



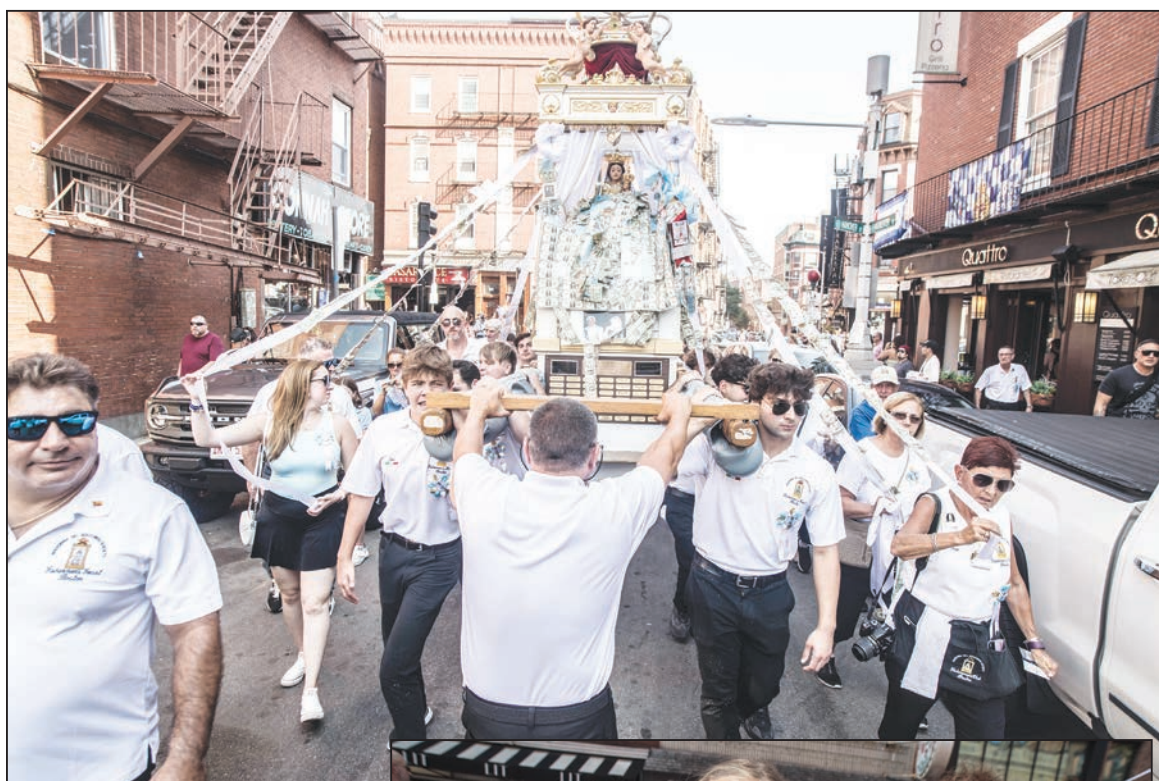
THE NORTH END

REGIONAL REVIEW

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NORTH END CELEBRATES FISHERMAN'S FEAST



The historic neighborhood of Boston's North End celebrated the Fisherman's Feast.

Above, the Madonna del Soccorso is led from Parmenter Street to Hanover Street.

Right, Gloria and Clara Sweet with Kali Johnson are equipped for the summer heat with their lemon slushes. See pages 6 and 7 for more photos.



Derek Kouyoumjian photos

North End construction site woes continue

By Phil Orlandella

Additional problems and complaints centered around the 190-190A Salem Street and 4 Snelling Place construction site, being developed by Horace Dodd House LLC, continue as abutters and other residents' claims need to be addressed.

"Problems after problems are happening at this site by the developer," abutter Anthony Pepicelli claims.

Recently, abutters reported the alleged use of an illegal gasoline generator being used on-site construction after the required stop-

page time to work on the job. Workers were also on site.

When a resident called 311 to complain and obtain information relating to work being done at the site beyond the required time stoppage, they were told the developer did not have a weekend permit to work at the site.

However, they claimed that the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) told them the contractor did have permits to do so.

One resident claimed he taped those conversations and said, "What do we do, who do we believe."

In addition, residents have been concerned about access to and

from their homes due to street and some sidewalk construction blockage that forced them to take longer routes to get where they are trying to get to.

Apparently, and they are not satisfied with the assistance provided by 311.

"This is a burden on residents, especially seniors and handicapped people," they claimed.

They also noted that the noise and debris generated by the project has affected them as well.

Residents pointed out that they are asked several times the contractor blocks the street with no police detail on-site to control and direct traffic.

Naked man arrested invading North End home

By Phil Orlandella

Boston Police (August 12) quickly responded to a 911 call from the daughter of an elderly woman who claimed there was an unknown man in her house apparently naked sitting in her third-floor toilet.

When police arrived at Snelling Place in the North End and announced their presence, they could hear a male's voice coming from the second floor and ordered the person to come downstairs.

The suspect Julio Jimenez, reportedly of Dorchester, descended with no clothing on, carrying an orange-colored towel in his left hand trying to cover his private parts along with two bottles of alcohol.

Police arrested him and placed him into custody. He was charged with B+E Nighttime for Felony and property vandalism.

When the victim spotted the culprit, she shouted "what the hell

are you doing here?" He responded he was drunk.

Wisely she left the area, locking herself in a room and called her daughter who proceeded to call 911.

The victim told police that along with her belongings her pocketbook had been emptied and her money removed from her wallet and was scattered on the table.

Apparently, the man ate and drank anything he could get his hands on as well. Police noticed an open unsecured construction barrier at 4 Snelling Place, a development by Horace Dodd House LLC.

The victim, based on the fact that all of her access points to her house were dead bolted and the security cameras in the front of her home showed no illegal access, believes the man entered somewhere through the construction site, we he managed to gain access

(INVASION Pg. 4)

A PROMOTIONAL STUNT



A billboard has gone up in the North End that is a white background with three words in a black capitalized font "I HATE BOSTON." The billboard is a promotional stunt by actress and singer Renee Rapp and the statement is the title of the second track from her album Snow Angel. Rapp discusses the song on WBZ-TV "Its more fun when people don't know, and are curious as to why I would do such a thing, and it is to incite fights and arguments. Cause you guys (Bostonians) are very good at that, and you love that". Rapp has been noted to have a reputation for satire. Boston Mayor Michelle Wu had a response to the billboard and sentiment on her Instagram page with a mock-up of the billboard with the words changed to "BOSTON LOVES YOU."

Councilors plan hearing to discuss increasing emergency services

Special to the Times

Boston City Councilor Gabriella Coletta and Councilor-at-Large Erin Murphy will hold a hearing to discuss increasing emergency services on Wednesday, September 6, at 10 a.m. in the Iannella Chamber, Fifth Floor of Boston City Hall.

“My office has received numerous calls from constituents about concerns regarding emergency service staffing and resources. District One has seen an uptick in delayed medical emergency assistance with arrival times close to an hour after dispatch. Our city must grow responsibly and ensure we can provide adequate services to all residents, especially emergency services, so every resident has access to lifesaving care within minutes,” said Councilor Coletta. “I look forward to the upcoming hearing with EMS, BFD, BPD and members of the Wu Administration to collaboratively work in planning for our city’s growth,

which must coincide with planning for increased emergency services. Every second matters when it comes to saving lives.”

