



THE NORTH END

REGIONAL REVIEW

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NEMPAC BREAK FUNDRAISING RECORD

The North End Music & Performing Arts Center's (NEMPAC's) annual Performathon, on Saturday, April 6, raised \$27,752. Shown above is the Eliot School Band performing at the event. Below left is adult voice student Natalie Chandler. Below right is voice student Arianna C. See Page 6 for more photos.



Courtesy photos

Four EV charging stations slated for North Street

By Phil Orlandella

The demand for EV charging is growing and city officials are gearing up to meet the challenge.

As part of the ongoing demonstration efforts, the City of Boston's EV Charging Program, installation of 120 curbside electric vehicle charging ports, will be placed across the city, including at least four of them in the North End on North Street.

Still in the design and engineering phases the program seeks to allow residents the opportunity to possibly own electric vehicles that helped reduce transportation greenhouse gas emissions during the first phase of the project.

The goal is to have accessible EV charging stations in communities within a five-minute walk

from households.

Four level IT charging ports are planned for 147 North Street in any area that is residential parking, and will be available on a 24-hour basis.

Signage will be changed to "No Parking Except for Resident Permit Electrical Vehicles" while charging in four-hour limits.

Flo Coker + Max with single port stations with cable management will be installed.

The station pedestal is ten inches wide and seven feet tall and is capable of providing up to 19.2kw of charge per hour.

Locations were selected based on an analysis of existing conditions, infrastructure requirements, request from residents and to fill the gaps in the five-minute walking distance.

Citywide Love Your Block event set for April 20

Special to the Regional Review

Love Your Block is a Citywide community service event comes to the North End on this Saturday, April 20. The Office of Civic Organizing (OCO) invite community members to lead in hosting a neighborhood cleanup or joining a cleanup as an individual volunteer. Love Your Block neighborhood beautification projects include cleaning up trash on sidewalks and streets, park revitalization, and flower planting. The Love Your Block application is open for volunteers to sign up to become a host or join a neighborhood cleanup. City officials will connect individuals with a cleanup site in their neighborhood once all sites are finalized.

"Love your Block cleanups are a perfect way to enjoy the upcoming

spring weather while helping your local community look vibrant and clean," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "The City is proud to help supply the tools to host group cleanups and assist individuals in finding a Love Your Block volunteer opportunity near them."

Cleanups will take place in every neighborhood of Boston over the course of three weekends. This weekend the local neighborhoods include:

Charlestown, East Boston, North End/West End/Wharf District, Chinatown/Downtown/Leather District, South End/Bay Village

The Love Your Block program was first created in 2015 with a three-year grant awarded to the

(Block Pg. 3)

Visit www.northendregional.com

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

EDITORIAL

BATTEN DOWN THE HATCHES

The Department of Atmospheric Science at Colorado State University has released its annual forecast for the 2024 hurricane season and it is nothing less than frightening, with a prediction that the 2024 Atlantic hurricane season will have activity well above average. Their summary is as follows:

"We estimate that 2024 will have 23 named storms (average is 14.4), 115 named storm days (average is 69.4), 11 hurricanes (average is 7.2), 45 hurricane days (average is 27.0), 5 major (Category 3-4-5) hurricanes (average is 3.2), and 13 major hurricane days (average is 7.4). The probability of U.S. and Caribbean major hurricane landfall is estimated to be well above its long- period average. We predict Atlantic basin Accumulated Cyclone Energy (ACE) and Net Tropical Cyclone (NTC) activity in 2024 to be approximately 170 percent of their long- term averages."

The reasons behind the forecast are two-fold: The first is that the El Nino weather pattern of the past few years has changed into a La Nina pattern, which means that the upper-atmospheric wind shear conditions of El Nino that prevent hurricanes from forming will dissipate, thereby creating conditions favorable to hurricane formation.

The second major factor is that ocean water temperatures are soaring beyond anything ever seen before. Warm water temperatures are the fuel for hurricanes, but the unprecedented high ocean temperatures we are experiencing all around the world -- every day literally is setting a new record -- will provide the rocket fuel that will feed tropical storms that will propel them to strengthen into major hurricane status.

While the change from an El Nino weather pattern to a La Nina pattern is a normal occurrence, the dramatic increase in ocean temperatures is attributable to climate change thanks to the ever-increasing amount of fossil-fuels that the world continues to spew into the atmosphere.

We haven't had a major hurricane in our little corner of the world in a while, so we are overdue -- and thanks to the effects of climate change exacerbating every meteorological event, we could be in for a long, hot -- and dangerous -- summer and autumn.

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

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OPINION BY PHIL ORLANDELLA

IT'S ABOUT TIME ELAINE WILSON WAS RECOGNIZED

Over 50 years ago, a group of concerned residents spearheaded by community activist Elaine Wilson fought for and eventually established a much-needed health center in the community.

Wilson patiently paved the way

to ensure the community endeavor would become a reality. She is known as the founder of the first and only major Health Center in the North End. She was also the first CEO of what is now called NEW Health located on Hanover Street.

Wilson's mission was to deliver an equitable, high-quality care center for the community. A successful endeavor to say the least.

For the past 53 years the Center has provided high quality service to the neighborhood thanks to Wilson's dedication, determination and foresight.

Recently, NEW Health placed a plaque in the Center honoring Wilson. They also created an annual Elaine Wilson scholarship.

It's about time!

North End car crash results in an arrest

By Phil Orlandella

During a car crash on Commercial Street in the North End one witness, encounter a man that apparently exited the vehicle that caused the accident with blood on his face, and ran toward the street trying to get away from the man who flagged down a police car.

Another resident claimed the

man tried to gain access to his home.

He noted that he could hear someone falling down the steps and the man asked him if he could go inside his home, but did not succeed and ran away.

Police were given directions where the man was heading and eventually arrested the man in the Coast Guard Base area of Commercial Street.

Rumors have it that a gun was spotted at the site of the crash. No weapon was found.

Other than the arrested man, no other injuries were reported.

He was arraigned in Boston Municipal Court and was charged with multiple charges.

Channel 7 was on the scene and reported the incident and interviewed eyewitnesses.

Boston officials hosts Citizenship Day April 27

Mayor Michelle Wu, the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement (MOIA), and Project Citizenship are hosting Citizenship Day on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury. The annual event is an opportunity for people who are eligible for naturalization to get free legal help with their citizenship application. People must first call 617-694-5949 to make an appointment.

"Citizenship Day is an important and beloved tradition for our Office for Immigrant Advancement in welcoming so many community members," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "As the daughter of two immigrant parents who became naturalized citizens, I know the pride and deep connection that can come from officially becoming a citizen, so it's especially meaningful to collaborate on removing barriers to the citizenship process. I want to thank Project Citizenship for their partnership and the hundreds of volunteers who make this event possible."

Between the costs of legal fees and the USCIS application fee, the process to become a U.S. citizen can be prohibitively expensive. But on Citizenship Day in Boston, hundreds of community volunteers, law students, and pro bono

attorneys help people fill out their citizenship application for free. Applicants still need to pay the USCIS application fee, but those who are low-income may qualify for a fee waiver.

"Citizenship can be a life-changing benefit that allows for increased family reunification, freedom from deportation, and opportunities to become more civically engaged through voting and running for office. We are proud to have sponsored this event for 10 years," said Monique Tú Nguyen, Executive Director of the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement.

