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THE NORTH END **REGIONAL REVIEW** -

EMAIL: DEB@THEBOSTONSUN.COM EDITOR@REVEREJOURNAL.COM



Uncle Sam with other parade marchers at Christopher Columbus Park.



Friends of Christopher Columbus Park volunteers.

FOCCP independence celebration a patriotic community event

By Phil Orlandella

Last year, the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) were forced to cancel their popular and well attended Independence Day Celebration due to the pandemic.

However, FOCCP was determined to make it happen this year, coming back with flying colors, by presenting a highly successful community patriotic celebration.

The event began with a parade, led by Uncle Sam on stilts and trumpeter Victor Brogna around the park, followed by a festival of flags.

Participants joined FOCCP members singing and dancing with Baby Shark, enjoyed Big Joe's storytelling and watching a performance by Peter the Magician.

Other activities took place under the Trellis and games on the West Lawn.

Special craft tables were set Marriott Long Wharf.



Uncle Sam marches through the park with friends.



Victor Brogna entertained all with his trumpet.

up to make a window greenhouse and decorating masks and bikes. Also, participants helped create a garden of flags.

FOCCP President Joanne Hayes Rines said, "FOCCP is grateful to our sponsors and members that helped make the community event a great success."

Sponsors included, North End Boston.com; Boston Harbor City Cruises; CL Waterfront LLC; Joe's American Bar and Grill and

Polls indicate Waterfront issues need to be addressed

By Phil Orlandella

North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) and the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy have become part of the New Coalition to Elevate Waterfront issues in advance of the 2021 city municipal elections this coming November.

Made up of 40 Boston organizations, the Coalition for a Resilient and Inclusive Waterfront goal is to educate candidates and the public voters on issues impacting Boston's Waterfront.

A new poll, conducted by The Mass INC Polling Group, which surveyed 635 likely voters on a host of topics relating to the Boston waterfront clearly indicated the importance of having open spaces and parks on the waterfront and to convey a group that can help relay these issues needed to be a priority throughout the municipal elections and beyond.

The Coalition plans to host a mayoral forum focused on critical waterfront issues on Thursday, July 29 at the New England Aquarium.

The event will be open to the public and media.

Regional Review Cubs win NEAA Baseball Championship

By Phil Orlandella

Losing the first game of the playoffs series, the Regional Review Cubs rebounded winning the next two games, capturing the 2021 North End Athletic Association (NEAA) Majors (Little League) Championship, beating the regular-season top finisher the Indians at Puopolo Park.

Baseball Coordinator John Romano recognized the Cubs, coaches and players for having a solid playoffs season on their way to this year's championship under the coaching of Jordan Bednar. The championship team included: Austin Ortiz Pendleton, Reed Fullerton, Robbie Mallett, Anthony Lochiatto, Victor Lochiatto, Owen Flanagan, Oliver Lavallee, Julian Vidal, Jonathan Morales, Sebastian Niese, Ferdinand, Carangelo and Lexi Howard.

Special awards were presented to the Cubs at the baseball event. Other award winners were: Picture of the Year Owen Flanagan, Rookie of the Year John Fahy, MVP William Previte, Sportsmen on the Year Ferdinand Carangelo, Uncle Fred Carangelo awards were presented to Ben Puopolo, JT Percoco and Coach of the Year Jordan Bednar.

NEWRA has full agenda/ guest speaker

By Phil Orlandella

Mayoral candidate At-Large Boston City Councilor Michelle Wu will present her vision for Boston at the July 8 monthly meeting of the North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA).

John Barros, former Chief of Economic Development for the City of Boston, also a candidate for Mayor will present his vision for the City of Boston.

Both candidates will take questions.

NEWRA is expected to vote on a proposal by 51 North Margin Street Realty to construct a four-story vertical addition

on top of an existing two-story building (formally the location of The Godfather) with a change of occupancy to a multi-family residential building, to construct a six-story four-unit dwelling with five-stories of residential space over one level of a parking/lobby and with four parking spaces.

Boston Public Market is seeking approval to pursue an on premises annual all alcoholic beverage license.

NEWRA will discuss and vote on a draft letter commenting on proposed state regulations that would approve the Downtown Waterfront Municipal Haber Plan and authorize a 600-foot tower at the Harbor Garage.

