



THE NORTH END

REGIONAL REVIEW

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CASA MARIA CELEBRATES ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Derek Kouyoumjian photo



Casa Maria celebrated St. Patrick's Day in their community room with a meal of corned beef, cabbage, and boiled vegetables. Shown, Massachusetts State Rep Aaron Michlewitz connects with Casa Maria residents. See Pages 6 and 7 for more photos.

North End restaurants suing Mayor Wu over outdoor dining

By Phil Orlandella

As expected, several North End restaurant owners are suing Boston Mayor Michelle Wu over her decision to postpone street outdoor dining in the area, claiming it discriminates against white Italians.

The group claims the new policy is unfair and not inclusive by specifically targeting restaurants in the North End.

Restaurant owners say the rules in the North End have been more restrictive than in any other part of Boston

Last year, the group filed suit

over the \$7,500 permit fees levied by the city and currently they are angry that they will not be allowed to have street outdoor dining on North End streets.

"The policy isn't discriminatory and is instead citing safety concerns including congestion in the North End," Mayor Wu reportedly said.

Mayor Wu has announced the formation of a task force to study outdoor dining in Boston.

One resident opposed to street outdoor dining said, "When the mayor supported outdoor dining for the past several years, despite heavy opposition, she was discriminating then."

Coletta announces Budget Town Halls

Special to the Regional Review

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta is hosting a series of Budget Town Halls in District 1 to speak with constituents about budget priorities in the City's upcoming fiscal year 2024 budget. Translation, "As we approach the budget season, I'm eager to hear community feedback on budget priorities for the fiscal year 2024. These budget town halls will be an opportunity for residents of District 1 to learn more about Boston's budget process and directly advocate their concerns and priorities for the upcoming budget cycle with me. I look forward to seeing and hearing from many community members," said Councilor Gabriela Coletta.

The Budget Town Halls will

take place on the following dates.

- East Boston Budget Town Hall on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 6pm at the East Boston Police Station, Community Room, 300 E Eagle St.

- North End Budget Town Hall on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 6pm at the Nazzaro Community Center, 30 N. Bennet St.

- Immigrant Population Budget Town Hall on Saturday, March 25, 2023 at 10am at East Boston Public Library, Community Room, 365 S Bremen St.

- Charlestown Budget Town Hall on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 6pm at Knights of Columbus, 545 Medford Street.

- Youth Budget Town Hall on Saturday, April 1, 2023 at 10am at BCYF Charlestown, 255 Medford Street.

Outdoor dining continues to be a hot topic

Staff Report

The continuing debate on the city's outdoor dining is still a hot topic for many as was demonstrated at the NEWRA meeting that was held March 9 at the Nazzaro

Community Center.

Local residents applauded the regulations that will severely limit the number of outdoor dining establishments on the sidewalks in the North End. "I am glad that we do not have it this year," said

Darlene Romano, adding, "the quality of life was going down the tubes. we want a normal neighborhood."

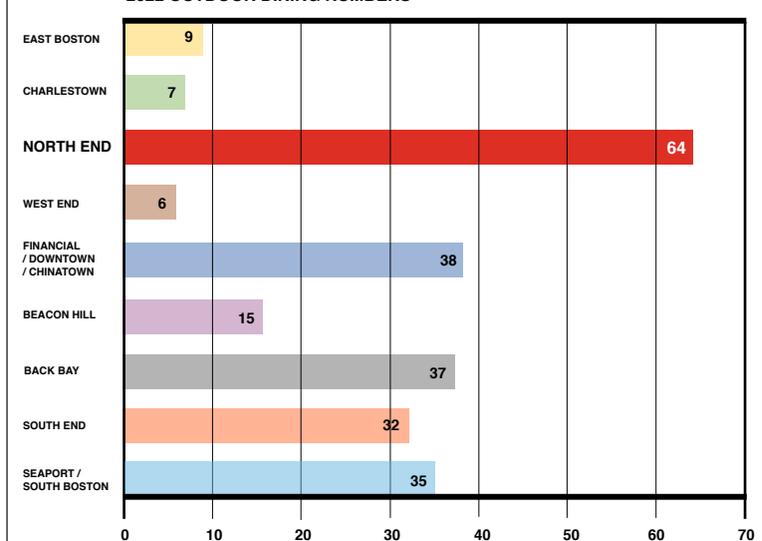
One resident pointed out that last year neighborhoods like East Boston had nine dining establishments taking part in outdoor dining while the North End had 64 dining establishments.

"This is not only about parking," said another resident, "but about safety." He then showed pictures of double-parked trucks that made driving and walking across Hanover Street very treacherous.

A restaurant owner and resident noted that he believes the present population of the North End is about 10,000, while in the 1970's there were more than 32,000 people in the same neighborhood. He used these numbers when residents

(NEWRA Pg. 2)

2022 OUTDOOR DINING NUMBERS



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NEWRA (from pg. 1)

pointed to current congestion on neighborhood streets.

Also on the agenda, in an unanimous vote, NEWRA members voted to send a letter to the Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC) “to seek additional information to pursue the completion of the Historic District designation process,” that was started by a group of residents in the 1980’s, but was never completed at that time.

Also in the letter that was sent to the BLC (see below), there was a request for a 90 day Demolition

Delay for the building at 149 Salem Street. If the designation as a Historic District were approved, demolition applications would need to be considered differently. According to Dave Kubiak, this could be one of the oldest wood frame buildings in Boston. Construction on the building is believed to have taken place around 1795 and the building has always been an apothecary. The application filed by the owners seeks to raze the building and with the new construction increase the

height from 40 feet to 55 feet and have a mixed use purpose.

The monthly meeting agenda included several updates, an update on the Summer Tunnel schedule change of closure, and a report by the North End Historical Society relating to turning the North End into a historic district.

The next NEWRA monthly public meeting will be held on Thursday, April 13 at 6:30 PM at the Nazzaro Community Center on North Bennett Street. Agenda to be announced.

NEWRA LETTER SENT TO THE BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION

The following is the letter sent to Chelsea Blanchard, Architect, Boston Landmarks Commission, Office of Historic Preservation by NEWRA:

Dear Ms. Blanchard:

North End/Waterfront Residents’ Association (NEWRA) submits the following comments on the Landmarks Commission’s demolition delay review for the building at 149 Salem Street/ 71 Prince Street in the North End:

- NEWRA and the North End Historical Society (NEHS) became aware just a month ago that the Landmarks Commission had conducted a Study Report in the 1980’s from which the Commission determined that the North End is eligible for Historic District designation.

In response to this information, NEWRA and NEHS held a joint meeting in the North End on February 20, 2022. The 25 meeting attendees, mostly North End residents, unanimously voted to seek additional information to pursue the completion of the Historic District designation process. Immediate action items include setting up a meeting with the Landmarks Commission’s staff and obtaining copies of the 1980’s North End petition and the Commission’s Study Report, neither of which we could find on the Commission’s website.

- NEWRA and NEHS also recently learned that the Landmarks Commission had received an application for demolition of the building at 149 Salem Street, on the corner of Salem and Prince streets. The Commission subsequently issued a determination that the building is historically significant and requested “alternatives to demolition” documentation from the property owner. Further decisions in the Commission’s demolition review should consider the building’s historic significance in the context of potential North End Historic District designa-

tion and the contribution of the building to the historic significance of the district.

- We thank you for recently providing information on the historic significance of the

149 Salem/71 Prince building. According to historical surveys completed by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (BOS.ACO and BOS.5432 on MACRIS Maps (mhc-macris.net)), it is thought to be the oldest surviving wood frame building in the North End. Construction is believed to have occurred on or before 1795, and the land plot is mentioned in deed records as early as 1739. Upon visual inspection, old clapboards and a corner board can be seen behind the 20th Century shingles, and the visible old wood siding matches up with historic photos of the building. MHC’s survey form mentions, “The oldest building in the area is the four-story, wood-frame, flat-roofed block at 71 Prince Street, which occupies the northeast corner of the Salem Street-Prince Street intersection.” The building also has significance for its historical use (Robert Fennelly, Apothecary, Dec 30, 1797; Henry D. Fowle, Apothecary – Roma Pharmacy (BOS.5432). See attached obituaries.

