



THE NORTH END

REGIONAL REVIEW

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

WWW.NORTHENDREGIONALREVIEW.COM

NEMPAC PERFORM-A-THON RAISES FUNDS FOR YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS



Pictured is the Music Theatre Troupe featured cast of "Disney's Descendants."

By Phil Orlandella

Students and faculty from the North End Music and Performing Art Center (NEMPAC) held a highly successful annual Perform-a-Thon hosted by Boston Public Market, raising funds for youth scholarships to benefit student performers taking classes and lessons with NEMPAC, that provides 883 youth with free or discounted tuition.

Returning for the first time since 2019 (fully in person) the fun-filled event featured 71 performers, showcasing their talents in singing, dancing and instrumentalists.

Student ensembles representing (NEMPAC Pg. 5)



Pictured Kevin Seidem (left) (student/violinist) and Harriet Hung (instructor/pianist).



Pictured Fred Springer (left) (instructor/guitarist) and Alexander Manning (student/guitarist).



Pictured Hayden Miller (left) (student singer) and Jamie Castellanos (instructor/pianist).

Old North Church celebrates 300th anniversary on Friday

Staff Report

On Saturday, April 15, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Old North Church and Historic Site, 193 Salem St. will celebrate the 300th anniversary of the laying of the church's cornerstone with a day of special programming. Admission to Boston's oldest surviving church will be free for all children and teens under the age of 18. A new audio tour with 40 minutes of history in both English and Spanish will launch with a \$3.00 fee. All who are walking the famous Freedom Trail and pass by Old North between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. will enjoy an interactive experience with public historian Adam Hodges-LeClaire who answers the age-old question: Are you a pirate? This presentation will use 18th-century sailors'



Shown above is the rear entrance to the Old North Church. clothing as a case-study in separating fact from fiction regarding the

(OLD NORTH CHURCH Pg. 2)

NEWNC resumes in-person meetings

By Review Staff

The North End Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) returned to an in-person meeting on Monday night at the Nazzaro Center on North Bennet Street after more than three years of remote meetings.

Joel Faller, President of the NEWNC, opened the meeting, welcoming a handful of residents to the session.

While the meeting was short, one item that generated interest was a new state traffic law that could have serious impacts for

North End motorists. The bill is to help ensure that the vulnerable road users, namely bicyclists and pedestrians, are safe from moving cars by requiring a distance of four feet at all times between the car and the vulnerable road users. Many on the board were curious as to how the local police will enforce this new law.

Faller said that candidates are being sought to fill the vacant spots on the council. A Candidate's Night is being planned for May 8 and the election will be held on

(NEWNC Pg. 2)

Visit www.northendregional.com

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

Councillors offer a hearing to discuss parking regulations

Staff Report

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta introduced a hearing order, co-sponsored by At-large City Councilor Michael Flaherty with Councilor Liz Breadon of Allston and Brighton, to discuss the digitization and tracking of parking regulations in the City of Boston.

“Every year as we approach the budget season, residents across my district reach out asking for greater funding for parking enforcement. We need a strong enforcement sys-

tem, especially as we have a high level of density with small parking spaces per unit in our neighborhoods,” said Councilor Coletta. “Based on my conversations with the Boston Transportation Department (BTD), staff is currently tracking parking regulations based on institutional knowledge with no modernized internal system to support them. This hearing aims to create a pathway for efficient constituent services regarding parking regulations by exploring how digitizing this information may foster greater quality of life

for residents that rely on on-street parking near their homes.”

Additionally, Councilor Coletta hopes that the systemization of parking regulations can help BTD staff provide services efficiently as well given ongoing understaffing issues at the department.

At Large City Councilor Michael Flaherty said “I am happy to co-sponsor this hearing order to explore digitizing and categorizing parking regulations within the City of Boston. We need to bring the BTD into the digital age so that we can track where and

when residents and nonresidents can and cannot park within the City of Boston. I believe it is also important to have a digitized system to allow for home health aides, physical therapists and hospice care providers to come to our city rather than choose to not treat Boston residents for fear of getting ticketed or towed. The goal is to increase efficiency, make things easier for people to navigate and ultimately raise the quality of life for all Bostonians.”

“I am delighted that Councilor Coletta has raised the issue of

parking enforcement as the City Council enters into the FY24 budget process. In Allston-Brighton, residents sometimes find themselves at odds with their neighbors, construction workers, or small businesses when street parking regulations and enforcement do not keep pace with changing conditions. Several City departments are charged with maintaining safe conditions on over 800 miles of streets in Boston,” said Councilor Liz Breadon. “City

(PARKING REGULATIONS Pg. 4)

OLD NORTH CHURCH (from pg. 1)

history of pirates.

Old North’s free day of programming kicks off a week-long celebration, including services with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry on April 16, Patriot’s Day festivities on April 17 and the historic site’s Lanterns and Luminaries on April 20, which will include a re-enactment of the famous signal that lit the way for the American Revolution and a keynote address from Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Annette Gordon-Reed.

Nikki Stewart, Executive Director of Old North Illuminated, will be on site for interviews and can speak to Old North Church’s place in American history and the role of active citizenship in the ongoing struggle for justice and equity.

Known for “One if by land, and two if by sea” and the midnight ride of Paul Revere, the Old North Church and Historic Site is maintained and operated by Old North Illuminated.

To mark the 300th anniversary of the church’s founding in 2023 and connect Old North’s legacy to contemporary issues, Old North Illuminated is developing new

programming that explores the complexity of the church’s identity as a beacon of liberty and independence alongside its deep and complex connections to colonialism and enslavement. Old North Illuminated believes that by presenting, questioning, and learning from the full and complicated span of Old North’s 300-year history, we can engage audiences in contemporary questions of equity and representation, courage for the common good, and what it means to be an informed and compassionate active citizen. For more information, visit: www.oldnorth.com.

More events will include:

Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry to preach at Old North Church’s 300th year celebration

Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry will be in Boston on Sunday, April 16 to celebrate the 300th anniversary of iconic Old North Church, Boston’s oldest standing church building and famous for its role in the start of the American Revolution.

On the night of April 18, 1775, Old North’s sexton, Robert Newman, and vestry member Captain John Pulling Jr. shined

the “two if by sea” lanterns from Old North’s steeple as the signal from Paul Revere that the British army was advancing by the Charles River toward Lexington and Concord where the opening battles of the American Revolution erupted the following day.

Established in 1723 as Christ Church in the City of Boston, and known colloquially as “Old North,” it is now both a national historic landmark that receives some 500,000 visitors a year and an active Episcopal Church congregation.

“Old North Church holds a unique place in our diocesan life, not only for its historic connection to our nation’s history, but also for the ways in which it wrestles with vital issues of race, culture and patriotism, and the intersection of each with Christian faith and theology. We are so grateful for Presiding Bishop Curry’s recognition of this milestone,” Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts Bishop Alan M. Gates said.

Presiding Bishop Curry—known internationally for his dynamic preaching and a ministry whose animating vision and message is Jesus of Nazareth’s model of radical, sacrificial love—will give the

sermon at Old North’s 11:00 a.m. Sunday service and then will be the honored guest speaker at the 6:00 p.m. ticketed Lantern Service, which promises to be an inspirational evening of song and rededication, culminating in the lighting of Old North’s steeple lanterns.

“Even older than our nation, Old North stands tall as a beacon of hope and freedom. This extraordinary 300th anniversary provides us the opportunity to celebrate not only the majestic building built in 1723, but also and more importantly the people who have shaped our history, who prayed here and called this church home for three centuries,” said Old North’s vicar-in-charge, the Rev. Matthew P. Cadwell.

