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Mission Hill GAZETTE

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VETERANS DAY IN MISSION HILL



Mission Hill Post members, Enoch Woodhouse, Mossy Martin, Jim O'Neill and Col. George Rollins at Freedom Hall on Veterans Day.

CAMH supports two projects and opposes another

By MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR.

The Community Alliance of Mission Hill (CAMH) had a busy meeting on its hands in November in which votes were held on three projects in the neighborhood, with only two getting the majority of support from members.

The first project up for discussion and a vote was Phase 3 of Parcel 25, which was recently presented at a public meeting hosted by the Boston Plan-

ning and Development Agency (BPDA) back in October.

Ricardo Sanchez, Senior Project Manager for the proponent — Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services (MHNHS) — presented the project that would bring 94 affordable rental housing units to the area.

Initially, Phase 3 of the project was supposed to be a 10-story office building with 185 parking spaces underground. However,

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Mission Hill Pathway Team holds community meeting

By MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR.

Members of the group ODJ Dev LLC, who were designated by the city to develop 11 city-owned parcels at 77 Terrace Street and 778-796 Parker Street, hosted community members at the Tobin Community Center on Tuesday to discuss their vision for the site called Mission Hill Pathway.

The preliminary plans for the site include 40 affordable condominiums, 30,000 square feet of open space and community gardens owned and operated by The Trustees, public connections between Parker and Terrace Street, and 5,000 square feet of ground floor commercial space.

Details from preliminary planning were covered thoroughly in the Gazette back in October and can be viewed at https://missionhillgazette.com/2023/10/09/taking-a-closer-look-at-mission-hill-pathway/.

Tuesday's meeting served as an opportunity not only for residents to learn a little more about the vision for the site but also to start helping shape the project.

"We know how to build things, we know how to navigate departments, we know how to have conversations with lenders and lots of different things, but what we really don't know is we don't

Continued on page 3

Henry Santana is ready to get to work

By MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR.

Henry Santana, Boston's newest City Councilor At-Large elect, looks forward to hitting the ground running in 2024 when he officially takes his place on the City Council.

Santana, a 28-year-old who immigrated to Boston as a child from the Dominican Republic and grew up at the Alice Taylor Boston Housing Authority (BHA) apartments in Mission Hill, had a stellar performance in the city's Municipal Election earlier this month to earn his at-large seat. Out of the eight total candi-

dates in the race, Santana finished within the top four, with 34,014 votes (15.53%), according to unofficial election results on



Henry Santana.

the city's website, and shared his thanks to supporters in an interview with the Gazette.

"I'm just thankful and honored that residents believed in me and trusted me to be in this position," said Santana.

He specifically pointed out the strong support he received from neighborhoods like Jamaica Plain and East Boston and partly credited the result to campaign operations since April.

"We were just showing up in every neighborhood for months and months, and I think people were excited to see a young,

Continued on page 9

What's Happening on Main Streets

BY COURTNEY WRIGHT
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

“It is a miracle if you can find true friends, and it is a miracle if you have enough food to eat, and it is a miracle if you get to spend your days and evenings doing whatever it is you like to do, and the holiday season-like all the other seasons-is a good time not only to tell stories of miracles, but to think about the miracles in your own life, and to be grateful for them, and that’s the end of this particular story.” -Lemony Snicket, *The Lump of Coal: A Christmas Holiday Book for Kids*

As we transition from the holiday of giving thanks to the winter holidays, I thought of one of my favorite literary quotes that I like to reflect on this time of year. As I write this, I think of how thankful I am personally to have the opportunity to work and spend so much of my time in the miracle that is our neighborhood of Mission Hill. I think of this past month when so many of our organizations, institutions and neighbors have spent their time, energy and resources to provide a piece of the holidays to our residents, young and old. From the 500 turkeys donated by Stop and Shop in coordination with New England Baptist Hospital, to the volunteers who came out to the Tobin Community Center on November 14th to bag and distribute these to 500 families around the neighborhood. I think of the camaraderie and spirit of service that exists in our local business community who helped to provide hot meals to even more seniors and families

during the week of Thanksgiving but also for the myriad of community events leading up to it. (Thank YOU to Solid Ground Café, Penguin Pizza, the Mission Bar and Grill and Lily’s Pasta). It is these examples of community and taking care of one another that happen not only during holidays, but all year, that make me most grateful for the miracle that is our neighborhood.

Before I get too mushy, there is a LOT going on in December to look forward to and I hope that it will give us all many opportunities to come together and share joy over the next month. It is officially the time of year for our snowflakes to retake their places on Tremont and Huntington and for the annual Tree lighting in Brigham Circle and Mayor’s Trolley Tour. Please join us this Saturday, December 2nd (tomorrow by the time you read this) in Brigham Circle for the Tree lighting ceremony beginning at 3:15 p.m., with the Mayor’s Trolley expected at 3:45. There will be refreshments of hot chocolate and coffee and of course the world’s best munchkins (thank you Maria and Mike’s Donuts!) and the infamously delicious baked goods of Solid Ground Café (thank you Lucia and Keith!). Pam Carthy and the Penguin will be supporting the event as well-please grab a slice of pizza while we wait for the Trolley! Rain or shine, frigid or warm, we will be there and I hope you will be too!

Our artists at the Mission Hill Artists Collective have been busy and have a lot happening this month for us to look forward to and enjoy. The Mission Hill Holiday Market returns on Fri-



Shown above and to the left, workers from Stop and Shop get ready for the Thanksgiving food distribution at Tobin Community Center.

day, December 8th and Friday, December 15th from 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. to the main plaza entrance of One Brigham Circle (1620 Tremont). Thank you to the sponsors, Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services and One Brigham Circle for supporting this great event. Thank you to the organizers, the Holiday Market Team with the MH Artists Collective also supported by the Mission Hill Health Movement and Main Streets. On December 14th, from 6-7 p.m. there will be a Community Social Gathering and artist reception at the Parker Hill Branch Library for the ongoing “Landscape and Hidden Places” exhibition that will be on through January. Also on the 14th, at the Library from 5-7 p.m.

is the Parker Hill Library Winter Gala, presented by the (very busy!) MH Artists Collective.

The tree lighting and Mayor’s Trolley won’t be your only opportunity to meet Santa this month. On December 9th, Penguin Pizza is having a Christmas Party! The event starts at 3 p.m. and Santa will arrive at 4:30 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. Claus will be on hand as well as a special guest, the grinch! There will be Christmas crafts, gifts for the children and much more. Please bring a toy for the toy drive and enter to win a \$50 gift card. We hope you’ll stop by the Penguin at 735 Huntington to share in the joy.

Later in the month, on December 23rd from 5-8 p.m. will be “Christmas on the Hill” at the

Mission Hill Playground (1581 Tremont St) presented by STEP NATION INC and BCYF. For more information on this event, please reach out at info@stepnation.org

With everything going on in Mission Hill this month, it is possible I missed something so please keep your eyes and ears out for all that the holiday season has to offer in the neighborhood. There are so many opportunities to gather and spend time with old and new friends, and enjoy the many miracles we create together here in Mission Hill. On behalf of myself and the MH Main Streets Board, we wish you all a safe, happy and healthy holiday!