- NEWRA hopes to learn from the Landmarks Commission’s continuing review what may be feasible alternatives to demolition, including whether the historically significant building can be preserved in a potential redesign of the mixed-use new construction project presented in plans submitted with the application, can be otherwise renovated by the owner, or can be purchased by another party for historical renovation.

- NEWRA also would like to understand how the potential risks and impacts of demolition and new construction may be mitigated through the Landmarks Commission’s demolition delay review and decision-making. In May 2019, NEWRA held a meeting on the property owner’s appeal for zoning relief to construct a new mixed-use building that would replace the existing 149 Salem Street/71 Prince Street building. NEWRA members raised concern about public health (e.g., potential asbestos and other hazardous material removal) and public safety risks during demolition and new construction. NEWRA requested that the owner make available its demolition plan and construction management plan for community review and discussion. No such plans have yet been submitted by the owner.

- In addition, NEWRA members raised concern that the massing of the new mixed-use building, and in particular the proposed corner bump-outs (bays) on floors 3 through 6, would encroach into and partially obstruct historic views up Salem Street toward the

Old North Church (see attached rendering) and down Prince Street toward Hanover Street. These streets and the intersection are themselves historically significant (Salem-Prince Streets Area, MHC ID: BOS.ACO).

We thank the Landmarks Commission in advance for consideration of these comments, and we look forward to continuing to participate in the Commission’s review.

Sincerely,

**Cheryl Delgreco, President
NEWRA**

Council hearing on climate change

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta, Councilor-At-Large Ruthzee Louijeune, and City Councilor Kendra Lara will be hosting a hearing to establish a climate change and environmental justice curriculum in Boston Public Schools to be held in the City Council Committee on Education.

“As Boston continues to see the growing effects of climate change, we need to work on finding and adopting solutions that support our vulnerability and help us with Boston’s climate resilience goals. While having these conversations, it is also essential that our students and younger generations understand why there is an urgency and how they can get involved in these efforts,” said Councilor Coletta. “I look forward to the conversation to ensure Boston Public Schools has the resources to support our teachers and students, so our future generations are educated and prepared to become conscious citizens.”

The Councilors understand the urgency in addressing the effects of climate change in a coastal city like Boston, the implications solutions would have on environmental justice communities, and the importance of centering residents and especially young people in the collaborative efforts.

“Climate justice can and should be a crucial part of our student’s education throughout their years in our school systems, especially as Boston is a coastal city. Our students’ education should be about real life challenges that we are all grappling with in real time and our curriculum must adjust with these changes,” said Councilor Louijeune.

The Councilors seek to bring together community groups and organizations and Boston Public School teachers and administrators to discuss establishing an environmental justice curriculum while ensuring that Boston Public Schools are prepared to support teachers in the development of the program and students in learning.

“Young people will be navigating the realities of climate change in their communities first-hand. If we want to develop citizens who are deeply invested in protecting our people and our planet, this is where we start, with a curriculum that not only builds their understanding but positions them to become leaders in the field,” said Councilor Lara.

Highlights of the Order Include:

“WHEREAS, By 2030, sea level is projected to rise by 0.6 to 1.1 feet above 2000 levels. By 2070, some projections estimate a rise in sea level of 2.3 to 4.2 feet over 2000 levels. Sea level rise combined with more intense hurricanes and winter storms present a serious threat to people residing in coastal areas of Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, Climate change is a pertinent part of our lives, and particularly our children’s lives who will have to deal with the bulk of climate change consequences. Yet, climate change-related to; and

WHEREAS, In 2021. An Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy, also known as the 2050 Roadmap bill, was codified into Massachusetts state law. While the primary goal of the bill is to create a net-zero greenhouse gas emission limit in Massachusetts by 2050, the law also highlights environmental justice as a necessary tenet of the state’s climate policy. This specific amendment is pertinent to Boston Public School students who often live in communities most vulnerable to environmental disasters; and

WHEREAS, Recently, a study analyzed publicly available documents from boards of education and state education departments across the U.S. and ranked Massachusetts in the lowest tier — along with most of the country— with “very low” inclusion of climate change-related content in state requirements; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has a key opportunity to close the gaps within environmental education and develop a climate change curriculum for all public schools. Community resources and partnerships are readily available to address this need; and

WHEREAS, Our obligation is to foster a school environment that produces conscious citizens who understand the severity of the climate catastrophe. Additionally, it is vital to educate the next generation of leaders and to prepare them for professional opportunities that contribute to this fight;”

The Boston City Council will hold a hearing on Tuesday, March, 14th at 2pm virtually via Zoom. This hearing will be held under the Education Committee, chaired by Councilor-At-Large Julia Mejia. Members of the public are encouraged to provide written or oral comments.

OPINION By Phil Orlandella

TASK FORCE STUDY MAY DETERMINE THE FUTURE OF STREET OUTDOOR DINING

North End residents affected by street outdoor dining, have dealt with the negative effects of the program, that has taken place in their neighborhood for years are pleased the city has postponed the program for 2023.

Restaurant owners were obviously disappointed by the decision, claiming it was an unfair decision. Legal action has been taken.

Postponement of street outdoor dining is currently only for the 2023 season, until a city appointed task force study will possibly result in a determination of the future of street outdoor dining, once and for all.

Currently, the Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion (OEOI) manages outdoor dining throughout the city but can only authorize the sidewalk or private property permitting, not street dining.

Maybe, just maybe, the study will resolve this issue, putting this issue to rest.

NEWRA supports Sail Loft outdoor dining

By Phil Orlandella

A request by Sail Loft, 80 Atlantic Avenue on the Waterfront for a permanent outdoor dining permit was supported by the North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) at the community group's March 9 public monthly meeting at the

RUFF CONTINUES TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Responsible Urbanites For Fido (RUFF), a non-profit community volunteer organization, made up of North End dog owners, continues to provide information, attends and conducts public meetings and events to help keep the neighborhood clean and healthy.

RUFF provides notices to local dog owners that it is important to pick up and clean up after their pets, to avoid public parks and malls and to keep their pets on a leash.

Back in 2017, Ruff played a key role in the development of the dog park in DeFilippo Playground (Gassy) and still helps maintain and manage the dog park, where the animals can relieve themselves and owners can pick up after them. The dogs can also be unleashed so they can run around, get exercise and play with other dogs.

RUFF's efforts and concerns help keep the community healthy and clean, and deserves recognition for being a good neighbor.

Nazzaro Community Center.

The request allows Sail Boston to set up tables and chairs for dining on the sidewalk next to the business without affecting any parking or obstruction of any bike lanes.

The Mayor's Office of Economics Opportunity and Inclusion (OEOI) which manages

Brooklyn fugitive charged in February murder of 75-year-old West End man

A prosecutor said on Tuesday, March 14, that a fugitive from Brooklyn entered the West End apartment of a 75-year-old man last month, slashed the man's throat, ate his food, slept on his couch, and then left in the morning, leaving the body to be discovered during a well-being check later that day, according to a press release from Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden's office.

Dion Pelzer, 30, has been charged in the Central Division of Boston Municipal Court with murder and a fugitive from justice charge out of New York. Judge Tracy-Lee Lyons ordered Pelzer held without bail. Pelzer will return to court April 12 for a pre-trial hearing.

Pelzer has a warrant out of Brooklyn for a Jan. 23 knife assault which left the victim with numerous slash wounds.

Assistant District Attorney Ursula Knight, chief of the Suffolk County District Attorney Civil Rights/High-Risk Victim's Unit, said video surveillance

shows Pelzer enter the secured apartment building at 65 Martha Road behind a resident at about 9:30 p.m. on February 15. Pelzer took an elevator to the 11th floor, where video shows him attempting to enter numerous apartments. He then took the elevator down to the 10th floor before returning to the 11th floor to continue testing doors.

