

THE NORTH END

REGIONAL REVIEW

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NEAA MAKES DONATION



Courtesy photo

North End resident Parker Watson, age 11, got a boost from the NEAA with his fundraising efforts for The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Light the Night walk. As a blood cancer survivor himself, Parker has a strong personal connection to the cause. Last weekend, Chairman Ted Tomasone, personally delivered a generous contribution to his fundraiser, on behalf of the NEAA. Parker is active in NEAA sports and appreciates the community's support!

Increase to BPD age limit passed

Special to the Regional Review

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata sponsored a Home Rule Petition that would increase the maximum age requirement for entrance to the Boston Police Academy from 40 to 45. The matter ultimately passed with eleven votes in the affirmative. Two Councilors were absent during the vote. This crucial measure will help fill personnel shortages in the Boston Police Department, reduce overtime spending, and decrease police officer burnout due to limited capacities. Co-sponsors of the petition include Councilor At-Large Henry Santana and

Councilor Enrique Pepen (District 5) of Hyde Park.

Currently, individuals over the maximum age requirement must petition the Boston City Council and State Legislature through a special law to gain consideration for the Boston Police Academy. The Boston City Council has had dozens of petitions come before the body in the past year. In 2007, then Councilor Michael Flaherty sponsored a similar home rule petition to increase the maximum age requirement to forty years. The Council and Legislature ultimately passed the measure.

"The current age requirement is an administrative barrier that

limits willing and able individuals who have demonstrated their dedication and admiration to police officers from having the opportunity to join the force. Instead of doing one home rule petition and a wage waiver after another, this Home Rule Petition allows individuals to overcome this administrative barrier and seek consideration to enter the Boston Police Academy," said Councilor Coletta Zapata. "This is one of the measures we can use to help fill much needed public safety capacity as we continue to expand our efforts to recruit and hire individuals. Thank you to my colleagues for

(BPD Pg. 7)

Coletta Zapata schedules hearing to discuss utility work notification

Special to the Regional Review

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata will hold a hearing on Tuesday, October 15, at 2pm in the Iannella Chamber to discuss utility street work coordination, notification, and compliance post-completion of any excavation project impacting public streets and sidewalks. Coletta Zapata introduced the hearing order in September, given the lack of accountability for utility companies that fail to return streets in good condition following street work. Co-sponsors of the hearing include Councilor Enrique Pepen (District 5) of Hyde Park.

"While the investments in our street and sidewalk infrastructure are necessary, the utility work takes a prolonged period and impacts our quality of life from the lack of parking, street and sidewalk blockages, and conflicting detour delays. Residents need proper and timely notifications for when utility construction will occur, and we need better city-wide infrastructure to ensure proper internal and external notifications," said Councilor Coletta Zapata. "I'm hopeful the conversation will allow us to adequately understand oversight and enforcement for ongoing utility work in

(HEARING Pg. 4)

DePasquale Ventures Cross Street plan supported by NEWRA

By Phil Orlandella

A large number of residents and presenters filled the Nazzaro Community Center Hall on North Bennet Street for the September monthly public meeting of the North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA).

The board listened to opinions from neighborhood residents and those representing applicants' proposals before voting on them.

DePasquale Ventures after making amendments to his proposal, requested by abutters,

received the support of NEWRA by a 16-8 vote.

The applicant has applied for zoning relief to combine three parcels into one at 60-70 Cross Street (former Martignetti Liquors block between Hanover and Salem Streets) for construction of a 2-story addition, change use to culinary arts education, retail, restaurant, outdoor seating on plaza and roof decks and three apartments.

NEWRA by a vote of 20-1

(NEWRA Pg. 4)

Shake the Tree to celebrate 30th birthday party on Saturday, Oct. 19 at 67 Salem St.

Shake the Tree - an independent boutique offering a curated collection of women's clothes, handmade jewelry, home goods, small-batch pantry, apothecary, cookbooks, and stationery - will celebrate its 30th anniversary at a birthday celebration on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 5 to 7 p.m. at 67 Salem St. in the North End.

This event will include free North End snacks, drinks, shopping, special raffles, and more, as well as a 15-percent storewide discount. Visit shakethetreeboston.com for more on this business.

Celebrating Italian Heritage on Pages 8, 10-11

EDITORIAL

10/7, ONE YEAR LATER

The barbaric attack a year ago this week by the Iranian-backed Hamas terrorist group shocked and horrified the world. The brutal slaughter, rape, and torture of 1250 men, women, children, and elderly Israeli citizens, plus another 300 who were taken captive, by Hamas invaders who poured across the northern Gaza-Israeli border, affirmed that Iran and its terrorist proxies, Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Houthis, know no bounds in their hatred for Jews and their stated aim of wiping Israel off the face of the map.