EDITORIAL

NO ESCAPING CLIMATE CHANGE

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Heat domes. Polar vortexes. Superstorms. Megadroughts. Wildfire tornados. Rising sea levels.

These terms were unheard of at the start of this century -- other than n academic journals -- but are now part of our everyday conversation.

Climate change and its catastrophic effects no longer exist in the realm of science fiction describing a distant and dystopian future -- they are part of the here-and-now in every corner of the globe.

Although it is true that our planet has been experiencing its hottest years in recorded history over the past decade, the term "global warming" does not really capture what is going on. Indeed, the phrase global warming almost has a warm and fuzzy connotation. After all, who likes to be cold?

But 14 years ago, the award-winning New York Times columnist and author Thomas Friedman used a different term to describe the effects of climate change. He called it "global weirding," first coined by the environmentalist L. Hunter Lovins, which Friedman described this way:

"Avoid the term 'global warming.' I prefer the term 'global weirding,' because that is what actually happens as global temperatures rise and the climate changes. The weather gets weird. The hots are expected to get hotter, the wets wetter, the dries drier, and the most violent storms more numerous."

Tom Friedman's reference to the term global weirding came amidst a torrent of climate change denial by Republican politicians and fossil fuel industry executives, but has proven to be prescient in view of the climate calamities of the past few years.

Just about everything we do, individually and collectively, impacts our climate negatively.

As Congress takes up President Biden's various infrastructure proposals, including many that address climate change, some may question the enormous expense of retrofitting our economy to lessen our impact on the planet.

However, putting the issue that way has it backwards. It's not whether we can afford to address climate change, but rather, can we afford NOT to do so.

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REPORTERS AND CONTRIBUTORS:

Seth Daniel, John Lynds and Cary Shuman PHONE 781-485-0588 // FAX 781-485-1403

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP, LLC **PRESIDENT:** Stephen Quigley

decision about what "was" her mother's money. She would even You may create instability and tear up any kind of credit or retail purchasing card that her mother

GUEST OP-ED

Don't give up your personal freedom

insecurity for your personal life if you put others in charge of your decisions. The idea of a child or acquain-

tance "shouldering" your life's concerns and finances might feel comforting. Having someone else pay your bills and oversee your welfare might feel like a relief. For many it ends up being the end of freedom and security.

You love your children, or that special niece or grandchild. You are so bonded to them. You may feel that adding their name to your checking or other financial accounts will increase your bond and the ongoing warm fuzzy relationship. Be very aware.

An acquaintance wanted her daughter to have the family home so bad that she went ahead and did all the legal work to assign the house to her daughter. Her daughter's name was added to all her savings and checking accounts. For the rest of her life this poor woman never had a life. From that point forward, her daughter made every

tried to get with commentary such as, "You don't need these." The mother spent her remaining years hearing almost weekly from her daughter that she was going to "put her in a nursing home."

Another acquaintance with a healthy savings account and beautiful house signed everything over to a nephew and gave him her power of attorney. He soon made the decision to put her in a nursing home telling her she would be better off. He now drives her car and spends out of her checking account. He has told her she will have to sell her house to cover the costs of her nursing home care.

Just recently, an elderly acquaintance said, "I have no cash. My son takes care of paying all my bills, groceries and more but I don't have access to any money."

There is always the possibility that any of us could become physically or mentally disabled. Make your legal arrangements for when and if that happens. Be wary about putting children or loved ones on your accounts now. Get with your attorney and draw up a document that says, "When, such disability happens or death happens then Mr. or Mrs. John Doe are to have "this" or "that."

Of course, do what you want to do. Sometimes it works out. However, do you really need someone saying to you, "Now mom, now dad, do you really need to buy those shoes?" Or, "Do you really need to take that trip?" "Now mom, now dad do you really need to be shopping at the mall?" Hey friend, it's your money. You and your spouse work it out and if you live alone you and God can work it out. It can be wise to seek financial counsel from a professional. However, you can do this without giving up your personal freedom.

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

GUEST OP-ED

Welcoming phase of reentry and renewal

By Cathy Judd-Stein

It is often said that the opportunity to find a deeper power within emerges when life becomes most challenging. Like many, I continue to reflect on the magnitude of fear and uncertainty we collectively experienced during the pandemic's darkest days while marveling at the resilience and ingenuity demonstrated by countless individuals and industries, including our MGC team, gaming licensees, and large stakeholder community.