The victim, David MacDonald, often left his door unlocked so neighbors and Good Samaritan services such as Meals on Wheels America could bring food without him having to get up and open the door, Knight said.

Knight said Pelzer entered MacDonald's apartment and slashed his throat. Pelzer then ate MacDonald's food and slept on his couch.

At about 8:40 a.m. the next day, neighbors knocked on MacDonald's door, which was closed and locked, and received no response. Surveillance video shows Pelzer leaving the building at about 9:13 a.m. Pelzer stole MacDonald's wallet, credit cards, and keys,

Knight said.

After investigating surveillance footage and other evidence, authorities issued a warrant for Pelzer's arrest on Friday, March 10. On Monday, March 13, Boston police responded to a disturbance at Tufts Medical Center and detained a man, later identified as Pelzer.

"Everything about this case is terrifying, from this man surreptitiously entering a secured residential building, to his testing the doors on numerous units, and, ultimately, to his brutal killing of Mr. MacDonald and his remaining in the apartment with the body until the next morning. This is a tragic reminder of how important it is to be alert to a non-resident attempting to slip into a locked building behind you," Suffolk District Attorney Hayden said in press release.

All charged individuals are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Community Groups claim 700-foot tower a real project

By Phil Orlandella

While there is clearly no letter of intent filed with the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA), two local community groups are claiming a developer is proposing a 700-foot-high skyscraper within the triangle of Causeway, North Washington and Medford Streets according to North End Waterfront Residents Association (NEWRA) member Dave Kubiak.

The proposal, currently the site of 251 Causeway Street, 100 and 126 North Washington Street in Keaney Square, the entrance to the North End and West End

from the North Washington Street Bridge according to the West End Civic Association (WECA) and (NEWRA) that claims this is a real proposal that started in 2022.

Back then, the group claims that developer RMR Group met with BPDA, the Downtown North Association and others and discussed the possibility of this proposal and last month the developer met with District 8 Boston City Counselor Kenzie Bok as well.

Since then, NEWRA and WECA have requested information relating to the proposal from BPDA Director Arthur Jemison and have met with Councillor Gabriela Coletta expressing their concerns.

outdoor dining on sidewalks and private property needs to approve the Sail Loft proposal.

NEWRA also supported a request by Bencotto Restaurant, 357-361 Hanover Street (formally Fiore's) to increase the new eatery's seating capacity from 49 to 60 patrons, an additional 11 seats, requiring no construction.

WECA and NEWRA contend the project will create more traffic in Keaney Square, a more dangerous pedestrian crossway for schoolchildren, tourists and residents.

They also claim there will be more shadows over the neighborhood, waterfront parks and recreational facilities.

The project would set a precedent for future height development along North Washington Street, placing a towel where there are new historic brick buildings and green scapes according to the two community groups. The project will cause degradation of the historic Bulfinch Triangle.

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EDITORIAL

COVID-19: STILL A MAJOR THREAT FOR SENIORS

President Biden declared recently that the COVID-19 pandemic officially will be over in May, but in our view, that is just wishful thinking.

In January, the number of COVID-related deaths fell after a holiday spike, but nevertheless numbered about 2,100 among those ages 65 to 74, more than 3,500 among 75- to 84-year-olds, and nearly 5,000 among those over 85. If you add up those numbers, more than 10,000 Americans over the age of 65 died from COVID-19 in January, accounting for about 90 percent of the nation's COVID deaths that month.

To be sure, this is a much-smaller number than we experienced during the height of the pandemic, but 10,000 deaths per month among America's senior citizens is still a huge number and there is no indication that those numbers will be declining.

The desire of President Biden and the American people to put the pandemic behind us is understandable, but it is dishonest to do so when so many of our senior citizens are succumbing to this disease.

For the first time in decades, life expectancy in the U.S. has declined over the past three years and continues to do so. The statistics make clear that our nation's senior citizens are especially vulnerable to COVID-19.

But unless our federal government and all of us take steps to ensure that our seniors are protected, older Americans will continue to die in unacceptable numbers.

SAFE CONSUMPTION SITES ARE THE ONLY WAY TO STEM THE TIDE OF DRUG OVERDOSES

The so-called War on Drugs, which began in the administration of Richard Nixon, has been ongoing in America for more than 50 years.

Putting aside the fact that Nixon began his war on drugs primarily as a means for incarcerating Black and brown Americans (especially for simple marijuana possession), the War on Drugs has failed by every metric imaginable.

We spend roughly five times as much incarcerating people with substance use disorders as it would cost us to treat them, and the return on that expenditure has been meager at best.

The economy loses an estimated one trillion dollars per year (about five percent of G.D.P.) in lost productivity, health care costs, and criminal justice expenditures, among other things.

More ominously, thanks to the recent wave of an opioid crisis that was initiated by our legal drug industry and our faulty regulatory apparatus, more than 100,000 Americans, an all-time high, died from drug overdoses last year. Life expectancy is declining in the United States for the first time in generations largely as a result.

Drug use is soaring and drugs being purchased on our streets are more lethal than ever thanks to the introduction of fentanyl into just about every type of pill and powder that is manufactured and sold by drug dealers, for whom fentanyl is cheaper to produce and easier to transport than heroin. Fentanyl is so potent that a typical car trunk filled with fentanyl would be enough to kill every single American.

Think about that figure for a moment -- and you realize that trying to interdict fentanyl shipments, wherever they might originate, is a game only for fools.

However, there is a solution to this problem which has been used in Portugal and Switzerland for almost two decades: The time has come for our society to treat substance abuse like a public health crisis. We need to repeal outdated laws that push too many people into jails and prisons and not enough into recovery; invest in treatment so that those who want and need help can get it; and replace abstinence-based policies with ones grounded in reality in order to minimize the worst effects of drug abuse.

This would include providing users with clean needles so that they don't contract or spread H.I.V. or hepatitis C and giving them overdose reversal medications like naloxone.

However, the most significant step we can take is to promote supervised consumption, which is standard in Portugal and Switzerland, so that if users overdose, they don't die. Supervised consumption programs also entail assisting drug-dependent persons with receiving access to housing and basic medical and mental health care so that they can live in relative stability even when they are not abstinent.

In short, we need to replace the futile goal of eradication with the concept of what is known as harm reduction.

Yes, we realize that some people adamantly are opposed to this point of view. But given that their solution has a proven track record of five-decades of failure, we suggest that a different way of looking at the problem of drug abuse in our country is worth trying.

GUEST OP-ED

Silicon Valley Bank and your life savings

Dr. Glenn Mollette

If you have worked hard and saved money all your life you may have over \$250,000 in a bank. Or, maybe one of these days you might if you keep working and saving.

You most likely know that only \$250,000 of your money is federally insured. In other words, if you bank fails you might lose any amount above \$250,000. Let's say you have one half million in your bank. The assets of the bank would eventually be liquidated. If enough money was collected you might receive the rest of your half million or you might never see a penny above the federally insured amount unless you are in Silicon Valley.

The second largest bank failure in U.S. history occurred March 10 in Santa Clara, California. The Silicon Valley Bank failed after a bank run on its deposits. The Department of Financial Protection and Innovation revoked its charter and transferred the business into receivership under the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

SVB is the country's 16th largest bank with \$209 billion in assets and more than \$175 billion in deposits.

A number of businesses had millions of dollars in the bank.

Roku had just under \$500 million of its 1.9 billion dollars of cash assets in the bank.

Roblox, a video game company said 5% of its 3 billion in cash was held at SVB.

Toronto-based AcuityAds Holding had US \$55 million in SVB, and just US \$4.8 million elsewhere. That means more than 90% of the company's deposits were held in SVB.

Aerospace manufacturer Rocket Lab held almost 8%, or approximately \$38 million, of its total cash at the collapsed bank, it said in a Friday filing.

