mother and friend

Alice M. Mortali, a beloved mother and resident of the Revere community, passed away on March 10, 2024.

Born Alice M. Farren on May 25, 1935 in Boston, Alice grew up in Jamaica Plain and Charlestown. Before marrying an Italian American boy from Revere in the late 1950's, Alice worked a variety of interesting jobs in Boston, including as a key punch operator in the early days of computers. She often reminisced about the fun, carefree days of dancing and partying in the venues of the 1950's on Revere Beach.

As a young mother and wife, she moved to Vermilion, Ohio in 1959. After decades of missing her large, fun-loving extended family, she returned to Massachusetts in the mid-1980's and enjoyed a life filled with family, travel, laughter, and the joy of everyday moments. Alice was creative and talented and excelled in knitting and needlework. She made countless beautiful sweaters, hats and scarves for family and friends. She possessed a lively sense of humor and keen intelligence along with being an avid reader.

Alice was a devoted wife, mother, and friend who filled her home with love and warmth. She was preceded in death by her husband, Fred Mortali, and her parents, Daniel and Rose Farren. Her loving spirit lives on through her children: Frank Mortali and his wife, Nancy of Toledo, OH; Roseann Mortali and her husband, Patrick



Fitzgerald of Laguna Niguel, CA; Jill Mortali and her husband, Chad Reed of Hanover, NH; and Fred Mortali and his partner Mandy Mitchell of Mandeville, LA. She was the cherished grandmother of Daniel, Sean and Kevin Mortali, Robert Lee, Devin Reed, and Sydney Mortali, and the adored great-grandmother of Aria, Chiara, Riley, and Theo Mortali. Alice is also survived by two sisters and many loving nieces and nephews.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Anthony's Church, 250 Revere St., Revere on Monday, March 18 at 11 a.m (Everyone is to meet directly at the church). Relatives and friends are kindly invited. Interment will take place at Holy Cross Cemetery. For those wishing to offer condolences, please visit www.Buonfiglio.com to sign the guestbook.

To place a memoriam please call 781-485-0588

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#### **OBITUARIES**

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