



Eliot K-8 Principal Traci Walker Griffith gives the thumbs up at the Eliot's Commercial Street campus on a very cold Monday morning, along with students Laura Meli, Madelyne Litofsky and Alice Chung. Students in grades 4-8 who felt comfortable returning hit the campus for in-person learning on Monday all across the City. It was the first time students of that age had been in the building since March 2020. The Eliot School was the first to close in Boston after a parent had gotten COVID-19 at the Biogen conference.

Class act: More students return to in-person school

By Seth Daniel

With teachers fully vaccinated and many families ready to get back to the "real" classroom, students in grades 4-8 returned to the Eliot School on Monday, March 15, to join students from the K-3 classes that went back on March 1.

The students are in a hybrid in-person mode, meaning they will go to school in person for two days, and then go remotely for three days – which is the plan at the moment and Boston Public Schools could change it next month to five days a week. Some families, however, have opted out of in-person learning and will remain remote for the rest of the year due to safety concerns.

Eliot Principal Traci Griffith Walker, a Charlestown resident, said the return of the Eliot is significant on its own, but even more so because it was the first school to close as the COVID crisis began to descend on Boston one year ago. As such, returning a full contingent of kids in grades K-8 to the campus felt like the easing of a long and hard-fought war against the pandemic.

"It's a big day," she said. "It's been one year last week. When we first closed, we thought it would be a few weeks of remote and then we'd all be back together...Our staff was vaccinated last weekend. We're really excited and everyone feel great to return."

Outside on Monday, it was nearly in the single-digit temperatures, and everyone was masked and cautious in keeping their distance. Most everyone was also freezing, but it couldn't squelch the joy felt by students, faculty and families as they dropped their kids off at the front door of the Commercial Street facility for the first time in more than a year.

There were tears - though they froze on the spot.

But there were also a lot of smiles as many of those gathered hadn't seen each other in more than a year except on Zoom. Some students hadn't even set food in the actual school building, though they had nearly a year of schooling at the Eliot under their belts.

"I think for us the most import-(SCHOOL Pg. 12)

Outdoor dining to return April 1 in the North End

By John Lynds

Numerous North End restaurants are expected to take advantage of the City of Boston's 2021 outdoor dining program set to begin on April 1. The program will begin for the rest of the city on March 22.

Last year dozens of restaurants that line the North End's Hanover Street and others tucked down the neighborhood's side streets received a special permit from the city that allowed them to set up outdoor patios on roadways and sidewalks throughout the neighborhood. The program helped restaurants increase capacity during the COVID-19 pandemic while keeping customers and staff safe.

Last year, North End restaurants like Bricco, Aqua Pazza, Quattro, and Trattoria Il Panino took part in the city's outdoor dining pilot program.

With the success of last year's program Mayor Martin Walsh said the city will continue many of the successful initiatives from last year's program, such as streamlined permitting. Applications for

(DINING, Pg. 3)

Finders Keepers Consignment opens a new location in Lynn

Story & Photo by Marianne Salza

For those who may not be able to shop in Copley Square, Boston, for chic high-end items at full-price, Finders Keepers Consignment provides the opportunity to add

luxurious accessories to their closet. Finders Keepers, which carries previously-owned designer fashions in exquisite condition, celebrated its grand opening at 495 Eastern Ave-

(FINDERS KEEPERS, Pg. 4)



Finders Keepers Consignment Owner, Karyn Pallotta, holding a popular Louis Vuitton dog carrier on sale for \$2,900 at her boutique, during the grand opening on March 5

Visit www.northendregional.com

Email stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com or deb@bostonsun.com or call 781-485-0588 for your Regional Review information

REGIONAL REVIEW

EDITORIAL

THE FILIBUSTER MUST END

PAGE 2

The pros and cons of maintaining the filibuster in the U.S. Senate have reached the forefront of political discussion as never before -- and with good reason. Whether one believes that the filibuster protects the minority from the so-called tyranny of the majority or provides a means for the minority to obstruct the majority, the filibuster clearly is anti-democratic.

The filibuster is not part of our Constitution. It simply is a Senate rule upon which the Senate has carved out exceptions over the years, most notably for Presidential nominations and budget matters. The latter is referred to as reconciliation, which is how President Biden's \$1.9 trillion pandemic relief bill was enacted by a simple majority, as was the Republicans' \$2 trillion tax cut for the ultra-rich in 2017.

The rule allowing a filibuster may have made sense in the early 1800s when the U.S. was not divided between two parties. Political coalitions were much more fluid in the early days of our nation and compromise was common among senators.

However, after the Civil War, the battle lines were drawn between Democrats and the newly-formed Republican party (which only had come into existence in 1854), principally on the issue of race -- with the Democrats from the Solid South coalescing around the issue of segregation.

The so-called Dixiecrats -- embodied by Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina -- used the filibuster from the 1940s through the 1960s in an attempt to stymie Civil Rights legislation, especially the Voting Rights Act.

Though the racist efforts of Thurmond and others ultimately failed (only because the Senate obtained a 2/3 majority to end filibusters on those issues), the filibuster likely will be employed by Senate Republicans to obstruct voting reform measures that are necessary today.

The national Republican playbook to limit voting among non-white citizens once again is surging. Republican state legislators have filed more than 200 bills that would restrict voting in the coming elections in their states.

The very foundation of our democracy rests on the right of every citizen to vote. Legislation presently before Congress would ensure that voting rights are not abridged in any state. However, thanks to the arcane filibuster rule, the passage of a new Voting Rights Act faces little chance of success in the Senate.

The truth is this: The anti-democratic state efforts to limit voting rights most likely will be allowed to proceed because of the anti-democratic filibuster rule in the U.S. Senate -- and unless the Democratic majority in the Senate takes steps to abolish the filibuster rule, the United States will have a democracy in name only.

MARVELOUS MARVIN WAS A GREAT FIGHTER AND A GREAT PERSON

The boxing world lost one of its all-time greats with the sudden passing of Marvelous Marvin Hagler this past week.

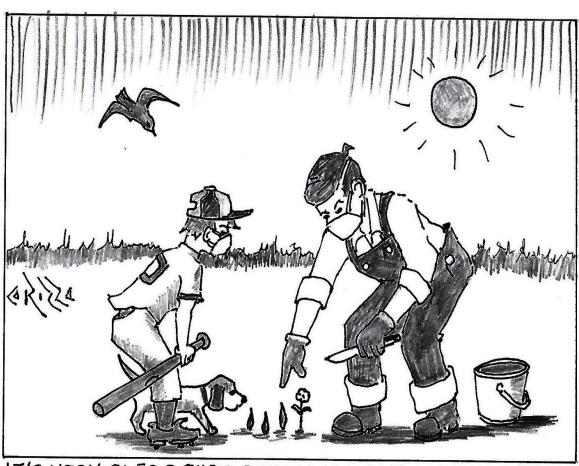
Hagler, a native of Newark who moved to Brockton as a teenager, reigned as the undisputed middleweight boxing champion of the world for seven years in the 1980s and is acknowledged as one of the greatest fighters of all time. His bout with Thomas Hearns, which lasted about eight minutes, is regarded as the greatest three rounds in boxing history.

We were fortunate to see one of Hagler's title fights when we covered his title defense for The Chelsea Record against Vito "The Mosquito" Antuofermo in the old Boston Garden in June, 1981 (we were stunned when we realized how long ago that fight was!).

We also had the pleasure of running into the champ after he had retired in an elevator in Boston at One Devonshire Place in the late 1980s. We only exchanged pleasantries, but Hagler's innate humility, graciousness, and sense of humor were apparent in our brief encounter.

Marvelous Marvin Hagler overcame his hard-scrabble background with an unparalleled sense of determination and hard work to become a world champion. His attainment of the pinnacle of his profession serves as a model for success in life in any endeavor.