Crypto lender BlockFi, which filed for bank-

ruptcy in November, disclosed it held \$227 million with SVB in a bankruptcy filing Friday. BlockFi said in November it had halted withdrawals after facing "significant exposure" to Sam Bankman-Fried's FTX exchange, as well as its sister hedge fund Alameda.

BlockFi's money in SVB is not FDIC-insured because it was in a money market mutual fund, the company learned from its bankruptcy trustee early this week. (Source CNN.Com)

Move the calendar from last Friday to this past Sunday.

Federal regulators stepped in Sunday March 12, to back all Silicon Valley Bank deposits, resolving a key uncertainty surrounding the second-largest bank failure in U.S. history hours before global stock markets resumed trading.

The U.S. Treasury, the Federal Reserve and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. said the government would back Silicon Valley Bank deposits beyond the federally insured ceiling of \$250,000. The decision addressed concerns around the fate of uninsured funds held at the Santa Clara, California-based bank.

"Depositors will have access to all of their money starting Monday, March 13," the agencies said in a joint statement Sunday evening. "No losses associated with the resolution of Silicon Valley Bank will be borne by the taxpayer." (Source NBC.COM)

If you have a half million dollars in a bank, you might consider dividing it up into two banks. Maybe the U.S. Treasury will treat you and the people at your bank the same as the millionaires of Silicon Valley. Don't risk your life savings on this hope.

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 Parks lauded for Langone Park and Puopolo Playground improvements

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department was recently recognized by Boston Harbor Now at their annual Onboard Awards event for the redesign and development of Langone Park and Puopolo Playground on the North End waterfront.

“By taking this new approach we put newly adopted resilient design standards into practice for the first time at a Boston park or open space property and served as a pilot project for others to follow,” noted Boston Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods. “Every element was designed both for functionality and resiliency for now and in the future.”

Langone Park and Puopolo Playground is one of the city’s oldest parks, as well as the site of the Great Molasses Flood of 1919. In March 2018, the park was inundated by flooding due to sea level rise after a nor’easter storm event where high tides breached the park’s seawalls. This particular storm, in addition to an increased frequency in similar weather events, pushed climate resilience to the forefront.

“We are impressed by the community-informed design process, and the climate resilient landscaping and architectural features at the Park and are so glad to be recognizing the City and these waterfront spaces,” Boston Harbor Now President and CEO Kathy

Abbott said at the February 9 event.

The Parks Department was recognized for features that have already successfully protected the space from high tide and storm surge events since the project’s completion. The climate-resilient design includes its incorporated inland secondary seawalls, elevated Harborwalk, and upgraded stormwater systems. Today, Langone and Puopolo serve as crucial flood protection for the surrounding area.

The design team created a plan for a multifunctional, stepped secondary seawall that improves protection from damaging storms while offering seating, to raising important park amenities, cantilevering the Harborwalk path over the water on stabilized micropiles, including LED lighting with raised utilities at high points onsite to maintain electrical resilience during flooding events.

Other park improvements and amenities include a high-performance natural turf Little League baseball field, a multisport synthetic turf field, a universal access playground, a memorial garden, basketball and expanded bocce courts, and plaza spaces allowing for expansive harbor views, access to the water’s edge, and an open and inviting connection to the neighborhood.

The reconstruction of Langone

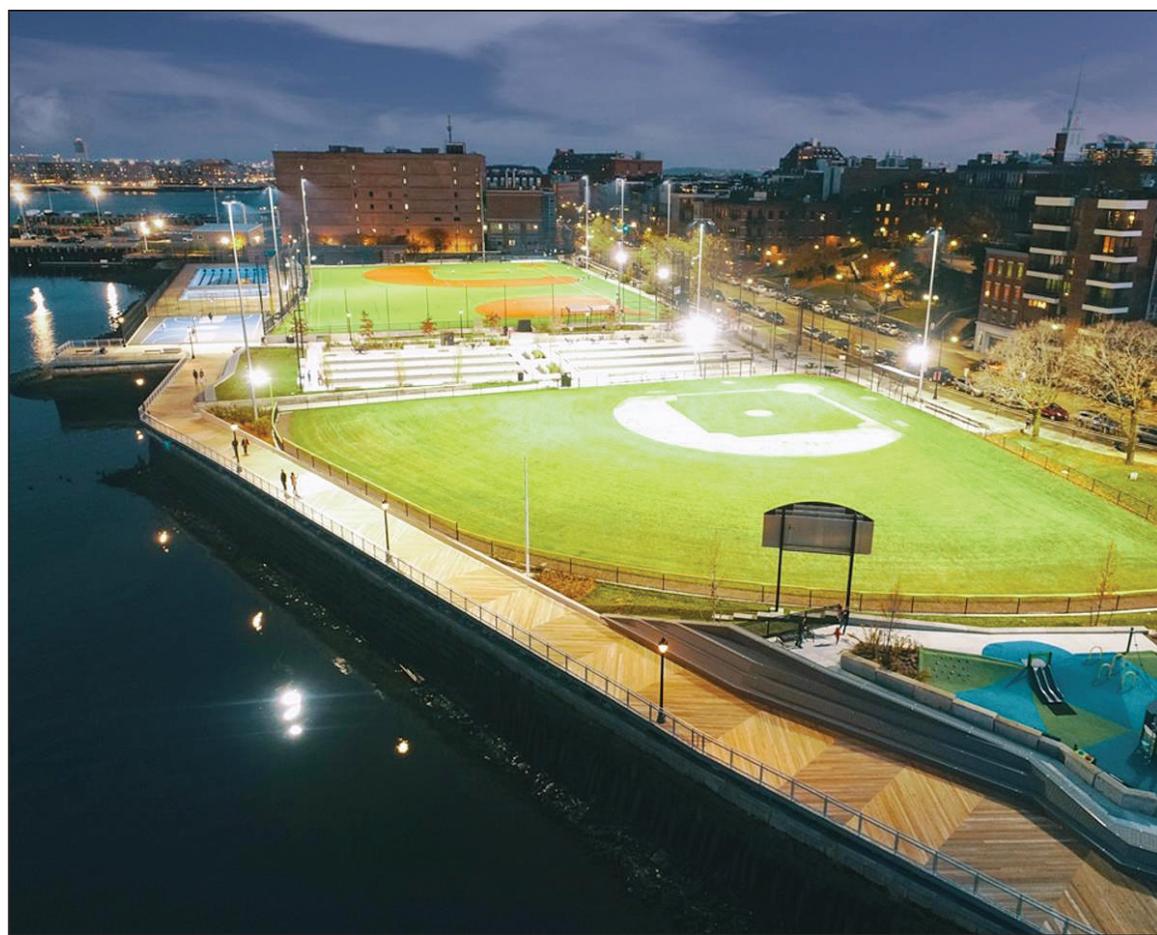


Photo: Bret Clancy

The Langone Park/Puopolo Playground project on the North End waterfront has earned the Boston Parks and Recreation Department a bevy of accolades for its forward-thinking climate-resilient design.

Park and Puopolo Park was also recognized in 2022 with the Public Works Project of the Year (Historical Restoration/Preservation \$5m - \$25m) from

the New England Chapter of the American Public Works Association, the Silver Award from the American Council of Engineering Companies of

Massachusetts, and the Climate Change Project of the Year from the Environmental Business Council of New England.

Wu announces \$626,000 in Boston Cultural Council grants

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Mayor’s Office of Arts and Culture, in collaboration with the Boston Cultural Council (BCC), last week announced 160 arts and cultural organizations have been awarded grants totaling \$626,000 through this year’s Boston Cultural Council grant program. North End Music and Performing Arts Center was a music recipient.

“Boston’s arts and cultural organizations play a vital role in ensuring everyone in our city has access to opportunities for creative expression and cultural celebration,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “This continued investment is an important step in building a sustainable and thriving arts ecosystem in Boston.”

