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CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

Chain Forge project finishing paperwork, hopes for construction in April

By Seth Daniel

Developing the Navy Yard's Chain Forge building into a hotel was never going to be easy, but delays have mounted against the developer, but this week CV Properties said it isn't enough to stop their efforts, and they are hoping to start construction this April.

The project looks to create a 216-room hotel in the old Navy Yard chain manufacturing building, create a museum in the lobby and feature a restaurant on the ground floor – among other amenities. However, working out all of the details and financing for the project has been a two-year process so far, but Dick Galvin of CV Properties said all of the paperwork could likely conclude soon.

"We're hoping in the next 60 to 90 days to get that paperwork done and be in a position to get on to full-scale construction and really be flying in April," he said. "It is a \$150 million investment and we're anxious to get going and think it's a fantastic location... Projects like Chain Forge can really be complicated and hard to do. They are things that take time, but in our experience, they are worth the wait in the end."

(CHAIN FORGE Pg. 7)



Photo by Anna Travers

Oliver Belge focuses on the basket as he shoots a layup during a game between the Celtics and Raptors in opening week play last Thursday, Jan. 9, of the Charlestown Youth Basketball league. The league is expanding this year, with many more kids participating than last year. See Pages 8 and 9 for more photos.

Charlestown Youth Basketball continues to expand as new season kicks off

By Seth Daniel

The Charlestown Youth Basketball (CYB) league kicked off its season last week, with the numbers up by more than 100 kids and a new division added for 6-year-olds.

CYB is a program that is more than a decade old, but the program has been invigorated lately with new leader Max Gomez

and new wrinkles added to attract more players of all levels.

"There's quite a bit of players this year," said Gomez. "You can see that the gym is full on game nights. We're probably up 100 kids, going from around 150 last year to 250 this year. It's a combination of the fact that there are more people with kids staying in

(BASKETBALL Pg. 8)

CNC COMMUNITY CORNER

The monthly meeting of the Charlestown Neighborhood Council will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 4 in the Knights of Columbus Hall, 545 Medford Street at 7 p.m. Our City Councillor, Lydia Edwards, will be joining us. The public is encouraged to attend.

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Losing the Laundry

Residents struggling with loss of last laundromat

By Seth Daniel

When a fire broke out on Bunker Hill Street at the old laundromat building on a frigid morning in December 2016, few thought about what they would do to wash their clothing.

The building in question housed the last laundromat in Charlestown, and after the building was re-built, for various economic reasons, the family laundry operator could not return and the space became a private daycare center in mid-2018. That change-over meant the only remaining laundromat in the Town was gone – with the last one on Main Street going out in 2017 when Monument Restaurant expanded

and opened.

It also meant extreme hardship for thousands of residents, particularly senior citizens and residents of the Bunker Hill Housing development, that do not have washer and dryer facilities in their homes or buildings. Almost 18 months removed from the loss of the business, many residents are struggling to do their laundry, and there are reports that young kids are being bullied for showing up to school or activities without clean clothes.

It's a problem no one could foresee, but has ramifications that touch on everything from gentrification to race to transportation issues.

(LAUNDRY Pg. 4)

Long-awaited PLAN Charlestown to begin with open house Jan. 30

By Seth Daniel

As planning processes go, few have been more anticipated than the Charlestown effort that will begin this month, as the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) announced it would hold the first PLAN Charlestown meeting in an open house format on Jan. 30.

The community has been rallying for a master plan or planning process since earlier this year, battling for the naming of it, what would be included and the boundaries of the effort. Most of this past fall was spent by the community and the BPDA preparing for the process, and defining what it would be.

Those leading the effort in the community – known as the 02129 Neighborhood Alliance – said they

were happy with the parameters released late last week.

"As far as we can tell, it seems the community got everything we talked about and asked for," said Amanda Zettel, president of the Charlestown Preservation. "Everything they articulated to be included in the study is exactly what the community said we needed protections for. They also said they are included Boston Public Schools and to an extent that BPS has never been involved in a planning process. That's important."

Said Julie Hall, president of the Charlestown Historical Society, "We feel validated. It doesn't mean our work is done. We are not naïve and know we have to continue to hold them accountable. We will do that. The big thing right now is

(PLAN Pg. 3)

EDITORIAL

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING'S SPIRIT LIVES ON

When one considers that it has been almost 52 years since Dr. Martin Luther King was assassinated while he was standing on a balcony in a motel room in Memphis, where King was staying while supporting striking city trash collection workers, it is easy to understand why so many of our fellow Americans today have so little understanding of who he was and what he accomplished.

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

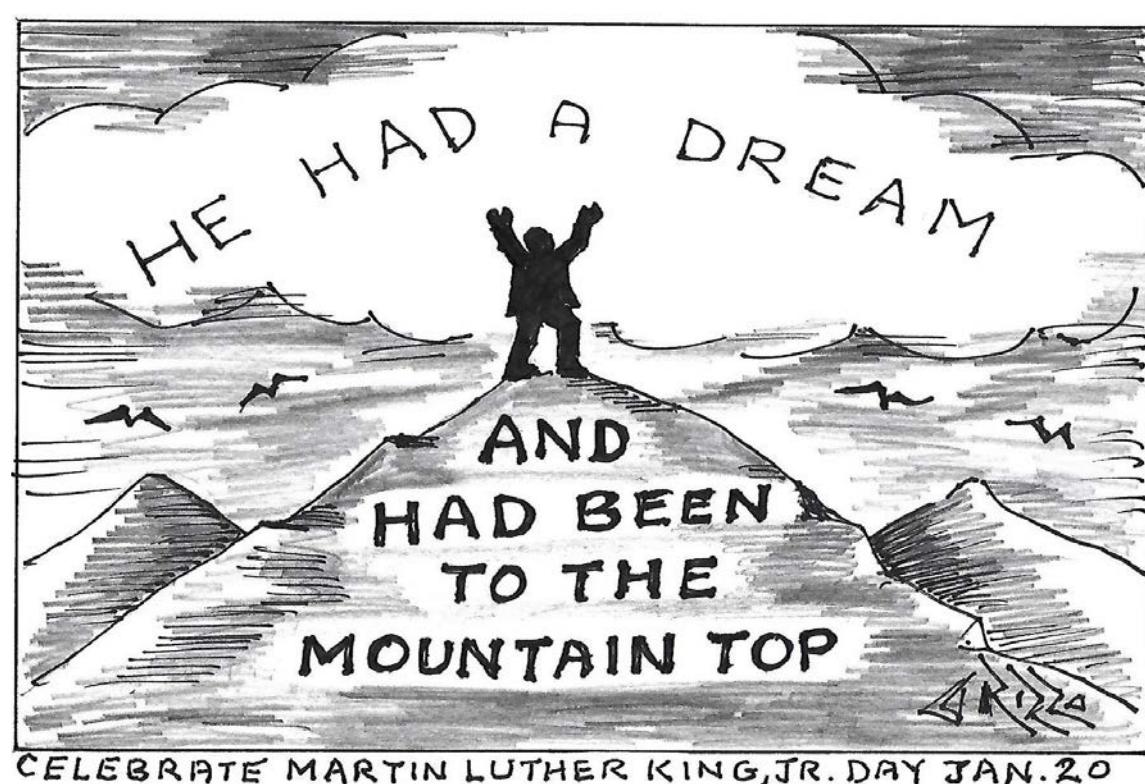
But for those of us who can recall the 1960s, a time when racial segregation was lawful throughout half of our country and a stealthy racism prevailed throughout the other half, Martin Luther King stands out as one of the great leaders in American history, a man whose stirring words and perseverance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

However, as much as things have changed for the better in the past 52 years in terms of racial equality in our society, it also is clear that we still have a long way to go before it can be said, as Dr. King famously put it in his speech at the Lincoln Memorial in 1963: "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

It is clear that there is a movement in our country that seeks to take away many of the hard-fought gains of the past six decades, and that there are some members of Congress, a majority of the Supreme Court, and a now a President who are happy to oblige in this endeavor.

The shootings and deaths of African-Americans while in police custody that have shocked all of us in the past few years are just the tip of the iceberg. Much more significant have been the judicial decisions that have stripped away key provisions of the Voting Rights Act, the disparate funding for education in urban areas compared to the wealthier suburbs, criminal laws that lead to disproportionate treatment and incarceration of minorities for drug-related offenses, and the voter ID laws and gerrymandering in many states that, in the words of a federal court in North Carolina, attain with surgical precision the goal of preventing people of color from being fairly represented in government at all levels.

"What would Dr. Martin Luther King do if he were alive today?" we often ask ourselves. We can't say for sure, but we do know that although King accomplished much in his lifetime, he would be the first to understand that the work for which he gave his life still is far from done -- and we can only hope that his spirit and courage can continue to inspire this and future generations to bring about a world in which all persons, regardless of the color of their skin or national origin, are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect.



GUEST OP-ED

Are you a time saver or a time waster?

By Melissa Martin, Ph.D.

America, a nation of time-saving fanatics. American, a nation of time-wasting freaks.

