



Joining Greenway members at the North Meadow ribbon cutting are State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, State Senator Lydia Edwards, City Council President Ed Flynn, City Councilor Gabriela Coletta, and City Councilor Kenzie Bok.

# New park space opens at North Meadow on The Greenway

Special to the Regional Review

The Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy celebrated the opening of North Meadow on The Greenway, the newest park space in Boston's contemporary public park formerly known as Parcel 2, in a public Ribbon Cutting ceremony.

The Ribbon Cutting included a short speaking program featuring Conservancy and Greenway Business Improvement District (BID) leadership, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Transportation Secretary and CEO Jamey Tesler, and elected officials representing The Greenway including State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, State Senator Lydia Edwards, City Council President Ed Flynn, City Councilor Gabriela Coletta, and City Councilor Kenzie Bok.

"The creation of new open space is always an important step to promote climate and connectivity goals, especially in an urban context," said Greenway Conservancy Executive Director Chris Cook. "The critical nature of this work is especially evident here, though, when we think about the history and impact that the elevated highway had on Boston's people and neighborhoods from Chinatown to the West End."

Located where Boston's West End, Bulfinch Triangle, and North End meet and bordered by North Washington Street, Anthony "Rip" Valenti Way, and Beverly Street, North Meadow on The Greenway is a site of constant reinvention. Originally open water within the Charles River estuary, this location was dammed to become Mill Pond and then filled in as a part of the Bulfinch Triangle development in the 19th century. In the 20th century, this site was overshadowed by the elevated highway Interstate 93. As part of the "Big Dig", the highway was submerged, allowing the Rose Kennedy Greenway, the contemporary public park in the heart of Boston, to be built.

"There were so many moments where we all individually thought that this tiny little park might not happen. Over the years, the BPDA has remained dedicated to the realization of this green space, and we are thrilled it will stand forever as a credit to the many people who were involved, at different stages, and across different scales," said

(North Meadow Pg. 2)

# Family Fun Festival set for July 31-August 14

for the kids.

required.

(Prado).

### By Phil Orlandella

A wide range of activities and events will take place during the 2022 North End Family Fun Festival hosted by North End Against Drugs (NEAD) and Ausonia Council #1513 Knights of Columbus being held July 31 to August 14 at various locations throughout the neighborhood.

The major community event begins with the annual Johnny Paleo Memorial Bocce Tournament on Sunday, July 31.

Registration at the park or by email soxgirl322hotmail.com.

The tournament starts at 12 noon. Trophies will be presented to the top three teams. Fee is \$20

per person or \$10 per two-person team. The special community event

(FESTIVAL Pg. 2)

will also feature old-time music,

food, a water truck and ice cream

DeCristoforo Family Boat Cruise

will be held on August 1 at Long

Wharf with a boarding time of 6:45 PM. Space is limited. Sign up

at 617-750-9749. Pre-registration

Neighborhood Lot Party will be

held on Tuesday, August 2 from 6 to 8:30 PM at Paul Revere Mall

National Night Out, NEAD's

The event will feature free pizza,

DJ Amo, balloon art, NEMPAC, Boston Police, kids' crafts, face

painting, NEW Health, RUFF.

Paul Revere House, Boston Public

Market, reptile's circus, Boston

The Emily Pugliano/Bobby

## NEWNC supports two occupancy changes

entrance.

#### By Phil Orlandella

Three agenda items were addressed at the North End/ Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) July 11 monthly public meeting.

Two requests for occupancy changes and one construction request were considered by NEWNC.

A proposal to change the occupancy at 101-117 Atlantic Avenue, the former ground-floor restaurant of "The Living Room" to a KinderCare, Day Care Center was supported by NEWNC.

Plans also call for the addition of a handicap ramp at the main

The Council voted to approve a proposal to change the legal occupancy at 17 Sheafe Street from a six residential dwelling to a seven-unit residential dwelling and

the renovations per the plan. A proposal by the owner of 47-48 Snow Hill Street to construct a new one-story vertical addition to the property and a roof deck on the existing three-story building was withdrawn.

The request was a continuation of a prior hearing that was tabled so residents could meet with the owner.

The next NEWNC monthly public meeting will be held on Monday, August 8 at 7 p.m.



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

### NORTH MEADOW (from pg. 1)

BPDA Director of Planning Lauren Shurtleff.

"We would not be here if it were not for the persistent and dedicated collaboration between the public sector, private sector, and the community."

As the northern terminus of the park, North Meadow is both a gateway to The Greenway and a pocket of open space for residents and visitors to the surrounding neighborhoods in the West End and North End. Reflecting a commitment to making thoughtful enhancements along the entirety of The Greenway, Greenway BID members provided and leveraged enhancement funds to make this project and placemaking improvement possible.

Transportation Secretary and CEO Jamey Tesler spoke at the event, "The Greenway is one of Boston's most beautiful and relaxing destinations and it has been a pleasure to see this property transformed in order to expand the green space even further toward North Station. This new park is just the latest example of how collaborations and partnerships have resulted in a project going from idea, to design, to construction, to a successful outcome."

In planning and design, the community prioritized maximizing nature, creating a place of serenity, and showcasing the site's history. Serving as a tribute to the Charles River's estuarine ecology, the park's native meadow plantings and unique boardwalk create a sense of enclosure and tranquility. North Meadow on The Greenway is a neighborhood park, inviting you to relax and unwind with the backdrop of downtown Boston.

"Enhancing The Greenway through placemaking projects like the North Meadow on The Greenway is an essential part of the Greenway BID's mission to make the entire park more exciting and inviting for all," said A Better City President and CEO, and Executive Director of the Greenway BID Rick Dimino. "Thanks to the teamwork of the Greenway BID, Greenway Conservancy, the BPDA, and MassDOT, the City of Boston and its people have a new park space in which they can gather, explore our shared history, and unwind."

North Meadow on The Greenway is a collaboration with the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA), the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), the Greenway BID, and the Greenway Conservancy. The BPDA facilitated a majority of funding for North Meadow on The Greenway through mitigation agreements from a variety of development projects in downtown Boston. The remainder of the project's budget was contributed by MassDOT, the Greenway BID, and the Greenway Conservancy.

The Greenway is the contemporary public park in the heart of Boston. The Greenway welcomes millions of visitors annually to gather, play, unwind, and explore. The Greenway Conservancy is the non-profit responsible for the management and care of The Greenway. The majority of the public park's annual budget is generously provided by private sources.

About the Boston Planning & Development Agency

As the City of Boston's urban planning and economic development agency, the BPDA works in partnership with the community to plan Boston's future while respecting its past. The agency's passionate and knowledgeable staff guides physical, social, and economic change in Boston's neighborhoods and its downtown to shape a more prosperous, resilient, and vibrant city for all. The BPDA also prepares residents for new opportunities through employment training, human services and job creation. Learn more at bostonplans.org, and follow us on Twitter @BostonPlans.