The Boston Cultural Council (BCC) works under the umbrella of the Mayor’s Office of Arts and Culture to annually distribute funds allocated by the City of Boston and the Mass Cultural Council for local arts and cultural programming. The BCC distributes grants for general operating support to organizations

with budgets under \$2 million that offer arts or cultural programming in Boston, and helps to ensure that the City’s grantmaking responds to the needs of the cultural community. This year’s total of \$626,000 in grant funding consisted of \$297,200 from Mass Cultural Council, \$250,300 from City funds, and an additional \$78,500 from the Boston Red Sox to support Fenway-based organizations.

“As a participatory grant-making body, the Boston Cultural Council believes that through supporting a vibrant and equitable arts ecosystem in the city, and committing to effecting positive change, we together can inspire the transformative arts landscape that our communities need and that artists can grow within,” said Jennifer Falk, Chair of the Boston Cultural Council. “We celebrate all our awardees and their unwavering commitment to value artistic expression in all forms as a necessary language of the human condition.”

Grantees receive \$2,000,

\$3,500, or \$5,000 grants depending on the organization’s budget size. In 2021, the BCC made the decision to shift the funding structure so that organizations with the lowest budgets receive the highest grant amounts. This funding strategy aims to better support emerging to medium-sized organizations who typically do not have scaled fundraising initiatives to support their programming.

“Nearly half of this year’s BCC grantees fall under the smallest budget tier, and many are receiving grants from us for the first time,” said Kara Elliott-Ortega, Chief of Arts and Culture. “We’re excited to continue expanding access to creativity and diverse arts and cultural programming across the city.”

The BCC focused on small to mid-sized organizations that uniquely serve the City’s arts ecosystem and prioritize cultural diversity, economic diversity, inclusion, and equity, through both their staffing and audiences served. Nonprofit cultural organizations whose missions or pro-

gramming are focused on music, film and video, traditional and folk art, visual art, theater, dance, humanities, literary arts, performing arts, social/civic practice, and multidisciplinary arts were eligible to apply as long as they were based in the City of Boston, or offered programming in Boston.

87% of grantees are based in Boston and 27% are receiving Boston Cultural Council grants for the first time. Nearly \$14 million of grantees’ total operating budgets goes toward paying artists. The breakdown of grantee organizations by discipline is as follows:

- Music (28.8%)
- Multidisciplinary Arts (21.9%)
- Dance (12.5%)
- Performing Arts (7.5%)
- Visual Arts (6.3%)
- Traditional and Folk Art (6.3%)
- Social/Civic Practice (4.4%)
- Theater (4.4%)
- Film and Video (3.1%)
- Literary Arts (2.5%)
- Humanities (2.5%)

“Artisans Asylum is thrilled and thankful to have this financial support from the Boston Cultural

Council,” said Antonio Viva, Executive Director of Artisans Asylum. “We hope to inspire makers from all backgrounds to explore their creativity and bring their inspired ideas into form. As we welcome makers from around the greater Boston community, this grant will help us with our commitment to providing access to classes and programs.”

“The Boston Cultural Council’s grant to the International Women’s Writing Guild provides extraordinary support for our young writers in Boston and our ability to support their literary goals,” said Michelle Miller, Executive Director of International Women’s Writing Guild. “These young poets and storytellers have written together about racial identity and social justice, providing inspiration and accompanying lesson plans for generations of students to come!”

The City of Boston will celebrate this year’s grantees at a reception on Wednesday, May 10 from 6:30-8 p.m. at Artisans Asylum.

CASA MARIA CELEBRATES ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Casa Maria celebrated St. Patrick's Day in their community room with a meal of corned beef, cabbage, and boiled vegetables. It was another holiday that was celebrated together by the apartment building's community.



Casa Maria President Mike Anzilotti speaks to the residents at Casa Maria before the corned beef and cabbage was served.



Casa Maria President Mike Anzilotti presents a birthday cake to Betsy Johnson, Operations Manager at The Community Builders.



Casa Maria's partners, The Community Builders, were present with Iris Santiago, Betsy Johnson, Yaima Rivera, and Bart Mitchell.



Morgan Wilson, Subi Cako, Ethan Ceplikas, and Johnny Martinez.



Massachusetts State Rep Aaron Michlewitz (right) speaks with Casa Maria residents Frank DeStefano and Leo Plagenza.



Casa Maria residents listen to Mike Anzilotti speak.



Casa Maria residents wait in line for their St Patrick's Day meal.

Derek Kouyoumjian photos

CASA MARIA CELEBRATES ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Derek Kouyoumjian photos



Casa Maria President Mike Anzilotti speaks to the residents at Casa Maria before the corned beef and cabbage was served.



Father Michael Della Penna from St Leonard's Church led a prayer before the meal.



Casa Maria residents Priscilla Rapacioli and Judy Siciliano.



Boston City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta (center) connects with Marjorie Wicke and Sunny Davidson.



The residents at Casa Maria were ready to celebrate St Patrick's Day.



Casa Maria resident Theresa Benneccchio is celebrating not just St Patrick's Day but her birthday as well.

NEWS BRIEFS

OLD NORTH CHURCH SIGNAL RE-ENACTMENT

On Thursday, April 20, Old North Illuminated in Boston's North End will re-enact the famous signal that lit the way for the American Revolution. The celebration recognizes the 300th anniversary of Old North Church and the historical events of April 18, 1775, when allies of Paul Revere hung two lanterns from Old North Church's steeple as a warning to their fellow Patriots that British troops were on the move.

After passing critical information to the signal holders, Paul Revere began his iconic midnight journey to Lexington and Concord.

The courageous actions of Revere and the lantern bearers are an inspirational reminder of the power of active citizenship to create a more perfect union that reflects the promise of liberty and justice for all.

This year's event will be held in person from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Old North Church & Historic Site, located at 193 Salem Street in Boston. The celebration will feature the Middlesex County Volunteers Fife & Drums; a rousing reading of the poem "Paul Revere's Ride" by Susan Tran, Emmy Award-winning Anchor and Reporter for NBC Boston; remarks from the 2023 Lantern Award honoree Annette Gordon-Reed, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian and MacArthur "Genius Award" recipient; and a lively reception with lantern signals lighting up the sky.

Proceeds from the event will support Old North Illuminated's virtual and on-site programs, which aim to inspire children and adults alike to consider the ways in which they can build a more just and equitable world. Tickets range from \$75 to \$200 and must be purchased in advance. To register, visit: www.oldnorth.com/lanterns.

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Movement Remedies, a pain-focused Pilates studio, opens its doors in the North End

Movement Remedies LLC is pleased to announce its storefront opening at 278 North Street in the North End. The mission of Movement Remedies' founder, Dana Karen (DK) Ciccone is to create Pilates-based movement programs for people whose physical activity has been hindered by chronic pain. Pilates has been shown to improve strength and balance, reduce pain symptoms and increase comfort in physical activity in research studies focused on a wide range of health issues. Movement Remedies is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment that is free from negative commentary regarding bodies, abilities and weight. DK's own experience with chronic back pain for almost 30 years is a driving force behind the mission and focus of the business.



Inside the Movement Remedies studio.

Find Your Feat, the studio's signature pain management program, is an 8-week immersive curriculum of pain science and movement

exploration. Enrollment is open now for a March 27 program start. "Find Your Feat" acknowl-

edges the focus and determination required to reach movement goals in the context of chronic pain.

The program incorporates personalized movement programs, pain education, small-group Pilates sessions, personal reflection, weekly coaching, and movement accountability. Together, these components address known contributors to pain experience. More information on Find Your Feat is available here.

Chronic pain is a global health problem affecting about 25 percent of the world's population. The CDC calls chronic pain "one of the most common reasons adults seek medical care," with about 50 million US adults affected. Recognizing the importance of person-centered health care and an integrated approach to pain management, Movement Remedies advocates for a collaborative engagement model with local clinicians, particularly in the context of discharge from physical therapy. Area clinicians are invited to call and schedule a free Private Pilates session to experience Movement

Remedies' approach. Since becoming a Pilates teacher after 10+ years in management consulting, DK has worked with dozens of Bostonians becoming active following joint replacement, spinal fusion surgery, cancer treatment, new neurological diagnoses, and other post-rehab situations. Client testimonials can be found here.