Marvelous Marvin Hagler was a great fighter and a great person. He will be missed.



IT'S VERY CLEAR THAT SPRING IS HERE, MARCH 20

GUEST OP-ED

March Madness - Would you like to coach?

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Have you ever thought changing jobs? Have you ever aspired to be a college basketball coach? Now is a great time to get your resume together.

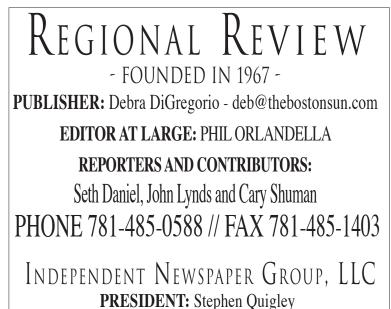
John Calipari is the University of Kentucky men's basketball coach. His pay this year is over \$8 million. He has a lifetime contract worth 86 million dollars. In the eyes of the basketball world the UK basketball coaching job has been one of the most desired jobs in college sports. However, big pay doesn't come easy Calipari has led Kentucky to one NCAA Championship, four final fours and he has had 26 twenty-win game seasons throughout his career. Although this year his 9 wins and 16 losses hasn't gone over too well with many of Kentucky's fans

While Calipari is the highest paid college basketball coach there are others who do very well. Mike Krzyzewski of Duke will earn \$7 million this season. Jay Wright of Villanova will earn \$6 million. Chris Beard of Texas Tech is scheduled to earn \$5,050.00. Rick Barnes of Tennessee will earn \$4,950.00. Roy Williams of North Carolina will earn up to \$4 million. Tom Izzo of Michigan State will earn \$3,984.00. And, the list goes on. Chris Mack, Louisville, \$4 million. Brad Underwood, Illinois, \$4 million. Larry Krystkowiak, Utah, \$3,961.519. Bob Huggins, West Virginia \$4,050.000. UCLA coach Mike Cronin \$3,600.00. Scott Drew of Baylor \$3,350,000. There are 50-60 college coaches making \$2 million a year but it does drop for many others. Kyle Smith of Wash-

ington State makes \$1.4 million. Steve Alford for Nevada is making \$500,000. Johnny Jones of Texas Southern will be paid \$250,000.

Rick Pitino who came back from coaching professional basketball in Greece will earn just over \$1 million dollars at Iona. This is a far cry from the \$70 million-dollar contract he had with the Boston Celtics. His package

(**OP-ED** *Pg. 3*)



Letter to the Editor

OFFICER TED BOYLE RETIRES

To the Editor,

North End Against Drugs is proud to wish our long-standing board member, Officer Fredrick "Teddy" Boyle, congratulations on his retirement! In addition to his years of volunteering at several NEAD events, he has been invaluable to this community in many other ways and was previously honored for his significant contributions by receiving the North End Christmas Fund Luncheon's Uncle Fred Carangelo

Humanitarian Award and a tribute from the Nazzaro Youth Program.

Officer Boyle has spent 35 years in the Boston Police Department serving as the District A1 liaison to the North End for a number of years. His commitment and dedication to our community are largely unmatched and we're proud to call him our friend and fellow Board member.

Congrats, Teddy, from all your friends in NEAD!

NEWNC ELECTION NOMINATION PAPERS AVAILABLE

Once again, North End Waterfront residents have the opportunity to be a significant part of the neighborhood by becoming a candidate for the North End Waterfront Neighborhood Council board in the community election process that will be held on Saturday, May 15.

DINING (from pg. 1)

OPINION By Phil Orlandella

Each year, six of the twelve seats become available for twoyear terms on the board which meets monthly, dealing with proposals and issues of concern that relate and could affect the neighborhood.

Becoming a NEWNC board member affords the opportunity to have a first-hand say in the development of the neighborhood.

Nomination papers are available at the Nazzaro Community Center on North Bennet Street or online at newncboston.com.

Forty signatures of residents are required to become a candidate.

Ballot positions will be determined through the luck of the draw.

Deadline for nomination papers to be submitted is May 3.

Become an active part of the neighborhood by serving on the NEWNC board.

Occupancy change/Liquor License transfer approved by NEWNC

By Phil Orlandella

Thirty people participated in a virtual North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) March 8 public meeting that had two voting items of interest to the North End.

NEWNC voted 8-0 to supported a zoning change and a transfer of retail package store with an all-liquor license.

The Wild Duck, 94-96 Salem Street requested to transfer the retail package store with a full liquor license. Closing our 11 PM.

A request to change the zoning at 345-347 Hanover Street from a small retail store to a small real estate office.

NEWNC President Brett Roman announced that nomination papers for the upcoming election of six of the twelve seats open on the board.

He noted that papers can

be picked up at the Nazzaro Community Center or online at newncboston.com and must be returned by May 3 for the May 15 election.

Candidates must secure forty signatures of residents to be placed on the ballot.

"Each year, six of the twelve seats on the board are up for election," Roman said. "In order to conduct a public election, at least seven verified candidates must be on the ballot," he added.

In past years, there were not enough candidates to have an election, all the candidates that filed validated nomination papers were automatically placed on the board.

Jesse Brackenbury, Executive Director of the Greenway Conservancy updated NEWNC on ongoing future plans for The Greenway. Brackenbury is leaving The Greenway for a position in New York. outdoor dining licenses on both public and private property are now open, and businesses can apply online at the city's website.

"Outdoor dining was one of the bright spots last summer and fall, and we've seen the benefits it has had on our neighborhoods: supporting local businesses, a safe and enjoyable experience for restaurant patrons, and an added resource for Boston's small businesses during this challenging time," said Mayor Walsh. "I'm thrilled we are able to start this program even earlier, and I look forward to businesses and residents taking advantage of it."

The Mayor said the city has also focused on providing resources to businesses of color, and has made more than 200 personalized outreach calls to every business that applied for outdoor dining

SERVICE

DIRECTORY

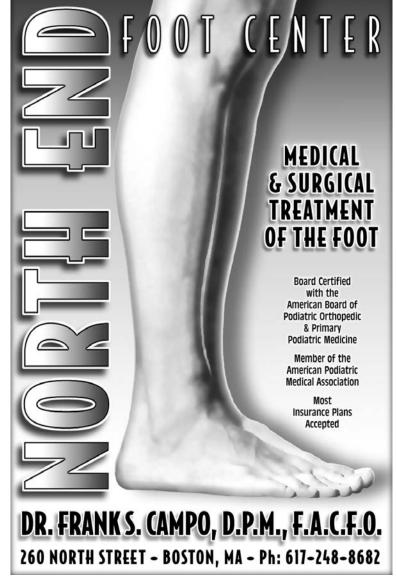
JOHN J. RECCA

PAINTING 🖌

last year. The Mayor's Office of Economic Development has met with the Boston Black Hospitality Coalition to ensure added technical assistance is available for businesses to apply. Weekly "Help Sessions" were held from December through January to help businesses navigate the pilot process. The City of Boston is also planning to host additional office hours and workshops to help businesses with their applications as needed.

The 2021 Outdoor Dining Pilot Program season for approved restaurants will begin on April 1 on the North End and will end on December 1, 2021, weather permitting. Restaurants that took part in the 2020 temporary outdoor dining program and who wish to do so in 2021 must re-apply, and the City will also be accepting applications from restaurants that did not take part in the 2020 temporary outdoor dining program.

Additional information on outdoor dining, and applications for businesses, is available on boston. gov.



OP-ED (from pg. 2)

had also reached over \$5 million per year before he left Louisville.

The list of coaches is too long to name them all with many more making between \$1 million to over \$2 million per year. There are many, many coaches making much smaller salaries.

