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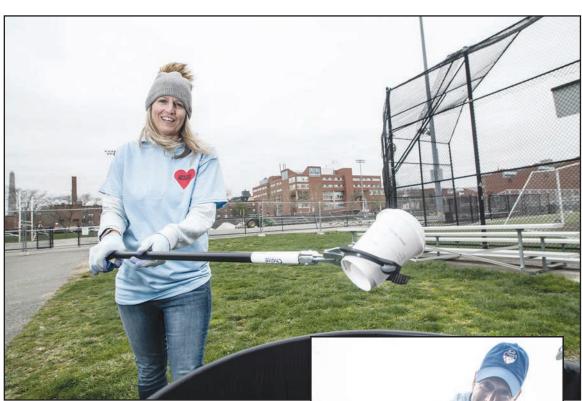
THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023



REE

# CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE -



DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

# CHARLESTOWN PITCHING IN TO 'LOVE YOUR BLOCK'

Love Your Block is a Springtime initiative with Boston City Hall providing communities with supplies to preform some spring cleaning on their neighborhood's streets.

Above, Amanda Reindeld, with the aid of a grabbing tool, cleans garbage around the area. Right, Tucker Levy has to rely on his hands, but still does a great job piking up garbage. See page 8 for more photos.

#### CHARLESTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL CALENDAR

CNC General Meeting, Tuesday, May 2, 2023, 7 p.m. The Charlestown Neighborhood Council will hold an in-person, public meeting on Tuesday, May 2nd from 7-9 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus, 545 Medford Street, Charlestown. The agenda will be published on our website next week. All residents are

encouraged to attend and bring their neighborhood questions, concerns, and suggestions.

Meeting/Event Updates: Council and committee meetings, as well as Council coffee hours are listed and updated on the CNC calendar, cnc02129. org. Our general and committee meetings are open to the public - so residents do not need an invitation to attend and are not required to RSVP or reserve a space. However, if you would like to receive a calendar invitation for an event and email updates with important meeting updates, then just click an event's

(CNC Pg. 3)

# Coletta opposes project in Charlestown Navy Yard

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

District 1 City Councilor Gabriela Coletta, citing the opposition of many Charlestown residents, has announced her decision not to support the plans that call for a permanent and affordable housing project on the site of the former YMCA Constitution Inn in the Charlestown Navy Yard. Coletta has called for the project to "go back to the drawing board."

More than 250 residents recently attended a meeting that was hosted by the Charlestown Neighborhood Council, with many expressing their strong opposition

to the proposal, which calls for the creation of 120 units of housing. Since the project was unveiled in October of last year, many residents have expressed a lack of trust in the proponents of the project, who had sought to waive the Article 80 process, thereby precluding much of the community's input.

Coletta sent her letter of opposition to Karen LaFrazia, President & CEO of St. Francis House. The following is the letter:

"Dear Ms. LaFrazia:

"The project known as Helm on Third proposed by St. Francis

(Coletta Pg. 2)

## Katie O'Leary named one of Boston Magazine's Most Influential Bostonians

By Dan Murphy

Katie O'Leary was in the midst of an eight-day cruise in the Bahamas earlier this month when someone texted O'Leary to let her know that she had been named one of 150 Most Influential Bostonians by Boston Magazine as in its May issue.

"I'm really humbled," said O'Leary, the director of recovery for North Suffolk Community Services and a Charlestown native. "It's super cool, I can say that."

Coming in at #137 on the list, Boston Magazine describes O'Leary, who now lives in Braintree, as someone who "has quietly become a catalyst for change in a



COURTESY OF KATIE O'LE

Katie O'Leary.

region that continues to struggle with addiction-related issues."

But before O'Leary came to

(O'LEARY Pg. 2)

Our 02129 Senior Page See Page 12

# DiDomenico advocates for legislation creating Secretary of Housing and Livable Communities

Senator DiDomenico joined colleagues in passing a reorganization plan to create a state Secretary of Housing and Livable Communities, a cabinet-level position which will assist the Commonwealth with meeting its long-term goals in addressing the housing crisis and expanding safe, accessible, and affordable housing for residents.

"I am proud to support Governor Healey's efforts as she works to address the housing crisis, one of the most pressing issues on the mind of my constituents and residents across Massachusetts," said Senator DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate. "I look forward to working with the new Secretary of Housing and Livable communities along with my colleagues to ensure all people can afford to put a roof over their head and help residents stay in communities they have lived in their entire lives. I want to thank Senate President Spilka, Senator Collins, and Senator Edwards for getting this bill passed with the urgency it deserves."

"As a state, we must work towards a creating a sustainable and inclusive future, where no one is prevented from calling Massachusetts home simply because of the cost of housing," said Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland). "I am grateful that Governor Healey has brought this legislation

before us, and we in the Legislature look forward to continuing to partner with the administration to support housing that is affordable and livable, vibrant communities. I'd also like to thank Senator Collins and Senator Edwards for their attention and hard work to ensure that the Senate could reach consensus on this issue in a timely fashion."

In Massachusetts, housing-related issues are currently addressed by the administration through the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development. The reorganization plan passed in the Senate today would elevate housing issues to a separate executive agency tasked with supporting housing availability and assessing the Commonwealth's progress in this area.

In response to ongoing concerns over housing availability, last session, the Massachusetts Legislature allocated over \$1 billion in direct appropriations to support affordable housing in Massachusetts. This followed a session that saw the long-awaited 'housing choice' legislation become law with important housing production incentives, including requiring multi-family zoning near transit.

The reorganization plan is also in the House of Representatives for consideration.



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COLETTA (from pg. 1)



The Knights of Columbus was packed with residents for the meeting regarding the Helm on Third.

House and the Planning Office of Urban Affairs in the Charlestown Navy Yard has faced strong opposition from a majority of the Charlestown community since preliminary conversations began in October.

"As District Councilor for Charlestown, it is my duty to ensure my constituents' voices are

listened to and amplified in my advocacy. "This level of opposition warrants an indefinite pause and an entire reset for a proposal that works for all communities involved to achieve truly affordable housing.

