

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON MAIN STREETS, PG 4

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ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY IN MISSION HILL



Derek Kouyoumjian Photos

Shown above, residents relaxing in the dining tent, which offered some shade from the summer heat for Mission Hill residents during the 14th annual Family Fun Day, hosted by Mission Main Tenant Task Force. Shown inset, Gabriel and Izel enjoyed done father/son time together. See more photos on Pages 8-10.

CAMH talks Groma at latest meeting

BY MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR.

In a more informal monthly meeting over Zoom earlier this month, the Community Alliance of Mission Hill (CAMH) learned more about a company based out of Boston focused on real estate called Groma.

Chris Lehman, a Co-Founder of Groma and the company's

Policy Architect, summarized the primary business model as "to acquire, modernize and operate small unit-count multi-family rentals in the Boston area."

Lehman continued and explained that of the properties owned by Groma, about 90% of them are triple-deckers.

"We have found these to be a, I think, really neglected asset

class in a lot of ways, and so we are really committed to improving the physical qualities of these properties, creating a great resident experience, and being a good landlord and neighbor for our tenants and neighbors," he said.

While the abovementioned

Continued on page 2

Planning Department hosts 500 Huntington Ave. public meeting

BY MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR.

On Tuesday, the City of Boston Planning Department welcomed folks to a public meeting regarding plans for a development at 500 Huntington Avenue, a site which currently includes Wentworth Institute of Technology's Sweeney Field and other structures.

As part of this project, two buildings would be constructed at the site, totaling 640,000 square feet of gross floor area for life science and retail space, with 384 parking spaces.

The Huntington Development Group is undertaking the project, which is comprised of The Owens Companies, Waldwin Development, and The Fallon Company, all of which were described as "Boston-based, family-owned companies" by Donald Johnson of Huntington Development Group.

It should be noted that Wentworth owns the site, but Johnson said, "This is a ground lease from Wentworth, and the project is being developed by HDG (Huntington Development Group) as a private development, not as part of Wentworth's campus."

Development at this site has a history dating back to 2013 when Planned Development Area (PDA) #93 was approved. Johnson explained that the massing

for the 2013 project included a tower along Parker Street, which fronted Huntington Avenue, and an oval building at the corner of Huntington Avenue and Ruggles Street.

"Ultimately, that project did not go forward for a number of reasons," said Johnson. He also indicated that since 2013, the Avenue of the Arts guidelines have been created to guide projects in the area, and there have been some changes.

Specifically, Johnson noted that this project is more compact and includes open space on the corner where the aforementioned oval building was slated to be erected.

The floor area ratio, gross floor area, and allowed uses have remained the same in the two iterations of the project.

However, the project's maximum height has decreased from 280 feet to the top of the building to 254 feet to the top of the mechanical screening. Further, the amount of parking spaces has decreased from 410 to 384, and publicly accessible open space has increased from up to 57,600 square feet to up to 70,000 square feet.

Johnson also noted that 78,000 square feet were set aside for Wentworth's use in the 2013

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WNV detected in nine mosquito test samples across Boston neighborhoods

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) has announced that nine mosquito test samples obtained from Jamaica Plain, Roslindale, Roxbury, and West Roxbury tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). The virus is carried by mosquitoes and can be spread to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. These are the first samples to test positive for the virus in Boston this summer. There are currently no confirmed human cases of West Nile Virus among Boston residents and the risk of transmission remains low; however, BPHC still encourages residents to protect themselves. The best way to reduce the

risk of West Nile Virus is by avoiding mosquito bites. BPHC recommends the following strategies:

- Avoid spending extended periods of time outdoors from dusk to dawn, when mosquitoes are most active.
- Wear long clothing and high socks to keep mosquitoes away from your skin.
- Use EPA-approved insect repellents like DEET, oil of lemon eucalyptus, picaridin, or IR3535.
- Make sure screens in windows and doors fit properly and do not have any holes.
- Regularly empty out and clean bird baths, unused flowerpots, and other vessels containing standing water to prevent

mosquitoes from breeding. Flip over unused kiddie pools and dispose of old tires, which are also known to collect rainwater that attracts mosquitoes for breeding.

- Regularly clean out gutters and remove any debris or blockages.

"We encourage all residents to protect themselves from insect-borne infections like West Nile Virus by wearing insect repellent and long sleeve clothing when spending time outside at dusk or dawn when mosquitoes are most active," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. "We are working closely with our partners at the State to monitor mosquito test sam-

ples and keep residents updated about the risk of West Nile."

Most people who are infected with West Nile Virus do not experience any signs or symptoms of illness. In some cases, however, people will experience a headache, fever, nausea, vomiting, and body aches which can last for a few days or several weeks. In most cases, individuals with mild symptoms recover on their own without needing medical assistance.