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) consists of four divisions: Rail and Transit, Registry of Motor Vehicles, Aeronautics and Highway. MassDOT"s mission is to deliver excellent customer service to people traveling in the Commonwealth by providing transportation infrastructure which is safe, reliable, robust and resilient. MassDOT works to provide a transportation system which can strengthen the state's economy and improve the quality of life for all.

The Greenway BID is designed to contribute \$1.5 million each year to support the maintenance, horticulture costs, and future enhancements of The Greenway. Properties that meet certain criteria within the BID boundaries pay a special assessment as part of their property taxes to support improvements that benefit property owners and the public alike. BID members also have opportunities to vote on enhancements, supplemental support along the entirety of The Greenway to create a more engaging and activated public realm. The Greenway BID plays an essential role in supporting an appealing, accessible, and vibrant experience in the BID district for all that visit The Greenway to gather, relax, unwind, and explore.

## Cross Street Hotel suit filed

### By Phil Orlandella

It was a busy North End/ Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) July monthly meeting held at the Nazzaro Center.

Mary Beth Sweeney, a local resident discussed the suit filed opposing the Cross Street Hotel.

She noted, "it was clear that a growing coalition of residents believe that the Cross Street Hotel project is not the right fit for the North End."

She added, "We have an unfinished public process and significant neighborhood opposition that has many of us asking why and how this project is moving forward."

Sweeney said, "We can't afford to keep quiet and risk the North End becoming another seaport."

NEWRA, before the Boston Planning and Development Association approved hotel plans, send a letter of opposition.

Chair of the Cutillo Park Committee advise they receive an update from the Department of Boston Public Works in June and have not received any more information regarding renovations of the park.

'We did reach out to them

### **FESTIVAL** (from pg. 1)

Police Ice cream truck, Public Action for Arts and Education, free give-a-ways, Boston Elderly Services, Suffolk Country Sheriff's Office and DA's Office, Old North Clough House and Church.

A Family Games Night will be held on Wednesday, August 3 starting at 6 PM and running to 8 PM on the North End side of The Greenway on Cross Street.

Boys and girls, all ages can participate in lawn games, corn hole, wiffleball, jump rope and enjoy Italian slush. Parents with children under 12 must attend.

Movie Night hosted by the Boston Collaborative will be held at 8 PM on Thursday, August 4 at DeFilippo Park (Gassy) Prince Street. Movie TBA.

North End Family Pride Day will take place on Sunday, August 7 from 12 noon to 4 PM at Columbus Park on Atlantic prior to the NEWRA meeting with no results," Kirsten Hoffman said. She also advised, "Trash along Morton Street is still a significant issue."

Apparently, the City of Boston has signed an agreement that permits a few Salem Street restaurants to store trash and grease on Morton Street.

"Neither the city nor the restaurants take responsibility for keeping the area clean," Hoffman said.

NEWRA, following discussion on a proposed 700-foot development on North Street between Causeway and Medford Streets advised that a letter has already been sent to the Boston Planning and Development Association questioning zoning, height, density of the project.

Ryan Meadows owner of unit 2 of the three-story building's two condominiums canceled his attendance at the NEWRA meeting.

He has a revised plan involving the replacement of the attic with a full third floor and addition of a past show 4th floor with steps-out roof deck. Proposed height is 46 feet.

The next NEWRA meeting will be held on Thursday, August 11at 7 p.m.

Avenue. The event features: kids crafts, balloon art, face painting, a reptile Circus, North Bennet Street School demonstrations, a free BBQ, Rose Kennedy Conservancy, Boston's

Elderly Services, NEW Health, Boston Lyons Club, Public Action for Arts and Education and a sewer truck.

Live entertainment by Crosstown, Street Magic and VYNYL Groove.

The traditional games between the North End All Stars and their community city North Adams All Star baseball team will be held at Puopolo Park on Saturday, August 13 at 5:30 PM.

The second game will be played on Sunday, August 14, same park at 10 AM.

This is the 31st year of this baseball exchange.

## **TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL 781-485-0588**



# DA Hayden praises post-conviction rulings in court

Suffolk District Attorney Kevin Hayden praised the decision of a Superior Court judge that sets the groundwork for individualized sentencing hearings for emerging adults convicted of first-degree murder. Hayden also supported a separate decision to stay the sentence of a man convicted of murder in 1969.

In a decision issued in post-conviction motions filed by Sheldon Mattis and Jason Robinson, Suffolk Superior Court Judge Robert Ullman stated that the defendants are entitled to new sentencing hearings. The defendants were ages 18 and 19, respectively, when they committed murders for which they were subsequently sentenced to life without the possibility of parole – the mandatory term for the offense of first-degree murder.

The decision impacts emerging adult between the ages of 18 and 20. Over the past decade, courts locally and nationally have made a series of rulings that have reshaped sentencing practices for juvenile offenders age 17 and younger. The US Supreme Court's 2012 decision in Miller v. Alabama struck down the mandatory imposition of lifetime incarceration without the possibility of parole for juvenile offenders across the country, and the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court subsequently ruled in Diatchenko v. District Attorney for the Suffolk District barring the imposition of the sentence for offenses committed as a juvenile in Massachusetts courts.

"Reasonable incarceration, even for young adult offenders, is justified in certain cases. Excessive incarceration is never justified. The practice of putting a person behind bars forever, without paying attention to decision-making ability based on age and the science of brain development, should end. We supported these motions and we support the judge's decision," Hayden said. Havden also thanked his predecessor, U.S. Attorney Rachael Rollins, for her "early leadership on this issue."

The SJC in 2021 remanded Mattis' case to the Superior Court for an evidentiary hearing to help determine whether life without parole is constitutional for Mattis and other emerging adults whose brains continue to develop. Today's decision adopts the position argued by Suffolk prosecutors. The decision quotes from the SJC's decision in Diatchenko as it concludes that, "On the record of brain science and social science in this case, the imposition of non-discretionary (i.e. mandatory) life-without-parole sentences for defendants who were age 18 through 20 at the time of their crimes constitutes a 'sentencing practice[] based on mismatches between the culpability of a class of offenders and the severity of a penalty."

Mattis and a second man, Nyasani Watt, stand convicted of first-degree murder in the 2011 shooting death of 16-year-old Jaivon Blake. Watt, who fired the fatal shot, was 10 days shy of his 18th birthday at the time of the murder. As a result, he was sentenced to life with the possibility of parole. Mattis had already achieved the age of 18 at the time and was sentenced to life without the possibility of parole.

Robinson and Tanzerius Anderson were convicted in the 2000 murder of Yazbek Inaamnaim in Boston. Robison was 19 at the time.

In a separate case, a single justice of the SJC allowed a motion to stay the sentence of PAUL ROBINSON. Following a review by the office's Integrity Review Bureau, Suffolk prosecutors agreed that the interests of justice require a reduction of Robinson's 1969 first-degree murder conviction to manslaughter, with his sentence deemed served. As the matter remained before the court, Robinson filed a motion to stay his sentence, which would allow him to remain free while the case is pending. A Superior Court judge previously denied the stay, but SJC Justice David Lowy today reversed that decision, allowing Robinson's motion and permitting his release while his post-conviction motion is pending.