In the days of old, consumers visited the butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker. They chatted, gossiped, and shared community news. Timeworn traditions turned into trends to save time as busyness bombarded us from sunrise to sunset because of progress.

And you can't stop progress. The telegraph, the telephone, the cell phone. The radio, the television, the internet. Feet, horses, wagons. Bicycles, trains, automobiles. Planes, helicopters, rockets.

Hark! The modern mega supermarket was born. The concept of convenience touted as one-stop shopping. Coffee shops, fast-food eateries, and banks inside of grocery stores—you can also buy stamps, pay utility bills, or make your own meal at the salad bar. Enter online foodie shopping. Scan, pay, and bag your own groceries. New apps let customers skip the checkout line.

The more technology advances, the busier we become—hurry and scurry. Obsessed with saving time. We wolf down meals to move on to do more: gobble, gulp, guzzle. According to World Health Organization 2017, more than \$10 billion is spent worldwide each year on antacids. We

eat stress and disrespect the time allotted to daily living.

"Extreme Time Cheaters" was a reality TV show about people who go to ultimate lengths to optimize time. Washing dishes in the shower, ironing shirts with the underside of a fresh brewed coffee pot, shaving legs while in the pool. Won't hair clog the pool filter?

Being more organized in order to find shoes, coats, gloves, backpacks, purses, and other items in the morning is smart and gets families out the door quicker. Using a roadmap is about efficiency—getting lost in suburbia makes you a late dinner guest.

You won't catch me drinking coffee in the shower to save a minute or two—not my thing. However, I do own an undisclosed number of the same black socks. Why? Because the laundry monster eats one sock of the matching pair. So, I outsmart this sock-stealing fiend. Piling instead of filing can be a time waster for writers. Musing and rushing is counterproductive.

America, a nation of time-wasting freaks. Too much TV. Too much social media. Too much partying with mood-altering drugs. Zombified brains waste time and energy. Too much shopping—buying more and more dust-collecting stuff.

A 2016 study (download the report at www.pages.dscout.com)

followed the device usage of 100,000 people over a five day period. By tracking taps, swipes, and clicks, participants made on their smartphones, researchers concluded that the average user touched their phone 2,617 times every day. Shazam! That's over 2.42 hours of phone usage for the average user and most is spent on either Facebook or Google. Read more about the heavy users.

And guess what? We still only get 365 days per year, 12 months, and 168 hours per week. An hour still holds 60 minutes. And one minute is still 60 seconds. Time doesn't change. The sun comes up and the sun goes down. Each morning you get 86,400 seconds.

"You may delay, but time will not."—Benjamin Franklin

Why are humans so illogical? We try to pack more and more activities into the same amount of time. Employers overwork and overwhelm employees. Workers skip lunch, lose sleep, and give up family time. Parents overschedule kids with too many activities. Or over summer, while both parents work, they allow kids to lounge at home and binge on videogames and social media.

Time isn't the problem. What people do with time is the problem. Setting too many goals in one year. Unrealistic expectations of



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CLERGY VIEWPOINT

FROM THE CHARLESTOWN CLERGY ASSOCIATION

Exclusive

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

Some years ago, I recall reading about a response Mother Theresa gave to a question about offensive language. She explained that, to her, one of the most offensive words in the language is exclusive. I never forgot that simple point of view - the more so as our world and communities seem to become increasingly divided over countless issues. This results in an inclusion of some but mostly an exclusion of others – be that in clubs, classes, economic status, citizenship and/or membership and belonging to whatever.

It seems to me it would be a contradiction for a Christian community to present itself as exclusive. I mean, the idea that a community of persons united in their faith in Jesus Christ would consider it right to exclude some population of persons from that community would render itself, in essence, an Un-Christian community.

Does that seem too simplistic? Maybe it is. But when a community announces itself as a “welcoming community”, that seems like an unconditional welcome. Yet, perhaps the problem lies in

the delta between what we say and announce and what, in fact, we practice.

I believe for a Christian community to authentically “be welcoming,” the welcome must be unconditional and entirely inclusive. Therefore, any person, young or old, man or woman, gay or straight, rich or poor, employed or unemployed, of any color, race, background or tradition, married, divorced, single, handicapped, or healthy should be welcomed.

Being a welcoming community does not necessarily mean that the welcoming members agree with, practice, or live in total accord with one another’s beliefs. Nor does it mean that the members are always in agreement with those who are being welcomed. It’s not about agreement, it’s about acceptance.

I write about this topic because I believe there are many who do not feel welcomed in church. Even if a church announces “Welcome,” it does not automatically mean one entering a church experiences a feeling of welcome – an environment or climate of welcome. To make that happen requires a

deliberate intention on the part of everyone to be welcoming and an openness to be welcomed.

Everyone carries his/her own baggage. For many, the load is very heavy and it often includes scars, deep hurt, and sometimes fear. There may be uncertainty about how God views them or if a faith community will be accepting of them. The truth is everyone is unconditionally loved and accepted in the eyes of God and followers of Christ are called to do the same.

Jesus Christ comes to bring light into our darkness, hope into our desolation, and freedom to our enslavement. He enjoined us to love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. He told us that whatever we do to those we consider to be “the least of our brothers and sisters” we do to him. If we want to call ourselves Christians, then we must work hard at following Christ’s teachings and at creating communities of welcome. So let’s roll up our sleeves and do our part in creating the world God envisioned for us right where we are.

PLAN (from pg. 1)

they have designed this as a plan for the entire physical boundary of Charlestown.”

BPDA Director Brian Golden said they are excited to begin the planning process and will work to preserve the community and focus on the future of Charlestown as well.

“Under Mayor Walsh’s leadership we have seen how community planning can guide inclusive growth while preserving the character of our neighborhoods and we are excited to do the same in Charlestown,” said Golden. “When we launched PLAN: Charlestown last year, BPDA staff began meeting with the community in order to develop a better sense of what the strategic plan will cover. With a shared vision in mind, we are ready to kick-off the next phase of the study and continue working with the community to plan together for the future of the neighborhood.”

According to the goals posted on the new PLAN Charlestown website, the mission is to create a shared vision for the future of the neighborhood. Community discussions are to focus on future land use, current development, as well as looking at strategies to enhance the existing community and preserve its historic assets.

The goals also state it will be much more comprehensive than other processes, as it will coordinate transportation, parks and open space, climate resilience, education and affordable housing.

The goals also state it will be much more comprehensive than other processes, as it will coordinate transportation, parks and open space, climate resilience, education and affordable housing.

There are several other caveats to the process that Zettel and Hall

were pleased to see, such as a moratorium on developing City- and BPDA-owned parcels. That means that during the planning process, development will not go forward on the Bunker Hill Community College parking lots – which will be a cornerstone piece of the planning. It also prevents any early action from being taken new parcels that will be created in Sullivan Square during the Rutherford Avenue re-design in a few years. It does not, however, stop private development or projects already in the pipeline, such as Bunker Hill housing development.

Another part is that planners from Cambridge and Somerville will participate in order to coordinate across City lines.

“What happens in those cities affects us and what we do will affect them,” said Zettel. “It’s nice to have them in the conversation. There will also be planners from Boston Transportation and Boston Public Schools in the room.”

Both said they are also excited about the strength of the 02129 Alliance, which has grown over the months and is becoming more representative of the entire community.

“It’s really become a force and the organization is really diverse and there is a momentum there we are happy to see,” said Hall.

The first PLAN Charlestown Open House will take place on Jan. 30, 6:30 p.m., in the Warren Prescott School Cafeteria (use entrance adjacent to playground, off Pearl Street).

OP-ED (from pg. 2)

achieving in a short period of time. Not saying no to another event or activity. Making the daily list too long. Worrying and dwelling on past mistakes gets you nowhere. Fear of failure that keeps you stuck is a time stealer.

“Try to imagine a life without timekeeping. You probably can’t. You know the month, the year, the day of the week. There is a clock on your wall or the dashboard of your car. You have a schedule, a calendar, a time for dinner or a movie. Yet all around you, timekeeping is ignored. Birds are

not late. A dog does not check its watch. Deer do not fret over passing birthdays. An alone measures time. Man alone chimes the hour. And, because of this, man alone suffers a paralyzing fear that no other creature endures. A fear of time running out,” surmises Mitch Albom in his 2012 book, “The Time Keeper.”

In reality, you can’t save, waste, or cheat time. You can only manage or not manage thoughts, feelings, actions, and reactions about daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly activities. Time is neither good or

bad. Time is neutral. It’s what we do with our time that counts. And time is subjective because what matters to me may not matter to you. It’s impossible to control time. We can only control ourselves and our activities.

“Man wants to own his existence. But no one owns time.”— Mitch Albom

Melissa Martin, Ph.D., is an author, columnist, educator, and therapist. She lives in Ohio. Contact her at melissamcolumnist@gmail.com.