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Mayor’s Enchanted Trolley Tour Schedule

Boston’s Enchanted Trolley Tour continues the festive tradition of lighting holiday trees throughout Boston.

For the 27th year, the Mayor’s Enchanted Trolley Tour will continue the festive tradition of lighting holiday trees while bringing holiday spirit to children across Boston. The event is sponsored by Bank of America, and includes visits with Santa, tree lightings, and more.

This year, the Mayor’s Enchanted Trolley Tour will start on Saturday, December 2, and end on Sunday December 3, in neighborhoods throughout Boston.

Day 1

- 11 a.m. - Hastings Lot, West Roxbury
- 2 p.m. - Hyde Square, Jamaica Plain
- 3 p.m. - J.P. Monument, Jamaica

- Plain 3:45 p.m. - Brigham Circle, Mission Hill
- 4:30 p.m. - Bolling Building, Roxbury

Day 2

- 4 p.m. - Paul Revere Mall, North End
- 5 p.m. - Winthrop Square (the Training Field), Charlestown
- 6:15 p.m. - Maverick Square, East Boston

Pathways

Continued from page 1

know the ins and the outs of what really makes Mission Hill tick and what could be done better,” said Kevin Maguire, Founder of Oxbow Urban.

As the meeting progressed, both Maguire and Dariela Villón-Maga, President and Founder of DVM Housing Partners went through plans for the project and, along the way, answered questions and took suggestions from attendees.

One of the first topics that brought up questions and comments was the open space portion of the project, which is slated to be on the Parker Street side of the site.

An attendee wanted to know if something would be done to the

soil in the community garden portion of the open space so that food could be grown there.

Peter Bowne, a representative from the Trustees who was in attendance, explained that it would not take title on the property if the soil were not remediated.

Maguire also spoke about the soil at the site, saying, “This was a big issue previously when they tried to develop the site just in general.”

He explained that the city had received a grant for \$800,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency for the site, saying, “They’re very focused on making sure it gets remediated and is safe.”

Another attendee wanted to know if it would be possible to give priority to Mission Hill residents and families with kids for the garden.

Bowne explained that they cannot exclude anyone who is a resident of Boston. However, he spoke about priority questionnaires that ask about folks’ intent to be in the neighborhood and support the garden.

Another big topic of discussion during this meeting concerned the configuration of a drop-off and pickup area off Terrace Street.

In a rendering of the project, it had a cut-out off of the driveway that leads to the parking garage where a car doing a pickup or drop-off could drive in and park, then would have to turn around and come out.

However, an attendee was of the mindset that there should be a different configuration. “He’s (a driver) not going to turn around; what they’re going to do is drive up on the curb,” they said.

The attendee thought it would be a good idea to design something drivers could pull right in and out of. “No one’s going to drive in and drive out. They’re just not going to; they’re on a clock, and they want to stop, drop, and move.”

Another attendee pointed out that the way the area is configured in the rendering only accommodates one vehicle. Others suggested different configurations, such as a half-moon driveway.

There was also a discussion about the park and the current design with some units’ back doors opening onto it.

One attendee suggested having a lawn coming out and a walkway across to differentiate the park from the space for the people who live at the development. There were also discussions about in-

corporating shrubs or a green fence.

Finally, there was a conversation about the residential entrance along Terrace Street, with attendees giving different opinions. As for the timeline of this project, the housing permitting and open space public participation processes are slated to take place in the spring and summer of 2024 with a construction start date planned in the summer of 2025 and completion in 2027.

“This is a real opportunity that will be coming, and if you want to participate in it or you know others that want to participate in it — it’s real, but it’s going to take some work,” said Maguire. If you would like to get in touch with the developers of the project and learn more, you can fill out a form at <https://tinyurl.com/MissionPathwayContact>,

CAMH

Continued from page 1

that has changed for a number of reasons, according to Sanchez.

Now, MHNHS proposes constructing a six-story residential building with 94 affordable rental housing units and 33 above-grade parking spaces.

In terms of the unit makeup for the project, there are plans for 24 one-bedroom, 55 two-bedroom, and 15 three-bedroom units. Additionally, the units range from below or at 30% to 70% of the area median income (AMI).

After Sanchez went through more site, landscaping, and floor plans, the project was opened for discussion amongst attendees.

One attendee asked how CAMH could help the proponent ensure the project goes through a seamless public process so it can meet deadlines for things like funding opportunities.

Patricia Flaherty, Executive Director of MHNHS, first thanked CAMH for getting the project on the agenda so quickly and explained that the hope is for the project to go before the BPDA Board in December.

She also explained the tight timeline they are working on and mentioned that receiving letters of support from CAMH would be helpful.

“How you all can help is — I know you may be taking this to vote today — getting a letter of support to the BPDA process from CAMH is important,” said

Flaherty.

“I know many people wrote individual letters. Also, it would be helpful if people would write a letter of support or CAMH would write a letter of support as part of our application to the state,” she added.

In the end, CAMH supported the project by a vote of 22 to 1, with one voter abstaining.

The next project discussed and subsequently voted on was at 134 Smith Street — the site of the Squealing Pig.

As part of this project, two stories would be added to the existing structure to accommodate four condominium units — two on each new floor.

Moreover, there would be “a revised version” of the Squealing Pig along with two condominium units on the ground floor, according to the Owner, Diarmuid O’Neill, who presented to CAMH.

An attendee asked if the restaurant would be like how it is now but smaller, to which O’Neill said that was correct and also said that there are plans to go all-electric.

In speaking more about changes to the restaurant, O’Neill said, “It’s going to get smaller — we’re downsizing.” He added that there would be less emphasis on fried food, and the liquor license would stay.

Multiple attendees spoke glowingly about O’Neill during the project discussion and supported the proposal.

“I think Diarmuid has shown that he’s been in the neighbor-

hood, he runs a clean operation, respectful operation, and the project is really small,” said one attendee.

“I support the project 100%. Diarmuid’s been in the neighborhood as a good landlord and businessman for over 25 years,” said another attendee.

Eligible CAMH voters supported this project with a vote of 21 to 2.

Finally, attendees at November’s meeting discussed a proposal on 14 Hillside Street. The proposal presented by Attorney Derric Small would confirm the legal occupancy of the building as a three-family dwelling.

Additionally, as part of the proposal, there would be a gut rehab of the building with all new electrical and plumbing, a fire protection system, and an exterior stair replaced with a staircase built indoors.

Small explained that the property has been assessed as a three-family since the 1980s. However, the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) does not have accurate use records for the property.

“In an attempt to pull a permit to do the renovations, the Inspectional Services Department came out, did the inspection, and determined that they didn’t have an accurate certificate of occupancy for the building,” said Small.

“In order to do all of the renovations and to get a proper certificate of occupancy, you have to go through this process,” he added.

Additionally, the project is seeking zoning relief for off-street parking and use violations. However, the property has a driveway and garage, but according to Small, the parking violation is because the city does not recognize tandem spaces as legal spaces.