"I am grateful for the robust changes St. Francis House has made over the course of their meetings with local residents. While your offer to appear at another community meeting is in line with where the pre-filing process stands at this time, based on overwhelming opposition from my constituents, I cannot support this proposal without completely going back to the drawing board."

#### O'LEARY (from pg. 1)

work in recovery services, she was in recovery herself.

After graduating from Matignon High School in 1998. O'Leary went off to attend college at UMass Amherst. Her drinking in college eventually escalated into a problem, and she would later struggle with addiction to alcohol, as well as to opioids.

O'Leary made various attempts at sobriety before January of 2011 when she entered treatment for the last time and became truly sober.

In October of 2013 - two years into her sobriety – O'Leary was receiving recovery services from North Suffolk Mental Health Association (NSMHA) now North Suffolk Community Services (NSCS) when she went to work as a Recovery Coach for the organization. Her work mentor there was Kim Hanton, NSMHA's former Director of Addiction Services

O'Leary was already well acquainted with Hanton, who was helping to start the Recovery Court at Chelsea District Court, when Katie's father, Bob O'Leary, was working at the court.

Hanton had also helped both Katie and her sister, Bonnie O'Leary, "get into recovery during different points of our active addictions," said Katie.

Meanwhile, O'Leary excelled in

her position with NSMHA, being named the organization's Director of Recovery Support Services in 2017. She was promoted again to her current role in senior management last November.

O'Leary has helped open two new recovery facilities - Recovery on the Harbor in East Boston, and Hanton House in Chelsea. She was also instrumental in helping another established recovery service, StepRox in Roxbury, move and get their building permitted before

In March of 2022, O'Leary was one of 10 women recognized as part of Chelsea District Court's Women's History Month Celebration in an event that acknowledged women who are "providing healing and promoting hope."

Regarding O'Leary's work, First Justice Matthew Machera said at this time that "keeping people in recovery through these unprecedented times has been beyond remarkable."

In light of receiving this recognition, O'Leary humbly said, "It's not me. I'm getting recognized for all work my team does."

And as much of a surprise as the latest recognition for O'Leary from Boston Magazine has been, she admits she had an inkling something was afoot when Sen. Lydia Edwards reached out about six weeks ago to ask O'Leary for her bio, as well as to let O'Leary know that the senator would be nominating her as an Influential Bostonian.

"Never in a million years did I think anything would come of it," said O'Leary.

As for O'Leary ultimately receiving this recognition from Boston Magazine, Sen. Edwards said: "Katie is a true life saver and first responder. She is a straight shooter, humble, kind and leads with her heart. Her journey and growth reflect the struggles of a lot of good people. She has been a guiding light for so many including myself. She serves as a bridge for so many on the long road to recovery. She demands a seat at the table for so many silenced by stigma and shame. Katie represents so many people that are everyday heroes."

Meanwhile, O'Leary knows above all else, that recovery doesn't come easily and requires hard work.

"The biggest misconception is someone once told me that 'when the pain gets great enough, we change,' and now we live in a world where there's a pill that fixes everything," she said. "But that's not factual – people have to put in the work."

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## DiDomenico reintroduces Healthy Youth Act legislation to improve sex education

Senator Sal DiDomenico has reintroduced his Healthy Youth Act bill, An Act relative to healthy youth (\$268), which has been proposed in the legislature for over a decade. This bill will ensure that Massachusetts public schools electing to teach sex education curriculum use age-appropriate, medically accurate, and research-based information that covers a comprehensive range of topics. The legislation also calls for sex education to be inclusive and appropriate for students regardless of gender, race, disability status, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

A 2018 poll conducted by EMC Research showed overwhelming bipartisan support for sex education in Massachusetts, with 91% of likely voters agreeing that students should receive sex education in high school, and 75% of likely voters agreeing that sex education should include comprehensive information, such as how to build healthy relationships and understand consent.

"This legislation will finally make it clear that sex education in Massachusetts must be inclusive of all students and emphasize the importance and necessity of consent in relationships," said Senator DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate. "The Healthy Youth Act was first filed 12 years ago and has passed the Senate several times. We must finally get this commonsense health policy over the finish line to ensure our children have the information they need to protect their health, form respectful relationships, and build the bright futures they deserve."

"Whether we're from Boston or the Berkshires, a strong majority of people in Massachusetts -including most parents - want young people to receive sex and relationship education at school," said Jamie Klufts, co-chair of the Healthy Youth Act Coalition.

"The Healthy Youth Act will update our state's woefully outdated health education guidelines to ensure that the sex and relationship education taught in our schools is accurate, high-quality, and inclusive. This type of education protects young people against bullying and abuse, helps them develop healthy relationship skills, improves their academic performance, and is something every student in our state deserves. We owe it to them to finally pass the Healthy Youth Act."

Currently, public schools in the Commonwealth that choose to teach sex education are not required to use or adhere to a specific sexed curriculum. While some schools provide comprehensive and effective sex education, others teach outdated and abstinence-focused programs, including curricula that ignores LGBTQIA+ health and critical lessons on consent. This has led to a patchwork of sexual education programs across the state. The Healthy Youth Act (SD2199) aims to change this by requiring school districts that offer sex education to follow certain guidelines when selecting a curriculum. This is vital to ensuring that students throughout the state are provided with age-appropriate, medically accurate, and comprehensive information, including topics on:

- the benefits of delaying sex;
- human anatomy, reproduction, and sexual development;
  - effective contraceptive use;
- prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections
- relationship and communication skills to form healthy relationships;
- coverage of affirmative, conscious and voluntary consent; and
- age-appropriate information about gender identity and sexual orientation, including resources that offer support to LGBTQ stu-



Senator SalDiDomenico speaks at Healthy Youth Act Rally.

The bill does not require public schools to teach sex education but sets curriculum guidelines for those that do. This legislation also protects and enhances parents' right to remove their children from all or part of the sex education program if they choose to do so— an action already protected by state law. Additionally, this bill updates parent-notification guidelines for districts that choose to teach sex

education curriculum and requires schools to send notice to parents in English and in other commonly spoken languages in the district. Notice would alert parents that their child is enrolled in a sex-education course and would inform them of their right to review the curriculum or opt their child out of some or all of the lessons.