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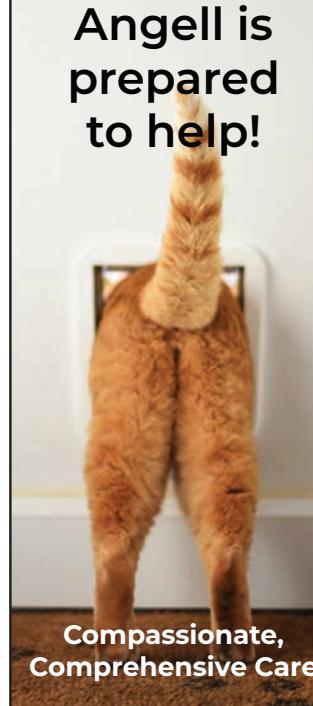
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LAUNDRY (*from pg. 1*)

For those not in the situation, the problem is virtually invisible to them, and it's hard to figure out how people are coping. For the most part, many people ask friends or family to use their machines. However, others travel to Somerville or the North End on foot or by bus – an expensive, time-consuming and difficult journey.

"I know some of our youth are doing their laundry at their friend's house and other youth appear to be in unclean clothes more than ordinarily since the laundromat has gone," said Ginaya Greene-Murray, of the Charlestown Coalition.

Crystal Galvin of the Kennedy Center said she has seen that residents, particularly in Bunker Hill, are struggling to deal with the loss of that service.

"Lack of laundry facilities create unique challenges for families and seniors," she said. "Since the loss of the Bunker Hill Street laundromat, many residents have had to travel near and far to access a facility. Accessibility and lack of overall resources mean that many are left to wash clothes by hand or rely on the generosity of friends and neighbors with in-home machines. Low income seniors may be eligible for a laundry service, but many are forced to pay a co-pay. In my experience, residents are unable to afford a washing machine are forced to spend more money on the cost of travel and fees at the laundro-

mat. Cleary it's cheaper to own a machine, but that is a real struggle for folks."

She added that they have seen an increase in problems like poor hygiene, absenteeism and bullying because of the laundry issue.

"Laundry is a chore that we all endure, but I would like to challenge readers to consider the impact on the low-income community," she said. "Access to laundry facilities has become a privilege."

Mayoral Liaison Quinn Locke said the loss of the laundromat has been one of the biggest issues he has heard since taking the position in Charlestown. He said there is a huge portion of the community that calls him frequently on the issue, and another portion of the community that doesn't even know it's an issue.

"Many people in Charlestown are lucky enough to have laundry in their house or buildings," he said. "Many other people aren't as lucky and don't have anywhere to go. When that last laundromat burned down, no one was thinking about where they would go to wash their clothes. When it suddenly wasn't there, it was a shock to everyone. When it comes down to it, the fact that a lot of people have to leave the neighborhood and travel far distances is insane...A lot of people in Charlestown would have no idea this was happening. They would go on with their lives having no idea so many were struggling. As

someone who has lived in the neighborhood all my life, knowing that people are struggling to wash their clothes is frustrating."

He said the City is doing all it can, but they cannot open a laundromat and have had trouble inducing business owners to come to Charlestown. Whether it's due to the rents, the lack of parking or startup costs, no one has answered the call. He said the City's Economic Development team is well-aware of the issue, and any laundry operator looking to expand in Boston is apprised of the situation in Charlestown.

"Our office has heard loud and clear that a laundromat is not only wanted, but needed here," he said.

Young people seem to see the issue more closely.

Three youth from the Turn It Around program at the Charlestown Coalition said they know there is bullying associated with it, and they also see it as another symptom of gentrification and classism – replacing a low-income person's need of a laundromat with the need of a higher-income person's need for private daycare. All said they have heard of people traveling to laundromats in Somerville, Everett and even Revere...There are many constantly going to neighbors to do their laundry. If you're lucky, you'll have a neighbor that will help you."

"I think the bullying problem is real," said Natania Sanchez, who indicated she does have machines in her home, but knows others

that don't. "Kids are so cruel nowadays. I've even experienced it with my siblings, but I also know that a lot of kids are experiencing it now too. It's sad because they can't help it. They can't help their family make money to help them travel so far to wash their clothes. I feel so bad because these kids are so innocent and they don't know. Others point it out to them, and it's cruel."

Fatima Fontes, an outspoken college student in the program who grew up in Charlestown, said she remembers going to the laundromat before it burned down. It was hard work, she said, carrying 50-pound laundry bags and bringing them home, sometimes waiting for hours to have the wash completed. However, she said her family now has a washer and dryer, but they aren't the only ones using it.

Many, she said, ask if they can come over to do the wash.

"It's really a big issue," she said. "There really are a lot of people in the community that are trying to cope. People are taking those 50-pound bags on the bus all the way to Somerville, Everett and even Revere...There are many constantly going to neighbors to do their laundry. If you're lucky, you'll have a neighbor that will help you."

Serennity Figeroa said they now have a washer and dryer, but before they had to travel to her uncle's house in Woburn.

"It's takes time and you have to go there based on someone else's schedule," she said. "You can't just decide to go do your laundry. They tell you when. Plus, at someone's house, the water bill is something they will have to pay for, and that has to be considered too."

Fontes said she recalls the day that the laundromat burned down, and she also remembers when they were re-building the building. She said she always assumed the business would return, but was

shocked to see baby cribs and daycare items. She said she immediately realized that was going to be a problem, and for her it was another class issue.

"There are a lot of people that have washers and dryers, but there are also a lot of people that don't have them," she said. "The daycare isn't something anyone in Bunker Hill can afford. It seemed to me like they took away a benefit from lower-income people, and gave a benefit to higher-income people. It's shocking that there is literally no laundry in one square mile of Charlestown."

George Georges, who owns the Bunker Hill building and operated the laundry for several years, said he did everything he could to bring an operator in, but it was not economically feasible.

"There is a big void," he said. "When I was renovating the building, I put out the word there was space there for a laundromat as of right. We had two inquiries. One was serious, but the cost of getting the equipment and the insurance was very prohibitive. Plus, the increase in the cost of water and water conservation measures on the new machines added to the cost. It's a substantial investment now, much more than it was 20 years ago. There really wasn't much interest. With those costs, I really don't see anyone coming in and starting one up unless it's subsidized."

Locke said it is something he is really concerned about, and it's an issue that no one anticipated.

"It's one of the most frequent questions I get," he said. "The reality is there no answer to give to people. I'm in a job where your goal is to get to an answer, and this is frustrating because there isn't an answer. I'm happy to tell people 'no' when I have to, but I can't even do that with this one."

Community Meeting

PLAN: Charlestown

Kick-off Open House

Thursday, January 30

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Event Description

Please join us for an open house community meeting about the PLAN: Charlestown neighborhood planning initiative. Meet members of the City and the Boston Planning and Development Agency's planning team, share your ideas, and learn about the planning process and how you can get involved. Light refreshments will be provided.

*In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will be rescheduled to Thursday, February 6.

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Warren-Prescott School Cafeteria

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Historic Houses of the Month

The Stone Houses

By Nancy Hayford Kueny

One of the things that I have enjoyed most about writing my monthly historic house articles is that every time I work on one, I learn some things that I did not previously know.

Who would have thought, for example, that Nathaniel Austin (1772-1861), local Charlestown businessman, politician and wharf owner was descended from the same immigrant ancestor as Stephen F. Austin (1793-1836), who is considered to be the “Father of Texas”? Many places and institutions are named after him including the state capital of Texas. Both men are descended from the immigrant Richard Austin (1598-1638), a Puritan from the Bishopstoke, a village in southern England that lies midway between Southampton and Winchester. Richard was both men’s great-great-great-grandfather, and he arrived at Boston with his family (and a man named on the ship’s manifest as his carpenter/servant) on May 16, 1638 aboard the Bevis. He settled in Charlestown. Genealogical research indicates the Stephen F. Austen branch of the family quickly moved from the Boston area, living for a time in Connecticut and then moving southward. Stephen Fuller Austin was born in Virginia.

By the time Nathaniel was born in 1772, there had been five previous Austin generations living and dying in Charlestown, many buried in the Phipps Street Burial Ground. The Austin’s success in Charlestown spanned three centuries of owning businesses and real estate, including a warehouse and wharf on the Charles River Bay side of town near the prison, accessed via Austin Street. Nathaniel’s grandfather Ebenezer was responsible for accumulating the aforementioned property. The family also owned two parcels of land on Breed’s Hill that they eventually sold to the Monument Square Association. Austin’s Wharf and Austin Street, as well as the two Breed’s Hill parcels appear on the 1818 Peter Tufts map.

Nathaniel and his brother William were well known and respected citizens of Charlestown. Both were politically minded, Nathaniel representing the town and holding numerous political offices. He was known as General Austin because he held the post of brigadier general of the third division of the Massachusetts Militia from 1815-1820. He also represented the town as a member of the House of Representatives, and

was a senator as well.

General Austin was responsible (possibly in partnership with his brother William) for the building of the Austin Block at 90-92 Main St., the imposing stone building at the corner of Main and Harvard streets, which was constructed in 1822. This stretch of Main Street from Thompson Square heading toward City Square is home to some of the finest early buildings of the reconstruction period following the Revolution. (The Larkin House and the Hurd House were covered in a previous article.)