The point is if you are looking for a career change you might consider college basketball coaching. Brad Stevens wanted to be a coach. He went to Butler in Indiana to be a volunteer in the Bulldog's program. He became the assistant coach and then a very successful head coach. Butler moved him from free to over \$1 million per year by the time he left. Today he now makes over \$3.6 million per year as the head coach of the Boston Celtics. Not bad for starting out as a volunteer. So, find a job waiting tables to feed yourself. Volunteer for a good basketball program. Work very hard. Earn yourself an assistant's job and you might end up coaching a great basketball program and making several million a year.

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

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Boston parents reach 700 signatures in online petition requesting denial of BPS waiver

Staff Report

In less than a week, more than 700 people coming from every Boston neighborhood have signed a Change.org petition encouraging Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley of the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to reject any waiver from Boston Public Schools (BPS) and to demand that the district open five full days a week for grades K-5 in April.

The petition, published by parent advocacy group Voices for BPS Families, which was started in Charlestown, on March 11, calls on Commissioner Reilly to deny any request filed by BPS regarding opening up K-5 grades to full-time in person learning starting April 5, as required by DESE. The petition also calls for maintaining the fully-remote learning model currently in place for those families who

desire fully remote learning. The petition demands that Commissioner Riley accept "no excuses" from BPS, since the research, and the Massachusetts medical community, overwhelmingly support a return to full-time in-person learning for those families who choose it, said the group.

Additionally, Voices said the disturbing truth is that remote learning is perpetuating inequities and leaving many of the most vulnerable children behind. Granting a waiver to BPS would constitute another significant failure of care to Boston's children, they said.

Voices members said a majority of BPS families are choosing in person learning, and the school buildings are ready, the president of the Boston Teacher's Union has stated that the district has taken every precaution the union requested, and teachers are now prioritized for vaccines.

The time has come for the safe

FINDERS KEEPERS (from pg. 1)

nue, Lynn, on March 5.

"We've been busy selling on social media and online platforms," says Karyn Pallotta, Owner. "The store is finally finished, and we are inviting everyone. We have a huge selection of bags. Someone just bought a Burberry bag and wallet."

Finders Keepers features

a grand collection of Louis Vuitton, Gucci, and Burberry handbags and shawls.

"Louis Vuitton is iconic," explains Pallotta. "It goes up in value. It's one of the best designer bags."

A luxurious display of Yves Saint Laurent, Prada, Chanel, Dolce & Gabanna, Christian Louboutin, Gucci, and Loureturn to full-time in person learning, said the parents.

"We are very encouraged that Commissioner Riley recognizes it is safe to return to full-time in-person learning and has required schools across the state to do so starting April 5. Our concern regards BPS, the largest school district in the state, and their planned waiver application. BPS has spent the last year preparing for the return to school and the science is clear that this can be done safely now, with all the excellent mitigation factors that BPS has put in place. This is not time for excuses from BPS about why it can't be done. It is time to act in the children's best interest and to return to full-time in person learning as DESE requires," said Jody Fink, parent to one young learner.

"Despite the best intentions on the part of most schools and teachers, virtual learning is simply not working for all students in Boston. Our work will continue until every child is receiving the in-person instruction and services to which they are entitled. Kids need to be in the classroom," said Erica Haydock, co-founder of Voices for BPS Families and a parent of an elementary school student in Charlestown.

Dozens of parents who signed the petition left comments indicating their reasons for signing:

• "There is no evidence of transmission in a school environment that adheres to CDC protocols. Additionally, it's time to start giving equal consideration to mental health – this is a real and serious problem!," wrote Kristen Carucci.

•"BPS has had a year to get organized to get kids back in school. No more excuses," wrote Marcie Carmody.

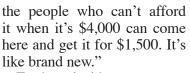
•"I am tired of the unions putting their political agenda ahead of children and families. The union keeps moving the goalposts, but public health experts say children can return safely to full-time, in-person learning. Listen to the science and ignore the excuses,' wrote Laureen Wood.

•"Other districts have been in person since September 2020, so have many private and parochial schools within Boston, who don't have fancy equipment. Boston kids deserve better than to be put on the back burner. Educators have been bumped up for the vaccine. Enough with these excuses- stop failing our kids," wrote Gerli Butler.

Voices for BPS Families, a group of 400 parents of BPS children, organized to put pressure on the City of Boston and BPS leadership to establish a plan to make in-person learning available as soon as possible for students who choose to return to school-while maintaining a remote learning option for families who choose it.

is Vuitton heels (some never worn) ascends like a tiered champagne tower in the center of the room. Behind the table of stilettos is a plush leopard-print high-heel chair that Pallotta found on consignment in New Hampshire.

"People want high-end designers," Pallotta says. "Consignment works great because



Further inside, customers can find Coach, Michael Kors, and Kate Spade pocketbooks, as well as a selection of \$20-\$30 Nine West, Tory Burch, and Kate Spade shoes and boots. Pallotta also consigns some clothing, such as Eileen Fisher pieces, Burberry skirts and dresses, and Armani.

Louis Vuitton and Chanel-inspired T-shirts can be seen from the window frontage of the main street boutique that's display cases are filled with Tiffany & Company jewelry, Christian Dior sunglasses, and designer wallets and clutches.

At a time when few are buying ball gowns, Pallotta has adjusted her focus to accommodate life during a pandemic. Pallotta sells designer-inspired face masks that she embellishes with Swarovski crystals in the shape of glistening footballs, lips, and skulls; in addition to adorned Patriots, Celtics, Bruins, and

TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL

781-485-0588

Red Sox caps and winter hats.

"Don't give up. Keep pushing forward," Pallotta advises to entrepreneurs wanting to open businesses during the pandemic. "I have another job at an airline that I do in the morning, and then I come here."

Pallotta sends accessories everywhere - New York, Chicago, Houston, and Florida and recently received a floral arrangement from a grateful customer in Louisana who purchased a handbag from Finders Keepers.

"I love that you can find what you're looking for in impeccable condition at unbelievable prices," explains Pallotta, formerly of Revere, and now a Peabody resident. "Someone else loved it, and now you can love it. Finders Keepers."

Visit Karyn Pallotta at Finders Keepers Consignment, located at 495 Eastern Avenue, Lynn, call for an appointment at (781) 241-3564, or view high-end accessories and clothing online soon at www. FindersKeepers77.com.

🖉 bpda 🛛 Virtual Public Meeting

Amend Accessory Parking Zoning

Wednesday, March 31 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/3kUXdqQ Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864 Meeting ID: 161 611 0558

Project Proponent:

Boston Planning and Development Agency

Project Description:

This is a public meeting to present proposed zoning changes that would make Accessory Parking a Conditional Use in neighborhood business subdistricts. Currently it is an Allowed Use in basements and first floors where there is an Allowed Use on the upper floors, such as residential. This condition creates a blank street wall with no active first floor use and runs counter to planning goals for neighborhood subdistricts. By making Accessory Parking Conditional, requiring a Conditional use permit, it provides and opportunity for community input and design review. See 3/31/21 on the BPDA Calendar for more info.

mail to: Bryan Glascock

Boston Planning & Development Agency One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201 617.722.4300 phone: email: bryan.glascock@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period: 4.9.2021

BostonPlans.org 🛛 🗐 @BostonPlans

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

IN BRIEF By Phil Orlandella

Board of Appeal (ZBA) current process and addressed concerns outlined in a letter sent to him by NEWRA

"The Commissioner listen to all our concerns relating to the Zoning Board of Appeals," NEWRA President Cheryl Delgreco said. "He addressed the procedure and policy of the ZBA and he wants to work with the neighborhood relating to issues and concerns."

Daniel Mueller, community liaison from the MBTA, updated transportation restrictions and service cuts relating to the frequency of buses and the subway system that began on March 14. He also noted the commuter rail changes that started on April 5.

