

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON MAIN STREETS, PG 9

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MAY 3, 2024 — JUNE 6, 2024

MHNHS HOLDS ANNUAL ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION



Northeastern Arboretum helped us expand the tree species count in the Arboretum by generously donating three new trees, Pignut Hickory, Canadian Hemlock, Service Berry.

Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services (MHNHS) held its Third Annual Arbor Day and First Arbor Day Celebration as a certified Arboretum in Kevin W. Fitzgerald Park on April 26th!



PHOTOS COURTESY NANCY AHMADIFAR

Volunteers helped to plant dozens of new pollinators throughout the park that will attract birds and bees and add a beautiful pop of color. See Page 8 for more photos.

Continued on page 8

CAMH mulls proposed dispensary on Tremont St.

By MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR.

At its monthly meeting in April, the Community Alliance of Mission Hill (CAMH) listened to a presentation proposing the introduction of a dispensary at the former Punjab Mini Mart site at 1576 Tremont Street.

A team led by Aditya Soni, the son of Rakesh Soni, who owned Punjab Mini Mart, is proposing the dispensary, Soni DOT.

"Punjab Mini Mart has had its fair share of difficulties in the past, and I am committed to changing the property to make sure that we operate clean, efficiently, and reliably," said Soni.

"This is a new business at this location. This is not Punjab Mini Mart, and it never will be. My father, he's happily retired, and I am proud to say that I'm the new owner at 1576 Tremont," he added.

An October 2023 report from WCVB revealing that Punjab Mini Mart failed a second health inspection in a week included a link to inspection records on the city's website, indicating the establishment had its permit to operate temporarily suspended multiple times between 2022 and 2023. Some of these inspection

Continued on page 2

City Council members hear from rat control consultant

By GAZETTE STAFF

In a scene in a Three Stooges film, a patient in a mental health hospital, pointing to a button-hole on his shirt, tells the Stooges, "I've seen rats come out of that hole!" and everyone in the audience laughed.

Well, the rats are coming out of the holes in the ground in the Boston parks where children play and out of the cracks in the Boston sewer masonry walls, but it is not funny. And their population is growing fast.

That's the message that a subcommittee of the Boston City Council heard from research scientist and rodentologist Dr. Bobby Corrigan at a meeting in the Council Chambers on April 9. Corrigan has been hired by the city as a consultant on the rat problems in the city.

The problem is only going to get worse in the coming years, said Corrigan, as the global population of rats is increasing. In cities such as New York, Philadelphia, and Boston, the rat population is growing fast.

Continued on page 6

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CAMH

Continued from page 1

reports cite issues with rodents, the display of expired products, and more.

As part of the proposal, Soni indicated plans exist to revitalize the retail space, remodel the interior and exterior, and improve the sidewalk.

“You also have my commitment to the neighborhood to be a good neighbor,” said Soni.

In addition to himself, Soni has also brought in some experienced help to get his prospective business started with Michelle Foley. According to Soni, Foley has run five successful cannabis operations, two of which are in Boston, and described her as “One of the most experienced cannabis retail managers in the state of Massachusetts.”

He also mentioned that Foley has a record with zero violations or deficiencies and said, “This is an unprecedented record of success in cannabis retail.”

Moreover, Soni indicated that the Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) has referred to her operations as the “gold standard” and that inspectors who work at the CCC train at facilities she has led.

Further, the team Soni described at the meeting also includes his mother, Aditi Soni, as well as Jay Youmans and Jefferson Smith, both from the Bulfinch Strategies Group as consultants.

In his presentation, Soni pointed out that the dispensary would mainly serve local residents. In response to concerns the team

has heard regarding transportation and congestion, they will encourage the use of public transportation. There are also plans for designated parking spaces and time limits.

There are also plans for professional security at the dispensary and 24/7 camera surveillance. A zero-tolerance policy is also slated to be employed for activities like littering, loitering, and the use of cannabis at the site, where violators would be refused service.

In speaking about being a good neighbor, Soni committed to reducing the potential for lines to form. This reduction is slated to be enabled by passing out local business coupons for customers to use while they wait, online ordering, and more.

In addition to everything mentioned above, Soni mentioned that his team is committed to providing the community with \$25,000 per year for three years and proposes forming a local foundation to determine where that money goes.

“We don’t want to be the ones to choose where that money goes,” said Soni. Soni also expressed commitment to hiring Mission Hill residents first.

In terms of local reaction to the proposal, Soni displayed a slide in his presentation, which revealed 543 letters of support — 38 from Mission Hill businesses, 468 from community members, and 37 from direct abutters.

Concerning zoning compliance, Soni said, “We’re also compliant with all siting and zoning requirements,” adding, “We conducted site surveys to ensure that Soni DOT would not be near any other cannabis dispensary or any schools.”

After Soni outlined the rest of his presentation, which included renderings, floor plans, and more, attendees were given the opportunity to provide comments or ask questions.

Eric Alden, a resident, commented on the former Punjab Mini

Mart’s standards, saying, “Your family business has never had high standards; in fact, it’s been about the lowest standard as you could possibly be in this neighborhood.”

Alden cited the mini mart’s previous violations, issues with rodents, and more before adding that he had concerns about the ownership.

“The ownership has shown us for 20 years that they have no respect for this neighborhood, they have no regard for this neighborhood, they don’t care about their neighbors, they don’t care about this property,” said Alden.

Alden went on to speak about violations at other properties in Mission Hill that have the same ownership before Soni attempted to stop him.

“I’m here to talk about our proposal. We could sit down with my father a different time and discuss all the other properties, but I’m not really involved with any of that business, and I can’t really give you answers on that,” said Soni.

In response, Alden thought the discussion about the other properties was relevant since they are part of the same ownership team and said, “Your ownership team has only taken from this neighborhood; they have never given back to this neighborhood; they’ve never been a good neighbor, and they’ve never had high standards.”

Again, Soni responded and spoke about Foley’s track record and how she and he would be in charge of operations.

He also reiterated that he does not have any affiliation with his father’s properties or past businesses and said, “I understand that it’s very easy to put it all toward ‘oh, it’s the family,’ but to be honest, I just graduated college, this is my first business.” “That’s why I went out; I got Michelle [Foley], I got Jay [Youmans] and Jefferson [Smith], I got the best team I possibly could because I believe that’s what

the neighborhood deserves,” he added.

Another attendee, Adam Sarbaugh, mentioned during the time of the abutters meeting for the proposal that he had heard concerns from Mission Grammar School and opposition from direct neighbors and wanted to know what had transpired since that meeting.

In response, Soni said there were plans to meet with the school, but it got pushed back, and another meeting had been set up. They are also working with the abutters.

Youmans also emphasized that there are plans to meet with the school and reiterated the number of signatures in support from direct abutters and that they have reached out to the abutters with concerns.

Maggie Cohn, another resident, asked a couple of questions, one of which was to whom the upstairs units in the building would be rented.

Soni mentioned that his father owns the entire building, and he has “very little involvement” with the two floors above that are rented out.

Cohn had also requested that the units not be rented out to students. Youmans called the request reasonable and said he would bring it back to the landlord and encourage them to make it a condition of their lease of the property.

Later, Youmans also commented on the previous concerns associated with the management of Punjab Mini Mart.

“I know that folks are kind of understandably giving a half-eye roll on the fact that, you know, okay, yeah, Aditya is in charge, but Rakesh still owns the property,” said Youmans.

He later added that things cannot remain the same because “inspectors show up on a weekly basis. They’ll shut these guys down in two heartbeats if anything that comes even close to what you guys have described.”

Foley’s role with the dispensary was also discussed. She was explicitly asked if she would put all her time into the facility when it opened.

Foley responded, “I will not be the general manager on site, you know, seven days a week managing the dispensary.”

However, she emphasized that she would be doing the hiring alongside Soni, all of the training, and more.

Then, another attendee questioned Foley’s role because the presentation listed her as a Partner.

Soni described Foley’s role and said, “She’s in charge of the operations until we’re up and running, and I feel that I can do it without her.” He also clarified that after some time had passed, he would be taking over day-to-day operations.


There were also questions regarding the role of Soni’s father in the business. While Soni indicated, that his father is only on ownership as an investor — not a managing partner — a business filing for the LLC, shown during the meeting, lists the father as a manager.

Youmans jumped in and called manager a deceptive term, saying, “In this instance, manager does not mean the way we think of manager, like oh who’s operating day to day. Manager, in this legal sense, means who manages the equity and has voting rights.” Later, Sarbaugh disagreed with Youmans, stating, “A manager on an LLC is clearly defined as what they have power over. If you want to be a member of an LLC, then you have no rights other than being a stockholder, so I think you’re disingenuous in the way you presented that.”


As the meeting wrapped up, other attendees commented, and other topics, like product delivery, were discussed. Since this was the first presentation to CAMH, a vote was not held. The next CAMH meeting is scheduled for May 15.