The attack and its aftermath accomplished a number of goals of the Iranian-backed terrorists. Not only did 10/7 deal a blow to Israel's sense of security, but it also destabilized Israel politically and economically. More than 100,000 Israeli citizens have been displaced both along the Gazan border and in northern Israel, where Hezbollah has been shelling northern Israeli communities. Israeli citizen-soldiers have been fighting for a full year, with no end in sight.

The attack of 10/7 predictably unleashed a devastating military response by Israel on the Gaza Strip, a narrow piece of land that is about 140 square miles and home to two million people, of whom half are children, in its effort to kill every Hamas fighter. (By comparison, Boston and Suffolk County consist of about 120 square miles with 750,000 people, of whom 20 percent are children). After a year of ceaseless Israeli bombardment, the Gaza Strip has been laid to waste, with more than 40,000 Gazans killed, tens of thousands more maimed for life, and the entire population facing mass starvation. The Israeli government now seems bent on replicating the same devastation in Lebanon from where Hezbollah has been shooting its rockets onto Israeli communities.

The Israeli government, which itself is controlled by religious extremists, fell into the trap set by Iran and its proxies by waging its brutal assault on Gaza. When images of the Middle East are shown on our TV screens each night, it is the horrors being endured by Gazan children that we see. It is their plight (as well as those of Palestinians who are being attacked by Israeli settlers on the West Bank), not that of the Israeli victims, that is garnering the world's attention and sympathies.

Finally, the bloody attack of 10/7 and the military response by Israel achieved another of Iran's major goals by creating political fissures both in the Western democracies and in Israel itself, as well as upending plans for a treaty among Israel, the U.S., and Saudi Arabia.

Just as 9/11 changed our world, so too has 10/7. A year later, with a wider war all but certain, it is clear that peace in the Middle East is more elusive than ever with an outcome that will reverberate across the globe today and for generations to come.

THE MOST PATHETIC GAME IN NFL HISTORY?

We don't mean to keep harping on our poor Patriots, but their contest this past Sunday with the Miami Dolphins has to rate as the most pathetic excuse for a professional football game we've ever seen in our lives -- and we've been Pats' fans since the 1960s, so we've witnessed quite a few sorry performances.

The Pats entered the game as the #31 offensive team in the NFL, exceeded in futility only by the Dolphins at #32 -- and the game lived up to the low expectations of both teams, featuring a variety of miscues that normally you might see once in an NFL game, not multiple times.

In the first half alone, the Dolphins missed a mid-range field goal that bounced off the goal post, dribbled a snap back to the holder on another field goal attempt, snapped a ball over their quarterback's head, and had a punt blocked.

The Patriots missed a short field goal, shanked a punt, allowed hapless veteran quarterback Jacoby Brissette to be hit countless times, and committed 12 penalties for 105 yards.

It was a performance by both teams not worthy of even a JV high school game -- and fans paid hundreds of dollars for a ticket for that sorry demonstration. From the perspective of long-time Pats' fans, we'd like to chalk it up to just a tough week, but it is clear that this will be a season that is only going to get worse.



"WE KNOW THE FEELING."

Applications now open for Boston School Committee

Special to the Regional Review

Mayor Michelle Wu announced that applications for a four-year term on the Boston School Committee are now being accepted by the Boston School Committee Nominating Panel. The Nominating Panel is a thirteen-member body composed of Boston Public Schools (BPS) parents, educators, school leaders and representatives of the business and higher education communities. The selected member's term will begin on January 6, 2025 and expire on January 1, 2029. Applications to fill the upcoming vacancy are due Friday, November 15, 2024 at 11:59 p.m.

Interviews for selected candidates will be held on Thursday, November 21 and Friday, November 22, 2024 in the late afternoon or early evening. Can-

didates must be Boston residents and should expect that service on the School Committee involves a significant time commitment to connect with school departments and leaders and prepare for and attend biweekly meetings that run into late hours in the evening.

The Boston School Committee is the governing body of the Boston Public School. The School Committee is responsible for:

- Defining the vision, mission, and goals of the Boston Public Schools;
- Establishing and monitoring the annual operating budget;
- Hiring, managing, and evaluating the Superintendent; and
- Setting and reviewing district policies and practices to support student achievement.

The seven members of the School Committee are Boston residents appointed by the Mayor. The Mayor appoints members from a list of candidates recommended by the Boston School

Committee Nominating Panel. The School Committee also includes a non-voting student member of the Boston Student Advisory Council.

The School Committee meets approximately twice per month during the school year to adopt, review and modify policies and practices that support teaching, learning and improved student achievement. With the exception of executive sessions, Committee meetings are open to the public, feature public comment periods and are broadcast on Boston City TV.

Please direct all questions and submit completed applications to scnominatingpanel@boston.gov or to Boston City Hall, Mayor's Office, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02201. You can learn more about the Boston School Committee online.

Applications will be available in English, Simplified Chinese, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Spanish, and Haitian Creole.

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@reverjournal.com are preferred.