Director of the Greenway Conservancy advised the Council of activities and development process on The Greenway.

He also notified the group that as of next month he will be leaving the Conservancy post for a new job in New York City. NEWRA wished him luck.

The next NEWRA meeting will be held on Thursday, April 8 at 7 PM

LANTERN 2021 BENEFITS OLD NORTH FOUNDATION

Lantern 2021 (April 18) is a benefit virtual event to benefit the Old North Church Foundation.

The special event is a family-friendly activity that will celebrate the historic actions of April 18, 1775 and the Old North's legacy of active citizenship.

Original music by Ryan Ahlwardt will be featured along with the spirited performance of the poem "Paul Revere's Ride" by Rick Taylor.

Proceeds will support the Foundation's virtual and on-site programs for children and adults. Sponsors should contact Vicky Stewart, Executive Director at Vstewart@oldnorth.com.

Directly following the Lantern 2021 event the annual lighting of the steeple lanterns will take place.

FOCCP CELEBRATES **20TH ANNIVERSARY**

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) in the North End will celebrate its 20th anniversary this year.

FOCCP, over the years, has hosted many fun events in the park and hopes they can celebrate the occasion in style and 2021.

"If COVID-19 safely restrictions are relaxed, FOCCP would like to present more activities in the park like movies and special events," FOCCP President Joanne Hayes Rines said.

"Our horticulture work will hopefully go on so the gardens will be filled with spring and summer flowers," she said.

NEWNC NOMINATION PAPERS STILL AVAILABLE

Deadline for following nomination papers to become a North End/Waterfront Neighbor Council Board member is May 3.

Candidates must secure signatures of 40 residents to be placed on the ballot for the May election. The actual voting process will be announced.

"There are six of twelve seats open for the election and at least seven candidates are needed to conduct an election," said NEWNC President John Romano.

"If there are not seven candidates running, all of the certified candidates will automatically secure positions on the neighborhood board for two-year terms," Romano said.

Nomination papers are available at the Nazzaro Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street or online at newncboston.com.

NEWRA OPPOSED RESTAURANT **EXTENSION TO** SECOND FLOOR

Transfer of retail store license, the Wild Duck, 95 Salem Street was supported by the North End/ Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) at their March 11 virtual monthly meeting.

The transfer includes a full liquor license that will remain at the same location with the closing hour of 11 PM. Jaimini Patel is the proposed manager on record.

Giacomo's Ristorante's Richard Travaglione is requesting to change the use and occupancy at 355 Hanover Street to include the second floor of the property as an extension to the existing restaurant was opposed by NEWRA.

Inspectional Services Commissioner Dion Irish participated in the community public meeting to discuss the Zoning Jesse Brackenbury, Executive

Charlotte Golar Richie Endorses David Halbert for City Council At-Large

Staff Report

David Halbert's campaign for City Council At-Large announces an endorsement from former State Representative (5th Suffolk) and current Massachusetts Civil Rights Commissioner Charlotte Golar Richie.

"David is a smart and principled problem-solver, who will drive an agenda that promotes racial and gender equity," said Richie. "As City Councillor at-Large, he'll make sure that government works for all of the people of our city."

Said Halbert, "Charlotte Golar Richie has done so much, for so many- she has lifted up voices in the community, fought for them in the halls of power, and paved the way to those very halls for all she has inspired. I could not be more humbled or honored to have earned her support in this race."

Richie ran for Mayor of Boston in 2013 and came in third place in the preliminary election among a field of 12 candidates. Richie previously served in Mayor Thomas Menino's cabinet as Chief of Housing and Director of the Department of Neighborhood Development, and is a veteran of Governor Deval Patrick's administration and 2009 re-election committee.

Richie's endorsement adds to Halbert's impressive roster of early supporters, including notable community leaders like Hyde Park civic leader and Ward 18 Chair Cecily Graham, and 2019 candidate for Boston City Council (At-Large) Alejandra St. Guillen.

St. Leonard Parish 320 Hanover St. Boston, Ma 02113 **LENTEN SCHEDULE**

Fridays During Lent 6:30pm - Stations of the Cross throughout Lent

Holy Thursday, April 1: 8:00pm - Last Supper Mass

Good Friday, April 2: 12:00pm - Stations of the Cross 3:00pm - Liturgy of the Passion

Saturday, April 3: 8:00 pm - Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, April 4: 9:00am - Easter Mass 10:30am - Easter Mass 12:00pm - Easter Mass

Note: All masses and stations of the cross will be available via St Leonard Facebook livestream

Visit www.northendregionalreview.com

Solution Virtual Public Meeting

Amend Article 32 Groundwater Zoning

Monday, March 29 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/3rsZaNZ Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864 Meeting ID: 161 812 6907

Project Proponent:

Boston Planning and Development Agency

Project Description:

This public meeting is to present proposed amendments to Article 32 Groundwater Conservation Overlay District of the zoning code and receive comments in order to extend protection to groundwater levels in areas of the city with older buildings on wooden piles built on filled land. This includes parts of East Boston, downtown waterfront, Roxbury/South End, South Boston and Audubon Circle.

mail to: Bryan Glascock

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

email: bryan.glascock@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period: 4/9/2021

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

phone: 617.722.4300

PAGE 6

Unique partnership with RSM brings famed Collettey's Cookies to City Square

By Seth Daniel

There were only a limited amount of rejections a determined young woman like Collette Divitto would take before doing something about it.

Speaking from the now-vacant kitchen at the RSM offices in City Square on Monday, she said she got tired of being told 'no,' and so the 31-year-old - who has Down Syndrome - took her work-life by the reins and started her own company. That company - Collettey's Cookies - took the world by storm in 2016 as Divitto took her life-long love for baking and turned that into the job she had been searching for in vain since moving to Boston in 2012.

"I had 13 job interviews and it was rejection, rejection and rejection," she said on Monday morning in between taking batches of cookies out of the oven. "That's why I decided to start my own business. I didn't know how to start my own business, but I learned about it from my mom and my whole family. My family has a lot of entrepreneurs and now I'm one too...My mission is to create more and more jobs for people with any kind of disability. That's my mission."

And she was doing it quite well for six years in the North End, where she lives independently, and where her mother Rosemary Alfredo, lives not far away in that neighborhood also. They had their own space in a commercial kitchen and had a handful of employees and orders constantly coming in from all over the country. However, the kitchen space was being impacted by COVID-

19. Employees didn't feel safe, and even Collette didn't feel safe

going in," said Rosemary. "I didn't feel safe having Collette go in there...COVID was running rampant in there and there were no protocols. We only had four people working and it was our busiest time of year."

Said Collette, "It wasn't safe. There were people who were sick and they were there and said they had to because they needed the money. It was getting scary."

Charlestown came into the picture.

A long-time supporter of Collettey's, RSM in City Square had featured her cookies in their lunch room. However, their lunch room had been vacant for months as workers had been sent home, and RSM's orders were much smaller as well. It was at the same moment that the cookie business was in crisis mode that RSM's Chris MacKenzie picked up the phone to check on Collette and to simply say 'hello.'

Quickly, though, he learned about the issues, and he said his mind began thinking about a solution - which ended up being on

here at the office - an unused

as other users of the kitchen were sick with COVID and still coming into the space - and protocols weren't being followed either. It was a make or break moment for the cookie company that had already sold nearly 200,000 cookies worldwide. "We were at a very critical point in time because Collette had employees that didn't feel safe

That's when a move to

the first floor of his office space.