The Lantern Service will illuminate significant moments from Old North’s history, including recent research on the lives of enslaved and free Black and Indigenous members in the colonial era.

“That history reminds us that for many, especially people of color both enslaved and free, liberty and freedom were far more elusive in our earliest days. As we observe this milestone anniversary we intend to remember and honor

these members of our community alongside those who lit the lanterns on the eve of the Revolution,” Cadwell said.

The Old North Chamber Choir will be joined at the Lantern Service by the Men and Boys Choir of All Saints’ Episcopal Church, Ashmont in Dorchester. Anthems will include a choral setting of “Paul Revere’s Ride,” Bairstow’s setting of the 23rd Psalm, and a new piece, “The Light and the Wind,” commissioned for the anniversary.

Lexington Minutemen and Paul Revere re-enactors will be among the evening’s guests, to also include several city and state elected officials and bishops from neighboring New England Episcopal dioceses.

“We are pleased to welcome Presiding Bishop Curry to preach from the same pulpit used by bishops and American presidents,” Cadwell said. “The Old North Church continues to inspire faith and hope in people across our nation and the world. We invite you to join us as we give thanks to God and look to the future in confidence and hope.”

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU23P0684EA Estate of: Sumner Cohen

Also known as: Sumner H. Cohen Date of Death: 08/22/2022

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Kenneth Wintman of Brookline, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Kenneth Wintman of. Brookline, MA be

appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return

day of 05/10/2023. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE

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

administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: March 29, 2023 Vincent Procopio Register of Probate 4/13/23 RR

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING Docket No. SU23W0002WD Suzanne A.M. Lynch vs. Aldo DePierro Upon motion of plaintiff(s) for an order directing the defendant(s), to appear, plead, or answer, in

accordance with Mass.R. Civ.P./Mass.R.Dom.Rel.P. Rule 4, it appearing to the court that this is an action for Custody/Support/Parenting Time filed on January 03, 2023. Defendant(s)/Respondent(s) cannot be found within the Commonwealth and defendant(s)/respondent(s) present whereabouts are unknown. Personal service on defendant is therefore not practicable, and defendant(s)/respondent(s) has/have

not voluntarily appeared in this action. It is Ordered that defendant is directed to appear, plead, answer, or otherwise move with respect to the complaint herein on or before April 28, 2023. If you fail to do so this Court will proceed to a hearing and adjudication of this matter. Date: 3/6/2023 Hon. Abbe Ross Justice of Probate and Family Court

4/13/23

RR

NEWS IN BRIEF

NEAA BASEBALL OPENING DAY APRIL 29

In anticipation of having another terrific baseball season (2023) at both neighborhood parks, the North End Atlantic Association (NEAA) will conduct an open-

ing-day ceremony on Saturday, April 29.

During the course of the day, all baseball programs will participate in the traditional start of the season including the Majors, Minors, T-ball and Instructional Clinic.

Beside the above programs, two baseball teams will be partic-

ipating in an out-of-town league this summer.

Long time Little League coach Al Vilar will be recognized and presented an award for his commitment to the league throughout the years. Vilar will also toss out the traditional first pitch.

The NEAA is claiming the 2023 season will be the largest

baseball program they have ever put together.

WECA MEETING SET FOR APRIL 13 AT AMY LOWELL APARTMENTS

The West End Civic Association (WECA) will hold its next meeting

in person on Thursday, April 13, at 6 p.m. in the Community Room at Amy Lowell Apartments at 65 Martha Road.

Speakers will include Rep. Jay Livingstone and representatives from ABCD (Action for Boston Community Development).

Masks are encouraged.

FOCCP/North End Library participating in One Boston Day

By Phil Orlandella

Local organizations are being asked by Boston Mayor Michele Wu to create events and experiences relating to the 10th anniversary of the Boston Marathon bombing.

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) has responded and will conduct a day of kindness at the park on Saturday, April 15 starting at 10

AM greeting park visitors and handout kindness bracelets.

Traditionally, the non-profit community organization on Marathon weekend places 200 pots of daffodils under the park's trellis as a symbol of Boston Strong.

This year, FOCCP will bring some of the plans to the North End Rehab Center as part of the mayor's anniversary remembrance.

The group, on Monday, April

17, starting at 2 PM will invite people to pick up a pot of daffodils at the trellis to bring them to people in an act of kindness.

After 3 PM, if any plants are left, the general public will be welcome to take one for themselves.

"FOCCP is dedicated to creating and welcome urban green space in the North End and delighted to be a part of One Boston Day of kindness and remembrance and hope," President Joanne Hayden

Rines said.

The North End Library Friends will also honor the community spirit of One Boston Day with a free book giveaway to each child or adult who visits the library entrance on Parmenter Street will display books from the Book Sale collection of gently used books for

all ages and covering all interests from 9:30 AM until 1 PM. Visitors can choose one book from the collection for young children, older children, adult fiction and adult non-fiction.

One to a customer, while supplies last.

NEWNC (from pg. 1)

May 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Interested residents are asked to become candidates for the 13 seats that are available. Forms can be found at the Nazzaro Center or on the NEWNC Facebook page.

Another issue that came up was that members of the North End Dining Task Force have not been chosen. The Task Force will be composed of both residents and business owners.

The meeting then turned to the upcoming fun times and community events for residents to enjoy in the months ahead. Some of the events include:

April 29 (with a rain date of May 5) for an event titled

Caricature Artists in the Park from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the Upper/ Small dog park area. There will be caricature artists in the park to sketch an owner's dog. Visit rff-boston.org for more information.

The Love Your Block cleanup will be held on April 29. Residents are encouraged to contact Mayor Wu's office for more information and how to take part in the cleanup.

St. Leonard's Parish will be celebrating its 150th anniversary on May 5 starting at 6:30 p.m.. The event will be held at the New England Aquarium, 1 Central Wharf, Boston. Attire is Black and White Attire. There will be food

and dancing and lots of fun. All proceeds will benefit the Building the Future Fund. More information can be found at www.saintleonardchurchboston.org.

On May 6, all bird lovers will get a chance to see how many different species of birds that they can spot. The event is billed as a friendly birding competition to see who can spot the highest number of species in a single day in the core of Boston.

Registration will be conducted at Copp's Hill Terrace starting at 9:30 a.m. with birding starting at 10 a.m. The neighborhoods where one can see birds will be Beacon Hill, Charlestown, Chinatown, Downtown, the Leather District, the North End, and the West End, including the Common and the Public Garden.

The winner will be announced at 4:30 p.m. at Copp's Hill Terrace. For more information visit BigDayBoston.com

The annual Corn Hole Tournament will be held on June 4 on the Rose Kennedy Greenway. This is the sixth year that bags will be tossed to raise money for the Geraldine Marshall Scholarship Fund for the North End Music and Performing Arts Center.

Registration starts at 11:00 a.m. with play starting at noon.