We continue to honor the feelings of grief, loss and anxiety that have left an indelible mark on our hearts and minds. But as vaccination rates go up and face masks come down, I am heartened as we transition into a welcomed phase of reentry and renewal, embracing the many lessons learned and harnessing the power of our proven adaptive capabilities.

I would like to recognize my fellow Commissioners Gayle Cameron, Eileen O'Brien and Enrique

Zuniga for their steady, dedicated guidance and support during these difficult months. Each Commissioner brings their individual perspectives, expertise, and compelling insights, bolstering our collective strength as we led a public body during these challenging times. We deeply appreciate Executive Director Karen Wells for directing the team's execution and implementation of the Commission's decisions and advice.

I also wish to express my most sincere gratitude for the entire MGC staff for the immeasurable ways in which team members addressed multiple adaptive challenges and arrived at creative solutions, despite the emotional toll of unprecedented circumstances.

A confluence of challenges required us to nimbly adjust our practices yet remain firmly guided by our principles. In close coordination with our licensees, a strong collaborative spirit and an innovative culture propelled our team's ability to accomplish our regulatory objectives, ensure the effective implementation of state mandates and prioritize health and well-being above all else. Indeed, the Commission has held nearly 120 virtual public meetings since Governor Baker's March 2020 executive order allowing the use of remote collaboration technology under the Open Meeting Law. The MGC seamlessly transitioned to remote operations while safeguarding our fundamental principles of transparency and accountability - a credit to the preparedness of numerous MGC departments.

Profound lessons continue to emerge from a transformative year defined by the twin pandemics of COVID-19 and deeply rooted racial injustice. The urgency of systemic inequality catalyzed the establishment of MGC's Equity and Inclusion Working Group. The Gaming Commission has

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OPINION By Phil Orlandella

REVIEW LITTLE LEAGUE TEAM WINS IT ALL

Congratulations to the Regional Review (sponsor) North End Athletic Association Cubs baseball team for capturing the 2021 Little League championship playoffs two games to one. The team was coached by Jordan Bednar. Team players were: Austin Ortz Pendleton, Reed Fullerton, Robbie Mallet, Anthony Lochiatto, Victor Lochiatto, Owen Flanagan, Oliver Lavallee, Julian Vidal, Jonathan Morales, Sebastian Niese, Ferdinand, Carangelo and Lexi Howard.

The Regional Review is proud to sponsor a North End team each year.

Letter to the Editor

PROTECT OUR IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS, FRIENDS, AND ESSENTIAL WORKERS

To the Editor,

Immigrants in Massachusetts have taken the hardest hit from the COVID – 19 pandemic. Many are deemed essential workers, cannot work remotely, and must take public transportation. They are resistant to accessing COVID testing and healthcare due to fear of detention, or worse, deportation. This is why I am supporting the passage of the Safe Communities Act, H. 3573.

Our state legislators must take the initiative to protect our immigrant neighbors, friends, and essential workers. We are all better off when parents don't fear being torn from their children, and when all residents can seek medical attention and contact law enforcement for help without fear of deportation.

As a citizen, I expect Massachusetts elected officials to stand up to these indignities. Undocumented residents should not live in fear of their local police department and ICE. The police are responsible for protecting and assisting communities and should not be involved with immigration issues. This takes them away from their core mission. Instead of creating relationships with community members, it sows fear of the police.

It is time for the Massachusetts Legislature to take action and pass the Safe Communities Act, H. 3573. Time is of the essence, it is time for the our representatives to do the right thing.

Daniel Gorberg

OP-ED (*from pg. 2*)

since unanimously adopted the Working Group's five-point action plan, with anti-racism as a primary guiding principle. The Equity and Inclusion Working Group remains focused on ensuring that the MGC's internal and external-facing systems yield equitable outcomes, protect individuals and communities of color from disproportionate negative effects and dis-



mantle barriers obstructing racial equity.

In March 2020, we pledged to navigate the unknown and face the uncertainty together. Today, the circumstances have changed, but the sentiment remains the same: our team will rise to meet the evolving environment TOGETHER, united by a shared purpose and driven by our deeply held values of integrity, service, and inclusion.

Cathy Judd-Stein is the chair of Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL 781-485-0588

NEW NEWRA MEMBERSHIP WELCOMED

The North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) is seeking renewal and new memberships to join the non-profit organization that addresses many issues that affect the neighborhood directly.