People who are older than 50 years of age are at higher risk of developing serious symptoms, including high fever, severe headache, confusion, lack of coordination, and muscle paralysis or weakness. If you or someone you know is experiencing these

symptoms, contact a health care provider immediately. More information on WNV and other mosquito-borne illnesses are available on BPHC's website.

Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is the country's oldest health department. We envision a thriving Boston where all residents live healthy and fulfilling lives. To accomplish this, BPHC works in partnership with communities to protect and promote the health and well-being of all Boston residents, especially those impacted by racism and systemic inequities. Learn more about our work at boston.gov/bphc.

CAMH

Continued from page 1

information is one aspect of the company, another deals with investing and ownership.

"I think many of us are concerned with the affordability of real estate in the Boston area, and so we are working on financial products to make it easier for a wide array of people, including eventually our renters, to be able to actually have an ownership stake in these properties," said Lehman.

This component deals with the GromaREIT (Real Estate Investment Trust), which Lehman explained is, at minimum, a part owner in all of the company's properties.

Essentially, Lehman compared the GromaREIT to an index fund but for real estate in which investors can buy shares in the GromaREIT, which, as mentioned, is at least part owner in all of the properties.

"A REIT is an investment vehicle that basically enables people to build fractional owner-

ship in real estate assets, and so the GromaREIT is a REIT that owns primarily triple-deckers — though there's a few exceptions — and enables people to basically have investment exposure to those properties," said Lehman.

It should be noted that currently, only accredited investors — based on income and wealth thresholds — can invest, but Lehman indicated within the next year or so, there is hope to allow anyone to own shares.

As the discussion progressed, one attendee suggested that in the future, Groma create a Mission Hill category for investments. "If everybody's making money off of Mission Hill, Mission Hill homeowners should be making some money too," said the attendee.

Another attendee had asked if the stock was currently traded on the stock exchange, and the answer was no.

"We will eventually try to do that, but as we have learned in our interactions with auditors and other financial industry professionals, there are a lot of disclosure and reporting hurdles you have to go through," said Lehman.

The same attendee questioned if investors have control over aspects such as where to

invest and how to manage.

Lehman explained that currently, the investor base is small, and there are personal relationships with some, so sometimes things like strategy are discussed.

However, he also said, "As we progress into the future and we get to the point where we have, say, thousands of investors — there are still voting rights to some degree based upon the ownership, and so that necessarily informs our strategy somewhat — but the mechanism by which that happens becomes a bit more complicated."

This same attendee, after asking questions, expressed concern, pointing to the existing number of absentee investors and non-owner occupied residences in Mission Hill and this model potentially leading to more transient populations moving into the neighborhood and pushing out long-term residents.

"I'm rather alarmed, to say the least, to see that Mission Hill is now going to become the playground for a real estate investment trust to buy up property; this is just the absolute opposite of what we need here," they said.

Another attendee wondered if this idea would really be a good way to build equity in so-

ciety, "especially here in Boston where African-American people have been really sidelined on purpose."

In response, Lehman said, "The concern you're expressing there is one that we share, and that was a non-trivial part of the reason we're pushing for this kind of community ownership model."

"I think one of the biggest reasons that a variety groups, whether those are racial groups or other groups, have had trouble building wealth, and building intergenerational wealth in the United States is the barriers to entry in the traditional homeownership model... the idea behind our model is to enable people to invest at whatever pace they're able to."

As the meeting continued, residents discussed fears of long-term residents being pushed out, ideas for stabilizing the neighborhood, providing equitable opportunities for investment, and much more.

Ultimately, CAMH's president, Martin Beinborn, stated it was good Lehman reached out to the community and mentioned possibly following up on the presentation.

To learn more about Groma, visit its website at <https://www.groma.com/>.

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Youth Development Fund now open for applications

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu and the City of Boston's Human Services Cabinet have announced applications are now open for the 2024 Youth Development Fund (YDF), a \$1.5 million grant program to support non-profit organizations that provide high quality, en-

gaging programming for youth and young adults ages 14-24. Funding will be prioritized for areas that are aligned with the Mayor's Connect, Learn, Explore commitment to youth. The goal of this grant is to increase the variety of free youth programming in the City and provide a positive outlet for youth when they're not

in school. Applications are open until 5:00 p.m. on August 19, 2024.

"We're working to make Boston a city where every young person has access to enriching experiences outside of the classroom," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "By directing funds to initiatives that support youth programming

we are not just investing in the futures of our young people, but in the future of our entire community. Thank you to our Office of Human Services for their work in launching this grant. I can't wait to see the programs that our partner organizations will offer and all the ways they will bring new and exciting experiences for our young people."