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SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



PHOTOS BY OCONNOR

Boston's new Auxiliary Bishop, the Most Rev. Cristiano Barbosa came to the Mission Church on Sunday, April 21 to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to a class of 13 youngsters.

Mayor Wu announces launch of Wake Up The Night grant

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Office of Nightlife Economy have announced the launch of the City's Wake Up the Night Grant, which will award individuals and organizations up to \$10,000 for nighttime activations. The application is now open and the deadline to apply is May 28.

The Wake Up the Night Grant Pilot Program will use up to \$250,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to revitalize Boston's nightlife economy and foster safe, inclusive social spaces. All activations will take place in July through December 2024 and be free and open to the public.

"Boston is a city of neighborhoods, and we are working to revitalize our nighttime economy and create opportunities for residents to enjoy safe, joyful spaces throughout the warmer months and into the fall," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "This year we're trying to make it easier than ever to foster fun programming that showcases the beauty of our communities and support residents and businesses in their efforts to make this summer a safe, enjoyable one for all in Boston."

All funded events will align with one the following categories:

- Accessible Programming: Social events specifically curated for persons with diverse abilities

(physical, cognitive, or emotional)

- Cultural Expression: Activations showcasing the many cultural interests and expressions of Bostonians.

• Intergenerational: Activations promoting multi-generational social interaction.

- Spirit-Free Programming: Activations mindfully omitting the consumption and presence

of alcohol.

- Weekday Activations: Events promoting social interaction Monday through Thursday, specifically in the Downtown and

Continued on page 10

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Mayor Wu's Coffee Hour Series comes to Mission Hill on June 24

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department will host the 2024 Neighborhood Coffee Hour Series in partnership with Dunkin'® in parks citywide from April 22 to June 26. Wu will be in Mission Hill on June 24 at the Mission Hill Playground that is located at 1497 Tremont Street.

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

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

Leadership and staff from the Community Engagement Cab-



Mayor Michelle Wu.

net will be at each Coffee Hour. Community members will have an opportunity to meet their neighborhood liaisons, who will share updates on each neighborhood, including how many 311 cases have been resolved, streets repaired, as well as the City's investments in housing, local businesses, and the arts. The City is again releasing a Community Input Survey, which provides an opportunity for constituents to ask questions and inform what will be presented during Coffee Hours with the Mayor. Last year, this proved to be a success, allowing constituents to hear directly

from the Mayor and City leaders as they addressed concerns and answered constituents' questions at each Coffee Hour event.

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

Dunkin' will be on-site with freshly brewed Iced Coffee and MUNCHKINS® donut hole treats. Dunkin' will have lawn games and gift card giveaways. Residents at each event will also be eligible to win a raffle prize from Dunkin'. Individuals in attendance will receive a free flowering plant provided by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, while supplies last. Fresh fruit will be provided by Star Market.

"Mayor Wu's Neighborhood

Coffee Hours are vital for community engagement, allowing residents to share their thoughts directly. We're grateful for their participation," noted Ryan Woods, Commissioner of the Parks and Recreation Department. "These events not only foster dialogue but also mark the kickoff for our exciting summer calendar of events. From outdoor concerts to movies to arts and crafts workshops for kids, our programming breathes life into our parks, fulfilling our core mission of creating vibrant spaces for all to enjoy."

All coffee hours will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., weather permitting. Visit boston.gov/coffee-hours for more information.

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

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and Recreation Department at (617) 635-4505 or @bostonparksdept on X, Facebook, or Instagram, or by visiting boston.gov/parks.

- Tuesday, May 7
Mozart Street Playground
10 Mozart Street
Jamaica Plain
- Thursday, May 23
McConnell Park
30 Denny Street
Dorchester
- Thursday, June 6
Iacono Playground
150 Readville Street
Hyde Park
- Monday, June 24
Mission Hill Playground
1497 Tremont Street
Mission Hill
- Wednesday, June 26
Mother's Rest
410 Washington Street
Dorchester

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

Massachusetts House passes bill authorizing Chapter 90 funding

The Massachusetts House of Representatives passed a bill that includes \$200 million for the state's Chapter 90 program, which provides municipalities with a funding source for transportation-related improvements, including road and bridge repairs, as well as \$175 million for specific programs. The bill also appropriates \$25 million for the rural roads program established in last year's Chapter 90 legislation, which provides funding to rural communities in addition to the standard Chapter 90 distribution.

"Providing funding for critical infrastructure projects through investments in the Commonwealth's public transportation, roads, and bridges is one of the most important responsibilities that we have as members of the Legislature," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "I'm proud of the support for regional infrastructure that this legislation provides, and of the funding that it allocates for the purchasing of electric vehicles by transit authorities. I want to thank Chairman Straus and my colleagues in the House, for prioritizing this vital legislation."

"Through this bill, the House provides cities and towns funding to maintain bridges and roads while advancing transportation accessibility and electric vehicle acquisition," said Representative Adrian Madaro (D-East Boston). "I look forward to seeing the City of Boston use these dollars to address our transportation network."

"The Legislature continues to be responsive to the transportation needs of our towns and cities," said Representative Bill Straus (D-Mattapoisett), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation. "This legislation demonstrates a commitment to funding for local transportation projects with again, our new program especially for funding to rural towns. I am pleased to support this important piece of legislation which provides more tools for towns to tackle their project backlog in time for the new fiscal year starting in July."

This legislation authorizes \$150 million in programs that will support various transportation-related projects. This includes \$25 million for each of the following:

- Municipal Pavement Pro-

gram, which focuses on the improvement of municipally owned state numbered routes

- Municipal Small Bridge Program, which provides financial support to cities and towns for small bridge replacement, preservation, and rehabilitation projects

- Complete Streets Funding Program, which provides technical assistance and construction funding to municipalities for streets that provide safe and accessible options for all travel modes such as walking, biking, transit, and vehicles

- Municipal Bus Enhancement Program, which provides grant funding to towns to build out infrastructure related to mass transit by bus, such as bus shelters, curb reconfiguration, bus lanes, and signal prioritization

- Mass Transit Access Grant Program, which provides grants to municipalities for design and construction for improvements to access commuter rail stations or other mass transit stations, such as parking lots, drop-off and pick-up zones, bike storage infrastructure, and electric vehi-

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Massachusetts House passes bill to remove outdated and offensive terms

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The Massachusetts House of Representatives passed two bills that update the Massachusetts General Laws by removing out-of-date and offensive terms related to persons with disabilities, and by renaming the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) as MassAbility.

“As lawmakers, we know that words matter,” said Speaker of the House Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). “This legislation is our latest effort to ensure that our state laws do not use antiquated words that carry negative connotations, words that also serve as a reminder of past injustices. I would like to thank Chairman Livingstone and the entire Joint Committee of Children, Families, and Persons with Disabilities, as well as Governor Healey and the bill sponsors, for their work on this important legislation.”

“The name ‘MassAbility’ will help to reduce stigma and better reflect the strengths and capabilities of the people we serve,” said Governor Maura Healey. “We’re grateful to Speaker Mariano and the House for advancing this critical legislation.”

“The language we use reflects our values, and this legislation will ensure that our laws and institutions are updated to treat the individuals they serve with dignity and respect,” said Representative Adrian Madaro (D-East Boston). “Outdated and offensive language has no place in our statutes, and these changes underscore our commitment to advancing and uplifting persons with disabilities in our communities across the Commonwealth.”

An Act relative to individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities removes out-of-date and offensive language from

the Massachusetts General Laws when referencing people with disabilities. The language in the bill removes all variations of outdated terms such as “handicapped,” “disabled,” and “retarded.” The bill replaces these terms with current terminology such as “person with a disability” and “person with an intellectual disability.” Additionally, the term “autistic” is replaced with “autism” in reference to Autism Awareness Month. Originally filed by Governor Healey, the House also passed legislation to rename the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission to MassAbility and to update the outdated terms included in its enabling statute.

“Removing out-of-date, antiquated and offensive language from the Massachusetts General Laws to describe people with disabilities is an important step in ensuring that our values, as a Commonwealth, are also reflected in statute,” said Representative Jay D. Livingstone (D-Boston), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities. “As legislators, it is our job to help make sure that people with intellectual or developmental disabilities feel included, accepted and embraced for who they are, and this is an important step in doing so. I am appreciative of all those who have worked on this effort before me who helped make this possible. I’d also like to thank the Speaker, Chairman Michlewitz, Chairman Honan, and all of my colleagues in the House for their support on this important issue.”

The Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities heard from many advocacy organizations in the disability community in support of the bill and all changes were vetted with relevant agencies, including Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Executive Office of Education, and the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination.

