



SELLING?
4% Listing Fee

BUYING?
25% Buyer rebates

RENTING?
No fee to landlords

Call/Text Jeffrey Bowen,
Erealty Advisors 781-201-9488

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024



FREE

CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

COURAGEOUS SAILING'S SUMMER PROGRAM REGISTRATION RUNS THROUGH FEBRUARY 15



It might still be winter, but at Courageous Sailing, it's time to plan for a summer of sailing, learning, science, friendship, and fun. Families interested in enrolling children (aged 8 through approximately 15) in the Steps To Lead summer sailing program are invited to enter the registration lottery, which is open until February 15. Courses range from the one-week Step 1, in which beginner sailors try out sailing with an instructor aboard, to the three-week Step 5, in which advanced students sail small dinghies independently. Full or partial scholarships are available based on need; over half of summer students participate for free. More information and the registration link can be found at courageoussailing.org/youth-programming. Join Courageous Sailing at Jamaica Pond or back on the newly repaired Pier 4 in the Navy Yard this season!

Council accepts anti-terrorism grant that impacts region

By Adam Swift

Last week, the Boston City Council voted to accept a \$13.3 million anti-terrorism grant that the previous council had narrowly voted against accepting.

The grant will impact surrounding communities, including Chelsea, Revere, Everett, and Winthrop, who are all part of the Metro Boston Homeland Security Region.

The grant from the Department of Homeland Security is designed to provide planning exercises, training, operational needs, and response to terrorism threats, including biological, chemical,

nuclear, and explosive incidents.

The funding was reintroduced by Mayor Michelle Wu several weeks ago and the council initially voted to send the request to committee.

But Councilor Ed Flynn put the request forward for a vote at last week's council meeting. Flynn noted that other communities in the homeland security region, including Chelsea and Quincy, are dependent on the money and that the council should not delay the vote.

Following last December's 6-6 vote that failed to accept the grant, a number of first responders, politicians, and other bodies urged the

council to accept the \$13.3 million grant.

Congressman Jake Auchincloss sent a letter to the council and Council President Ruthzee Louijeune urging them to accept the grant. He stated that the Israel-Hamas war has heightened the region's need for anti-terrorism funding as reports of anti-semitism are on the rise.

Earlier this year, Chelsea City Council President Norieliz DeJesus and several other councilors introduced a late motion requesting that the Boston City Council accept the grant funding, howev-

(GRANT Pg. 4)

Coletta stands up for Arts and Culture Space

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

District 1 City Councilor Gabriela Coletta is doing her part in the preservation and creation of arts and culture space in the City of Boston by penning a letter to the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) describing the need for arts and culture space to be included in the draft zoning text amendment associated with the Squares + Streets initiative.

According to the BPDA's website, Squares + Streets is "a new planning and zoning initiative

that will focus on housing, public space, small businesses, arts and culture, and transportation in neighborhood centers and along main streets."

As part of the initiative, the BPDA is crafting a zoning text amendment to update zoning in order to "guide development that encourages a mix of building uses and heights, creates housing diversity and growth opportunities, and encourages active streets," per the BPDA's website.

(COLETTA Pg. 5)

Winsome duo-pianists to perform at St. John's Church March 3

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Can we kick up our heels in a Charlestown church?

We might feel like dancing when winsome duo-pianists Chi-Wei Lo and Xiaopei Xu, who, as Psychopomp Ensemble, present "Dance Music of the Germania Musical Society." After all, they once artfully interpolated the Beatles' "Imagine" into the 19th-century Louis Moreau Gottschalk's "The Union," and brilliantly evoked the

Seven Deadly Sins musically.

The acoustically warm sanctuary of St. John's Church, 27 Devens Street, in Charlestown, home to a restored 1870 Chickering concert grand, will provide the perfect ambience as we imagine ourselves with fancy-dressed partners in popular waltzes, quick-steps, polkas, marches, and galops as originally performed by the

(PIANISTS Pg. 5)



Winsome duo-pianists Chi-Wei Lo and Xiaopei Xu.

EDITORIAL

ZUCKERBERG, ET AL: THE WORST OF THE WORST

Last week’s dramatic hearing in the U.S. Senate, in which the heads of a number of social media companies testified in front of a gallery that was filled with parents who lost children because of the pernicious effects of social media companies, hopefully will result in meaningful regulation that will hold these social media companies accountable for their deliberate targeting of our nation’s youth with content that the companies know is harmful.

Arguably the worst offender among the group, Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg, apologized to the parents sitting behind him and weakly told them he would try to do better. However, as South Carolina Senator Lindsey Graham bluntly put it directly to Zuckerberg, “You have blood on your hands.”

Two years ago the Wall Street Journal revealed that Facebook was fully aware of the addictive and harmful qualities of its social media platforms and the specific damage that they cause to vulnerable young people. Yet Facebook has done nothing to ameliorate its behavior because of the billions of dollars it earns by targeting children with content that they know is dangerous for our childrens’ mental -- and ultimately physical -- well-being.

One of the most telling pieces of testimony came from the head of Tik-Tok, who was asked whether he allows his own children on the Tik-Tok platform. He replied that he doesn’t -- because his family resides in Singapore, where Tik-Tok is not allowed to be used by children. However, as Minnesota Senator Amy Klobuchar pointed out, here in the United States there are no limits placed on social media companies because of the millions of dollars that they spend to lobby members of Congress.

The very next day after the Senate hearing, the stock of Facebook (which is now known as Meta) jumped by a whopping 20% after it announced record earnings, increasing the company’s value by hundreds of billions of dollars.

If we were to list the worst kind of people in the world, they would include murderers, rapists, child molesters, and drug dealers. But in this era of pervasive social media, we now can add a new type of sociopath -- the heads of social media companies that deliberately prey upon our children, whom they view as nothing more than a profit-center for their businesses.

A new book by Boston native Frank McCourt, a billionaire real estate mogul and former owner of the Los Angeles Dodgers, makes the case for regulating social media companies because of the threat they pose to our children and our democracy. His central thesis is that we need to do so now before it is too late.

We call upon our national legislators, especially Senators Warren and Markey, to support the bill in the Senate that will allow these social media companies to be sued by those whom they harm. As Senator Graham pointed out, the social media companies have refused to police themselves and the only way to do so is to “open the courtroom doors” to their victims.

....AND THOSE ON-LINE SPORTS BETTING COMPANIES ARE NOT FAR BEHIND....

A while back we wrote an editorial about the clear and obvious evils of the easy availability of sports gambling via smartphones. This past Sunday evening, the news program 60 Minutes had a segment on exactly that topic, highlighting how young men under the age of 25 have become addicted to on-line sports gambling, where they can place a bet not only on the outcome of a game, but also literally wager on every play, pitch, and moment across the international sporting world, simply with the push of a button on their smartphones at all hours of the day and night.

The report noted that many young men have gambled away their college loan money and their inheritances because of their addiction to these so-called sports books. The advertising for these gaming sites, such as Draft Kings and FanDuel, pitched by high-profile celebrities, makes it look like harmless fun. But as 60 Minutes noted, the reality is far darker.

We have no problem with sports betting when it is done at a casino or similar venue. However, allowing it to happen via a smartphone invites addictive behavior, especially by young people, that can lead them to financial ruin and a lifetime of gambling addiction.

In our view, it is clear that the companies such as Draft Kings, FanDuel, and others are nothing less than predatory monsters that seek to take advantage of vulnerable young people.

Just as our state legislature realized two generations ago that lowering the drinking age to 18 was a societal disaster, we call upon our state legislators to revise the laws that allow these sports betting houses to prey on vulnerable individuals 24/7/365.

GUEST OP-ED

A little bit of kindness to protect Massachusetts parklands and foster community

By Brian Arrigo

Just under a year ago, I had the honor of being appointed to lead the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), the state’s largest landowner and steward of roughly half a million acres across Massachusetts. It’s been an amazing first year – I’ve traveled across the state, getting to know our beautiful state park system, and the incredible and dedicated staff, who work every day to preserve these spaces for generations to come.