Sex education programs have repeatedly been shown to work best when they emphasize the value of delaying sex, while also teaching students about the importance of protecting themselves from unintended consequences. As demonstrated by numerous studies, comprehensive sex education programs have been proven to delay the initiation of sex, increase use of contraception, lower the rates of STIs and unintended pregnancy among teens, and reduce reported levels of bullying towards LGBTQ youth in school.



# **Plan: Charlestown**

# **Walking tour in Charlestown**

Saturday

**April 29, 2023** 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

#### **Starting Location: Community College T Stop**

Points of interest will include: BHCC; Rutherford Ave; Hood Park; Cambridge Street, and Roland Street.

#### **Project Description:**

Join your neighbors and PLAN: Charlestown for a Saturday morning walking tour in Charlestown! From 10AM to Noon on April 29th, 2023. We will meet at the Community College T Stop. Points of interest will include: BHCC; Rutherford Ave; Hood Park; Cambridge Street, and Roland Street. These are an opportunity to learn more about Charlestown's neighborhoods, PLAN: Charlestown's latest future scenarios for these industrial areas, and to your priorities for the

The walking tour will be 2.5 miles long and moderately paced. People of all ages and abilities welcome to join for part or all. Weather permitting. For more information, visit the PLAN: Charlestown website!

#### CNC (from pg. 1)

'Add to Calendar' button and provide your email address. Coffee hours are informal drop-in events scheduled by council members to connect with residents. Contact us

anytime at cnc02129@gmail.com and find updates on CNC02129. org. We look forward to seeing you all soon!

## Little League Opening Day is this Saturday

Parade starts at 8am at Harvard Kent, all players gather and make their way up Bunker Hill St to Schrafft's. Each division will then play with the first set of games starting at 9am and the last set of games starting at 1:15pm.

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

# EDITORIAL

## ANTISEMITISM HAS NO PLACE IN OUR SOCIETY

As we were reading about the federal court trial that is getting underway this week of the 50 year-old Pennsylvania man charged with fatally shooting 11 people and wounding six at a Pittsburgh synagogue in 2018, which was the deadliest antisemitic attack in U.S. history, we at first felt a sense of irony -- which then turned to sadness -- and finally into anger.

Irony, because this miscreant's trial follows Holocaust Remembrance Week, which was observed last week (Holocaust Remembrance Day itself was last Tuesday) throughout the world.

Sadness, for the innocent victims of his rampage, most of whom were elderly worshippers, whose lives were taken at the Tree of Life synagogue on the morning of Oct. 27, 2018.

And anger, that antisemitism not only still exists, but is growing all across our country.

When we were young, the typical antisemitic act consisted of a rock thrown through the window of a temple or some ant-semitic graffiti. But those acts of vandalism typically were committed by teens who had been drinking, and who were as likely to throw rocks through a school window as a synagogue.

But in recent years, antisemitic violence has escalated exponentially, both in numbers and in severity, of which the Tree of Life mass shooting is the apotheosis.

The Anti Defamation League (ADL) found that the number of antisemitic incidents in the U.S. increased by more than 36 percent in the past year, from 2,721 in 2021 to 3,697 in 2022. Antisemitic and white supremacist propaganda in the U.S. also hit new levels.

According to the ADL's web site, 2022 saw the highest number on record since the ADL began tracking antisemitic incidents in 1979, marking the third time in the past five years that the year-end total has been the highest number ever recorded.

The ADL also noted that incidents increased in each of the major audit categories: antisemitic harassment increased 29% to 2,298; antisemitic vandalism increased 51% to 1,288; and antisemitic assaults increased 26% to 111.

This trend is having a profound effect upon our fellow citizens of the Jewish faith.

A New Jersey rabbi wrote a column in the New York Times over the weekend in which he said::

"In the four years since the shooting at the Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh, American Jewish institutions have developed rapid-response playbooks to address concrete terror threats and best practices have been shared around the country. We have invested in our security infrastructure and communicated those changes to our congregants. Over the past few years we've added cameras, panic buttons, shatter-proof film to our windows, and boulders meant to keep cars from plowing into our buildings."

For those of us who were born shortly after the end of WWII, it is inconceivable that antisemitism can be on the rise. To be sure, antisemitism always has existed in our country, but when we were growing up in the '60s and '70s in the immediate aftermath of WWII and the Holocaust, it seemed that the lessons of the horrors of WWII had been learned and that the world was becoming a better place, not only for Jews, but for people of all races and creeds.

So it has been with a profound sense of sadness, dismay, and anger for us to witness the sharp increase in antisemitic acts across the United States today.

The theme of Holocaust Remembrance Week is that the world must never forget what can happen when hate and politics merge to create a force of evil. That is a message that is just as timely today as it ever has been.

## Wu announces funding to support small businesses

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH) last week announced that the City of Boston awarded the first grants from the previously announced Affordable Commercial Assistance Fund (ACAF) to make commercial rents more accessible to small businesses in Boston impacted by the pandemic. The first awards will subsidize rent for Jean Appolon Expressions, a Haitian dance company in Roxbury, and for Words as Worlds Bookstore in Dorchester.

In August 2022, the Mayor's Office of Housing announced a request for proposals (RFP) for the Affordable Commercial Assistance Fund. The ACAF made \$1 million available to help sustain local businesses and community-based nonprofits operating in affordable housing buildings. ACAF funding awards enable property developers to lower their commercial rents and support the growth of businesses investing in local neighborhoods. The funding is available to owners of buildings with City-supported affordable housing, including rental and homeownership properties, that include commercial space. The City anticipates that this new fund will ensure the affordability of approximately 35,000 square feet of commercial space for local small businesses and nonprofits that would otherwise be unable to afford market rents.

"When Boston small businesses prosper, everyone benefits—anchoring our economy and community," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "We will continue to support these drivers of innovation and connection throughout our neighborhoods."

"Providing affordable commercial space in our neighborhoods strengthens our local business districts, supports entrepreneurship, and creates a pipeline to Boston's economic engine," said Councilor Brian Worrell, Chair of the Boston City Council's Committee on Small Business & Professional Licensure. "I am excited to see local small business owners utilize this program to enhance our communities and expand Boston's small business ecosystem."