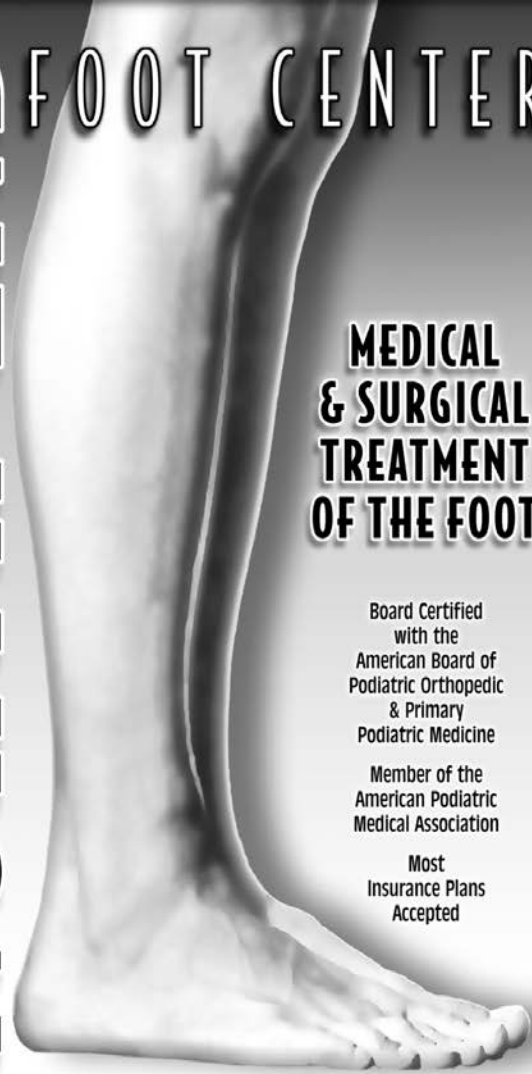
A Greenway Gala is planned on June 8 on the Greenway. Visit Gala on the Greenway for more information.

The next meeting of the NEWNC will be held in person in May at the Nazzaro Center. A zoom link may be attempted.



A turkey making its way along Chestnut Street in Beacon Hill on Monday.

NORTH END FOOT CENTER



MEDICAL & SURGICAL TREATMENT OF THE FOOT

Board Certified with the American Board of Podiatric Orthopedic & Primary Podiatric Medicine

Member of the American Podiatric Medical Association

Most Insurance Plans Accepted

DR. FRANK S. CAMPO, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.O.

260 NORTH STREET - BOSTON, MA - Ph: 617-248-8682

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.

EDITORIAL

THE MARATHON BOMBING,

10 YEARS LATER

This week marks the 10th anniversary of the tragic Boston Marathon bombing which occurred on April 15, 2013, when two brothers set off a pair of bombs near the finish line of the marathon, killing three persons (Krystle Marie Campbell, a 29-year-old restaurant manager from Medford; Lü Lingzi, a 23-year-old Chinese national and Boston University statistics graduate student; and 8-year-old Martin William Richard from Dorchester) and injuring 281 persons, of whom 16 lost limbs.

In addition, during the manhunt for the bombers in the ensuing days, the brothers shot and killed 27 year-old Sean Allen Collier, an MIT police officer, who crossed their path, and shot two Boston police officers, one of whom, Dennis Simmonds, died on April 10, 2014, from head injuries he received during the shootout in Watertown.

One of the brothers was killed during the shootout and the other eventually was captured, tried, convicted, and sentenced to death, and now is imprisoned in a federal Supermax facility.

For those of us who are lifelong Boston-area residents, the horror of that afternoon, as well as the three-day manhunt for the suspects, will remain etched in our memories forever as no other local event ever has.

We will never forget the tremendous performance of the medical and emergency crews on the scene and at our area hospitals, who miraculously saved the lives of scores of victims who otherwise might have died from their wounds.

Ten years later, the memory of that day gives all of us pause to reflect, both to remember the innocent victims and to honor those whose heroic actions saved lives.

CLARENCE THOMAS: SUPREME HYPOCRITE

"I prefer the RV parks. I prefer the Walmart parking lots to the beaches and things like that. There's something normal to me about it." -- Judge Clarence Thomas in a recent interview.

The revelation this past week that Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and his wife have been accepting luxury vacations from a Texas billionaire for the past 25 years, including a recent vacation that is estimated to have had a price tag of \$500,000 (that's not a typo -- there are no added zeros), is absolutely sickening.

For his part, this billionaire said he never discussed any cases with Thomas and reportedly never had any specific cases pertaining to him in front of the court.

However, among the other guests on these vacation junkets were top executives of major U.S. corporations, so it certainly is conceivable that some of these companies may have had matters that came before the Supreme Court during the 25 years that Thomas has been receiving these extraordinary gifts from the Texas billionaire.

However, the focus on whether any one of these wealthy and influential persons had any specific matters before the Supreme Court misses the point entirely, which is this: Thomas is hobnobbing with, and accepting gifts of immense value from, individuals who have a great deal of general interest in cases that come before the Supreme Court.

For example, the infamous Citizens United case in 2010 (in which the court held that the free speech clause of the First Amendment prohibits the government from restricting independent expenditures for political campaigns by corporations, thereby striking down a federal law that had placed a limit on donations by corporations) was brought by billionaires -- and who have been influencing U.S. elections ever since with what is known as "dark money" (because its source is unknown). Thomas -- surprise! -- voted with the majority in a 5-4 decision.

But beyond what constitutes an obvious conflict of interest by Thomas, this is just another example of the hypocrisy that has marked Thomas's tenure ever since he was appointed to the Supreme Court more than 30 years ago.

Thomas rates as the most unqualified person ever to sit on the court. He never tried a case in a courtroom and had no substantive legal experience prior to being appointed to a seat on the federal Appeals Court. (He was incapable of having been named as a federal district court judge because he would have been clueless as to how to conduct a trial.)

He often speaks and writes of his humble beginnings growing up poor on a farm in Georgia, but he never acknowledges that it was thanks to de facto affirmative action programs at Holy Cross and Yale Law School that gave him the opportunity to rise to the highest court in the land. Nor does he acknowledge that it essentially was affirmative action by President George H.W. Bush that elevated him to his judicial posts, because Thomas by any objective measure was unqualified to be a judge.

But here's the irony of Thomas's personal affirmative action story: He is among the leaders of the Supreme Court faction that no doubt soon will be striking down affirmative action programs that have existed for decades in universities across the country.

Thomas's stance on affirmative action is the height of hypocrisy — he benefited from programs that afforded him opportunities, but he is pulling up the proverbial ladder so that others cannot follow him— that goes way beyond taking expensive vacations in the face of his laughably stated preference for "Walmart parking lots."

OPINION BY PHIL ORLANDELLA

NEW HEALTH/ NEMPAC REQUEST HAS MERIT

Growing support continues to be mounting in the community for the idea of NEW Health and the North End Music and Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC) to run the North Bennet Street Nazzaro Center and providing additional health and art services when the facility becomes available and when a new commu-

nity center is built adjacent to the Mirabella Pool on Commercial Street.

Both non-profit organizations have made it publicly clear of their intentions to meet the needs of the community. The idea has merit.

NEAA TO HONOR AL VILAR

Each season on baseball opening day, the North End Athletic Association (NEAA) recognizes and

honors someone for their outstanding contribution and dedication to the community.

Longtime Little League coach Al Vilar will take center stage at Langone Park for his time and effort he gave to players, parents and the NEAA.

Vilar has always been respected for his ability to coach, the basics of the game, especially sportsmanship.

He will toss out the traditional first pitch.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ATTENTION HOSPITAL CEO'S: PLEASE 'SHARE THE WEALTH' TO SUPPORT BEDSIDE NURSES...

Dear Editor,

Nurses have been long overdue for better salaries and the accommodation of on-site call rooms.

Hospitals generate billions of dollars in revenue annually. Hospital CEO's receive salaries that range from \$1 to \$7 million annually. Is sitting in an executive suite of a hospital behind a mahogany desk, floors away from the frenetic patient care taking place 24/7 really worth a salary of \$1 to \$7 million dollars per year? How much

would a safe on-site overnight suite for nurses including beds and shower facilities cost? Could those million-dollar CEO salaries instead go toward significantly increasing bedside nursing salaries? Could hospital CEO's find it in them to "share the wealth" to improve the

(LETTER Pg. 6)

PARKING REGULATIONS (from pg. 2)

workers possess deep knowledge of these streets, and I look forward to hearing from them and Cabinet leadership regarding the Administration's plans to transparently assist residents who rely on street parking to take care of their families and businesses, even as the City enhances active transportation for cyclists and pedestrians."