Growing up in and later serving as mayor of Revere, I loved being close to Revere Beach – America’s first public beach – and would often start my day by clearing my head with a run along the beach. As the fastest growing city in the Commonwealth, the Revere community and so many others depend on our beaches, parks, reservations, reservoirs, and other open spaces that serve as urban oases and retreats.

The pandemic showed us how important these spaces are for our mental and physical wellbeing. They connect us with nature and our neighbors, building healthy and diverse communities of all ages and backgrounds. With more people than ever visiting and experiencing the beauty of our state parks, it’s important to be mindful of the impacts our actions have on each other and the environment.

With this in mind, I’m excited to invite everyone to join us in the Be Kind! public awareness campaign, that we launched last fall in partnership with the Friends of the Fells and the Friends of the Blue Hills. Be Kind! encourages all of us to act with kindness while visiting our state parks – to the people around us, park staff, and the plants and animals that call these

spaces home.

Be Kind! suggests actions that park visitors can take to ensure they are being respectful of one another and of our natural environment. Specifically, it encourages all, whether they are regulars in our DCR parks or first-time visitors, to:

Listen for other people on trails and make space for others to pass;

Keep dogs leashed outside of designated off-leash areas;

Leave no trace of litter or waste; and

Stay on the trails – on foot, paw, or bike.

Whether hiking, biking, or walking your dog, keep an eye out for Be Kind! signs along the trails at the Middlesex Fells and Blue Hills Reservations. While these parks are piloting the program, we are excited to expand this initiative to parks across the state in the future.

You can join us in sharing the Be Kind! message on social media using #BeKindMA and we would love to see your photos and stories of kindness in our parks.

As part of DCR’s commitment to providing access to natural, recreational, and cultural resources, we look forward to collaborating with more groups, elected officials, civic leaders, and communities across the Commonwealth to grow this movement of kindness, protect our precious spaces, foster community, and create unforgettable memories for all. Let’s Be Kind!

For more information about the Be Kind! public awareness campaign, visit <https://www.mass.gov/guides/be-kind-massachusetts>.

Brian Arrigo is Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

To the Editor,

Once again the Old Charlestown Schoolboys Association is pleased to announce that scholarship applications are now available. Would you please print the following announcement and run it for four weeks.

The Old Charlestown Schoolboys is pleased to announce that a number of scholarships are available to high school senior boys who will be entering college or preparatory school, or technical school this year. Some of these scholarships will be awarded to college students who will be entering their sophomore, junior or senior year. Applications for these scholar-

ships are open to any Charlestown schoolboy who: is a senior in high school, has been a resident of Charlestown for 4 years or more, will be entering college or preparatory school or a technical school this year.

Applications may be obtained at the Charlestown Public Library, The Charlestown Boys and Girls Club, St. Mary-St. Catherine of Sienna Office and St. Francis de Sales office. In addition, applications can be printed from The Old Schoolboys web site: oldcharlestown-schoolboys.com/apply-for-scholarship.

Deadline for applications is March 29, 2024.

Thank you.

James O’Brien
Scholarship Chair and President

GUEST OP-ED

Erica, Empathy, and the Independence

By Tracy Iannelli

My friend Erica is homeless. When I met her, she was sleeping in her car with her feral dog, Bert. Earlier, Erica lived in the woods with him. She told me she was an attorney, owned a restaurant in Mississippi, taught yoga, and had family all over the United States. Later, I realized that at least two of these statements were untrue. What was true--- Bert did bit her hand, breaking her fingers. Erica does not have health insurance. Someone set the bone for her, and provided medication, i.e. drugs.

Erica is a beautiful young woman. One day, her friend Jess offered her a room in her home. In exchange, Jess set conditions. Erica could not use drugs, or drink. She had to get a job. She had to see a mental health professional. This was the "quid pro quo."

Erica agreed and moved into with Jess. She taught yoga in an upscale studio and was fantastic at it—I was fortunate to practice with her. For six months, Erica lived in the world of normalcy. I had high hopes, and gave her money. We shared email addresses, and kept in touch.

Through my friendship with Erica, I saw another face of homelessness, beyond the boogeyman that some might fear. She is ethe-

real, consumed with anxiety, morphing in and out of a routine existence. My affection for her led to understanding; Erica struggles to deal with life. She lacks those skills that are innate to many of us. I am certain there is trauma in her past. Situations that are relatively easy to navigate, confound her. She breaks my heart.

It is partially through the lens of knowing Erica, that I view the Constitution Inn conversion, now called the Independence. The more current the data, the more alarming it becomes. Communities who embrace harm reduction strategies; or offer treatment without mandating it, and abstain from testing accountability—they will experience 50 to 90 percent recidivism, or re-lapse. This fact is medically confirmed, and was stated by the proponents.

A January 31, New York Times article, discussing the homeless experience in San Francisco, documented the overdose rate, noting it has risen to double the national average. I understand that the approach proposed at the Independence will be similarly structured. Allowing people to use within the four walls is labelled de-stigmatization, but rapidly escalating death rates suggest that it may become tragic. If residents

are receiving subsidies, how is it permissible to allow them to use drugs? Isn't it wise to monitor how they are doing medically? Bodily autonomy is not solely the province of the user—continued drug use brings the user closer to death, encourages dealers, and endangers others.

While the Independence states there is no illegal drug use permitted, it will not test its' residents. Identifying people who have relapsed, or are slipping back into mental illness, would enable the proponents to determine the most effective intervention. Without that safety net, negative impacts will become more frequent, and increasingly harmful. This is a flawed strategy in a neighborhood without the resources to fix it. The West End would be a better fit.

A Roxbury neighbor stated frankly, in a recent WBZ/CBS report on migrant relocation, that "Empathy and frustration are not mutually exclusive." The homeless population is varied, comprised of migrants, substance abusers, alcoholics, people with mental health issues, disabilities, trauma, and poverty—often with more than one condition. Therefore, the need for customized, and coordinated care is necessary beyond housing. That care is currently optional at

the Independence.

Charlestown has first-hand knowledge of the substance use crisis. We know that if all it took were love and a home, that no Charlestown family would have experienced the loss to overdose. And, we know that the Independence is not a treatment center, nor should it be. We believe that mixing 160 residents--some in permanent supportive housing, others in affordable housing-- could be a problematic combination. The proponents have not shared any data that shows otherwise.

It's important to continue Erica's story to understand these complexities. Sadly, her dog died of old age. I saw her that day, and she was inconsolable, in tears. I was afraid she would harm herself. The next day Erica quit her job, and announced that she was driving across country in the same car that she lived in. The last I heard, she made it half way. Since then, emails have gone unanswered. A mutual friend discovered that Erica made it to San Francisco. She was not with friends, but she was with other people. My fear is that those people are a community of other traumatized humans who are on the street, or under a bridge, or in a shelter somewhere. I fear she is lost.

Our city and state must balance our collective empathy and compassion with the most up to date science, incorporating transparent, measurable requirements that ensure better outcomes for all. It is clear that a comprehensive answer lies well beyond a place to live, as Housing First supporters maintain. More recently, there is evidence that sustained treatment prior to what can be the overwhelming responsibility of a home, is gaining traction. The Independence does not require this.

A path to recovery identifies underlying causes, while providing care and aftercare. Regaining control over a life demands the resolve to undertake evidence-based treatments. Instead of public service housing, let's formalize the commitment from the person seeking housing. The goal then becomes increasing affordable housing, while investing in those candidates- resulting in less permanent supportive housing.

I do not know how Erica's story will end. The pull of homelessness can be strong, and changing behavior takes time and resources. If only Erica, and those around her, could have continued her journey for a little while longer. If only.

Tracy Iannelli is a resident of Charlestown.



CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE

THE CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE,

PHONE: 781.485.0588 © 2008 INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP.

EMAIL: editor@charlestownbridge.com • WEB SITE: www.charlestownbridge.com

NEWSSTAND PRICE: FREE / SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$75 ANNUALLY

PRESIDENT - STEPHEN QUIGLEY - EDITOR@CHARLESTOWNBRIDGE.COM
MARKETING DIRECTOR - DEBRA DIGREGORIO - DEB@REVEREJOURNAL.COM

—ABUTTERS TAKE NOTICE— APPEAL MEETING – RE: 8 Lawrence St.