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National Park Service invests \$1.7 million into Old North Church and Historic Site

The nation's semiquincentennial – the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in July 2026 – is rapidly approaching. In anticipation of the 250th anniversary of Old North Church's "two if by sea" lantern signal that famously ignited the American Revolution with Paul Revere's midnight ride, Old North Illuminated, which operates Old North Church and Historic Site, is making major accessibility upgrades thanks to funding totaling over \$1.7 million from the National Park Service.

Accessibility upgrades include:

- Installing an accessibility ramp to bypass the only stairs along the Freedom Trail, located on Old North's campus.
- Installing an entry ramp to the crypt, providing access to one of the church's most popular tours.
- Reconfiguring the ramp at the Old North Church entrance to meet code requirements.
- Repairing the staircases used to access the galleries in the church's sanctuary. The north gallery is one of the primary locations within the historic site for sharing the stories of Old North's 18th century Black and Indigenous community.
- Repairing and repointing masonry at the rear of Old North Church.
- Refurbishing the railings along the Third Lantern Garden and installing ADA compliant handrails.

Making Old North's campus more accessible to visitors is critical in ensuring that the history of Old North Church and its ongoing role in shaping America's past and present are shared for generations to come. Designated a Site of Conscience by the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience in 2023, the national landmark located in the heart of the North End is one of the most frequently visited attractions along Boston's famous Freedom Trail.

"We have a responsibility to educate and foster conversa-

tions about the complexity of our nation's past and the ways in which our history contributes to persistent inequity today," says Nikki Stewart, Old North Illuminated Executive Director. "For the semiquincentennial, visitors will come to Old North to learn the seminal story of Paul Revere's ride and the events leading up to the Battles of Lexington and Concord. They will also learn about Old North's early Black and Indigenous community, and the roles that enslavement and colonialism played in our nation's development. To prepare for this milestone, we are making significant investments in the accessibility of both our programming and our campus."

In 2023, Old North Illuminated launched "Sparking Revolutions: Lanterns, Leadership, and the Evolving Legacy of Old North Church," a new permanent exhibit in Old North Church's sanctuary. The exhibit incorporates accessible design elements, including high-contrast colors and easy-to-read font, to better serve visitors with differing abilities. Additionally, the text from the exhibit panels is available in large print binders for visitors who may have difficulty reading smaller text. The exhibit content can also be listened to as narration on the Bloomberg Connects app. The development of Sparking Revolutions was funded by the Yawkey Foundation.

Last year, Old North Illuminated also introduced new handheld audio guides to enhance the historic site's self-guided tours of the church's sanctuary. The guide contains 35 minutes of content in English or Spanish and is particularly useful for visitors who learn best by listening, or those who may have difficulty reading exhibit signage. The script for the audio guide is also available upon request. This project was funded by the Lynch Foundation and the Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation.

NEWS BRIEF

If you are a shop or restaurant owner, landlord, business alliance, or are advocating for improvements to your community's shopping district, please join us.

For more information and to register visit lightboston-storefront.eventbrite.com.

LIGHT Boston is a non-profit organization founded in 1996 by a group of volunteers recognizing the need for a citizen's advocacy group with respect to responsible

Due to the historic nature of Old North Church, some spaces – such as the steeple and balconies – will always require climbing stairs. Thanks to a partnership with UMass Boston, a virtual reality tour is available to allow history fans to explore its unique spaces from the comfort of home: <https://www.oldnorth.com/virtual-360-tour/>.

The new accessibility upgrades are being supported in part by a \$97,260 Semiquincentennial grant from the Historic Preservation Fund administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior; with significant funding of \$1,619,128 provided by the National Park Service Recreation Fee Program, which supports projects that improve resource conditions so that visitors can enjoy safe and memorable experiences in their national parks. Federal funding for grants awarded from the Historic Preservation Fund is derived from Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas lease revenue, not tax dollars.

"As partners in stewardship of public spaces across this revolutionary city, National Parks of Boston is committed to providing meaningful experiences that invite all people to consider where we have been and feel empowered to envision and shape our future," said Superintendent Michael Creasey. "The upgrades to Old North Church will ensure that this storied place is more welcoming, comfortable, and engaging for all. This is a particularly important investment as we commemorate the 250th anniversaries of events leading up to and including the founding of the nation."

This fall, Old North Church & Historic Site will be open to visitors Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and from 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Holiday hours may vary. Visitors can explore Old North Church's beautiful sanctuary and new exhibit, the historic crypt where 1,100 souls were laid to rest, and

the bell ringing chamber where Paul Revere rang bells as a teenager. For more information or to purchase tickets in advance, visit: www.oldnorth.com.