Highlights of the Order Include:

"WHEREAS, BTD currently relies on institutional knowledge of parking enforcement officers to recognize parking regulations in respective neighborhoods. There is no tracking system or geographic information system (GiS) mapping tool that defines what regulations are where which negatively impacts both residents and BTD employees; and

WHEREAS, Consistent parking enforcement heavily relies on a

structural understanding of where and what parking laws are being implemented, appropriate staffing of enforcement officers, and efficient route development; and

WHEREAS, While BTD is currently experiencing understaffing, establishing a tracking system that allows the department to see gaps in service can ensure that residents who live in high density areas can safely and reliably find parking near their homes;

and
WHEREAS, Investment in digital tools that are easy to navigate can make it more efficient for residents and city workers to access information, request services, sign up for alerts, and enforce parking regulations; and"

The Boston City Council has yet to schedule a date for this hearing. Members of the public are encouraged to provide written or oral comments once a date is established.

REGIONAL REVIEW

- FOUNDED IN 1967 -

PUBLISHER: Debra DiGregorio - deb@thebostonsun.com

REPORTERS AND CONTRIBUTORS:

Stephen Quigley and Cary Shuman

PHONE 781-485-0588 // FAX 781-485-1403

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP, LLC

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley

NEMPAC *(from pg. 1)*

the Elliott Band, the NEMPAC Rock Band and cast members from Disney's Descendants performed at the entertaining special community event which surpassed NEMPAC's goal of raising \$20,000.

The event was live-streamed for at-home viewers.

Supporters can still donate directly to a student or faculty "Pledge Me" online campaign (<https://nempacboston.org/perform-a-thon-pledge-me-campaign/>) If you have any questions or need more information on how to make a donation to the NEMPAC Scholarship Fund, please contact Development Manager, Pamela Feo at develop-

ment@nempacboston.org.

To learn more about the Perform-a-thon program, please visit <https://nempacboston.org/performathon/>.

North End Music & Performing Arts Center is a 501(c)(3) community music school and performing arts center empowering greater-Boston artists of all ages and abilities. Fueled by the belief that the arts are an expression of our shared humanity, NEMPAC's mission is to enrich lives through exceptional, accessible music education and performing arts programs that are as vibrant, inclusive, and diverse as our local communities.



NEMPAC Music Ensemble.



William Phillips (front) and Jaime Castellanos.



Annika Chalasani.



Alba-Lis Routhier-Gomez.



Musical Theatre Troupe - Disney's Descendants.



Maggie Tompros (front) and Jamie Castellanos.

FRESH AND LOCAL

Lessons from Jamie Oliver

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

We have Jamie Oliver to thank for many of our favorite meals. Penny recently studied his cookbook, "One: Simple one pan wonders." It prompted us to start a list of what Jamie calls "clever tips, tricks, and techniques" that we've learned from his books and videos.

This healthy food advocate and educator pares away roadblocks that keep busy people from cooking. He knows that clean-up discourages home cooks. His website describes this book as "...his ultimate homage to making your life simpler. Every recipe is cooked in just one pan, so is perfect for getting good food on the table fast."

Use Less

Watch a few of Jamie's videos; you'll see less equipment, ingredients, knife work, and measuring. He calls it "maximum flavor with minimum effort." You'll see him washing his hands often because

he uses his hands for many jobs that you might do with a utensil. For example, he tears peppers, mushrooms, and greens and mixes dough and salads with his clean hands.

A cutting board takes the place of extra bowls and platters. Of course, it is used for cutting ingredients that require a knife. He also uses it to mix dough, dress and toss salads, and serve meals like tarts, pies, pizza, and even salads. The board makes a few trips to the sink for a wash between jobs, but that step becomes part of your workflow once you discover how much cleanup this technique saves.

He simplifies what he calls his "hero ingredients" to "...olive oil for cooking, extra virgin olive oil for dressing and finishing dishes, red wine vinegar as a good all-rounder when it comes to acidity and balancing marinades, sauces, and dressings, and, of course, sea salt and black pepper for seasoning."

Use More

On the other side of this equation, he uses more high-quality pantry staples like canned tomatoes and beans, coconut milk, frozen vegetables, premade fresh pasta sheets, pie and pizza dough, frozen phyllo, and puff pastry.

He uses "flavor bombs" such as chutneys, curry pastes, black bean and teriyaki sauces, miso, and pesto instead of the many ingredients each contains. He'll add sausage, bacon, smoked salmon, and jarred tuna as proteins and flavor boosters.

Swap It Up and Make a Batch

Jamie uses two types of swaps in his recipes. He encourages you to make the recipe your own by changing the ingredients to what you have on hand, what you prefer, or what suits a particular diet. For example, he loves chilies and spicy food. However, he tells you to leave the chili out if you don't



Jamie's "50/50 Bolognese" is made with ground meat and lentils and is great for batch cooking. We enjoyed these "Sloppy Joes" made with a frozen portion.

like heat. He also explains how to minimize the heat by removing the seeds and membranes or putting the chili in whole.

You'll also hear how to use swaps to make your meals healthier and to add more vegetables and fruit to your diet. You'll see him use whole grains, sneak veggies into something like a fish pie or create a vegetarian version of a popular dish.

Jamie will always tell you when a dish freezes well. Penny made

a big batch of his "50/50 Bolognese" with ground meat and lentils to serve with pasta. She froze half, and we enjoyed it in "Sloppy Joes" later in the month. We have another batch saved to top with mashed potatoes for a healthier cottage pie. Both suggestions for other uses were part of Jamie's recipe!

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

LETTER (from pg. 4)

working conditions and life of the bedside nurse?

Nurses are leaving bedside nursing in hospitals at alarming rates. Bedside nursing work is stressful both physically and mentally.

Staffing and scheduling challenges plague the nursing profession.

Hospitals need to make improvements to the poor work environment that often leads to nursing burnout and turnover. Due

to continual understaffing, nurses feel like they are constantly on call, even if they are not. In order to attract more nurses to working in hospital settings, hospital environments are going to have to

become more attractive for nurses. This means incentives such as increase in salaries and providing on-site nurse call rooms. If hospitals want to recruit and retain the nursing workforce needed to provide optimal patient care, they must offer nurses more than a pat on the back and the occasional 10 boxes of pizza lunches.

Many nurses travel to large Boston hospitals from Cape Cod, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont and they sometimes work double and triple shifts. Nurses often resign from their positions at hospitals for a variety of reasons such as understaffing, stressful conditions and lousy pay scales. However, many nurses resign due to costly parking fees and commuting long hours for their 12 hour shifts. Many younger new nurses have mounds of student loan debt and are unable to afford hotels for overnight stays due to a long commute. They instead, sometimes sleep overnight in their cars in order to make the next early morning 12 hour grueling shift.

Hospitals have always provided residents and MD's overnight on call rooms within the hospital, rightly so, given their busy schedules and overnight on call duties. However, nurses are not provided with safe, overnight on-call rooms within hospitals. If anything proved there is a need for this it was the COVID pandemic. In order to recruit, retain and accommodate nurses

for unexpected double and triple shifts, they should be generously compensated and be provided with safe, on-site overnight nursing call rooms within the hospital at no cost.

Nurses are the lifeblood of any hospital. MD's and nurses work hand and hand and hospitals cannot function effectively without both. Therefore, hospital CEO's should be making efforts to support the bedside nurse with what they need and deserve to perform their jobs well. Providing a significant increase in salary and on call overnight accommodations would help in the short term and long term to recruit and retain highly skilled nurses. Nurses do not need more pizza or "Cookie Appreciation Days" in appreciation for their work. Bedside nurses need and deserve to be paid well for the backbreaking, exhausting, physical, mental and emotional work they perform on a daily basis. So hospital CEO's, how about "sharing the wealth" to support bedside nurses?