“A swift and timely response from medical personnel is crucial and, in some instances, lifesaving. Our EMS work tirelessly every day to respond to the medical needs of all of the residents in Boston, but they are not always able to respond as quickly as they need to across the City. By properly funding our Emergency Medical Services, and responding properly to growth in different areas of the City, this will ensure response times within minutes, which will save lives,” said Councilor Murphy.

The Councilors efforts underscore the urgency in supporting EMS with the resources needed to deliver high-quality care. During the hearing, Boston Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Boston Fire Department, Boston Police, and the Boston Planning and Development Agency will join to

discuss increasing Boston’s emergency services, particularly as the BPDA leads planning efforts for each neighborhood, while uplifting the incredible service and commitment our emergency service departments have led for our city.

Highlights of the Order Include: “WHEREAS, In January, Mayor Wu shared a vision for Boston to sustainably reach its peak population of 800,000 residents with the housing, schools, parks, and public transit to support that growth; and

WHEREAS, The current population of the City of Boston is more than 650,000, which would mean growing in population by 150,000 new residents; and

WHEREAS, Yet, there has been less focus on a plan to ensure there are adequate city services and infrastructure to absorb this growth responsibly. It is incumbent upon the City to review and analyze how this anticipated growth will impact our ability to provide basic

city services such as public safety responses under fire, police, and emergency services.; and

WHEREAS, Boston Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is the City of Boston’s municipal ambulance service, caring for patients with clinical proficiency, professionalism and compassion. Member’s of Boston EMS answered the call for over 134,000 medical emergencies in 2022, serving residents across every neighborhood of the city. Our EMS responders also served admirably as frontline workers during the pandemic and deserve adequate support from the City; and

WHEREAS, On Friday, May 19, a Charlestown elderly woman was in need of assistance following a medical emergency. While Boston Fire services arrived around 15 minutes after an emergency call was made, Boston EMS arrived about an hour after they were dispatched. The delay resulted in delay of care; and

WHEREAS, The resident later found out EMS transport was coming from a different neighborhood because Charlestown’s ambulance was occupied with a different call. This incident highlights the necessity in assessing city service needs in tandem with investments in city growth; and

WHEREAS, Effective growth requires a holistic approach in how the city will invest in more resources to successfully support its growing number of citizens, particularly in instances of distress. We must ensure that we have the appropriate ratio EMS cars, equipment, and personnel to provide residents with appropriate, life-saving response times;”

The hearing will be held under the Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice, chaired by Councilor Michael Flaherty. Members of the public are encouraged to provide written or oral comments.

IN BRIEF By Phil Orlandella

BOUNA SERA FUNDRAISERS

The biggest fundraiser of the year for ABCD’s North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NSC) “Bouna Sera” is scheduled for Thursday, October 12.

The fundraiser includes a wine reception, selection of a table for ten at a North End restaurant with a celebrity at each table.

NSC provides many events, activities, workshops, and theme luncheons throughout the year for seniors.

FRIENDS COCKTAIL SOCIAL

Friends of the North End Library are planning a social cocktail fundraising party at the Pilot House, 32 Atlantic Avenue on Thursday, October 5, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The evening promises to be a fun event with great company, live music and delicious appetizers while raising funds for the many events presented by the Friends, at the library during the year.

Ticket information will be made available soon.

LIBRARY PRESENTS CHINATOWN HISTORY

Friends of the North End Library help organize and sponsor a tour presentation of Boston’s Chinatown History and Cuisine on Wednesday, September 20, at 6 p.m. at the library, 20 Parmenter Street.

Boston’s Jacqueline Church, a renowned tour guide will take participants on a journey through Chinatown’s History and real regional cuisine.

She will also give her opinion on the best restaurants in Chinatown as well as answer questions on Chinatown and Chinese cuisine.

POOL CLOSING

Following a great summer of fun at the Mirabella Pool the popular facility will be closing Sunday, September 3.

NO AUGUST NEWNC MEETING

There will be no North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) August meeting.

NEWNC’s next public meeting will be held on Monday, September 17, at 7 p.m. at the Paul Revere House in North Square.

NEAA FLAG FOOTBALL REGISTRATION

“This year’s ages and format for the North End Athletic Association Flag Football has changed,” John Romano announced recently.

There will be two divisions ages 6-8 and 9-12, depending on the number of youth that sign up for the Friday Nights Under the Lights season at Puopolo Park. Age cut off is September 1.

There will be four teams in each division and players will receive a team jersey.

This is a six-week season, starting September 15 and ending with a championship game on Sunday, November 5, at 5 p.m. No game on Columbus Day weekend.

The 6-8 division games will start at 6 p.m. with the 9-12 division starting at 7:15 p.m.

Ten players will make up each team. Cost is \$50 per player. Register at www.neasportsboston.sportngin.com/neaa-flagfootball.

Volunteers for coaching should email JRomano45@gmail.com. There is a CORI check required.

NEAA FIELD HOCKEY REGISTRATION

“The North End Athletic Association (NEAA) has begun registration for two fantastic programs held last year,” NEAA sports coordinator John Romano has announced.

Registration for the fall girl’s field hockey and flag football will once again take place for local youth, is currently ongoing and will run through Monday, September 14.

The field hockey season will begin September 6 and run until November 1. “Come join the NEAA for skills, drills, games and fun,” Romano said.

No experience is needed. Games will be played on Wednesday nights 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Puopolo Park.

Register at www.neasportsboston.sportngin.com/neaa-field-hockey@gmail.com. The fee is \$25 per person.

Volunteers should email JRomano45@gmail.com.

NEAA SOCCER STARTS SEPTEMBER 9

Registration has been underway for two months for the North End Athletic Association (NEAA) 2023 soccer program scheduled to begin Saturday, September 9 at Puopolo Park on Commercial Street.

The 4-5 and 9-12 groups still have room for more players. However, the 6-8-year-old group is full and a waiting list will be established for late registration.

Practices for 6-8-year-olds begin on Tuesday, August 29, at Puopolo Park at 5:30 p.m.

“The season is eight weeks long,” NEAA coordinator John Romano said. “We do not play on Saturday, October 7, Columbus Day.”

Cost per player is \$55. Sign up at www.neasportsboston.sportngin.com and click on the soccer tab at the top and then the registration tab.

You can pay online by credit card. Email John Romano at JRomano45@gmail.com.

TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL 781-485-0588

HUNDREDS OF SPECTATORS ENJOY NEMPAC CONCERTS ON THE GREENWAY

By Phil Orlandella

The North End Music and Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC) on The Greenway was the site of another successful jazz series performed by women led by music ensembles representing their cultures worldwide through music.

Each concert filled the pack with hundreds of spectators that enjoyed the variety of the musical performances.

“These are not just concerts,” NEMPAC Executive Director Sherri Snow said. “They moments we will bring communities togeth-

er, build relationships, meet new neighbors, support the work of local artists and activate the beautiful public space on The Greenway with creative programming.”