Established in 1991 as the Old North Foundation, Old North Illuminated is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is responsible for historic site operations and interpretative, educational, and preservation programs at the iconic Old North Church & Historic Site. A secular organization that is independent of Christ Church in the City of Boston, Old North Illuminated welcomes approximately 500,000 visitors annually while overseeing the preservation of an enduring symbol of American independence. Old North Illuminated serves a wide audience by creating meaningful experiences through educational outreach, site-specific programming, and historical analysis. ONI works collaboratively with the City of Boston, the U.S. National Park Service, the Freedom Trail Foundation, and other partners to foster educational and interpretive programs for students and visitors while engaging the public in Old North Church's history and its

role in inspiring liberty and freedom. In 2023, Old North Church and Historic Site was designated as a Site of Conscience by the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience (ICSC), joining a global network of historic sites, museums, and memory initiatives that connect past struggles to today's movements for human rights. For more information, visit: www.oldnorth.com.

The National Parks of Boston is a collection of three National Park Service sites – Boston National Historical Park, Boston African American National Historic Site, and Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park. Established by individual legislation and for designated purposes, the three units have come together under a unified organizational umbrella to collaborate in ways that celebrate our cultural heritage, reconnect people to history and nature, and provide outdoor recreation opportunities on land and on the water. For more information on the National Parks of Boston, visit: www.nps.gov/bost, www.nps.gov/boaf, and www.bostonharborislands.org.

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FREE STOREFRONT LIGHTING WORKSHOP

LIGHT Boston is offering a free lighting workshop on Tuesday, October 29 from 6 pm to 8 pm to help neighborhoods enhance the storefronts of their retail districts. The intent is to support local businesses and to energize the night time economy. Improved lighting will attract more customers and contribute to a safe and welcoming neighborhood.

NEWS, NOTES AND WHATEVER

By Phil Orlandella

FOCCP HOLIDAY TRELLIS LIGHTING CEREMONY

Once again, Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) have organized the very popular and well attended holiday trellis lighting ceremony at the park.

Residents and visitors are encouraged to participate in the special holiday event as the switch is flipped on lighting up the area with 50,000 gorgeous blue lights placed all over the trellis.

The free event will feature a visit by the jolly old man, Santa. Refreshments and entertainment are also a part of the well-organized holiday neighborhood event that usually attracts many people and local elected officials.

Friends of the park work hard putting these special events together each year, and hope there is a large turnout and an enjoyable time for everyone that attends the lighting scheduled for Monday, October 25 at 5pm.

JOHNNY PAOLO BOCCI TOURNAMENT RAISES \$5,000

Counting a surprise generous matching donation of \$2,000 from Damian DePaolo, (Carmelina's Restaurant) this year's successful Johnny Paolo Bocci Tournament at Langone Park on Commercial Street was able to raise a total of \$5,000 for St. Jude's Research Hospital.

Many teams participated in the annual event organized by

Johnny's daughter Linda Lopriore.

First Place: Gary Forziati and Kerry Mulvaney.

Second Place: Enzo Leone and Darah Forino.

Third Place: Donna Del Pesco and Joanne Capodilupo.

NEMPAC EXPANDS TO CHARLESTOWN WORKING THEATRE

As part of its renewed commitment to finding new performance space in Boston, the North End Music and Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC) has worked out details to expand to the Charlestown Working Theatre, 442 Bunker Hill Street.

Expansion includes improvements to the building, investment in new equipment and instruments to support expanding arts performances and the hiring of 11 new facility members.

NEMPAC will maintain its existing headquarters in the North End at 50 Tileston Street and several other locations in Paul Revere Mall (Prado) and 9 Hull Street.

The Center will continue its partnership with the Eliot School in the North End.

NEMPAC, currently serves over 1,500 students per year and plans to host over 42 public community events and performances.

CARE AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS AND GIFT CARDS TO LOCAL STUDENTS

Care Inc., the newly formed

community organization has already produced a neighborhood event and awarded 10 scholarships and 10 gift cards to purchase school supplies for North End students.

"Look for more community events and activities that are being planned in the near future," President John Pregmon said.

"Care invites any and all residents to participate in our events to have a great time," he added.

LEARN AND PLAY CHESS AT THE LIBRARY

Anyone interested in learning to play the challenging game of chess or for more chances to practice or improve their game can do so with neighbors at weekly chess games and instruction at the North End Library, 25 Parmenter Street.

Weekly chess classes are held for adults on Mondays at 2:30pm.

FRIENDS OF N.E. LIBRARY TO HOLD MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Friends of North End Library (FONEL) are seeking new memberships to assist with the many programs, events and activities they conduct each year.

New members will assist other volunteer efforts to enhance programming offered at the library including: Author talks, historical character presentations, ongoing book sales, help with the annual neighborhood holiday party and several other activities and events.

FONEL will hold a Membership Drive at the library on Tuesday, October 30 at 6pm. Membership fee is \$15 per year.

Those that can't attend and want to become members can leave a check or cash at the library, near the book sale area or go to the website www.friendsnelibrary to pay by credit card or to get mailing address.