NEWRA deals with and votes on construction proposals, occupancy changes, permitting, liquor license applications and transfers and more at their monthly meetings.

Becoming a member offers residents the opportunity to be a part on a first-hand basis, of an organization that truly cares about the neighborhood and its future. To join NEWRA visit www.newra. org/joinhtm.

FOCCP GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) are seeking volunteers to work in the park's garden.

All tools and instructions will be provided by FOCCP. Volunteers need to bring their own garden gloves and wear closed toe shoes. For details email info@foccp.

POOL REGISTRATION

While the Mirabella Pool is currently open, registration is still being taken online at www.bcyf. perfectmind.com.

For additional information contact the Nazzaro Community Center at 617-635-5166

NEAA TRAVELING BASEBALL TEAM

The NEAA Dodgers traveling baseball team will once again participate in the 2021 Lou Tompkins League coached by Kevin "Sully" O'Sullivan.

A 15-game schedule will be played. All home games will be at Puopolo Field in the North End.

Team players are: William Previte, Matthew Griffin, Ryan McHugh, Alex Puopolo, Gunnar Larson, Joseph Brienze, Alessandro Parisi, Lucas Amadeo, Richard Wells, Michael Murphy, Liam Lally, Nikalas McHugh, Jordany Mak, Patrick Keefe and Anthony Sapienza.

NSC STILL PROVIDING FOOD BAGS

ABCD's North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center

IN BRIEF By Phil Orlandella

(NE/WE NSC) is still continuing the food bag deliveries for North End residents.

Clients can also access the North End Pantry at the NSC offices on 1 Michelangelo Street.

Anyone that would like to make an appointment should call the NSC at 617-523-8125.

In addition, the NSC has opened their food pantry at the West End Public Library. The hours of operation 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM on Mondays and Wednesdays.

FREE MOVIES AT COLUMBUS PARK

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) have scheduled free Sunday summer outdoor movies during July and August.

July 18-Hard Day Night, PG, starts about 8:30 PM.

July 25-Top Gun, PG, starts about 8:20 PM.

August 1-Breakfast at Tiffany's, starts about 8:15 PM.

August 8-Mamma Mia, PG 13, starts about 8 PM.

August 15-Hidden Figures, PG, starts about 8 PM.

August 22-A League of Their Own, PG, starts about 7:50 PM.

Moviegoers should take their own chairs, blankets, food, beverage and clean up the park following the movie.

FOCCP President Joanne Hayes Rines said, "All residents and their families are welcome to attend the summer event each Sunday and enjoy the park."

NEAA MINOR LEAGUE SPECIAL AWARDS

Four teams participated in the 2021 North End Athletic Association (NEAA) Minor League Baseball program and Baseball Extravaganza.

Special MVP awards were presented to Grasshoppers Gian Luca DeMarco; Muck Dogs Andrew Perry; Mud Cats Bailey Fadden; Raptors Bo Gibbons and Coach of the year Rick Martignetti.

Baseball Coordinator John Romano thanked the team and league sponsors for making this idea possible, Saint Anthony's Feast Society, Saint Agrippina Feast Society, Regional Review, Tomasone Club, North End Against Drugs, North End Food Tule, North End Nursing and Rehab Center, Bob, Maria and Michael Dello Russo, Chad and Nicola Wolfson in memory of Francesco Capone and the Boston Red Sox Foundation-Jr RBI program.

GIRLS' SPECIAL AWARDS

The NEAA Girls Softball League had a successful series of games at Puopolo Park.

Special awards were presented to players in different categories. Hustle Award Evynn Kelly, Best Teammate Audrey Westphal, Best Leader Emma Jae Reilly, Most Improved Alba Lis Routhier-Gomez and Mary Hall, Best Attitude Victoria DeMarco.



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NEAA HITS A GRAND SLAM BASEBALL EXTRAVAGANZA

By Phil Orlandella

The North End Athletic Association (NEAA) held the first of its kind Baseball Extravaganza at Puopolo Park on June 26, that featured an entire day of baseball

sented after each event.

It started with a Girls Softball game followed by two Minor League games and an All-Star game. The Instructional event was

The NEAA hit a Grand Slam with its Baseball Extravaganza.



and softball games.

held the next morning.