Support from several partners, NEMPAC was able to extend the series an extra week and continue to attract top level talent according to Snow.

Sponsors that helped make the concerts possible include: North Street Grill, Rose Town Kitchen and, Canopy by Hilton, The Lupoli Family Foundation, City of Boston, Monroe Morrow Well Management, Eastern Bank and Golden Goose Markets.



Large turnout for jazz event.



Many music-lovers enjoyed the concert.

Candidates needed for possible NEWNC special election

By Phil Orlandella

In an effort to fill all the twelve (12) seats on the North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) the community group will hold a special meeting to amend its bylaws in order to fill the current six (6) vacant seats that exist.

The amendment also included a change from candidates securing 40 signatures on a nomination paper to qualify, to 25. Residents

signing nomination papers must be at least 18 years old.

Nonqualifying signatures will not be counted. Residents should secure more than the required amount necessary to be a candidate.

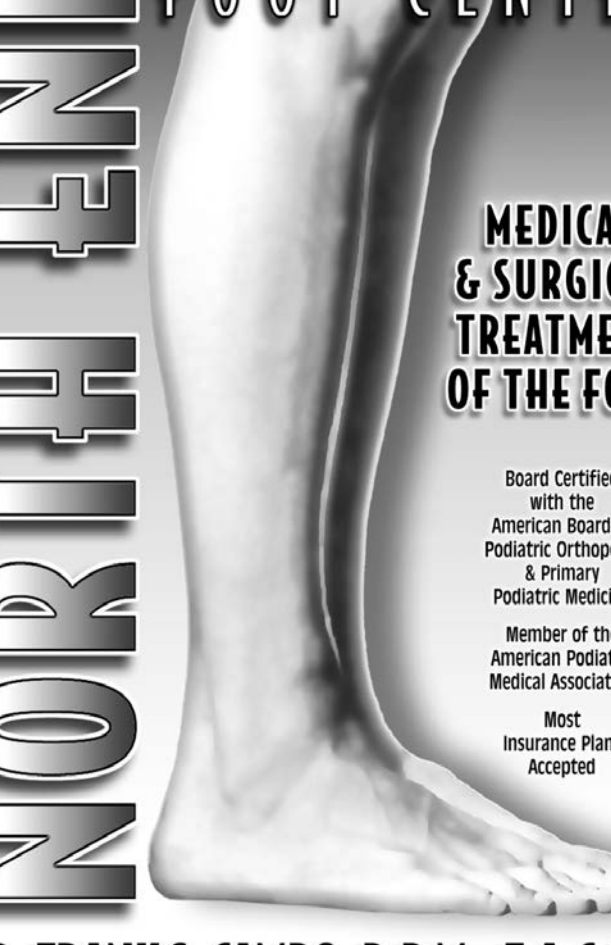
Nomination papers must be returned to the Nazzaro Community Center, 31 North Bennet Street by Monday, August 28.

“A special election will be held only if at least seven (7) candi-

dates submit qualified nomination papers for the current six (6) seats available on the twelve (12) member Council,” President Joel Faller said.

"However, if six (6) or less nomination papers are submitted then they will automatically become members of the Council," he added.

NEWNC was formed by the City of Boston, many years ago, to be the voice of the community in City Hall.



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EDITORIAL

TRUMP AND BIDEN: WORST CANDIDATES EVER?

As it becomes increasingly apparent that the candidates for President in 2024 will be Joe Biden and Donald Trump in a rematch of their 2020 campaign, it is understandable why Americans are so pessimistic about the future direction of the country.

Both men by far will be the oldest presidential candidates ever in our history, with Biden clocking in at 82 and Trump at 78. (Ronald Reagan was 69 when he first ran for President). And please, don't tell us that we're being ageist. The job of President of the United States is 24/7/365 and requires stamina and energy, traits that both men are sorely lacking.

Both are barely able to put together a complete sentence, let alone two (just read the transcripts of any of their interviews or speeches without a teleprompter) and Biden's mental faculties are diminishing almost on a daily basis. Biden has barely held any press conferences and when he does, he only responds to questions that mostly have been submitted in advance, a sign that his handlers know fully well that his mental acuity is severely diminished.

However, even more troubling than their advanced age are the scandals and legal troubles that will become the focus of their upcoming campaigns. We do not need to go into Trump's well-known myriad of legal problems, but Biden's issues with his son Hunter have become front-and-center in recent weeks.

What is most troubling about the Hunter Biden matter is Joe Biden's insistence, "My son has done nothing wrong," the President said on MSNBC in May. "I trust him. I have faith in him, and it impacts my Presidency by making me feel proud of him." (Whatever that's supposed to mean.)

However, Hunter Biden was willing to plead guilty to income tax charges, acknowledge his guilt in obtaining a handgun in violation of the law, AND wanted to be cleared of other possible crimes in a plea bargain deal that ultimately fell apart -- yet Joe Biden insists his "son has done nothing wrong"?

Even more significant and troubling are the many shady business deals by which Hunter Biden enriched himself based solely on his father's position. For example, when Hunter Biden flew with his father, who was then the vice-president, to China, he met with his "business associates" and 10 days later made a deal that netted him millions of dollars.

Although the majority of Americans would like to move on from both Biden and Trump, it would appear that we're stuck with them -- creating a campaign that will feature the most unpopular, and arguably the worst, candidates in American history -- one of whom is running to keep himself out of jail and the other to keep his son out of jail.

OUR AGE OF ANXIETY

The Wall St. Journal this past week featured a front page story entitled, "The Booming Business of American Anxiety." The issue of New York Magazine two weeks ago touched on the same subject with the cover story, "Trauma: America's Favorite Diagnosis."

Just this week, CNBC released a survey that reveals that confidence in the future of business conditions by small business owners is at an all-time low.

Statistics suggest that American society is coming apart, both mentally and physically. Our life expectancy has been declining for the past few years -- the pandemic had a lot to do with that -- but the opioid crisis, gun violence, and alcohol abuse also are factors playing a huge role in our collective demise.

More Americans than ever between the ages of 35-50 report that they are binge-drinking and more Americans over the age of 65, especially women, are succumbing to premature deaths from alcohol.

In addition, 40 percent of Americans are considered obese and another 32 percent are overweight -- which means that almost 3/4 of Americans have lifestyles that will lead to a future of diseases (diabetes, cancer, etc.) and physical limitations that will create a lifetime of anxiety and depression.

Our unhealthy food -- i.e., high in saturated fat, salt, and sugar -- is addictive, no less so than opioids. Just as the Sacklers gave us Oxycontin, the fast-food industry has given us triple-bacon-cheeseburgers with fries and super-size soft drinks -- the more we eat, the more we crave them.

It is not a coincidence that the average American male today weighs 30 pounds more than the average male in 1960 and the average female today weighs the same as that man in 1960 -- and in those same 60 years, the number of fast food franchises has grown exponentially. (In 1960, there were about 400 McDonald's and Burger King franchises in the U.S. and today there are about 20,000).

When you add in all of the "big picture" challenges presented by climate change, economic inequality, the conflicts with Russia and China, and the elimination of individual rights by a reactionary Supreme Court, it is not surprising that Americans are feeling more anxious than ever before.