"Citizenship shouldn't just be for those who can afford it. By providing free legal help, we make sure everyone eligible has the opportunity to participate fully in our democracy," said Gail Breslow, Executive Director of Project Citizenship. "Not only do they and their families benefit, but so do their communities, the city of Boston, and the United States of America."

The City of Boston has partnered with nonprofit Project Citizenship for this event since 2014. It is the largest citizenship workshop in New England, serving more than 3,000 people to date.

About 30,000 Boston residents

are eligible for U.S. citizenship. Applicants must be at least 18 years old; a permanent legal resident for five years or three years if married to a U.S. citizen; able to read, write and speak basic English (some exceptions apply); and not have traveled extensively outside the U.S. in the past five years. Project Citizenship will tell people if they qualify when they call 617-694-5949 for an appointment.

To learn more about Citizenship Day in Boston, eligibility, and the benefits of becoming a U.S. citizen, visit boston.gov/immigrants.

The Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement (MOIA) strives to strengthen the ability of immigrants to fully and equitably participate in economic, civic, social, and cultural life in Boston. MOIA also promotes the recognition and public understanding of the contributions of immigrants to the City. To learn more, visit boston.gov/immigrants.

Project Citizenship is a nonprofit agency that provides free, high quality legal services to permanent residents to help them become U.S. citizens. Project Citizenship offers free workshops, eligibility screening, application assistance, legal referrals and all materials needed to apply for U.S. citizenship.

NEAA Baseball Opening Day April 27

By Phil Orlandella

Teams are already practicing getting ready for the start of the North End Athletic Association (NEAA) 2024 Baseball Program.

Both boys and girls ages 4-15, will have the opportunity to participate in one of the baseball programs including a clinic for 4 + 5-year-olds on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM and T-Ball on Sunday mornings at 11:30 AM.

Commissioner John Pregmon will oversee the Minor League that consists of six teams, playing Monday through Thursday.

Commissioner Rick Marinetti will handle the Majors 9-12-year-olds that will also play Monday through Thursday.

NEAA Baseball Coordinator Ralph Martignetti will oversee other programs.

Opening Day is slated for Saturday, April 27 with Minor League games at 10 AM and the Majors at 12 noon. Opening ceremonies will honor lifetime NEAA supporter and former Little League coach John Fiumara who will toss out the traditional first pitch and received an award for his community involvement.

Opening Day will also include a BBQ, face painting, balloon making, refreshments and much more for the entire family.

This season, the NEAA welcomes Dick's House of Sports as a new league-wide sponsor.

The traveling Dodgers team

will play in the Lou Tompkins Baseball League (13-15-year-olds) starting mid-June.

A partnership has been developed between the NEAA and the North End Executive Girls Softball Program (ages 13-18-year-olds).

The Boston Red Sox Foundation Jr. FBI Program, Saint Lucy Feast Society and Soma Yoji are sponsoring the Clinic and T-Ball programs.

Team sponsors are Knights of Columbus, McGovern Auto Group, North End Food Tour, Boston Bottle, North End Cares, Richard's Motocross, Saint Anthony's Society, Saint Agrippina Society, Tomasone Club, and the Regional Review.

Lantern reenactment held that Old North Church

By Phil Orlandella

Old North Church Illumination in the North End conducted a Patriots' Day weekend with reenactment of the famous lantern signal that lit way for Paul Revere's midnight ride and the American Revolution.

During the event, Commander Billie J. Farrell, the 77th Commander and the first female leader of the USS Constitution received the 2024 Third Lantern Award for breaking the barrier and exemplifying the values reflected in Old North's famous lantern courage, leadership, team-

work and active citizenship.

There where many revolutionary sights and sounds at the historic reenactment of the April 18, 1775 hanging of two lanterns in the old North Church's steeple as a warning that British troops were on the move.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction look-ahead for the North Washington Street Bridge through April 27 is as follows:

Scheduled Work

- Removal of temporary Paul Revere Park abutment
 - Cofferdam installation
- Work Hours
- Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 - Saturday from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Travel Tips

For everyone using the east sidewalk of the new bridge, please help

share the space: walk to the right, walk bikes, and be mindful of people coming from both directions, if walking in a large group.

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

The Tudor Wharf Walkway (under the bridge next to the water in Paul Revere Park) will

be intermittently closed for safety during construction operations, with access provided via the Water Street underpass. The Boston Harborwalk under the bridge and eastern/harborside bridge sidewalk remain closed until rebuilt.

How can I find more information?

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

NEAA Lacrosse Program expands

By Phil Orlandella

Going into a second season of a weekly lacrosse clinic at Puopolo Park, the North End Athletic Association (NEAA) has expanded the program and two traveling teams, according to Sports Coordinator John "JR" Romano.

"There was only a weekly clinic for boys and girls, ages 4-11,"

Romano said.

"Starting in April, we will not only have a weekly clinic on Sunday afternoons at Puopolo Park, we have entered two teams, first and second grade boys, in the MYL traveling team program," Romano added.

Three games will be played at home at Puopolo Park and three games on the road. The teams will play their first game at Puopolo

Park on April 21, one game at 9 AM, the second at 10:15 AM.

Commissioner David Paolisso and the NEAA hopes to see lots of community support at home games.

McGovern Auto Group is the clinic sponsor. Team sponsors are: Ausonia Council #1513 Knights of Columbus and Sidecar by Boston Auto.

BLOCK (from pg. 1)

City of Boston by Cities of Service. After the grant's expiration in 2018, Love Your Block became a permanent City program under the Mayor's Office of Civic Organizing (within the Community Engagement Cabinet). This year, OCO will partner with Boston Public Library and Boston Centers for Youth and Families who will serve as host sites for community members to pick up and drop off cleanup tools. All sites are listed on the Love Your Block sign up form. Tool collection is scheduled from 9:00 -10:00 a.m., with returns to the same location between 12 - 2 p.m.

"Having served as East Boston's liaison, I've seen the transformative power of this initiative firsthand," said Director of Civic Organizing Nathalia Benitez-Perez. "Love Your Block empowers residents to take charge of their community's well-being through collective action and beautification efforts. I'm thrilled to carry forward this tradition of fostering empowerment and unity."

In past Love Your Block cleanups, neighborhood groups have picked up litter from streets and

sidewalks, beautified local parks, cleaned up vacant lots, urban wilds, and more. For tips on how to plan and host a cleanup in your neighborhood, OCO has created a helpful guide.

"In 2022, fourteen volunteers from Prospect Hill and Mt. Hope neighborhoods of Roslindale turned out to clean up the pedestrian walkways of the Blakemore Street Bridge," said Friends of Blakemore Bridge Co-Founder Meri Bond. "By the end of the day not only had they removed the leaves, litter, bottles and nips that had been accumulating along the Bridge for years, they had enjoyed meeting one another and working together for a common purpose."

"Love Your Block is an event that I look forward to the Mayor's Office of Civic Organizing leading every year," said Brianna Millor, Chief of the Community Engagement Cabinet. "This is an effort for our Cabinet alongside Boston residents, community leaders, and volunteers to beautify every Boston neighborhood together. I look forward to seeing everyone in April to keep our neighborhoods clean."

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IN BRIEF By Phil Orlandella

NEWRA OPPOSES MAMA MARIA NEW LOUNGE/BAR

By a vote of 8-10 the North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) opposed the request by Mama Maria Restaurant, 3 North Square to convert a portion of the third-floor offices and storage into a waiting lounge with a bar for about 15 people.