“Today with the passage of this legislation the Commonwealth is taking a critical step towards fostering inclusivity and upholding our long-held principles of dignity and respect for all who call the Commonwealth home,” said Representative Michael J. Finn (D-West Springfield), a lead sponsor of the bill. “We can all celebrate that it is long past time for the Commonwealth to update its General Laws, ensuring that no individual is subjected to negative and harmful language”

“Today the House of Representatives takes a transformational step towards a more inclusive Commonwealth,” said Representative Sean Garballey (D-Arlington), a lead sponsor of the bill. “By removing outdated words like ‘handicapped’, ‘disabled’, and the ‘R Word’ from MA General laws, we make a collective statement that Massachusetts is a place for all.”

Having passed the House of Representatives, the bills now go to the Senate for their consideration.

Statements of Support:

The Arc of Massachusetts:

“The Arc of Massachusetts is grateful for the passage of the Ar-

chaic Language Bill. This legislation has been a priority to The Arc and we appreciate the efforts made by the sponsors of the bill and our legislative champions at the MA State House. Thank you to the past and present Chairs and members of the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities. Special recognition to the self-advocates who led the way and never gave up. Words hold power! The language people use is important and influences thoughts and attitudes about people and their capabilities. The use inappropriate language in society and in our Massachusetts General Law perpetuates negative stereotypes about people with intellectual

and developmental disabilities (IDD). This legislation will not just create legal change but also social change. The Arc strongly supports the passage of this bill as a sign that Massachusetts is listening and will support people with IDD by using thoughtful and positive language in the laws.”

Barbara L’Italien, Executive Director of the Disability Law Center:

“Removing archaic language in legislation plays an important role in reducing social stigma and ensuring that state agencies and courts view people with disabilities as entitled to full, equal, and integrated lives in the community.”



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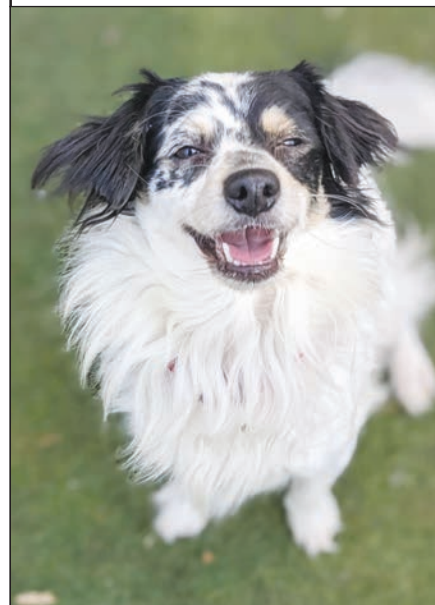
Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll



BRAD

Brad is an adorable pup who loves the company of his favorite people (but not everyone is his favorite!) He enjoys being carried around and cuddling on the couch. He’s fine around other dogs for walks but doesn’t like to share a home. Brad is about 2 years old and weighs 17 lbs.



“Gazette Pet of the Week” is sponsored by

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Chapter 90

Continued from page 4

cle charging infrastructure

- Municipal/RTA EV Grant Program, which provides grants to Regional Transit Authorities and municipalities for the purchase of electric vehicles and related charging equipment

Having passed the House of Representatives 155-0, the bill now goes to the Senate for their consideration.

Rats

Continued from page 1

ulation is expanding even faster, thanks to the many food sources for rats to feast on, such as open trash containers and plastic bags filled with food on the streets, as well as large burrowing holes for rats to breed.

District 9 Councilor Liz Brendon, a sponsor of the hearing, told her colleagues that this is the fifth hearing on rats that she has attended in as many years, but now there is talk of hiring a rat czar and establishing a separate department to deal with what many councillors are calling a quality-of-life issue.

In a previous meeting, Ward 8 City Councilor Sharon Durkan stressed the urgency of addressing the problem.

“Residents should reach out to my office if they see an uptick of rat activity on the streets, as this is a major priority for my office,” Durkan said at that time. “My team has been working closely with the hardworking staff at the Inspectional Services Department to make sure rat burrows and sewers are baited, and I’m glad we have such dedicated partners at ISD for our rat mitigation efforts.”

During the April 9 hearing, District 2 City Councilor Ed Flynn asked how many inspectors from ISD are working on rodent control. He was told by the city’s Chief of Operations, Dion Irish, that there are 14 full-time inspectors who work basically Monday through Thursday. Flynn noted that many problems occur during the weekend when there are no ISD inspectors working, though Irish pointed out that there are other inspectors from other departments who are on-call and who can address a rat problem.

However, the overall tone at the hearing was upbeat in view of the city’s hiring of Corrigan as a consultant to design a rat control program for the city.



One of the signs of rats is their burrows.

In addition, in March councillors established the Boston Rodent Action Plan (BRAP) to identify possible steps to address the problem.

Corrigan told the committee that a simple solution is “no food, no rats.” He also showed some of the rat-proof barrels that are in use. Corrigan, who is completing his report for city officials and expects it to be ready in a few weeks, thanked the city workers who helped him to go into the field to find the places where rats live and breed, such as alleys with food and the sewers, where rats peer from cracks in the brick walls.

He also offered some “band-aid approaches” for the time being, such as making sure that construction projects are done with thought about the consequences to adjacent areas so that the rats do not migrate to a quieter place, creating a new problem in a new area.

District 6 Councilor Benjamin Webber is a member of the Committee on studying the rat problem. Weber represents Jamaica Plain on the City Council.

And there was a final, sobering piece of advice that Corrigan offered: Just one rat-infested property can affect up to 10 other adjacent properties that never have had a problem with rats and mice.

— Seeing rats? Tips for controlling them —

The New York State Department of Health has issued the following tips on controlling rats:

Controlling the Rat - A Community Effort

Rats like to live where people live. They quickly adjust to the neighborhood. Rats can thrive on just an ounce of food and water daily, so when they enter a neighborhood and gain access to meat, fish, vegetables and grains, they will stay. Rats prefer to feed in and around homes, restaurants and businesses. But they will settle for scraps from trash bags and cans, private yards and what they find at the community refuse disposal and transfer station. Rats get the shelter they need from tall weeds and grass, fences and walls, rubbish piles and abandoned appliances.

If rats are living in your neighborhood, there are steps you should take, even if they aren’t in your home. Rats move freely in and out of buildings in the neighborhood, so any steps that your neighbors take to control rats will encourage them to move into a nearby building (maybe yours!). A community effort works best, where everyone in the neighborhood takes steps at the same time to prevent rats from entering the buildings and to remove their food and shelter.

Checking for Rats

The sooner you know rats have entered your home, the easier it will be to get rid of them. Here’s how to check.

Listen.

After dark, turn on the lights in a dark room or basement and listen for any scurrying sounds.

Listen for gnawing sounds when it is quiet.

Look.

Move stored materials and furniture to uncover any hiding places.

Look at packaged goods, doors, windows, baseboards, and electrical cords for chewed spots, tooth marks, woodchips or shavings.

Check for freshly dug earth near holes around foundations, walls, and embankments. Look under sidewalks, floors and platforms.

Check for rub marks - dark smears along hallways, or near pipes, beams, edges of stairs or around gnawed holes.

Check near walls, food supplies and pathways for droppings. Fresh droppings are dark



Rat traps are one way to combat the rodent.

and soft; old droppings are hard, or gray and brittle. Fresh droppings are a sure sign of a current infestation.

Watch.

Dusty areas often show signs of pawprints or tailmarks. Sprinkle flour around the area and check for tracks for a few days.

Place a small quantity of food where rats can get at it, and check daily for signs of feeding.

How Rats Get In

Once you know how rats come into a building, you can check your home for places they could use and take steps to prevent them from moving in. Rats (and mice) can enter buildings through cracks or holes in walls or foundations, even holes as small as a dime;

by digging under house foundations if they are shallow enough;

through open windows, doors, sidewalk grates, or vents (check in the basement or walls for vent openings);

by squeezing through openings in the foundation or wall for pipes or wires; through floor drains, quarter inch gaps under doors, letter drops and fan openings; and from inside large packages of food or merchandise.

Keeping Rats Out

It is much easier to keep rats out than to get rid of them once they have moved in. But, taking these steps help control rats once they have come in. It’s a three-step approach.

Don’t feed rats. Limit their food source by placing trash in covered metal or heavy duty plastic trash containers. The heavy duty plastic cans on wheels are resistant to rats’ chewing, and so are metal cans. Fix plumbing leaks to cut off their water source. Keep the house and yard

neat and clean. Remove uneaten pet foods. Don’t fill up your bird feeder. Clean up food spills. Store food in rat-resistant containers. Avoid storing food in basements.