"I had an idle kitchen sitting



RSM's Chris MacKenzie, Collettey's owner Collette Divitto, RSM's Colleen Boyce and Collette's mother, Rosemary Alfredo.

resource," he said. "I said, 'Why can't we bake cookies here?' We don't know when we'll bring people back and if we do, we wanted to see how we could co-exist. We could have our lunch room and Collette could have her business operating out of here...I mentioned it to our CEO and he said he loved the idea. He wanted to do it and we just had to think through how to do it legally and the right way. Everyone came together on it and said it was the right thing to do."

Collette toured the kitchen, and an empty meeting room next to the kitchen area, and determined it was perfect.

Naturally, a new idea such as this wasn't going to happen easily, and MacKenzie said they had to reach out to State Rep. Dan Ryan to help guide them through the permitting process.

"RSM has been a great community partner and not-for-profit champion," said Ryan. "When Chris MacKenzie first reached out to me about Collettey's Cookies, I thought, 'there has to be an easy fix to this potentially great story.' It was a matter of finding the right people in the City's health permitting department to walk us through the unique circumstances presented because of COVID. I just want to thank Mayor Walsh's office and the diligent professionals at 1010 Mass Ave. for taking the time to work this through. And of course, Collette Divitto for inspiring us all."

Now, Divitto finds herself each day running back and forth in



Collette Divitto in her City Square kitchen taking out some fresh Peanut Butter cookies from the oven.

RSM, going from the kitchen to the conference room, baking cookies full-time Monday through Friday. On Monday morning, she was supervising four employees, as well as her mother, as they prepared cookie dough on the cookie sheets. She also watched over the processing of her newest line of baked goods, which are snicker-doodle types of dog treats. Other employees were bagging

cookies, tying on the labels and getting them ready for shipping.

"We have about 100 orders in a day," said Collette. "We ship all over the U.S. now. Everyone likes the cinnamon chocolate chip. They are so addictive to have. It's my best seller. We call it the 'Amazing Cookie.'"

Indeed, orders were stacked up Monday headed all over Massachusetts, but also to California, Maryland, Florida and Virginia - to name a few. And if things go through in a further partnership with RSM, she might be the beneficiary of about 13,000 orders from the compa-

(COOKIES Pg. 8)



Collette Divitto, of Collettey's Cookies, shows off her cinnamon chocolate chip cookies - dubbed the 'Amazing Cookie' - at her new City Square location in the now-vacant RSM office's cafeteria kitchen. In business since 2016, Divitto was facing a COVID crisis at her commercial kitchen location, and RSM was able to step in and provide access to their kitchen so her business could continue. Now, it could be a co-existence that continues long into the future.

Latest North End COVID update

By John Lynds

Last week the North End's cumulative COVID-19 positive test rate remained the same and the weekly positive test rate decreased slightly.

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) last Friday, overall since the pandemic started 46,55 North End, Beacon Hill, Back Bay, West End and Downtown residents have been tested for COVID-19 and the data shows that 6.2 percent of those tested were COVID positive. This was the same percentage reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

However, last week 2,689 residents were tested and 2.0 percent were positive--this was a 4.75 percentage decrease from the 2.1 percent reported by the BPHC two Fridays ago.

Citywide, 27,597 residents were tested and 3.6 percent were COVID positive--this was the same positive test rate reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

At his daily press briefing Monday Mayor Martin Walsh said that Boston's numbers have stayed below the thresholds for concern for several weeks. The number of people hospitalized continues to go down, people are getting vaccinated every day and help is on the way from the Federal government.

While Walsh said there are many reasons to be hopeful the city is still not out of the woods yet. "Everyone has to stay focused so that we don't slip backward," said Walsh. "That means: wearing a mask with a good fit, washing hands with soap and warm water, avoiding gatherings, and getting tested frequently."

The Mayor said that people who have been vaccinated should look at the CDC's guidance on activities they can do safely, which is posted on CDC.gov.

As far as the St. Patrick's Day holiday Walsh thanked the people of Boston for respecting public health guidance so far during the days leading up to the Irish Holiday and said that the City didn't have many reports of big gatherings.

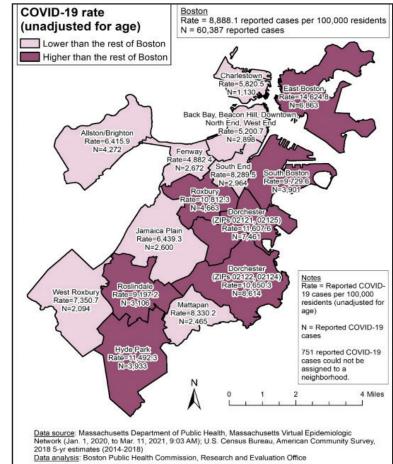
"City departments were out enforcing safety protocols at restaurants, and for the most part, everyone was in compliance," said Walsh. "No emergency Licensing Board hearings were needed this morning (Monday). We need everyone to keep it up this coming week and weekend, too. As I said last week, having a party and potentially causing an outbreak, isn't worth it. I thank everyone who continues to do their part."

The BPHC data released last Friday showed North End, Beacon Hill, Back Bay, West End and Downtown had an infection rate of 520 cases per 10,000 residents, up 2.65 percent from 506.6 cases per 10,000 residents reported two weeks ago.

An additional 75 residents became infected with the virus last week and the total number of cases in the area increased from 2,823 cases to 2,898 cases as of last Friday.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 1.95 percent percent last week and went from 59,953 cases to 61,126 confirmed cases in a week. Twenty-seven additional Boston residents died from the virus last week and there are now 1,313 total deaths in the city from COVID.



On Friday the BPHC released its weekly COVID-19 stats by neighborhood that tracks infection rates and COVID testing results in Boston neighborhoods.





Councilors Wu and Breadon call for hearing on childcare coning

Staff Report

City Councilor Michelle Wu, in partnership with City Councilor Liz Breadon, filed a hearing order last week on the city's Inclusion of Daycare Facilities zoning regulations with the aim of updating these regulations to make early education and childcare more accessible and affordable, and getting transparent answers from BPDA on existing enforcement. Boston's first Inclusion of Daycare Facilities (IDF) regulation was incorporated into the Zoning Code in 1989, requiring that buildings above a certain size threshold must either set aside space for an on-site early education facility or contribute to the creation of such facilities off-site. Similar regulations now apply in 15 districts largely in Boston's downtown area.

However, these regulations have been inconsistently enforced by the BPDA with little transparency. The neighborhoods included in the zoning regulations do not extend to some of the most developed downtown neighborhoods in Boston; moreover, workplace-based care may not be convenient for guardians with non-standard or irregular work hours, particularly given the recent shift toward more remote work. Unlike the linkage program, the IDF regulations do not create a designated fund for developer contributions, leaving the BPDA to determine the size and use of developers' financial contributions on an ad-hoc basis. Wu and Breadon called for a hearing to suggest updates to the regulation to help build and fund more childcare sites that are accessible and affordable for Boston families, and get clear answers from the city about current enforcement.

"For families with children, the pandemic has made an already said Michelle Wu. "We must recognize early education and care as critical infrastructure for our youngest learners, their families, and our economy--especially through Boston's recovery. Boston has made some strides in expanding Pre-K seats through dedicated staff and community partnerships, but it's time to simplify our patchwork system and guarantee access for all families. As a policymaker and a mom, I know the difference that city leadership will make for our families--from easing stress on working parents, to giving our youngest learners the best foundation for life, to investing in our early education and childcare workforce to create sustainable career pathways for our residents. Now is the moment for bold, urgent leadership to value early education and care as a public good."