An application to the Zoning Board of Appeal to change the legal occupancy at 23 Clark Street from 9 apartments to 10 apartments did not require any action by NEWRA.

NEWNC VOTES ON THREE AGENDA ITEMS

Three agenda items for consideration were taken action on at the April North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC). Were supported unanimously.

A request for a liquor license transfer from 353 Hanover Street to was supported by the neighborhood elected group.

Former site of Pomado Restaurant. New eatery Papparo Ristorante seating for 50 customers.

An application for Mama Maria Restaurant, 3 North Square to change the eatery's layout by

converting the third-floor office and storage area to include a waiting lounge/bar with seating for 15 people increasing the restaurant's total seating by 4 was supported by NEWNC. The application seeks a variance and change its liquor license to reflect the new layout.

A request to change the occupancy at 23 Clark Street from 9 apartments to 10 apartments was approved by the Council.

NEWRA PRESIDENT FOCCP SPRING MEETING SPEAKER

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) Spring May meeting guest speaker will be North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) President Cheryl Delgreco.

She will explain the role of the community group and speak about the negative effects of climate change in the neighborhood.

Delgreco wears several hats. Her full-time job is President of the Media Strategies, a communication agency that provides strategic counsel to technology companies at trade shows.

She also serves as a mentor to start up programs run by Mass Challenge and the Consumer Technology Association.

The May 14 meeting will be

held at the Mariners House, 11 North Square at 6:30 PM.

NEAA TO HONOR JOHN FIUMARA

At the Opening day of the 2024 North End Athletic Association (NEAA) baseball program, long-time community activists John Fiumara will be recognized for his support of the Little League and many community endeavors.

He coached the Saint Anthony Feast Little League team in the past years and has been supportive of the NEAA throughout the years.

Fiumara has had many roles in the community including, treasurer of North End Against Drugs (NEAD), past Grand Knight and current financial secretary of Ausonia Council #1513 Knights of Columbus.

He was instrumental in securing affordable senior housing at the Knights headquarters on North Margin Street.

Fiumara will receive an award and toss out the traditional first pitch officially opening the NEAA baseball season.

LOVE YOUR BLOCK GASSY CLEANUP

Friends of DeFilippo Park on Prince Street are seeking commu-

nity volunteers to help clean up the park on Saturday, April 20 starting at 9 AM.

Participants will receive a T-shirt and be provided tools to make the park shine.

The community event is a rain or shine endeavor so volunteers should dress properly based on weather conditions.

FOCCP GARDENING CARE UNDERWAY

A mild winter has allowed the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) gardening group to start almost a month earlier than usual.

The group has already started to meet on Sundays at 9:30 AM and Wednesdays at 9 AM.

Anyone interested in joining the award-winning horticultural group to work on the perennial and rose gardens should email info@foccp.org.

No experience is necessary, training will be provided as well as all the tools and equipment.

NEW COMMUNITY CENTER

Things are starting to move forward for the development of a new community center adjacent to the Mirabella Pool on Commercial Street.

A meeting was recently held by Boston Public Works, the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services and residents to discuss the construction and design process.

Residents were promised input to the planning and final stages of this project.

STAR MARKET HELPS NSC

Star Market on the Hub, Causeway Street, has been recognized for the many years of providing generous donations of gift cards for the North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center's Holiday Nourishing Program.

The business is a consistent partner in helping to provide food for seniors and families through the Center on Michelangelo Street.

In addition, Start Market, twice a week donates groceries

and produce plus hundreds of gift cards over the years.

BIG JOE TELLING STORIES AT THE LIBRARY

Friends of the North End Library, 25 Parmenter Street invite everyone to attend a very special Big Joe the Storyteller performance on Wednesday, May 8 at 6 PM by Joe Pagliuca/Big Joe a professional storyteller.

Hailed as "One of the best in the business" by the Boston Globe, Big Joe has been delighting everyone from children to adults across the country and around the world since 1988 with his exciting brand of storytelling.

Big Joe puts on a show that is unlike anything you have ever seen before. Using a collection of original stories and tales as well as various props, puppets and other surprises Big Joe sets the tone for great storytelling.

LEARN FAMILY HISTORY AT THE LIBRARY

Every other Friday at the North End Library, Kim Kerrijan will give tips on researching family history from 10-11 AM.

Based on experience, he'll put the tools needed to help participants become a more accurate and dynamic storyteller.

This program offers an opportunity to be recapture and share life experiences family facts with other seniors and create new friendships.

Coffee will be served. For program dates visit www.bpl.org/location/31.

EARTH DAY IN THE PARK

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) invites everyone to visit the park for Earth Day, April 26.

Environmentally friendly businesses and organizations will showcase ways to incorporate sustainable practices in everyday lives, like how to reduce single use plastics under the trellis.

Party in the Park luncheon to take place May 15

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy announces that the 20th Anniversary of Party in the Park, the city's beloved annual luncheon to raise awareness and funds for the Emerald Necklace parks, will take place on Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at Franklin Park. All proceeds from the fundraiser support the 1,100-acre park system that serves as a backyard for residents and a destination for more than one million park users each year. The Conservancy stewards the Emerald Necklace through advocacy, maintenance and restoration, education, access improvements, public programs and the promotion of park stewardship through youth education and volunteer programs.

Party in the Park will feature the presentation of the Liff Spirit Award to former Massachusetts House of Representative Byron Rushing and activist and community organizer Frieda Garcia. Over the decades, their extensive work organizing communities, speaking up for those in need, and

advocating for racial justice make them exemplars of public and civic service. The award is named in honor of the late Boston Parks Commissioner Justine Mee Liff, who served from 1996 until her passing in 2002. Party in the Park benefits the Emerald Necklace Conservancy and continues Liff's legacy of bringing people together to support and champion these vital urban green spaces.

Founded in 2003, Party in the Park attracts the area's most generous greenspace supporters and civic leaders for a stylish tented luncheon in the Emerald Necklace. Guests don their finest millinery at this "must-attend" fundraiser to herald the coming of spring to Boston. For the upcoming fundraiser, table sponsorships and tickets are now available.

"This will be the 20th Anniversary of Party in the Park, marking a milestone year. We're looking forward to welcoming public park supporters to help raise funds for the vital work the Emerald Necklace Conservancy does to maintain

Boston's largest park system," shared Alex Ablon, Caroline Balz, Gabi Crimaldi and Georgia Lee, Co-Chairs of the 2024 Party in the Park.

"Party in the Park is our signature fundraising event which funds essential tree care and capital projects in 1,100 acres of parks," noted Karen Mauney-Brodek, President of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy. "It also supports our education programs, free public programming, resources for park users, advocacy efforts and special initiatives. We are extremely proud of the work the Conservancy has done for the past 25 years to steward and improve the Emerald Necklace, connecting all Bostonians and visitors alike over a dozen neighborhoods stretching from Dorchester to the Back Bay, and to be honouring Byron Rushing and Frieda Garcia with the Liff Spirit Award this year."

For more information and tickets, visit www.emeraldnecklace.org/party-in-the-park.