Remove rats’ shelter. Indoors, replace wooden basement floors with poured concrete. Place storage racks at a height of 18 inches above the floor. Move appliances, sinks and cabinets so they are flush against the wall or out far enough that you can clean behind them. Outdoors, restrict their shelter by rat-proofing all buildings in the area and removing outside shelters like appliances, junk piles, old fences and walls. Keep the property, including alleys and yards, clean and trash-free. Pile wood and other stored items at least 18 inches above the ground and away from the walls. Clean out the area behind wooden steps, especially those leading into the house.

Keep them out. Put in self-closing doors that open outward, and use latches or spring locks to keep doors closed. Check to see that doors and windows close tightly, and use metal screens on all windows that are kept open. Protect basement windows with a 1/2 inch wire mesh (called hardware cloth). Cover the edges of doors, windows and screens, which can be gnawed, with sheet metal or hardware cloth. Make a collar around pipe and wire openings into the house with pieces of sheet metal or tin cans. Rats cannot easily gnaw through metal. Fasten floor drains tightly to keep sewer rats from coming in.

Getting Rid of Rats

The two best ways to remove rats are traps or poison. The use of either requires caution!

Traps. Choose wooden base

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GAZETTE

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MHS hosts making history gala with Pulitzer prize-winning author Doris Kearns Goodwin

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



Doris Kearns Goodwin.

tion or to purchase a ticket or sponsorship package, please visit <https://www.masshist.org/gala>.

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

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

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

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

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

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

FRESH AND LOCAL

Asian noodles

BY PENNY & ED CHERUBINO

Do you find yourself eating more noodle dishes both at home and away? We know we've expanded our noodle consumption over the past few years. As we explored more Asian cuisines and shopped more often in Chinatown, the selection of noodles in our pantry has grown.

Penny has studied Vietnamese and Thai cooking and learned that many of our favorite restaurant dishes are relatively easy to prepare at home once we purchase the appropriate noodles.

Asian Noodle Varieties

Our copy of "The Deluxe Food Lover's Companion" contains a separate entry for Asian noodles. It explains, "Though some Asian-style noodles are wheat-based, many others are made from ingredients such as rice flour, potato flour, buckwheat flour, cornstarch, and bean, yam, or soybean starch. Among the more popular are China's cellophane noodles (made from mung-bean starch), egg noodles (usually wheat-based), rice noodles, and Japan's Harusame (made with soybean, rice or potato flour), ramen (wheat-based egg noodles), and soba (which contain buckwheat flour)."

The noodle aisles offer a wealth of options for those with dietary restrictions. One of our favorite ramen noodles contains

millet and brown rice. We have an excellent option for a quick meal in a stock of fully cooked Udon noodles that we use in cold dishes, heated in the microwave, or tossed straight from the package into stir-fries.

If you grew up with flash-fried ramen noodles, try the newer air-dried versions. These noodles have only three ingredients: flour, water, and salt. The traditional versions are fried in canola, cottonseed, or palm oil and may contain 18% saturated fat. We enjoy the air-dried, bouncy texture and quick cooking and appreciate that they have zero saturated fat.

Preparing Asian Noodles

Ramen noodle soups transitioned from China to Japan around the turn of the 20th Century. Wikipedia notes that in 1958, Momofuku Ando of Nissin Foods invented instant noodles. For many of us, his "Cup of Noodles" was our introduction to preparing Asian noodles. Even that, we were doing wrong. It was not until 2023 that Nissin announced they had changed their packaging, and it was now safe to microwave the product.

With so many different Asian noodles, both fresh and dried, it took some study and expert advice for us to master preparing them. We turned to a few food vloggers we trusted to show us the way. We suggest you go to

YouTube and search for Marion's Kitchen's "Preparing Asian Noodles," Pailin's Kitchen's "Never Cook Mushy, Broken Rice Noodles Again!," or Woks of Life's "How to Cook Lo Mein Noodles." All three videos are full of tips and demonstrations from experts who are also good teachers. You might also like America's Test Kitchen's "Asian Noodles 101: Ramen, Soba, Udon, Lo Mein, Rice Stick" for a basic overview.

Read the package instructions and see if they make sense, but remember that learning how these noodles are prepared in their countries of origin may be more helpful. Some are best soaked, others boiled, some need a cold rinse after cooking, and others should be tossed with oil while they wait for the next step.

The good news is that Asian noodles are inexpensive and add something good to your meal, whether overcooked or undercooked. Start with a favorite noodle in a dish you know, and master the preparation that makes that noodle perfect for you. Then, choose another noodle and another until you have a range of noodle options to create quick and healthy meals.

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

Rats

Continued from page 6

snap traps, and enlarge the traps by fastening a 2-inch square of cardboard to each trigger. Set out several traps at a time - at least 10 if you think there are many rats. Place the traps behind boxes and against walls, so that the rats must pass over the trigger. Be sure the traps are out of the reach of children and pets! Fasten food attractive to rats, such as peanut butter, raisin bread, bacon or gumdrops, tightly on the trigger of each trap. Don't let the trap run out of bait. An advantage to traps is that they are less of a hazard to children and pets than poison.

Poison. Warfarin, chloroacetonone, and Pival are all rat poisons. They work by making the rats' blood unable to clot, so the rats die of internal bleeding. Rat poisons must be fed daily for six to 10 days. Read the poison label before you begin, and be careful to follow all steps. Watch out for children and pets!

Make sure the baits are clearly marked, and put them in low traffic, secure areas that might attract rats, such as under or behind boards, boxes, pipes or cans, and out of the rain and snow. Remove the baits when all signs of rats are gone. Follow what the label says about how to dispose of the leftover poison. If, after a month or two, there are still signs of rats, skip a month and start again. Stopping for a month and then starting helps keep the rats from building up resistance to the poison.

Keeping Rats Under Control If you do have rats, it's a community problem and the entire neighborhood should work together.

Once the rat infestation is under control, the goal is to prevent them from coming back. Help yourself and your neighbors by keeping trash picked up and placed in covered, rat-resistant containers. Promptly remove or repair any shelter areas, such as fences and old appliances. Periodically check for new entry holes into neighborhood buildings, and seal them up quickly.

EMERGENCY ALL BLOOD TYPES NEEDED.

Give now.

MHNHS HOLDS ANNUAL ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION



Pictured here are several of the volunteers posing for a picture after their hard work.

PHOTOS COURTESY NANCY AHMADIFAR

Arbor Day

Continued from page 1

the beautiful panoramic views of the Boston skyline that Fitzgerald Park offers.

In addition to planting trees, flowers, and greenery, volunteers also worked enthusiastically to clear sumac, invasive plants,

and noxious weeds throughout the Park. Their tireless effort not only improved the look of Fitzgerald Park, but they were the first step in making way for, beautiful, native meadows in the future! If you want to assist MHNHS in planting these meadows at Fitzgerald Park, email intern@missionhillnhs.org.



MISSION HILL MAIN STREETS HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! Eat, Play, Live

Please join MHMS as we celebrate and honor all mothers' by wishing them a wonderful, Happy Mothers Day on Sunday, May 12th! Check Mission Hill's local restaurants for Mother's Day Specials for dine in, take out or delivery and make their day truly memorable.

Mission Hill Main Streets
1542 Tremont Street
Boston, MA 02115
(617) 232 0182
missionhillmainstreetsboston@gmail.com
<https://explore.missionhillmainstreet.com>



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Circle Members

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, City of Boston Credit Union, Dana Farber Cancer Center, Needham Bank, New England Baptist Hospital, Northeastern University and Wentworth Institute of Technology.



Student volunteers can be seen here beginning to plant the Canadian Hemlock tree and a Pignut Hickory. Both are native to the area and MHNHS is thrilled to add the new species to their Arboretum.

What's Happening on Main Streets

BY COURTNEY WRIGHT
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

“May is a month of rebirth, of renewed vitality and energy.”
-Lailah Akita

Despite April being a wash weather wise, I am optimistic for a sunnier May and season ahead (even if the Farmer’s Almanac disagrees).

May 1st officially kicks off Outdoor Dining and patio season in the City of Boston and I know we are all looking forward to spending more time outside as the weather warms up and our nice days multiply. Our local restaurants are busy this week setting up their seating areas, picking up their “No Parking” signs at City Hall and planting their flower boxes- even Yellow Door- don’t let the scaffolding fool you- the patio vibes are coming to Wigglesworth. On behalf of MH Main Streets, thank you for all the effort you all put into creating inviting and bright spaces for our community to enjoy together after months of rain and cold- we appreciate you!