Trophies and medals were pre-

2021 NEAA Minor Leagues with their medals.



2021 NEAA Girls Softball players with Coaches Chuck Bilikas and Carl Hall.



2021 NEAA Playoff Champs Regional Review Cubs.



Allstar Game MVPS:(L to R front Row) North End: Owen Flanagan, Charlestown: Eliot Gomez, Allstar Game Play of Game: Jack Daley Demerle. (Back Rom L to R)NE Coach John Pregmon and Charlestown Coach Max Gomez.

Visit www.northendregionalreview.com

NEAA HITS A GRAND SLAM BASEBALL EXTRAVAGANZA



2021 NEAA Allstars and Charlestown Allstars.



2021 NEAA Instructional Program showing off their medals.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The North End Regional Review encourages residents to submit birth and engagement announcements, news releases, business briefs, honor rolls, social news, sports stories, and photographs for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at **385 Broadway, Citizens** Bank Building, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. The Independent also encourages readers to e-mail news releases to editor@ reverejournal.com.

The North End Regional Review assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements, but will reprint that part of the advertisement in which the error occurs. Advertisers will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur.

REGIONAL REVIEW

The Boch Center announces first holiday programming for the 2021 season

From the songwriting team behind the smash hit Tony Award-winning musical Dear Evan Hansen and the Academy Award-winning film La La Land, A Christmas Story, The Musical, brings the classic 1983 movie to hilarious life on stage in Boston at the Boch Center Wang Theatre, December 7 – 19, 2021. The Boch Center Wang Theatre continues its tradition as the premiere destination for live holiday entertainment in Boston. Tickets for A Christmas Story, The Musical are now on sale.

"We are excited to announce one of the first pieces of holiday programming this 2021 season with A Christmas Story, The Musical," said Joe Spaulding, President and CEO of the Boch Center. "It has been a challenging year for our entire community, and what a great way to look forward to the holidays than with a classic live stage show - we are thrilled to welcome back one of our favorite family holiday productions."

Expanding on health guidelines required by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and City of Boston, the Boch Center has adopted a comprehensive program of health safeguards designed to assure audiences of maximum protection against pathogens including the virus that causes COVID-19.

The Boch Center is the first Massachusetts-based performing arts venue to integrate ActivePure Technology as part of its COVID-19 protection protocols. ActivePure Technology, backed by extensive independent testing, is the fastest-acting, most powerful surface and air disinfecting technology available. The system evolved from the NASA space program and is now used by thousands of schools, hospitals, restaurants, event facilities, businesses, places of worship and residences worldwide. It inactivates up to 99.9 percent of surface and airborne contaminants within minutes or hours of operation (including SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, bacteria, mold, fungi and more) without the use of chemicals or ozone.

A Christmas Story, The Musical chronicles young and bespectacled Ralphie Parker as he schemes his way toward the holiday gift of his dreams, an official Red Ryder® Carbine-Action 200-Shot Range Model Air Rifle ("You'll shoot your eye out kid!"). An infamous leg lamp, outrageous pink bunny pajamas, a maniacal department store Santa, and a triple-dogdare to lick a freezing flagpole are just a few of the distractions that stand between Ralphie and his Christmas wish. Chock-full of delightful songs and splashy production numbers, A Christmas Story, The Musical, has proudly taken its place as a perennial holiday classic for the whole family.

Hailed by The Associated Press as "a joyous Christmas miracle," The New York Times writes "I was dazzled. You'd have to have a Grinch-sized heart not to feel a smile spreading across your face." A Christmas Story, The Musical premiered on Broadway in 2012 and was a critical and commercial success. The musical was nominated for three TONY Awards® including Best New Musical, Best Original Score, and Best Book of a Musical.

A Christmas Story, The Musical features a festive and nostalgic holiday themed score by composer/lyricist team Benj Pasek and Justin Paul (TONY Award for Dear Evan Hansen, OSCAR for La La Land), with a book by Joseph Robinette, based on the writings of radio humorist Jean Shepherd and the 1983 holiday film favorite. The tour features direction by Matt Lenz, with casting by Alison Franck. TONY Award® winner Warren Carlyle's Broadway choreography will be reset for the tour by Jason Sparks. A CHRISTMAS STORY, THE MUSICAL features scenic design by Mike Carnahan, with costume design by Lisa Zinni and lighting design by Charlie Morrison. The hounds will play themselves.