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MHS hosts Making History Gala with Pulitzer Prize-winning author Doris Kearns Goodwin

On Thursday, June 6, the Massachusetts Historical Society (MHS) will host its Making History Gala at the Fairmont Copley Plaza in Boston. The event will feature renowned presidential historian and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Doris Kearns Goodwin. The evening will commence with a cocktail reception at 5:30 pm, followed by a three-course dinner, engaging speaking program, and live paddle raise. The fundraising event promises an unforgettable evening for history enthusiasts to come together to support the MHS. Tickets, as well as individual and corporate sponsorships, are now available for purchase. For more information or to purchase



*Pulitzer Prize-winning author
Doris Kearns Goodwin.*

a ticket or sponsorship package,

please visit <https://www.masshist.org/gala>.

Doris Kearns Goodwin is a world-renowned historian and Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times #1 best-selling author. Throughout her five-decade career, Goodwin has received numerous awards and accolades for her insightful studies of U.S. presidents. Her bestselling books include "Lyndon Johnson and the American Dream," and "No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front in World War II," which won a Pulitzer Prize. "Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln" was awarded a Lincoln Prize and served as the basis for Steven

Spielberg's film "Lincoln," starring Daniel Day-Lewis in an Academy Award-winning performance as Abraham Lincoln. At the Gala, in conversation with MHS President Catherine Allgor Goodwin will discuss her new memoir, *An Unfinished Love Story: A Personal History of the 1960s*.

The MHS, founded in 1791, is the nation's first historical society and an invaluable resource for American history, life, and culture. Its mission is to promote understanding of Massachusetts and the nation's history, and it is dedicated to making history accessible to all. The MHS uses its resources to educate, connect, and inspire the public through research, programs,

workshops, and exhibitions. All proceeds from the Making History Gala will support the MHS's mission.

Individual tickets for the 2024 Making History Gala start at \$500 per person. For individual sponsorships, the Making History Gala offers three levels, starting at \$2,500. Corporate sponsorship packages, which cater to a range of budgets and marketing objectives, start at \$6,500. To make a purchase or to learn more about the Making History Gala, please visit <https://www.masshist.org/gala>.

For further information or Gala-related questions, please contact Sarah Brugge at sbrugge@masshist.org.

City invests in enhanced emergency and coastal resilience planning with floodmap

Special to the Regional Review

Mayor Michelle Wu announced that the City of Boston has awarded the City of Boston Flood Modeling RFP to FloodMapp to provide real-time flood monitoring to enhance emergency preparation, response, and recovery during flood events, marking a significant step forward in the city's resilience, an important part of the Mayor's Green New Deal.

"Making Boston a Green New Deal city involves having the best means of preparing for, handling, and mitigating the long-lasting effects of climate change, including flooding," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Climate resilience begins with a sense of urgency for how these issues impact our communities today, while creating and adjusting both short-term and long-term plans to deal with them."

This collaboration underscores Boston's proactive approach in confronting the escalating challenges caused by climate change, particularly intensifying flooding and sea-level rise. As a low-lying coastal city, vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, Boston is experiencing more intense storms, frequent heavy precipitation, extreme flooding, and higher sea levels. This can pose hazards to the community, its residents, and emergency managers, causing impacts to infrastructure, property damage, and more.

"We are looking forward to taking this critical step towards enhancing the City's ability to be more informed about flooding across Boston," said Chief Shumeane Benford from Boston's

Office of Emergency Management. "This tool will support the inter-agency coordination within the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), improve operational preparedness, response, and recovery actions of individual City departments, focus and strengthen our City's resilience planning, and enhance public risk communication before, during, and after a storm!"

FloodMapp will work alongside the City of Boston in its ongoing efforts toward resilience and mitigation of the effects of climate change. The contract supplies the City of Boston's Office of Emergency Management with FloodMapp's ForeCast, NowCast, and PostCast products. With FloodMapp, the City of Boston aims to improve the City's operational response to flood hazards. This new level of insight supports targeted evacuation planning and risk mitigation, helping to protect lives and property. ForeCast shows the predicted extent and depth of a flood on a map which can support emergency managers

with targeted alerts and evacuations, proactive road closures, deployment of flood barriers and resources, and more. NowCast is a dynamic, live mapping feed that shows the current extent and depth of a flood in real-time, providing up-to-date situational awareness of the flood impact on people, property, and critical infrastructure. This supports emergency response activities such as search and rescue and eliminates the need to deploy personnel to dangerous environments to confirm the flood extent. PostCast is a map of the maximum flood extent after the water has begun to recede, which supports targeted distribution of disaster relief resources and supports rapid damage assessment, ultimately fast-tracking the recovery process.

"We are honored to partner with the City of Boston and work collaboratively to build resilience. We're truly inspired by the city's innovative leadership, and our team is excited to integrate FloodMapp ForeCast, NowCast, and PostCast into the Emergency

Operations Center (EOC) to improve the city's operational preparedness, response, and recovery," said CEO and Co-Founder of FloodMapp Juliette Murphy. "Working together with cities like Boston to build a safer future is rewarding in a way that I can't put into words."

As the City of Boston continues to focus on the impacts of these stronger and more frequent weather patterns on its residents, the partnership enhances the City's commitment to safety and resilience. In addition to taking near-term action to adapt to a changing climate, the City's Climate Ready Boston program is a roadmap for planning for the short-and-long

term impacts of a warming planet in Boston. The City of Boston has completed coastal resilience solutions, planning for all 47-miles of Boston's coastline and announced a partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to assess coastal storm management, and determine eligibility for federal funding. With an unprecedented allocation of capital funding for coastal resilience initiatives, Boston is poised to lead by example in confronting the growing challenges of climate change. Through proactive partnerships, innovative solutions, and strategic investments, Boston is forging a path towards a safer, more resilient future for all its residents.

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NEMPAC STUDENT BREAK FUNDRAISING RECORD AT PERFORMATHON

Together with student and faculty performers, local businesses, and sponsors, the North End Music & Performing Arts Center's (NEMPAC's) annual Performathon—on Saturday, April 6th—raised \$27,752 to advance NEMPAC's goals of ensuring all have equal access to high-quality music and performing arts educational programs.

Uniquely special to Performathon were the 70 NEMPAC youth whose performances directly raised funds to support tuition assistance for their peers. This year, 827 students are receiving free or discounted tuition at 13 locations in the North End, Charlestown, and East Boston neighborhoods.

Returning for its second year at the Boston Public Market, this day-long fundraiser included individual singers, dancers, and instrumentalists, as well as student ensembles representing NEMPAC's Boston Public School partners, including the Eliot K-8 Innovation School and the Harvard Kent School.

The event also honored instructor Laura DeGiacomo's 20 years of commitment as a NEMPAC faculty member. Laura began her tenure in 2004 as an early childhood music and movement instructor leading the Family Music Makers program. The classes were once held at the historic 1940s North End bathhouse, now the Prado Studios, where NEMPAC contin-

ues to host private music instruction and small group classes.

Thank you to this year's Performathon 2024 sponsors, including our Platinum Sponsor: Seven Hills Pasta Co., and our Silver Sponsors: North End Athletic Association, Chairman of House Ways & Means and State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, Rita Pagliuca, Andrea Waldstein, and Knights of Columbus Ausonia Council 1513.

To learn more about the Performathon and to make a donation to this campaign, please go to: <https://nempacboston.org/educational-programs/performathon>.

Courtesy photos



Piano Student, Natalie W.



Raffle Volunteer, Saejin Yoo.