As the patios come out over the next couple of weeks, the light pole banners have been permitted and will be returning to the business district, as well as the American flags in anticipation of Memorial Day on May 27th. One thing you may notice missing this spring are the usual grey planters that have been placed around the business district for the last half decade or so. As we as a Main Streets Board consider ways to use incoming beautification grant funding, we are exploring some upgrades in



Councilor Henry Santana and long-time MH resident and Little League supporter/parent Suzanne Hauck.

terms of spring planters and holiday décor more broadly. We are talking through some ideas with business owners and as a Board to find ways to bring some color and vitality to the neighborhood as we work with vendors and the City to acquire updated streetscape décor. If you’d like to put forth an idea or types of planters/greenscapes/etc., please feel free to email me as always at mission-hillmainstreetsboston@gmail.com. Another update/upgrade to be aware of is our City of Boston Mission Hill neighborhood sign that has been missing for close to a year now from the median in Brigham Circle. I have been told that the City has a bid out to replace all of the neighborhood signs, with an anticipated completion date of mid-August.

May is Small Business Month and the Main Streets districts will be working with the Office of Economic Development



Youth Dance Team at MH Little League Opening Day.

and Inclusion to highlight businesses and commercial districts throughout Boston. Look out for our very own Mission Hill spotlight at the end of this month. Throughout May, Boston’s Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion (OEIOI) will be hosting workshops and networking opportunities between Small Business and relevant resources and departments. I will share the

dates and types of opportunities as they are released and marketed over the coming weeks.

While looking forward to May and the summer months, I’d be remiss not to highlight some of the great things that happened in April. Boston Building Resources had a very fun, enlightening and successful Earth Day event on April 20th- despite the rain, which thankfully tapered

off as the day went on. Participants got to enjoy plantings, tie-dye, live music and much more as BBR proved yet again how lucky we are to have them in our neighborhood as our go-to source on all things sustainability and green. On April 26th, Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services had a beautiful Friday for

Continued on page 10



Mitch Hilton singing the national anthem at Opening Day.

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built by
hand.

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Main Streets

Continued from page 9

their Annual Arbor Day event in Kevin Fitzgerald Park. It was a great event that featured live music, community gathering and lots of intense volunteer work pruning and planting the park and now officially designated Arboretum. Thank you to MHNHS for continuing to bring fun events and opportunities for collaboration to Fitz Park for the neighborhood to enjoy!

This past Saturday, Mission Hill Little League had a bustling opening day up on Parker Hill Ave. I don't know if it was the warm sunny weather, or the full court (neighborhood) press on recruitment by Dan Weldon, but sign-ups hovered around 150 and necessitated the creation of a couple more teams to accommodate the interest in the League

this season. I would be lying if I said I didn't tear up a couple of times seeing all of the enthusiasm of new players running into the park and up to Dan and his clipboard to sign up, and later a couple of those players first hits at bat- (I blame the pollen). In addition to sunshine and a packed field, there was grilling, refreshments (thank you Maria and Mike's Donuts), youth dancers, and an impromptu glimpse at the vocal stylings of Mitch Hilton as he took one for the team and sang the National Anthem. City Councilor at-Large Henry Santana was in attendance and spoke about his days in the League and the importance of accessible programs for youth in the summertime. He was joined by the new Office of Neighborhood Housing's Mission Hill liaison Maccon Bonner who hung around throughout the event meeting constituents in his

new role. Thank you to the Puddingstone Tavern for providing space and food after the event for coaches, friends and fundraisers of the Little League.

May is a very busy month city-wide and around the neighborhood! It is exciting but also still being evolving so please stay on the lookout for upcoming events and opportunities that may not be included here.

Don't Miss...

-THIS Saturday, May 4th from 6-9 p.m. Solid Ground Café is hosting another food pop-up in their space! This time, Hanoahan Laos Food and Solid Ground will be blending the vibrant flavors of Laos cuisine with a modern American twist. Go to <https://www.solidgroundcafe.com/> or stop by the Café to pre-order your plates for the pop-up!

-May 4th, 5th, 11th, 12th, 16th, 17th Emily's Flower Kitchen will be back at Solid Ground with bouquets available to preorder (also at [solidgroundcafe.com](https://www.solidgroundcafe.com/)) and pick up for all of the May festivities (local colleges graduations, Mother's Day, etc)

-May 23rd, Mission Hill Grammar School's 8th Annual Road to College Gala...check out mission-grammar.org for more details on tickets and timing. Did you know that 2024 marks 135 years that



Parents and players watching the MH Little League Opening Day events.

Mission Grammar has served this neighborhood?!

-Annual Memorial Day remembrance event with the Mission Hill Post and Main Streets, May 27th in Brigham Circle. Time TBD

-May 28-31 Small Business Week

-June 19th- third annual MHMS/MFA/Mission Hill Artists Collective Juneteenth event at the MFA. We are excited to once again exhibit Mission Hill artists at the Museum of Fine Arts free community celebration. Please

join us in the Atrium between 10:00am and 3:00pm to view the artwork of LeShonda Zene, Aminata Dakowa, Zahira Nurtruth, and Michelle Zene. Enjoy an array of paintings, fabric creations, fluid art of handcrafted paper items, resin and more.

If there is anything I missed that you'd like to promote or have shared on social media, or the soon to be resurrected newsletter, please reach out: missionhill-mainstreetsboston@gmail.com.

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Wake Up The Night

Continued from page 3

surrounding neighborhoods.

• Youth Programming: Activations aimed to serve persons 20 years old and younger.

"There is a pressing demand for more innovative, inclusive, and accessible nighttime activities," said Corean Reynolds,

Director of Nightlife Economy for the City of Boston. "Through the Wake Up the Night Grant Pilot Program, we are excited to directly invest in people and organizations that are reimagining Boston's nightlife."

The Grant is open to individuals, nonprofit organizations, or businesses working in partnership with community partners. Applicants must be Boston residents or demonstrate that their

project is led by partners who are Boston residents.

The Wake Up the Night Grant is an Office of Nightlife Economy initiative. The Office, launched in March 2023, works to create a more robust and equitable nightlife economy to enhance the overall quality of life for residents of Boston. For more information about the Office of Nightlife Economy, visit boston.gov/nightlife.

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

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU...

The Gazette welcomes letters to the editor. Word limit: 500. Deadline: Friday at 5 p.m. one week before publication. Letters may be emailed to letters@JamaicaPlain-Gazette.com. Please include address and telephone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters will not be published. More information: 617-524-7662

WHERE TO FIND THE GAZETTE?

Name.....	Address	Puddingston Tavenen.....	1592 Tremont St
7-Eleven Store.....	415 Center / Huntingtin Ave	Tremont House Of Pizza.....	1590 Tremont St
Levinson Bldg.....	835 Huntington Avenue	Subway Sandwiches.....	1578 Tremont St
Neville Building.....	Huntington Avenue	Mini Mart.....	1576 Tremont St
Rob.ther.parks Comm.bldg.....	Mission Park Drive	Boston Property.....	1570 Tremont St
Flynn House.....	805 Huntington Ave	Elen Real State.....	1568 Tremont St
Huntington Market.....	818 Huntington Ave	Spinney Auto Insurance.....	1560 Tremont St
Huntntgton Pizza.....	784 Huntington Ave	Mikes Donut.....	1524 Tremont St
Carman' S Beauty Salon.....	764 Huntington Ave	Lillys Gourmet.....	1528 Tremont St
Green Coffe Shop.....	750 Huntington Ave	Grispy Dough Pizza.....	1514 Huntington Ave
Davos Wine& Spirits.....	754 Huntington Ave	Wan Convenience.....	1508 Tremont St
Flames.....	746 Huntington Ave	Discount Auto Part.....	1486 Tremont St
Hollywood Dry Cleaners.....	742 Huntington Ave	Laundromat.....	1460 Tremont St
Udb Uq.....	738 Huntington Ave	Dunkin Donut.....	1631 Tremont St
Halal Indian Cuisine.....	766 Huntington Ave	Solstice Café.....	1623 Tremont St
Brigham Liquors.....	732 Huntington Ave	Mission Hill Liquors.....	1623 Tremont St
Brighman Circle Chines.....	728 Huntington Ave	Flann O'brien 'S.....	1621 Tremont St
The Mission Pub.....	724 Huntington Ave	Mn American Legion.....	1617 Tremont St
Stop & Shop.....	Tremont And Huntington	Mission Hill Properties.....	1607 Trewmont St
Walgreens.....	Tremont And Huntington	Mission Hill Post Office.....	1575 Tremont St
J P L Ick's.....	Tremonte And Huntington	1575 Longwood Street Apts.....	1575 Tremont St
Bank Of America.....	Tremonte And Huntington	Needham Bank.....	Tremont St
Citizens Bank.....	Tremonte And Huntington	Bruggels Bakery.....	375 Longwood Ave

Jamaica Plain/Mission Hill Gazette 2024 Publishing Calendar

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JANUARY

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Mission Hill Gazette Jamaica Plain Gazette



Hill Happenings

BY MAURICE 'MOSSY' MARTIN
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mission Hill mourned the death of George Traylor, who passed away last month.

George loved politics, and he was an aide to Mission Hill State Rep. Kevin Fitzgerald, after Kevin won his initial race in 1974. George later worked as a lobbyist serving health care clients, including the Boston City Hospital.