About Movement Remedies LLC: We are a Pilates and Wellness business that specializes in reducing the negative impact of pain for people recovering from injury, trauma, surgery, or living with chronic conditions. We believe compassion and empathy are integral to catalyzing movement. And regular physical activity in a safe, supportive environment is a proven contributor to overall well-being.

Contact: DK Ciccone, dk@movementremedies.org, 617-807-0366

FRIENDS OF THE NORTH END NEWS AND NOTES

On Saturday, March 4, the Friends of the North End South celebrated its 13th annual reunion in Boynton Beach, Fla.

In all, 49 guests were in attendance for the day reminiscing about cherished friendships and a beloved neighborhood.

This reunion was started by Camille and Louie Gilardi 13 years ago, that lives on 1500 miles away from the North End.

Attendees traveled from all parts of Florida and from as far away as Naples on the west coast.

Victor Passacantilli read his essay about growing up in the North End.

Gus Pesaturo engaged the guests with his story of buying "three loose" when we were youngsters.

North Enders were quick to remember the places where they could buy three cigarettes all over the North End!

Diane Pesaturo decorated the cake beautifully with memorable pictures.

Louie and Camille presented the "Gilardi award" to Jeannie Manfra la Rosa and Nancy Imbergamo Gaudin for correctly guessing this year's trivia question: what was "Gunga Din's" full name? It was Anthony Firicano.

During dinner George Gaudin and Dom Piso discovered that



Gus Pesaturo, Louie Gilardi and Victor Passacantilli.

they were cousins after more than 75 years!!

The room was filled with a joy-

ous and heartwarming ambiance that North End guys and gals can create whenever they get together.

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COMMUNITY GROUPS WANT TO BE INVOLVED FROM THE START

While they are currently in no letter of intent filed at the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) the North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) and the West End Civic Association (WECA) are seeking to be involved from the start of any proposal to build a 700-foot tower on Causeway Street in the West End side of the Bulfinch Triangle.

The project will also encompass adjacent properties along North Washington Street.

A letter has been sent to the BPDA on this matter.

SAINT LEONARD'S CHURCH GALA

Saint Leonard's Church ses- quicentennial gala to benefit the 150th Building Future Fund will take place at the New England Aquarium, 1 Central Wharf, Boston on Friday, May 5 with a \$150 charge per person.

Sponsorships starting at \$2,000 are available. For more information visit www.saintleonard-churchboston.org.

TASK FORCE APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Applications for residents and businesses are being accepted by the city to serve on the North End Street Outdoor Dining Task Force which will study the program that has been postponed by the mayor for the 2023 season in the North End.

Anyone interested in becoming a member needs to complete an online application. Deadline for submission is March 24, 2023. The task force will begin Monday, April 3 and end on Friday, December 3.

MAJOR LEAGUE SPONSORS

This year four Major League teams are once again sponsored by the Regional Review, Ted Tomasone, Saint Anthony Society and Saint Agrippina Society.

NEWNC MONTHLY MEETING

The April monthly meeting (zoom) of the North End/Waterfront Neighborhood

Council (NEWNC) will be held on Monday, April 10 at 7 PM. Agenda will be announced.

NEWRA MONTHLY MEETING

The North end/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, April 13 at 7 PM at the Nazzaro Community Center on North Bennet Street. Agenda to be announced.

NEAA BASEBALL ON THE HORIZON

Baseball season is just around the corner and the North End Athletic Association (NEAA) Major League teams will be taken the field at Langone field.

This year the league will consist of four sponsored teams, that will play regular-season games with playoffs to determine the 2023 championship team.

The Majors will also play an All-Star game and be entered in two tournaments.

Many other baseball programs including a Clinic, T-Ball and a Minor League will be held at both Langone and Puopolo Park.

N.E. LIBRARY LECTURE

Noted Boston based author Anthony Mitchell Sammarco will present a lecture on how immigrants from Italy migrated to Boston and created a neighborhood that was known as "Little Italy".

Along with the lecture being held at the North End Library, 25 Parmenter Street, on Wednesday, March 29 at 6 PM. Sammarco will show many rear photos of the area.

The daily book sale in the back of the library is the source of the library's funds that pays for these exciting and educational programs held throughout the year at the Parmenter Street facility.

NEW SUMNER TUNNEL CLOSER CHANGES

A revised schedule for the fall closure of the Sumner Tunnel restoration project to reduce the impact of construction operations for Phase 2 has been put together by MassDOT.

The change is geared to reduce the impact of the full closure on the traveling public.

Full tunnel closure will no longer occur until September of this year. Instead, full closure in 2023 will occur from July 25 to August

IN BRIEF By Phil Orlandella

31. The second full closure will take place from July to August in 2024.

LIBRARY SPRING OPEN HOUSE

A successful North End Library Open House and Book Bloom event was held with tours and floral demonstrations for the special events.

Volunteers made floral interpretations of the favorite books that were displayed throughout the library.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY DRIVE

ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NSC), 1 Michelangelo Street collected donations to make Saint Patrick's Day special for seniors.

The Center collected super-market gift cards, chocolate gold coins and other related individual packed treats, toiletries, soaps, hand soaps, shampoo, conditioners and body wash.

The Saint Patrick's Day Party celebration will be held on Friday, March 17 at 12 PM at the Center, 1 Michelangelo Street A festive lunch will be served.

BOVA BAKERY SITE FOR NORTH END FILMING

Another movie "The Instigators" starring Casey Affleck and Matt Damon will be filmed in the North End at Bova's Bakery. Filming will take place from March 20 to March 25.

The movie follows two crooks who go on the run with their therapist when a robbery goes wrong.

This isn't the first time an Affleck brother has shot a movie in the North End, filming twice, once recording a bank robbery chase scene from "The Town" and more recently scenes from 2016's "Live by Night".

This is the first time the all-night bakery has been shut down and over 100 years.

LIBRARY RECEIVES ITALIAN BOOKS

Friends of the North End Library have received a large donation of Italian language books, mostly bestsellers, not school texts.

The books are located on the middle bottom shelves of the fabulous book sale area.

FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

Friday Night at the Movies will be held at the ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NSC), 1 Michelangelo Street on March 21 at 1 PM.

Featured film "Easter Parade" snacks will be served.

SCULPTURE RECONFIGURATION

The annual reconfiguration of the Abstract Sculpture at Armenian Heritage Park on The Greenway will take place on Sunday, April 16 at 7:30 AM.

The sculpture, a split rhomboid dodecahedron made up of aluminum and stainless steel will be lifted by crane, pulled apart and chained into two halves to create a new shape, symbolic of a new life.

REGIONAL REVIEW ONLINE

The Regional Review is published biweekly and is online at www.regionalreviewnewspaper.com. Please send items of interest to, RegionalReview_1945@gmail.com.

DON'T WAIT, VACCINATE

NEW Health held a "Don't Wait, Vaccinate" at its Hanover Street site where any COVID-19 vaccinated patient received a \$75 grocery store gift card, a free breakfast and were entered a raffle for Celtics tickets and a \$100 Tavern in the Square gift card.

FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP

Hosted by Eagle Bank, a financial literacy workshop will be held at the ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NSC) 1 Michelangelo Street on Friday, March 24 at 12 noon.

The workshop will feature how not to fall victim to cyber fraud, scams and exploitation.

Lunch will be sponsored by Regina Pizzeria. Registration is encouraged. Call 617-523-8125.

BUILDING TO BE TORN DOWN

The Fleet Street building that recently collapsed will be torn down. Future plans for the building have not been revealed.