"It is never easy to retread the past, but it is vital that we do so to correct past wrongs and ensure that they are never repeated. We must always seek to do what is right," Hayden said.

Assistant District Attorneys Cailin Campbell, Monica DeLateur and Paul Linn of the DA's Appeals Unit represented the Commonwealth in the proceedings involving Mattis and Jason Robinson. Assistant District Attorney David Lewis of the DA's Integrity Review Bureau represented the Commonwealth in the case of Paul Robinson.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION OF BOSTON ("EDIC") d/b/a Boston Planning & Development Agency ("BPDA")

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS Raymond L. Flynn Marine Park ("RLFMP") Building Security Project 2022

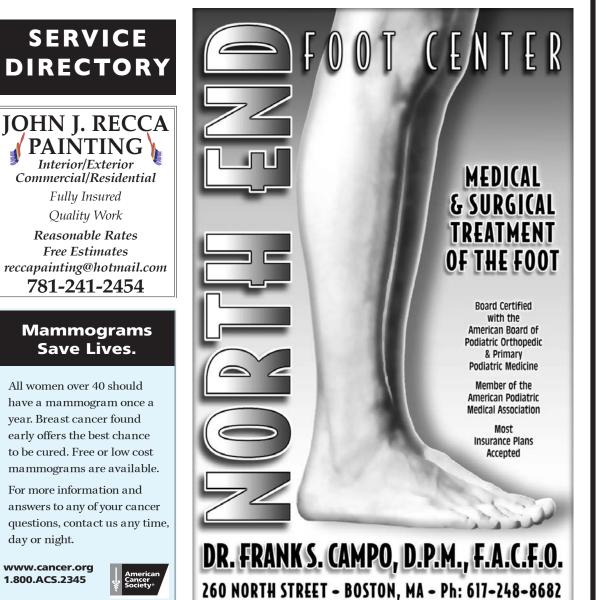
Contact Information Jason Tobin 617-918-6211 jason.w.tobin@boston.gov

The Economic Development and Industrial Corporation of Boston ("EDIC") d/b/a Boston Planning & Development Agency ("BPDA"), by its Chief Procurement Officer is pleased to issue this Request for Qualifications entitled **Raymond L. Flynn Marine Park ("RLFMP") Building Security Project 2022** (the "RFQ"). The RFQ is issued in accordance with M.G.L. 7C, as may be amended.

This RFQ package, including requirements, will be available to download on the BPDA Procurement Portal free-of charge in **digital print** form to all interested respondents on **July 11, 2022 at 9:00 A.M** at www.bostonplans.org/work-with-us/procurement. Plan holders shall open and register the information requested for the **Raymond L. Flynn Marine Park ("RLFMP") Building Security Project 2022** and then follow the prompt to start file download under the "Work with Us" tab. If unable to access the RFQ package through the BPDA Procurement Portal, contact Jason Tobin at (617) 918-6211, or via email at Jason.w.tobin@boston.gov in order to make alternative arrangements.

All responses to this RFQ must be returned no later than **12:00 noon** on **August 29, 2022**, to: Teresa Polhemus, Clerk, Economic Development and Industrial Corporation c/o Real Estate Administration, One City Hall Square, Boston MA 02210.

Michelle Goldberg, Director of Finance and Chief Procurement Officer



# EDITORIAL

## MASS SHOOTINGS GET ALL THE ATTENTION, BUT THIS IS WORSE

Americans have been saddened by the recent mass shootings that have occurred in recent weeks across the country in Buffalo, Uvalde, and Highland Park.

But as much as these tragic events have seared our national consciousness and brought demands for action by our elected officials for appropriate gun legislation, there is a far worse aspect of the epidemic of gun violence that occurs day-in and day-out throughout the United States.

We are referring to the shooting of women by their domestic partners. Each and every year, 600 women are murdered with a gun by their partners. We'll do the math for you -- that works out to a woman who is shot and killed every 14 hours by her present or former significant other.

The statisticians also tell us that the possession of a gun by a domestic partner makes it five times more likely that a woman will be killed than if the domestic partner did not have a gun.

In short, the more guns there are, the more women who are murdered by their partners.

Yes, the shootings in schools and malls and supermarkets horrify us and make us feel not safe anywhere, even at a Fourth of July parade.

But the reality is that an American woman in a household with a handgun is far more at risk for being shot and killed than any of us by some random angry person with an AR-15.

## PROGRESSIVES ARE THE REAL HYPOCRITES

No doubt most of our readers who care about the environment and the issue of climate change were disappointed when Senator Joe Manchin put the proverbial final nail in the coffin of the Build Back Better Bill (BBB) that, by some estimates, would have reduced U.S. emissions to 45 percent to 51 percent of 2005 levels by 2030.

However, as we have written previously in this space, we believe the real blame for the failure of the bill lies with the progressives of the Democratic Party, who should have coalesced last summer to pass the basics of the bill, rather than "playing politics" last year when they held up the separate infrastructure bill and then loaded up the Build Back Better bill with items that were extraneous to climate change.

They overplayed their hand and as a result, they got nothing -- zero -- nada and did more than Republicans to sink Joe Biden's presidency.

However, in addition to being bad at politics, the progressive environmentalists also are hypocrites because of their failure to tell the truth to the American people. Despite the statistic quoted above, the BBB actually would have done very little to keep global warming from reaching the 1.5 degree Centigrade threshold that scientists (and the 2015 Paris Climate Accord) say will be catastrophic for the planet.

Instead of blaming Joe Manchin, if progressive politicians were to tell the truth to the American people, they would explain that each and every American can do more to affect climate change than the BBB simply by changing our eating habits by consuming less meat and switching to vegetarian alternatives.

Industrial farming for meat production accounts for 14% of greenhouse gas emissions, despoils the immediate environment of these factory farms, and encourages the destruction of fragile rain forests for the raising of cattle.

Bernie Sanders blasted Sen. Manchin for his position on the BBB, but we never have heard Sen. Sanders tell his constituents to eat less meat and dairy -- because of course, he's from Vermont, which has a lot of dairy farmers -- and Bernie himself loves his red meat.

We disagree 100% with Joe Manchin for his rejection of the BBB, but at least we know where he stands.

On the other hand, the self-described environmentalists are both politically inept and morally hypocritical.

## OUR DEMOCRACY IS AT STAKE

To the Editor:

The January 6 Capital attack on our nation wasn't a random act by a handful of sore losers, but a premeditated and organized insurrection. Now, thanks to the hearings, there's overwhelming evidence that Trump and his allies were at the helm of it.

We heard from former members of the Trump administration and Republican state officials about how Trump illegally pressured the

## **LETTER** to the Editor

Vice President, the Department of Justice, and state legislatures to overturn the election he knew he lost. And when it didn't work, he summoned an armed mob to march on the Capitol Building in a final, violent attempt to stop the peaceful transfer of power.