Attendees did not seem to be too fond of the proposal. One attendee who said he owns a

neighboring property claimed that historically, there had been issues with overgrown greenery and trash at the site.

Other attendees seemed to find it difficult to support the project when the owner did not come before CAMH.

Overall, the proposal was vehemently opposed by CAMH with a vote of 23 to 1, with one voter abstaining.



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Hill Happenings

BY MAURICE 'MOSSY' MARTIN

The Executive Office of Veteran Services came to Mission Hill last month to photograph Enoch "Woody" Woodhouse as part of the photographic essay "Many Faces of Veterans," which is displayed at the State House.

Woody was a member of the fabled Tuskegee Airmen. That group of all black airmen flew over 15,000 missions and shot down 112 enemy airplanes during World War II. Woody, who is an active member of the Mission Hill Post 327 is my upstairs neighbor, and I am privileged to be his friend.

I was honored to attend the City of Boston Veterans Day Cer-

emony at Freedom Hall on Nov. 10, which was chaired by our own Col. George Rollins.

The following morning it was great seeing a photo of Woody and Air Force veteran Tony Broccoli on the front page of the Boston Herald from the event. Kudos go to Randace Rauscher, director of external affairs of the Executive Office of Veteran Services, who helped organize the terrific event.

The next day the Mission Hill Post held their Veterans Day Ceremony at the Brigham Circle Memorial site. This is where the names of all Mission Hill veterans who were killed in the line of duty are engraved on two headstones. Our Post Commander Col. George Rollins presided over the ceremony which included a moment of silence for our fallen soldiers and our M.I.As. Bugle player Garret Savluk passionately played "Amazing Grace". Boston City Councilor Sharon Durkan attended the ceremony, and it was nice that she joined us after the ceremony at "The Mission" for a fine meal.

It was great to see "Big Jim" Moynihan in the Brigham Circle gathering. Big Jim is a U.S. Army veteran, from the Mission Hill

project and a former long-distance runner who completed eight Boston Marathons.

Thanks to Maria Weinograd of Mike's Donuts who supplied the delicious coffee, donuts and muffins prior to the ceremony.

The Curran family and Mission Hill mourned the loss of beloved Robert Curran last month. Robert, a decorated Vietnam veteran, passed away unexpectedly two weeks after the death of his older brother, Richard Curran.

Robert, a lifelong Mission Hill resident, was the father of six and the husband of his loving wife, Mary (Casey) Curran. Robert's son, David Curran beautifully eulogized his dad at his funeral mass at Mission Church, remembering his father as a hard-working cement worker with Local 534 and reminiscing about when Robert was an inspiring coach in the Mission Hill Little League. Robert had more stories than Walt Disney, and I heard most of them upon my walking by his home on Pontiac Street hundreds of times. Some days I'd stay for hours listening to his absorbing tales.

Bernie Fitzgerald was Robert's classmate from first grade

through high school and he succinctly encapsulated his life: "Robert was a good man and a great father."

Under a brilliant sunshine dozens of golfers teed off Oct. 28 at the Norwood Country Club for the Mission Hill Post Golf Fundraiser after several rainout days.

Nobody won the \$10,000 grand prize, a hole in one on the 7th hole, but by the long arm of coincidence, John Marroni earned high-fives and fist-bumps for his hole in one on the 8th hole.

The golfers and the many \$100 club donations were appreciated for this noble cause and thanks to sponsors Nancy Ross, Sharon Durkan, Kenzie Bok, Robert Bennet, and Col. Rollins's granddaughter, Teagan Condon. Also thanks to Donato and Mattie and Mission Bar & Grill proprietors, Harry Walsh and Michel Soltani, the owner of Brendan Behan's in J.P. for their contributions.

The Behan is a nice place to warm up on cold days, particularly in the cozy refurbished back patio that is well heated.

I was happy to see John Fitzgerald get elected to the Boston City Council from District 5 in Dorchester.

John, the son of the late Kevin Fitzgerald and Tricia (MacDougall) Fitzgerald from Mission Hill, is bright and street smart savvy. Congrats to Henry Santana who won a City Council at-Large seat. Henry grew up in Mission Hill after migrating from

the Dominican Republic.

Sharon Durkan has done excellent work representing Mission Hill and she was reelected to another term on the City Council.

It was nice chatting with Kervin, the polite and personable cashier at the Brigham Circle Walgreens. His regular customers call him "Swervin, Kervin."

Patty Cosby stopped by Mike's Donuts for a pleasant chat. Patty, a pretty woman from Mission Hill is a realtor working for Coldwell Banker and she has helped several of our local residents who have purchased homes.

Condolences to the family of Carol Healy who passed away last month.

Carol, from a Mission Hill family of nine children, is a Mission High School graduate. The Healys are a terrific family. I didn't know Carol, but I'm friends with Bobby Healy and Father John Healy, going back to the Mission Hill project days.

R.I.P. , Carol.

Thanks to the New England Baptist Hospital for donating 30 Thanksgiving turkey dinners to residents at Charlesbank Apartments in Mission Hill, and it was kind of Pam Carthy and her staff at Penguin Pizza who skillfully prepared the turkeys.

Why did the turkey join the band ?

Because he had his own drumsticks.

Maurice can be reached at mossymartin2@gmail.com



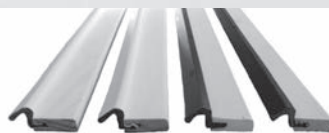
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Roslindale Village Main Street to host annual Holiday Market on Birch Street

On Thursday, December 7, from 4 - 8 p.m., Roslindale Village Main Street will host their annual Holiday Market. This annual market is a festive event to bring residents, visitors, local vendors, and local businesses together to celebrate and shop for the season. Vendors will be set up on Birch Street Plaza and the courtyard off of the plaza.

Come down to do your holiday shopping from craft vendors, listen to live music, shop local businesses, enjoy warm drinks, and spread cheer with your neighbors

and friends in Roslindale! The Holiday Market will feature 12 visiting vendors, offering everything from ceramics and jewelry, to photography, candles, and more.

The JP Honk Band and New Liberty Jazz Band will perform throughout the Village and carolers from the Roslindale Congregational Church will be singing during the event.

“We are so excited for this year’s Holiday Market! Each year, it brings so much holiday cheer to the neighborhood, and



COURTESY PHOTOS

A scene from last years Holiday Market.



Live performances from the JP Honk Band and New Liberty Jazz Band will be spreading cheer throughout the Village.

we have some fantastic vendors lined up. Some of our local businesses are planning some fun events and activities as well, so the neighborhood will be bustling

and visitors will have lots of opportunities to shop local. Be sure to stop by the RVMS table at the market to say hi to our team and explore the merch we have

for sale!” – Anna VanRemoortel, Executive Director, Roslindale Village Main Street.

Mission Hill Holiday Market



One Brigham Circle, 1620 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02120 (Plaza main entrance to Stop & Shop)

Fridays, December 8th and 15th
from 11:00 am - 5:30 pm.