ABSTRACT SCULPTURE CHANGE AT ARMENIAN PARK

The annual reconfiguration of the Abstract Sculpture will take place at the Armenian Heritage Park on The Greenway, creating a new sculpture shape.

The public is invited to attend and watch the change occur on Sunday, October 12 at 7am. Rain date October 13 same time.

MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PRESENTED TO 7 STUDENTS

"Seven students have been awarded the Geraldine Marshall Scholarship Fund award for full-tuition for participating in a music or performing arts program of their choice," according to Sherri Snow, Executive Director of the North End Music and Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC).

Student choices include: Music lessons, dance classes and music theatre programs.

"Due to the incredible support of our community the fund

was able to support an additional full scholarship this year," Snow added.

Scholarships were awarded to: Lola Bruno, Emilia Bruno, Alexandru Cristescu, Isabella Ireland, Ryan Mendes, Noah Mendes and Stephanie Payne.

In addition, NEMPAC matched this commitment by awarding seven full-tuition assistance awards to seven additional students with support from their annual Performathon event last April.

OLD NORTH HOSTS BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

One of the most popular events that takes place each year in the North End is the Blessing of the Animals hosted by the Old North Church and Historic Site.

This year's event in partnership with RUFF, the North End Dog Group, included a ceremony led by the Rev. Dr. Matthew Cardwell, Vicar at the Church.

All animals, photos of pets that do not travel, as well as children's stuffed animals were welcome to the event held in honor of St. Francis, who lived in Italy from 1181 to 1226 and is revered for his love of nature

The event was held in the Biglow Court Yard at St. Francis Garden behind the Old North Church off of Unity Street, near the Paul Revere Mall (Prado) on Sunday, October 6.

HEARING (from pg. 1)

our neighborhoods and the needed investments to support city departments in response to utility company negligence."

Residents have reported encountering hazardous conditions that make it difficult to navigate streets during school pick-ups and drop-offs and miss life-saving medical treatment appointments during ongoing utility work in the neighborhood. Additionally, small businesses have reported challenges operating due to reduced foot traffic.

"Ensuring timely and transparent communication regarding utility work is essential for the well-being of our city. Residents need to be made aware of any work being done on their street, as this can significantly impact their day-to-day lives. This hearing represents an important step as

I'm excited to work with my colleagues to implement this practice across the city, fostering a safer and more connected environment for everyone," said Councilor Enrique Pepen (District 5).

Members of the administration invited to participate include:

Deputy Chief for Infrastructure and Design

Superintendent of Streets

Public Works Supervisor

Supervisor of Utility

Compliance and Coordination

Boston Transportation Traffic Management

Chief Information Officer, Department of Innovation and Technology

Representatives from Utility Companies expected include:

Boston Water and Sewer Commission

Eversource

National Grid
Verizon

This docket was referred to the Committee on City Services and Innovation Technology chaired by Councilor Enrique Pepen (District 5) of Hyde Park. The hearing order can be found at bit.ly/Utility_Hearing. Community

NEWRA (from pg. 1)

supported a request by Mother Anna's, 211 Hanover Street application for a beer, wine and cordials license with a midnight closure.

Plans also call for construction of a year-round all-season glass like atrium with 84 seats including the outdoor private patio area.

Locale Inc., 350-352 Hanover Street has submitted a request to the Licensing Board for an all-al-

members are encouraged to testify virtually or in person.

For additional information, including how to testify, please contact the Office of Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata by phone at (617) 635-3200 or by email at gabriela.ramirez@boston.gov.

cohol license with a midnight closure.

The board voted 19-2 to support the applicant's request that all calls for zoning relief to change use for a new restaurant in the basement and first floor.

NEWRA meets tonight, October 10 at 6:30pm in the Nazzaro Community Center.

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Nempac Soirée honors Stefano Marchese and Collin Yip

It was a gorgeous night of community, music, and funding to support arts access for all in the North End's most iconic historic parks. The North End Music & Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC) celebrated its 8th Annual Soirée, a fundraiser supporting NEMPAC's community music school and performing arts center, on Thursday, September 19 in the Paul Revere Mall.

Thanks to the support of sponsors, donors, and auction proceeds, NEMPAC raised \$102,250 to support the organization's mission of providing equitable and accessible arts education and programming to all. Not even the threat of rain could keep our revelers from coming out to celebrate arts education in Boston!

Honored at the event were community philanthropist Collin Yip, Founder and Managing Partner of Rafi Properties and longtime supporter of NEMPAC, and also Stefano Marchese, Artistic Director of NEMPAC's Jazz in the Park Summer Concert Series, Berklee Faculty Member, and Eliot School Music Teacher. Boston City Council President Ruthzee Louijeune was also recognized as Guest of Honor and spoke to the importance of female leadership and empowerment.