Mary Beth Muckian

Mary Beth Muckian, BSN, RN is a graduate of Boston College and Regis College. She has been a nurse for 17 years and currently works as a Utilization Review Manager. She has worked over her nursing career in the areas of bedside nursing, Nursing Research and Occupational Health Nursing.



A HOT NUTRITIOUS MEAL

ADULTS 60+

IS ONLY A PHONE CALL AWAY

If you or a loved one, are 60 years or older, and are interested in learning more about free home-delivered meals and other services that provide support in the home, please contact Ethos.

- Home Delivered Meals
- Home Care
- Wellness Classes
- Mental Health



617.477.6606 | ETHOCARE.ORG

Chief Jemison welcomes new Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Luis Frias

Staff Report

Chief of Planning Arthur Jemison announced the hiring of Luis R. Frias II as the new Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) for the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA). Frias will serve as a member of the Agency's senior leadership team and be charged with the development and oversight of the Agency's equity and diversity priorities. In this capacity, he will work to establish collaborative partnerships with internal and external stakeholders and foster a more diverse, inclusive, equitable, welcoming, and supportive agency. "I'm happy to welcome Luis to the Agency, and look forward to the important and positive impact he will have on helping us plan a more equitable Boston," said Chief of Planning Arthur Jemison. "I am excited to work with him to ensure that diversity, equity, and inclusion are priorities in all of the BPDA's work, and to ensure we are building a City that best serves our residents."

"I'm pleased to join the BPDA and to help advance its mission to create and guide inclusive and equitable growth in our city," said Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Luis Frias. "In my short time here, I've already witnessed the passion, dedication, and bril-



Luis R. Frias II, new Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the Boston Planning & Development Agency.

liance of this team. I'm deeply honored to be in this role, as we work together to shape Boston's future."

Frias has spent the last decade working in higher education. He joins the Agency from Northeastern University, where he served as the Program Manager for Engineering PLUS, a National Science Foundation grant focused on creating networked communities and inclusive infrastructure across the nation to achieve the transformative, systemic, and sustainable change needed to increase undergraduate and graduate degree attainment for BIPOC

and women engineering students. He also served as the Associate Director for Diversity Programs for Northeastern's College of Engineering, where he focused on both College and University level DEI initiatives.

While working at Northeastern, he also received the Black Heritage Award, given to Northeastern staff and administrators in recognition of their years of dedicated service to Northeastern, to students, and to the John D. O'Bryant African American Institute. A Worcester native, he graduated from Anna Maria College in Paxton, Massachusetts in 2013 with a major in Legal Studies. He also received a Master's from Northeastern in Applied Educational Psychology in 2020.

The work of the Director of DEI will build on efforts already underway to support equity by creating affordable housing, jobs, resilient infrastructure, and open space in every neighborhood. Additional efforts underway include leveraging funding from large real estate development to support workforce development and training, equitable procurement policies, requiring diversity criteria for developing publicly-owned land, and the BPDA's DEI in Development Policy, announced in 2022, to promote diversity within large private development projects in the City of Boston.

Flamingo Restaurant concerns expressed by residents

By Phil Orlandella

At tonight's, April 13, monthly North End/Waterfront Resident's Association (NEWRA) meeting starting at 6:30 PM at the Nazzaro Community Center on North Bennet Street, will address numerous complaints levied at the Flamingo Restaurant, 266

Commercial Street.

Owners Jairo Dominique and Ty DiStasi will discuss neighborhood serious complaints relating to loud noise, long lines, bad language and public urination near the restaurant.

NEWRA will also discuss past efforts and process moving forward to make the North End an Historic District Protected area.

Boston Landmarks

Commissioner Roseanne Foley, Chelsea Blanch, and Nicholas Armata will provide information and answer questions pertaining to the issue.

The next NEWRA monthly public meeting will be held on Thursday, May 11 at the Nazzaro Community Center at 6:30 PM.

Wu to open Swan Boats on April 15

Staff Report

Mayor Michelle Wu, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, and the Paget family will host the first ride of the season on the popular Boston Swan Boats as they open at the Boston Public Garden lagoon on Saturday, April 15, at 11:00 a.m.

2023 marks the 146th season for the Swan Boats, a beloved tourist attraction and iconic symbol of Boston and the Public Garden. The oldest and smallest boat in the fleet just celebrated its 113th season,

while the newest was launched in 1993. The swan on the boats is made from either copper or fiberglass, depending on the age of the boat, and encloses a paddle mechanism that is used to propel the boat through the water.

Launched in 1877 by Irish immigrant and shipbuilder Robert Paget, the Swan Boats continue to be owned and operated by the Paget family. Mr. Paget designed the Swan Boats after attending the opera Lohengrin in New York City. At the end of the opera, the hero crosses a river in a boat drawn by

a swan.

Fully loaded, each Swan Boat weighs three tons and is powered by the driver using a foot-propelled paddle wheel. The Swan Boats are built on oak-framed pontoons sheathed in copper, just as they were initially constructed in 1877. After being stored in a safe place for the winter, the boats will return to the Public Garden Lagoon in the spring, with Mayor Wu celebrating the first ride of the season.

For more information, please visit boston.gov/swan-boats.

MAINTAINING GARDENS



Weather permitting, the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park Horticultural Committee maintains the two gardens in the park on Sunday and Wednesday mornings. Gardening starts April 28.

Don't Forget Pick Up After Your Pet!

Pet waste discarded on the street or in catch basins carries harmful bacteria straight into the waterways we rely on for recreation. Always remember to "Scoop the Poop" and dispose of pet waste in the trash. Proper disposal of pet waste protects the environment and our waterways from contamination.



 Boston Water and Sewer Commission

WE ARE ALL CONNECTED

Let's Protect Boston's Waterways

NEAD EASTER PARTY A HOPPING SUCCESS

By Phil Orlandella

A fun-filled and entertaining North End Easter Party for the community was held at St. Joseph's Hall on Prince Street the event that featured the Easter Bunny.

North End Against Drugs Board members sponsored the well-attended party in memory of his mother and brother.

Participants received giveaways and Easter baskets and enjoyed other activities.

NEAD President John Pregmon noted he was "pleased with the turnout and that everyone had a great time."



LUNCH AND DINNER

OPEN APRIL 16

Marathon Sunday
LUNCH & DINNER
11 am - 9 m

ANTONIO'S
CUCINA ITALIANA

OPEN MARATHON MONDAY
11AM - 10PM
Make your reservations TODAY

288 Cambridge Street
Boston, MA 02114
617-367-3310

Uber Eats DOORDASH GRUBHUB

NOTED HISTORIAN/ BOOK AUTHOR AT LIBRARY

Sponsored by the Friends of the North End Library through funds generated by its continuing book sale from the shelves in the back section of the building, noted historian and best-selling book author, Stephen Puleo will discuss his newest book "Village Mercy" on April 19 at 6 PM.

Puleo reveals the remarkable story of America's assistance to the Irish people during the "Great Famine" and the support provided by the people of Boston during a time of need. He will also detail the suffering that took place during that time.

NAZZARO CENTER AVAILABILITY

Once the new community center is built and ready for use, maybe sooner than later the Nazzaro Center on North Bennet Street will become available for development.

When appropriate, the City of Boston will most likely be issuing Request for Proposal (RFP) requirements.

Two local organizations, NEW Health and the North End Music and Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC) are partnering to run the center.