"We are thrilled to see the Affordable Commercial Assistance Fund supporting small businesses and nonprofits, particularly those that are providing essential services and cultural assets to our neighborhoods," said Sheila Dillon, Chief of Housing. "The Jean

Appolon Expressions dance company and Words as Worlds Bookstore are great examples of how we can invest in the economic vitality and cultural richness of our communities through this new program. The ACAF is an important tool for creating economic opportunities and supporting our city's diversity and vibrancy."

The development team for 2147 Washington Street has been awarded a \$225,000 Affordable Commercial Assistance Fund grant for their 74-unit mixed-use development in Roxbury. The grant will support Jean Appolon Expressions, a dance company focused on contemporary Haitian-rooted dance, by subsidizing their rent for 2,846 square feet of first-floor retail space. With the assistance, their rent will be reduced to almost half the area's average market rate per square foot. The construction of 2147 Washington Street is expected to be completed in the spring of 2024.

"We are thrilled to be moving into the 2147 Washington Street building in Nubian Square and are excited to partner with other artists and area businesses to expand our impact in Boston's growing arts ecosystem," said Jean Appolon, Founder and Artistic Director of Jean Appolon Expressions (JAE). "This ACAF award from the City of Boston is making it possible for JAE to partner with the New Atlantic Development team and enter our first dance studio home, at a lower rent level, allowing us to continue offering our arts programming at a very accessible level for our diverse community mem-

"On behalf of the entire development team for the 2147 Washington project, we are extremely grateful to Mayor Wu and the Mayor's Office of Housing for providing this ACAF award. Without it, we would never have been able to bring Jean Appolon Expressions into our building," said Bill Madsen Hardy, Owner of New Atlantic Development. "As a nonprofit, community-oriented, and community-serving creative business with deep ties to Boston, they are an ideal tenant for this prominent commercial space. Most importantly, their long-term presence in Nubian Square will further the goals of the Roxbury Cultural District and the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan."

The development team for 1463 Dorchester Avenue, Tlee Development LLC, has been awarded a \$150,000 Affordable Commercial Assistance Grant to support their Dot Crossing Apartments project. This transit-oriented development features a five-story building with 29 mixed-income units, along with a residential lobby and a retail space that will be occupied by the Words as Worlds Bookstore. The project includes rent restrictions for the next five years, reducing the rent by 40 percent and ensuring that the bookstore's rent does not increase by more than 2% annually. The anticipated completion date for the Dot Crossing Apartments is June 2023.

"We at Words as Worlds are incredibly grateful for this rent relief support through the Affordable Commercial Space Assistance funding, which makes our model for a community bookstore and gathering space so much more sustainable over the next ten years," said Bing Broderick, Community Organizer for Words as Worlds. "We appreciate this support and vote of confidence. We know that

(Funding Pg. 9)



THE CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE,

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

Newsstand Price: Free / Subscription price: \$75

President - Stephen Quigley - editor@charlestownbridge.com Marketing Director - Debra DiGregorio - deb@reverejournal.com

# Henry Santana makes bid for City Councilor at-Large

By Dan Murphy

A familiar face around City Hall over the past few years, Henry Santana will be among the candidates for City Councilor at-Large

Santana, 27, who serves as the city's Director of the Office of Civic Organizing, was born in Bani, Dominican Republic. He immigrated to the U.S. with his family at age 3 and moved into public housing in the Alice Taylor Boston Housing Authority apartments in Mission Hill, the neighborhood where his parents still live today. "I'm a product of Boston," he said proudly.

Like his parents, Santana didn't speak English upon arriving in Boston, where they all learned the language.

"We all got the proper education we couldn't have in the Dominican Republic," said Santana, now a bilingual English and Spanish speaker.

Santana attended Boston Public Schools and, between junior high and high school, spent one year at Beacon Academy, a Boston-based program that, according to its website, "prepares highly motivated students from communities with limited resources to succeed in competitive high schools, colleges, and careers.'

After completing the rigorous 14-month program at Beacon Academy, Santana entered boarding school as a freshman at Fryeburg Academy in Maine, where he had access to the school's rich resources, including its own dedicated math-and-science building; a gym with a fitness center; and even a woodworking studio.

"broke Santana during his four years at Fryeburg Academy, he said, becoming the second-ever class president in the school's history.

During high school, Santana returned to Boston in the summers and worked as a junior councilor for the Mission Hill Summer Program, which he first attended as a 7-year-old camper. He remained with the program during summers in college as well, eventually becoming a senior councilor and program director.

"Spending time in Maine and then coming back to Boston and serving in [the Mission Hill Summer Program], I really saw the lack of resources that youth in Boston really had access to," said Santana, "and that really motivated me to serving my community."

Upon graduating from Fryeburg Academy, Santana returned to the Boston area to attend Lasell University in Newton, where he



COURTESY OF HENRY SANTANA Henry Santana, a candidate for City Councilor at-Large.

originally planned to pursue a degree in education.

"I really thought I wanted to be an educator," he said. "I thought I wanted to be a teacher or a principal one day."

While attending college, however, Santana said he quickly came to the realization that it was local and state government "who has access to making decisions." He subsequently changed his academic focus to majoring in history, with a minor in political science.

Weeks after graduating from Lasell University, Santana visited Beacon Academy, where he struck up a conversation with one of program's directors. He mentioned to her that he hoped to get involved in politics. By chance, this connection was a relative of Kenzie Bok's and put Santana in touch with the future District 8 City Councilor as Bok was embarking on her maiden campaign for office.

While he would eventually join Bok's campaign, Santana said he first decided to do his due diligence by acquainting himself with all the candidates in the five-way race.

"They were running to represent the neighborhood I grew up in, so I wanted to make sure I was basically engaged and educated, and that I was aligned with the candidates and their ideas and priorities," said Santana.

Santana got to know Bok better over the course of that summer, and by its end, she had offered him the position as her campaign's field director.

After Bok proceeded to win the election as the top vote-getter in all the neighborhoods she would come to represent, she offered Santana the role as her office's Director of Operations and Mission Hill and Fenway Liaison.

Councilor Bok was sworn in January of 2020, and two months later, the pandemic struck.

"We really had to buckle down with constituent services and make sure the most vulnerable people in the district were protected and connected to our office," said Santana. "Because we were a new office, we wanted to make sure that the whole district knew we were available to them."