George, a graduate of Boston Latin School, was a terrific whist player. I spent hours with him in the dingy back room of the Mission Hill Post and at Ed Burke's Tavern playing that great game. George and his whist partner, Dave Prendergast, were a tough pair to beat.

In 1841 Edgar Allan Poe wrote: "Men of the highest order of intellect have been known to take an unaccountable delight in whist."

More important than being a great whist player, George Traylor was a great guy, God Bless George and his family.

Texas Hold 'em is also a great card game and Kacy Hughes is an aspiring player. When Kacy stopped in Mike's Donuts for a coffee last week, I broke out my deck of cards and dealt her a hand, and we talked strategy. Kacy is a quick learner, and although not quite ready for casino action, after a few more of my lessons she'll be among the elite Texas Hold 'em players in her Jamaica Plain neighborhood.

Condolences to the family of Leo Motsis, who passed away last month.

Leo, from Mission Hill, comes from a terrific family with a virtuous work ethic. Leo's mother, Elizabeth Motsis, became the proprietor of Elizabeth's Variety, a popular store at Hillside and Wait Street in 1946.

I didn't know Leo, but I'm good friends with his brother Nick, as I was with his late brother Socrates Motsis.

R.I.P. Leo.

Tony "Amps" Pitts did a fine job

organizing the "Beantown Slam," a youth development basketball showcase with an emphasis on schoolwork last month at the South Shore YMCA in Quincy.

Thanks to sponsors Mike's Donuts and the New England Baptist Hospital, who both helped make the event a sparkling success.

There have been many complaints from Hillside Street residents regarding their mail delivery. Often it will be three days before the mailman makes an appearance, and then he throws the bundled mail on the porch.

Mike McNamara, who lives on the Hill, was the previous letter carrier in that Hillside Street area, and Mike was efficient and cheerful.

Six months ago, Nick Motsis, a Hillside Street resident for 80 years, called Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, whose district includes Mission Hill, and he politely left a message about the unacceptable U.S. mail service. At this writing, Nick hasn't re-

ceived a return call back from her office.

The Mission Grammar School's Road to College Gala will be held May 23 at the Priest Garden at Mission Grammar. Brittany Johnson from WCVB-TV Channel 5 will co-host the event for this wonderful school, which opened in 1889. For ticket info, go to missiongrammar.org/road-to-college.

The Mission Hill Post 327 held a meeting last week at Victory Point Restaurant in Quincy, and as a volunteer, I was pleased to receive my nice M.H. Post jacket.

Please stop by the memorial site at Brigham Circle on Memorial Day, May 27 and join the Mission Hill Post members in remembrance of our fallen Mission Hill veterans. The event begins at 11 a.m., and there will be coffee and donuts from Mike's Donuts for early arrivals.

The first Memorial Day observance (then called Decoration Day) took place May 30, 1868.

At that time Union soldiers and military personnel decorated the graves of their fallen comrades.

If you see Laura Adams around the Hill on Mother's Day, May 12, wish this lovely lady a Happy Birthday and birthday best wishes to Laura's brother, Boston Police Officer Danny Adams, on May 18.

The weather was perfect for Arbor Day last Friday celebrated at Kevin Fitzgerald Park and sponsored by Mission Hill Neighboring Housing Services. Students from various music ensembles participated in the Arbor Day celebration, including bass player Jake Blackford. It was cool to see the planting of the trees at Fitzgerald Park.

In 1913 Joyce Kilmer wrote in his poem "Trees": "A tree that looks at God all day and lifts her leafy arms to pray."

Maurice can be reached at mossymartin2@gmail.com.

Mayor Wu announces return of Playoff Hub on Canal Street

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu, in partnership with Downtown North Association, announced the return of the Boston Playoff Hub on Canal Street, creating a car-free zone for fans to gather before and during home playoff games at TD Garden. The return of this pedestrian zone builds on

Mayor Wu's commitment to reimagining Boston's streets and transforming public space in a way that's enjoyable for residents, small business owners, and visitors.

"We're thrilled to give Boston fans an opportunity with both the Bruins and the Celtics in the playoffs this year to come together safely, cheer on their favorite teams, and support our

local businesses," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm grateful to our partners for working with us to bring back the Playoff Hub, creating a joyful experience for our hockey and basketball fans. I encourage everyone to come out before and during the playoff games to build community and support our teams."

"This is a really great thing for us to be doing to ensure we are encouraging local fans to support small businesses while celebrating Boston's legacy as the city of champions at the teams' doorstep! Our fans show up for our iconic teams year after year, so I can't wait to take part in these festivities as we root for the Celtics and Bruins to take it all the way," said District 8 City Councilor Sharon Durkan.

The Playoff Hub will be free and open to the public, providing more space for residents and visitors to gather outdoors and celebrate Boston's home teams. Canal Street will be closed from

noon on game days, through one hour after the game ends. Parking regulations will be posted ahead of the first Bruins playoff game on Saturday, April 20. Vehicles in violation of posted regulations will be towed.

"We are looking forward to creating vibrancy and camaraderie on Canal Street," said Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. "Activating this space will give visitors and residents the opportunity to support local businesses while supporting Boston's sports teams."

"We are grateful to Mayor Wu and the City of Boston for bringing back the Playoff Hub on Canal Street," said Glen Thornborough, President of TD Garden and COO of Boston Bruins. "With both teams in the playoffs, it's a great opportunity for fans to gather before games and bring the palpable energy from TD Garden out into the community." "There's nowhere quite like TD Garden, especially on Celtics and

Bruins gamedays," said Rich Gotham, President of the Boston Celtics. "We extend our appreciation to Mayor Wu and the City of Boston for bringing back the Playoff Hub on Canal Street, which creates a space outdoors for fans to continue cheering on both teams and support local businesses throughout the playoffs."

"The Downtown North Association is excited to see the return of Canal Street as the Playoff Hub," said Jay Walsh, Executive Director of Downtown North Association. "We look forward to welcoming Bruins and Celtics fans to the area and to create a festive atmosphere. We are grateful to Mayor Wu and our members look forward to what will hopefully be lengthy playoff runs for both teams."

The first Bruins playoff game will be on Saturday, April 20. The first Celtics playoff game is Sunday, April 21.

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Healey-Driscoll administration extends state financial aid priority deadline to July 1

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

In alignment with the Biden-Harris Administration's call to support students in completing their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the Healey-Driscoll Administration announced that the Department of Higher Education (DHE) has moved the priority deadline for its largest state financial aid program, MASSGrant, from May 1 to July 1, 2024. This later deadline gives Massachusetts students more time to complete their FAFSA for the 2024-2025 academic year.

MASSGrant is a need-based financial aid program that helps to cover educational expenses at state public and private colleges and universities. During FAFSA Week of Action, the administration is encouraging students to complete their FAFSA as soon as possible.

"Massachusetts is home to the greatest higher education institutions in the world, but we need to make sure that students are able to access that education. That's why our administration has taken action to significantly expand financial aid," said Governor Maura Healey. "We are extending the MASSGrant deadline to ensure that students who qualify for this financial aid have enough time and support to apply and do not leave money on the table."

"Many students' post-high school plans rest on whether or not they receive the financial aid needed to make going to college a reality," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "This year's updated deadline supports students who have reported challenges completing this year's new FAFSA, and the move is part of larger efforts to remove financial barriers to the life-changing opportunities that higher education offers."

The extended priority deadline for MASSGrant comes in response to challenges that students are facing as they work to complete the significantly updated FAFSA. Students who qualify for MASSGrant and apply by the July 1, 2024 priority deadline are guaranteed to receive financial assistance from this program. Students who cannot complete the FAFSA due to their immigration status can complete the MASFA to apply for state need-based financial aid.

"We're happy to allow more time for FAFSA completion this year to support our students, families, and those in our K-12 schools and educational community who work tirelessly to help with FAFSA completion," said Secretary of Education Patrick Tutwiler. "The Healey-Driscoll Administration, in partnership with the Legislature, is committed to helping students access higher education. We are hopeful that students will apply for financial aid and take advantage of the many expanded opportunities to attend college more affordably."

"Our message to students and families continues to remain the same: fill out the FAFSA as soon as possible," said Commissioner of Higher Education Noe Ortega. "This year's extended deadline responds to feedback from students, campuses and other partners about this year's unique challenges with FAFSA completion. We want students to know there are significant financial aid dollars available for those who qualify, and that persevering through completing the FAFSA is worth it."

"This updated MASSGrant priority deadline is welcome news," said Elementary and Secondary Education Acting Commissioner Russell D. Johnston. "I hope students, especially first generation college students, will see the extended deadline and the Administration's significant expansion of financial aid and realize that public higher education is within reach."