It is not an exaggeration to say that anxiety is our new national disease -- and there is no cure in sight.

INVASION *(from pg. 1)*

through a second-floor window.

She also noted there was a pipe near the possible break in site that could have been used to get into her home.

Police found a hammer in the house but the victim didn't know if it was hers, stating if it was, it would have been in the cellar.

She bases this on the fact that the front of her home has security cameras that showed no illegal access to her property.

She also noted that the rooftop entrance and side doors were dead bolted making it impossible to gain access.

Ironically, later in the evening police responded to a report of several youth also gaining access to the same construction site and remove them, but no official report was available if they were arrested or charged with any crime.

Police believed they entered through the same security barrier on Snelling Place.

A resident apparently heard the officer that made the first arrest earlier in the day saying she couldn't believe these incidents happened on the same day, in the same location, without security problems being corrected at the barrier.

One resident, and abutter said, "This woman could have been seriously injured or even worse, and that the youth also could have been injured, or created damage to the site and the adjacent property."

It's not clear if the victim is filing any lawsuit at this time.

It's not clear if any suit will be filed by the property owners.

However, and abutter has filed civil action in Superior Court, against the developer Horace Dodd House LLC outlining many problems and incidents that occurred at the construction site, including safety issues.

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NEAA DODGES/NORTH ADAMS ALL STARS SPLIT HOME AND AWAY BASEBALL SERIES

By Phil Orlandella

The first two games of the 31st annual LaFesta Baseball Exchange was held in North Adams where the home team all stars squared off versus the NEAA (13-15) Dodgers. The teams split the series.

The 31-year-old tradition, as part of the North End Against Drugs (NEAA) weeklong family fun festival, the series was held at Puopolo Park with the teams once again winning a game each.

"Our good friends for over 33 years made the trip down from the Berkshires to a glorious weekend in Boston to complete the four-game series," NEAA Baseball Coordinator John Romano who has been actively involved since the beginning of the exchange, said.

"There were many events happening in Boston that weekend but all eyes were on Puopolo Park to watch some good old-fashioned

baseball," Romano noted.

"The players did not disappoint the standing room only capacity crowd," Romano said. "Even folks walking by the park stopped and watched the games."

Romano added, "The baseball was great. Pitching for the most part was awesome, but more importantly, twenty-four youth who never met before this exchange in North Adams, started a friendship with each other."

He noted, "It's a rarity in sports to see young people shake hands before the games, wishing each other well and when the game was over sat down and have a meal together, that's what we started 33 years ago."

The North End team, coaches and NEAA members that travel to North Adams were treated to similar hospitality by the Canales family.

Including this year's participants over 1,000 players and 120 plus games have been played during this annual exchange.



North End and North Adams Teams at Home plate at Puopolo Park after the game.



George Canales Throwing out the First Pitch on Saturday, August 5, at Puopolo Park.



George Cnales with NE Dodgers Catcher Jared Acevedo



John Romano and Tony Abusi - One of North Adams Founding Fathers of Baseball Exchange.



North End Coach and North Adams Coach with Two MVP winners with George Cnales - whom MVP award is named. Shown (left to right) are, Kevin Sullivan (N.E. coach), Carson Rylander (North Adams MVP), Ferdinand Carangelo (North End MVP). George Canales, Aaron Boone (North Adams Coach).



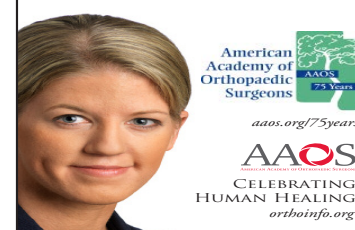
George and Nancy Canales from North Adams with NEAD Board Board Mmbebers at North End Family Pride Day. Shown are (left to right) Karen D'Amico, Maria Lanza, George Cnales, Nancy Canales, Ciara D'Amico (Mayor Wu's Liaison), Olivia Scimeca, John Romano.

A SHORT STORY ABOUT A MOTORCYCLE. AND A SUDDEN TURN.

When she was a young college student, Elisabeth Marra had a serious motorcycle accident that ultimately changed her life. Two years after the crash, her painful open fractures had failed to heal. Then she heard about a new and complex surgery pioneered by a surgeon who used a patient's own stem cells to concentrate the healing process. This time, her surgery and subsequent therapy were successful.

Elisabeth's experience caused her to redirect her own career aspirations. Inspired by the medical professionals who helped her reclaim her active lifestyle, she changed her major to study physical therapy—a profession where her own experience could help other patients prevail through difficult recoveries.

We tell Elisabeth Marra's story here to illustrate two of the most profound messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If reading it inspires just one more person to achieve something special, then its telling here has been well worth while.



NORTH END CELEBRATES THE FISHERMAN'S FEAST

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

The historic neighborhood of Boston's North End celebrated the Fisherman's Feast. An annual event that began in 1910, it is a tradition that dates back to the 16th Century in Sciacca Sicily with

fishermen honoring the Madonna del Soccorso (Our Lady Of Help). The Madonna del Soccorso statue is led through the streets of the North End with music, food and celebration abound.



Adriana DeStefano, owner of Cafe Paradiso with Madonna del Soccorso Society member Jimmy Bono Geany Street putting a ribbon on the statue.



The North End Marching Band appear in Pagliuca restaurant on Parmenter Street to perform to unsuspecting diners.



Jackie Lomino from Modern Pastry came out to put a ribbon on the statue of the Madonna del Soccorso.



Madonna del Soccorso Society member Ralph Amaroso with Joseph Pagliuca, owner of Pagliuca restaurant.



Claudia and Jerry, owners of Spagnolio's, with Madonna del Soccorso Society members after putting a ribbon on the statue.



Joseph Pagliuca, owner of Pagliuca restaurant, puts a money ribbon on the statue of the Madonna del Soccorso.



Rick Roczynski and Carol Shelby came out from dining at Lucca to see the statue.



Members of St Peter's Drum Corps from Torrington CT march down Cooper Street.

NORTH END CELEBRATES THE FISHERMAN'S FEAST

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



Joanne Capodilupo from L'Osteria Restaurant came out to put a ribbon on the statue of the Madonna del Soccorso.



Serina D'Amico lifts Lucy Strazzullo to put a ribbon on the statue of the Madonna del Soccorso.



Verito, Veronica, and Antonia Busa



The Madonna del Soccorso proceeds down Cooper Street.



The Madonna del Soccorso statue is brought down Hanover Street.



The Madonna del Soccorso statue is brought down Hanover Street.



The statue of the Madonna del Soccorso is brought down Hanover Street



Members of St Peter's Drum Corps from Torrington, Conn. march down Cooper Street.

Hayden announces Youth Advisory Council; encourages Suffolk County teens to apply

District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced the creation of the Suffolk County District Attorney's Youth Advisory Council, which will meet regularly throughout the school year to give Hayden's office insight into issues such as youth violence, gun possession, bullying, peer pressure, and substance abuse.

Applications for the council are available on the SCDAO website. Hayden is encouraging high school-aged teens throughout Suffolk County to apply.