The Austin Block is faced with split stone granite, and embellished with quoins of granite block that was quarried at Outer Brewster Island in Boston Harbor. General Austin had purchased the island in 1799. The building was built in the Federal style, the main block being a five-bay, three-story structure with a hipped roof. The three-story rear ell is also faced with the same split stone and also has a hipped roof. Austin lived in this Main Street building for many years and maintained an office there. Additionally, the Bunker Hill Aurora and Farmers and Mechanics Journal were published at this address from 1827-1871, indicating that the building had a commercial component in the early part of the 19th century, as it still does today. His quarrying enterprises eventually ended in failure due to the difficulty in reaching the island, so he tried his hand at raising sheep and cattle and growing hay on Outer Brewster. Those endeavors failed as well. The historian Timothy Sawyer notes that Outer Brewster was sometimes called “the home of the east wind.” It is the easternmost of the Harbor Islands, and appears to be almost out in Massachusetts Bay rather than in the protected harbor.

The Austin Block was not the first stone house to be built by General Austin. In 1799, he built the stone Federal style single-family home at 27 Harvard St. facing the Harvard Mall. This house is faced with the same split stone granite that he quarried on the island. The house is a side hall plan, with a charming door in the right bay that features a three-pane transom surmounted by a granite lintel. Currently a residence, this house was operated as a small hospital from 1814 until at least 1885. A dispensary ticket from 1885 reads: “Charlestown Free Dispensary and Hospital - Dispensary Department - 27 Harvard Street, Town Hill - Mondays, Wednesdays and

Fridays – Come at 12 o’clock – ALWAYS BRING THIS CARD.”

Gen. Nathaniel Austin’s father was also Nathaniel (1741-1816), a pewterer by trade. He had inherited the real estate holdings mentioned above from his father Ebenezer Austin (1703-1742). Although Gen. Austin never married, he was from a large family and had three brothers including William, and two sisters. At the time of his death at 89, Gen. Austin was living at 22 Union St. A discussion of the Austin family would not be complete without mentioning the General’s brother, William Austin (1778-1841) and his brother’s son, Frances Boylston Austin (1827-1887).

William was described as a man of determination. He graduated from Harvard College in 1798, and he was a lawyer by trade. Sawyer noted that William was wounded in a duel in 1805 that arose from a political altercation. He lived on Main Street for many years in a home that was torn down in 1888. He subsequently moved to a house at 58 High St., which his son Francis enlarged circa 1865 in the Second Empire style. Framing in the attic indicates that the original house might have been late 18th century. The house was raised a story and the slate Mansard roof was added. The end result was a center hall floor plan home, with a gable-roofed ell to the left of the main block.

In 1865 when the house was modified, that section of Charlestown had not yet been fully developed and was largely open fields. Across High Street was the Austin pastureland and behind the house going down the hill toward Main Street was an orchard. The house is on the National Register of Historic Places and is known as the Francis B. Austin House. Francis was one of 13 children and the only one to remain in Charlestown. He was a Boston merchant who had an office in the North End on North Street. He initially sold dry goods, but later iron and steel. The Austin House at 58 High St. was restored in 1985 and is currently a five-unit condominium building. It is a lovely building. The Austin Block at 90-92 Main St. was also restored and is currently comprised of two residential condominiums upstairs with an office condominium on the ground level. The house at 27 Harvard Square continues to be a privately owned, single-family residence.

So, if you ever visit Austin,



The Austin Block.



27 Harvard Square.

think about the fact that one of the great state of Texas’s most famous sons had roots in the great town of Charlestown!

Sources: MACRIS: Boston Landmarks Commission Surveys, Ancestry.com, Old

Charlestown by Sawyer, History of Town by Virginia and Richard Creaser (Somerville Chronicle), Wikipedia, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (58 High St.)



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CHAIN FORGE (*from pg. 1*)

He cited a project done in recent years by CV Properties in Providence that included the rehab of an old, decommissioned power plant. It is now the award-winning South Street Landing development, which he said won accolades once finished.

Already, the Chain Forge is on the agenda at the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) for this Thursday, and the further – and hopefully last – delay is expected to be granted. However, that delay will include another ‘delay fee’ paid by the developer to the BPDA, with the total in fees now being \$845,000 – according to BPDA documents.

Galvin said many of the complications include the environmental remediation, the historic rehabilitation (they are in a National Park), and being in a residential neighborhood.

A further complication has been working with the National Parks on how to display the old equipment and what to do with

much of what is left in the building. There are 35 pieces of chain making machinery that will be displayed in the lobby, with one piece being outside. That has taken time to negotiate.

A second issue is the Opportunity Zone federal program that CV Properties wants to take advantage of, making the project more appealing to investors. They have been waiting for months for the federal government to release the guidelines for that program, and that was finally done in December.

“That designation doesn’t create any true benefit,” he said. “All it does is potentially give investors a better return 10, 12 or 13 years from now.”

All in all, Galvin said there is progress and there will be much more activity on the site in the near future.

“It’s complicated,” he said. “We have a (hotel) brand picked, and an investor identified.”

Walsh calls on Boston Police to implement a plan for better traffic enforcement

By Seth Daniel

It's time to get serious about slipping through the intersection during the initial seconds of a red light, or punching out a quick text while behind the wheel, at least according to Mayor Martin Walsh – who announced in his State of the City speech on Tuesday, Jan. 7, that he is asking the Boston Police brass to implement enhanced traffic enforcement.

Traffic enforcement has been a top-of-the list concern for many residents in Charlestown and other areas of the city for the past several years. There has been a consistent request for enforcement at City Square and Sullivan Square to prevent commuters from “blocking the box.” Likewise, speeding on many of Charlestown’s side streets has been an issue for three or four years.

However, the resources for enforcement are hard to come by.

In Walsh’s speech last Tuesday,

he indicated that may not be the case for long.

“Since launching our safety plan, we’ve cut fatalities on our roads by half,” said the mayor. “But one death or injury is too many. And it only takes a few bad drivers to put lives at risk or cause gridlock on our streets.

“What I hear in every neighborhood is the need for more enforcement,” he continued. “And I agree. The speeding, the texting behind the wheel, blocking lanes and intersections—enough is enough. This year, I am directing the Boston Police and Transportation Departments to work together and implement a plan to strengthen traffic enforcement in our city. We’re going to make our streets work better for everyone.”

The Boston Police or Boston Transportation did not immediately have a comment on the new directive.

Bunker Hill Associates welcome new members

- Brendan Collier
- John Caldwell
- Michael Cain

They join the more than 50-member organization, bringing with them decades of service and giving back to the neighborhood of Charlestown.

Those new members selected are Life-long Charlestown natives:

- Cecil Jones
- Pat Sullivan
- John Humphrey

MassDOT announces new online resources for statewide exit renumbering project

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is announcing new online resources on the project website for the Statewide Exit Renumbering Project, including an informational video on the project and an online meeting. Visit NewMassExits.com to access these new online tools, learn about the project, and ask the project team questions.

Additional public information

meetings have been scheduled for the opportunity to learn more about the project and ask the project team questions in person.

•Boston – Tuesday, Feb. 11, 6:30 p.m., MassDOT Transportation Board Room, second floor, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116

More public information meetings in the spring and summer of 2020 will be announced as they are scheduled.

This project is converting all existing sequential exit numbers to a milepost-based numbering system, per the Federal Highway Administration’s 2009 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Construction, which is scheduled to begin in late summer 2020, will take place on route-by-route basis starting in Western Massachusetts and moving eastward.

Some believe dog was poisoned at Eden Street Park

By Seth Daniel

The controversy over dogs and park-users at Eden Street Park has always been tense, but some now believe that the frustrations have led to the poisoning of a dog in the park last weekend.

A dog named ‘Gunner,’ looking to be a Pit Bull mix in photos, was reported on the CharlestownDogs page to have died after being walked in the park. Reports from a veterinarian indicated that the dog had been poisoned, the CharlestownDogs page read.

A spokesman from CharlestownDogs said they don’t know whether the death was intentional or if the dog accidentally ingested something poisonous.

“As far as I’m concerned, there is no story other than the dog became sick, the vet said poison, and the owner assumed Eden Street Park,” he said. “Rat poison takes two to three days to be noticed in large dogs.”

He said the idea that the dog was poisoned in the park is just a suggestion of the owner, which was fanned to flames by many of the television news stations highlighting the story.

Another dog was said to have died suspiciously after being in Eden Street Park last November.

State and City officials in Charlestown were sought out, and they alerted the authorities.

The Parks Department said it sent out inspectors on Tuesday to look for anything suspicious in the

park, but found nothing.

That said, the animosity in the park between dog people and non-dog people is quite real. That tension has shown up in letters to this paper, as well as planning meetings for the re-design of Eden Street Park in 2018 and 2019. The same tension has existed in Doherty Park, as well on Bunker Hill Street, where off-leash dogs collide often with children at play.