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Wu announces 'Boston Artisan Market'

Mayor Michelle Wu has announced Boston Artisan Market (BAM), a new activation featuring Boston-based vendors in the recently opened pavilion building on City Hall Plaza. BAM is being hosted in partnership with Bogosplit, a Black, woman-owned tech company committed to supporting and promoting all small businesses, and will open Friday, March 17, 2023. The market will showcase local designers and vendors displaying their clothing lines, skincare products, jewelry, wearable art, and more. The pavilion is a new building that was added to the City Hall Plaza footprint during the City Hall Plaza renovation project, and is an example of the City's efforts to create family-friendly public spaces and to bring vibrancy to Down-

town Boston.

BAM will kick off the start of each weekend with "Fashion Fridays," which will include a fashion show highlighting local models, influencers and DJs, including DJ Maverik. There will also be a Ratata Chimi Food Truck on site, which celebrates Dominican culture through authentic, local cuisine.

"We reopened City Hall Plaza with the intention of creating spaces for people of all ages to come together Downtown. BAM is one piece of our ongoing vision for the Plaza, building community while supporting local entrepreneurs," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I encourage residents to visit BAM and enjoy the rotating vendors and designers."

BAM will be open Fridays from

4:00 - 8:00 p.m., Saturdays from 12:00 - 8:00 p.m., and Sundays from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. starting on March 17th and running through May 6th.

"We are extremely excited to host this program and expect it to be the first of many. Visitors to the Boston Artisan Market will have the opportunity to explore and discover all of the wonderful features of the City Hall Plaza including the new pavilion, the green spaces and the playground," said Eamon Shelton, Commissioner of Property Management.

"This market serves as an opportunity to activate the new City Hall Plaza and attract residents and visitors downtown for a fun, family-friendly event," said Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. "I am excited as BAM will also allow us to continue the work to support and promote our small business community moving forward."

"This event is a great opportunity for us to test new ways of utilizing the improved plaza and showcase local artisans and vendors," said Kara Elliott-Ortega, Chief of Arts and Culture for the City of Boston. "We look forward to working with our new City Hall Plaza Engagement Manager to bring more cultural programming

like this to City Hall Plaza this year."

The vendors for the Boston Artisan Market will be a mix of Boston based and Greater Boston based vendors, such as Oblige Boutique, run by two Boston-based sisters. Other vendors range from skincare and makeup to accessories to luggage. The vendors and featured designers will rotate every weekend.

"We are very excited for this opportunity to broaden our reach and introduce our brand to fellow locals and tourists in the heart of Boston," said Tania Shabazz, Owner of Oblige Boutique. "The Boston Artisan Market is another great example of the city supporting local small businesses and expanding the footprint of marketplaces that connect entrepreneurs and neighboring communities with a centralized shopping experience!"

"We at Bogosplit have a true commitment to community building. Our mission is to create a vibrant and inclusive shopping experience that celebrates and elevates the creativity and diversity of the Boston community," said Keyla Williams, Co-founder and CEO of Bogosplit. "Join us in celebrating the vibrancy of Boston's local businesses and artisans

at BAM...where creativity meets community."

The pavilion building opened as part of the official City Hall Plaza reopening last November. More about the renovations to make City Hall a more welcoming, sustainable space can be found here.

Bogosplit is excited to partner with the City of Boston for the Boston Artisan Market (BAM)! Bogosplit was founded by Kenelly Cineus, Adriano Pinto, and Keyla Williams, a team of passionate entrepreneurs with a deep commitment to technology, innovation, and community. With their combined expertise and experience, they are dedicated to empowering local communities and businesses to succeed in today's digital age.

Bogosplit is a dynamic and forward-thinking tech company that is committed to supporting small businesses in expanding their reach and visibility. By providing a range of cutting-edge online resources through our platform and automated storefronts, Bogosplit empowers small vendors to grow their business. Bogosplit's mission is to support independent vendors so they can focus on what they do best - creating high-quality products.

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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

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CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
FORMAL
ADJUDICATION
Docket No.
SU23P0457EA

Estate of:
Doris Esther
Olson
Also Known As:
Doris Olson
Date of Death:
08/09/2022

To all interest persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Jane F. Ryan of Wilton, NH requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Jane F. Ryan of Wilton, NH be appointed

as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/06/2023. 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 followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty days (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the

Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 02, 2023
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate

3/16/23
RR

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH
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THE TRIAL COURT
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FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Division
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION
NOTICE

Docket No.
SU21P1858EA
Estate of:
Regina Mary
Policastro
Also Known As:
Regina M.
Policastro
Date of Death:
11/13/2020

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner James C. Policastro of Boston, MA

James C. Policastro of Boston, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

3/16/23

RR

OBITUARIES

Thomas M. Reppucci aka Antonio (Tony) Navarro

A resident of Revere and a North End legend for over 40 years

On any given evening in Boston's North End, with the delightful aromas of traditional Italian cuisine enticing the senses, it was not uncommon to hear the faint accordion notes of *That's Amore* or many other classic musical stylings wafting through the air on Hanover Street. The music stopped today, leaving a bittersweet memory with the passing of the neighborhood's beloved music man, Antonio Navarro.

Thomas Michael Reppucci, aka Antonio (Tony) Navarro, entered eternal rest on March 8 at age 96 after a long and wonderful life.

He was born on August 27, 1926, the son of the late Michael and Lena (DeMarco) Reppucci of Revere; brother of Barbara Houghton of Chelsea, the late Carl Reppucci (Carol) of Peabody and he resided in his family home on South Irving Street for his entire life.

He was married to the love of his life, Virginia Reppucci, for over 30 years until her passing in 1993 and he mourned her loss every day since.

A product of the Greatest Generation, Tommy enlisted in the United States Navy at 17 and served his country during the Asia-Pacific War/ World War II from 1943 – 1946. Stationed in the South Pacific, He credited divine intervention for sparing his life when kamikaze pilots attacked their ship in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, one of many attacks that killed over 100,000 American soldiers. Tommy recounted that the plane was so close to him he could see the pilot's actual teeth as he smiled upon impact, trying to destroy their American vessel.

He was employed by the city of Revere DPW, retiring in 1991 after 24 years, but the arts were his passion. Tommy was musically inclined, having learned to play

the piano and the accordion at a young age. His love of the arts began a legacy of music and happiness for everyone around him. A professional dancer, musician, and screen actor, Tommy acquired his Screen Actors Guild card and took the stage name of ANTONIO (TONY) NAVARRO. A star was born. His most memorable role was the grandfather and narrator in the 2002 comedy film *Ciao America*, where he was cast alongside Paul Sorvino and Giancarlo Giannini.

Forever proud of his Italian heritage, Tommy's heart was in Boston's North End, where he was "Antonio," the accordion player. His portrait is displayed prominently on the wall of Dolce Vita Ristorante, where Restauranteur Franco Graceffa and his wife, Caroline welcomed Antonio into their establishment and family, and he would entertain patrons with his accordion and songs there for decades. Franco and Antonio were an iconic singing duo, and the two tenors together hit the high notes, bringing Franco's dinner guests to their feet with applause. Franco and his restaurant family were the highlights of Antonio's days and they genuinely cared for Antonio's well-being.

"Hey, Antonio!" was regularly shouted by first responders, street workers, servers, and passersby of all ages as Tommy strolled down the street. He had a beat on the neighborhood and was a friend to everyone.

Before his evening gigs at Dolce Vita, Tony made his rounds to Modern Pastry. He ended the nights at Caffè Vittoria, where servers, kitchen staff, and visitors spent time hearing his stories and songs or watching out for him on his bus rides home. They were his very special extended family.

Antonio was an icon whose passing marks an end of an era where tradition, loyalty, friend-



ship, and kindness were paramount in society. A kind and gentle soul, his legacy lives on in the streets of the North End, and his music will play in our hearts forever.

Besides his beloved North End community, Tommy leaves his dear sister, Barbara Houghton of Chelsea, his nieces and nephews, and their families, with whom he was extremely close: Carl Reppucci of Andover, Diane Argentieri of Needham, Stephen Fiore of Revere, Laurie Pelosi, Keith Houghton and Lisa Houghton of Chelsea, Robert Houghton and Karen Lodeon of Peabody, Susan Houghton of Melrose, and Karl Houghton of Littleton, NH.