NEMPAC Board Chair, Mary O'Neill.



Dianne Royle, former NEMPAC board chair; Sherri Snow, NEMPAC Executive Director; Andrea Waldstein Performathon sponsor and former board member; and Maxine Goldberg.



Alumnae parent Whitney Tibolt; Honoree and Instructor, Laura DeGiacomo; Alumnae parent, Renee Bushey; and NEMPAC Executive Director, Sherri Snow.



Knights of Columbus representatives, Stephen Scapicchio, their guest Joe, and John Fiumara, with NEMPAC Executive Director Sherri and Snow NEMPAC patron, Rich Vita.

Visit www.northendregionalreview.com

SWAN BOAT SEASON HAS BEGUN

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

The Swan Boats of the Public Garden were officially launched for their 2024 season as the city also celebrated the coming of the Boston Marathon that Monday. Since 1877 this unique detail to the City Of Boston has captivated visitors both young and old. Shown are scenes from the opening day of the Swan Boats.



House leadership to propose \$555 Million in record investment for the MBTA

Special to the Regional Review

As part of its budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25), the House Committee on Ways and Means will propose a record investment of \$555 million for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), as well as \$184 million for the Regional Transit Authorities that serve commuters across Massachusetts. The House Committee on Ways and Means will release its full FY25 budget proposal tomorrow, April 10.

“Ensuring that the Commonwealth is equipped with a safe and reliable public transportation system is critical for the prosperity of our residents and communities, and will be vital in our future efforts to grow the economy. That’s why the House is

proposing a record investment in the MBTA, an investment that will allow the new leadership at the T to meet the immense challenges that they face head on,” said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). “Given the workforce recruitment and training challenges that have plagued the MBTA, I am particularly proud of the House’s proposal to establish an MBTA Academy that would help to bolster their workforce development efforts. I want to thank Chairman Michlewitz for working diligently to craft a proposal that provides the MBTA with the support that they desperately need.”

“Having a well-run transit system is critical to the success of the Commonwealth. This record amount of funding shows the House’s commitment

to improving our transportation infrastructure in every area of the Commonwealth,” said House Committee on Ways and Means Chair Representative Aaron Michlewitz (D Boston). “I want to thank Speaker Mariano and Chair Straus for their hard work and determination on this issue and I look forward to renewing our commitment to adequately funding the MBTA, our Regional Transit Agencies, and all other sectors of our transportation needs.”

The proposed funding represents the largest investment in the MBTA by the House of Representatives in an annual budget, representing a 41 percent increase from FY24. The investments rely on the General Fund and funds generated by the Fair Share ballot initiative that voters

approved in November of 2022, which established a surtax of 4 percent on annual income above \$1 million.

The House’s proposed transportation investments for FY25 include:

- \$314 million operating transfer to the MBTA
- \$184 million to support operations and transit improvements at the state’s 15 Regional Transit Authorities
- \$75 million for MBTA capital investments in physical infrastructure
- \$65 million for projects that address safety concerns at the MBTA related to the findings of the Federal Transit Administration’s Safety Management Inspection initiated in April 2022
- \$40 million to create an

MBTA Academy to support recruiting and training efforts, and establish a pipeline for a skilled workforce across departments

• \$35 million to create a Resilient Rides program to support climate adaptation and climate readiness capital improvement projects in the stations are rails located in the most climate-vulnerable areas of the system


• \$20 million for reduced MBTA fares for riders with low incomes

• \$5 million for grants for ferry services

The FY25 budget proposal will be released by the House Committee on Ways and Means tomorrow, April 10, and up for debate by the Massachusetts House of Representatives starting Wednesday, April 24.

The Year of the Wood Dragon

Your Year - Your Cost



1

Option 1
52 WEEKS
Business Card Size
3.37" by 2" high

2

Option 2
26 WEEKS
2col x 3 in.
3.37" by 3" high
COLOR
2 ADS/MONTH

3

Option 3
1 AD/MONTH
2col x 5 in.
3.37" by 5" high
COLOR
— broadsheet size —
3.99" by 5" high
— tab size —

4

Option 4
5 per
CALENDAR YEAR
3col x 10 in.
5.14" by 10" high
COLOR
— broadsheet size —

5 per
CALENDAR YEAR
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6.0832" by 5" high
COLOR
— tab size —

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OBITUARIES

Carmela “Millie” (Roberto) DiStefano Known for her heart of gold

Carmela “Millie” (Roberto) DiStefano, age 100, of Boston’s North End, passed away on April 7.

Born in Boston, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Maria (Muscara) Roberto.

Millie worked for Massachusetts Department of Revenue for over 20 years.

For a hundred years, Millie’s courage, strength and wisdom would spread joy and love to all she knew. She had a heart of gold and was the most extraordinary wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt and friend.

She was the loving wife of the late Michael DiStefano. Beloved mother of Maria Como and her late husband John of Hooksett, NH, Joanne Deuterio and her husband Ralph of Revere, and the late Joyce DiStefano. Cherished grandmother of Michael A. Tecci and his wife Katherine “Katie”, Albert J Tecci and his wife Melissa, John M. Como and his wife Katie, Michele Como; Great-grandmother of Emilia and Theo Tecci, Xander and Nolan Tecci, and Ace and Cameron Como. Dear sister of the late Mary Roberto, Peter Roberto, Santa Roberto, Josephine Roberto, Nina Ingala,



Jennie Contrada, Frank Roberto and Marco Roberto.

The family will receive visitors on Friday, April 12, 2024 from 9am to 10:30am in J.S. Waterman Langone Chapel, 580 Commercial St., Boston with a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated at 11am in St. Leonard Church 320 Hanover St., Boston. Services will conclude with interment in Woodlawn Cemetery, 302 Elm St., Everett, MA.

In Lieu of flowers, donations in Millie’s memory may be made to: American Heart Association, 20 Speen St, Framingham, MA 01701 or Care Dimensions, Ste. B-102, 75 Sylvan St, Danvers, MA 01923

For online condolences and/or directions, please visit: www.watermanboston.com.

Wu files FY25 budget with investments to make Boston a home for everyone

Mayor Michelle Wu today proposed her third annual operating budget, which builds on the administration's steady progress to make Boston a home for everyone—where the City's communities' needs are met and dreams can grow. The recommended Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operating Budget is \$4.6 billion and includes budgetary growth of \$344 million or eight percent over Fiscal Year 2024, and the Fiscal Years 2025-2029 Capital Plan totals \$4.7 billion and creates and protects critical City assets and makes numerous neighborhood infrastructure investments.

"Our focus is on working hard every single day to make Boston a home for everyone, in all senses of the word," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Home is where you are happy and healthy and safe. Home is when you're with the people you love. All of our work is about setting that basic infrastructure so that people's needs are met, creating access to programs that are necessary for health, wealth-building, joy, and safety and also about building the community to make it possible for all of our dreams to grow and become reality."

"The budget we are presenting today is a responsible budget built on a strong and reliable financial foundation, bolstered by our triple-A bond rating," said Chief Financial Officer Ashley Groffenberger. "As the City of Boston continues to experience stable revenue growth, the City is able to make critical investments that support our ability to deliver services to residents, businesses, and visitors."