Support your local artists and artisans (design t-shirts, variety of crafted jewelry, postcards, and more)

Event Sponsored by Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services and One Brigham Circle.

Organized by Holiday Market Team with Mission Hill Artists Collective. Additional support in part by Mission Hill Main Streets and Mission Hill Health Movement.

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South Ender Gene Bolinger appointed to Boston Parks and Recreation Commission

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

South End resident Gene Bolinger was welcomed on October 20 to the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission, a seven-person review body appointed by the Mayor and created by a legislative act and a vote of the

people of Boston in 1875.

The Commission oversees the Boston Parks and Recreation Department and has authority over the properties in its inventory. The Commission also reviews projects that are within 100 feet of a park or parkway. The Commission typically meets on the

last Monday of the month.

“I am honored to have been named to the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission,” Bolinger said at the time of the announcement. “To my core, I believe that public parks are essential. Having spent my professional career as a landscape architect, working to improve public parks and open space assets in Boston and elsewhere, I now have a chance to contribute in a new way.”

A Massachusetts native, Bolinger and his wife Sharon reside in the South End, and their two adult daughters are also Boston residents. Gene joined the Massachusetts-based environmental engineering firm Weston & Sampson in 1999 as the first landscape architect and established a vibrant landscape architecture practice. He helped the firm grow various business



Courtesy of the City of Boston
Gene Bolinger.

lines, and led, at times, the transportation, architecture, and municipal facilities practices in addition to landscape architecture. For 38 years, Gene worked to improve public parks, playgrounds, recreational facilities, athletic fields, and civic spaces through the capital planning

and construction process. This included approximately 150 projects in the Boston Parks and Recreation system since 1984, the first being the reconstruction of the first pedestrian path on Boston Common, Railroad Mall, and the recently completed Master Plan for Boston Common. Gene retired from professional practice as a registered landscape architect in July 2022.

“We are pleased to welcome Gene Bolinger as an Associate Commissioner,” Boston Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods said upon his appointment to the Commission. “Gene’s history of participation in the protection, enhancement, and expansion of Boston’s amazing park and open space system aligns with our goals to help provide safe, compelling, equitable and essential park and recreation facilities to all residents of our great city.”

Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll

‘COOPER’

Is as loyal as he is handsome. This big boy is affectionate, housetrained, and looking for a person to call his own. This middle-aged guy prefers to be an only pet so that he can steal all of the attention for himself! He loves car rides, squeaky toys, and cuddles with his favorite people.

“Gazette Pet of the Week” is sponsored by Sarah Carroll, REALTOR®
The Residential Group at William Raveis Real Estate
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781-820-0280 or sarah@residentialgroup.com

Boston officials announce choice of electricity rates

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The City of Boston announced new electricity rates through Boston’s Community Choice Electricity (BCCE) program, and encouraged all customers to choose BCCE as their electricity supplier. The new rates will be in effect beginning December 2023 until December 2025 using a new contracted supplier, Direct Energy. BCCE’s default and Green100 rates offer more renewable energy and cost less than Eversource’s Basic Service Rate. Eversource’s winter rates will begin on January 1, 2024. For a period of at least seven months, all three BCCE rates will remain lower than the utility.

Since the beginning of the program, the BCCE Standard rates have always been lower than Eversource Basic Rates. The average resident that uses 600 kilowatt hours of electricity a month on the BCCE Standard option is expected to save nearly \$15 per month compared to the Eversource Basic Service Residential rate (\$0.17251/kWh). In the first six months of 2023, Boston residents on BCCE saved nearly \$60 million, with an average household savings of \$340 compared to Eversource Basic Service. Since the program’s inception in 2021, BCCE has helped Boston residents and business owners have access to affordable, clean energy while

supporting Boston’s carbon neutrality goals.

“I’m excited to announce the new electricity rates through Boston’s Community Choice Electricity program—allowing Boston residents to further reduce utility bills as they support clean energy options,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “This pro-

gram is an important part of the City’s efforts to serve constituents through affordable, environmentally-friendly initiatives and also accelerate progress toward our carbon neutrality goals.”

Mayor Wu is committed to Boston’s Green New Deal, making Boston affordable, healthy,

Continued on page 7

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angell.org | 350 South Huntington Ave | Boston, MA | 617-522-7282

Mission Hill Triangle ACDC to hold public meeting on December 7

The Mission Hill Triangle Architectural Conservation District Commission (ACDC) will hold a public hearing: on Thursday, Dec. 7 on zoom at 6:00 p.m.

This hearing will only be held virtually and not in person. You can participate in this hearing by going to: <https://zoom.us/j/98289132490> or calling 1 929 436 2866US and enter meeting ID 982 8913 2490#. You can also submit written comments to staff via email at MissionHillACDC@boston.gov.

Subject of the hearing will be applications for Certificates of Design Approval on the agenda below, reviews of architectural violations, and such businesses as may come before the commission, in accordance with Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

Applications are available for review during business hours at the Office of Historic Preservation. Applicants or their representatives are required to attend, unless indicated otherwise below. Sign language interpreters are available upon request.

The agenda is as follows:

I. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW/APPROVAL: In order to expedite the review process, the commission has delegated the approval of certain work items, such as those involving ordinary maintenance and repair, restoration or replacement, or which otherwise have a minimal impact on a building's appearance, to commission staff pending ratification at its monthly public hearing. Having been identified as meeting these eligibility criteria and all applicable guidelines,

the following applications will be approved at this hearing:

- Applicants whose projects are listed under this heading **NEED NOT APPEAR** at the hearing. Following the hearing, you will be issued a Determination Sheet to present at the Inspectional Services Department (1010 Massachusetts Avenue) as proof of project approval when applying for permits. ISD personnel will send an electronic copy of your building-permit application to the commission staff for review. (To avoid potential confusion, the text of your building-permit application should be consistent with the project description given below.) Commission staff will accordingly authorize the execution of the work, attaching any applicable provisos, reflecting the relevant

guidelines and precedents.

- please note that following issuance of the determination sheet no further correspondence will be issued for the applications listed. The electronic building-permit application as annotated by commission staff will constitute your Certificate of Appropriateness; this will be valid for two years from the date of the approval letter. The applicant is required to notify the commission of any project changes; failure to do so may affect the status of the approval.

- If you have any questions not addressed by the above information, please contact staff at 617.635.1935 or MissionHillACDC@boston.gov. Thank you.

**APP # 24.0459 MHT
13 WIGGLESWORTH ST.**

Applicant: Felix Matthews
Proposed Work: Replace all windows at front of building.
II. Ratification Of 11/9/23 Meeting Minutes
Iii. Staff Updates
Iv. Projected Adjournment: 6:30 p.m.
Date posted: 11/16/2023

Electricity

Continued from page 6

and sustainable for all residents and business owners. The City of Boston has elected to increase the renewable energy content in BCCE's Standard (default) product by an additional 15% beyond the State's required renewable portfolio standard, increasing the total renewable energy content in the default product to 39%. Boston Community Choice Electricity uses the City's collective buying power to provide more renewable electricity to Boston's residents and businesses at a competitive rate. BCCE is the largest municipal aggregation program in Massachusetts and includes three options for electricity supply: Optional Basic, Standard (default), and Optional Green 100. These plans include between 24% and 100% local, renewable energy, and customers are able to choose which electricity rate and renewable energy portfolio is the best option for them. Eversource continues to serve as the utility delivering electricity to BCCE customers. Eversource also handles customer billing and service, grid maintenance, and power outages.