On February 15 at 5PM Boston Inspectional Services – Board of Appeals Subcommittee will hold a virtual meeting on the appeal of Coliseum Development Advisors with reference to 8 Lawrence St. – Ward 02. Appeal#: BOAI547328 seeking a variance to install a roof deck on a pitched flat roof.

**NEIGHBORS, please submit your letters
re: end roof deck prior to meeting date.**

Please email a letter to:

zbapublicinput@boston.gov

**or mail to: Board of Appeals,
1010 Massachusetts Ave, 4th Floor
Boston, MA 02118**

Detailed descriptions of the variances, exceptions or other zoning relief sought can be obtained by calling 617-635-4775 on weekdays from 8a.m. to 4 p.m. Instructions for attending and participating in the hearing will be posted at **Boston.gov/Public-notices** at least 48 hours before the hearing date.

CALL TO ARTISTS!

CLEAN SLATE

A juried exhibition inspired
by the change of season.

StoveFactory Gallery - Charlestown

March 22- April 14, 2024. Enter by March 7.

Use QR code or visit:

www.artistsgroupofcharlestown.com



Coletta highlights the need for transparency in the Article 80 development review process

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta introduced a hearing order regarding ongoing efforts to reform Article 80 in Boston's Zoning Code. While the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) began undergoing a revamp of the process last year, the general public and the Boston City Council have largely been left out of conversations and therefore have been neglected the opportunity to influence reform of the development review process to benefit their neighborhoods. Co-sponsors include newly-elected Councilor John FitzGerald (District 3) of Dorchester and Councilor Tania Fernades Anderson of Roxbury (District 7).

Under Article 80, communities have the opportunity to engage in the large development review

process and extract adequate and fair mitigation for their neighborhoods. However, the current process is seen by many in the community as flawed and that it lacks clear assessment of community needs to better inform this mitigation negotiated by the BPDA. This leads to investments that frequently do not address issues related to a lack of affordable housing, workforce development, public realm improvements, open space and parks creation, and expansion of arts & cultural spaces.

"The current process as it relates to community benefits lacks clear assessment of community needs and subsequent investments. It is largely an ad hoc process that takes place within the BPDA and I'm hopeful this reform will change that," said Coletta. "There's no rhyme or reason or

designated equation for community mitigation under Article 80. It is imperative that Councilors provide their experience and perspective to better inform how to center community feedback and development mechanisms to extract adequate and fair mitigation for our neighborhoods."

Additionally, the existing comment period under Article 80 is an open call for feedback with little to no understanding from residents of how the BPDA synthesizes and applies public comments to reflect project changes. The existing method makes it difficult for individuals who don't have the capacity to attend multiple city-sponsored meetings or who aren't familiar with local bureaucracy.

In 2023, Mayor Wu announced efforts to modernize Article 80 to comprehensively update the BPDA's development review process. A steering committee composed of real estate and civic leaders was formed to advise the Mayor's Office and the BPDA

on improvements for community engagement as well as internal operations.

The goal of Councilor Coletta's docket is to provide oversight and accountability to ensure the new version of Article 80 will truly consider how to maximize mitigation and meaningfully reflect neighborhood sentiment. The hearing will also provide an opportunity for the public to engage in the ongoing process, comment on how to make Article 80 successful, and have influence over the reform outcomes.

This docket was referred to the Committee on Planning, Development, and Transportation chaired by Councilor Sharon Durkan (District 8) of Beacon Hill. A date for the Article 80 Modernization hearing will be noticed on www.boston.gov/public-notices and on the Councilor's social media. Members of the public are encouraged to provide written or oral comments.

Additionally at the second

Council meeting for the 2024-2025 legislative session, Councilor Coletta presented refiles from the previous legislative session, such as:

- An ordinance establishing street food enterprises in the City of Boston Municipal Code by inserting Chapter 17, Section 22, Permitting and Regulation of non-motorized street food carts.
- An ordinance formally creating the Office of Food Justice and establishing a food recovery program in the City of Boston
- Hearing regarding implementing coastal resilience strategies for Boston's waterfront
- Hearing regarding an Environmental Justice and Climate Change Curriculum pilot program in BPS
- Hearing regarding menstrual product accessibility in the City of Boston
- Hearing regarding technological infrastructure improvements across city departments

Extend your Business's reach with Online Advertising!

Clients and Customers are just a click away!

\$300⁰⁰ per month per site

AD SIZE

in pixels

W: 160px

H: 600px

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS

REVEREJOURNAL.COM • WINTHROPTRANSCRIPT.COM
LYNNJOURNAL.COM • EVERETTINDEPENDENT.COM
EASTIETIMES.COM • CHELSEARECORD.COM
CHARLESTOWNBRIDGE.COM • BEACONHILLTIMES.COM
NORTHENDREGIONALREVIEW.COM • THEBOSTONSUN.COM
JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM • MISSIONHILLGAZETTE.COM

Combo Rates available!
Buy any 3 sites, get 4th FREE

Call 781-485-0588 to get started!

please send in "png" format

GRANT (from pg. 1)

er, that motion did not move to a vote.

In the resolution, the councilors noted that Chelse typically receives approximately \$400,000 per year in funding from the grant, which in the past has helped fund the purchase of ballistic shields, cameras, maritime equipment, radios, trainings and a firearm trailer.

The decision to block the funding drew widespread criticism, including from then-Boston City Council President Ed Flynn, the Boston Police Patrolman's Association, Boston Firefighters IAFF

Local 718, the Professional Firefighters Association of Massachusetts, Representative Jake Auchincloss (who represents Brookline), the Boston Globe Editorial Board, the Boston Chamber of Commerce, and the Massachusetts Catholic Conference, the resolution further stated. It added that the decision also drew criticism from the Massachusetts Legislature, with State Senators Nick Collins (D-Boston) and Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton) introducing bipartisan legislation to strip local elected bodies of their authority to approve public safety

grants.

Chelsea City Manager Fidel Maltez said the annual funding is a tremendous support for the city, particularly in its emergency response, emergency management, and public safety infrastructure.

With this round of funding, Maltez said the focus of the police and emergency management departments would be to increase the amount of surveillance they have available around the city, particularly related to street cameras.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1

Green, Patrick J

SELLER 1

Goldberg, Michael

ADDRESS

29 Essex St #2

PRICE

\$950,000

Century 21 Elite

253 Main St. • Charlestown • 617-241-5566
www.c21elite.com

Sales • Rentals • Free Market Analysis
Certified Buyer Agents

The Independent Newspaper Group reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The Independent Newspaper Group publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Independent Newspaper Group. Text or attachments emailed to editor@reverejournal.com are preferred.

COLETTA (from pg. 1)

Specifically, Coletta has asked that the BPDA “include language in this text amendment that requires redevelopments to re-provision any existing arts or cultural space onsite or provide an equal financial contribution for the development of new arts and cultural space.”

Coletta voiced fears about losing this type of space in her letter, writing, “I remain concerned about the ongoing loss of arts and culture space throughout the City of Boston.”

“Last year, I heard from many of my constituents who were struggling to find music rehearsal space or were actively being evicted from a former arts space,” she added.

In her letter, Coletta cites Boston Creates, an analysis from the Mayor’s Office of Arts and Culture (MOAC), which illustrated “a need for new affordable cultural spaces and facilities, and diffi-



COURTESY PHOTO
City Councilor Gabriela Coletta.

culties in meeting the costs of and maintaining existing spaces and facilities.”

As well as “an acute and increasing lack of affordable housing and work space for Boston artists, and significant imbalances and gaps in funding for Boston artists and arts and culture organizations,” per Coletta’s letter.

Further, Coletta co-signed rec-

ommendations made in a letter from the MOAC to the BPDA, which can be found at https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IKOx-lBPkNPRjX9TmLrKr6lbt_o57k_uFIQSVBC2Vq_w/edit.

Several recommendations were made in the MOAC letter, and the letter also speaks to the office’s goal of not seeing a “net loss of cultural space” in the city.