The event featured musicians and special performances by Jack Byrne, Bailey Kolapudi, Dan Sivachenko, and Jaime Castellanos, and two youth student performers, Alexander Manning (guitar) and Teddy Childs (voice and piano). The evening transitioned to a surprise performance from Stefano Marchese's Italian jazz combo, Scanzonati, culminating with a dance party hour featuring DJ Kareem with Big Night Live.

The \$102,250 of funds raised will support the robust and diverse educational programs, including music lessons, its growing adult studio program, classes in music theatre, movement, and dance, and in particular, the massive expansion into the Charlestown Working Theater. NEMPAC employs over 42 faculty members who represent a variety of disciplines, including piano, voice, guitar, drums, trumpet, piano, French horn, and ukulele, among others. The Annual Soirée also provides funding in support of NEMPAC's professional performing arts season and new 'pay what you can' ticketing model, including our annual free Jazz in the Park Summer Series, the Opera Project, and our soon-to-be-launched Artist Series.

A special thanks to the gener-

ous NEMPAC Soirée Sponsors: Seven Hills Pasta, Brookline Bank, Eastern Bank, enLabel Global Services, Inc., Loft & Vine, Margaret & Bud Ris, Teri Groome & Paul

Belanger, Anthony & Creelea Pangaro, Trinity Financial, 90+ Cellars, Big Night Live, Boston Bottle, DePasquale Ventures, PEAK, and Falcetti Pianos.



Honoree and Philanthropist Collin Yip, Principal and Founder of Rafi Properties.



Frank DePasquale, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, NEMPAC Executive Director Sherri Snow, NEMPAC Board Chair Mary O'Neill

Shake the Tree turns **30!** join us for our BIRTHDAY PARTY!

15% off store-wide!

Saturday, October 19th
5 PM to 7 PM | 67 Salem Street North End, Boston

Free North End snacks, drinks, shopping, special raffles, and more!



NEMPAC Executive Director Sherri Snow, Honoree Stefano Marchese, Artistic Director of NEMPAC's Jazz in the Park Summer Series, Berklee Faculty, and Music Teacher at the Eliot School, and NEMPAC Board Chair Mary O'Neill.

DON'T DUMP

Most catch basins in Boston connect to stormdrains that discharge the runoff to the nearest brook, river, or Boston Harbor. Substances carelessly spilled, onto our streets or directly into a catch basin can pollute Boston Harbor, the Charles, Neponset and Mystic Rivers.

Please keep chemicals, pet waste and litter OUT of Boston's storm drains!

Boston Water and Sewer Commission
WE ARE ALL CONNECTED
Let's Protect Boston's Waterways

OLD NORTH CHURCH HOLDS BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS.

The Old North Church honored St Francis Day with a blessing of the animals. The ceremony was open to people (and animals) of all faiths (and breeds). Held on the courtyard behind the historic Church, the clergy worked hard to ensure that beloved pets are blessed.



Old North Church Vicar Rev. Dr Matthew P Cadwell blesses PJ while his human Vinny hoped that the blessing “will stick.”



Cynthia Malm with Moxie.



Old North Church Vicar Rev. Dr Matthew P Cadwell stands with Sara Page and Charlie after the blessing.



Old North Church Vicar Rev. Dr Matthew P Cadwell blesses Benny with his human Kerry Mulcaney holding him aloft.



Not just all dogs go to heaven, Deacon Rev. Holly Hartman blesses felines Jackson and Koda (hiding) to ensure they make it last the Pearly Gates as well.



Frankie Boyer and Lygie.



Geno Mirabella and Dawn Nelson with Penny.



Barneby is a bit nervous about the blessing coming his way.



Kate Nickelson with Zola.

Derek Kouyoumjian photos

OLD NORTH CHURCH HOLDS BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS.

Derek Kouyoumjian photos



Geno Mirabella and Dawn Nelson with Penny.



Old North Church Vicar Rev. Dr Matthew P Cadwell blesses Barney, Nellie, and Ellijah while their human Gene looks to control the chaos.



Ashley Eaves wanted her four-legged friend Guinness to be properly dressed for the blessing.



In the Paul Revere Mall Vera Meyer plays a replica of Benjamin Franklin's Glass Harmonica.



Old North Church Vicar Rev. Dr Matthew P Cadwell and Deacon Rev. Holly Hartman lead animals and their humans to the courtyard behind the church for the blessing.

BPD (from pg. 1)

their partnership.”

“With the Home Rule Petition to raise the maximum age requirement for the Boston Police Academy now in effect, we need to take the necessary steps to realize that with maturity, sound judgment, discipline, and physical fitness are necessary characteristics for our officers, regardless of age. We need to expand the eligibility and open doors to individuals with a wealth of diverse experiences. This will help address recruitment challenges and strengthen our commitment to improving public safety in Boston,” said Councilor Enrique Pepen (District 5).