SUMMER JOBS EXPANDED

Mayor Michele Wu and the Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity has expanded the SuccessLink Summer Youth Employment Program for 14-18-year-olds.

Applications are currently available to work at non-profit and city agencies. Apply online at boston.gov/summerjobs.

FOCCP NOMINATIONS AVAILABLE

The Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) upcoming May 9 meeting the election of officers and two Directors At large will be held.

Deadline for the submitted nominations is April 21. Papers must include name, address and specifically what position is applied for.

IN BRIEF

By Phil Orlandella

FOCCP MEMBERSHIP SOCIAL

One of the most important Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) event is the annual membership social that will be held at Tia's, 100 Atlantic Avenue on Wednesday, May 7 from 6 PM-8 PM.

The social is a great opportunity to get together with FOCCP members and learn about the non-profit's role in the park. It also offers the chance to become a new member or renewal memberships.

SENIOR NUTRITION WORKSHOP

A nutritious workshop (healthy eating for seniors) presented by NEW Health will be held on Thursday, April 20 from 12 noon to 1 PM at the North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center on Michelangelo Street. Lunch will be served. Call 617-523-8125 for reservations.

TUNNEL/WORKING GROUP

In an attempt to help reduce

impacts on the traveling public this summer, MassDOT has formed a project mitigation working group to deal with the closure of the Summer Tunnel.

The group will consist of law enforcement, EMS, fire and other transportation entities.

SCULPTURE RECONFIGURATION

On April 16, the annual reconstruction of the Abstract Sculpture will take place at the Armenian Park on The Greenway starting at 7:30 AM. A crane will lift and pull apart and reconfigure the two halves of the sculpture.

WECA/NEWRA SEEK SUPPORT

North End, West End residents are being asked to contact local elected officials to express their concerns relating to a possible 700-foot development at the corner of Causeway and North Washington Streets.

Both the West End Civic Association (WECA) and the North end/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) have already expressed serious concerns

relating to the possible impacts of a huge project's impacts will have on the community.

They have claimed that this project has already been discussed with the Boston Planning and Development Agency potential developers.

LIBRARY DAILY BOOK SALE

A daily book sale at the North End Library provides funding for the many events, activities and programs presented at the Parmenter Street location throughout the year, coordinated by the Friends of the Library.

For a listing of present and upcoming programs email info@friendsofnel.org.

SPRING CRAFT EVENT

A well-attended North End/West End Neighborhood Center Artful Meditation Workshop held a spring craft event at the Center on Michelangelo Street.

The two-hour fun-filled crafting event included creating a spring bouquet, demos, art bags, meditation, music and a raffle.

Encore announces Red Sox partnership

Staff Report

Encore Boston Harbor announced a multi-year partnership with the nine-time World Series champions, the Boston Red Sox. With the newly formed collaboration, Encore Boston Harbor now has partnerships with all the region's professional sports teams, the Boston Red Sox, Boston Bruins, Boston Celtics, New England Patriots and New England Revolution.

"Boston is the city of champions and Encore Boston Harbor is proud to be a partner of all the city's major sports teams," said Jenny Holaday, president of Encore Boston Harbor. "We truly believe this makes us the premiere destination for all sports enthusiasts and entertainment seekers."

To celebrate the partnership, Encore Boston Harbor has made \$25,000 donations to the Red Sox Foundation, Shamrock Foundation, Boston Bruins Foundation, and Patriots

Foundation. The donations were commemorated by check presentations with Encore Boston Harbor President Jenny Holaday; Bekah Salwasser, Executive Vice President, Social Impact and Executive Director of the Red Sox Foundation, Dave Hoffman, Senior Vice President of the Boston Celtics; Kerry Collins, Senior Director of Community Relations of the Boston Bruins, and Andre Tippett, Pro Football Hall of Fame and Executive Director of Community Affairs for the New England Patriots.

"The Red Sox are proud to partner with Encore Boston Harbor, an organization that is highly regarded as a staple to Boston locals and tourists alike and revered for playing an active role in the Greater Boston community," said Troup Parkinson, EVP, Partnerships, Boston Red Sox. "Through this partnership, Red Sox fans will have access to exclusive offers to enhance their gameday experience with Encore



Shown above from left to right: Bekah Salwasser, Executive Vice President, Social Impact and Executive Director of the Red Sox Foundation; Andre Tippett, Pro Football Hall of Fame and Executive Director of Community Affairs for the New England Patriots; Jenny Holaday, President of Encore Boston Harbor; Dave Hoffman, Senior Vice President of the Boston Celtics; Kerry Collins, Senior Director of Community Relations of the Boston Bruins.

Boston Harbor as a post-game destination."

This newest collaboration between two of Boston's most recognizable organizations demonstrates commitment to the fundamentals of what makes Boston special. Together, both the Boston Red Sox and Encore Boston Harbor will continue to invest in

community organizations, build on Boston's passion for sports and offer top-level entertainment to Encore Boston Harbor guests and baseball fans alike.

Under the partnership, the organizations will jointly participate in marketing and co-branded program elements including:

- Complimentary shuttle ser-

vice to Encore Boston Harbor from Fenway Park after each Red Sox home game.

- Red Sox Ticket and overnight stay packages

- Team-related events held at Encore Boston Harbor including watch parties, a Boston Red Sox take-over day, and Red Sox Foundation events.

Harvard Travellers Club hosts worldwide Birder Noah Stryker at its annual meeting on May 16

Staff Report

The Harvard Travellers Club is pleased to conclude its 2022-2023 season with a presentation from world birder, Noah Stryker. In 2015, he set a record for a worldwide Big Year of birding, seeing 6,042 of the world's estimated 10,365 bird species at the time (58.3%), becoming the first person to record half of the world's birds in a single year. His journey spanned 41 countries and all seven continents. After dinner at the Harvard Club Back Bay, Stryker will give a presentation on this incredible adventure plus his many other travels including trips to the polar regions where he has travelled more than 50 times as well as Amazonian Ecuador, Costa

Rica, Panama, the Australian Kimberley, the Farallon Islands, Hawaii, Michigan, Florida, and Maine.

Stryker is the author of many publications about birds, including *Birding Without Borders: An Obsession, A Quest, and the Biggest Year in the World*. Other publications include *Birds of the Photo Ark* (2018), *Among Penguins* (2011), *The Thing With Feathers* (2014), and *Birding Basics* (2022).

This presentation will mark the final meeting of the Harvard Travellers Club's 120th year since its founding in 1902. The club traces its roots to Harvard's eminent geographer, Professor William Morris Davis, who in association with Copley Amory, Archibald Cary Coolidge, Roland

B. Dixon and Hames J. Kidder, invited Harvard colleagues to meet in an effort to promote and discuss "intelligent travel and exploration". The Club continues to accept new applicants.

While the Golden Age of geographical exploration during which the club was founded is long since passed, the spirit behind the founding of the Club remains intact. Today, members continue to commit themselves to intelligent travel and continue to be curious about other landscapes, cultures and scientific discoveries. Definitely unchanged is members' enjoyment in learning of one another's travels.

In 1913 the club began to meet at the Harvard Club on Commonwealth Avenue – a tradition which continues to this day.

The club currently meets eight times a year for cocktails, dinner, and a lecture. This season kicked off with a lecture by explorer, author, and television personality Captain Sean Meagher on sailing in the Arctic.

Other recent highlights included fascinating presentation by James Shedd and Geoffrey Clark on recreating the Greely Arctic Expedition of 1881-84, Brian Buma on the search for the southernmost tree in the world, and Tim Cope on a trip from Mongolia to Hungary on horseback. Last November the club celebrated its 900th meeting with a gala dinner of one hundred members and guests and a lecture by renowned Shackleton expert Robert K. Headland.