“This means that any cultural space that is under threat needs to be secured or re-provided and that new cultural space should be created to make up for past spaces lost. Boston is well positioned to act on this goal through the Squares + Streets planning processes,” reads the MOAC letter.

Later in her letter, Coletta points to the debilitating effects of the COVID pandemic on artists in that it became increasingly difficult to pay for workspaces and that other spaces were shut down.

She even cites a statistic from

Chief of Arts and Culture Kara Elliott-Ortega, that “over 100,000 sq. ft of cultural production space, such as studios and rehearsal spaces, have been lost over the last five to seven years, along with numerous live music venues, gathering spaces and specialist retail.”

It should be noted that the BPDA revealed some updates to its zoning text amendment at a public meeting on Tuesday and made some changes in response to conversations and a letter from the MOAC.

These updates include making art galleries a type of retail store, allowing incidental sales in art studios, adding an extra small entertainment/events category for up to

250 people, and not including art exhibits with nudity in the adult entertainment category.

To view Coletta’s letter in its entirety, visit https://bit.ly/Coletta_Squares, and to learn more about the Squares + Streets initiative, visit <https://www.bostonplans.org/planning/planning-initiatives/squares-streets#about>.

“Please consider me a partner in ensuring that the City of Boston is able to provide both artists and residents with abundant and resilient arts and culture spaces. I look forward to working with the BPDA and MOAC collaboratively to ensure we see this vision for our City through,” wrote Coletta.

PIANISTS (from pg. 1)

Germanians. A light reception will follow the free concert.

The Germania Musical Society deserves to emerge from the cocoon of writings by musicological specialists and reclaim the interest of a larger public.

Twenty-four members of Josef Gungl’s orchestra left Germany after the revolutions of 1848-1849, with utopian and transcendental expectations for a musical life in the New World. The musicians desired to bring their music to the audiences of a democratic republic at this turbulent time. Eager to avoid the egotism and self-promotion of the European patronage system, they pledged to work for their mutual interests both musically and socially. “One for all, and all for one” became their motto.

The self-governing, self-promoting group frequently opened with the overture to Mendelssohn’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” and often mixed popular music with classical. Altogether they gave something like 900 concerts and reached more than one million listeners.

Piano transcriptions of popular waltzes, quicksteps, polkas, marches, and galops as originally performed by the Germans

sold well in the sheet music market in those days before recordings. These will provision the concert on March 3rd, in sparkling arrangements done by the artists of the Psychopomp Ensemble

Germania flutist Carl Zerrahn, whose lively transcriptions will give us much pleasure, later served as conductor of both the Harvard Musical Association Orchestra (until its dissolution in 1892) and the Handel and Haydn Society. And for the record, the Germania Musical Society joined the Handel and Haydn Society in 1848 for Boston’s first performance of Beethoven’s Ninth.

The Psychopomp Ensemble (this means “spiritual guide” rather than something psychedelic or psychosomatic) pursues unconventional transcriptions and multidisciplinary performances. Psychopomp Ensemble presents music synthesizing improvisation, recompositions, and original works, forging paths in standard repertoire as well as world music and works in the 21st century.

Highlights include concerts presented by The Harvard Musical Association, UCLA, The Chinese American Museum (LA), Atlantic Symphony Orchestra, Scripps College, Ukraine Forward, Col-

lege Music Society, Foundation for Chinese Performing Arts, The Lancaster Piano Festival and the German Society of Pennsylvania. Their (almost) all Gottschalk program was released on the Harvard Musical Association YouTube Channel. The Boston Musical Intelligencer’s David Moran wrote:

When you have observed [slavery’s] horrors as I have, when you have seen thousands of victims die through unimaginable tortures, then you would condemn without forgiveness the greatest of the inequities which the ages of barbarity bequeathed to us. Gottschalk

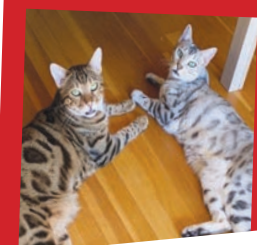
“It was probably not only the upcoming Black History Month which caused known NOLA native and BMInt publisher Lee Eiseman to advocate for someone, or two, or more, to serve up a gumbo bowl of Louis Moreau Gottschalk in the superb Harvard Musical Association YouTube live series. It might also have been the sore need, right after the Inauguration of this new political era and year, for some musical ‘freshness of openhearted sincerity.’ ”

The latter phrase can serve as the watchword for these delightful young artists. nolisome@gmail.com.



My first valentines day is coming
and I can't wait to celebrate with
the best mommy and daddy ..
Love Julian

Send us
your
Valentine
Lovelines!



My Valentine's Day
from Jax & Bella

Published
February 14 & 15

FINAL WEEK TO SUBMIT

ALL VALENTINES WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE EAST
BOSTON TIMES FREE PRESS, REVERE JOURNAL,
EVERETT INDEPENDENT, CHELSEA RECORD,
WINTHROP SUN TRANSCRIPT, &
CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT BRIDGE



DEADLINE:
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

Email or text to

promo@reverejournal.com

(please be sure to include name and
newspaper preference in emails)



Visit www.charlestownbridge.com

Coming to Charlestown, two exceptional evenings of faith, hope and love

The Charlestown Catholic Collaborative welcomes TV Star Frank Runyeon for a Lenten Mission for three performances on two nights at St. Mary's Church, at 55 Warren St., Charlestown.

Signs! The Gospel of John, on Thursday, March 21, at 7 p.m.

The Sermon of the Mount and Hollywood v. Faith on Friday, March 22, at 7 p.m.

Signs is a one man play, staged with dramatic lighting and entertaining audience interaction. Its text is the first eleven chapters of the Gospel of John, translated into contemporary American speech. As characters and settings and lights constantly shift, the Gospel engages the audience's imaginations, surprises them flashes of humor, and drives relentlessly forward with all the dramatic suspense you would expect from great theatre.

The Sermon on the Mount sets the story in a new revealing new setting, as told by the apostle Matthew to the church in Antioch, shortly after the Roman army has burned Jerusalem to the ground. In the end, all those present have

the sense that this sermon is about them. In some mysterious way... that they, too must decide, as did the crowd on the mountain, what they will go do now... for they have their own part to play in this "story."

Hollywood v. Faith. The performance is followed by a half hour in which Frank discusses, with humor, the very different values the media are teaching us, and the choices we face daily as Americans and people of faith.

Frank Runyeon has won national acclaim for his work as a translator and performer of Biblical texts.

For more than 25 years, Frank has performed the gospel for hundreds of thousands of people in almost every state in America, earning rave reviews from critics, scholars, and church leaders of every denomination. He is regularly reviewed as "the best speaker we have ever heard" by students and faculty at private and public schools across the nation. He is perhaps still best known, however, for his many roles on television.

He starred for seven years as

Steve Andropoulos on As the World Turns opposite Meg Ryan, a storyline that garnered the second highest ratings in the history of daytime television. He next appeared for four years as Father Michael Donnelly on the Emmy award-winning Santa Barbara, and as tycoon Simon Romero on General Hospital, opposite Emma Samms. Frank has also guest-starred in recurring roles on Falcon Crest as chess genius Jovan Dmytryk, on Melrose Place as Father Tom, on All My Children as Forrest Williams, and on L.A. LAW as talk-show host Brooks Tapman.

All ages are most welcome! Admission is a free-will offering.

St. Mary's Church, at 55 Warren Street, is handicapped accessible.

For more information, call the offices at 617-242-4664, or go to charlestowncatholic.org.

The Charlestown Catholic Collaborative consists of the parishes of St. Mary- St. Catherine of Siena and St. Francis de Sales.



Frank Runyeon has won national acclaim for his work as a translator and performer of Biblical texts.

New England painters bring new vitality to an old art

You're an art lover, prowling the streets of Boston. Where can you go to find avant-garde abstract work? Where can you find striking photorealist images? Where can you discover contemporary paintings with an emotional impact you never expected? You might stop in at the Guild of Boston Artists (162 Newbury St.) and have a look at the annual Signature Member Show of the New England Watercolor Society. But wait – watercolor? Aren't those paintings usually wet and misty scenic pastels with soft edges and a moody atmosphere? Not here. The painters of these works are the cream of the crop: each has been juried into

at least four selective exhibitions to earn the Society's top designation. And they treat the watercolor medium in ways you probably never imagined.