The council will augment the office's other juvenile-focused initiatives, such as the Juvenile Alternative Resolution (JAR) program, which provides diversion options to eligible juvenile offenders.

"We are always seeking to better understand the factors that lead some of our young people down dangerous paths. We want to ensure that our youth have the resources and support in our communities to be safe. A helpful tool in doing so is to hear directly from them. We've seen over the past

few weeks some disturbing incidents involving violence committed by teens, including attacks on strangers and on police, and other young people being harmed. Our hope is to hear directly from our young residents what they think might be contributing to these types of behaviors and experiences. Arraigning young people on criminal charges is, sadly, something we sometimes need to do, but never something we want to do," Hayden said.

Members of Hayden's commu-

nity engagement team and juvenile unit will guide the council discussions and solicit participation and input from members on the array of issues facing teens throughout the county. Recent societal events have presented teens with particular challenges, Hayden said.

"The COVID pandemic has had a unique impact on today's young people. Put simply, teenagers in Boston and Suffolk County—and across America—have had their lives impacted in ways unlike any other time in our histo-

ry, and our goal is to learn directly from them the pressures they face on a daily basis. The Youth Advisory Council will not only provide our youth with an opportunity to voice concerns, but can empower them to take on a greater initiative. We're hoping their insight will help us develop approaches that keep teens away from behavior that can short-circuit their futures," Hayden said.

Healey-Driscoll Administration announces updates to MBTA communities guidelines

The Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) has announced updated Guidelines relative to the MBTA Communities law. In response to feedback from municipal leaders in several MBTA Communities, EOHLC is revising the Guidelines to offer cities and towns either directly served by or adjacent to MBTA services a path to receive some credit for residential unit capacity in mixed-use zoning districts. The guideline revisions also specify 13 additional discretionary grants that will take noncompliance of the law into consideration when awarding funds.

The MBTA Communities law (Section 3A of the state's Zoning Act) defines 177 cities and towns as MBTA Communities. These are municipalities that either host MBTA services or abut a city or town that hosts MBTA services. The law requires that an MBTA community shall have at least one zoning district of reasonable size in which multifamily housing is permitted as of right and meets other criteria set forth in the statute. The lack of zoning for multi-family housing is a barrier for new hous-

ing development in Massachusetts. By allowing multifamily housing near transit, we can create new housing options for families in walkable neighborhoods closer to transit options.

"The MBTA Communities law is a vital tool to incentivize and expedite much-needed housing development across the state," said Ed Augustus, Secretary of Housing and Livable Communities. "These updated guidelines demonstrate a collaborative effort with MBTA Communities to implement the law, ensure compliance, and provide reasonable adjustments to zoning requirements without reducing the total number of required housing units. Nevertheless, compliance with the law is mandatory and today's updates specify thirteen additional discretionary grant programs that will now take 3A non-compliance into consideration when awarding funds."

To date, EOHLC and the Massachusetts Housing Partnership have provided more than \$2 million in technical assistance to over 50 cities and towns. A total of 176 MBTA Communities are currently

compliant.

New Consideration for Mixed-Use Development

Under the updated Guidelines, EOHLC will take into account the existence and impact of "mixed-use" zoning that requires ground floor commercial uses in buildings that also allow residential use as-of-right on other floors. MBTA Communities always could allow ground floor commercial in their proposed multi-family zoning districts. However, before the changes, residential unit capacity in a property that required ground floor commercial could not "count" in any way towards its compliance with the law.

The updated Guidelines specifically:

- Allow an MBTA community to "offset" the minimum multi-family unit capacity requirement in certain multi-family zoning district(s) by up to 25%, based on the unit capacity of a mixed-use zoning district that meets key requirements of Section 3A and the Guidelines, but for requiring a ground floor non-residential component. Such "offset" – only available where existing village-style or downtown development is essential to preserve pedestrian access to amenities – still requires a municipality to demonstrate the same total amount of unit capacity.
- Protect the financial feasibility

of achieving housing goals where mixed-use zoning requires ground-floor non-residential uses by (i) setting forth location criteria for mixed-use development districts and requiring that EOHLC has pre-approved the location before the MBTA community's vote on its zoning changes; (ii) capping the percentage floor area of each development that may be required to be non-residential (ground floor only); (iii) requiring a broad mix of non-residential uses allowed as of right; and (iv) prohibiting minimum parking requirements for non-residential uses.

These revisions to the Guidelines are intended to provide greater flexibility to MBTA communities to adopt new zoning districts in mixed-use neighborhoods, and to promote housing opportunities for residents in such neighborhoods. The revisions do not reduce the total unit capacity required by the Guidelines.

"We urgently need to clear the way to build more housing in our suburban communities, but we don't want to squeeze out our restaurants, retailers, and other merchants in the process. These guideline adjustments will go a long way towards protecting our mom-and-pop merchants and small downtowns while – thanks to additional housing – will also create the vibrancy and foot traf-

fic our small businesses need to thrive. We appreciate that the Healey-Driscoll administration listened to the concerns many of us shared and put forth this thoughtful solution." Greg Reibman, president, Charles River Regional Chamber (Serving Newton, Needham, Watertown, and Wellesley).

Additional Discretionary Grant Programs Where Non-Compliance Will Be Considered

Section 3A states that any MBTA Community not in compliance with the law will not be eligible for three state discretionary grant programs: MassWorks, the Housing Choice Initiative, and the Local Capital Projects Fund.

The updated Guidelines list 13 discretionary grant programs that will take compliance with Section 3A into consideration when making grant award recommendations, emphasizing the seriousness with which the Healey-Driscoll Administration views compliance.

Those 13 additional grant programs are as follows:

- 1 Community Planning Grants, EOHLC,
- 2 Massachusetts Downtown Initiative, EOED,
- 3 Urban Agenda, EOED,
- 4 Rural and Small-Town Development Fund, EOED,
- 5 Brownfields Redevelopment Fund, MassDevelopment,
- 6 Site Readiness Program, MassDevelopment,
- 7 Underutilized Properties Program, MassDevelopment,
- 8 Collaborative Workspace Program, MassDevelopment,
- 9 Real Estate Services Technical Assistance, MassDevelopment,
- 10 Commonwealth Places Programs, MassDevelopment,
- 11 Land Use Planning Grants, EOEEA,
- 12 Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) Grants, EOEEA, and
- 13 Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Planning and Project Grants, EOEEA.

You'd think at least one of them could tell you how to renew a passport.



Not everyone in the government knows everything about the government. So when you need official info about Social Security, getting a passport, renewing a driver's license, or if you're just checking your local weather, go to FirstGov.gov. A monumental source of useful information.

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BOSTON'S CHINATOWN, HISTORY AND CUISINE

Residents will meet at the North End Library, 25 Parmenter Street, on Wednesday, September 20, at 6 p.m. to take a tour of Boston's Chinatown from your seat at the library!

Boston's Jacqueline Church, a renowned tour guide recognized by Yankee Magazine, Trip Advisor, and other media, will take you on a journey through Chinatown's history and its varied regional cuisines. As a founding member of FAN, which means rice or food in Chinese, her commitment to the vitality of Chinatown is evident. This organization focuses on food security, restaurant sustainability, and public art projects.