Along with Massachusetts' longstanding MASSGrant program, the Healey-Driscoll Administration has brought historic increases in student financial aid. In August 2023, the administration launched MassReconnect, which makes community college tuition and fees free for students ages 25 and older without prior degrees, regardless of income. Then in November 2023, the administration launched MASSGrant Plus Expansion that provides free tuition and fees to Pell Grant-eligible students at all Massachusetts public colleges and universities (not including room and board) along with a \$1,200 allowance for books and supplies. The expansion of MASSGrant Plus also cuts tuition and fees in half for middle-income families earning an adjusted gross income

between \$73,000 and \$100,000 annually.

"Extending the MASSGrant deadline puts higher education within reach for more students and families in our Commonwealth at a moment when we should be doing everything in our power to make college accessible to every resident. I'm proud to live in a Commonwealth where education is a priority, and I applaud the Healey-Driscoll Administration for extending this deadline and giving families more time to complete their FAFSA," said Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland).

"As a former public school teacher, I understand firsthand the importance of ensuring equitable access to education," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "I applaud the Healey-Driscoll Administration for extending the state's application deadline as it will be impactful for students most in need of financial support to make college a reality."

"I applaud the Healey-Driscoll Administration's action to ensure as many students as possible have the opportunity to complete a FAFSA and to keep the doors to higher education wide open to students regardless of their financial situation," said Senator Jo Comerford (D-Amherst), Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Higher Education.

"The college application process has always been a challenging time for students and their families, this year made more difficult by the new FAFSA form rollout," said House Chair of the Joint Committee on Higher Education Dave Rogers (D-Cambridge). "I commend the Healey-Driscoll Administration for extending the MASSGrant priority deadline and, more generally, for partnering with the House to expand access to higher education significantly."

"We should be doing everything in our power to make applying to college and financial aid as accessible and simple as possible, said State Senator Jason Lewis, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Education. "I am proud that the Healey-Driscoll Administration and the State Legislature have been allocating significant funding and resources to make public higher education more accessible in Massachusetts. Extending the priority deadline for MASSGrant

will allow more students to receive this financial support from the state to be able to attend college."

"I join with my colleagues in the House of Representatives as we welcome all tools available to aid students and their families to meet the challenges of financial concerns and, more importantly, the great opportunities of higher education," said State Representative Denise Garlick, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Education.

How to complete the FAFSA for students and their families

- High school students are encouraged to inquire with their school counselor about applying for financial aid and applying to college. Additional resources are available for students looking for assistance completing the FAFSA, including the below contacts:
- MassEdCO serves students who are low-income and first-generation to college. Students can find local assistance with college access by entering their zip code on the MassEdCO website: Massachusetts Education & Career Opportunities, Inc. (MassEdCo).

- Watch the "FAFSA How to" videos.

- FAFSA Day Massachusetts: fafsaday@gmail.com

- The Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA): (800) 449-MEFA (6332), collegeplanning@mefa.org

- The Department of Higher Education's Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA): (617) 391-6070, osfa@osfa.mass.edu

Students are encouraged to attend an upcoming free, virtual FAFSA Day MA event, where they can receive personalized help from a financial aid professional. DHE recommends these three steps to students and families:

1. Create an FSA ID. At least a week before attending a FAFSA completion event, create your Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID if you don't have one. This ID allows you to log in and complete a FAFSA. It takes a few days for your account to be activated, so please start this process a week in advance of trying to complete your FAFSA. For instructions on creating the FSA ID, visit studentaid.gov. If applicable, have your Social Security number ready.

2. Sign up for a FAFSA completion event. Sign up for a virtu-

al, free FAFSA Day MA event on April 30 or May 13 by following this link. You can look for similar events on the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE) website. Another option is to ask your school counselor if there are any upcoming FAFSA completion events in your community.

3. Gather your documents. Visit this link for a list of documents you should have with you when you complete the FAFSA. You do NOT need to submit these items to the federal government, but you may need the information on them.

"Extending the deadline of the MASSGrant financial aid program by the DHE is another example of how the Healey-Driscoll Administration is putting the Commonwealth's students first," said John D. Keenan, President of Salem State University and Chair of the State University Council of Presidents. "With FAFSA delays, this has been a challenging year for all students but particularly for those that attend state universities as so many of them are first generation to college. The MASSGrant extension will provide families with a clearer picture of how they can obtain their bachelor's degree, a dream within reach for many."

"I applaud the Healey-Driscoll Administration for allowing Massachusetts college-bound students and families more time to complete the FAFSA and to qualify for the MASSGrant program," said UMass President Marty Meehan. "Our goal is to ensure that qualified students can leverage every bit of financial aid that is available to them, and this extension will help realize that. In a similar spirit, UMass campuses have also extended their deposit deadlines for entering students."

"Given the challenging rollout of FAFSA, any and all support and additional time we can provide to students and families in the Commonwealth is crucial," said Rob McCarron, president and CEO of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in Massachusetts. "Attending and graduating from a college or university can bring life-changing opportunities, and state financial aid programs, such as MassGrant, provides much-needed support, making financial aid critical for all deserving students."

EDITORIAL

College protesters should embrace being arrested

Acts of civil disobedience by definition imply that a person knowingly is breaking the law and is willing to accept the legal consequences.

When Rosa Parks took a seat at the front of that bus in Alabama and was arrested in 1955, she set off a legal battle -- which eventually resulted in the striking down of the segregationist law as unconstitutional -- that ignited the modern civil rights movement.

Photos of Parks being fingerprinted at the police station galvanized Americans everywhere (well, except in the Deep South) and made her an icon of the struggle for justice and equality.

Just a few years ago, the 1960s peace activist Jane Fonda, now in her 80s, was at it again, being arrested on the steps of the Capitol building weekly, this time to protest the lack of action by the government to tackle climate change.

Being arrested has been a badge of honor by protesters for whom being placed into handcuffs represents the ultimate act of defiance of those in power.

But the students today who are occupying college campuses in violation of university policies want to have it both ways: They want to defy the authorities, but feel that they are entitled to have carte blanche to do so without any consequences.

Admission to a prestigious school does not entitle a person to special treatment when it comes to laws that apply to everybody. Yes, the students have a right to protest. But school officials also have the obligation to keep their campuses open and safe for all students. When these protesting students break the law and the rules of their campuses, they should be willing -- with defiant joy -- to accept the consequences.

Unless these students are willing to have some skin in the game, so to speak, their moral outrage amounts to nothing more than a frivolous exercise.

Opponents of aid to Ukraine should watch Franklin

Here's the plot-line: A world superpower, led by a ruler-for-life who does not tolerate dissent, invades a young sovereign nation, which at one time had been part of the superpower, with a large military force in order to restore the young nation to its sphere of influence. The young nation seeks the aid of another superpower in the world in order to fight off the invading force and to assert its claim to independence and freedom.

This very well could describe the situation today among Ukraine, Russia, and the United States, but that's also the scenario that unfolded 250 years ago when the United States proclaimed its independence from England and needed military assistance from France in order to fight back against the might of the British Empire.

The new Apple TV+ series, Franklin, chronicles the effort by Benjamin Franklin (who is played superbly by Michael Douglas) to enlist the aid of France in our fight against King George, who invaded America with a vastly-superior army and navy to squash our quest for freedom and democracy.

The Americans lacked everything -- uniforms, muskets, artillery, ships -- that they needed to fight off the British. Without Franklin's diplomacy that persuaded the French to provide America with the means to defend itself, we never could have won the Revolutionary War, which lasted a long eight years from the firing of the first shots at Concord in April, 1775, to the Treaty of Paris in September, 1783.

Prior to the French government formally declaring its alliance with the United States, French citizens who sympathized with the Americans, most notably the Marquis de Lafayette, defied their country's official policy and fought with the Americans, providing both moral support to our army and highlighting the justice of our cause to everyone around the world.

Those who oppose our aid to Ukraine (which Congress finally approved after a delay of six months) in order to help the Ukrainians repel the barbarous invasion by Vladimir Putin would do well to watch the Franklin mini-series on Apple TV+.

They would be reminded that the lesson of history is plain: Freedom isn't free and, to paraphrase Martin Luther King, tyranny anywhere is tyranny everywhere.

Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk finish line to move to the Boston Common for 2024 event

The annual Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai will culminate at a new finish line this year -- inside the heart of the city, at the Boston Common due to ongoing construction in Copley Square. Just a short walk further down Boylston Street, thousands of walkers will join together as they have for more than 35 years to celebrate their beloved Walk in America's oldest public park.

Scheduled for Sunday, October 6, funds raised from the Jimmy Fund Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

"We are excited for walkers this year to cross the finish line in the Boston Common," said Suzanne Fountain, vice president of the Jimmy Fund. "The move to the Boston Common, affectionately known as the 'People's Park,' marks a symbolic common finish line—a world without cancer. By gathering in Boston Common, we are honoring

Boston's roots as a city for the people, connected by a common cause. We are eager to get out on the course and see all our outstanding walkers and teams come together to defy cancer."