Recently, Eversource filed its proposed new Residential Basic Service rate (\$.17251/kWh) and its Small Business rate (\$.17.587/kWh) with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities. These rates will be effective January 1, 2024 until July 31, 2024. As the City moves into the winter months, electricity usage is expected to rise.

The City of Boston cannot guarantee that the BCCE rates will remain lower than Eversource's Basic Service rates after July 31, 2024, because the local utilities change their rates twice a year.

Some Boston residents and businesses are enrolled in contracts with third-party suppliers, whose rates can be significantly higher than BCCE. Competitive electric suppliers often mislead and take advantage of residents, particularly seniors, people of color, and residents who speak a language other than English, promising them unreliable savings. According to a report from the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, third-party suppliers charged Massachusetts residents \$525 million more than the general utility would have between 2015 and 2021. The Attorney General's Office also reported that these suppliers continue to target low-income residents and communities of color, charging them higher rates for their electricity. The report found that residents in Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, East Boston, Hyde Park, and Roslindale were heavily targeted, with more than 40% of low-income residents in these neighborhoods signing competitive electric supply contracts. In Roxbury, 57% of low-income residents are enrolled in third-party supply. As a part of Mayor Wu's 2023-2024 State legislative agenda, she supported proposals to ban residential predatory competitive electric supply companies (bills H.3196 and S.2106). Boston residents and business owners can compare electricity rates here. Technical support is available from City of Boston experts by sched-

uling an appointment, emailing bcce@boston.gov, or calling 3-1-1.

"At a time when many Bostonians are making difficult choices about paying for food or fuel, utilities or rent, the City of Boston has a program to help residents reduce electricity costs while supporting the health of our planet," said Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. "I am grateful to Mayor Wu for her commitment to supporting Boston residents and small businesses through this program and to our team in the Environment Department who have been steadfast in their efforts to ensure affordable energy prices, especially to those who are being targeted by predatory energy companies."

The Standard BCCE rate is the default option for Boston residents and business owners. Customers may choose to "opt up" to enroll in the Optional Green 100 rate, with 100% of electricity coming from local, renewable energy sources, like solar or wind. By opting up, customers can support the City of Boston in reducing carbon emissions, improving local air quality, and taking climate action within our communities. Boston Community Choice Electricity's Optional Green 100 plan costs less than Eversource's basic residential rate while utilizing 100% renewable electricity compared to Eversource's 22%, the state requirement for renewable electricity. Residents and business owners can opt-up, down, or out of BCCE at any time with no penalties.

Laughing Monk Cafe is now in Allston. A New Cozy spot for the Northeastern Thai Isan Cuisine

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Jamaica Plain/Mission Hill Gazette

2024 Publishing Calendar

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JANUARY

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Mayor Wu shares Boston's winter weather preparations

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu today joined City officials at the Public Works yard on Frontage Road to discuss winter preparations currently underway in the City of Boston and resources available to residents including older adults and individuals experiencing homelessness.

“The City is ready to support Boston residents through inclement winter weather and in keeping energy bills down as temperatures drop,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “Our City departments are working around the clock to keep our communities safe, and I encourage Bostonians to utilize City services and look out for vulnerable neighbors.”

The Public Works Department (PWD) currently has 44,000 tons of salt on-hand to treat City streets. PWD has 175 pieces of in-house snow clearing equipment and has the capability to place over 800 additional pieces on the roads during larger storms. As part of their neighborhood plowing operations during winter storms and to ensure the safety of riders following events, PWD allocates pieces of equipment to clear snow from Boston's dedicated bike lanes.

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) monitors fore-

casts and maintains open lines of communication with the National Weather Service. OEM also works across City departments and with external partners to ensure coordinated response plans are in place leading up to extreme weather events. Residents can sign up to receive AlertBoston, the City's emergency mass notification system, notifications by phone, text, or email in the event a snow emergency/parking ban is declared. Safety tips on how to prepare for winter storms are on boston.gov. AlertBoston notifications are available in 11 languages.

This year, two Boston-based minority-owned businesses will assist the Public Works Department during snow and ice control operations clearing City-owned

stairways and footpaths. Both contracts are part of the City of Boston's Sheltered Market Program to advance equity in procurement with direct outreach support from the Department of Supplier and Workforce Diversity. These contracts were awarded to A & M Home Services and Mass Trucking as three year contracts (the contracts awarded last year to minority-owned businesses were for a one year duration). Both A & M Home Services and Mass Trucking are owned by people of color and are located in Roxbury.

As temperatures drop and utility costs are expected to rise, Mayor Wu is reminding residents, small businesses, and local organizations to opt in to Boston Community Choice Elec-

tricity (BCCE). This City-run program gives residents three options for electricity pricing and renewable energy. On Monday, Mayor Wu announced the City of Boston has increased the default renewable energy content by an additional 15% beyond state requirements to support the transition to a regional clean energy grid. Since the beginning of the program, the BCCE Standard rates have been lower than Eversource Basic Rates. The average resident that uses 600 kilowatt hours of electricity a month on the BCCE Standard option is expected to save nearly \$15 per month compared to the Eversource Basic Service Residential rate (\$0.17251/kWh). Individuals interested in learning more should visit Boston.gov/BCCE to opt in, opt up, or opt out at any time.

Rules on clearing snow:

- Property owners must fully clear snow, sleet, and ice from sidewalks and curb ramps abutting the property within three hours after the snowfall ends or three hours after sunrise if the snow ends overnight. Curb and pedestrian ramps to the street should be cleared fully and continually over the duration of the storm to ensure accessibility for individuals with disabilities. If a

storm will last over an extended period of time, property owners are asked to continually check ramps abutting their property for compliance.

- Removal of snow and ice from a private property to the street or sidewalk is prohibited

- Failure to comply with the rules can result in fines issued by PWD's Code Enforcement Division. Fines associated with improper removal of snow can be found here.

Parking during a declared snow emergency:

- If a snow emergency is declared, cars will be ticketed and towed if parked on a posted snow emergency artery.

- Space savers must be removed within 48 hours after a snow emergency has been lifted. Please note: space savers are NOT allowed in the South End and Bay Village.

- During declared snow emergencies, discounted parking is available at some parking lots and garages for Boston residents. A list of discounted parking garages can be found online at: www.boston.gov/departments/311/snow-emergency-parking#parking-at-garages.



Mayor Michelle Wu, with City officials at the Public Works Yard.

Santana

Continued from page 1

black, Dominican immigrant who grew up in public housing, who's a product of the city, who's a product of Boston Public Schools," said Santana.