Additionally, Santana said: "We saw firsthand the challenges that families and residents, especially vulnerable residents, were experiencing, and we tried to do our best to connect residents with the resources they needed."

In February of 2022, Mayor Michelle Wu selected Santana for his current role as the city's Director of the Office of Civic Organiz-

"I love it," Santana said of the position that has charged him with working to improve the facilities and infrastructure of the city's public housing. "I've been honored to serve in a position and

in a new office that really focuses on identifying different barriers that residents are facing in engaging with local politics, and creating programs and initiatives that break down those barriers."

Santana will take a leave of absence from this role at the end of April to focus on his campaign.

If elected, Santana, a self-described "product of public housing," said "the investments we need to make to expand affordable housing" would rank among his top priorities.

Matilda Drayton, president of the Tenant Task Force at Alice Taylor, the BHA housing development where Santana grew up, said in an April 3 press release announcing his candidacy: "We are so proud of Henry. We need more candidates that know firsthand about living in public housing and can advocate for us."

Another top priority for Santana is "civic engagement," particularly providing affordable options for after-school and summer programming to the city's youth.

Moreover, Santana said: "Public safety is a big issue that I want to focus on. Obviously, there are hot zones where violence is most likely to happen, but across the neighborhoods, there's a sense of ing your dog or going to the convenience store."

As city councilor, Santana said he would strive to better connect Boston Police with communities to "build trust and transparency" between them.

But Santana also realizes that communities cannot heal if pathways aren't created for returning citizens.

David Jean-Jacques, executive director of the Big Hope Project, said in a press release: "As someone who's spent years working with incarcerated individuals, know firsthand how important it is to have leaders who prioritize criminal justice reform and support reentry programs. Henry Santana is that kind of leader. He understands the challenges faced by the formerly incarcerated and is committed to ensuring they have the resources they need to successfully reintegrate into our community."

Meanwhile, Councilor Bok has endorsed Santana for City Councilor at-Large.

"Henry Santana has a heart for service and an instinct to include

(SANTANA Pg. 9)

### Freshman application DEADLINE is Friday!



Friends of Ryan "Duce" Morrissey Scholarship Fund

We are pleased to announce that scholarships totaling \$27,500 will be offered in 2023. College freshman, college upperclassmen, and high school students are invited to apply. Details and application forms may be obtained from our website. www.ryanmorrisseyscholarship.com Questions: ryanmorrisseyscholarship@gmail.com

## K YOU SO MUCH CHARLESTOUN!!



All support is

appreciated.

We would like to express our gratitude to the people of Charlestown, you always continue show up for one of your own. To all The Friends of Hinky, we are forever grateful for all your love and support. We would like to thank all the businesses who donated raffle prizes, all the friends

We are still overwhelmed by the amazing turnout for Jimmy on February 19th, 2023.

and family who donated baskets and all those who gave donations, purchased raffles and bid on the auctions. We can't thank you all enough.

A big thank you to the Knights of Columbus and their staff for accommodating the huge crowd. Another huge thank you to our MC/DJ James "Macca" MacDougall for keeping everyone entertained and on the dance floor. And a special thanks to Teamsters Local 25 for truly showing up to support a local brother!

It was so evident that day, that Jimmy and his family are loved beyond measure and have a whole community fighting alongside them! #HinkyStrong

Sincerely,

The Friends of Hinky Committee friendsofhinky@gmail.com

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

#### THE PIER 5 ASSOCIATION HOLDS ANNUAL EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

The Pier 5 Association held its annual Earth Day Celebration on the Harborwalk in front of the pier. Representatives from organizations across the city were on hand to highlight and discuss the environment as Earth Day has focused on that subject since 1970. The fate of Pier 5 was focused on in the hopes that the space would be designated for public use.



USS Constitution LCDR Robert Dreitz with his kids Henry and Olivia visit with Jen Bodde from Courageous Sailing.



Massachusetts State Rep. Dan Ryan with Rosemary Macero.



talk about erosion.



Retired Boston School teacher Tony Goldstein (2nd from left) with USS Constitution CSSN Ryan Utemei, AT2 Julian Hedden, and DC3 Vincent



Declan Tribble shows his mom Erin his bubble making skills.



Boston City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta and her Charlestown liason Elaine Donovan with Massachusetts State Rep. Dan Ryan.



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DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

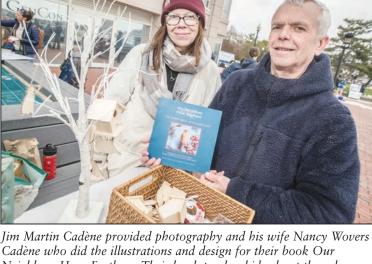




History reenactors Michael Lepage as Paul Revere and Alexis Papathanasiou as Rachel Revere.



Boston City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta (right) with Anaya Raikar and Lizzie Koral from the Massachusetts Youth Climate Coalition.



Neighbors Have Feathers. Their book teaches kids about the urban birds of Charlestown.



Jane Gricci and Oreadj Chavannes with Cambridge Savings Bank offered complimentary flowers for attendees to take home and grow.



Sawyer Leach with her grandmother Jill Leach.



Alyssa, Logan, Blakely, and Nicholas Vassos.



Rachel Jackson and her daughter



Louijeune with Suffolk County Sheriff's Deputy Tom Maguire.



Kimoni.



Jeremiah Lopez with his terrar-





# We've moved!

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### CHARLESTOWN PITCHING IN TO 'LOVE YOUR BLOCK'

Love Your Block is a Springtime initiative with Boston City Hall providing communities with supplies to preform some spring cleaning on their neighborhood's



Charlestown liason for Boston City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta, Elaine Donovan and City Hall Liason Sean Breen.



Beacon Hill resident Jeneille Gooding, brings her kids up to Charlestown to play and wanted to contribute with the Love Your Block efforts.



Charlestown liason for Boston City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta, Elaine Donovan and City Hall Liason Sean Breen with the Love Your Block Team.



Sam Johnson, Jack Reinfeld, and Jackson Greene join forces to be a mighty cleanup team.



The Love Your Block Team.