A Christmas Story, The Musical Performance Schedule:

Tuesday- December 7, 2021 7:00pm

Wednesday- December 8, 2021

<u>b</u>pda

7:00pm Press Night Thursday- December 9, 2021 7:00pm Friday- December 10, 2021 7:00pm Saturday- December 11, 202 2:00pm Saturdav- December 11, 202 7:30pm Sunday- December 12, 2021 1:00pm Sunday- December 12, 2021 6:30pm ASL/Open Captioned Tuesday- December 14, 2021 7:00pm Wednesday- December 15, 202 7:00pm Thursday- December 16, 202 7:00pm Friday- December 17, 2021 7:00pm Saturday- December 18, 202 2:00pm Saturday- December 18, 202 7:30pm Sunday- December 19, 2021 1:00pm Sunday- December 19, 2021 6:30pm Tickets for A Christmas Story,

The Musical are now on sale and can be purchased at and will be available at the Boch Center Box Office, www.bochcenter.org, by calling (800) 982-ARTS (2787) and via Ticketmaster. Groups of 10 or more may reserve tickets by contacting Boch Center Group Sales at (617) 532-1116 or groups@bochcenter.org.

A Christmas Story, The Musical is produced by Big League Productions, Inc. Led by President and Executive Producer Daniel Sher, Big League is celebrating its 29th season of producing, general managing and booking Broadway musicals and special attractions for touring throughout North America and the world. For more information visit www.bigleague. org.

About the Boch Center

The Boch Center is one of the nation's leading nonprofit performing arts institutions and a guardian of the historic Wang and Shubert Theatres. As New England's largest cultural venue, the Boch Center is home to theater, classical and popular music, dance, comedy, opera, Broadway musicals, family entertainment, and more. Located in Boston's historic Theater District, the Boch Center also offers a diverse mix of educational, cultural and community outreach initiatives, including the City Spotlights Leadership Program, ArtWeek and the Folk Americana Roots Hall of Fame; collaborates with artists and local nonprofit arts organizations; preserves historic venues; and acts as a champion for Greater Boston's arts and cultural community. Learn more at bochcenter.org.

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Urban Renewal Community Meeting

Monday, July 26 Starting at 6:00PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/3AyYKKC Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 161 954 1598

Public Meeting

Project Proponent: Boston Planning and Development Agency

Project Description:

The Boston Planning and Development Agency is inviting the surrounding neighbors of the Downtown Waterfront Faneuil Hall Urban Renewal Plan area to a community meeting to gain feedback on a potential extension to the terms of the plan. Please reach out with advance notice for any translation or interpretation service needs.

mail to: **Chrisopher Breen**

phone:

email:

Boston Planning & Development Agency One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201 617.918.4202 Chris.Breen@boston.gov

BostonPlans.org (5) @BostonPlans Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretar

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Acting Mayor Kim Janey deliver first 100-days-in-office speech

By Dan Murphy

Acting Mayor Kim Janey delivered a speech commemorating her first 100 days in office on Friday, July 2, at the Museum of African American History.

"It has been just over a 100 days since I took office," said Mayor Janey, a lifelong Bostonian. " As Mayor, I have an even deeper appreciation of our city, her people, and, above all, the work that goes into making Boston stronger every day. I must say that each and every day it has been a privilege to serve you and to lead this city. It is the honor of my lifetime."

During her speech, Mayor Janey announced she has established the city's Children's and Youth Cabinet, which serves as a policy-making group that coordinates city-based programs and services to increase equity, create opportunities, as well as to reduce disparities for the children and youth citywide. It will also work to optimize the city's partnerships with nonprofits, faith-based organizations, higher education institutions and employers.

According to the city, the cabinet's initial efforts will include: the creation of an inventory of programs serving children, families, and youth ages 0 to 24 within the city; identifying coordination across departments and cabinets that leads to better services and outcomes; establishing baseline metrics to measure and track progress on the wellbeing of children, families, and youth in the city; and integrating strategic plans and performance metrics across departments.

The cabinet has already coordinated a recent collaboration between Boston Public Schools and the Boston Public Library to enable student ID cards to function as library cards, according to the city, while in June, its Policy and Planning team partnered with BPS, the Boston Planning and Development Agency, and the Office of Workforce Development to launch the College and Career Pathways initiative with Harvard University's Project on Workforce. The Harvard team is scheduled to deliver a landscape analysis to the cabinet at the end of July.