These insurrectionist candidates haven't gone anywhere. In fact, more than 100 of them have already won their primaries. It's up to us to do our part and vote to make sure they don't win this fall.

Should these dangerous candi-

dates win their elections, we could have election deniers in key seats of power, like secretary of state and county clerk, ready to overturn whatever election results they don't like.

Our democracy is at stake. If we want to hold onto our freedoms to vote, to have our votes decide elections, and to rely on elections to keep our leaders in check, then we have to cast our ballots during the midterms this year on November 8th.

Jo-Ann Sipple

## **OPINION** By Phil Orlandella

### RED SOX PROVIDE BASEBALL EQUIPMENT TO NEAA

The Boston Red Sox Foundation through its Junior RBI Program, has once again, provided needed equipment to the North End Athletic Association (NEAA) making it possible for the Association to provide a baseball instructional clinic for four-year old and a T-ball program for fiveyear old at the local park. This season, 47 youth participated in the special programs, thanks to the generosity of the Foundation.

Shirts, hats, baseballs, Ts and other equipment helped make the youth programs the great success they were.

Go Red Sox!

### MORTON STREET TRASH PROBLEM

Restaurant trash along Morton Street is still a significant issue

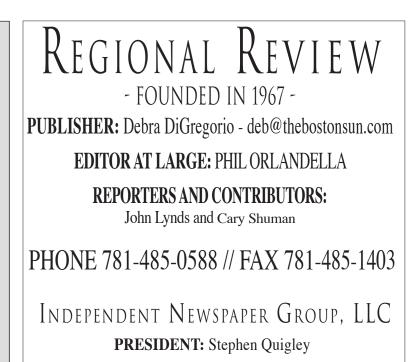
since the City of Boston signed an agreement that permits a few Salem Street restaurants to store trash and grease on this street.

Residents are upset that neither the city or the restaurants are taking responsibility for monitoring the area and keeping it clean.

Having trash, especially grease lingering on a neighborhood street, is uncalled for and needs to be dealt with immediately, if not sooner.

Give an inch, take a yard.

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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# Greater Boston Building Trades Unions endorses Sheriff Steve Tompkins

"The Greater Boston Building Trades Unions are excited to endorse Sheriff Steve Tompkins in his re-election for Sheriff of Suffolk County," said Brian Doherty, General Agent of the Greater Boston Building Trades Unions. "Sheriff Tompkins has been a great partner in promoting and advancing opportunities for Boston residents who are seeking to access a great career in the union construction industry. We have also worked closely with Sheriff Tompkins on programs that provide key support to those in recovery, and he has been a champion on those issues not only for people in our industry but also across the city. We have seen firsthand the positive impact of his transparent, proactive, and dedicated approach to working with all stakeholders on solutions to make Boston a place where there is greater opportunity - including for those who are reentering the workforce. Through intentional programs and initiatives, Sheriff Tompkins has been a tremendous supporter of our

efforts to ensure every worker has a shot at a safe job in our industry that provides fair wages, benefits, and the opportunity to someday retire with security and dignity."

The Greater Boston Building Trades Unions represent 35,000 working families in the Metropolitan Boston region striving to create a more fair and just environment for all workers in the construction industry. The building trades unions advance social and economic justice by providing family-supporting wages, healthcare benefits and dignified retirement benefits to workers and their families in the construction industry.

As an umbrella group of 20 local construction unions, in partnership with more than 3,300 union contractors, the building trades unions provide the highest standards for workers in the construction industry, including the highest levels of training, safety and economic security throughout their careers.

## IN BRIEF By Phil Orlandella

## NORTH END BOCCE TOURNAMENT

There is still time to register for the North End Against Drugs (NEAD) annual Johnny Paleo Bocce Tournament at the courts in Langone Park on Sunday, July 31 starting at 12 noon.

Trophies will be presented to the top three teams. Registration at the park by 11:30 AM or email soxgirl322hotmail.com.

## BLOCK PARTY KITS PROGRAM

Boston Mayor Michele Wu has announced the launch of the Block Party Kit to allow residents to be able to borrow supplies for outdoor summer activities from the city, including everything from sidewalk chalk to cornhole set ups.

The goal of the program is to make it easier and more fun to organize and host block parties in their communities.

### NORTH END FAMILY FESTIVAL

North End and Waterfront residents and families have an opportunity to participate in a well-planned Family Festival with events taking place at various locations throughout the community.

A list of events can be found in this newspaper.

### NATURAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK

To celebrate National Health Center Week, NEW Health will hold a block party on August 9 from 11 AM to 2 PM at the at Charlestown Health Center located on 15 Tops Street.

There will be free ice cream, raffles, a balloon artist, a face painter and more.

### BRING YOUR OWN WINDOW BOX PROGRAM BLOSSOMS

A Bring Your Own Window Box learning program, sponsored by Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP), at the Nazzaro Community Center courtyard was a total success with many local residents participating, including children.

The inaugural event was such a great success, organizers Robyn Reed and Al Skinner are already plotting to have a return event in 2023.

Residents, for a minimal fee, received planting instructions, mulch, rich soil, a selection of annuals to turn ordinary window boxes into visual delights.

Pots and small planters were available for children working with volunteers had a hands-on experience adding mulch and soil to their plants, learning how to plant correctly and what in their creations.

## FREE MOVIES AT COLUMBUS PARK

The Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) Sunday Night Movie Series at the park has already begun, however, there are four more movies to go one in July and three in August.

Participants are invited to join other residents on the lawn, bring blankets, chairs or have a picnic.

While supplies last, free popcorn will be given out until supplies run out.

Movie starting times approximate.

Sponsors of the event include: Joe's Waterfront, CL Properties, Marriott Long Wharf and North End/Boston.com.

The remaining movie schedule is as follows...

July 31 at 8:30 PM Philadelphia Story.

August 7 at 8:15 PM Meet the Parents.

August 14 at 8:10 PM Selma.

August 21 at 8 PM Batman Begins.

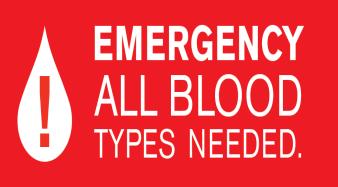
FOCCP welcomes everyone to attend this free community events and bring the kids.

### SENIOR BINGO IS BACK

Coming this fall to Casa Maria apartments on 130 Endicott Street Boston, senior bingo returns. The entrance to the community room is on the corner of Thatcher and Endicott streets. Bingo will be every Friday night 6:30 - 10 p.m.

## Send us Your News The North End Regional Review encourages residents to sub-

mit 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.



Give now.



# 700-foot development raises eyebrows

#### By Phil Orlandella

News of a proposal to develop a 700-foot building on Causeway Street and adjacent properties along North Washington Street within the Bulfinch Triangle section of the West End has raised eyebrows.

The proposal prompted the West End Civic Association (WECA) and the North End/ Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) to send a letter to the Boston Planning and Development Association (BPDA) seeking more information relating to the project.