The crux of it all has been the need for a proper, fenced-off dog park in one or more of the parks. That was the conclusion during the Eden Street planning process, where there were many calls for a dog park to be included on the eastern edge of the park when it is re-built. That rebuild has yet to begin, though.

Speak for the Trees looking for volunteers to identify trees

By Seth Daniel

The Speak for the Trees organization is hitting the ground running in 2020, and are looking for volunteers in Charlestown to help residents find areas to plant new street trees.

Speak for the Trees was welcomed into Charlestown last year after they did a study of the City and found that Charlestown had one of the smallest tree canopies in the city. The organization is working to plant more trees in parks like Barry Field (the Oilies), but also they are looking to recruit residents to catalog existing street trees and identify appropriate places for new street trees.

David Meshoulam of Speak for the Trees said they are holding a training this month to find “VolunTREERS” to help them collect data.

“We are holding a training session to teach residents how to identify available planting sites for new street trees,” he said. “The information that these VolunTREERS collect will populate our tree inventory map. We hope to follow up in the spring with a second training session so that VolunTREERS can identify and log information on street trees. This is part of our efforts to map out all of Boston’s street trees in the next two years.”

The training will take place on

Saturday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Charlestown Boys & Girls Club on High Street. Those interested are asked to bring a Smart Phone, measuring tape and appropriate attire to be outside in the weather.

The training will help residents learn about the importance of Boston’s urban forest, and how to help locate and map homes for new trees. Volunteers will be taught how to measure correctly, and collect data on empty sites in Charlestown. They will also be taught how to enter that data into the organization’s Open Tree Map online.

RSVP via email to david@sfttbos.org or on Facebook.

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On Wednesday night, Jan. 8, the Bunker Hill Associates welcomed six new members.

Those new members selected are Life-long Charlestown natives:

- Cecil Jones
- Pat Sullivan
- John Humphrey

Along with the ushering in of new members, the group elected Maureen Collier (President), Jimmy Lister (Vice President), Kim Mahoney (Secretary) and Ronan Fitzpatrick (Treasurer) as their executive board.

The Bunker Hill Associates is a

Charlestown based non-profit that works with the community raising funds for local civic organizations, scholarships and youth groups, having raised and donated over \$490,000 since their founding in 1985.

BASKETBALL (from pg. 1)

Charlestown. Five years ago people moved out and now they stay. The other part is that even though CYB has been around 10 or 12 years, having more kids available we see chances to make it more accessible."

That included adding low rim basketball to the instructional league and the junior varsity (ages 7-9) league last year, and also adding a new 6-year-old instructional division that use low rims this year. The Varsity boys and girls teams use the high rims, and all together he said they have 23 teams and about 40 kids in the co-ed instructional league. The league typically has one practice and one game per week. There are referees at the games, and they tailor their officiating to the player level.

The new 6-year-old division has three clinics per week, on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

"It's been fun to implement the changes, and there are just a ton of people in the gym now, which is what we want," he said.

The league finishes up in March, and they have a playoff championship, and an all-star game. Adding a player banquet last year was also a welcome change, Gomez said.

Games and practices are held at the Community Center, the Harvard Kent gym, the Edwards School gym, and this year, at the Boys & Girls Club gym.

The league is now in full swing, and the weekly schedule can be found on the league's website, charlestownyouthbasketball.com.



Nevayah Evans prepares for a free throw during the Suns - Mercury game.



Elizabeth Nelson (center) controls a loose ball on the court during the Suns - Mercury game.



Coach Vince O'Neill emphasizes defense during warm-up prior to the girls Connecticut Suns - Phoenix Mercury game.



Beautiful Smith (center) drives the ball down the court in heavy traffic during the Suns - Mercury game.

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Caiden Collier (left) blocks a shot by Max Mendoza (right).



Augie Groh (center) brings the ball to the hoop during the Celtics - Raptors game.



Coach Skarin (center) leads her team late in the Pelicans - Trailblazers game.

Right, Thomson Soutter drives to the hoop.



Aboubakar Nimaka (right) capitalizes on a fast break in the Celtics - Raptors game.

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Councilor Lydia Edwards calls for review of City of Boston Charter

Staff Report

Councilor Lydia Edwards introduced a hearing order to review the Charter of the City of Boston this week.

The City Charter defines the powers and responsibilities of local government - from the Mayor and Council to the School Committee and other governing bodies, from elections and budgetary procedures to planning, zoning, the ability to nominate

members of boards and commissions, and numerous other matters affecting the city government.

"Bostonians deserve a government that is responsive to the needs of their daily lives and tackles the fundamental challenges of our time," said Councilor Edwards. "It's critical we ask residents whether the structure of city government today is capable of delivering what the people want."

Boston adopted a modern charter in 1909, and subsequently amended, or had altered by

action of the state legislature, the City's Charter and critical powers and functions of government through special acts, in the years 1924, 1948, 1951, 1956, 1969, 1982, 1986, 1991, and 1993. Uniquely in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Boston's Charter is a "patchwork of special acts" rather than a uniform document. This makes analysis and amendment of Boston's form of government complex and reliant on substantial legal and legislative interpretation, including a history

of court rulings.

In recent years, community members and members of the Council have highlighted issues relevant to the charter, including the budgetary powers of the City, its officials, and individual residents through participatory budgeting; the governance of the school committee, including the appointment or election of members and voting powers of student members of the body; the planning and development functions of the city; and numerous other issues.

"It is critical the form of government in the City of Boston involve, activate and empower residents of our City in holistic and democratic deliberation over the future of our communities," continued Edwards. "Over the past two years, it has been my blessing to meet with many advocates, including the late Councilor Turner, to discuss the structure and limits of city government and I believe it is now time to engage in an inclusive, citywide discussion."

Encore disputes story on layoffs related to computerized cocktail dispenser

By Seth Daniel

As Encore Boston Harbor lobbies the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) to install automated drink dispensers in its back-of-house bar area, it is also vehemently disputing stories that 70 employees will be laid off as a result of using that new technology.

Encore appeared before the MGC on Thursday, Jan. 9, for a request to implement computerized drink dispensers at its bar area in the back of the house – a bar area that is not directly used by the public, but rather is utilized by the resort to fulfill drink orders from those actively playing on the gaming floor.

At the moment, cocktail servers gather orders from customers on the gaming floor, and then get those orders filled at the Central Bar Area in the back of the house. Several bartenders there, who are not interfacing with the public, make the drinks and then the servers deliver the drinks to customers. The proposed computerized system would eliminate those bar-

tender positions and implement a faster drink operation, Encore said.

Reports late last week suggested that using those automated systems would put 70 people out of work.

Encore Spokesman Richard Krauss said it was the furthest thing from the truth.

"It has been inaccurately reported that 70 positions have been eliminated and/or replaced by automated beverage dispensers," he said. "We are currently right sizing our business as we continue to make adjustments to our organization based both on customer feedback and how best to meet our business needs. Should any employee become displaced, we do everything we can to provide alternate job opportunities for them within our organization. Given the amount of related openings in other areas of the business, we cannot project the number of positions that will be impacted as a result of the automated beverage dispensers at this time."

Krauss said the computerized dispensers would be four times

faster than the current system, and they have had a number of customer complaints about drinks taking too long to arrive.

He said while some positions at the Central Bar Area might be phased out, that didn't mean people are losing jobs at Encore. In fact, he said there several are bartender openings right now in the public-facing restaurants, which could be more lucrative due to larger tips from customers. The goal for anyone potentially displaced by the machines would be to place them in an open position as a bartender or some other need at the resort. He said that after such significant training and onboarding invested in each employee, the goal is never to have any of them be put out of a job involuntarily – as there are many opportunities still being filled in Encore.

The entire scenario is part of a larger re-positioning by the casino announced by CEO Matt Maddox on an investor call last fall. Maddox indicated at that time the Boston resort casino had likely over-hired during the lead-

up to opening, and that there would need to be corrections in the workforce.

That happened already with the greeter positions at Encore, a new feature that the company had not utilized at any of its other resorts. As it turns out, Krauss said, the positions were not necessary and that new feature didn't work out.

However, of the six greeter positions, at least four of them re-trained and are working in other positions at the resort, he said.

A lot of the employment data will become clearer this month, as a detailed annual report from the company is to be delivered to Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria in January as part of Everett's Host Community Agreement (HCA). The HCA, under the permanent jobs category, states that Wynn shall provide Everett an annual report in January each year, starting in 2020. The report is to include full- and part-time employment levels by Wynn at the beginning of the reporting period (in this case the opening date, June

23) and the end.

Krauss said the report is being worked on right now, and nearly completed.

He said, though there are ebbs and flows in the workforce, Encore's workforce is made up of about 14 percent Everett residents, and 16 percent Boston residents – the two largest communities represented for employment.

Krauss said there are some, however, who have left because they were terminated. He said Encore does not talk specifically about such things, but did say they have a progressive discipline policy at the resort.

"Regarding involuntary terminations, we have a progressive discipline policy that applies to all employees with non-egregious employee relations matters," he said. "The progressive discipline policy applies equally across all employees, regardless of residency."