Along with his lived experience, Santana also spoke about his professional experience, whether that be as a Field Director on the campaign to elect former City Councilor Kenzie Bok, Bok's Director of Operations and Mission Hill and Fenway Liaison, and Director of the city's Office of Civic Organizing.

"I had a very unique professional experience, combined with my lived experience, that I think resonated with so many people," said Santana.

Not only did he think his previous professional roles resonated with folks, but Santana is also of the mindset that it will now help him on the City Council. In his previous work with Bok,

Santana explained how he got to see firsthand how the council can work together to help residents. In his role in the Office of Civic Organizing, he built relationships with department heads and people on the ground.

"I know how to get things done. I've been doing it — I was doing it as a City Council Aid, I was doing it as part of the leadership team for Mayor Michelle Wu, and now, being in this position, I know where to go, who to go to in terms of how to get things done," said Santana.

Speaking about getting things done, as Santana prepares to officially take his position in the coming months, he talked about his goal to be a representative of the next generation that is coming and three distinct priorities he would like to focus on.

The first priority he discussed was housing affordability — a topic he indicated needed to be acted on with urgency.

"Housing is a human right, and I

believe right now, week to week, month to month, year to year, we're losing young professionals, families, seniors because they cannot afford to stay here," he said.

Specifically, Santana spoke about working with public housing residents, fixing public housing infrastructure, creating more units across the city, and creating more homeownership opportunities for people from subsidized housing, low-income communities, and public housing.

Education is another top priority for Santana, and he spoke at length about the investments being made in schools. While he acknowledged investments are being made in the city's education system, he does not think they are being seen in the classroom by students, teachers, and families.

"When you're walking into these facilities, and you have broken ceilings, and you have broken bathrooms, and you have tech-

nology that's not working, textbooks that are decades old, what message are you sending to the kids," he said.

"We want to be able to see the investments that we're making actually being seen in the classroom," he later added.

Finally, Santana prioritizes public safety and points to the loss of young kids due to gun violence and how it has been normalized. "We're so quick to go to Twitter or to Facebook and send our condolences and prayers. That's thoughtful and nice, but what are we doing as the City of Boston to try to prevent some of these situations from happening? What are we doing to really try to protect our youth and our families here in the City of Boston," he said. Santana pointed to his personal experience of having truly affordable after-school and summer programs as the best thing that ever happened to him from the standpoint of public safety.

"I want to make sure that these

programs, the non-profit programs here in the community, have the support of the city," said Santana.

While some might view these priorities as complex topics to tackle, Santana believes it is something that is achievable.

"These are very achievable things I'm speaking about. I'm not saying crazy promises that are not obtainable. I think the things that I campaigned on are very achievable are things that we can work with the City Council and the administration to make happen," he said.

As 2024 draws near, Santana shared his excitement and how he is ready to get to work for Boston residents.

"I'm very excited. I'm thankful for the trust that the residents of Boston have put in me, and I'm proud to say that there was a clear direction that the City of Boston took on November 7th in electing me, and I'm ready to get to work."

Continued on page 12

EDITORIAL

Remember those who are less fortunate this holiday season

“It was the best of times; it was the worst of times.”
-- Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*.

With Christmas fast approaching, most of us will be rushing about -- either to the stores and malls or on-line --- to do our holiday shopping in hopes of finding that “perfect” gift for our family members and loved ones.

Although economic uncertainty, spurred by the after-effects of record-high inflation, continues to afflict almost every American household, most of us are doing okay, if not extremely well, thanks to unemployment rates that are near historically record-lows. However, the strong economy (from an employment standpoint) that is being enjoyed by the majority of Americans has not been shared by all. For a sizable number of our fellow citizens, the lingering effects of the pandemic, as well as the fraying of the fabric of our social safety net in recent years, have come together to represent an existential disaster.

Millions of Americans of all ages, in a percentage greater than at any time since the Great Depression, are struggling financially, even if they have a job. To put it in stark terms, more Americans, including families in our own communities, are going hungry than at any time in our recent history. One in eight households (12.8 percent) experience food insecurity, defined as the lack of access to an affordable, nutritious diet. An estimated 44.2 million Americans live in these households. A recent Feeding America survey found that 80% of network food banks reported either increased or steady demand for emergency food services, with almost 35% of responding food banks reporting an increase in the number of people they serve.

In addition, thanks to the lack of affordable new housing and sky-high rents, far too many of our fellow citizens, including children, live either in shelters or in similar temporary housing arrangements -- or on the streets -- because our economy literally has left them out in the cold. Millions of Americans of all ages, including those in our own communities, are struggling financially, often through no fault of their own, thanks to a combination of low-wage jobs and a strong real estate market that ironically has made apartments (let alone buying a home) unaffordable. This dichotomy is most evident and acute in cities such as Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, and right here in Boston (most notably at the infamous Mass. and Cass intersection in the South End). Despite the vast wealth in those metropolitan areas, thousands of homeless Americans, including many who have full-time jobs, are living in tent and cardboard “neighborhoods” on city sidewalks. The homeless always have been among us, but the scope and depth of the problem is far beyond anything that has been experienced in our lifetime. The vast discrepancy between the enormous wealth enjoyed by some Americans and the abject poverty being endured by others is similar to what exists in major urban centers in South America and India -- but it now is happening right here in the U.S.A.

For these millions of Americans, the holiday season brings no joy. Psychologists tell us that the Biblical directive, that we should give to those who are less fortunate, is the best gift that we can give to ourselves. Helping others activates regions of the brain associated with pleasure, social connection, and trust, creating the so-called “warm glow” effect.

Never in the lifetime of anybody reading this editorial has the need for contributions to local food banks been more urgent. There will be ample opportunities in the coming days to make the holidays brighter for those who are less fortunate, whether it be donations to local food banks and toy programs, or even just dropping a few dollars in the buckets of the Salvation Army Santas.

There simply is no excuse for those of us who are among the more fortunate for failing to make some effort over the next four weeks to make the holidays brighter for those who are less fortunate.

BY STATE REPS. JEFFREY
ROSARIO TURCO AND FRANCISCO
E. PAULINO

Whether you grew up in Revere, Winthrop, Lawrence, Brighton, or Boston, every community in the Commonwealth values kitchen-table issues; an honest day’s work, safe streets, affordable homes, good schools, access to quality and affordable healthcare, and the ability to earn a good living and save for the future.

Just last month, we were able to pass a historic Tax Relief Bill which will make the Commonwealth more affordable, competitive and equitable by putting real dollars directly back into the pockets of hard-working Bay Staters. Whether it’s by increasing the child and dependent tax credit for families or lowering the capital gains tax so folks see more of their money when they invest in their Robinhood or Fidelity accounts, this legislation will provide immediate relief and opportunities for working class people fighting hard every day to make a living.

There’s more work to be done. It’s no secret that for much of this country’s history, the financial system has been largely closed off to most Americans. Teachers, plumbers, steamfitters, steelworkers, nurses, members of the military, and men and women in uniform simply have not always had the same opportunities to save and build wealth as the one percent.