Judging by the works in this show, they are an unruly band. There are sharply defined paintings of astonishing precision and there are wild and stormy pieces that nevertheless cohere unexpectedly into images of an eagle or a mountain range. There's a ghostly scene in which beautiful children step out of a background shrouded in mist, and there's a face-to-face confrontation with a herd of llamas in, of all places, Addison, Maine. Yes, there are boats, but not the kind

you imagine when someone says "watercolor." One looks as if it had trespassed into a Barnett Newman color field painting; others have brilliant sails that might have been dipped in Klimt's burnished gold.

Eighty-nine artists from all over New England are represented in the show. All the paintings are for sale, most at prices within reach of art lovers without trust funds. Show chairperson Kristin Stashenko observed, "This show is an extraordinary display of the breadth and versatility of the medium and the technical expertise of the artists. The range of styles from realism to abstract will delight

all, from the casual observer to the sophisticated art connoisseur. There is something for everyone!"

This year's exhibition judge, who chose the paintings for the Society's prestigious awards, is Michael Holter, a signature member of the American Watercolor Society, the National Watercolor Society, and other national organizations. The exhibit runs until Feb. 25. As part of the society's commitment to education, award-winning member artists will give free painting demonstrations on weekends.

The society, which traces its history to 1885 and numbers such figures as John Singer Sargent, Childe Hassam, Andrew Wyeth, and Ruth

Wynn among its past luminaries, today claims nearly 200 signature members and an overall membership of more than 400.

New England Watercolor Society Signature Members Show, Guild of Boston Artists, 162 Newbury St. until Feb. 25, Tuesday through Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sundays noon–4 p.m. Painting demonstrations Sundays 2–4 p.m. Feb. 11 (Irena Roman), 18 (Sally Meding), and 25 (Craig Masten).

Visit www.newenglandwatercolorssociety.org for more information.

WWW.BOBSAUTOBODY.COM



Bob Bolognese
Owner

Conveniently located On The Blue Line
• PICK-UP & DELIVERY
SAFE DEPENDABLE QUALITY REPAIRS
with a lifetime Guarantee
Licensed • Bonded • Insured

Registered by the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Reg. #3053

1456 NORTH SHORE RD., REVERE • 781-289-1300

TO ADVERTISE
IN THE
CHARLESTOWN
PATRIOT-BRIDGE
PLEASE CALL
781-485-0588

Wu leads the 44th annual Boston homelessness census

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Last week Mayor Michelle Wu led a dedicated group of volunteers, including officials from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, City and State officials, homelessness service providers, local elected officials, and public health and first responders in conducting the 44th annual homelessness census for the City of Boston. The count of Bostonians experiencing homelessness plays a crucial role in guiding the allocation of City resources to aid people experiencing homelessness.

"Boston's annual homelessness census is an opportunity to evaluate the needs of unsheltered Bostonians and connect individuals to services," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "The data from the census is crucial for the City as we act with urgency and care to create an inclusive Boston for everyone. We are grateful to our state and federal partners and the dedicated volunteers throughout the City for their collaboration in making this year's census possible."

The street count is an integral part of the City's comprehensive yearly census, encompassing unsheltered adults, youth, and families in emergency shelters, transitional housing, domestic violence programs, and individuals living outside. This year, more than 270 volunteers canvassed 45 areas after midnight, covering every City neighborhood, Logan Airport, and the transit and parks systems. Volunteers canvassed assigned areas, identified those sleeping on the street, conducted a short survey, and provided individuals with important safety information and items to help them keep warm.

"The Annual Point-In-Time count is an important undertaking because it provides a national



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JOHN WILCOX

Mayor Michelle Wu (center) participates in the 44th Annual City of Boston Homeless Census.

estimate of the men, women, and families in need of a home, many who are struggling to survive," said Juana Matias, HUD New England Regional Administrator. "We are grateful to be able to take this opportunity to join Mayor Wu, the City of Boston, and community partners to provide a local estimate of Boston's numbers and ensure this data can be leveraged to efficiently connect people experiencing homelessness to housing and supportive services. The Biden-Harris administration believes that homelessness is solvable and is committed to helping localities to tackle this growing crisis."

The data from the in-person surveys of unsheltered individuals will undergo a thorough analysis for accuracy and will be cross-checked and combined with the results of the shelter count. The annual homelessness census, mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

(HUD), is an important requirement for Boston receiving federal grant funding from HUD for housing and services for those experiencing homelessness.

"I want to thank our partners, our network of experienced non-profit organizations and our dedicated volunteers for joining us for the point and time count of people experiencing homelessness in Boston," said Sheila Dillon, Chief of Housing. "The census helps to guide the critical work

of moving our homeless residents into housing with the services they need to be successful. We look forward to continuing to work together with our partners to help prevent and end homelessness in Boston."

"This census isn't just about numbers. It's about assessing the needs of our most vulnerable and finding ways to meet those needs," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. "At BPHC, we know many of our unsheltered residents by name—and we know their situations—and I am grateful to the City and all our partners for their commitment to treating our unsheltered residents with compassion and helping them get the care they need."

The City of Boston, with its partners, continues its work to end chronic and veteran homelessness using the Housing First approach. This evidence-based approach aims to provide permanent and stable housing without preconditions like sobriety or treatment. In recent years, City agencies and community partners have significantly redesigned the way services are delivered to homeless individuals, increasing resources devoted to housing and deploying new technologies to match homeless

individuals with housing and services.

"The annual Homeless Census, conducted by the City of Boston, provides Pine Street Inn and other agencies a critical snapshot of trends in Boston," said Lyndia Downie, president and executive director, Pine Street Inn. "This important data helps guide our strategies and programs, as we focus our efforts on moving individuals off the street, out of shelter and into a permanent home. Boston's street homelessness rate is around 3%, one of the best in the nation, but any person on the street is one too many," she added.

Last fall, a dozen City departments and partner agencies transformed how the City cares for unsheltered constituents impacted by substance use disorder, homelessness, and untreated mental illness, with a focus on the 'Mass and Cass' / Newmarket neighborhood. In September 2023, the City of Boston submitted a grant proposal of \$44 million to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to support Boston's homelessness programs in 2025 through HUD's McKinney Homeless Continuum of Care program.

This year's homeless census results will be available in the coming months.

Show how much You Love Your Valentine & Charlestown

When you give your loved one the gift of a \$50 lifetime BHMA membership, you will be putting them in the company of former Presidents such as John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and Ulysses S. Grant.

It's a great time to join as many exciting events are being planned to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill in 2025. Be part of the celebrations!

Your Valentine will receive a Membership Certificate and 200th Anniversary lapel pin.

Please Join

Bunker Hill Monument Association

Post Office Box 291775 | Charlestown, MA 02129

bunkerhillmonumentassn.org

The longest running non profit in Charlestown founded 200 years ago to commemorate the Battle of Bunker Hill and built our beloved Monument, the first in the Country.

Bunker Hill Beauty 2+ Bedroom • Towering Ceilings & Charm



\$4250/MO



GRACE BLOODWELL
Broker

20+ Years Experience,
Local Resident

Seller, Buyer & Landlord
Representation

617-512-4939

grace.bloodwell@nemoves.com

Coldwell Banker | 91 Main Street
Charlestown MA

Wu announces free tax-prep services available to residents

Mayor Michelle Wu announced the launch of the Boston Tax Help Coalition's (BTHC) twenty-second year of providing free tax preparation services. Area residents earning \$70,000 or less annually can file safely while maximizing their refunds and credits at over 30 neighborhood tax sites. Tax preparation is available remotely and in-person in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, Cape Verdean Creole, Portuguese, French, Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Cantonese. The schedule can be found at boston.gov/tax-help.

"Boston residents can save hundreds of dollars per household through the Boston Tax Help Coalition's free tax preparation," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "These free, multilingual tax assistance services are available at over thirty neighborhood locations and serve as a critical resource that supports thousands of Boston residents every year in maximizing their refunds safely. I encourage every qualified Boston resident to take advantage of this valuable program."