The MGC has not yet decided on whether or not it will let Encore use the computerized drink machines.

Eversource challenges students to showcase their energy smarts in annual contest

Eversource invites Massachusetts students to demonstrate their energy efficiency knowledge by entering its seventh annual Eversource Challenge.

The competition promotes energy conservation, energy efficiency and sustainability and is open to kindergarten to high school students in Eversource's Massachusetts electric service territory. Deadline for registration is March 17 All entries must be received or postmarked by March 27.

"Year after year, our students continue to amaze us with their creativity and innovative energy efficiency ideas," said Senior Vice President and Chief Customer

Officer Penni Conner. "We are excited to kick off our seventh contest and look forward to receiving and reviewing this year's projects."

Students in Grades K-8 are assigned grade-specific challenges and asked to submit entries in the form of a poster (Grades K-2), a limerick (Grade 3), an outdoor billboard (Grade 4), a narrative and an image of an energy-saving super-hero (Grade 5), a letter to parents (Grade 6), a news article (Grade 7), or public service announcement (Grade 8).

Students competing in Grades 9-12 will create a persuasive image that advocates for an energy topic. Options include a short poem (125 words or less) or a cartoon

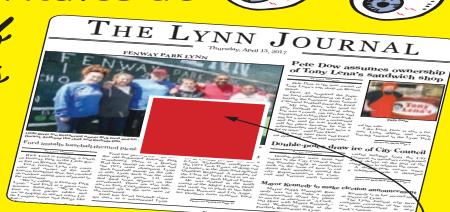
strip (12 cells or less) that addresses energy efficiency, a renewable energy source, or environmental concern.

Eversource Challenge finalists in all categories and grade levels will be honored at a special awards ceremony in early May, and winners will receive Amazon Gift Cards. All entries are judged on the use of accurate and scientific facts, creativity, readability, persuasiveness, originality, and appearance. Students' submissions are judged against those from the same grade levels in their community.

For applications, guidelines and more information about the Eversource Challenge, visit www.eversourceinschool.com/challenge.

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RSM DAY OF GIVING FUNDRAISER FOR THE YOUTH IN THE COMMUNITY

Photos by Marianne Salza



The Boys & Girls Club of Boston received a \$46,840 grant from RSM's Birdies Fore Love initiative. From left, Brad Anderson (Sr. Manager, tax), Boys & Girls Club Director Derek Gallagher, and Madison McCabe (strategic account manager).



State Rep. Dan Ryan and RSM Market Leader Chris MacKenzie.



Clare McCully, Alex Johnson, and Paula Milone-Nuzzo, of the MGH Institute of Health Professions.



Kevin Kopanon, Jeff Soucy, Forest Day, and Jamie Harris.

RSM US LLP ("RSM") employees, partners, principals and clients and the community joined forces on Thursday, January 9, to present \$301,840 to the children of Charlestown, split between SAiL (Speech and Literacy Lab at Harvard Kent), which is run by the MGH Institute of Health Professions; The Harvard Kent School, and the Boys and Girls Club of Charlestown. Money raised is through the philanthropic efforts of the Charlestown employees of RSM and the community as part of their Birdies Fore Love fundraising efforts related to HYPERLINK "http://www.rsmclassic.com/" The RSM Classic, a PGA TOUR event for which RSM is the title sponsor.

RSM, which provides audit, tax, and consulting services to middle market companies, held its Birdies Fore Love check presentation on January 9 at the RSM office in Charlestown's City Square. The fundraising initiative supports the youth in the community where they live, work, and play.

"This has been an incredible year for us at RSM Boston," said Chris MacKenzie, Market Leader, RSM Boston. "It was a record-setting fundraiser at \$301,000. That's \$50,000 more than last year."

The Boys & Girls Club received a grant to benefit family and youth programming and tutoring. The Harvard Kent Elementary School will utilize the funds to assist low-income students, and children with behavioral, physical, and mental challenges. The SAiL Speech & Language Literacy Program will use the award to continue educating youth and families on health and wellness, particularly to improve literacy in low-income families.

"Thank you for making a difference in young people's lives," said Mayor Martin Walsh. "It's important and something you'll think about for the rest of your lives. You are amazing."



SAIL Speech & Language Literacy Program received \$180,000 from the RSM Birdies Fore Love initiative.



The Harvard Kent Elementary School received \$75,000 from the RSM Birdies Fore Love initiative, with Principal Jason Gallagher accepting the award from RSM's Molly Griffiths (also a Charlestown resident) and Colleen Boyce, Engagement and Culture Manager, Executive Director, RSM Boston Foundation.



Nicole Robinson, Monica Macina, Molly Griffiths, Jonte Joseph, and Katie Ward.



RSM staff: Jenn Kollman, Maryanne Hurlbert, Austin Fanning, Anna Doherty, and Adriana Raneri.

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CHARLESTOWN YOUTH HOCKEY ROUNDUP

•Districts coming. The District Tournament games are coming next week, with several teams playing at home in the Emmons Horrigan O'Neil Rink.

•Bantam AA - Liam Flaherty wore the hat, Luciano Cincoti and Mike McLaughlin both scored twice and Quinn Rockhill had 1-1-2 in Charlestown's 9-2 win over the Railers at home on Dec. 28. The Bantams have gone 2-1 since then, beating Wilmington and Dorchester, but losing 6-0 to Hyde Park in an away game.

•PeeWee AAA - Kellan Laramie with a hat trick and an assist and Will Sullivan 1-1-2 in the loss; Tommy Arria scored the winner in Charlestown's 3-1 victory over Belmont.

•PeeWee A - Lucas Wheeler capped a hat trick with two goals and Coulson Roy had 1-1-2 in a third-period rally that gave Charlestown a 4-3 decision over Lexington/Bedford on Dec. 28. Hurley scored all four goals and Forish pitched a shutout in Charlestown's 4-0 win over Natick. The team is 4-0-1 since Dec. 22, beating Belmont, Masco, and Parkway as well. They tied Dorchester on Jan. 11.

•Squirt AAA - Tommy Arria scored the winner in Charlestown's 3-1 victory over Belmont. The team has hit a bit of a skid since then, losing three and tying one. They will face Lexington/Bedford on Monday,

Jan. 20.

•Squirt A1 - The Squirt A1 team has done well in the New Year, going 1-0-1, with a tie of Winchester at home on Jan. 12, 2-2-. The face Waltham on Sunday, Jan. 19. They are 10-4-2 in league play and in third place.

•Squirt A2 - The A2's are on fire this season, sitting at 12-3-1. The team dropped a game to S&S on Jan. 12, 2-8, but won two straight before than against North Andover and Winchester. The team is in second place in their division, just behind Masco.

•MITES - The Mite 1 team is on a two-game winning streak and look to play Framingham on Jan. 19 - a team sitting in first place. They have good wins over Newton and Watertown in the new year...The Mite 2 team has gone 2-1 in the last three games, beating Arlington and Medfield, but losing to Newton. They will play Waltham on Jan. 18...The Mite 3 team has back to back wins against two different Dorchester teams in the last two weeks. They play Southie on Jan. 19...The Mite 4 team lost narrowly to Dorchester and Cambridge over the last two weeks, but have a chance to rebound against Medfield on Sunday.

•GIRLS U12B- The little 12s had a fantastic finish against the Stoneham Spartans in Middleton on Saturday, winning 4-3 - with the go-ahead goal by Ryleigh Jones and a great job in net by Brianna Doe. They go back up to Middleton at the crack of dawn

on Jan. 18 to face the first-place Masco team.

•GIRLS U12 - The girls U12 team beat a good Andover team 4-0 on Jan. 4, then tied the Winchester Lady Sachems, 3-3, on Jan. 11. Against Andover, there were four different goal scorers and Rory McConnell led a strong defensive effort. They remain in first place in their division, but have Natick breathing down their necks. They play Nashoba in Boxboro on Jan. 18.

•GIRLS U14 - The U14s beat the Northeast Pioneers 4-1 on Jan. 11 for their second straight win, though they had two cancellations in late December and early January. The team sits at 14-1 overall, and 3-1-1 in their league, which at this point is good for third place. Look for them to move up in the standings quickly. They play Belmont on Sunday at Belmont High.

CHARLESTOWN LITTLE LEAGUE WINTER WORK

Winter Clinics: Tuesdays 6-8pm at Harvard-Kent School gym, Jan 7- Mar 17. 6-7pm for tee ball and Rookie Ball/Coach Pitch; 7-8pm for AAA and Majors. There will be no clinics when Boston Public Schools are closed for vacation, holidays, or snow days.

Mar 24 and Mar 31 will be mandatory player evaluations for all (current and new) AAA players (6-7pm) and Majors players (7-8pm).

Tee ball: ages 4-7 yrs. (for those just starting baseball and cannot hit a pitched ball)

Rookie Ball/Coach Pitch: ages 5-7 yrs. (must be able to hit a pitched ball)

AAA: first level of player pitch: 2nd and 3rd graders

Majors: 4th, 5th and 6th graders.

Player registration and volunteer sign-ups will be available online soon- stay tuned!