As a working mom, Councilor Michelle Wu is intimately familiar with the challenges and gaps that families with young children in Boston face. In 2014, she became the first sitting Boston City Councilor to become pregnant and give birth--to her older son Blaise--who is now 6 years-old and a K2 student at the Sumner School. In 2017, she became the first City Council President to have a baby, when she and her family welcomed Cass (now 3 years-old, waiting in BPS K1 lottery) to the world. She has written about the juggle of being a working mom and navigating multimodal transportation as a mom, and was the lead author of Boston's Paid Parental Leave ordinance, which was signed into law in 2015 and was later highlighted by President Barack Obama in a Labor Day speech. As City Council President, she convened her colleagues to lead the charge in removing barriers to childcare access.

unbearable juggle impossible,"

This is a brief overview of construction operations and impacts for the North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project. VIBRATORY NOISE IMPACTS •A vibratory hammer is being used to install the five coffer-

dams which will be needed to build the piers of the new bridge. Installation of each cofferdam takes about two weeks.

HAMMER

•The project team has positioned a combination of hanging sound blankets and temporary barrier to minimize noise impacts from the vibratory hammer. These measures will be adjusted as needed and appropriate.

•The vibratory hammer is operated place during the day (7 a.m. - 3 p.m.)

COOKIES (from pg. 6)

ny's employees around the nation. That would be about 170,000 cookies and would take up to 45 days to fulfill. That's still in the works, but it means a whole lot of baking ahead for Collette.

That doesn't faze her though. It's a job she loves, and one she can do with people she loves as well.

"I always baked since I was four years old," she said.

"Well, back then it was more about making a mess in the kitchen and throwing flour on her brother," joked her mom, Rosemarv.

Collette laughed, and said she often has to "fire" her mother on the job, but also said she looks up to her.

"My mom is my hero also," she said.

Beyond the work and the joking, Collette and her mother have made a great combination throughout their lives. Collette was born with Down Syndrome and grew up in Connecticut. She went to school there, and her mother was always out front with her to push her to do things that required taking a chance. She attended Clemson University after high school, graduating from its three-year LIFE program in just two years. Beyond her cookies, she also has a non-profit that teaches classes like 'Pathways to Independence' and 'How to become an entrepreneur.' She has also been on numerous national news shows, and is waiting to hear if she'll be featured again on the next season of 'Born for Business.'

Real Estate Transfers

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

North Washington Street Bridge

construction look-ahead through March 20

•On Saturday, 3/13, there will

be a lane closure on Commercial

Street to make room for a work

zone near the Keany Square sec-

tion of the project site. The closure

will begin at 4 a.m. and end at 7

DESCRIPTION

•Crews will be repairing ware-

house piers and columns, install-

ing, and conducting maintenance

of silt curtains, and installing cof-

•Most work will be done during

WORK THAT HAS BEEN

OF SCHEDULED WORK

WORK HOURS

the daytime (6 a.m. - 6 p.m.)

STREET

COMMERCIAL

LANE REDUCTION

p.m.

ferdams.

COMPLETED

•Prior to 3/07/21. Cofferdam installation will be 100% complete.

TRAVEL TIPS

The westerly sidewalk, Lovejoy Wharf stairs, near Converse are open to the public with the opening of the temporary bridge, the adjacent section of the Harborwalk passing under the bridge remains closed.

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.

That show was just picked up by a major network, and Collette is waiting to hear if her City Square company will be the focus of that show's next season.

As for the days ahead, MacKenzie and Divitto feel like they've found a future in Charlestown for both companies - RSM and Collettey's.

"I think there's a lot to be said for something like this now and when we all come back," said MacKenzie. "Businesses like ours can help other businesses like Collettey's, and even organizations like Junior Achievement, and in doing so create a synergy of co-existence in the same spaces. I think it's really something to move forward with.'

PRICE

DID YOU KNOW? Recycled newspapers can be made into

cereal boxes, egg cartons, pencil barrels, grocery bags, tissue paper and many other products, including new newspapers!

BUYER 1 WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN

Carol A Hodges 2004 RET J P Rosenfield 1995 T Clements, Dina Pelzek, Ashley Nawana, Namal Szymborski, Zdzislaw J

Zandparsa, Roya Rappaport, James W Lanza RT Doran, Jean M Osoul Hldg De 3 Inc Peter J Stone IRT

2 Avery St #26G \$1,550,000 \$2,725,000 50 Battery St #308 357 Commercial St #210 \$933,333 \$530,000 480 Commercial St #4B \$3,300,000 1 Franklin St #3704 449-463 Washington St #3A \$1,075,000

ADDRESS

TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL 781-485-0588

SELLER 1

REGIONAL REVIEW

COMMUNITY NEWS

OUTDOOR DINING

Outdoor dining resumes in the North End, pending any negative change with the pandemic, will start March 22.

NEWNC ANNUAL ELECTION

Nomination papers to become a board member of NEWNC are currently available at the Nazzaro Community Center or online at newncboston.com.

Deadline to return papers is May 1. Ballot positions will be determined by the luck of the draw. There are six of twelve seats available.

Candidates must secure forty signatures of residents to be placed on the ballot.

RUFF WINTER SERIES

RUFF's winter walk series continues on March 20, April 3 and April 17. Meet at Starbucks, 2 Atlantic Avenue at 10 AM.

RSVPs are required as spots are limited for proper social distancing requirements. Masks must be worn and all dogs must be leased.

NEWNC MEETING

The next North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) monthly meeting will be held on Monday, April 12 at 7 PM. Virtual.

NEWRA MEETING

The next North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) monthly meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 8 at 7 PM. Virtual.

PARTNER OF THE MONTH

Star Market on Causeway Street has been named "Partner of the Month" by the North End/ West End Neighborhood Service Center

LANTERN 2021

Lantern 2021, a benefit event for the Old North Church and Historic Site will be held on Sunday, April 18 at 7 PM. Virtual. The annual lantern lighting will

take place at the conclusion of Lantern 2021.

For more information email development@oldnorth.com.

CONSERVANCY EXECUTIVE LEAVING

Jesse Brackenbury, Executive Director of The Greenway Conservancy will be leaving for a

new position in New York City.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY TREATS

The St. Patrick's Day feast at the North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center, 1 Michelangelo Street will not be held due to COVID-19. However, the Center still wants to celebrate safely by giving treats to seniors.

Call 617-523-8125 to see how you can help.

CANDIDATE NIGHT

NEWRA and NEWNC are planning a candidate's night with those that are possibly seeking to become Mayor of Boston. Date to be announced.

STREET CLEANING **UNDERWAY**

Street cleaning in the North End has started and will be enforced by ticketing and subject to towing.

Expired inspection stickers and vehicle registration will also be enforced.

RENEWAL OF INSPECTION STICKERS

Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles reminds customers to renew expired inspection stickers.

Almost 600,000 active vehicle registrations currently need annual emissions and safety inspections.

ANNUAL RESIDENTS LISTING

The City of Boston Election Department is conducting its annual residents' sensors with mailings sent to households.

Boston residents age 17 and older are asked to complete the census form for each household.

AMERICAN HERITAGE PARK FULL OF DESIGN

American Heritage Park on The Greenway is full of innovative designs that features things for viewing.

The Abstract Sculpture, a split Rhomboid, a reflecting pool that washes over the inside and reemerges as a single jet of water at the Labvrinth's Center.

The Labyrinth, a circling winding path paved in grass and inlaid stone, art, service, science and commerce are etched around its circle.

CITY NOT TICKETING EXPIRED DISABILITY PLACARDS/PLATES

The Boston Transportation Department will not ticket expired disability placards/plates if they expired during the public health emergency, given potential challenges for people to renew at this time.

The Registry is only processing request for disability placards/ plates by mail.

RUFF VIRTUAL EVENTS

Upcoming RUFF events: • April-Play along with the virtual Easter Egg Hunt for a chance to win a prize.

NEAA BASEBALL REGISTRATION

The North End Athletic Association (NEAA) has opened registration for the 2021 baseball season for youth ages four to fifteen.

Program includes clinics, Majors and the Dodgers team.