"Our members join together to share stories of distant places, rug-

ged climbs, boating expeditions, foreign cultures and traditions", says Council member and North Shore resident Peter Creighton. "Member presence and participation propels this club forward and I love learning about other members' adventures".

To that end the club is welcoming potential new members and interested parties to consider attending the dinner in May to meet the membership committee. Membership in the Harvard Travellers Club is open to persons who have a background or interest in world travel.

Visit <http://www.harvardtravellersclub.org> for more information, and contact jenniferlenoxcraig@gmail.com if you are interested in attending the dinner and Stryker lecture.

Mayor Wu announces grant for services to individuals experiencing homelessness

Staff Report

Mayor Michelle Wu last week announced the City of Boston has received more than \$42 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to support nonprofit organizations providing services to individuals experiencing homelessness. This award represents the largest Continuum of Care award ever for the City of Boston. The funds will be distributed among 14 nonprofit organizations that provide critical services and support to Boston's unhoused residents and advance Mayor Wu's goals to end homelessness in the city.

The funding is made available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) annual Continuum of Care awards, a grant program that the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH)

has applied for and been awarded every year since 1995. Over the last 8 years, MOH has grown the funding the City receives from this grant by more than 85 percent, from \$22.6 million in 2015 to \$42 million this year, as a result of their competitive application and demonstrated ability to deliver results in collaboration with partner agencies.

"Boston residents and families across every neighborhood deserve to live in safe, stable and affordable housing," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "As we work to ensure that Boston is a city where all can live and thrive, these Continuum of Care Grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will help us empower and support organizations that provide crucial services and support to our unhoused residents. I want to thank HUD Secretary Fudge and the entire

Massachusetts Congressional delegation for the City of Boston's largest Continuum of Care award ever and continued federal support as we work together to end homelessness in our city."

The City will allocate this federal HUD funding to organizations that offer a range of services and supports including housing search, the creation of housing for people experiencing long-term homelessness, rapid re-housing funds, and stabilization services to allow newly housed households and long-term-homeless individuals to receive the support they need to succeed.

"Boston has a successful network of experienced non-profit organizations committed to housing our homeless," said Sheila Dillon, Chief of Housing. "This funding award allows us to continue the important work of moving our homeless residents from shelters and the street into housing that they can afford with the services they need to be successful. Given the high cost of housing in Boston and the region, this funding award, the largest in our Continuum's history, is more important than ever."

The funds will also support a number of permanent housing models including permanent subsidized housing, transitional housing, and short-to-medium-term rental assistance and case management for participants to find and maintain housing on the private market (rapid re-housing). The permanent supportive

housing that is supported by this funding will combine subsidized housing with individualized support services so that individuals with a range of needs can receive the assistance they need to stay housed. The services are designed to build independent living skills and connect people with services such as community-based health care, help with mental health issues, substance use counseling, and employment services.

Organizations receiving funding include:

- Bay Cove Human Services
- Bridge Over Troubled Waters
- Casa Myrna Vazquez
- Roxbury Stone House
- FamilyAid Boston
- Heading Home
- HomeStart
- Justice Resource Institute
- Kit Clark Senior Services
- Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance
- Metro Housing Boston
- New England Center and Home for Veterans
- Pine Street Inn
- St. Francis House
- The Home for Little Wanderers

"The Continuum of Care awards reinforce the Biden-Harris Administration's continued commitment to addressing the nation's homelessness crisis using equity and evidence-based solutions," said Juana B. Matias, Regional Administrator of HUD New England. "Of the \$2.8 billion recently granted, the State of Massachusetts received more

than \$110,000,000, and I am very pleased that the City of Boston is putting its share of the funding to good use helping individuals and families experiencing homelessness move into permanent housing."

Three new programs received funding through this year's award. Casa Myrna and Stone House received additional funding to provide permanent housing and supportive services to households fleeing domestic violence (DV), sexual assault, and commercial sexual exploitation/sex trafficking with permanent housing. St. Francis House will provide additional permanent supportive housing with wraparound services and onsite support to long term homeless households. Funding for these programs will allocate an additional \$3.2 million to house vulnerable populations.

"We are immensely grateful to the City of Boston and HUD for their unwavering support of our efforts to combat homelessness in the community," said Karen LaFrazia, President and CEO, St. Francis House. "This funding will enable us to continue providing vital services to those in need, supporting our commitment to developing strong relationships with individuals who come to us for assistance. By instilling hope and belief in their ability to make positive change, we empower formerly homeless individuals to move forward with their lives. We appreciate the ongoing partner-

(HOMELESSNESS, Pg. 11)

SERVICE DIRECTORY

RECLAIMED SOLID WOOD FLOORING STARTING AT 2.99SQ.FT.

ANTIQUAE LUMBER OF NEW ENGLAND

MANTLES | SHELVES | BEAMS

617-838-2455

235 OLD WEBSTER RD. OXFORD MA • 01540

JOHN J. RECCA PAINTING

Interior/Exterior Commercial/Residential

Fully Insured Quality Work

Reasonable Rates Free Estimates

reccapainting@hotmail.com

781-241-2454

APPRECIATION

Reflections on Mel King

By Marianne Salza

Social activist Melvin Herbert King (October 20, 1928-March 29, 2023) believed in the power of unity. His emphasis on compassion, respect, and inclusivity strengthened families, neighborhoods and political institutions throughout Boston.

"In the 130-year history of United South End Settlements, there are few people we hold in higher esteem than Melvin Herbert King, a man whose extraordinary life intersected our organization at a number of historic points," wrote Jerrell Cox, Chief Executive Officer, United South End Settlements, in a letter to the community. "Mel was a pioneer, an activist, and a radical champion of love, harmony, and justice between all people."

King was a passionate supporter of racial justice, desegregation, and affordable housing. He was

a leader in the Tent City protests against urban renewal in 1968, when hundreds of displaced residents gathered in a South End lot where homes once stood. The area was eventually transformed into the Tent City affordable housing community, with 269 units for mixed-income families.

"Mel King was a giant in Boston's civic community. For so many decades, his character, courage, and commitment inspired other Bostonians to similar heights," shared Kenzie Bok, Boston City Council, District 8. "In my own family, it's a point of pride that my grandfather was able to assist in the legal work for Tent City. Mel leaves a deep legacy in both the physical infrastructure of justice in Boston, and in the hearts of generations of people and public servants here. I hold him and his family in my prayers."

When King ran for mayor of Boston in 1983, he became the first

black person in the city's history to reach a mayoral general election. During his candidacy, King promoted solidarity through the Rainbow Coalition, unifying people of all ethnicities, sexualities, and beliefs.

"People must come together, moving out of their isolation to challenge conditions which exploit us. Alliance, cooperation, coalition: those are the only paths to follow," wrote King in an excerpt from his 1981 book, "Chain of Change," in which he analyzes the struggles of the black community in Boston. "I want to make sure the city is working for everybody. We just need to hold hands and understand that love is the question and the answer."

King served as an educator, youth director, and provided computer and technology access to lower income families.

"Mel King was a giant in Boston. He positively impacted so

many aspects of our lives in Boston; especially in housing and education," said State Representative Jay Livingstone. "I was honored to meet him."

Family and friends of King are inviting members of the community to a two-day celebration in his memory. A visitation will take place on Monday, April 10, 4-8pm, at the Union United Methodist Church, 485 Columbus Avenue, Boston. A 6:30pm speaking program will include remarks by members of the community who were impacted by King's life.

Funeral services will follow on Tuesday, April 11, 12pm, at Union United Methodist Church. Guest tickets are required for in person admission at www.UnionBoston.org/MelKing. Services will be live streamed at Boston City Hall, the Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building, and www.UnionBoston.org/MelKing.