Jacqueline will also give her opinion on the best restaurants



Jacqueline Church.

in Chinatown as well as answering your other questions on Chinatown and Chinese cuisine.

Please join us for this free not to be missed experience.

The event has been organized, and is sponsored by, the Friends of the North End Library.

For more information concerning the Friends of the NE Library, please email, Info@FriendsNELibrary.org, or go to our Facebook and Instagram pages for membership information and a listing of other programs.

<https://www.instagram.com/friendsofnorthendlibrary/>

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofNorthEndLibrary/>

Also, remember our continuing improved daily book sale on the shelves in the back of the library which is the source of our funds to pay for these exciting programs.



The Chinatown gate.

Healey-Driscoll administration submits competitive federal grant applications

The Healey-Driscoll administration announced it has submitted federal grant applications to support the North Station Renovation and Draw 1 Bridge Replacement project as well as three other state projects, which represent a competitive bid for over \$2 billion in federal funding to support sustainable, equitable, and safe transportation projects across the Commonwealth.

Sponsored under the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Biden Administration accepted applications for the FY 2023-2024 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Opportunity with a deadline of August 21, 2023, for application submission. The MPDG is an umbrella term for three competitive grant programs issued under a joint Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). These programs are: the National Infrastructure Project Assistance grants program (MEGA), the Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highways Projects (INFRA) program, and the Rural Surface Transportation Grant program (Rural). The Healey-Driscoll Administration applied to all three funding programs as part of its competitive application process to secure federal dollars for Massachusetts infrastructure projects.

"From day one, we said our administration was going to compete for the unprecedented level of federal funding opportunities available to support infrastructure projects across our state that are crucial to our communities, economies, and environment. These ambitious applications represent an important step forward toward

delivering on that promise," said Governor Maura Healey. "We are grateful for the partnership of our state and federal delegations and our shared commitment to delivering results for the people of Massachusetts, from our rural, urban and coastal communities."

"It's hard to overstate the important impact these projects have on the lives on Massachusetts residents and our economy. They represent the gateway to beautiful beaches and towns of the Cape, a transformative opportunity to better connect multiple modes of transportation, improved commuter rail service, and an investment in our rural communities," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "Our administration is proud to be putting forward competitive, ambitious applications to support these projects and take advantage of the unprecedented levels of federal infrastructure funding made available by the Biden administration."

"MassDOT understands the needs of our residents and is using every opportunity we have to gain funding for these impactful projects," said Massachusetts Department of Transportation Secretary Gina Fiandaca. "From roads and bridges to pedestrian pathways, we need to be strategic, proactive, and resilient to best serve the people of Massachusetts. I want to thank the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and our elected delegations for their support as we submit these applications to better infrastructure for all."

"These grant applications are part of our whole-of-government

strategy for effectively leveraging President Biden's historic investments of federal funds to make Massachusetts more competitive, equitable and climate resilient," said Director of Federal Funds and Infrastructure Quentin Palfrey. "If awarded these projects will further important goals for community connectivity and access to multimodal transit across the Commonwealth."

The MBTA is seeking \$672 million in grant funding from National Infrastructure Project Assistance (MEGA) program and the Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highways Projects (INFRA) program for the construction phase of the North Station Renovation and Draw 1 Bridge Replacement Project.

Draw 1 is a critical connection that carries all MBTA Commuter Rail traffic on the north side of Boston across the Fitchburg, Lowell, Haverhill, and Gloucester/Newburyport Lines. It is the last crossing before these trains terminate at North Station. Draw 1 is also a critical asset for Amtrak's Downeaster, as ten Downeaster trains traverse the bridge into Boston per day. This Project will support improved service, facilitating the growth of this critical New England route.

The existing bridge structure and associated signaling and control tower are outdated and in need of significant repair and maintenance, leading to service delays. In addition to replacing the bridge and upgrading signals, the project will also widen a bottleneck across the bridge from four to six tracks and extend and activate two additional tracks at

North Station, resulting in significant operational improvements, strengthened service, and anticipated reduced congestion.

"The project to replace the North Station drawbridge is crucial to ensuring that we can safely and reliably provide train service in and out of North Station. It will allow us to operate trains more efficiently as we expand the number of tracks across a new bridge," said MBTA General Manager and CEO Phillip Eng. "This is a sig-

nificant investment in our MBTA system to better serve the public, and we are confident that our forward strategy to pursue and secure federal funding will help us meet our capital needs. I want to thank the Healey-Driscoll administration for their leadership and support and our dedicated Finance team for their diligent work. This project is another step to fulfill our commitment to rebuild the MBTA system for our riders and for future generations."

TRAFFIC ADVISORY

Events happening in the City of Boston will bring some parking restrictions and street closures. People attending these events are encouraged to walk, bike, or take public transit. Information on Bluebikes, the regional bike share service, may be found on the website and information on the MBTA may be found online. The MBTA advises riders to purchase a round-trip rather than a one-way ticket for a faster return trip. Walking is also a great way to move around.

Saint Anthony - Saint Lucy Festival - Wednesday, August 23, 2023 through Sunday, August 27, 2023.

The annual Saint Anthony - Saint Lucy Festival will occur within the North End, with set-up beginning on Wednesday, August 23, 2023.

Parking restrictions and some road closures will be in effect on the following streets:

- Cooper Street, Both sides, from Endicott Street to North Washington Street.
- Endicott Street, Both sides, from Cooper Street to North Washington Street.
- Thacher Street, Both sides, from North Washington Street to Prince Street.
- North Margin Street, Both sides, from Cooper Street to Lafayette Avenue.
- North Washington Street, Northside (odd side), from Thacher Street to Causeway Street.
- Medford Street, Southwest, from North Washington Street Causeway Street, on parking meters only

Visit www.northendregionalreview.com

CITY PAWS

Tasty treats

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Most dogs will work for rewards. We pay them with treats and praise. Both are important. Did you know some researchers and behaviorists recommend finding three levels of treats to tempt your dog?

Behaviourist Cathy Madson, MA, FDM, CBCC-KA, CPDT-KA, writing for www.preventivevet.com, rates treats as high, medium, and low value to dogs. She explained that the correct value treat can make a big difference in your training sessions' success.

Madison recommends using high-value treats when training a new behavior, when there are distractions, and when working on counter-conditioning. Use your medium-value goodies for everyday rewards, to maintain a learned behavior, and as a part of enrichment activities. Low-value treats are a C grade in training. The dog did what you wanted but could have done better. She also recommends lower value "When you're working on fading out the use of treats for a specific behavior."

How to Test Treat Value

You can do an at-home test to determine what rewards work best for each animal. You do this by letting the dog choose between two tidbits. (All training treats should be small, even for large dogs.)

Put a different treat in each hand or under a cup. Present those options and give the reward that the dog sniffed, licked, or pawed at the most. Test the winner against other treats until you have a win, place, and show option.

Popular with Dogs

Some foods that dogs treasure the most are not necessarily popular with people—dogs like stinky treats. We resorted to highly odoriferous dried mussels for our second Westie, Maggie Mae, who turned her little black nose up at most foods.