Until recently, owning stocks was largely reserved for older, wealthy, and less diverse Americans, including those with the means to pay a financial professional to do it for them. Fortunately, recent innovations aimed at empowering a new age of investors tore down these barriers, reshaped our financial system, and paved the way for a massive influx of new investors into the stock market. These millions of new investors are younger, more diverse, and come from every community and every part of the country, including hundreds of thousands of people right here in Massa-

OP-ED

Bay Staters deserve opportunities to build a better financial future

chusetts.

Not only did this transformative shift expand access to the stock market for an entirely new generation of Americans, it has made finance and investing more approachable and relevant to millions of people who had previously avoided it because of its intimidating and exclusive nature. Today, technology has democratized investing with easy-to-use, low-cost mobile platforms like Robinhood that for the first time provide tools allowing ordinary Americans to save a little more, make a few extra dollars in income, and invest in great American companies they believe in, including companies that are based here in the Commonwealth. These new platforms have not only simplified the act of purchasing a stock, they’ve increased the overall relevance and interest in personal finance. Whether it’s through podcasts, newsletters, or in-app education modules, these platforms are using technology to communicate with and educate investors, making financial literacy more accessible by breaking-down complex concepts such as compounding and dollar cost averaging, as well as the differences between a traditional and Roth IRA and

the implications of a ‘wash sale’ or capital gains.

We must encourage these platforms, who are uniquely positioned, with their reach and resources, to continue prioritizing financial literacy with the understanding that developing a new generation of informed investors will lead them to a more sustainable financial future. We also need to promote sound policies that will help keep these new investors involved for the long-term while protecting them from fraud and abuse. Unfortunately, recent efforts by financial regulators are threatening to throw these new investors right back out of the markets. At both the state and federal levels, securities regulators are considering new rules that, while intended to protect investors, would strike at the very heart of the online model most prefer to use to invest today. These rules could even make it impossible for financial providers to use the very same innovative technologies that have brought millions into the stock market in the first place. And they are likely to disproportionately harm those underserved populations that

Continued on page 11

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

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OP-ED

Why preventing Diabetes should be a priority at all ages

BY DR. DONNA O'SHEA

More than 96 million Americans, or 1 in 3 adults, live with a potentially life-altering condition – yet many of them are unaware they even have it.

That condition is prediabetes, which in up to 70% of cases develops into diabetes. Today, more than 37 million Americans already live with diabetes, which if left untreated can contribute to a host of health issues, including heart disease, vision loss, nerve damage and more. In Massachusetts, 7.7% of adults over age 18 have been diagnosed with diabetes.

While the risk of developing type 2 diabetes increases with age, taking steps to avoid or more effectively manage this condition should be a priority for people of all ages. For November's American Diabetes Month, here is important information to consider about this condition.

Types of diabetes: Diabetes alters the body's ability to create energy from the food you eat and can develop in three forms. Type 1 diabetes occurs when the body cannot produce insulin on its own, typically due to genetic factors. It accounts for approximately 5% of all diabetes cases, there is no known prevention and is typically diagnosed during childhood. Type 2 diabetes accounts for up to 95%

of all cases and develops when the body can't use the insulin it produces, typically due to inactivity and poor nutrition. Finally, gestational diabetes may occur in pregnant women, often due to the hormones and weight gain associated with pregnancy.

Diabetes in children: While type 1 diabetes was historically known as juvenile diabetes, that term is no longer truly applicable due to the surging prevalence of type 2 diabetes among children. One primary driver of this is the mounting rates of childhood obesity, which now affects 1 in 5 young people. It's important to note children are at a higher risk of type 2 diabetes if they have a family member with this condition, are overweight, don't get enough physical activity or have prediabetes. Type 2 diabetes in children can lead to an array of health issues in the short- and long-term, including depression, eating disorders, eye damage, heart disease and more. To help young people reduce the risk of developing type 2 diabetes, make activity a priority throughout the day. Whenever possible, go for a 15-minute walk after meals, as doing so can help the body move sugar from the blood into the muscle cells to help avoid blood sugar spikes.

Diabetes in adults: The number of adults with diabetes has more than doubled during the

last two decades. Living with prediabetes, being overweight, not getting enough physical exercise and being over age 45 all put people at greater risk of developing type 2 diabetes. For working-age adults with this condition, it's critical to consistently track blood sugar levels, ideally with a continuous glucose monitor. In fact, a growing number of health plans are starting to cover this type of technology, which uses a sensor, often worn on the abdomen, to continuously read glucose levels and transmit the data to a smartphone. Another important strategy for adults and children is to get a routine comprehensive eye exam, which can help diagnose diabetic retinopathy and help individuals recognize the need to better control their blood glucose levels. Diabetic retinopathy may occur in people with diabetes and causes damage to the blood vessels in the retina, leading to blindness in some cases.

Diabetes in older adults: Nearly 30% of adults 65 and older live with diabetes, which increases the risk for certain cancers and cognitive impairment, such as Alzheimer's disease. Not only that, older adults with diabetes are more likely to develop certain vision issues, such as glaucoma and cataracts, and the condition may contribute to hearing loss by causing nerve

that they feel more empowered and equipped than ever before to make their own financial decisions. These are normal people who don't necessarily have the resources, the need, or the desire to completely turn the management of their finances over to expensive professionals. Instead, they've gravitated toward affordable and easy-to-use mobile platforms that allow them to take a more hands-on approach in managing their finances. These investors deserve strong, sensi-

ble regulations that protect them from fraud and abuse, but they also deserve the opportunity to participate fully in our financial system and achieve the American dream. We will continue to fight in the State House for policies that give our communities both.

Jeffrey Rosario Turco, Esq., is a State Representative, and represents the 19th Suffolk District and Francisco E. Paulino, is a State Representative, and represents the 16th Essex District.

damage in the inner ear. Staying active and eating a balanced diet is crucial, including a focus on consuming healthy proteins (chicken, fish or turkey), non-starchy fibrous vegetables (broccoli, green beans or carrots) and a moderate amount of carbohydrates (brown rice, sweet potato or whole-grain breads or pasta). Interval eating may also be a strategy to consider, including waiting at least an hour after waking up to eat breakfast and avoiding food within three hours of sleep.

For many people, type 2 diabetes is largely preventable with lifestyle modifications, such as a nutritious diet, consistent exercise and maintaining a healthy weight. Understanding your risk factors and staying on top of your health – starting during childhood and as you age – may help you prevent or better manage type 2 diabetes.

Dr. Donna O'Shea is the Chief Medical Officer of Population Health for UnitedHealthcare.

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Op-Ed

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for decades have been told they aren't smart enough or wealthy enough to invest.

We reject this narrative, as do many of our colleagues. We've personally spoken to our neighbors – construction workers in Lawrence, firefighters in Revere, cab drivers around Boston, and the staff here in the State House – many of whom tell us

Please write...

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@JamaicaPlainGazette.com

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Winter preparation

Continued from page 9

Trash and recycling:

• During severe snowstorms, recycling and trash collection may be canceled, but this is extremely rare. Most often, severe snowstorms can cause delays in service. Residents can download the free Trash Day App to view neighborhood recycling and trash schedules, locate a textile dropbox in their neighborhood, and to find out what items they can and can't recycle.