Led by the Center for Working Families, the Boston Tax Help Coalition is a partnership of non-profits, businesses, and community organizations that has been

promoting the economic independence of working individuals and families since 2001. The BTHC's free tax preparation service gives Boston's low-to-moderate income (LMI) residents a financial boost by eliminating tax preparation fees and allowing them to keep more of their earned income. The Coalition's IRS-certified tax preparers also assess filers' eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), a credit for low- and middle-income workers, and the Child Tax Credit. In 2023, BTHC prepared tax returns for nearly 11,000 taxpayers, generating \$17.2 million in tax refunds, including \$6.3 million in EITC, and saving families approximately \$2.7 million in predatory, for-profit, tax preparation fees.

"Our special thanks to the hundreds of Coalition volunteers who generously give their time and talent from January through April, including an entire weekend of training prior to serving our residents," said Chief of Worker Empowerment Trinh Nguyen. "These volunteers learn to prepare taxes, do intake, and/or provide credit building, while making a difference in our community. We value their contribution to this

important work."

"As a co-founder of the Boston Tax Help Coalition, ABCD is always pleased and excited to launch a new tax season with the City of Boston, Mayor Michelle Wu and so many other community partners," said ABCD President and CEO Sharon Scott-Chandler. "Free tax preparation is vital to underserved communities who can benefit from this service, and is a program that returns millions back into the community. Most people will receive a refund, which is essential during these times when prices for basics like food and housing are soaring. It also provides an opportunity to save for emergencies or longer term goals."

A key priority of the BTHC is integrating free tax preparation with the needs of the disability community. The BTHC partners with DEAF, Inc. to provide the service to hearing-impaired taxpayers at its Allston headquarters. Additionally, the Coalition is in its second year of its Visually Impaired People (VIP) pilot, providing tax services and necessary accommodations to visually impaired area residents. The VIP program will be available on Wednesdays, February 7 through April 10, 2024 at

the Center for Working Families in Nubian Square. More information can be found at boston.gov/vip-pilot. Site coordinators receive training to serve disabled taxpayers at all locations.

"I applaud the City's commitment to providing fully inclusive and accessible tax preparation services to residents who are legally blind," said Massachusetts Commissioner John Olivera. "I encourage eligible residents to take advantage of this program and make tax season less stressful."

In addition to helping LMI taxpayers maximize their refunds, the Boston Tax Help Coalition connects residents to free financial services to improve their economic wellbeing. For example, at eight locations individuals can receive

a Financial Check-Up (FCU), a light-touch credit advising session where a trained Financial Guide assists individual taxpayers in understanding their current financial situation, including a review of their credit report and FICO score, a personalized one-year plan to help improve their credit, and relevant service referrals. Boston Builds Credit, the City's credit building initiative, will follow up in six months with an updated credit report to measure improvement. In 2023, the BTHC provided credit advising and financial education to 1,300+ tax clients, up from 486 in 2022. More information on the Boston Tax Help Coalition's free tax services, including locations, can be found at boston.gov/tax-help.

Workers Voice Concerns Over Proposed U.S.-India Military Tech Transfer Deal

U.S. manufacturing workers represented by IUE-CWA expressed their discontent at a demonstration outside the offices of U.S. Rep. Seth Moulton and Rep. Katherine Clark regarding a fast-tracked "technology sharing" deal that puts General Electric (GE) and members of Congress in the center of a controversy around whether GE's military jet engines, which reflect years of U.S. government investments in innovation and technology, should be manufactured in the United States or in India.

General Electric provides engines and parts for key U.S. military flight vehicles, such as the T-7A Red Hawk advanced jet trainer for the U.S. Air Force and the F-18 Super Hornet for the U.S. Navy. The US-India Military Tech Transfer Deal offsets the production of the F404/F414 military jet engines powering these aircrafts and currently manufactured in Madisonville, KY, and Lynn, MA, to India. Reports suggest that this deal could grant India "access to sensitive technologies that many closest U.S. allies do not have."

While the parts and engines set to be manufactured by GE in India are intended for the rebuilding of Indian military capacity, workers argue that the U.S. government could compel GE to conduct the manufacturing domestically, implementing greater safeguards around technology and preserving U.S. jobs.

Jeff Cruz, IUE-CWA, GE Employee, and Local 201 Vice President, as well as a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran from Lynn, MA,

urged the U.S. government to intervene: "It's time for the US government to do the right thing and stop this deal until it's investigated, ensure that our national security is not at risk, and commit to guaranteeing good sustainable manufacturing jobs in the US and for veterans across the country."

In response to these concerns, GE employees protested outside their U.S. House District Offices, demanding the suspension of the U.S.-India Military Tech Transfer Deal. They delivered a petition signed by over 1,400 impacted workers, urging Congress and the White House to conduct a thorough analysis of the deal in terms of job security and national security. The petition emphasizes the need for mandatory language ensuring job guarantees and new product lines when offsetting work to foreign countries.

Adam "Kaz" Kaszynski, GE Employee, and IUE-CWA Local 201 President, Lynn, MA, highlighted the historical context: "We've dealt with offsets in the past to South Korea, Romania, and Turkey. These deals started off as tech transfers, then production, then eventually these countries began selling these products back to the U.S. military from product lines that used to be manufactured here in the United States."

The rally calls for an immediate pause on the deal until thorough investigations understand and remediate the negative effects on the U.S. domestic military industrial base, GE facilities, jobs, and communities.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction look-ahead for the North Washington Street Bridge through February 17 is as follows:

New Charles River Dam Walkway Closure

- The pedestrian walkway across the New Charles River Dam will continue to remain closed until further notice.

- This closure is required for DCR to conduct drainage of the Charles River Basin.

Scheduled Work

- Removal of temporary vehicle bridge and pile supports
- Demolition of old bridge structure

Work Hours

- Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Travel Tips

For everyone using the east sidewalk of the new bridge, please help share the space: walk to the right, walk bikes, and be mindful of people

coming from both directions, if walking in a large group.

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

The Tudor Wharf Walkway (under the bridge next to the water in Paul Revere Park) will be intermittently closed for safety during construction operations, with access provided via the Water Street underpass. The Boston Harborwalk under the bridge and eastern/harborside bridge sidewalk remain closed until rebuilt.

The contractor is coordinating with the TD Garden and local police to provide awareness and manage traffic impacts during events. For your awareness, the following TD Garden events are

scheduled during this look-ahead period:

- BRUINS: February 8, at 7 p.m., February 10, at 3:30 p.m., February 13, at 7 p.m., February 15, at 7 p.m., and February 17, at 12:30 p.m.

- CELTICS: February 9, at 7:30 p.m., and February 14, at 7:30 p.m.

- OTHER EVENTS: February 12, at 4:30 p.m.

How can I find more information?

Stay up-to-date and informed by following @MassDOT on X, formerly known as Twitter, and Mass 511 for real-time updates, visiting the project website, or emailing us with any questions.

Project website: [Mass.gov/north-washington-street-bridge-replacement](https://mass.gov/north-washington-street-bridge-replacement)

Project email: NorthWashingtonStreet@dot.state.ma.us

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 021

We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to

deb@reverejournal.com.

'Annie' at the Boch Center Wang Theatre

By Marianne Salza

Spunky, little orphan, Annie, and her friends endure a "hard knock life" at a neglectful orphanage in 1933 New York. Although times can be burdensome, she believes there is hope for sunshine. "Annie," directed by Jenn Thompson, and featuring scores by Tony Award winners, Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse, and Martin Charnin, will be presented in Boston's Boch Center Wang Theatre February 6-11 for its 2023-2024 North American Tour.

"It's an important message any time, especially during tumultuous times in the world," explained Jeff T. Kelly, who plays Rooster Hannigan in the musical. "Clinging onto optimism when situations seem to be bad and getting worse is an important outlook to walk

away from after watching the show."