This year, the Youth Development Fund will support non-profit youth-serving organizations through two tracks of funding – one track for small, emerging organizations and another track for larger, established organizations. Those chosen for the emerging awards will be invited to participate in the Emerging

Organization Learning Community, a series of free training and capacity-building workshops. This will be the second year that the Mayor's Office of Human Services has offered the Learning Community.

"I am excited that we are able to partner with so many youth development organizations to offer a diverse array of programming," said Human Services Chief José F. Massó. "We want every family in Boston to be able to find fun, engaging, high quality programs in their neighborhood."

The Emerging Leader Grant will support organizations that have an annual operating budget of \$200,000 or less and all

Continued on page 6

Public Meeting

Continued from page 1

project, but that is no longer included.

As the presentation continued, Johnson highlighted other aspects of the project, such as setbacks from Northeastern buildings and a shadow setback to reduce shadows impacting the Museum of Fine Arts.

There are also plans for only one loading dock at the site where trucks will only be allowed to pull in off of Parker Street and will not be allowed to back in from Parker Street.

Another critical aspect of the project is a pedestrian path between the two buildings, connecting Museum Road across Huntington Avenue through the site and Northeastern's West Village to Ruggles Station. Plans also include a connection from the site across Ruggles Street to Wentworth Hall.

After Johnson outlined the materials and building forms that were inspired to align with existing buildings around the area, Josh Burgel detailed the project's public realm aspects.

These public realm aspects include bike sharing and parking areas, new mid-block crossings on Ruggles and Parker Streets, a 45% tree increase, bike lanes, and more.

Burgel also noted plans for programming in publicly accessible spaces such as water features in the warmer seasons, farmers' markets, art spaces, and more.

As for sustainability, the project aims to achieve LEED Gold, and the project will utilize "electric operations for the heating and cooling of the building as much as possible," according to Johnson.

Workforce development is also an essential part of the project. "One of the things that Huntington Development Group does, you know, we want to prioritize workforce development opportunities and career ladders

in the life sciences and building industry to create a more diverse and inclusive workforce in Boston."

For example, The Fallon Company partners with Street2Ivy and runs a real estate entrepreneurship program free of charge for Boston kids.

The project team is also looking to work with Wentworth to facilitate workforce training programs, work with the institutes' RAMP program, and employ more than 80 Wentworth co-op students.

After the presentation, Juan Maldonado, Associate Director of Sociedad Latina, a youth development organization from Mission Hill, made the only comment about the project.

Maldonado offered his support for the project on behalf of the organization and was thankful to the project team for listening to suggestions from youth and members of Sociedad Latina to improve the project.

Moreover, he noted that the developers verbally agreed to partner with Sociedad Latina, centering on increased employment and career exploration opportunities for Mission Hill

youth. He requested that a plan be included with annual internship and employment opportunities metrics as part of the project's approval process.

"We would like to request that the development team work closely with youth development organizations in Mission Hill as well as continue to work with Sociedad Latina in setting these goals and implementing the internship program," said Maldonado.

"The BPDA should also ensure the initial verbal agreement and commitments are part of the written community benefits package."

Regarding the project's next steps, Stephen Harvey of the city's Planning Department noted that the project must receive approval from the Boston Civic Design Commission, the planning board, and the zoning commission.

To learn more about this project, view the presentation and recording from this meeting, visit <https://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/wentworth-500-huntington-avenue>.

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What's Happening on Main Streets

BY COURTNEY WRIGHT

Happy August, Mission Hill!

I'd be remiss to not start this month's piece with gratitude and acknowledgement to two of our friends at Mike's Donuts, Mira and Mosa. As long as I have been in Mission Hill, they have been the two faces I most commonly see in the morning (besides Nick, Frank and Mossy) and who know my coffee order before I even get in the door. I want to take a moment and show appreciation for the role they play in making Mike's, our 2024 Legacy Business, a place we all go to feel

like a local. Make sure to include an extra tip next time you visit (wink).

It's hard to believe that we're entering the last month of the summer season already. Although it has been hot, we have been lucky this year to have missed much of the rain of the previous summer allowing for more attendance at community events over the last month. From programming in Fitz Park by MHNHS and concerts in

Brigham Circle with Sociedad Latina, to last weekend's Family Fun Day in Mission Main; there has been no shortage of ways to engage. The MH Arts Fest has also been a huge success, with great turn out and fabulous performances over the course of the last few weekends. I recommend checking out their next event in the series on August 10th, featuring Ivanna Cuesta and Abria Smith. Learn more about the artists and how to get tickets here: <https://www.mhartsfest.org/2024/ivanna-cuesta.html#a-na-viveros>.