To plan responsibly through shifting economic patterns and resulting impacts, this budget prioritizes sustainable investments that ensures Boston's continued stability—from supporting the City workforce through innovative collective bargaining agreements, to safeguarding needed resources in public education, and honoring long-term commitments to meet pension requirements and debt obligations to protect the long-term stability in City finances reflected in Boston's AAA bond rating. Drivers of budgetary growth in the proposed annual operating budget include:

The revenue-neutral transfer of planning, workforce, and development review functions from the Boston Planning and Development Agency to City departments following the Council's approval of an Ordinance creating a new Planning Department for the first time in seven decades;

Equitable employee wage



Mayor Michelle Wu.

growth implemented through a responsible collective bargaining process that provided higher percentage wage increases to City workers earning less than \$60,000 per year;

The necessary resources to provide high-quality public education in the most inclusive possible environment for all students;

Maintaining the planned schedule to fully fund pension requirements and debt obligations that support the five-year capital plan and protect our AAA bond rating;

Targeted investments to support youth and schools, housing for all, health and well-being, and other core areas of government responsibility;

New investments made in this proposed budget have been based on informed analysis in support of long-term goals, a process of regularly reviewing operations, and ensuring the continued delivery of core City services by our workforce.

Increasing Affordability

For the first time in 70 years, Boston now has a City Planning Department with the same accountability and coordination as every other Department, and focused on shaping Boston's growth for affordability, resiliency, and equity. As part of the administration's efforts to ensure every Boston resident can continue to call the city home, this proposed budget builds on \$40 million in existing annual operating dollars dedicated to various housing programs such as affordable housing vouchers, rental assistance, and homeownership mortgage support, and homelessness prevention programming. Additionally, the budget adds \$2 million to seed a new Housing Acquisition Opportunity Fund and provides an additional \$1 million in funding for rental assistance and decarbonization efforts.

Public Health and Safety

Boston's efforts on intertwining public health and public safety to build community trust have expanded much-needed services to residents through coordinating resources and led to the City's lowest levels of violent crime on record. Building on the administration's work to connect residents of the former encampments near Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard with housing and treatment and create citywide mobile outreach teams, this budget adds \$1 million to support the City's approach to managing substance use and homelessness through low-threshold housing. To continue delivering the highest standards of community policing anywhere in the country, this budget funds the implementation of historic collective bargaining agreements with Boston's police unions, including funding to deploy technology to modernize the detail system and allow for civilian personnel to participate in those opportunities for the first time. After celebrating the graduation of the first EMS cadet class in two decades last month, this budget adds \$1.3 million in funding to support 12 new Emergency Medical Technicians, increasing the number of EMTs to over 400 strong to improve call response times for medical emergencies across the City. This budget also includes an investment in maternal and infant health to combat health disparities and expand home visiting services for all Black birthing families in Boston. And to improve safety on Boston streets, the budget includes over \$155 million in funding for roadway resurfacing and sidewalk reconstruction to promote mobility and safety.

Youth and Families

The proposed budget investments help bolster Boston as the best place in the country to raise a family. The administration has expanded universal pre-K seats, decreased chronic absenteeism by seven percent, grown the electric school bus fleet to nearly 90 electric buses, and launched multiple new early college and career pathways across Boston high schools. This budget includes an additional \$20 million to support high quality teaching and learning through school-based investments in inclusive education, including additional support for students with special needs and English learners, and \$1.3 billion from our Capital Budget for world-class

Boston Public School facilities. It also proposes investments in children's lives outside of the classroom, by prioritizing community centers and other opportunities for extracurricular enrichment. In the last year, the City reopened the Curley Community Center and the Faneuil Branch Library and provided over 1,000 free youth swim lessons through the Swim Safe program. To ensure facilities across all neighborhoods are the state of the art centers residents deserve, the budget proposes \$54.5 million in pool repairs and renovations at BCYF and BPS facilities. The capital plan also includes the new constructions of the \$31 million Fields Corner Library and \$65 million Grove Hall Community Center, the first of its kind facility for this area of Dorchester. To maintain and extend the life of these important community assets, this budget includes investing in facility maintenance staff at the Property Management Department for various facility repairs at BCYF community centers and other buildings across Boston, funding for refinishing of gym floors, as well as upgrades and preventative maintenance to prevent future emergency closures and ensure our community centers can continue to serve as resources and places of gathering for residents of all ages. To ensure City investments are supporting multiple generations of Boston's families, the proposed budget adds \$500,000 in funding for community connection services for Boston's older adults. And for residents of all ages the budget proposal includes increased funding for block party grants, with continued improvements in the streamlined application making it easier for residents to build community in our neighborhoods.

Climate and Green Space

A key part of Boston's Green New Deal is ensuring that the City's work supports the climate, livability and justice of Boston's neighborhoods for residents. This proposed budget invests in preparing our City's coastline for the impacts of climate change by adding \$200,000 to support emergency preparedness for climate resilience and to update the climate action plan, while also allocating \$75 million in capital funding to leverage state and federal resources in planning and construction of a resilient coastline. The proposal also prioritizes green spaces, an important part of making Boston the greenest, most-family friendly city in the U.S. This includes

investing \$735,000 in additional staff and equipment to manage and maintain Franklin Park, including a new park administrator that will oversee park operations and help restore Franklin Park to its place as a crown jewel within our parks system. It also continues to enhance parks city wide, including investing \$14 million in the Capital Plan into the renovation and reconstruction of Clifford Playground. To increase the livability of Boston's neighborhoods, the proposal invests in cooling streets, reducing stormwater flooding, and supporting the final implementation of Boston's wetlands ordinance by adding \$200,000 for tree pruning to the \$3.1 million Urban Forestry budget to care for over 35,000 street trees. To complement this work, the City is incorporating green infrastructure features into our street construction projects to improve stormwater management and heat island impacts with \$1.6 million allocated for retrofits. This work will support enhancing climate resilience across Boston to prepare for climate change while supporting the lives of our residents.

Delivering Exceptional City Services

This proposed budget increases accessibility and improves City processes to continue providing exceptional constituent services across Boston's neighborhoods. The proposed budget will ensure City communications are accessible to all residents by investing in additional translation and interpretation services and multilingual City Hall constituent engagement. A \$3 million investment will help streamline City approvals and improve the licensing and permitting process by recruiting and hiring more workers and adding lab inspection and permit technicians for buildings. The proposed budget also modernizes traditional City services by funding a trash containerization pilot plan to promote cleanliness in Boston neighborhoods and replaces the aging City Hall to Go truck, which brings crucial City services out into the neighborhoods where our families live. The proposed budget will make it easier for neighbors to stay connected through community by adding permit technicians for special events and block parties. Last year, the City filled more than 7,000 potholes, repainted 100,000 feet of crosswalks, and extended hours at 21 libraries. An \$850,000 investment

CITY PAWS

Canine coat care

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

In the Northeast, we're about to enter a change in weather. With more time spent outside, excursions to the sandy shore, and strolling through spring mud, our dogs need more grooming. And, if your dog is shedding a winter coat, you'll want some control over where all that hair lands.

To Shave or Not To Shave

One of the questions that comes up every year as the temperatures rise is whether or not you should shave a dog with a heavy coat. The ASPCA says, "Hold Those Clippers." They go on to explain, "... your pets' fur coats are actually providing them with heat relief. Acting like insulation, a dog's coat keeps him from getting too cold in the winter, but also keeps him from overheating in the summer."

"Robbing your dog or cat of this natural cooling system can lead to discomfort, overheating and other serious dangers like sunburn or skin cancer."