Graveside services with Military Honors were held at Woodlawn Cemetery, 302 Elm St., Everett on Tuesday, March 14.

The family of Tommy Reppucci would like to thank the healthcare workers at The Katzman Family Center for Living in Chelsea for their kindness and care toward their dear uncle in his final months.

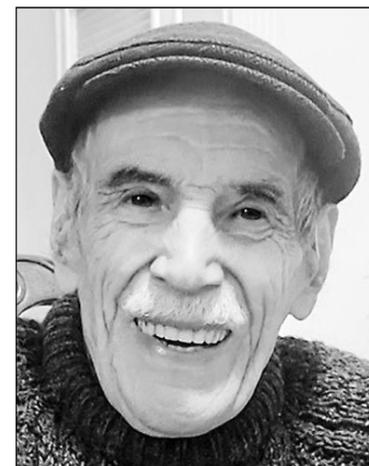
Donations in Tommy's memory may be made to Katzman Family Center for Living, 17 Lafayette Ave., Chelsea, MA 02150 or The Chelsea Soldiers' Home, 91 Crest Ave. Chelsea MA 02150.

For online guest book or to send expressions of sympathy, please visit www.WelshFH.com.

Giacomo L. "Jack" Ficaro

Of Winthrop

Giacomo L. "Jack" Ficaro of Winthrop, March 6, 2023. Beloved husband of the late Marie (Maragioglio). Family and friends were cordially invited to attend the visitation from the Ernest P. Caggiano and Son Funeral Home, 147 Winthrop St., Winthrop, on Friday, March 10, 2023, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. and followed by a Funeral Mass in St. John the Evangelist Church, 320 Winthrop St., Winthrop, at 11:30 a.m.. Services was concluded with the interment in the Belle Isle section of Winthrop Cemetery. For complete obituary, or to sign the online guestbook, go to www.caggianoofuneralhome.com



Caggiano-O'Maley-Frazier Winthrop.

To place a memoriam in the North End Regional Review, please call 781-485-0588

OBITUARIES

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FRESH AND LOCAL

Tinned fish

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Lately, we've enjoyed more meals and snacks using tinned fish. When pandemic delivery and supply chain issues made protein hard to find, we had stocked up on canned tuna, salmon, clams, smoked trout, sardines, and even some canned chicken.

Now we're in the process of rotating our supplies. We'll continue to buy these products because we've learned just how handy it is to have them on hand and have developed meals to make with them.

Expanding Our Options

In 2020, New York Times editor Sam Sifton wrote about his delight in using canned fish. His column sent us looking for more recipes and reference material on the topic. We found "The Magic of Tinned Fish" by Chef Chris McDade. The range of canned seafood that he included was in the subtitle, "Elevate Your Cooking with Canned Anchovies, Sardines, Mackerel, Crab, and Other Amazing Seafood."

We found even more options as we explored the best sources for these products. Beyond the canned fish products in our pantry, we discovered sources for tinned mackerel, crab, mussels, oysters, sea urchin, squid, octopus, scallops, cuttlefish, cod, cockles, and swordfish.

Sharing Tinned Fish

When a neighbor brought a lovely spread to share on a roof deck gathering, we discovered smoked trout. It was simply a can from Trader Joe's mixed with a bit of yogurt, and lemon served on multi-grain crackers. It was delicious and healthy.

In his article, Shifton quoted acclaimed Chef Erin French, who owns the Lost Kitchen in Freedom, Maine. She has said of tinned fish, "It's not bunker food. It's sexy picnic food." As opportunities for alfresco fun return, consider a tinned fish party. This is an excellent way to expand your experience and discover which canned fish options you want to buy again.

Miye Bromberg from America's Test Kitchen has offered guidance

on what you might feature. "Budget one tin per person—one and a half if people are hungry," she wrote. "If you're a bigger group, get a variety so that people can try different types: not just sardines and tuna but also mussels en escabeche, octopus, squid, clams, etc." That, with lots of good bread, crackers, crunchy crudités, briny pickles, capers, cornichons, and pickled peppers, would give you the basics.

Find the Best

Since 1853 tinned fish has been part of Portugal's culinary heritage. We've just begun to see tinned fish on local restaurant menus. However, Lisbon is known for restaurants and shops specializing in canned seafood. In this culture, well-conserved canned seafood has been a trusted and favored source of protein for meals and snacks. You could start exploring by choosing a premium Portuguese brand.

Consider a day trip to Fall River and visit Portugalia Marketplace. *Sauver* magazine called them "America's Best Portuguese Market." They also offer online order-



As opportunities for alfresco fun return, consider a tinned fish party. It's easy. Pop open the cans and enjoy!

ing and delivery.

Recently, Island Creek Oysters in Duxbury has partnered with companies in Portugal, Spain, and Canada to add canned products to their fresh seafood offerings. In January, they announced they would open their own cannery in New Bedford.

Patagonia Provisions is another trusted brand with a wide range of tinned seafood offerings. This speaks to the usefulness of this source of protein when dining in

the great outdoors.

Make 2023 your year to expand your experience with tinned fish in restaurants, sharing with friends at home and alfresco. And, as we've learned, these products are perfect to keep on hand as both pantry and emergency supplies.

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

COVID-19 public health emergency in Massachusetts to end

The Healey-Driscoll Administration announced that the state's COVID-19 public health emergency will end on May 11, 2023, to align with the end of the federal public health emergency. The announcement this week, ahead of the 45-day notice required by state law, allows additional time for impacted organiza-

tions to prepare for the end of the public health emergency.

Governor Healey will also file legislation that would extend key flexibilities provided by the public health emergency, particularly around staffing for the health care industry and emergency medical services (EMS). The Governor also announced that on May 11 she plans to rescind Executive Order 595 that required all Executive Branch state employees to have received their primary series COVID-19 vaccines.

"Thanks to the hard work of our health care providers and communities, we've made important progress in the fight against COVID-19," said Governor Healey. "We know that we have the tools to manage this virus – vaccines, masking, testing, getting treatments and staying home when sick – and we've reached the point where we can update our guidance to reflect where we are now. I'd also like to acknowledge the leadership of Governor Baker and his administration, who saved countless lives by putting these important measures in place in a time of immense crisis."

"Executive Order No. 595 has been a successful tool for boosting vaccination rates and reducing the spread and severity of COVID-19 in Massachusetts. We're grateful to the state employees who did their part to keep themselves, their coworkers and their communities safe," said Lieutenant Governor Driscoll. "We encourage Massachusetts residents to continue taking important prevention measures to keep our communities healthy, like getting boosted, masking and staying home when you're feeling sick."

"We are fortunate that in Massachusetts, the wide availability of vaccines, tests, effective treatments, and PPE changed the course of a pandemic that brought loss and hardship to so many. Three years on from the start of the pandemic, we are now in a very different place," said Secretary of Health and Human Services Kate Walsh. "While we will continue living with COVID-19, we can now incorporate the tools to manage this virus into our standing response to respiratory illness within our communities and healthcare system."

Governor Healey's legislation

would:

- Continue flexibilities currently in place regarding staffing for out-of-hospital dialysis centers. This would apply for 6 months to allow dialysis centers time to return to pre-COVID staffing levels.

- Authorize certain non-Medication Administration Program (MAP) certified staff to administer certain prepackaged medications in community settings. This would apply for 6 months to enable DPH to finalize reforms that streamline the MAP program training requirements.

- Allow staffing of Advanced Life Support level ambulance transports with a single EMT provider and a first responder driver (rather than 2 certified EMTs). This would be a permanent change based on the positive experience of this staffing model over the last three years.

Executive Order No. 595 helped raise the percentage of fully vaccinated executive department employees from around 76 percent to over 99 percent. Mandates for staff in certain roles and settings will remain in place, per CMS and EOHHS regulations.

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