## Harvest on Vine Emergency NEEDS LIST

Cereal - Rice - Macaroni & Cheese - pasta beans - peanut butter CANNED GOODS - tuna fish - corn/peas/carrots/green beans - soup - ravioli - spaghetti - tomato sauce. Bagged dog and cat food

Director-Tom MacDonald 617-990-7314

## SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Patriot-Bridge encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to deb@reverejournal.com.

# Hearing regarding the coordination of construction and utility permits held

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta and City Council President Ed Flynn held a hearing on Tuesday, April 19 regarding the coordination of construction and utility permits in compliance with minimal impact to residential life last Wednesday.

"I have heard from many residents about the need for better coordination, maintenance of sites, and notification of neighborhood street work. Holding this hearing with Council President Flynn was vital as our city grows. We have dense neighborhoods with a lot of activity that requires street digging and the temporary loss of parking spaces. There is road work taking place at the same time within a 100 ft radius due to a lack of coordination," said Councilor Gabriela Coletta.

"There is more work ahead; these things affect residents' lives every day. I look forward to continuing the conversation with utility companies and looking at how we, as a City, can invest in resources to modernize the permitting system and ensure that residents are informed about what is happening in our neighborhoods."

Councilor Coletta and Councilor President Flynn put forward the hearing given the frequency in how neighborhood streets get closed down, trapping residents due to multiple utility companies conducting work within a 100 ft radius due to lack of coordination.

"One of the top constituent issues my office receives is about the coordination of construction and utility permits in the neighborhood. With the growth of devel-

opment projects and the frequent utility maintenance and build outs across the City, it is important that we work together with the construction and utility companies to improve neighborhood outreach and coordination so that residents can have ample time to plan ahead and around these work." said Council President Flynn. "Often, residents are finding out about these projects as they are going about their day which can be very disruptive to their quality of life."

Representatives from the Boston Water and Sewer Commission, National Grid, Inspectional Services Department, and Boston Transportation Department were present to share the permitting process and community outreach process. During the hearing, Councilors could ask questions and gather

information to fully understand the internal machinations of interdepartmental approvals for street occupancy, excavation permits, permit approving system, how COBUCS works, and the potential to modernize the system.

The Councilors look forward to continuing the conversation with more hearings to be scheduled and with utility companies and residents to ensure that street work permits are coordinated and residents' quality of life is minimally interrupted.

Highlights of the Order Include: "WHEREAS: Both residential construction work and public utility work can have a significant impact on residents' quality of life; and

WHEREAS: These quality of life impacts are multiplied if there

are numerous projects happening in a small geographic area; and

WHEREAS: As more development projects are approved and begin construction, there are increasing examples of both utility and construction permits being issued sometimes on same residential block;

WHEREAS: This leads to negative impacts to the overall quality of life for residents due to a lack of parking availability and detour delays, especially if they haven't received adequate notice; and

WHEREAS: The Boston Transportation Department and the Department of Public Works issue the permits necessary for these projects and could issue them in such a way that would minimize quality of life issues and overlap of projects;"

## Hood Park hosts first annual Spring Fest May 13

Hood Park is excited to announce its inaugural Hood Park Spring Fest, which will take place on May 13, 2023, from 11:30am to 3:30pm. The public is welcome to join us for this spring-time celebration, which will be held at Hood Park's public green space which located at 100 Hood Park Drive and 6 Stack Street in Charlestown, MA and is admission free.

Springfest promises to be a fun-filled day with a variety of local vendors and onsite retailers, including Tradesman, Landry's Bicycles, The Handle Bar Cycling Studio and introducing Boston Veterinary Clinic. The event will feature live music, and delicious food and beverages available for purchase, additionally, there will be plenty of free activities for the whole family to enjoy, including face painting, a petting zoo, yard games, balloon designing, and more

For visitors who are taking public transportation, getting to Hood Park is a breeze. Simply hop on the MBTA Orange Line to Sullivan Station and take a quick walk to

Rutherford Avenue. Alternatively, you can use the Blue Bike docking stations located on-site or use Landry's Bicycles bike valet if you prefer to cycle. If you plan to drive, Hood Park's parking garage offers three-hours of free parking.

Don't forget to bring your furry friends along for the festivities! We encourage individuals and families to take advantage of the large, fenced-in dog park located on-site. We look forward to welcoming everyone to Hood Park Spring Fest for a day of springtime fun and excitement!

# FUNDING (from pg. 4)

this will facilitate collaboration and partnership in the years ahead.

"We look forward to being a community staple in Boston," said Travis Lee, President of TLee Development LLC. "Words as Worlds will provide a curated and culturally relevant book selection to residents of the Dorchester neighborhood, as well as a small space for spoken word performances. The community has expressed overwhelming support for this new addition to the neighborhood, and we all look forward to its opening this fall."

"This investment in affordable commercial space for Jean Appolon Expressions and Words as Worlds is so important, because it allows for these organizations to provide programming that is accessible to community members in a way that is sustainable over the long-term," said Kara Elliott-Ortega, Chief of Arts and Culture. "Investing in cultural spaces and housing goes hand in hand with creating healthy communities, and we're so excited to see the opportunities these organizations will be able to provide for community gathering, cultural celebration, and creative expression in the Dorchester and Roxbury neighborhoods as a result of this funding.

"The Affordable Commercial Assistance Fund is an exciting opportunity to support the local,

small, diverse businesses that are so integral to Boston's economy," said Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. "This program is an important step in supporting our small business community and addressing the need for affordable commercial spaces in the City."

The Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH) currently prioritizes applications for commercial spaces that are either on the first floor or contribute to an active street space and proposals that can demonstrate significant community and neighborhood ties for the proposed tenants. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until June 30, 2023.

**SANTANA** (from pg. 5)

everyone," Councilor Bok said in part in an April 19 press release announcing her endorsement of him. "He knows firsthand how public housing and great youth programming gave him the opportunity to thrive in Boston, and he wants to lay that same foundation for every other person in our city. I'm proud to endorse him for an At-Large seat on the Boston City Council, where his experience in city government and his passion for civic engagement will make him a great champion for all our communities."