Apparently, plans call for the construction of a multi-used tower that could replace existing renovation of 100—year-old buildings at 251 Causeway and 100, 126 and 132 North Washington Street. Based on past planning, the zoning code for the Bulfinch Triangle District limited height is 100 feet and the Floor Area Ratio (FAR) is 7.0, even then, only when a project complies with large project review compliance certification according to the letter.

The area being proposed currently fits the architectural and historic framework relating to the manufacturing history of the immediate district the group claims.

The sites are located at the edge of two historical residential neighborhoods, a public school, public water parks, a proposed bridge park currently under construction and the Freedom Trail.

Additionally, the site abuts one of the most heavily traveled and

most problematic street intersections and Downtown Boston.

WECA and NEWRA requested open communications with the BPDA and how Mayor Michele Wu will approach the evaluation of development proposals that exceed the restrictions in the zoning code.

Prior to commencing any Article 80 review of the project that would greatly increase density in an already overburdened district, the city should conduct a detailed analysis with public participation to determine if existing zoning should stand or an updated district plan be warranted.

In addition, no Article 80 project review should be commenced until planning is complete

## **BOSTON LANDMARKS ORCHESTRA SUMMER CONCERT**

Area residents enjoyed the free inaugural Boston Landmarks Orchestra Summer Concerts at the Hatch Shell. Visit landmarksorchestra.org for the full schedule.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



Music lovers gather at the Hatch Shell as the Boston Landmarks Orchestra treated visitors to a free concert.



The Boston Landmarks Orchestra stands for applause at the conclusion of the concert.



Members of the Four Strings Academy from Memphis TN started the program. Here performers Chavez and Jaiden (second from left) Singletary and Giovanni Vazquez (second from right) with Artistic Director Marcus Hurt and Executive Director Mariana Green-Hill.



Boston Landmarks Orchestra conductor Christopher Wilkins.



In The Maestro's Zone Aura Gonzalez and Noam Ben-David get some "pointers" on conducting from Damali Willingham (center), an educator with Boston Landmarks Orchestra.



*Staff members and volunteers of the Boston Landmarks Orchestra who worked hard to make this public event happen.* 





The Esplanade at the Hatch Shell drew a sizeable gathering relaxing and absorbing the music.

## **BOSTON LANDMARKS ORCHESTRA SUMMER CONCERT**

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

PAGE 7



Music lovers gather at the Hatch Shell as the Boston Landmarks Orchestra treated visitors to a free concert.



Boston Landmarks Orchestra conductor Christopher Wilkins in action.



Boston Philharmonic Conductor Benjamin Zander (second from right) with family enjoys the music from the other side of the orchestra.



The musicians also enjoyed the evening.



Jill and Dave Silverstein with Bear.

## Visit www.northendregionalreview.com

#### PAGE 8

REGIONAL REVIEW

JULY 28, 2022

# NEW Health Vespa raffle winner

#### By Phil Orlandella

A brand-new Vespa was raffled off at the recent NEW Health Trivia fundraiser for the Center's Food Insecurity Program which provides free healthy food for people in need.

Donated by The Herb Chamber Companies, the raffle which began in the fall of the North End Health Center's 50th anniversary in 2021 and raised \$7,170for the Food Insecurity Program.

Brian O'Rourke of Boston a patient at NEW Health was the winner of the Vespa.

The Food Insecurity Program was established in 2016 and is committed to improving the quality of health and life for its over 5,000 patients serving over 100 families a month.



Brian O'Rourke (right) of Boston was the winner of the Vespa.

The program accepts food donations like, whole fruits and vegetables, commercially packaged refrigerated foods, eggs, milk, cheese, butter, tortillas, bread, bagged salad, frozen foods, vegetables, fruits and prepared meals.



The Vespa that was donated by The Herb Chamber Companies.

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boston.gov/hazardouswaste

Public Works

**CITY** of **BOSTON** 

Wu appoints Monique Tú Nguyen director of the mayor's office for immigrant advancement

Mayor Michelle Wu appointed Monique Tú Nguyen as the Director of the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement (MOIA). The department, which is within the Equity and Inclusion Cabinet, advocates for immigrants in Boston and works to ensure public policy is inclusive. MOIA also collaborates with City departments and immigrant communities on programs aimed at creating equity and belonging.

"MOIA is critical to empowering our immigrant communities, building community across our neighborhoods and connecting all to Boston's opportunities," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "With Monique's extensive commitment to advocacy for immigrants and their families, she brings leadership and experience as we continue to transform our City services, empower residents and ensure that Boston is a city for all."

"Monique's experience in community-driven leadership and commitment to economic and racial justice are important to our mission," said Mariangely Solis Cervera, Chief of Equity and Inclusion. "I am excited to work alongside her not only to create pathways of success for immigrants in Boston, but to empower every resident in our rich and diverse city."

As Director, Nguyen will lead the department to advance stability, economic empowerment, civic ownership, and social integration for immigrants in Boston. This includes programs such as Free Immigration Consultations,



Monique Tú Nguyen.

the Dreamers Fellowship, the Immigrant Professionals Fellowship, and Immigrants Lead Boston. In addition, MOIA is now supporting community-based organizations in mental health programming and working with the RMV to prepare for the Driver's License Bill to go into effect July 2023.

"Coming from an immigrant family, I know firsthand the visionary courage of immigrants as they venture into the world to seek out safety and a dream – often met with continual struggle on the journey," said Monique Tú Nguyen. "I'm thankful to Mayor Wu and Chief Solis Cervera for this opportunity to make sure Boston is inclusive to immigrants and to advance the work of MOIA."

Prior to this appointment, Nguyen served as Executive Director of Matahari Women Workers' Center for 10 years, advancing the rights and protections for domestic workers, women, immigrants, and their families. She's also been recognized for her leadership of the MassUndocuFund, a million dollar COVID-19 cash relief fund for immigrant workers, and for spearheading the successful passage of the Massachusetts Domestic Workers Bill of Rights in 2014.

Nguyen's first day is August 16. Her appointment comes after MOIA's previous Director, Yusufi Vali, was appointed the Deputy Chief of Staff in May.

Nguyen is from Vancouver, Canada and a proud daughter of Vietnam War refugees. She speaks English, Vietnamese, and is learning Spanish. Nguyen loves to cook, dance, hike, and dream and scheme about community building.

## Massachusetts House passes bill supporting veterans' services, military families

The Massachusetts House of Representatives passed comprehensive legislation addressing the Commonwealth's most immediate needs in the veteran community and making necessary updates to service member quality-of-life issues and acknowledgements of our military branches and individual service, including supporting military families who relocate to the Commonwealth with expedited licensure and school enrollment, creating education awareness programs and establishing the Massachusetts Medal of Fidelity.