Annie warms the heart of billionaire, Oliver Warbucks, and his staff when she spends the holidays at his mansion. Together, they set out to reunite Annie with her parents; but Rooster -- the brother of the orphanage's caretaker, Miss Hannigan -- has his own conniving scheme.

Kelly, who considers Rooster to be a comic relief villain, feels that audiences of all ages can enjoy the play. It incorporates political references, social movements, and an inquisitive dog.

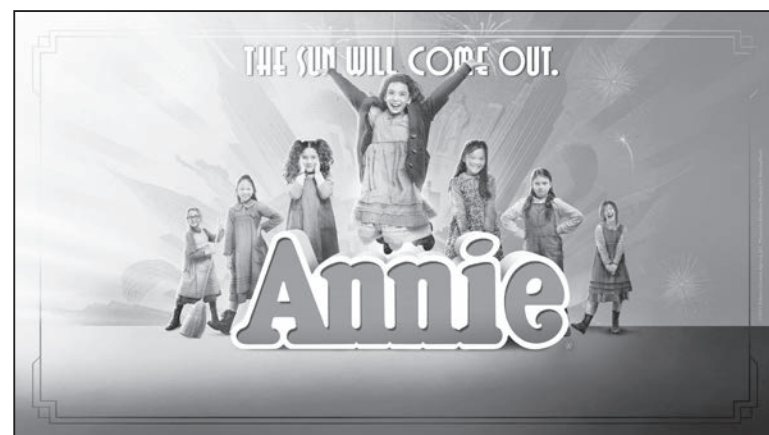
"As someone who enjoys learning about different periods, the historical element resonated with me," revealed Kelly. "The political conflicts that were going on during the Depression and Prohibition, and the music of that era tickle my

fancy."

Kelly began his career in musical theater nine years ago, in his early 20s. His background in martial arts, hockey, and fencing have been useful skills on stage. Kelly is a graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, New York City. His recent theater credits include playing Fluke in "Million Dollar Quartet," and Tommy Devito in "Jersey Boys."

"The road has been fun and enlightening. I'm enjoying being on tour," described Kelly. "A goal of mine is to stay on tour for a while."

Kelly's acting career has allowed him to explore different cities like Denver, San Antonio, and Galveston. When traveling, Kelly asks locals about their recommendations for the best Buffalo wings in the area. Besides a shack that he



discovered off a beaten path in the Bahamas, Kelly has concluded that the Buffalo wings from his hometown restaurant, DJ's Famous Wings, are superior.

"This last year has been such a good step because I did a cruise contract, played the lead in a regional, and I'm playing a principal on a national tour. They're three, massive milestones in a performer's career," said Kelly. "I've been very fortunate. To successful-

ly achieve them has been a really good feeling."

Kelly is excited to return to his Boston, and stop in Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers, where he would eat after marching band rehearsals when he was a member of the Boston University drumline. The Barnstable native plans to bring his friends to Cape Cod so they can revel in his favorite Buffalo wings together.

Wu announces largest-ever award to support nonprofit organizations

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Mayor Michelle Wu announced the City of Boston has received more than \$47 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to support nonprofit organizations providing services to individuals experiencing homelessness. This award represents the City's largest ever Continuum of Care award. The funds will be distributed among 18 nonprofit organizations that provide critical services and support to Boston's unhoused residents and advance Mayor Wu's goals to end homelessness in the City.

The funding is made available through the HUD's annual Continuum of Care awards, a grant program coordinated by the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH). Over the last nine years, MOH has grown the funding the City receives from this grant by more than 111 percent, from \$22.6 million in 2015 to \$47.7 million this year, as a result of their competitive application and demonstrated ability to deliver results in collaboration with partner agencies.

"Boston residents and families in every neighborhood deserve the opportunity to reside in secure, stable, and affordable housing," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "In our ongoing commitment to make Boston a city where everyone has a home, the Continuum of Care

grants from HUD play a vital role in assisting organizations dedicated to providing essential services and support for our unhoused residents. I extend my gratitude to HUD Secretary Fudge and the entire Massachusetts Congressional delegation for securing the City of Boston's largest Continuum of Care award to date and for their unwavering support as we collaboratively strive to eradicate homelessness in our city."

The City will allocate this federal HUD funding to organizations that offer a range of services and supports including housing search, the creation of housing for people experiencing long-term homelessness, rapid re-housing funds, and stabilization services to allow newly housed families and long-term-homeless individuals to receive the support they need to succeed. In total, this \$47 million award will continue to provide crucial support for nearly 1,900 homeless and formerly homeless households, offering tailored services to help them obtain and maintain permanent housing.

"Boston has a successful network of experienced non-profit organizations committed to serving our homeless," said Sheila Dillon, Chief of Housing. "This funding award allows us to continue the important work of moving our homeless residents from shelters and the street into housing that

they can afford with the services they need to be successful. Given the high cost of housing in Boston and the region, this funding award, the largest in our Continuum's history, is more important than ever."

Four new programs sponsored by three providers received funding through this year's award. Hildebrand Family Self-Help, Inc. will receive funding to create a permanent supportive housing program with wrap-around services for Boston families experiencing long-term homelessness. Justice 4 Housing will create a new program to swiftly serve survivors of domestic violence with safe housing and case management. Victory Programs will fund two new projects that will serve survivors of gender-based violence and LGBTQ+ youth, ages 18 - 24.

"This funding will provide more than \$47 million to homeless service providers throughout Boston who provide crucial resources in the fight to prevent and end homelessness," said HUD New England Regional Administrator Juana Matias. "We will continue to work together with our Continuum of Care partners to find solutions that ensure every Bostonian has a safe place to call home."

"I am thrilled Hildebrand Family Self-Help Center is a new awardee in the Boston Continuum of Care," said Shiela Y. Moore, CEO, Hildebrand Family Self-

Help, Inc. "The Supportive Housing Team of the Mayor's Office of Housing have been great partners, and we look forward to deepening our work together in reducing family homelessness. Given that Hildebrand is on the frontlines of providing emergency shelter, this funding allows us to add 12 permanent supportive housing units for children and families currently unhoused."

"We are incredibly grateful for this new Continuum of Care funding, which will allow Victory

Programs to expand our commitment to addressing critical needs to include survivors of gender-based violence and LGBTQ+ youth," said Sarah Porter, Executive Director of Victory Programs. "We appreciate the strong efforts of Boston's supportive housing team; a phenomenal partner. Together, we are opening doors to healing and empowerment for 48 extremely vulnerable households, and I am profoundly thankful for the collaborative spirit that drives us forward."

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

JOHN J. RECCA
PAINTING
Interior/Exterior
Commercial/Residential
Fully Insured
Quality Work
Reasonable Rates
Free Estimates
reccapainting@hotmail.com
781-241-2454

CASTLEMAINE
CONSTRUCTION
home improvement
Fine carpentry
Interior & exterior
Remodeling
MORGAN FOLEY
781-267-1777
-local references-

JOHN P. McHugh
Electric
Licensed & insured
Complete electrical services
www.johnpmchughelectric.com
jmchugh447@gmail.com
617-320-7703

Ryan
Masonry
Chimneys • Fireplaces
Cellar Floors • Restoration
French Drains • Repointing
Free Estimates, Lic. & Ins.
Local References
Phil • 617-230-3490

TO ADVERTISE PLEASE CALL 781-485-0588

Keep fire safety in mind when cooking and using candles this Valentine's Day

Keep fire safety in mind this Valentine's Day to safely maintain the spark of a romantic evening. According to the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), that means keeping a close eye on what's cooking on the stove or in the oven and practicing caution when using candles. "For anyone planning to celebrate Valentine's Day at home this year, there's a good chance those plans will include a special meal and glowing candles," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA. "Our goal is to make sure these romantic gestures are done with fire safety in mind." Cooking is by far the leading cause of U.S. home fires with nearly half (49 percent) of all home fires involving cooking equipment. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of cooking fires and half of all cooking fire deaths.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. C. 190B, §5-304
Docket No. SU24P02006D
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
In the matter of: Rhoda Cimino
Of: Charlestown, MA
RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Central Boston Elder Services, Inc. of Roxbury, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Rhoda Cimino is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Jewish Family & Children Services of Waltham, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 02/27/2024. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 30, 2024
Stephanie L. Everett
Register of Probate
02/08/24
CT

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate And Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405
Docket No. SU24P0198PM
In the matter of: Rhoda Cimino
Of: Charlestown, MA
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Central Boston Elder Services, Inc. or Roxbury, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Rhoda Cimino is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Jewish Family & Children Services of Waltham MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve With Corporate Surety on the bond.
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 02/27/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 30, 2024
Stephanie Everett,
Register of Probate
02/08/24
CT

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
Project File No. 607981
A Live Virtual Public Informational Meeting will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed Roadway Reconstruction project on McGrath Hwy in Somerville, MA.