Benefits of Grooming

Grooming is about an animal's comfort and health. Routine brushing keeps your dog from excess shedding and matting and could prevent painful skin sores. It

may also help reduce human allergy symptoms by removing dander and much of the pollen that travels inside with your dog.

Like many double-coated terriers, our Westie Poppy tends to weave her downy undercoat into snarls. However, if we regularly attend to the areas that snarl the most, we don't have to resort to mat breakers or cutting out the snarls with scissors.

Start grooming your dog early in your relationship and do it often until the animal becomes comfortable and you both begin to relax into a routine. The dog will come to understand that this doesn't hurt all the time and that, many times, it is simple stuff that happens regularly.

Grooming sessions can also bring you and your dog closer and help you bond. If you can make them gentle and pleasant, they can relax both of you. Regular grooming can also reveal lumps, bumps, or other skin abnormalities.

Grooming Tips

We find it easier to groom Poppy when she is a bit tired from a walk or play session and has recently relieved herself. We also try to deliver her to her groomer the same way.



Outside is the best place to brush a thick, heavy coat like this Husky's. (Photo by Andrii Zorii)

Add a damp cloth doggie rub-down as you enter your home during allergy season. That could help reduce much of the pollen that rides inside with your dog and can make both canine and human allergies worse.

Controlling a dog up on something can be easier than on the floor. This could be a counter, table, or ottoman. We use an inexpensive, non-slip bath mat to give Poppy secure footing and protect the surface.

Create a kit of grooming tools that you use all the time. Our kit has a rotating comfort pin comb to help detangle Poppy's coat. We use a slicker brush to remove loose hair. When we run into a snarl, we use a matting breaker to slowly and gently cut through the tangle. Curved bandage scissors help us safely do a sanitary trim around her anus or to cut off a tangle. Finally, our kit has a headlamp flashlight. It's excellent when you want hands-free light on a specific spot on the pup. (It's also good for

picking up poops at night.)

You can find more videos and tips on grooming your dog's coat online. Breed rescue groups often have information on grooming problems for the breed they know best. You can also consult your professional groomer and veterinarian about the home grooming necessary for your companion.

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

Wu supports Avangrid's New England Wind 1 offshore wind proposal

Mayor Michelle Wu announced her support of Avangrid's New England Wind 1 offshore wind proposal in response to the multi-state procurement for offshore wind power by Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. If Avangrid's bid is selected by the state, this transaction would be a first for a US city to contract for offshore wind. This endorsement reflects Boston's commitment to decarbonizing the city by investing in clean energy and creating sustainable economic opportunities for its residents. If awarded, part of the energy generated through the project will be used to power Boston's municipal buildings and residences enrolled in our municipal energy aggregation program, Boston Community Choice Electricity.

"Boston must lead the way in building a sustainable future, and we're proud to set a new standard with a direct stake in innovation to create clean energy and good jobs for our residents and communities," said Mayor Michelle

Wu. "This partnership advances our climate goals while bringing thousands of green jobs to our region, creating a pathway for generations to come."

The City of Boston and Avangrid have agreed upon a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in which the City of Boston could purchase up to 15 megawatts of energy as part of a future agreement, the equivalent of one wind turbine, from the New England Wind 1 offshore project, if the Commonwealth selects Avangrid as one of their awardees. Avangrid's New England Wind 1 project has the potential to deliver up to 800 megawatts of renewable energy to the New England grid, enough to power up to 400,000 homes and businesses in the region. The project is estimated to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 1.5 million US tons of carbon dioxide per year, equivalent to taking over 280,000 cars off the road. The amount of electricity that the City of Boston may purchase under the terms of

a potential agreement is equal to nearly a third of all the electricity used annually by Boston Public Schools in addition to nearly 5,000 homes. Avangrid has also offered to implement vocational training for Boston Public School students, meaning that this collaboration would not only advance Boston's climate goals but create an investment in the green jobs pipeline, an important part of Boston's Green New Deal.

"The City of Boston is thrilled by the chance to participate in the offshore wind revolution" said Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. "I would particularly like to thank David Musselman, Boston's Director of Municipal Energy, who has spearheaded innovative energy projects like this in Boston and will be retiring next month."

Offshore wind is an industry on the frontlines of the climate crisis, building energy cost resilience in a market that has been increasingly destabilized by its reliance on fossil

fuels. The City of Boston believes Avangrid could potentially deliver a transformational project to Massachusetts that would help the state meet its critical energy needs and secure new economic opportunities for its residents.

"Mayor Wu and the City of Boston are among the country's foremost climate champions, so we saw a natural opportunity with our New England Wind bid and the City's leadership to form this exciting partnership," said Avangrid CEO Pedro Azagra. "Our goal with New England Wind is to bring the region's historic communities into the very blueprints of our project, and we're thrilled to establish this partnership with the City to ensure that Boston benefits from the clean power and economic opportunity that offshore wind offers."

The City of Boston recognizes the significance of this opportunity to advance its renewable energy goals and support the growth of the green economy. By collaborating with Avangrid, Boston aims to

lead the way in sustainable energy development and contribute to a cleaner, greener future for all.

This opportunity is one example of the innovative energy projects that the City has implemented to achieve its carbon neutrality goals. Renew Boston Trust's energy performance contracting reduces energy use and emissions from the City's buildings and exterior lights. Renew Boston Trust projects are expected to save the City \$2.3 million and reduce carbon emissions by 3,600 mtCO₂e annually. The City of Boston has also secured a \$250,000 grant from the Barr Foundation to pilot the City's Equitable Electrification Initiative in one of our environmental justice neighborhoods and previously supported the state in the creation of the Massachusetts Community Climate Bank. Through collaborative efforts like these, the City of Boston continues to pave the way for a more sustainable and equitable future, driving positive change for generations to come.

Wu announces her 2024 Neighborhood Coffee Hour schedule

Special to the Times-Free Press
 Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department will host the 2024 Neighborhood Coffee Hour Series in partnership with Dunkin' in parks citywide from April 22 to June 26. Wu will be in Eastie on May 29 at Noyes Playground that is located at 86 Boardman Street from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Mayor Wu's Neighborhood Coffee Hours offer a unique opportunity to speak directly with the Mayor and staff from City departments about open space and their neighborhoods. Through these conversations, and a suggestion box at each site, Mayor Wu looks forward to hearing how the City of Boston can improve upon parks, public areas, and City services.

"Every neighborhood and every

resident has their own diverse set of concerns that deserve to not only be heard, but to be acknowledged and addressed," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I am excited for all of the conversations and connection that will come from Neighborhood Coffee Hours."

Leadership and staff from the Community Engagement Cabinet will be at each Coffee Hour. Community members will have an opportunity to meet their neighborhood liaisons, who will share updates on each neighborhood, including how many 311 cases have been resolved, streets repaired, as well as the City's investments in housing, local businesses, and the arts. The City is again releasing a Community Input Survey, which provides an opportunity for constituents to ask questions and inform what

will be presented during Coffee Hours with the Mayor. Last year, this proved to be a success, allowing constituents to hear directly from the Mayor and City leaders as they addressed concerns and answered constituents' questions at each Coffee Hour event.