"Our veterans represent the best and bravest among us, and are deserving of unwavering support from those in public office," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "While we can never truly repay those who have served this country, the legislation passed today is another example of the House's commitment to ensuring that veterans in Massachusetts, and their families, have access to the services and educational opportunities that they deserve. I want to thank Chairman Paul McMurtry, as well as all my colleagues in the House, for their hard work, and for prioritizing the well being and success of the Commonwealth's veterans."

"Our veterans and military families make countless sacrifices on our behalf, and we in Massachusetts owe them the best support that we can offer," said Representative Adrian Madaro. "I was proud to vote in favor of the bill the House passed, which will make the transition easier for military families coming to the Commonwealth, create additional educational opportunities, and honor veterans who served our country, in addition to many other benefits that servicemen and women have earned and deserve."

"This comprehensive legislation is the result of countless hours of listening and learning from our veterans and advocates across the Commonwealth. It not only meets our veteran community's most immediate needs, it also addresses the many challenges our veterans and their families face," said Representative Paul McMurtry (D-Dedham), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs. "I want to thank Speaker Mariano for his commitment and leadership to deserving Massachusetts Veterans and their families."

Highlights of the legislation include:

Military spouse licensure portability: requires the Division of Occupational Licensure, the Department of Public Health, and Massachusetts Boards of Registration to accept a military spouse's application for licensure or notify them of what criteria they were not able to meet within 30 days of the application.

Expedited military spouse teacher licenses: establishes a military spouse certificate to be issued by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner to military spouse teachers that meet certain requirements.

School enrollment for military children: allows military families to register and enroll in a school district when a service member first receives their relocation order, waiving the proof of residency requirement at the time of registration. This provision also allows military children who are transferring mid-semester to enroll in and attend one of the Commonwealth's virtual schools.

Purple Star campus designation: establishes the Purple Star Campus Program, to be administered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, to designate schools that demonstrate a commitment to students and families of service members.

In-state tuition continuity for military-connected college students: ensures that a member of the military stationed in the Commonwealth, their spouse, or their children are deemed an in-state resident after their acceptance at one of the state's higher education institutions.

Civilian licensure and certification information: directs the Commissioner of Veterans' Services to make information on civilian licensure and certification opportunities available to service members and veterans, and provide information on military education and skills to relevant agencies.

Open Burn Pit Registry:

Directs the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health (DPH), in consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans' Services and the Adjutant General of the National Guard, to develop educational materials and an informational pamphlet on the health impacts of open burn pits during overseas deployment and information on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry to be distributed to health care providers, veterans' service offices and organizations, and service members and veterans.

Directs the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans' Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of DPH and the Adjutant General, to contact all members of the Armed Forces, National Guard and veterans to register for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry.

Requires the Adjutant General to request that the periodic health assessment for National Guard members determine whether the member is eligible to participate in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry and if eligible, the member register for the Registry.

Massachusetts National Guard family education program: establishes a Massachusetts National Guard Family Education Program to allow National Guard members to transfer their unused education benefits under the National Guard Education Assistance Program to their dependents.

Slot machines at veterans' organizations: allows the Gaming Commission to issue limited slot machine licenses to veterans' organizations.

Founding anniversaries of

U.S. Armed Forces: requires the Governor to set aside the founding date anniversaries of the U.S. Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Massachusetts National Guard.

Medal of Fidelity: establishes the Massachusetts Medal of Fidelity to be presented to the next of kin of a service member or veteran who died as a result of service-connected post-traumatic stress disorder, a service-connected condition resulting from a traumatic brain injury, or a service-connected disease, condition or injury related to exposure to harmful toxin, herbicides, agents or materials.

Deborah Sampson Memorial Commission: Establishes a commission to determine a location and create a memorial for Deborah Sampson, a Massachusetts resident who disguised herself as a man in the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War.

Funeral and burial benefits: requires funeral directors and their staffs to provide information on burial and funeral benefits for vetrans.

"An Act relative to military spouse-licensure portability, education and enrollment of dependents" (H.4978) passed the House of Representatives 154-0 after a similar version of this legislation passed in the Massachusetts State Senate. The legislation moves back to the Senate for further consideration.

Earlier this year, the House passed legislation establishing additional protections for veterans and mandating increased accountability for management of veterans' homes. "An Act relative to the governance, structure and care of veterans at the Commonwealth veterans' homes" is currently in conference committee negotiations. In May 2021, the House approved a \$600 million bond authorization - with \$400 million for the construction of an updated Holyoke Veterans' Home facility and \$200 million to increase geographic equity and accessibility for veterans not primarily served by the veterans' Homes in Chelsea or Holyoke.

## Hayden expands, renames office's civil rights team

Suffolk District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced the addition of civil rights prosecutors at the district and superior court levels due to recent hate-based incidents and concerns of increased case activity in coming months and years.

Among the factors driving Hayden's decision are the four organized white supremacist actions in Boston this year, a neo-Nazi group protest at the New England Holocaust Memorial in Boston last year, recent Supreme Court decisions that have roiled the nation and the likelihood of future controversial decisions, the coming mid-term and presidential elections, and statistics showing rising levels of hate crimes across the nation.

"It's clear to me that Massachusetts and Boston have become target destinations for groups that spread hate. We saw that over Independence Day weekend with the Patriot Front march in Boston and just this weekend with the NSC-131 gathering in Jamaica Plain. It's also clear to me that Boston is full of passionate, involved citizens who care deeply about current events and don't shy away from expressing their views. I want to ensure that everyone involved in the wide public forum of ideas can do so without being harmed by others and without causing anyone harm," Hayden said.

The High-Risk Victims Unit,

which handles civil rights and hate crime cases in addition to crimes against elders and victims with disabilities, will now be called the Civil Rights/High-Risk Victims Unit. Hayden is adding two new prosecutors – one assigned to prosecute civil rights cases in Suffolk Superior Court and the other to handle such cases in the district and municipal courts. This approach is designed to better coordinate and prosecute felony and misdemeanor civil rights and hate crime cases.

Hayden noted recent reports of hate literature appearing in Danvers, Hamilton, Ipswich and Chatham, this month's homophobic graffiti at an LGBTQIA+-friendly housing project in Hyde Park, and a report released by the Anti-Defamation League in March showing Massachusetts had the fourth-highest level of hate propaganda activity in the nation in 2021.

He also pointed out the continued reverberations from the Jan. 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol and the possibility of societal strife in this year's congressional elections and the 2024 presidential election.

The four organized white-supremacy incidents in Boston this year include the neo-Nazi protest at Brigham and Women's Hospital in February, the NSC-131 gathering at the St. Patrick's Day South Boston parade in March, the Patriot Front march on July 2 and the NSC-131 protest in Jamaica Plain on Saturday.

"We have profound divisions in our society today and groups eager to exploit those divisions toward their malignant ends. We also have a Constitutional duty to protect free speech—up until the point that it turns into threats or violence. I want to make sure my office is vigilant in fair application of the law and fully prepared when prosecuting people who violate anyone's personal rights," Hayden said.

Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden's office serves the communities of Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop, Mass. The office handles over 20,000 cases a year. More than 160 attorneys in the office practice in nine district and municipal courts, Suffolk Superior Court, the Massachusetts Appeals Court, the Supreme Judicial Court, and the Boston Juvenile Courts. The office employs some 300 people and offers a wide range of services and programs to serve anyone who comes in contact with the criminal justice system. This office is committed to educating the public about the services we provide, our commitment to crime prevention, and our dedication to keeping the residents of Suffolk County safe.

## North Washington Street Bridge construction look-ahead through August 6

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This is a brief overview of construction operations and impacts for the North Washington Street Replacement Project. Bridge MassDOT will provide additional notices as needed for high-impact work and changes to traffic configurations beyond those described below.

#### SCHEDULED WORK

• Concrete placement at the east bike barrier in the northern approach (Charlestown workzone)

• Install rebar for the bike barrier

• Install electrical boxes in the location of the bike barrier

• Application of anti-skid coating on temporary bridge walkway

• Install "No fishing" signs on both side of the pedestrian bridge WORK HOURS

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

TRAVEL TIPS

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INFO?

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.

For your awareness, the following events are scheduled during this look-ahead period:

• EVENTS: 7/22 at 7:45 p.m., 7/28 at 7:00 p.m., 8/4 at 7:30 p.m., 8/5 at 7:30 p.m., and 8/6 at 7:30 p.m.

The Beacon Hill Times

Sticky size: 3 in. x3 in. Shown sized to scale above

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## **CONSTRUCTION** UPDATE

# **Real Estate Transfers**

## **SELLER 1**

**REGIONAL REVIEW** 

**BUYER 1** 

Sobel, Eitan

Vendome 316 LLC

Mccord, Elisabeth

Warson-Hill, Nigel

**319 Dartmouth LLC** 

Brannan, Stephen K

Newman, Alison M

Harford, Simon

Hogan, Araceli

Paumier, Tami

Wong FT

Hanko, Christine E

**BEACON HILL** 

Chamberlain, Miceal G

Chamberlain, Miceal G

Selvaggi, Joseph A

Diehl, Alan M

Chang, Kiwon

Choi, Sungoo

Chiasson, Meghan

121 Warren LLC

Lohrmann, Atle

Rydman, Johanna

Makhamreh, Amr

Perkins, Faith

**Reynolds**, Henry

Evan K H Liu RET

Briggs, Andrew

32 Upton St LLC

Alexander, Brian

Mullin, Patrick

Ye, Zichang

Yang, Chendi

Adam, Julia

Werner, Charline L

Bradley Family RE Vent 1

**Evangelis FT** 

Le, Trang

Carmola, Inneke A

Barit LLC

Noelte, Gregory T

Robertson, Christopher T

Muir Res Investments LLC

Wood-Downey, Tamara

Crall, Cary S

**BACK BAY** Vaulin, Ruslan

Perez Family 2021 LLC

Hu, Lissy Cook. Timothy W Solomon, Susan Heinricksen, Ronald N Griffin, Tyler Palasis, Susan Mirageas, Peter M Howland, Drew Bachelder, Robert Muir Res Investments LLC Charest, Edmund P **Paul Natalizio Exchange** Santos, Miguel A Joseph J Floyd FT Marlborough 405 LLC Tran, Lana M

Caccamo, Paul D Duncan, Lyn M Duncan, Lyn M David K Abend LT Vaule, Hans E

**BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE** Schneider, Ramie Younes, Enayat Desantis, Scott J Franz, Moritz Barges, Valerie A Finkenstaedt, Rose L Knoefel, Janice E Mccarthy, Cynthia J Burrows, Tiera C Rawal, Vishal B Mevdani-Korb, Ahou Kenrick, Conor E Thomas J Lee 2022 FT Belch, Barbara Div Shawmut LLC Clappiv 4th, Eugene H Kotsatos, Nicholas A Lagos, George Schneider, Lee Toman, Michael Machnes, Aron J Geduldig, Matthew D Jacobus, Susana E **34 Worcester Square LLC** Love&T

Orouke, Catheryn A

Sarah E Ragland LT

Mcgovern, Shaun C

Eisenhauer, Kristen

Veneziano RT

Foxrock Forty Bch Rltv

## WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN

**KGKF LLC** NPG Bos 1 Beach LLC King, Matthew J **Estia Properties LLC** Shook, Kelly A Stutzman, Paul G

\$1,520,000 13 Dartmouth St #3 67 Dartmouth St #1 \$1,200,000 79 Dartmouth St #2 \$1,100,100 319 Dartmouth St \$3,625,000 17 Marlborough St #G \$1,950,000 127 Marlborough St #4 \$625,000 127 Marlborough St #4 \$625,000 318 Commonwealth Ave #1 \$930,000 390 Commonwealth Ave #304 \$1.050.000 373 Marlborough St #1 \$2,049,000 405 Marlborough St #41 \$845,000 479 Massachusetts Ave #2 \$789,384 30 Cedar Lane Way \$1,950,000 \$2,632,500 140 Mount Vernon St #3 140 Mount Vernon St #3A \$2,632,500 22 Phillips St #2 \$648,000 78 Revere St \$2,545,000 9 Appleton St \$807,500 1 Charles St S #905 \$1,225,000 301-319 Columbus Ave #901 \$2,515,000 325 Columbus Ave #10 102-A Mount Pleasant Ave #1 249 W Newton St #2 121 Warren Ave 188 Brookline Ave #PH28E 65 Burbank St #14 70 Fenway #36

\$1.213.500 \$557,600 \$615.000 \$2,300,000 \$4,461,767 \$685,000 \$920,000 27 Greenwich Park #2 \$1.300.000 26 Hanson St #4 \$685,000 \$1,420,000 700 Harrison Ave #614 121-127 Portland St #509 \$735,000 \$625,900 100 Shawmut Ave #1110 \$1,178,000 258 Shawmut Ave #11 676 Tremont St #5 \$1,199,900 32 Upton St \$4,030,000 39 Upton St #1 \$1,775,000 122 W Concord St #1 \$2,530,000 144 W Concord St #2 \$949,000 1721 Washington St #309 \$649,000 3531 Washington St #503 \$865,000 34 Worcester Sq #4 \$975,000 37 Worcester Sq #4 \$1,710,000 28-32 Atlantic Ave #513 14-40 Beach St 120 Commercial St #4-4 85 E India Row #25E

113 Fulton St #3

120 Fulton St #4C

## \$1,650,000 \$32.000.000 \$699,000 \$745,000 \$700,000 \$1.000.000

PAGE 10

## **ADDRESS**

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2 Clarendon St #305

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#### JULY 28, 2022

# <u>CITY PAWS</u> Out of the kitchen

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

One of our house rules for dogs is that they are not allowed in our tiny kitchen unless specifically invited to be there. "Out of the kitchen" is one direction our Poppy understands. She will push her way in one step at a time, but as soon as we tell her to leave, she retreats.