For more information visit www.neaabaseball.com.

FREE TAX HELP

Residents that earn \$57,000 or less per year can receive free tax assistance preparation through the Boston Tax Help Coalition.

Qualified residents must call 311 or visit www.bostontaxhelp. org for appointment.

OLD NORTH PRESENTS WOMEN'S HISTORY

Celebrate Women's History Month with a special program presented by the Old North Church on Wednesday, March 24 at 6:30 PM.

Learn about the unique ways women of Boston influenced and shaped the world around them throughout the centuries. A onehour program.

Free tickets with donation.

Mayor's Cup Street Hockey **Tournament starts April 20**

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department will host the 2021 Mayor's Cup Street Hockey Tournament in partnership with the Boston Bruins Foundation during the April public school vacation week.

"We're looking forward to getting our young hockey stars back outdoors to compete for the title of 'Boston's Best' in the Mayor's Cup Tournament," said Mayor Walsh. "We thank the Boston Bruins for their continued partnership and support and wish this year's players all the best of luck."

The Tournament will begin April 20 and continue through the school vacation week. All games will be played at Joseph Moakley Park at 1005 Columbia Road in South Boston.

Additional support is provided by P&G Gillette. Teams will compete in two regions in Mite (ages 6 to 8), Squirt (ages 9 to 10), and Pee Wee (ages 11 and 12) divisions. Please note that pre-registration for teams is required with a limit of eight teams per regional division.

All Massachusetts hockey standard procedures will be followed with added Mayor's Cup COVID-19 policies: masks are mandatory at all times; teams are limited to one game per day; no sharing of equipment; players will arrive 10 minutes before their games; benches will be sanitized between games; teams will be asked each day to provide names and phone numbers for contact tracing; and Mayor's Cup staff will be on site to ensure sure all protocols are followed.

To register or for more information, please contact Damien Margardo at damien.margardo@ boston.gov or call (617) 961-3083.

LEGAL NOTICE COMMONWEALTH **OF MASSACHUSETTS** THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 TRUST CITATION Docket No. SU20P2156P0 Alma B. Bolger Trust In the matter of: To all interested persons: A Petition has been filed by: Rebecca B. Small of Boston MA The Petitioner requests the Court do the following: 1. To prepare and distribute to the beneficiaries of the Trust an Inventory of the Trust's assets as of January 1, 2017 no later than

for the period from January 1, 2017 to the present no later than thirty (30) days following service of this General Petition upon the Trustee, Katherine K. Bolger. 3. To cause the real property held by the Trust located at Unit 70-5, 68-70 Phillips Street, Boston, MA as described in a deed recorded at the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds at Book 21018 Page 260 to be placed on the market for sale at a value not less than its current assessed value by the City of Boston no later than thirty (30) days following service of this General Petition upon the Trustee, Katherine K. Bolger with a licensed real estate broker and the listing for such sale to be posted on the Multiple Listing Service. Following such sale to have the net proceeds thereof distributed in equal 1/3

shares among the beneficiaries of the Trust within ten (10) days following such sale.

4. To provide the Petitioner with copies of the Trust's fiduciary tax returns for tax years 2017, 2018 and 2019 no later than thirty (30) days following service of this General Petition upon1 the Trustee, Katherine K. Bolger. 5. To order that the Trustee, Katherine K. Bolger, to redress her breach of trust by paying money, restoring property or other means to the beneficiaries as allowed by MGL c. 203E § 1001. 6. To order that the Trustee,

following her Accounting as sought herein to make a full distribution of the Trust assets in equal one-third (1/3) shares within thirty (30) days of the acceptance / allowance of said accounts by either the beneficiaries and/or this Court.

7. To order that the Trustee, Katherine K. Bolger, reimburse the Petitioner for her reasonable attorney fees and costs for having to bring this Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or our attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 04/14/2021.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection by an Affidavit or Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you. Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: March 03, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate 3/18/2021 RR

LEGAL NOTICE the beneficiaries of the Trust an Account of the Trust's activities as required by Article IX (D) of the Trust as well as MGL c. 203E § 813

thirty (30) days following service of this General Petition upon the Trustee, Katherine K. Bolger; 2. To prepare and distribute to

IF YOU MISSED US AT YOUR FAVORITE STORE

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WWW.NORTHENDREGIONALREVIEW.COM



Community chips in for senior

The North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center cel-ebrated a special Valentine's Day for seniors of the neighborhood. Many people, businesses and organizations contributed to the

patitik, whole roots Market, Pizzeria Regina, Antico Forno, LaFamiglia Giorgios, North End Rehabilitation and Health Center

applications being accepted



said Jeffrey. "And not to only our children but to our friends as well. My uncle Steven said it best; "Gerald was his blessing". But 1 also take it that all of you, were blessed to have known and loved him as well. Dad was the hardest working. faithful, compassionate nim as well. Dad was the hardest working, faithful, compassionate person that I have known. And by person that I have known. And by the amount of people that are here today, and by the number of texts, (JERRY, Pg. 7)



FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS IN THE **NEIGHBORHOOD**

Andrea Campbell releases transportation plan to create 15-minute neighborhoods

Boston City Councilor and mayoral candidate Andrea Campbell released a comprehensive plan build a safe, sustainable, multi-modal transportation network in Boston to support a more equitable future and green economy. Campbell's plan details strategies to create 15-minute neighborhoods throughout Boston, safe streets that build social connectivity and cohesion, an equitable public transit system that expands access to economic opportunity and addresses the disproportionate impact of fossil-fuel pollution on low-income communities, and a city-wide bike network that connects all neighborhoods.

"Boston has an historic opportunity to rebuild and reimagine our city's transportation system with safe and well-connected streets, better buses, and less traffic and air pollution," said Councilor Campbell. "This plan takes an equitable, people-centered approach to transportation so that we can ensure all Bostonians have access to what they need within a 15-minute trip from their doorstep, reduce traffic and congestion on our streets, support economic mobility by building a more reliable, affordable, accessible public transit system, and improve health and safety on every street in every neighborhood."

Campbell's plan details six key

strategies:

Build a City of 15-min-1. ute Neighborhoods. With city-led investments, intentional zoning, and mixed-use transit-oriented development, residents can have everything they need - grocery stores, schools, parks, small businesses - within 15 minutes of their doorsteps. Andrea will expand planning capacity and accelerate project implementation for building safer neighborhood streets for all users; immediately implement inexpensive traffic calming measures like daylighting intersections; invest in street projects that serve to connect our neighborhoods, prioritize communal gathering, build social connectivity and cohesion, and increase economic activity; and expand pilot programs that open streets to people, support our local restaurants and nightlife, and create place-making events like community block parties.

Make the Bus Work 2. Better For Bostonians. Andrea will work with State leaders, other municipalities, and the private sector to make local buses free for passengers, a move that will make bus routes more efficient, enable low-income workers to save more, and attract new riders to one of the most cost-effective modes of transit. She will expand bus rapid transit, dedicated bus lanes, and signal prioritization to make commutes

shorter and more reliable; work with the MBTA to transition our bus fleet to electric and decrease emissions especially along routes in communities of color, and accelerate the bus network redesign to expand bus service along key corridors and new routes to regional iob centers.

Embrace Technology 3. and Innovation to Lead a Just Transition. Andrea will expand training programs to ensure city residents have access to the green jobs of the future; ensure entrepreneurs of color have the career experiences, networks, and access to capital to be able to participate fully in these high-growth sectors in the green economy; and ensure businesses owned by women and people of color have access to city contracts for construction. Andrea will lead efforts to regulate Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) so that they play a more constructive role in the transportation ecosystem and reduce congestion; expand access to electric vehicle charging; and electrify the City's vehicle fleet, including our school buses.