One Walk, Four Distances, For All Cancers

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk permitted on the famed Boston Marathon® course, and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options: 5K Walk (from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Longwood Medical Campus); 10K Walk (from Newton); Half Marathon Walk (from Wellesley); and Marathon Walk (from Hopkinton). Walkers can participate virtually, as well.

Whatever route walkers choose, participants will be supported by hundreds of volunteers and treated to refueling stations with refreshments throughout the course. Poster-sized photographs of patients -- Jimmy Fund Walk Heroes -- are the heart of the event and displayed along the course as inspiration. All routes will conclude at the Jimmy Fund

Walk Finish Line Powered by Schneider Electric at Boston Common, by the corner of Charles and Beacon Street. Finish line activities will include a celebration with food, entertainment, and more.

The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$176 million for Dana-Farber Cancer in its 35-year history, raising a record-breaking \$9.4 million in 2023. Funds raised from the Jimmy Fund Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Boston Athletic Association has supported the Jimmy Fund Walk since 1989, and Hyundai has been the presenting sponsor for more than 20 years.

To register for the Walk (#JimmyFundWalk) or to support a walker, visit www.JimmyFundWalk.org or call (866) 531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee. All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

The opinions expressed on these pages are not necessarily those of this newspaper.

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OP-ED

Retail theft impacts consumer and employee safety, residential quality of life

BY DA KEVIN HAYDEN

Two women are facing shoplifting charges after police recovered approximately 200 stolen clothing items in the vehicle they used to flee after shoplifting on Newbury Street Monday, and an Everett man was charged Tuesday for stealing over \$5,000 worth of designer sunglasses from Faneuil Hall Marketplace, District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced.

The shoplifting arraignments come amid an effort by Hayden's office to work with retailers, police and the business community to increase consumer and employee safety and to help address closures of Boston stores. Four Walgreens pharmacies have closed in the city over the last two years.

"Store-based theft, especially targeted theft by repeat offenders, is a factor we must address in our effort to provide our residents convenient access to pharmacies and other retail stores. It's an issue that affects quality of life for everyone and it's an issue we're taking seriously, both by addressing the crimes themselves and the underlying circumstances," Hayden said.

Monet Williams, 28, of Lowell was charged with shoplifting by asportation and common and notorious thief. Kayla Harris, 29, of Mattapan, was charged with shoplifting by asportation. Judge James Coffey ordered

both Williams and Harris to stay away from the Zara on Newbury Street. Both are due back in Central BMC on May 29.

At about 12:25 p.m. on April 8, Boston police responded to Zara at 212 Newbury Street for a larceny in progress. Officers were informed by a store employee that the suspects took six items worth \$163.40 and then got into a navy Jeep driven by a third person and fled toward Massachusetts Avenue.

Officers conducted a traffic stop and observed the driver, later identified as Harris, the front seat passenger, later identified as Williams, and a male passenger seated in the rear driver side seat and multiple trash bags filled with clothing items.

Harris told officers they were in Zara but did not take anything and her jacket had set the alarm off. Williams told officers none of the items in the car were from Zara and she was planning to bring the clothes to a baby shower later in the day.

Officers recovered all of the stolen items described except for a white T-shirt. Officers also recovered approximately 200 additional items from the vehicle from brands such as Nike, Target, and Old Navy with price tags still attached without any receipts. These items were mostly contained in white trash bags or loosely strewn about the vehicle. A pair of wire cutters were

recovered from Williams' jacket pocket.

Williams has open cases in West Roxbury BMC and Lowell District Court, including larceny and assault and battery.

Richard Payne, 48, of Everett was charged with larceny over \$1200 by single scheme and common and notorious thief as a result of an ongoing investigation into multiple larcenies from Sunglass Hut between December and April, in which 16 pairs of Versace sunglasses were stolen with a total estimated retail value of \$5530.

Judge James Coffey ordered Payne held on \$2,500 bail and to stay away from Sunglass Hut. Payne is due back in Central BMC on May 7.

At about 1:20 p.m. on April 8, Boston police observed Payne enter Sunglass Hut in Faneuil Hall Marketplace. As the detective walked into the store, he announced "Boston police" which caused Payne to remove the sunglasses from his pants and place them back on the display case. Payne was wearing the same distinctive pom-pom knit hat, black framed glasses, black ski-mask, and black shoes from the previous incidents.

On December 16, 2023, Payne took two pairs of Versace sunglasses and returned on December 18, 2023, and took two more pairs, with a retail value of \$1,444. Payne was seen wearing the same shoes, backpack, glass-

es, and ski-mask on both days.

On January 14, Payne was seen walking into the store with a multi-colored knit hat, a black ski-mask, black shoes and black glasses holding a notebook. Payne took three pairs of Versace sunglasses and returned on January 16, and took four more pairs, totaling \$2,482 worth of stolen merchandise.

On March 30, Payne was seen wearing a multi-colored knit hat with a pom-pom on top, and a black ski-mask, black glasses and clothing and took three pairs of sunglasses, worth \$975.

Police recovered two pairs of sunglasses, worth over \$600 from the April 8 incident.

Police also recovered a multi-colored knit cap with a pom-pom, a black ski-mask, a dark colored backpack, a notebook, a gray and black jacket, and black glasses from Payne, all items he was seen wearing during the previous reported incidents.

Payne has a 29-page board of probation record dating back to 1992 with numerous larceny and shoplifting convictions.

Hayden's office is working with regional retailer groups and small business owners to discuss safety concerns and to help store managers strategize responses to shoplifting and retail larcenies. The meetings have come amid increasing national and local frustrations around retail crime, along with concerns over

the closure of stores serving minority communities in Boston.

"We want shoppers to feel safe going into stores and we want retailers and their employees to feel safe in their work environments. Many consumers still enjoy an in-store shopping experience and we want to help retailers continue to provide it to them," Hayden said.

All charged individuals are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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.

Kevin Hayden is the District Attorney representing Suffolk County.

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CITY PAWS

Staying legal

By PENNY & ED CHERUBINO

Recently, we received an email asking if we could address the issue of dog guardians not picking up after their dogs. This person was not a dog hater, as is often the case with those complaining about dogs. This reader was thoughtful and simply asked for help. The email began, "It is obvious that dog ownership is deeply rewarding for many in our neighborhood and that many of those with a dog are caring and responsible owners." It contained a photo of the bagged waste.

It's good to hear from someone who addresses the issue with balance, recognizing that many of us with dogs are responsible. Some of us even pick up the waste left by scofflaws since they give all dog lovers a bad name.

Little or no enforcement makes the problem worse. What's more, one bad apple, taking a dog out three or four times a day, can pile up a lot of waste in an area. When

a second entitled person sees the waste left behind as permission to use that spot for their bags, we have a compounded problem.

Other Concerns

In addition to not picking up, readers have asked us to write about off-leash dogs, dogs on leash but not under control, dogs in inappropriate places, dogs allowed to jump on people, and dogs allowed to approach other dogs without permission.

One of the least popular phrases among people with reactive dogs is, "Don't worry, he's friendly." Your dog may be friendly, but you don't know how the dog you approach will regard a friendly sniff. If your dog is off-leash or at the end of an extendable leash, there may be nothing you can do to prevent an unpleasant situation.

Licensing

If you live in Massachusetts, you should have obtained a 2024

dog license by April 1st. If you don't have one, apply now. Licensing your dog has many benefits. Think of it as a form of advocacy.

Adding your residence to the list of homes with dogs in your local area supports organizations fighting for services for those who share their lives with dogs. It's easy for politicians to ignore dogs as they set budgets for recreational space and services when the official number is vastly decreased by those who don't have a license.

On the most superficial level, it reminds you to keep your dog's critical rabies vaccination current. In addition, some dog walkers, kennels, dog parks, and residential buildings require licensing.

Finally, the lack of a license says something about you should you ever face a legal situation regarding your dog. Something that might result in a warning could escalate to a fine when an



Dogs look to us for leadership and protection. Dogs are not the problem. The problem is people who think that rules do not apply to them. (Photo by Rhiannon Elliott)

enforcement official sees you as a scofflaw. In the case of a lawsuit or an insurance issue, your lack of a license could undermine your credibility.

Should Dogs or People Be Licensed?

Over the years, we have often proposed having people licensed as legal caretakers of animals rather than attaching the license to the dog. Then, the responsible caregivers could register the animals under that license and receive tags for each. Beyond denial for outright abuse, a care-

giver's registry might deny licenses to those who are constant scofflaws or who have a history of dangerous dog offenses.

Of course, some enforcement of the current rules and regulations for picking up after your dog and keeping dogs on a leash would have to be a part of any program like this.

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

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MOAKLEY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