“Boston is facing challenges in ensuring that all our neighborhoods have the necessary police presence to deliver effective community safety services,” said Councilor Henry Santana, who is a co-sponsor on the home rule petition, and serves as Chair of the Committee on Public Safety & Criminal Justice. “We’re continu-

ing to work to grow younger cadet recruitment, but raising the Police Academy age limit — while still maintaining all of the Academy’s rigorous requirements — will not only help address labor shortages, it also opens the door for highly-qualified, motivated, and experienced individuals to join our force,” Santana continued. “Often these are individuals who bring wisdom and unique perspectives to serving our city, drawing from a broader range of professional and lived experience, with beneficial and transferable skills.”

The Committee on Government Operations held a hearing on September 9 regarding the petition. Lisa O’Brien, Bureau Chief of Administration and Technology at the Boston Police Department, testified favorably on behalf of the administration about raising the age limit. The administration shared Police Commissioner Cox’s support for the petition and highlighted that increasing the

age requirement could potentially assist the City’s efforts to recruit more police candidates.

During the hearing, there was broad consensus among Councilors about increasing the maximum age and using the measure to help fill personnel shortages in the Boston Police Department. Councilors heard public testimony from the Boston Police Patrolmen’s Union, Latino Law Enforcement Group of Boston, and petitioners who have gone through the waiver process. Additionally, the administration and the Council agreed to work collaboratively to address concerns regarding the impacts raising the maximum age could have on an officer’s pension, such as providing disclaimers or raising the retirement age for those individuals.

The Home Rule Petition now goes to the Mayor and the State Legislature for approval.



Old North Church Vicar Rev. Dr Matthew P Cadwell blesses Tyler held by his human Bruce Rosendahl.

It's All About Family!

Sumner Tunnel ends overnight weekend closure for repairs

Special to the Times

The Sumner Tunnel marked its final full weekend closure as part of the restoration project. The project is now considered substantially complete. The schedule allowed for an additional five weekend closures that would have continued into mid-November but no more will be required. Remaining work will be finished under normal off-peak operations.

In addition to weekend closures over the past two years, the project also included two extended summertime closures. The total rehabilitation effort included work on the tunnel ceiling, roadway, walls, wiring, drainage and additional improvements which will increase safety and climate resiliency. The project is a major investment in the state's transportation infrastructure and extends the tunnel's useful life by at least 75 years.

"The Sumner Tunnel Restoration Project was a hugely important effort that ensures this vital piece of infrastructure is in the best possible condition going forward," said MassDOT Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbits-Nutt. "We know this project created inconveniences for the public and particularly the people of East Boston. We thank them for their patience and cooperation."

"We are thrilled that we have been able to deliver this project ahead of schedule" said State Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver. "I want to thank our contractor, JF White, who worked tirelessly with our team at MassDOT to find ways to accelerate this important work. I also want to thank the travelling public and

residents for their patience and support during this important project."

During the extensive rehabilitation of the entire tunnel the pre-existing suspended ceiling was removed and over 700 pre-cast concrete arches installed, new fireproof wallboard was installed throughout the length of the tunnel making a dramatic improvement in its fire safety. Over 500 new light fixtures were installed, and new conduit and cables were put in place. The existing asphalt was removed from the length of the roadway and the concrete below was rehabilitated. Granite curbing and drain inlet were replaced. The entire length of the roadway was repaved and relined. This weekend's closure was the 59th ne dating back to 2022.

The Sumner Tunnel Restoration Project offered a variety of mitigation options for individuals coming from all travel points. Mitigation options included free trips on the MBTA Blue Line; free and reduced cost water ferry options; reduced Commuter Rail fares for riders; reduced parking costs at MBTA and Commuter Rail parking lots and garages; discounted tolls for residents; and additional options for travelers to and from Logan Airport.

Sumner Project By The Numbers:

- 59 weekend closures: Friday from 11:00 p.m. to Monday Morning 5:00 a.m.
- 2023 summer shutdown: July 5 to August 31, 2023 = 57 Days
- 2024 summer shutdown: July 5 to August 5, 2024 = 31 Days
- 13,516 square yards of concrete roadway was rehabilitated

A LOOK AT THE PROJECT DURING CONSTRUCTION...



...AND AFTER



- 4307 tons of asphalt paving was laid
- 420 linear feet of granite curbing was replaced
- 69 new drainage inlets were installed
- 165,000 square feet of fire-

- board was installed
- 3,800 dropped ceiling panels were removed
- 735 precast arch segments and 146 precast ceiling slabs were installed, each weighing well over six tons

- 502 new light fixtures installed
- 42,800 linear feet of conductor installed
- 24,000 linear feet of fiber optic cable installed

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
FORMAL
ADJUDICATION
Docket No.
SU24P1001EA
Estate of:
Dean J. Bergeron
Also known as:
Dean Joseph Bergeron,

Dean Bergeron
Date of Death:
12/09/2023

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by David G. Driscoll of Chelmsford, 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: David G. Driscoll of Chelmsford, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond 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 10/22/2024. 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 days (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION

UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: September 17, 2024
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.
Register of Probate

10/11/24
RR

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
ALLOWANCE OF
ACCOUNT

Suffolk Probate
And Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
Docket No.
SU322035

In the matter of:
Harriet A.