The National Accident Helpline has reported, "... research shows that the kitchen still holds the greatest threat of injury in the home, with over half of respondents (60%) stating that they have previously injured themselves during a culinary task." The accidents that can cause harm to people in the kitchen can also injure pets. What's more, the animals themselves may cause accidents in the kitchen.

#### Dangers!

The most common kitchen injuries to humans are cuts, falls, and burns. If you cook, think about some of the close calls you've had in a kitchen that didn't harm you. Have you ever dropped a knife, broken a glass, or splashed a hot liquid?

Often a cook is concentrating on what they're doing. Sometimes they move fast in response to a timer, aroma, or change in the sound of something cooking. Having pets underfoot at moments like this is a clear danger to everyone. They add distraction and tripping to the list of hazards.

#### Pet Proofing

We sometimes use a physical barrier to keep Poppy out of the kitchen. Freestanding, hinged barriers come in all shapes and sizes. If your dog is strong enough to move one of these, you can opt for a child or pet safety gate attached to the door opening.

Those who live in an open-plan home may have to resort to a kitchen crate to keep their animal near while staying out from underfoot. You also need to secure your kitchen trash and might have to install child-proof locks on your lower cabinets to keep clever animals from gaining access.

#### Training Is a Constant

Training a companion animal to stay out of a room is an ongoing project. Our dog Poppy knows that she is not allowed in the kitchen. Even if the barrier is not in place, she knows that if she crosses the invisible line, she will make us say, "Out of the kitchen." However, the kitchen has attractions for this food-obsessed dog, and she keeps trying. Everyone in



Stealing your food is not the only reason to keep your dog out of the kitchen when cooking.

the household should use the same method and words to continue the training for the best result.

We watched a video with a reward-based trainer who created a temporary line on the floor with painter's tape to teach his human and canine clients a successful method. The dog heard "out of the kitchen" when a paw touched the tape. When the pup backed out, he was rewarded with a "good boy" and occasionally a tiny treat to reinforce the good behavior.

We also use our prime correction method of telling Poppy to do something she knows how to do well when we don't want her doing something else. So for Poppy, "out of the kitchen" may be followed by "sit" or "down and stay." This request cuts off the opportunity to do her favorite little dance step, the "in-and-outof-the-kitchen" Cha Cha.

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

## Massachusetts House passes legislation to reform step therapy protocols

The Massachusetts House of Representatives passed legislation limiting the use of step therapy protocols, in which insurance companies refuse to pay for the prescription drugs prescribed by a patient's health care provider until the patient first tries cheaper, and oftentimes ineffective, alternatives. The legislation establishes exceptions a patient can use to avoid their insurer's step therapy protocol and requires both Mass-Health and commercial insurers to provide a clear and transparent process for patients and their care team to request an exception.

"A top priority of the House is to ensure that every resident of the Commonwealth has access to quality, affordable health care, but controlling costs should never come at the expense of positive patient outcomes," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "This legislation helps to achieve that goal by ensuring that patients in Massachusetts can circumvent step therapy protocols in instances where the process will result in delayed access to the only adequate medication. I want to thank Chairman John Lawn, as well as all my colleagues in the House, for their commitment to improving our health care system, and for the hard work required to get this done."

"The recent legislation passed by the House cuts through bureaucratic and administrative hurdles with insurance companies to better ensure that patients can get the medicine they need when they need it," said Representative Adrian Madaro. "By limiting step therapy, we enable patients and their providers to focus on the best course of treatment without having to worry about insurance cost-cutting measures that cause unnecessary delays".

"This is a great bill for patients," said Health Care Financing Committee Chair John Lawn (D-Watertown). "Under the leadership of Speaker Mariano and in collaboration with my House colleagues, patient advocates, and insurers, this legislation balances the need to manage utilization and control costs of expensive treatments with the moral imperative to protect patients who need life-saving treatments. Thanks to this bill, patients will get the right drug at the right time without delay."

The legislation outlines four different circumstances that trigger the patient exception process, including:

The required treatment will

harm the patient,

The required treatment is expected to be ineffective,

The patient previously tried the required treatment, or similar treatment, and it was ineffective or harmed the patient,

The patient is stable on a current treatment, and switching treatments will harm the patient.

Additional highlights of the legislation include:

A requirement that MassHealth and commercial insurers adopt a "continuity of coverage" policy to ensure patients do not experience any delay in accessing a treatment when requesting a step therapy exemption.

A requirement that MassHealth and commercial insurers approve or deny a step therapy exemption request within three business days, or within one business day if a delay would cause harm to the patient.

A requirement that commercial carriers annually report data related to step therapy exemption requests and related coverage determinations to the Division of Insurance.

The creation of a commission on step therapy protocols tasked with studying, assessing, and bi-annually reporting on the implementation of step therapy process reforms made in this legislation.

"An Act Relative to Step Therapy and Patient Safety" (H.4929) passed the House of Representatives 153-0. The legislation now heads to the Senate for their consideration.

## **TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL 781-485-0588**

## Hayden, Arroyo participate in Suffolk County District DA candidates' forum

#### Special to the Regional Review

Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden and Boston City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo participated in a Suffolk County DA Candidates Forum July 25 at the Boston Center for Youth and Families on Paris Street, East Boston.

Hayden and Arroyo are running for the position in the Sept. 6 Democratic Primary.

Boston Globe Associate Editor and columnist Adrian Walker moderated the forum. State Sen. Lydia Edwards also assisted in the administration of the forum that consisted of questions that were submitted by residents. Attendees also had the opportunity to ask questions of the two candidates. As it was a forum and not a debate, no rebuttals of candidates' responses were allowed during the forum.

Both candidates were effective in delivering their messages about their policies for reducing crime in neighborhoods, improving public safety, fighting the opioid epidemic, and building strong relationships with public safety departments.

Several supporters of the two candidates, along with residents of the county from Boston, Revere, Winthrop, and Chelsea, attended the forum.

The debate was sponsored by the Eastie Dems Democratic Committee, and the Winthrop, Revere, and East Boston Democratic Committees.



Representatives of the Democratic Committees join participants in the forum for a photo. From left, Democratic State Committeewoman Alicia DelVento of Winthrop, Forum Moderator Adrian Walker of The Boston Globe, Boston City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, Suffolk County DA Kevin Hayden, Sen. Lydia Edwards, Vicki DiLorenzo of the East Boston Ward 1 Democratic Committee, Chelsea City Councilor-at-Large Damali Vidot, and State Democratic Committeeman Juan Jaramillo of Revere.



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Boston City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, candidate for Suffolk County DA, is pictured before delivering his opening statement at the candidates' forum.



Suffolk County DA Kevin Hayden responds to one of the questions during the forum.



Boston City Councilor Frank Baker and Ward 1 Committee Member Jesse Purvis.



The Rev. Wayne S. Daley, deputy director of community engagement for the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office (SCDAO), True-See Allah, chief of community engagement for the SCDAO, and Kathleen Riley Cappuccio of Winthrop.



Sen. Lydia Edwards greets one of her constituents, Lillian Vega, at the candidates' forum.

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