Councilor Bok continued: "When the pandemic hit, I saw how Henry served as a resource to his whole community. He was the person who helped our office connect with Mission Hill families that were hungry during lockdown, and who Tobin School teachers asked for help delivering computers and reaching out to absent students. As a former director of the annual affordable summer camp in Mission Hill, he has also been a mentor and role model to countless young people, whom he still connects to resources and opportunities. I know that the entire city of Boston would benefit from Henry's strong work ethic and passion for helping others."

Likewise, Sandra Nijjar, executive director of East Boston Community Soup Kitchen, said in a press release: "I've seen firsthand how Henry Santana is committed to improving the lives of our neighbors in East Boston. As a City Councilor at-Large, I know he'll fight to ensure that every person in our community has access to healthy food and a warm meal."

Jerren Chang, CEO of civic nonprofit GenUnity, is another supporter of Santana for City Councilor at-Large.

"Each of us can contribute to building a community that works for all of us," Jerren Chang, CEO of civic nonprofit GenUnity, said in a press release. "Henry Santana shares this vision of bringing people together to drive change and has a proven track record of working tirelessly to improve our neighborhoods."

Santana will be among the candidates for City Councilor at-Large in the preliminary municipal election on Sept. 12.

To learn more about Henry Santana's campaign for City Councilor At-Large, visit henrysantana. com or follow him on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.



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## Fresh and Local

## You do you!

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

If there's one characteristic we look for in someone teaching people about food preparation, it's a "You Do You!" attitude. We borrow that specific phrase from Kenji Alt-Lopes, who uses it quite often in his cooking-athome videos. Other food writers, podcasters, and vloggers may tell you what you can substitute for specific ingredients or options for preparing a dish. That's great but not as inclusive as "You Do You!"

This definition of the phrase from www.linguaholic.com made us choose Kenji's term over other options for this column. "When someone says 'you do you,' they're expressing their feeling that you are allowed to do whatever you want. While they may not have the same interests or agree with your approach or values, they will say 'you do you' to either express support or show that they will not try to stop you from doing whatever you want to do. You can use this phrase whether you agree with, disapprove of, or feel neutral about someone's plans or preferences.'

That's exactly how it should be when you prepare food for yourself and your family in your kitchen, to your own taste and dietary needs, and with whatever you have on hand. If your housemates are chiliheads, toss in the habanero. If you have to watch your salt intake, make the adjustment.

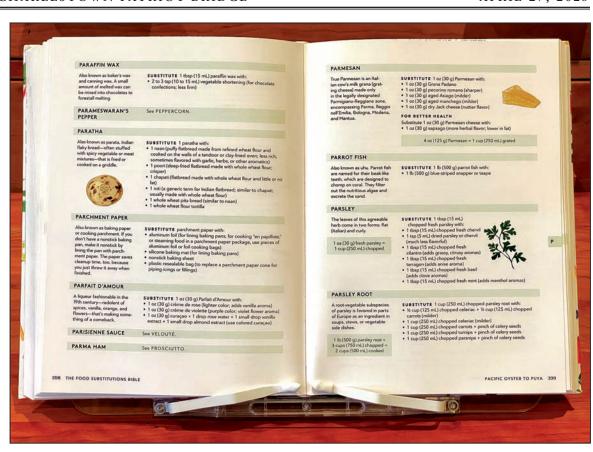
#### The Food Substitutions Bible

Penny borrowed a library copy of David Joachim's latest edition of "The Food Substitutions Bible: 8,000 Substitutions for Ingredients, Equipment, and Techniques." We quickly decided this book deserved a place on our bookshelf. If we had a large kitchen or pantry, we'd place it on a book stand, ready for everyday use both to find substitutes and to pause, open a random page and enjoy a moment of learning something new.

Kenji, known for his scientific method of developing precise recipes, wrote this book's introduction. He said, "Nowhere will you find a better-researched and more thorough one-stop shop to increase your access to recipes." He likes how the book inspires creativity and gives home cooks the confidence to try a recipe they might skip because they don't have a specific ingredient. We'll add that it also prevents food waste by guiding you to use what you have.

#### **Mayo Substitutes**

Penny didn't use mayonnaise in our food because of a food allergy. However, when allergy testing reopened her to eating eggs, she



"The Food Substitutions Bible" will spend a lot of time open on a bookstand near our desks both as a reference and to pause to enjoy a moment of learning something new.

still preferred the mayo substitutes she had always used.

The mayonnaise entry in The Food Substitutions Bible runs for more than a page. The entry is divided into substitutes, ways to vary the flavor, and ideas for better health. Joachim includes recipes for homemade mayo, a mayo substitute, a plant-based mayo, and ways to reduce the fat in this ingredient.

LYNN

EVERETT

While our copy won't live in our tiny kitchen, it will spend a lot of time on a book stand next to our desks. We opened a page at random that contained substitutions for parmesan which we do run out of occasionally. In the case of parmesan, Joachim notes that pecorino is sharper, Manchego is milder, and dry Jack cheese is nuttier.

Cooking is experimenting and adjusting. If you don't like your

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new substitute, don't use it again. Go back to the book and try another option. If you own a copy of the book, you can add notes about what you liked or didn't like. It will make your book more valuable as You Do You!

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

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# Wu announces registration for BCYF teen summer programming

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Mayor Michelle Wu and Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) announced that registration is open for a variety of summer teen programs. Building on Mayor Wu's commitment to make Boston the best city in the country to raise a family, these programs foster youth employment and life skills while providing youth with fun summer activities. Boston teens can register now for the BCYF Snap Shot photography program through the City of Boston's Summer Jobs Program, SuccessLink. Registration for the SuperTeens pre-employment program for young teens opens today. The BCYF Girls Leadership Corps is also now seeking participants for this year's programming.

"These summer opportunities enable teens to learn crucial life skills, while enjoying the company of their peers," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Summer programming, especially opportunities like these that provide a paycheck, help prepare our teens for the future and I encourage any interested families to apply and take advantage of what BCYF has to offer."

"We have put together a diverse menu of options for young people of all ages this summer across all our centers and we are looking forward to providing these enriching and engaging summer programs," said Marta Rivera, Commissioner of Boston Centers for Youth & Families. "We encourage interested families to sign up as soon as possible to guarantee a spot."