• Crews have a difficult time reaching trash barrels and recycling carts placed behind snowbanks. Residents and business owners are asked to please clear an area at the curb for collection or place containers next to or in front of snowbanks.

Caring for vulnerable populations:

• If you see homeless and vulnerable individuals out in the cold who appear immobile, disoriented, or underdressed for the cold, please call 911.

• The Boston Public Health

Commission (BPHC) utilizes a city-wide network of emergency shelters, outreach providers, city agencies, and first responders to assist those in need of shelter.

• Boston's emergency shelters are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and when temperatures are below freezing (32 degrees) amnesty is in place for those with nonviolent restrictions. Men can access shelter at the 112 Southamptton Street Shelter, and women should go to the Woods-Mullen Shelter at 794 Massachusetts Ave. BPHC and the City work closely with shelter providers in the city to ensure that no client is without shelter, food, resources, and a warm respite from the cold.

• Any person needing shelter should access shelter directly, any time of day or night. Providers and community partners looking to facilitate shelter access may call 617-534-4440, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.- 9:00 p.m.

• During extreme cold weather, street outreach teams operate with extended hours and provide mobile outreach vans on the streets in the evening and throughout the day.

Safety tips:

• If you are able, keep catch basins and fire hydrants clear of snow and debris. This will help prevent flooding and allow for access in the event of an emergency. For a map of catch basins and fire hydrants, visit here.

• Shoveling snow requires significant exertion; please be cautious and pay attention to symptoms. Stop if you feel chest pain, shortness of breath, lightheaded, nauseous/vomiting. Call 911 if those symptoms do not resolve quickly.

• Snow piles can make navigating intersections dangerous for walkers and drivers. Please take extra care when turning corners with snow piles that might limit visibility.

• Carbon monoxide poisoning is a concern during winter weather, especially with the use of generators. Residents should use their home heating systems wisely and safely, and have a working carbon monoxide detector on each floor of the home. Call 911 immediately if you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning.

• Sitting in a car while idling can be deadly if the tailpipe is

blocked. Do not let children sit in an idling car while shoveling. Clear any household exhaust pipes of snow.

• Have a contractor check the roof to see if snow needs to be removed. If roof snow can be removed from the ground with the use of a snow-rake, do so with caution. Avoid working from ladders and be mindful of slippery surfaces.

Dress for the weather:

• Wear several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing.

• Outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent.

• Always wear a hat and cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs.

• Dress children warmly and set reasonable time limits on outdoor play.

• Restrict infants' outdoor exposure when it is colder than 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

Watch for signs of frostbite:

• Signs of frostbite include loss of feeling and white or pale appearance in extremities such

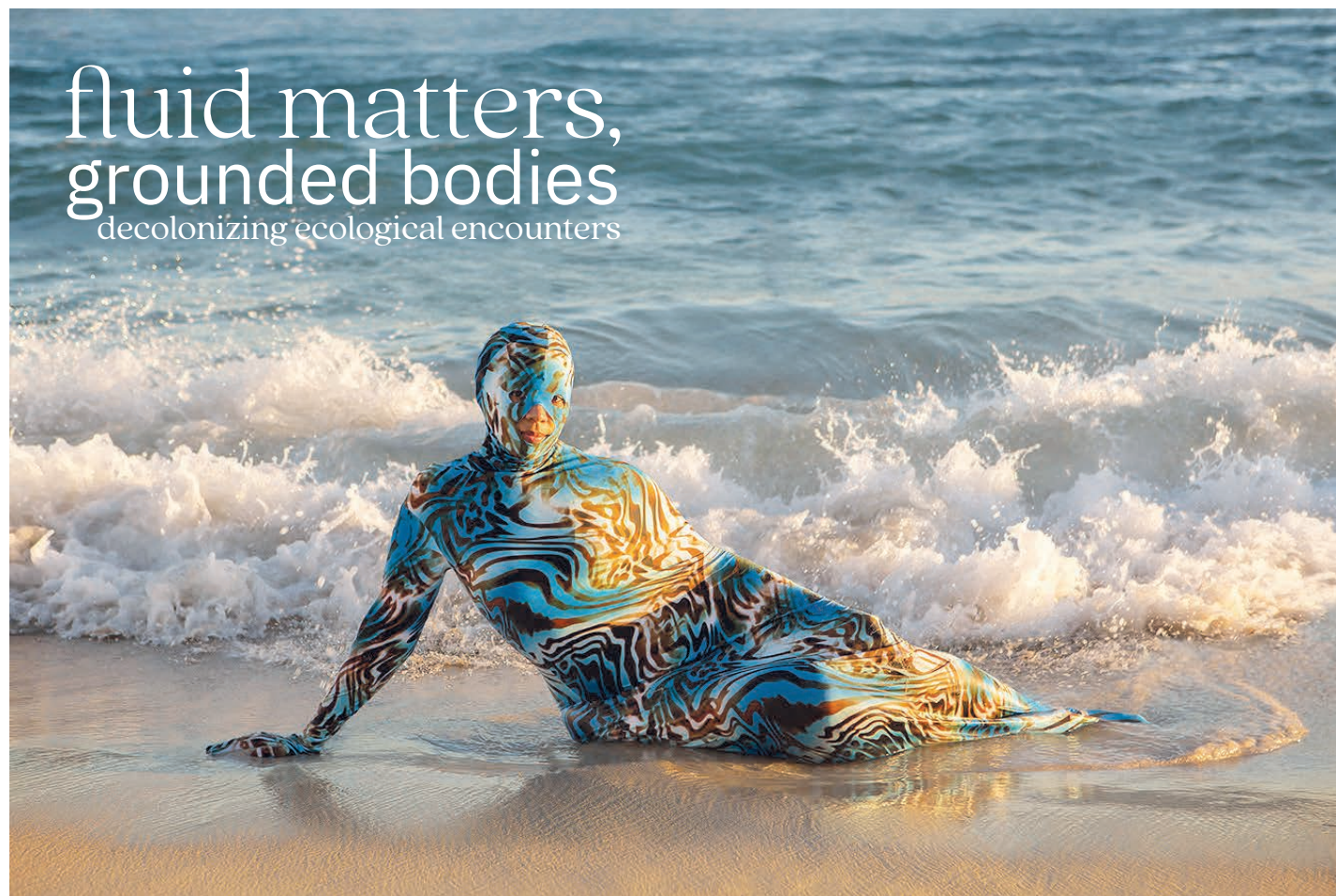
as fingers, toes, ear lobes, and the tip of the nose. If symptoms are detected, get medical help immediately.

Watch for signs of hypothermia:

• These include uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness, and apparent exhaustion. If you or someone you know shows any of these symptoms, get in touch with a healthcare provider immediately. If symptoms are severe, call 911.



You can read the full text of the City of Boston winter weather advisory and tips on our website. Scan the code above to go straight to the article.



fluid matters,
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