WINTER SOFTBALL CLINICS

The Charlestown Girls Softball team winter clinics will take place for girls ages 4-18 (as of Jan. 1) from 6-8 p.m. Clinics started on Monday and will continue each Monday through March 30, with the next one being on Jan. 27. Spring registrations will also begin for instructional through 14U.

Contact Jack Schievink at (617) 201-4507 or Bill Nugent at (617) 447-3106.

TOWNIES

HOCKEY: Northeastern (15-3-1) sophomore wing Micaela Sindoris tallied an assist in the Lady Huskies hard-fought 4-3 OT loss to #1-ranked Wisconsin... Belmont Hill (8-4-0) junior defenseman Will Killoran notched an assist in a 5-3 win over St. Sebastian...Boston Latin (7-1-1) junior wing Colm Vraibel (goal, assist) and junior defenseman Noel Gallagher (assist) helped the Wolfpack to a 7-2 trounc-

ing of Concord-Carlisle...UMass-Dartmouth (4-8-2) senior defenseman Patrick Wrenn dished out an assist and rifled 2 shots on net in the Corsairs 6-1 pounding of Framingham State...Amherst (2-9-1) sophomore wing Sean Wrenn blasted 3 shots on net in the Mammoths 5-0 defeat at the hands of Bowdoin.

TOWNIE ROOTS

HOCKEY: Stonehill (4-7-2) sophomore wing Charles Page scored a goal and blasted 3 shots on net in a 3-0 triumph over Johnson & Wales. Charles added 3 assists and 3 shots on net in the Skyhawks 6-2 waxing of Post... Groton (7-4-0) junior wing Ronan Doherty notched a goal and an assist in a 6-3 win over Roxbury Latin...Stonehill (4-7-2) freshman goalie John Day made a remarkable debut stopping 31 shots in leading the Skyhawks to a 2-2 deadlock with Westfield State... UMass-Lowell (12-5-4) junior wing Connor Sodergren tallied an assist in the River Hawks 3-2 setback to RIT.

BASKETBALL: Southern NH (9-6) freshman guard Adriana Timberlake contributed 9 points and 3 steals in a Lady Penman 68-51 setback to Stonehill. Adriana added 11 points and 3 rebounds in the Lady Penman 92-90 OT loss to Adelphi...Towson (9-9) red-shirt freshman Nicolas Timberlake tossed in 14 points and added 5 rebounds in an 84-68 triumph over Delaware.

CHARLESTOWN BEAT

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

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

Motor Vehicle Accident

01/06/20 - A victim stated while she was crossing Maffa Way with her daughter, a man driving a motor vehicle entered the crosswalk and came into contact with the front part of her child's stroller. The parties were treated on scene, and the victim said she would seek further medical attention on her own.

Assault and Battery

01/07/20 - A victim on Rutherford Avenue reported as a result of an argument over an Uber fare, his passenger's boyfriend punched the victim in the head by. A search of the area for

the suspect was to no avail, but the incident might've been captured on surveillance video.

License Premise Violation

01/08/20 - Members of the Boston Police Licensing Unit issued a violation to a premise on Main Street for blocked hallways and unlicensed entertainment.

Larceny from a Motor Vehicle

01/10/20 - A victim on Salem Street reported unknown person(s) entered her motor vehicle and stole numerous gift cards, as well as her keys. There were no signs of forced entry.

Building a Better T MBTA winter 2020 weekend Orange Line diversions

The MBTA announced upcoming weekend closures on the Orange Line between Sullivan Square and Tufts Medical Center Stations beginning at 8:45 p.m. on Fridays through Sundays for four weekends in January and February starting the weekend of Jan. 17.

These closures have been scheduled to replace Orange Line station track in both directions at North Station, and to perform additional track work at State, Haymarket, and Downtown Crossing. This weekend work has been scheduled to build off work that was performed during last fall's weekend diversions as part of the 2019 Capital Acceleration Plan. These closures are expected to result in 840 feet of full-depth track replacement at North Station, and will allow for the replacement of an additional 140 feet of track at

State and 200 more feet of track at Haymarket.

"This past fall, we made major progress in our efforts to build a better, safer, more reliable T," said MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak. "Continuing these weekend diversions in 2020 will allow us to maintain that progress while we look to take a more aggressive approach later on this year."

During these four Orange Line weekends in which service is suspended between Sullivan Square and Tufts Medical Center, shuttle buses will be provided between Sullivan Square and Haymarket Stations only. There will be no shuttle bus service to Orange Line stations at State, Downtown Crossing, and Chinatown with customers asked to travel via parallel downtown Green Line service. These four weekends are:

•8:45 p.m. on Jan. 17 through Jan. 19. (Note: On Monday, Jan. 20, 2020, the Orange Line will operate a Saturday schedule in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.)

•8:45 p.m. on Jan. 24 through Jan. 26.

•8:45 p.m. on Feb. 7 through Feb. 9.

•8:45 p.m. on Feb. 14 through Feb. 16.

Following track work, the MBTA typically implements speed restrictions as a safety precaution, and customers should expect these to last for several days while the T monitors the proper settlement and consolidation of new track and stone ballast. Speed restrictions are lifted once engineers have confirmed proper settlement has occurred.

NEIGHBORHOOD ROUND UP

SPAULDING PEACE ART GALLERY OPENING

The exhibit "Finding Your Strength" by the Artists Group of Charlestown opens with a reception at the Spaulding Peace Art Gallery, 300 First Avenue, 2nd Floor on Thursday, January 23 from 4-5:30 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.

CHARLESTOWN GYM HOCKEY 2020-2021 REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2020/2021 Gym Hockey season is being held at the Boys & Girls Club High Street building on the following dates: Saturday 1/18 /20 from 9:30am to 11:30am and Saturday 1/25/20 from 9:30am to 11:30am Ages are 4 years old by 10/1/2020 to 9 years old (anyone who turns 10 years old before 2/1/21 is too old). There is a registration fee which is not paid until the fall when the season begins. You do not have to live in Charlestown to play. Come and watch a game while you register your child.

SPRING (AND WINTER) LACROSSE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

ALL ARE WELCOME. The Charlestown Lacrosse & Learning Center has opened registration for its main Spring season & for its Winter skills seasons. The CLLC teaches the great game of Lacrosse to a diverse group of boys and girls, grades K-8th. New players are always welcome regard-

less of skill level and scholarships are always available. We believe in the power of Lacrosse, as it is the great equalizer in the sporting world. You don't need to be tall, strong, fast or big to be successful and it's a communal sport where anyone can find a niche and be a productive member of the team. As a program, we promote the following core values in everything we do: Teamwork, Responsibility, Community Service, Patience, & Effort. Please call (617) 242-9328 or visit our website (www.charlestownlacrosse.com/registration) for more information and to register today!!!

HARVEST ON VINE FOOD PANTRY APPEAL

Since the start of the school year, the Food Pantry has had a great need for cereal to include in its distribution. Donations of non-perishable foods are also greatly appreciated.

Donations drops are: Food Pantry, 49 Vine St. (Hayes Square), The Cooperative Bank - 201 Main St. or the Parish Center - 46 Winthrop St. (by the Training Field). Or donate by sending checks to: Harvest on Vine, Parish Center, 46 Winthrop St., Charlestown, MA 02129. For more information, call Tom MacDonald 617-990-7314.

DON'T MISS "E"INC.'S WILD & SCENIC FILM FESTIVAL!

On January 25, 2020 from 6:30 - 10:30 p.m. at Atlantic Wharf, 280 Congress St., Boston, "e" Inc. will host the Wild & Scenic Film

Festival. The night will feature amazing short films on a variety of topics impacting the world today; topics such as: Wildlife, Indigenous People, Energy and Conservation, Thinking Globally, Water and River Issues, Ways to Act, and more! The emcee for the evening is Boston City Councilor, Lydia Edwards. This event is a fund raiser for "e" Inc., Charlestown's Science Emporium located in the Navy Yard. It will be a wonderful night full of food, films, cash bar, live music, and a silent auction. For more information, visit www.einc-action.org or call 617-242-4700.

E INC THIRD THURSDAYS

Join the fun on January 16 at "e" Inc where the topic for this month's activity night is catapults! From 6-7:30 p.m. at "e" inc. science emporium kids ages 5-7 are invited to explore catapults. Visit www.einc-action.org for more information. \$5 registration fee covers activities, art project and a snack. The science emporium is located at 114 16th St, Charlestown Navy Yard.

WARREN-PRESCOTT ICE SKATING PARTY

The Warren-Prescott School Annual Ice Skating Party will be held Saturday, February 1, from 3:00-4:00pm at the Steriti Rink, 561 Commercial Street North End. The event is open to all Warren-Prescott school students, teachers, staff and their families. Ice Skate Rentals \$5. Helmets are recommended for all children. 50/50 Raffle \$1 per ticket, 12 tickets

for \$10, or 20 tickets for \$15. In addition to a chance to win 50% of the proceeds from ticket sales,

three lucky runner-ups will win Warren-Prescott branded t-shirts!