Other high-value dog treats are bits of cheese, dried liver, hot dog pieces, small pieces of meat, and peanut butter. It's easy to have treats ready to grab at home, but when you are out and about, you'll need to store treats in a pocket or pouch. Think about testing options that will work in both situations.

Check the Ingredients

When considering choices, check the ingredients. For example, suppose you use peanut butter in a Kong when working on separation anxiety. In that case, you have to be sure it doesn't contain Xylitol which is toxic to dogs and requires immediate veterinary care if ingested.

You also have to think about allergies. We only buy oat-based



Eyes on the prize! Find the treats that will capture your dog's attention despite distractions. (Photo by Sofia Potanina)

treats for Westies since some of them have an allergy to other grains. We choose commercial treats where all the ingredients are real foods, not chemicals and additives.

Single Ingredient Treats

Those of us in the Boston area have had a great source of single-ingredient dog treats for many years from Polkadog Bakery. Today, in addition to eight shops in the Greater Boston area, they

have a kitchen that makes Polkadog-branded treats on the Boston Fish Pier. These are available by mail order.

Your taste test might include dried cod skins, salmon chips, chicken strips, pork liver jerky, or dried silverside fish. With many distinct flavor options, you can avoid treat burnout when, in time, a high-value treat slips into medium-value territory.

You may have single-ingredient treats in your kitchen. Our

first Westie Sassy would cry for raw rutabaga. Weight control was always an issue with her, so we used crunchy carrots as a reward. Check the online lists of human foods that are safe for dogs and see if any of these fit into one or more of the treat levels as you get your taste tests underway.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT DEPARTMENT SUFFOLK SS Docket No. SU22P0126PM To all persons interested in the estate of Marilyn Smith of Boston, MA Suffolk County in said County, incapacitated

person single. A petition has been presented to said Court for license to sell at private sale-public auction-certain real estate of said Marilyn Smith, for her maintenance - and praying that the petitioner may become the purchaser of said real estate. If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in

said Court at 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the 19th day of September 2023, the return day of this citation. Witness, Brian. J. Dunn, Esquire, First Judge of said Court this 8th day of August 2023. Vincent Procopio, Register

8/24/23
RR

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

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The Construction Look-Ahead for the North Washington St. Bridge until September 2 is as follows:

Scheduled Work

- Installation of concrete bridge barriers and sidewalks
- Off-bridge utility work and cutover to permanent bridge
- Off-bridge approach barrier and curb work

Work Hours

- Most work will be done during weekday daytime hours (6:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

Contraflow Pilot

- The MassDOT-implemented contraflow pilot will continue to be in effect during evening peak traffic (3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.), Monday through Friday.

- Police details, lane markings, temporary barriers, traffic cones, signage, and other tools

will be used to control traffic during set up and operation of the contraflow.

Travel Tips

For everyone using the temporary bridge, please help share the space: walk to the right, walk bikes, and be mindful of people coming from both directions, if walking in a large group.

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

The Tudor Wharf Walkway (under the bridge next to the water in Paul Revere Park) will be intermittently closed for safety during construction operations, with access provided via the Water

Street underpass. The Boston Harborwalk under the bridge and eastern/harborside bridge sidewalk remain closed until rebuilt.

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

Other Events

8/19 at 6:30 p.m., 8/22 at 11:00 a.m., 8/23 at 3:00 p.m., and 9/2 at 7:00 p.m.

How can I find more information?

Stay up-to-date and informed by following the @MassDOT twitter account and Mass 511 for real-time updates, visiting the project website, or emailing us with any questions.

NEMO brings CFA show to MetroWest on August 27

What do community organizer and radio talk show host Ron Bell and Boston Globe travel writer and columnist Christopher Muther have in common? On Sunday, August 27, the answer will be CATS!

Both men are guest judges for an event that's always the highlight of New England Meow Outfit, Inc's (NEMO) annual cat show – the Cat and Owner Costume Contest! The contest celebrates the human-animal bond in a most a-mewsing way: Participants and their cats in coordinated (or otherwise related) outfits will slowly parade past the two judges, each of whom will select a different winning pair to receive a \$40 PetSmart gift card. Russell Webb, allbreed judge and Vice President of the Cat Fanciers' Association (CFA), will serve as Master of Ceremonies for the event. It's all part of a two-day cat show being held at The VERVE Hotel Boston, 1360 Worcester Street, in Natick, August 26 and 27. (Costume contest participants must be entered in the cat show in order to compete.)

Bell is a prominent community organizer and activist from Boston's Mission Hill neighborhood. He is also a tireless advocate for social justice, best known as the founder of the Dunk the Vote organization, which focuses on increasing participation and voter turnout. He is affiliated with Boston Black News and co-hosts the Morning Crew radio show on WBPB-LP 102.9 FM Radio.

Muther is a travel writer and columnist for the Globe, a part-time DJ and a full-time feline enthusiast. A graduate of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, he formerly covered fashion and style for the G section of the Globe and served as an Adjunct Professor at Massachusetts College of Art and Design.

The contest is just one small part of the cat show, which is expected to bring together over 100 cats and over 30 pedigreed breeds, as well as a clowder of household

pets. Eight professional judges affiliated with the Cat Fanciers' Association (the world's oldest and largest registry of pedigreed cats) will present and evaluate the cats for awards. Pedigreed cats will be judged based on their breed standard, which details the "perfect" example of each breed – for example, head shape, body length, coat quality, and color. Household pets are judged on an individual level – their looks, personality, and grooming come heavily into play. Any cat may be entered in this class – it is very inclusive and fun to watch.

Breeders will be on hand to meet spectators and help them learn about the different breeds. Vendors of cat-related articles will also be on hand for your shopping pleasure, and a raffle will offer visitors a chance to win everything from cat trees to jewelry to wine.

For kids, there's even a stuffed animal contest with prizes, held on Saturday afternoon. Also on Saturday afternoon, Show Manager Iris Zinck (who is a CFA affiliated judge) will conduct the Kitty Play-offs, a contest to determine the most playful cat or kitten entered in the show.

Area cat lovers are welcome to enter their own cats (by August 21) so they can participate in the show, too. Kittens and Household Pets can be entered without a registration number, but all others must obtain a number from CFA. (More info at <https://cfa.org/blog/events/new-england-meow-outfit-aug23/>)

Spectators are welcome throughout the event, which runs from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. each day. Admission is \$12 for adults, \$10 for children under 12, and those under 5 are FREE!!

Advance tickets are highly recommended due to limited capacity!

Tickets are available via: <https://nemocatshow.ticketleap.com/dont-miss-bostons-only-cfa-cat-show>.