"Summer workshops, programs, and employment are fantastic opportunities for our young people to stay engaged, make new friends, and learn new skills," said Council President Ed Flynn. "I want to thank the BCYF team for putting together a variety of different programs for our young people. Summer programming brings tremendous benefits to our young people's physical and mental well-being, and I encourage our families and young people, especially young women, to join leadership programs to learn about community service, teamwork, accountability, and financial liter-

BCYF's Snap Shot Teen Photography program is a unique summer job program for ages 16 to 18 that introduces participants to all aspects of photography. Teens receive a paycheck while participating in the program. Led by a professional photographer, the program includes opportunities to conduct photo shoots, visit muse-

ums and art galleries, learn digital photo editing, engage in online personal development workshops, and serve as a staff photographer for BCYF. Interested youth should apply to Snap Shot through the SuccessLink Summer Jobs Program at Boston.gov/Youth-Jobs. Select "BCYF Snap Shot" from the summer job spreadsheet on the website. The program will operate from Monday, June 26 to Friday, August 25, 2023.

BCYF SuperTeens program teaches teens ages 13 and 14 life readiness and resiliency to help prepare them for their upcoming academic year and future employment. The program focuses on opportunities to enhance communication, collaboration, teamwork, and problem solving. The SuperTeens are mentored by BCYF staff throughout the summer, and they participate in both online workshops and in-person job shadowing activities that highlight employment skills. The SuperTeens also participate in weekly social and recreational activities, including a Learn to Row crew program on the Charles River, leadership workshops, job shadowing, community service projects as well as field trips to museums and institutions around the City of Boston. Participants

earn a paycheck in the form of a stipend, and they will also be provided with opportunities that encourage civic engagement and physical health and wellness. Registration began today at Boston. gov/BCYF-SuperTeens. The program will operate for 6 weeks from Monday, July 10 to Friday, August 18, 2023.

BCYF Girls Leadership Corps (GLC) provides girls ages 11-14 with workshops and activities. Workshop topics will include self-defense with Girls LEAP, leadership skills, empowerment with the YW F.R.Y.E. Initiative, and more. The Girls Leadership Corps program participants will plan activities that Boston girls will be invited to register for, including Summer Girls Nights and various workshops and special activities. Interested program participants should email Erika.Butler@boston.gov. The program will operate from Tuesday, July 18 to Friday, August 18, 2023.

These teen programs are in

addition to many activities offered at BCYF community centers across the city. Registration for center programs can be found at Boston.gov/BCYF-Registration. In addition, BCYF is currently seeking full-time, part-time, and seasonal lifeguards for BCYF pools and swim lessons. Sign on and retention bonuses up to \$1,000 are available, depending on date of hire and remaining employed though September 4th. Training is available and equipment is provided. Visit Boston.gov/BCYF-Aquatics for more information or apply directly at Boston.gov/Lifeguard-Jobs.

Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) is the City of Boston's largest youth and human service agency. BCYF operates 35 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.

#### CHARLESTOWN BEAT

Motor Vehicle Accident - Personal Injury

04/22/2023 – At about 11:30 a.m., an officer responded to a radio call for an incident involving a motor vehicle accident- pedestrian struck at the Alford Street Bridge.

Upon arrival, the officer spoke with the operator of the Alford Street Bridge, who stated that the gates to the bridge were down to stop the traffic from coming onto the bridge as a boat passed. A moped then struck the gate, causing damage to it.

The officer spoke with the moped operator, who stated that he did not see the gate as he drove straight into it with his son on the

back of the moped and sustained minor injuries.

EMS and Boston Fire arrived and transported both parties to Mass General Hospital for medical treatment.

#### **Animal Incidents**

04/22/2023 – At around 7 p.m., a Good Samaritan walked into District A-15 with a lost dog that he found at Medford Street and Old Ironside Way.

The officer notified Operations, and the Animal Control Unit responded to District A-15. The officer from Animal Control took custody of the dog to be secured at the Animal Control building in Roslindale.

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Congenital heart defects (CHDs) are the most common birth defects and doctors and affected families can help ensure that individuals with CHDs receive lifelong congenital cardiac care to stay healthy. In 2010, it was estimated that approximately 1 million children and 1.4 million adults were living with a CHD in the United States. However, about 60% of individuals with CHDs don't see a congenital cardiology specialist after age 18 for follow-up.

Congenital cardiology care is essential, even for those who are not currently experiencing symptoms. In addition to the need to manage the CHD, affected individ-



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uals remain at risk for developing acquired cardiac conditions of adulthood. These include a range of potentially serious conditions such as arrhythmias, atherosclerotic heart disease, congestive heart failure, endocarditis, hypertension, hyperlipidemia and pulmonary hypertension.

According to advocates, a primary care physician is often the only doctor a patient sees, making it critical that patients disclose their CHD to their their doctors, and for doctors to help ensure they get the specialized care they need to stay healthy and safe over the years.

"Although most individuals with CHDs require lifelong congenital cardiac care, many children and adults experience gaps in care for several years or more," says Dr. Sherry Farr from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "Whether these lapses are due to loss of insurance, financial barriers or an inaccurate belief that their heart defect has 'been cured,' physicians that these

patients see for other reasons can facilitate continuity of cardiac care."

Dr. Farr suggests that physicians start the conversation with patients by asking them if they ever had heart problems. After learning that a patient has a heart defect, they should then emphasize the need for continuous care, even in cases where patients feel well. Doctors should be prepared to both explain the vital role of congenital cardiologists and provide a referral for a specialist in the area. Patients with CHDs should share their health history at their appointment and be ready to ask questions and seek referrals.

The new CHD Awareness Toolkit from the American Academy of Pediatrics and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offers resources to help physicians connect people with heart defects to the care they need. It includes materials for pediatricians and family physicians (who treat children), internal medicine physicians and family physicians (who treat adults), obstetrician-gynecologists and emergency room physicians. To learn more or to download the toolkit, visit aap.org/CHDcare.

People with heart defects need lifelong congenital cardiac care. By getting the conversation started, patients and physicians can help ensure continuity of care. (State-Point)

## STAY SHARP WITH SUDOKU

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Let us never know what old age is. Let us know the happiness time brings, not count the years.

— Ausonius, poet

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