"Coffee Hours with the Mayor is an intentional effort to meet community members in the heart of their neighborhoods," said Brianna Millor, Chief of the Community Engagement Cabinet. "I encourage residents, including our youth, seniors, civic organizations, business owners, and local leaders to attend this neighborhood-centered event. Boston 311 will be present to connect residents to essential city services."

Dunkin' will be on-site with freshly brewed Iced Coffee and MUNCHKINS® donut hole

treats. Dunkin' will have lawn games and gift card giveaways. Residents at each event will also be eligible to win a raffle prize from Dunkin'. Individuals in attendance will receive a free flowering plant provided by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, while supplies last. Fresh fruit will be provided by Star Market.

"Mayor Wu's Neighborhood Coffee Hours are vital for community engagement, allowing residents to share their thoughts directly. We're grateful for their participation," noted Ryan Woods, Commissioner of the Parks and Recreation Department. "These events not only foster dialogue but also mark the kickoff for our exciting summer calendar of events. From outdoor concerts to movies to arts and crafts workshops for kids, our programming

breathes life into our parks, fulfilling our core mission of creating vibrant spaces for all to enjoy."

All coffee hours will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., weather permitting. Visit boston.gov/coffee-hours for more information. The full schedule of Mayor Wu's 2024 Neighborhood Coffee Hours is as follows:

Tuesday, June 11
 Langone Park
 529 Commercial Street
 North End

For more information and updates on possible rain locations, please contact the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at (617) 635-4505 or @bostonparksdept on X, Facebook, or Instagram, or by visiting boston.gov/parks.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Division
 24 New Chardon St.
 Boston, MA 02114
 (617)788-8300
 CITATION ON
 PETITION FOR
 ORDER OF
 COMPLETE
 SETTLEMENT
 Docket No.
 SU21P0463EA
 Estate of:
 John Shinas
 Date of Death:
 11/07/2020
 A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Thomas Stark of Spotswood, NJ requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, and to discharge the Personal Representative from further claims or demand of any interested party, and that the Personal Representative be discharged from his bond and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.
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 05/10/2024. 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 written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.
 WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
 Date: April 05, 2024
 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.,
 Register of Probate

4/18/24
 RR

LEGAL NOTICE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate
 and Family Court
 24 New Chardon St.
 Boston, MA 02114

(617)788-8300
 CITATION ON
 PETITION FOR
 FORMAL
 ADJUDICATION
 Docket No.
 SU24P0780EA
 Estate of:
 Nicole Nadine
 Lyder
 Date of Death
 12/31/2023
 To all interested persons:
 A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Sheron Mahase of Brockton, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
 The Petitioner requests that: Sheron Mahase of Brockton, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With Corporate 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 05/23/2024.

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 (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: April 11, 2024
 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.,
 Register of Probate

4/18/24
 RR

LEGAL NOTICE CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION

TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN Docket No. SU21P0612GD

Commonwealth of
 Massachusetts
 The Trial Court
 Probate and Family
 Court
 Suffolk Probate
 and Family Court
 24 New Chardon Street
 Boston MA, 02114
 In the interests of: Tracy Johnson of:
 Boston, MA
**RESPONDENT Incapacitated Person/
 Protected Person**
 To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by the DMH c/o Office of General Counsel of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.
 The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.
 You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before

10:00 AM on the return date of 4/23/2024. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
 The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
 WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
 Date: March 25, 2024
 Stephanie Everett
 Register of Probate

4/18/24
 RR

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Tom Brady makes significant gift to Esplanade Association

By Dan Murphy

Thanks to a significant 'leadership gift' last week from the family of former New England Patriots great Tom Brady, the Esplanade Association will be able to not only expand its youth programming (which it will rename in his honor) but also to enhance its planned Charlesbank Landing multi-use facility.

"I'm very grateful to the Esplanade Association, which does an incredible job to make this park a vibrant greenspace," said Brady, who helped lead the Patriots to six Super Bowl victories during his time with the team, in a press release, "This park was so special to me. It was my backyard for years when I lived in the Back Bay. It's where I first pushed my kids on a swing. I'm proud to be supporting this important project. Let's get this done so the next generation can enjoy what my family was always able to do."

Brady's gift will allow the Esplanade Association to expand its existing youth programming, including Children in the Park (ChiP), which, according to EA, "assembles partner organizations (Manomet, Mass Audubon, and more) to connect youth ages 5-17 from multiple summer camps across neighborhoods and towns with immersive outdoor educational, recreational, and social learning on the river; and Music and Movement, which enlists Boston Music Project teaching artists to help younger children and their caregivers "discover how motion creates sound, fostering healthy expression with instruments, with their bodies, and with and within the landscape of Esplanade playgrounds." These programs, which will benefit from new equipment, added instructors, and increased offerings, will be renamed the 'Tom Brady Family Youth Programs' beginning this year.

Moreover, Brady's gift will help



COURTESY OF MARYANN THOMPSON ARCHITECTS

A rendering of the proposed Charlesbank Landing on the Esplanade.

support the Charlesbank Landing project, which will transform two acres in the vicinity of the former Lee Pool complex on the Esplanade into a two-story, year-round pavilion and visitors center. The indoor-outdoor facility is expected to open in early 2026.

"As a big fan of Tom Brady, it's an honor to announce that his name will prompt so many more people to explore, play, and make memories on the Esplanade,"

said Jen Mergel, EA's James & Audrey Foster Executive Director, in a press release. "The Esplanade Association is deeply grateful to Tom Brady for his commitment to expand access to improved health and wellbeing on the Esplanade for our 4 million visitors annually, especially the youngest. Like our partners at [Department of Conservation and Recreation] with whom we care for this greenspace, we know this will inspire future park stewards for years."

Likewise, DCR Commissioner Brian Arrigo said in a press release: "At DCR, we believe easy access to our greenspaces and natural resources is critical for creating healthy communities and should be available to all children and families regardless of financial ability. This investment from Tom Brady into the Esplanade and its programming will help us continue to grow the next generation of athletes, community leaders, and stewards of our parks."

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AD SIZE

in pixels

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BUDGET (from pg. 9)

will continue to improve basic City services, including roadway pavement markings, traffic and parking signage, graffiti removal, and self service equipment at branch libraries.

Promoting equity and economic opportunity

Advancing equity and ensuring all of Boston's communities are connected to economic opportunity is critical to making Boston the best city for families today and for generations to come. As Boston continues to grow, it is essential

that more residents are connected to critical pathways through skills and job training and City services, so the budget proposes investing \$6.8 million into the Office of Workforce Development to fund a variety of programs such as Boston Saves, the Center for Working Families, Youth Options, and PowerCorps Boston. It also proposes increasing the Equity & Inclusion Cabinet budget by \$1 million—building on the administration's commitment to transform City policies and programs so every resident can access City

services and thrive, across every neighborhood. This investment will advance the City's reparations work, support healthy pregnancies, provide additional translation and interpretation services to residents accessing City services, support individuals who need gender affirming identity documents and launch an equity study to learn how we can continue to support Boston's Black men and boys. The future of Boston centers around connecting young people to every opportunity. The administration's Youth Jobs Guarantee will strengthen Boston's nation-leading youth jobs program with more employers and opportunities than ever for our City's young people, ensuring they are positioned to grow and lead in our communities now and for years to come.

The proposed FY25 annual operating budget and the FY25-29 five-year capital plan were formally filed with the City Council on Monday, April 8.

For more information about the proposed budget visit <http://budget.boston.gov/>.



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