For the Record

- Warren-Prescott School Dates:
*January 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No School
- Harvard Kent School Dates:
*BPS School Preview Dates: Thursday, January 16, 5:45-6:45 p.m.
*January 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No School.

•The monthly meeting of the Charlestown Neighborhood Council will be held on Tuesday, February 4, in the Knights of Columbus Hall, 545 Medford Street at 7 pm. City Councillor Lydia Edwards will be joining. The public is encouraged to attend.

•Abutters Meeting for 16 Hill St.
A meeting to discuss a proposal to enlarge front and rear dormers, interior remodel of 1st floor kitchen and third floor bedroom. Structural header above the 1st floor to widen openings and a structural header at 3rd floor to remove existing chimney.

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

•Abutters Meeting for 63 Green St.
A meeting to discuss a proposal to construct a new roof top deck.

When: Wednesday, January 22, 6 p.m.

•Zoning Board of Appeals Hearings
Proposals: 10 Austin St
When: Thursday, January 23, 5 p.m.
Where: 1010 Mass Ave, Zoning Board of Appeals

•2020 Spaulding-CNC Community Fund Grants
The Spaulding-CNC Community Partnership Fund awards grants to eligible non-profit organizations. Applications are due by Friday, January 17, 2020 at 5 p.m.

For more information, please contact Shelley Mogil (shelley-mogil@gmail.com), 978-505-5473 or visit the CNC website. Applications for downloading will not be available until the day of the first tutorial.

•HOW TO REPORT A PROBLEM PROPERTY
Since taking office in 2014, Mayor Walsh has made fixing quality of life issues a priority in his administration. From investing in Public Works to making sure community policing is a staple in every neighborhood, we are making sure every neighborhood is clean, safe and a great place to live and work in. Unfortunately some properties in Boston need more help than others, and that's why we are here. If you know of a property that fits one of the following criteria: multiple calls to 911, one that's blighted or just a general concern, we encourage you to reach out to your neighborhood liaison.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Whittemore, Elizabeth B	Lynne Winchester	42 8th St #1306	\$600,000
Marton, Peter	Vigneau, Elaine V	23 9th St #23	\$1,620,000
Alben, Caitlin	Conway, George A	120 Elm St	\$855,000
Oh, Tara	Kenneth C Stone LT	47 Harvard St #120	\$1,700,000
Bovi, Nicholas J	Curcio, Michael	26-30 Main St #9	\$610,000
OConnor, Colleen	Oh, John	11 Walker St	\$1,050,000
Man, Devlin C	Angeloni, Lisa M	10 Washington St #2	\$502,125

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CHARLESTOWN GYM HOCKEY

Weekly Standings January 11, 2020

	W	L	T
MPTA	9	5	0
Bryan's Pals	8	5	1
Duce 2	5	7	2
A/1 Zume's	4	9	1

Players of the week for 1/11/20

A-1/Zume's - Cameron Perkoski, Chase Perkoski
 Bryan's Pals - Quinn Hennessy, Michael Bedard
 Duce 2 - Jan Plewa, Gavin Smith
 MPTA - Walter DeMont, Keegan Marshall

Registration for our 2020/2021 season is being held at the Boys & Girls Club High St. building on Saturdays in January. Stop by on the 18th or 25th from 9:30-11:30 a.m. to watch a game and register. Ages are 4 yrs old by 10/1/2020 to 9 yrs old (anyone who is 10 yrs old before 2/1/21 is too old). There is a registration fee which is not paid until the fall when the season begins. You do not have to live in Charlestown to play.

For more information call Debbie Lent at 617-241-0434.



Celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2020

January 26 - February 2
 #CSW20

This year's theme is 'Living in Harmony With God's Creation.' This theme encompasses the core products and values that can be found in Catholic schools across the country. Not only are we teaching students to become future servant leaders, faith-filled disciples and enriched citizens in our communities, we, as educators, are growing with them. In Catholic schools, we are all learners, servants and leaders. These shared qualities are what make Catholic schools work. They are what make Catholic schools succeed.

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3x5 or 2x8 Color \$1,100.00 8 Papers

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 Everett Independent • East Boston Times Free Press • Lynn Journal
 Charlestown Patriot Bridge • North End Regional Review

Deadline: Thursday, January 16th

Email or call your rep. 781-485-0588
 x110 Kathy Bright - kbright@reverejournal.com
 x101 Deb DiGregorio - deb@reverejournal.com
 x103 Maureen DiBella - mdibella@winthroptranscript.com
 x106 Peter Sacco - psacco@everettindependent.com
 x 125 Sioux Gerow - charlestownnads@hotmail.com

North Washington Street Bridge (Charlestown Bridge) Construction Look-Ahead:

North Washington Street Bridge (Charlestown Bridge) Construction Look-Ahead: Jan. 12 – 25, 2020

TRAVEL IMPACTS

- N. WASHINGTON STREET INBOUND: Off-peak daytime lane reductions across the bridge and additional lane reductions at Keaney Square will continue. One lane across the bridge and all turn movements will be available from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. on weekdays.

- N. WASHINGTON STREET OUTBOUND: Off-peak daytime lane reductions will continue across the bridge to City Square. One lane across the bridge and all turn movements will be available from 7 a.m.–2 p.m. on weekdays.

D E S C R I P T I O N OF SCHEDULED WORK

- Construction of the tempo-

rary pedestrian and vehicle bridge and utility bridge includes installing, assembling, and welding of bridge spans and supports.

- Utility work by National Grid includes testing relocated utilities.

WORK HOURS

- Daytime (6 a.m.–4 p.m.) on weekdays.

TRAVEL TIPS

PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS: The bridge's eastern sidewalk is open and available to all pedestrians and cyclists with crossings at both Keaney and City Squares. Please be advised that the DCR-controlled Charlestown locks can provide another alternate route, but may close without warning and beyond control of this project. During Tudor Wharf walkway closures, pedestrian

access will be provided via the Water Street underpass and guidance signage will be provided.

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

The contractor is coordinating with the TD Garden and local police to provide awareness and manage traffic impacts during events. For your awareness, during this look-ahead period, the following days include events scheduled at the TD Garden:

- Bruins: 1/16 at 7 p.m.
- Celtics: 1/18 at 7 p.m., 1/20 at 7:30 p.m., 1/22 at 7:30 p.m.

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Cambridge, MA 02139-1732
617-349-4396

CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON HUMAN
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Hartford, CT 06106-1561
860-541-3400

MAINE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
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Augusta, ME 04333
207-624-6050

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One Ashburton Place, Room 601
Boston, MA 02108-1599
617-994-6000

RHODE ISLAND COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
180 Westminster Street, 3rd floor
Providence, RI 02903-3768
401-222-2661/62

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135 State Street, Drawer 33
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802-828-2480

NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
200 Orange Street, Room 402
Concord, NH 03301-9053
603-271-2767

NEW HAVEN COMMISSION ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES
200 Orange Street, Room 402
New Haven, CT 06510
203-946-8160/8165

HELP WANTED

Graph Product Director (FT) perm. pos. in Charlestown, MA (Suffolk County)
Specify & oversee the dvlpmnt of metrics, benchmarking approaches &
evaluations to satisfy & anticipate mkt demands for graph technology, using
all of the following bioinformatics tools & methods to analyze DNA
sequencing data: Python prgmg lang, Burrows-Wheeler Aligner (BWA),
Genome Analysis Toolkit (GATK), DeepVariant, Strelka, Sentieon, Edico
Dragen, Samtools, BCFtools, RTG tools (Real Time Genomics), Integrative
Genomics Viewer (IGV), Common Workflow Language (CWL). Supv direct
reporting staff. Own the Seven Bridges Graph Technology roadmap,
facilitate continual grooming, adjustments & communicate milestones as
well as changes among team members & other stakeholders w/in Seven
Bridges. Partner w/ appropriate stakeholders to dvlpm, test & iterate on
product offerings & exposure to the mkt. Specify &/or oversee end-user
interaction methods to provide streamlined engagement w/ SBG Graph
Technology by clients w/ diverse technical expertise. Partner w/ cross
functional teams to support customer outreach, engagement & growth
throughout the product &/or svcs lifecycle. Dvlp & participate in technology
transfer partnerships w/ client organizations to enable enhanced test cases &
demonstration of superior results. Min. reqs. Bach deg in Comp Sci, Comp
Engg or a rlted field, such as Math, Physics, Electrical/Electronics Engg (or
foreign equiv deg). 3 yrs of exp in job offd or rlted occupation in graph
technology based genomics research, such as R&D mgr/team leader. The
reqd exp must incl the exp w/ all of the following bioinformatics tools &
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Burrows-Wheeler Aligner (BWA), Genome Analysis Toolkit (GATK),
Samtools, BCFtools, RTG tools (Real Time Genomics), Integrative Genomics
Viewer (IGV), Common Workflow Language (CWL). Qualified applicants
please contact Seven Bridges Genomics Inc., Attn. Piotr Szamel, General
Counsel, 529 Main St, Ste 6610, Charlestown, MA 02129. Must have
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