Brunch will be held on Sunday,



Melvin King shown in 1975, during his time representing the 9th District in the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

April 16, 2-5pm, at Florian Hall, 55 Hallet Street, Boston.

"Mel King was an iconic leader for the fight for racial justice, economic justice, and housing justice in Boston, and especially in our neighborhoods," said Johnathan Cohn, Policy Director, Progressive Massachusetts. "His legacy is present throughout the South End."

Wu & B.A.A. announce inaugural Fastest Bostonian Award Medal

Staff Report

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Athletic Association (B.A.A.) today announced an award for the Fastest Bostonian, which will be given to the Boston man and woman with the quickest finish times in the 2023 Boston Marathon on Monday, April 17. This is also the first year the Boston Marathon has a category for non-binary runners, and one Boston resident is making history running in this category. The City

and the B.A.A. will recognize this athlete as the first Bostonian to participate in the race registered as non-binary. This is the first time there will be any awards specifically for Boston residents. Mayor Wu and the B.A.A. will celebrate these three runners at a reception in the days following the 127th Boston Marathon.

"The Boston Marathon, the world's greatest race, brings tens of thousands of runners from all over the world to our City," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Thanks to the B.A.A.'s partnership, we're

excited to start a new tradition at the 127th Boston Marathon to highlight the fastest runners from Boston and an athlete breaking barriers, as we celebrate the world-class excellence and diversity of our local running community."

"The City of Boston is known world-wide for its heritage in athletics, and for welcoming runners each Patriots' Day," said Jack Fleming, President and CEO of the B.A.A. "We also are home to the most dedicated marathoners, and the Fastest Bostonian Award will recognize the achievement in the

Boston Marathon. Together with Mayor Michelle Wu, we look forward to once again celebrating all finishers from Boston and beyond on race day."

The Boston Marathon is the world's oldest annual marathon, traditionally held on Patriots' Day. This year, the Boston woman and man with the quickest time crossing the Finish Line will receive a commemorative glass bowl engraved with the phrase "Fastest Bostonian." The first Boston runner registered in the non-binary category will also receive a person-

alized award.

"What an exciting opportunity we have to add this recognition to an already amazing tradition that is the Boston Marathon," said John Borders, Director of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment. "We have the chance to highlight the best of what Boston has to offer in front of the world by celebrating our residents, our neighborhoods, and now crowning the fastest Bostonians and those making history in the process."

HOMELESSNESS (from pg. 10)

ship with the City of Boston, and look forward to continuing our work together to end homelessness in Boston."

"We are incredibly grateful to the City of Boston and HUD for their continued support of our mission to end family homelessness in Greater Boston," said Larry Seamans, President, FamilyAid. "With this funding, we can continue to empower parents and caregivers, providing them with the resources they need to secure stable and sustainable housing, and build strong foundations for their children's futures. The ongoing partnership with the City of Boston and HUD has been instrumental in our ability to make a positive impact on the lives of families in our community. Together, we can make a real difference in

ending homelessness for families in Boston."

Mayor Wu has made ending homelessness a priority. Boston offers services to homeless individuals by offering wraparound services to those who require the additional level of care. Chronically homeless individuals have barriers that create challenges to remaining housed. These barriers can include physical disabilities, substance use disorders, and mental health challenges. As part of Boston's plan, the City is committed to a "housing first" approach to homelessness which is based on the belief that everyone should have access to permanent housing. In 2022, Boston housed 2,420 people experiencing homelessness including 461 family households and 1,054 adult individuals. Among those

are 113 youth and young adults as well as 149 veterans.

"We are deeply grateful to the City of Boston and HUD for their commitment to supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence in our community," said Stephanie Brown, CEO, Casa Myrna. "This critical funding will enable Casa Myrna to continue providing life-saving services and resources to those who have experienced trauma and abuse. With this support, we can work towards creating a safer, more just society for all. We appreciate the City of Boston for recognizing the importance of this work and for investing in the wellbeing of survivors and their families."

In January, Mayor Wu led a group of volunteers, including City and State officials, home-

less services providers, and public health and safety first responders, in conducting the City of Boston's 43rd annual unsheltered homeless street count. The street count is part of the City's comprehensive

census of homeless adults, youth and families in emergency shelters, transitional housing, and domestic violence programs, and individuals staying outside in Boston each year.

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper.

Includes photo.No word Limit.

Please send to

obits@reverejournal.com

or call 781-485-0588

American Mahjong lessons and games at West End Library

Story & Photos by Marianne Salza

Plastic mahjong tiles clicked against each other as players shuffled a pile before building their 38-piece walls in the community room of the West End Branch Library on April 5. Friends, Audrey Tedeman and Julia Forbes have been offering American mahjong lessons and games twice a month since September 2022.

“The group we have is amazing. They’re playing on their own. They have fun,” beamed Tedeman. “They wanted to find a game, and they found each other.”

Players of all experience levels not only assemble suits of bams, dragons, and flowers, but utilize their organizational skills and think flexibly while forming friendships.

“A sense of community was our goal,” Forbes revealed. “I enjoy getting to know new people. We have women come from the West End and Beacon Hill.”

American mahjong is a variation of the Chinese game. Four players receive colorful racks to line their tiles on. The first person to compile a sequence of 14 tiles wins the match.

Tedeman and Forbes laughed that despite the group gathering in the library, the competition can become boisterous; especially when a player is triumphant.

“I like the social aspect, and the challenge of seeing if you can get the tiles in order,” shared novice, Karen Grethen.

Tedeman noted that many people played American mahjong online during the Covid-19 pandemic; but she enjoys the fun of sitting around a table with others.

“I prefer in-person, talking to people. It’s more challenging. The computer does a lot for you,” said Tedeman, a retired teacher and healthcare worker. “My family used to play a long time ago. I recruited Julia, and other friends, and started our own little gang. We had a great turn out. It was amazing.”

Forbes was born in Hong Kong; and although she has only played American mahjong for three years, she had always been intrigued by the beauty of the tile sets.

“The game is getting more popular. For example, Julia Roberts, and other celebrities play the game,” noted Forbes, a retired occupational therapist, who also worked in the computer software industry for decades. “I wanted to learn to challenge my brain and make me think. It takes a while to learn the rules and tiles. It’s a great game.”

Tedeman and Forbes are West End residents, on the library board, and members of a book club together. Players describe the ladies as patient and generous with their time.

The American mahjong group is sponsored by Friends of the West End Library. Tiles and racks are provided. Experienced and new players are welcome to join at no cost. The group meets on



Genean Stec, Charlotte Gross, Julia Forbes, Peggy Foley, and Karen Grethen.

the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, from 1:30-3:30pm, at the West End Library, 151 Cambridge Street, Boston. Tedeman and Forbes encourage those interested to email them at artedeman@gmail.com or jmaforbes@gmail.com.

“I like meeting new people. I’m new to the community,” said West End resident, Charlotte Gross, who moved to Boston from

Florida. “I thought this was the best way to start making friends and play the game I love.”



Shown to the right, Audrey Tedeman and Susan Shepard organizing mahjong tiles.



Leslie Burton, Deborah Holt, Susan Shepard, Audrey Tedeman, Dan Crowley, and Nancy Marttila.

Travel the World in Eight Nights!

The Harvard Travellers Club was founded in 1902 to promote “intelligent travel.” Today we meet and hear compelling stories from explorers, scientists and inquisitive minds eight times a year at the Harvard Club in Back Bay to continue this exciting tradition. For membership information, contact Bruce Chafee at brucechafee@mac.com or visit harvardtravellersclub.org



Polar explorers from the early 1900s