Jackson
Date of Death:
01/01/1945
To all interested
Persons:

A Petition has been filed by Mellon Trust Of New England N.A. of Boston, MA requesting allowance of the 72nd through 78th account(s) as Trustee and any other relief as requested in the Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at

this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 10/29/2024.

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 date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 01, 2024
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.
Register of Probate

10/10/24
RR

CELEBRATE YOUR ITALIAN HERITAGE!

HAPPY COLUMBUS DAY!



The North End Regional Review is privileged to publish this map of Italy which designates the regions of that wonderful land where our Italian-American neighbors can trace their roots



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State Representative **Aaron Michlewitz**

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Healey signs bill into law that criminalizes sexual assault by fraud of a medical professional

Special to the Regional Review

On Monday, Sept. 23, numerous advocates and officials were present for the ceremonial signing by Gov. Maura Healey of Bill H.4350, An Act criminalizing sexual assault by fraud of a medical professional. This legislation protects vulnerable individuals by ensuring that Massachusetts can prosecute health care professionals and clergy members who influence patients or clients to engage in sexual activity under the guise of treatment or counseling.

“Health care and counseling environments should be a place of safety, respect and trust. This law ensures that patients are protected against sexual assault by medical professionals and that perpetrators will be held accountable under the law,” said Gov. Healey. “We

are grateful to the legislature and our law enforcement partners for working to end this dangerous loophole so that victims can get the justice they deserve.”

Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll said, “This law is a powerful step toward safeguarding patients and clients in these horrific situations and ensuring that health care professionals who exploit their positions face serious consequences. We are thankful to all our legislative partners and the countless advocates who have been a voice for victims across Massachusetts.”

“This was a very important day for all patients of medical professionals in Massachusetts,” said Coryn Bina, who was present at the ceremony with her husband, Babak, who both founded BINA Farm Center in Lexington. “Although there are great support

Gov. Maura Healey, Coryn and Babak Bina and Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll.

PHOTO COURTESY JOSH QUALLS

umbria

Italian steakhouse

mia

ROOF DECK



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Umbria
Steakhouse & mia Roof Deck
250 Hanover St • 617-865-1265

Dolce
Italian Cafe with 33 Flavors of Tiramisu
272 Hanover St

Encore
BOSTON HARBOR
1 Broadway, Everett

Fratelli
Italian Fine Dining
617-420-8833

Giardino
Breakfast & Lunch
857-770-3360

Frank and Nick's
The Italian Experience
857-770-3483

systems in Boston, including the Victim Rights Law Center who provides free legal support for sexual assault survivors, we needed to equip prosecutors with the right tools to hold medical professionals accountable when they break the law.”

“Doctors and religious leaders are trusted individuals in our communities. We expect to be safe in their care, not at risk for sexual abuse,” said Stacy Malone, Executive Director of the Victim Rights Law Center, headquartered on Beacon Hill. “This legislation simultaneously sends the message to sexual assault survivors that we believe them and the message to perpetrators who exploit their power to harm others that they will now be prosecuted.”

This legislation eliminates lack of consent as an element of a sexual assault or rape prosecution if the agreement to sexual contact was

procured by a false representation by a health care provider or clergy member that the contact was for a legitimate treatment or counseling purpose. This closes a loophole in existing law that made it difficult to prosecute these cases due to a requirement of proof of lack of consent, even where the consent was fraudulently obtained. Now perpetrators could face up to 20 years in state prison for knowingly inducing a patient or client to engage in sexual intercourse by false misrepresentation during the course of diagnosis or treatment.

“We know – as lawmakers and citizens – that consent obtained through fraud is not consent. This bill, passed by the legislature and signed by our Governor, says to patients and survivors, ‘We will support and protect you by closing this loophole now,’” said Speaker Pro Tempore Kate Hogan (D - Stow), House Sponsor of the bill.

“I would like to thank Speaker Ron Mariano, Chair of Ways and Means Aaron Michlewitz, Judiciary Chair Mike Day, and my colleagues in the House for passing this bill for the second consecutive Session and proving steadfast commitment to victims of sexual abuse. I would also like to thank DA Marian Ryan for advocating clarity over ambiguity in these situations and being my partner in this effort.”

“Trust is the foundation of the relationship between a doctor and a patient, and when that trust is abused to commit sexual assault, there must be clear and meaningful punishment,” said Senate Minority Leader Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester). “This bill will ensure that such punishment is available, and that prosecutors and victims have the tools they need to bring justice to these types of cases.”

TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL 781-485-0588