WHEN: Tuesday, February 13th, 2024 – 6:30pm

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed roadway reconstruction project. All views and comments submitted in response to the meeting will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of reconstruction of McGrath Hwy (Route 28) between Broadway in Somerville and Rufo Rd/3rd St in Cambridge. The current design proposes to remove the McCarthy Overpass and replace it with at-grade signalized intersections. The project focuses on improving community connectivity between different neighborhoods and accommodation for all roadway users through provision, expansion, and enhancement of pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities. The project also includes safety improvements, increased green space, physical separation of bicycles and pedestrians from motor vehicles wherever feasible, and the removal of a physical and visual barrier (the overpass) within the community.

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (e.g interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, live captioning, videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), TTD/TTY at (857) 266-0603, fax (857) 368-0602 or by email (MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us). Requests should be made as soon as possible and prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten business days before the meeting.

This meeting will be hosted, or a cancellation announcement posted, on the internet at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events>

JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR
CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER

Project inquiries may also be emailed to massdotmajorprojects@dot.state.ma.us. Please submit any written statements regarding the proposed undertaking to: Carrie A. Lavallee, P.E., Chief Engineer, MassDOT, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: MAJOR PROJECTS, PROJECT FILE NO. 607981

- Avoid using candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.
 - Place candles on sturdy, uncluttered surfaces where they will not be knocked over.
 - Use caution when lighting candles. Keep hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.
 - Do not allow candles to burn down too close to the base of the holder or container.
 - Never leave a child alone in the presence of a burning candle.
 - Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach.
- For more information about cooking safety, visit our cooking safety page; for more candle safety information, visit our candle safety page.
- In addition, NFPA encourages the public to make sure they have working smoke alarms and to develop and practice a home escape plan.



News in Brief

ATLANTIC WORKS GALLERY ANNOUNCES ITS FEBRUARY SHOW

Atlantic Works Gallery (AWG), the East Boston artist-run collaborative space for art and ideas, announced that as part of its traditional new year's focus on its newest members, Renato Viganego will have a solo show in February: Lo Immenso...Cotidiano. Bodegones. The Immense...Daily. Still Lives. Viganego will show work that revolves around the still life and human figure where the oil paint on the canvas plays an essential part of the piece. The show will open Saturday, February 3 and will run until Saturday, February 24. There will be an opening reception on February 3 from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., and a "Third Thursday" reception at the gallery on February 15, from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

"My inspiration comes from emotion," says the Columbian-born artist. "From my emotion, the line is infinite, the drawing is my language and the drawing is a

faithful response of emotion and nothing can be truer."

Viganego's compositions, painted in oil on linen, focus on everyday objects: jars, vases, vessels, dishes, cups, sugar bowls, milk pitchers, crystal plates. "For me it is important to always keep smaller details in context of the larger forms," he said.

Lo Immenso...Cotidiano. Bodegones. The Immense...Daily. Still Lives (details)

- Show opens Saturday, February 3; Reception 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

- "Third Thursday"; February 15, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

- Show closes Saturday, February 24

Atlantic Works Gallery, 80 Border Street, Boston, MA 02128, now in its twenty-first year, is an artist-run collaborative space for art and ideas located in East Boston. The gallery is open to the public every Friday and Saturday, 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. For private viewing, contact contact@atlanticworks.org. For more information, visit <https://atlanticworks.org>.

**To place a memoriam
please call 781-485-0588**

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper.

Includes photo.No word Limit.

Please send to

obits@reverejournal.com

or call 781-485-0588

OBITUARIES

Deidre Ann Malloy

Charlestown Realtor – a larger-than-life individual – and a rare human being

Deidre Ann Malloy of Charlestown and formerly of Holliston passed away in Naples, Florida on January 5, 2024. Deidre leaves her husband, Michael Giltrap of Athy, County Kildare Ireland; her sisters, Melissa Malloy Ford and Patricia Malloy, brother-in-law, Bernard Cutler, her niece, Meeghan Ford Larrivee and her husband, Paul; nephew, Michael Ford and his wife, Elizabeth, as well as grand nieces and nephews, Matthew Larrivee, Isabel, Henry and Harrison Ford, all of Holliston, Massachusetts.

Deidre graduated from Holliston High School in 1968; received an RN degree in 1970, a BA in Education/Theatre from UMass Amherst in 1974; and an MBA in 1988.

She began her nursing career as Director of Nurses at Fernald State School, went on to Director of nursing at Mt. Auburn Hospital and did several stints at John Hopkins in Baltimore. Her mother, Lucy Malloy suffered a debilitating stroke. Dede took care of her, installing a handicapped unit in one of her buildings- all while purchasing and renovating real estate in Charlestown- her true passion.

She purchased her first build-



ing in 1971 in Charlestown and has been very active in real estate working as a broker for Coldwell Banker for many years there as well. She had many friends in Charlestown and in the real estate industry as well as in Truro, spending summers at her cottage in Truro for the past 20 years, she was a very active participant at St. Mary's By the Harbor Church in Provincetown.

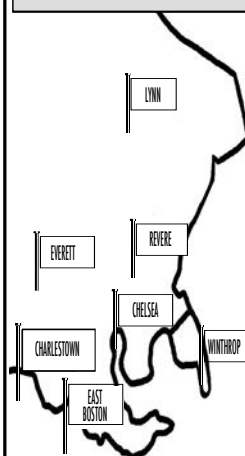
Rarely will you meet anyone with as much zest and enthusiasm for life and happiness. She loved people, work, laughter, travel, and real estate. She would take her niece and nephew and friends to Vermont yearly for ski trips; and took them to Ireland, Italy, and many other trips throughout their lives. Her family, although small, was a very important part of her

life. Having many friends from all walks of life, she would often be found visiting, counseling people on health issues, real estate information and/or renovating their property. Always wanting to help; always a caring, daughter, sister, aunt and friend.

Her unique personality, love of life, and people showed even more when she and her friends and family planned and executed a Celebration of Life with her in attendance! In 5 days, it went off without a hitch! Yacht club, catered luncheon; roses, live music – amazingly – 135 people attended – mostly contacted via word of mouth, emails, and phone calls! She was thrilled to see all who attended- and she was able to enjoy seeing and talking with them. Unique and courageous – that was Dede! She was a larger-than-life individual – and a rare human being – she will be missed by family and friends always.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, February 17, at 10 a.m. at Saint Mary's Church, 55 Warren St. Charlestown. Arrangements are under the care of the Chesmore Funeral Home of Holliston, www.ChesmoreFuneralHome.com

• Revere • Everett • Winthrop • Lynn • East Boston • Chelsea • Charlestown



Independent Newspaper Group

Call:
781-485-0588
Fax:
781-485-1403

7 COMMUNITIES

Classified

More Than 100,000 Readers Each Week

REAL ESTATE

Sales • Rentals

Land • Commercial

RECRUITMENT

Professional • Medical

General • Services

• Auto Sales • Yard Sales

• Miscellaneous

HELP WANTED - PCA

Everett, Personal Care Assistant needed Monday thru Friday 3pm-7pm. Call Susan 617-389-6190

DEADLINES: For classified line ads, deadlines are Monday by 4 p.m. Call 781-485-0588

FOR SALE

SELLING YOUR AUTO? Call for our 4 week special! Call 781-485-0588.

**TO ADVERTISE IN THE PATRIOT-BRIDGE
PLEASE CALL 781-485-0588**

Visit www.charlestownbridge.com