BUYER 1 BACK BAY

Ciampi, Mary
Hoeck, James T
Mako Nt
Stephen M Jenks Ft
Vogelzang, Daniel
Raffbby T
Raffles Unit 30b LLC
Hegarty, Michael
Damesek, Jayne

BEACON HILL

Neseralla, Jameson
Katherine M Majzoub Ft
Weatherford, Robert D

BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE

Resor, Charles
Leoutsakos, Nicholas
Fitzgibbon, Sean P
Lapalme, Nicholas
Krohn, David T
Mercurio, Christopher
Boering, Kristie A
Davis, Edward F
G Randall Chamberlain RET
Laparidis, Martha
Alexandra Jelic Novak T
Ross, Franklin
Savage, Christine
Prasad, Pranav S
Yip, Chi C
Jane A Brown Marital T
Yang, Yun
Marin, Sergio E
Shi, Lan
Drop Ship Logistics Inc
Ghoreishi, Seyede F
Dopulos, Peter
Aubuchon, Chloe D
Pereira-Kamath, Nikhil L
Rubio, Priscila A
White, Cynthia E
Sareddy, Bhanuprakash

WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN

Emerson College
Nappa, Edward
Mentor, Christina
Lin, Stephnie W
Lee, Gin Y
20 Rows Wharf Unit 306 L
Zhou, Julia

Real Estate Transfers

SELLER 1

Hegarty, Michael
Hochman, Daniel J
Unit 4 Marlborough 185 L
Lafayette Square LLC
Ts Pied-A-Terre Hldg LLC
Ts Residences Hld LLC
Ts Residences Hld LLC
Ciampi, Mary
M Schwartz Lifetime Ft

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2 Clarendon St #706
185 Marlborough St #4
400 Stuart St #16J
430 Stuart St #1601
430 Stuart St #29G
430 Stuart St #30B
401 Beacon St #1B
416 Marlborough St #203

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Bond, Matthew P
Clifford, Timothy
Stone, Jennifer

18 Garden St #4
145 Pinckney St #123
19 Revere St #6

\$995,500
\$632,500
\$614,500

Div Shawmut LLC
Bilican, Bilada
Holland, Jeffrey R
Mahoney, Christopher F
103 Appleton St LLC
Chandler Realty LLC
Duval, Tom
Hall, David P
Chamberlain, Judith F
Mone, Nell B
Panic, Milan
3kwl Boston LLC
Putnam 234 Associates LL
Ckg Columbus LLC
Ckg Columbus LLC
Ckg Columbus LLC
Ckg Columbus LLC
Mauro, Jordan
Wang, Jing
Mintz, Daniel
Huq, Najmul
Gavilanes, Matthew
Schoenberger, Michael A
Yancheck, John M
Gustafson, Erik K
Barrett, Jacqueline N
Sherbet, Eric

100 Shawmut Ave #903
16 Symphony Rd #5
156 W Brookline St
25 Clark St #2
103 Appleton St #3
60 Chandler St #2
8 Garrison St #311
16 Gray St #6
1 Huntington Ave #204
38-40 Saint Botolph St #47
188 Brookline Ave #20H
188 Brookline Ave #70
234 Causeway St #1014
566 Columbus Ave #201
566 Columbus Ave #202
566 Columbus Ave #314
566 Columbus Ave #412
405 Commonwealth Ave #10
416 Commonwealth Ave #120
22 E Springfield St #3
16 Miner St #601
60 Queensberry St #B
98 W Springfield St #1
212 W Springfield St #2
1411 Washington St #12A
1597 Washington St #610
9-11 Worcester Sq #3

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Wu announces expansion of Swim Safe program

Special to the Regional Review

Mayor Michelle Wu, the City of Boston's Human Services Cabinet, and Boston Centers for Youth & Families announced applications are now open for Swim Safe Boston grants to support non-profit organizations in Boston that provide free aquatics programming to residents. The grant funding follows a successful launch of the Swim Safe program announced this summer. Demand for free swim lessons has been high, demonstrating the need for an expansion of the Swim Safe campaign. Through these grants, the city is allocating additional funding to offer year-round capacity, especially for beginner-level swim lessons.

Additionally, the City is acting with urgency to renovate several city-owned pools, many of which were built in the 1970s. Mayor Wu has made an unprecedented commitment to aquatics programming by commissioning a first-ever citywide evaluation of aquatics infrastructure with the goal of expediting the improvements

needed to get city pools back open. In addition to the assessment, this fiscal year, Mayor Wu allocated \$34.3 million in the FY24-FY28 capital plan for repairing and renovating the city's pools.

"Swimming is a life skill that goes beyond the summer months, so we're thrilled to be able to expand the Swim Safe lessons year-round," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I encourage all community partners offering aquatics programming to apply for these grants so we can continue growing this successful initiative. By eliminating financial barriers to lessons and investing in our pool facilities, we're making Boston a safer, more fun place for families."

Interested Swim Safe grant applicants should carefully review the application materials and fill out this form to be considered for a Swim Safe grant. Awardees must be non-profit organizations that operate aquatics facilities that are located in the City of Boston. The maximum award that will be considered for this opportunity is \$150,000. The grant application will close at 4:00 p.m. on Friday,

September 15.

Swim Safe is part of Mayor Wu's Connect, Learn, Explore: Commitment to Youth, a commitment to giving Boston youth an opportunity to explore and discover their passions. The funding to support swim instruction builds off the Mayor's commitment to ensure all Boston kids learn to swim and can safely enjoy our City's coastline and pools.

"The Swim Safe Boston grant program will help ensure that our partners have year-round support to help meet the high demand for swim lessons in Boston," said Human Services Chief José F. Massó. "We are excited to see so much enthusiasm for swimming and we want to continue the momentum generated this summer into the school-year."

As a coastal city with numerous pools and natural bodies of water, Boston families have an array of opportunities to enjoy water recreation. Swim Safe is focused on removing barriers to water access and increasing safety among Boston residents. Nationally, fatal drowning is the leading cause of

death for children ages 1-4 years old and the second leading cause of injury death for children ages 5-14 (CDC). Black and Latino youth are less likely to know how to swim and therefore are at higher risk of drowning (CDC).

The City of Boston is seeking to remedy this disparity by investing in swim lessons, repairing the city's public pools, and recruiting and training lifeguards to staff the city's pools. The grant program announced today will be available to organizations that operate pools in Boston and have experience offering programming to the public. Swim lessons will be prioritized for funding, though other free aquatics programming is also eligible for Swim Safe grant support.

"I'm a mom of five-year-old twin boys and grateful for the opportunity to get them comfortable and safe in the water," said Elizabeth Lendor, whose twin boys are learning to swim at BCYF Hennigan Community Center. "With paid swim programs at capacity in and around the City of Boston, it's nothing short of a miracle that we were able to get a spot for both

boys and for free!"

"Boston Centers for Youth & Families is excited to be able to offer funding to support our aquatics partners across the city," said Marta E. Rivera, Commissioner of Boston Centers for Youth & Families. "Together, we operate pools in every neighborhood and will use this partnership to offer free and accessible aquatics programming to Boston's families."

The City of Boston is working across departments to renovate several of our city-owned pools, following years of disinvestment. Over the last 3 months, the City has reopened the BCYF Paris Street Pool in East Boston and the BCYF Hennigan Pool in Jamaica Plain. The BCYF Paris Street Pool reopening was the result of a \$10.2 million investment, featuring an open, airy main entrance and lobby, fully renovated changing rooms, a new pool filter room, mechanical and electrical upgrades, building interior and exterior repairs, and other upgrades making it a more inviting and user-friendly space.

North End Against Drugs THANKS

ALL WHO MADE OUR 2023 FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL A HUGE SUCCESS: — OUR 33RD YEAR of SERVING THE COMMUNITY!

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