Build Connected, Low-4. Stress Opportunities for Biking. Boston needs a city-wide connected bike network that is safe, includes protected lanes, and is attractive to all riders, including children, families, and older adults. Andrea will accelerate the construction of bike facilities to meet this goal by 2030, partner with labor unions to create more jobs for neighborhood residents during construction, and expand programming for anyone interested in learning how to bike, including in Boston Public Schools, that reduces cost barriers to biking and encourages biking in Black and brown neighborhoods. She will also work with State government to legalize e-scooters, e-bikes, and other small electric mobility devices that give residents additional, affordable transit options for short trips.

5. Become the Commonwealth's Leading Advocate for MBTA Improvements. Andrea will set a clear vision for the future of Boston's transit system, fight for riders, and push the MBTA to ensure that the public transportation system serving Boston, particularly communities of color, receives the investment it needs. She will work with State and Federal officials to transform our "commuter" rail network into a regional rail network that meets the needs of a 21st century economy, including electrification of the Fairmount Line, a standard subway fare for all Boston stops, and more frequent service; build a cohesive vision for water transportation between Boston's neighborhoods; and support

efforts to raise revenue for investments in transportation through the Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI). Andrea will also ensure Boston has a dedicated seat on the new MBTA Board and MassDOT Board of Directors.

6. Lead Comprehensive and Equitable Regional Planning and Investment. In addition to MBTA. Andrea will partner closely with DCR and Massport in crafting and executing her vision of more equitable planning and development processes for State roadways and transit projects in Boston, including by centering the I-90 redesign on Allston and transit, completing the Red-Blue Line connection, and expanding access to our rail network with stops in neighborhoods underserved by rapid transit.

Over the last several weeks, Campbell has also released a comprehensive environmental justice plan, public safety and criminal justice plan, education plan, economic recovery plan, and three public health plans, including a COVID-19 recovery plan and a plan to address the crisis at Mass & Cass. Over the next few weeks. Campbell will release more of her policy platform, including plans on housing, good government, equity and more.

\$11 million investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades Boston completes

Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced the completion of the first phase of Renew Boston Trust, the City of Boston's initiative to invest in energy efficiency and renewable energy measures for municipal buildings. The first phase of the \$45 million investment spans 14 City-owned buildings, including libraries, community centers, police and fire stations, and helps reduce energy use, save money, and reduce city-emitted greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change.

"Climate change is one of the biggest challenges of our lifetimes, and the City of Boston must lead by example in our commitment to building healthier, sustainable, and more equitable communities," said Mayor Walsh. "The Renew Boston Trust is a smart, forward-thinking program for the City of Boston, and allows us to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that pollute our neighborhoods and further climate change."

The first phase includes dozens of completed energy-saving projects at 14 City-owned buildings throughout Boston, which are estimated to save approximately \$680,000 in the first year alone. Investments include efficient lighting and water fixtures, HVAC equipment replacements, building management systems to improve operations, and installation of solar panels. This first phase is projected to reduce municipal greenhouse gas emissions by one percent, and grow in impact over time, which improves air quality, creates healthier buildings, and reduces carbon emissions to get the city closer to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

"In Boston, buildings account for nearly 70 percent of the emissions that contribute to climate change. The Renew Boston Trust not only makes our buildings more comfortable for employees and visitors, but allows us to re-invest additional savings from these energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades into resiliency measures across the city to build stronger and healthier neighborhoods across Boston," said Chris Cook, Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space.

The first phase of Renew Boston Trust was completed with the installation of carports

at the Boston Police Department Headquarters. On top of these carports are 707 solar modules that reduce the amount of power the building draws from the grid, produce about 242,000 kWh annually, and save \$6,000 in its first vear. Solar PV installations were also made at the BCYF Roslindale Community Center and the BCYF Tobin Community Center. Each building is guaranteed between \$4,000-\$6,000 in savings the first year, with more anticipated over the 20 year contract.

"By using a self-funded financing model with guaranteed savings, the Renew Boston Trust program saves the City money and helps us to achieve our climate goals," said Emme Handy, Chief Financial Officer. "Generating \$32 million in proceeds, the City issued its first series of green bonds in December to finance projects such as the first two phases of Renew Boston Trust. We are pleased that the sale of green bonds achieved a three basis point pricing differential, the largest and most definitive pricing benefit to date for municipal green bonds." Mayor

Walsh formally

announced his plans for Renew Boston Trust with a \$11 million investment in the FY19 budget. The upgrades are made through an energy savings performance contract, a proven self-funded financing model that guarantees energy and cost savings. The savings within the City's operating budget from more energy efficient buildings pays for the financing of the work. With additional savings, the City plans to re-invest in resiliency measures. The next phase of Renew Boston Trust is investing nearly \$20 million of energy conservation measures across 31 cityowned buildings.

Projects have been completed at the following City of Boston buildings:

•Boston Public Library - Copley Branch

•Boston Police Department Headquarters

•Boston Police Department A15 •Boston Police Department D4

•BCYF Tobin Community Center

•BCYF Flaherty Pool

As indicated in the 2019 Climate Action Plan update, Boston's roadmap for reaching its goals of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050 and preparing our infrastructure and communities for the impacts of climate change, the City of Boston has taken bold and necessary action to lead by example. On top of investing in our existing buildings and use of City assets like parking lots to deploy renewable energy, in 2019 Mayor Walsh signed an executive order requiring all new municipal buildings (schools, libraries, community centers) will target a net-zero standard. In order to provide high quality, safe, and cleaner affordable housing to our most vulnerable residents, the City of Boston offered \$30 million to support the creation of new affordable housing built to net-zero standards. Climate Ready Boston is simultaneously strengthening Boston's climate change resilience and adaptation with near- and long-term planning through neighborhood-level engagement and solutions. For more information on how Boston is actively preparing for the impacts of climate change and advancing the vision of a resilient city, visit boston.gov/ environment.

SCHOOL (from pg. 1)

ant part of the day today will be joy – joyful learning and joyful social-emotional healing for all of us," said Griffith. "The first thing we'll do is just let them greet each other in-person and talk to each other."

Teachers were vaccinated over the weekend for the Eliot School, as well as the Harvard Kent and Warren Prescott, at a vaccine clinic sponsored by NEW Health in Charlestown and the North End. Besides that, some teachers were able to be vaccinated at the BPS vaccine site in Mattapan. That has contributed to a better feeling of safety and ease for teachers, Griffith said, as they embark on a new way of teaching kids in front of them live and kids that have remained home on Zoom.

As Griffith and her staff moved inside from the cold to have a socially-distanced rally to start the first day back, she said the highlight for her were the smiles and



Head of School Kiki Moschella.

joy.

"This really was joyful," she said. "You can see the children's' smiles in their eyes. For some kids, they have never been inside the building. There are seventh-graders and fifth-graders here today who never entered our building until now and only knew us through Zoom. I'm so happy for them."



Teachers from the 5th grade cohort were extremely happy to be back in school with students. Celebrating just before the start of the day were Allie Chester, Nurse Danielle McDonough, Jen DiSarcena, Sarrah Lipo, Lauren Piccariello, Dia Riegler, and Mika Solo. They are joined by Eliot K-8 Principal Traci Walker Griffith.



Emma Hudson and Ella Zaccarias headed to fifth grade.



Crossing guards were stationed at Keaney Square in the North End and City Square in Charlestown for students walking to school.



Declan Madden was excited to head into school on Monday.

THE CITY OF BOSTON CAN HELP YOU

save money on your water and sewer bill.

Boston Water and Sewer Commission now provides **seniors and disabled homeowners** a 30% discount on the sewer portion of their monthly bill to go with the 30% discount on water. New discount automatically applied to those already signed up. Are you eligible but don't presently get a discount? Call **617-989-7800** to get signed up.





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