Also, Mayor Janey said her transition committee, co-chaired by Linda Dorcena Forry, Betty Francisco, Steve Grossman, Quincy Miller, and Kate Walsh, and comprising 160 members of the public, drafted a set of recommendations on how the city can recover from this pandemic, which, she said, "lay the groundwork for a stronger city going forward" on topics ranging from public health to public education, from economic development to housing, from transportation and climate justice to safety and healing.

"We have made great strides in expanding equitable vaccine access, supporting businesses in reopening, and getting our children back to school safely," she said. "We have stood up for climate and racial justice in proposed projects and we have worked to change how our community responds to mental health crises."

As the city recovers from the pandemic, nearly 3,000 renters have used the City's Rental Relief Fund to date, said Mayor Janey, while the city has allocated \$1 million in job training for industries that were hit the hardest, as well as another \$1 million dollars in job training for artists. On July 1, the city also hosted its first Community Advisory Board meeting, she added, with community partners in labor, environmental justice, and education "to shape \$4 million dollars of investment in green jobs."

Mayor Janey said the city has also created its Office of Participatory Budgeting, which will "allow even more people to directly impact how their tax dollars are invested."



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON Acting Mayor Kim Janey delivers her first 100-days-in-office on July 1 at the Museum of African American History.

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Fresh and Local

New England specialties

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

If your plans are for more staycations, weekend jaunts, and trips by car rather than long-distance travel, we'd like to offer up some suggestions for the special foods you'll find around New England.

In May, Yankee Magazine compiled a list of "75 Classic New England Foods." (You can find it on their website.) In the introduction to the list, Digital Editor Aimee Tucker wrote, "With its fertile farmland, coastal waters, and flavorful influence from generations of immigrants, it's no surprise that New England cuisine has a reputation for being seasonal, hearty, and comforting." We'll highlight some of our favorites and even suggest a few places to try some of them.

Coastal Waters

Four ingredients appear in most versions of New England's clam chowders – clams, onions, potatoes, and pork. From that point, there are three fundamental splits – creamy, red, or clear. Ed will often opt for classic creamy New England clam chowder. Penny, who grew up where clear or red Rhode Island clam chowder ruled, prefers those options. However, when she finds a chef who has a deft hand with the cream and who lets the ingredients shine in a thin, light version of the classic, she'll happily indulge. One version she likes is at Neptune Oyster in the North End.

With her favorite red chowder, Penny always has an order of clam cakes. These are clam fritters fried up until golden and traditionally dipped into your chowder as you eat them. Evelyn's Drive-In in Tiverton, RI is our place to have these!

Another coastal indulgence is the soft-shelled clams called steamers. We love the version steamed in ale and herbs served at Bubalas in Provincetown. You might also find a warm lobster roll with butter, fried clams, fried scallops, stuffies (stuffed clams) on our seaside picnic table.

Desserts and Snacks

Food writer David Lebovitz has called Boston Cream Pie his alltime favorite dessert. He wrote, "I still remember finishing lunch and diving in with my fork to that wedge of golden sponge cake filled with rich, vanilla custard. In a world that seems hopelessly in favor of milk chocolate (which I've come to appreciate), there was a deep-dark chocolate glaze on top, which may have been my first taste of bittersweet chocolate. And one I never forgot."

This classic started at the Parker House in Boston. Begin there and then eat your way around the city, trying everyone's version.

Cider donuts are another area favorite. We recommend the version at The Red Apple Farm stand inside the Boston Public Market or at the SOWA farmers market. You'll also find vendors selling these at other area farmers markets. Apple picking followed by fresh cider and cider donuts is a great fall outing.

From Colonial Times

Many foods we think of as New England Classics come down from colonial times and are still enjoyed by locals today. Baked beans, brown bread, Yankee pot roast, Indian pudding, and johnnycakes are all filling, thrifty, local foods that have evolved in many versions from recipes that home cooks



Fried clams (AKA big bellies) are a favorite clam shack treat. They also show up on menus around town like these from Cornwall's in Kenmore Square.

made in the early settlements. With the closing of Durgin-Park, few places have these on their menus. However, these are all simple foods you can make at home.

We recommend creating your bucket list of New England foods and trying different versions as you wander around the six states that make up the region. And, if you're a good home cook, consider adding a few of these foods to your regular rotation. They're classics because they are delicious!

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