Just in time for a new school year, we have some exciting news on Tremont St.! Hebron Market will be doing a soft-opening of their brand new market at 1522 Tremont St. on Friday, August 2nd (today as you read this). The market will be open from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. daily beginning Friday, with a formal ribbon cutting in the works for the end of August/early September. Hebron Market will be the second business on Tremont St for Yousef Irziqat, owner of Crispy Dough, and will offer Halal-certified meat and reasonably priced, pre-packaged meals in addition to dry foods and some grocery items. It's a beautiful space inside and I'm excited to see how they utilize the outdoor space as they get acclimated. Stop by and check it out! Congratulations Yousef and co!

In other restaurant news, this September 24th will mark 20 years since Penguin Pizza opened in 2004! In anticipation of properly celebrating this milestone in September, Pam Carthy and Dermot Doyme are asking anyone who has photos in/with/at Penguin to please send them via email to Pam at pamela@thepenguinpizza.com.

Stay tuned for more information on a future celebration. In the meantime, keep enjoying the daily and weekly specials Penguin has to offer. Follow them on Instagram @thepenguin-missionhill to stay updated on specials and events like trivia and themed watch parties. Speaking of specials- look out next week for Yellow Door's (@yellowdoor-taco) updates as they roll out fun new offerings as the summer winds down (their party doesn't stop).

The month of August is going to be very busy here at MH Main Streets. As classes start back in September, we have several groups of students who will be coming through the business district over the next few weeks as an introduction/orientation to the neighborhood and what it has to offer. Beginning with Harvard Medical School Residents from the Office of Community Centered Medical Education on August 7th and wrapping up with Northeastern's ACES program on August 29th, I look forward to showing off the establishments and unique character of the neighborhood we love. If you see me corraling students along Tremont and Huntington this month, feel free to introduce yourself

and give your suggestions for things to do and places to eat and drink in the area. Simultaneously, we have a Wentworth student, Elijah Dodson, working on the Main Streets App to set up business guides/scavenger hunts aimed at getting students incentivized and out and about in the business district as they move back in September. I'm excited by the opportunity to get others excited about what we have to offer.

As we approach September, please SAVE THE DATE for Mission Hill Main Streets Annual Meeting on September 24th, 5:30 p.m. in the Yard at the Tobin Community Center. Invitations will be sent out over the next week, but in the meantime please hold the date- we'd love for you to

join us.

As always, if you want me to promote something or get in touch, please feel free to email me at missionhillmainstreets-boston@gmail.com



WINN companies Jayme Bonds accepting an award from Willie Pearl Clark, Mission Main Tenant Task force President at Family Day on July 27.

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Mayor's Cup Tennis Tournament begins Aug. 12

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department are excited to announce the 2024 Mayor's Cup Tennis Tournament. Athletes ages 8-18 will have the opportunity to compete for the title of "Boston's Best" in singles and

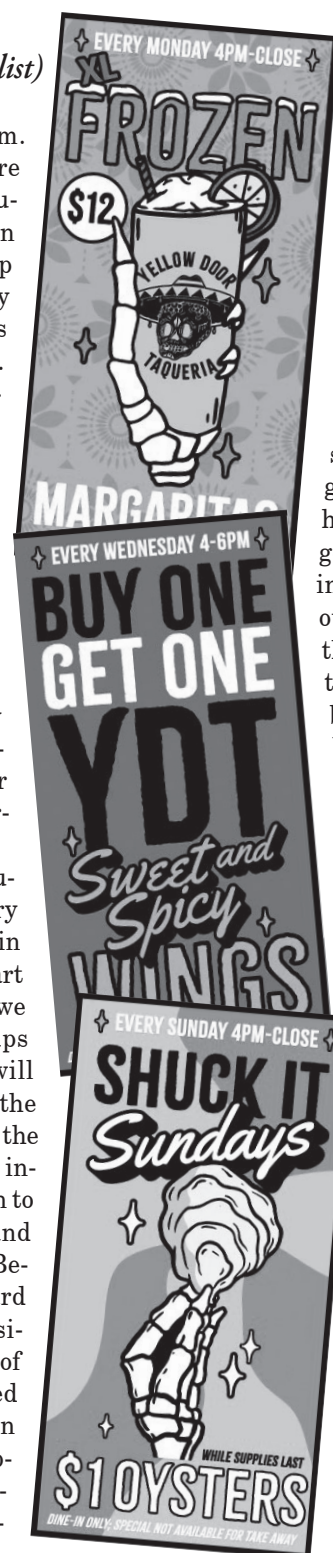
doubles tennis.

"We are proud to continue this tradition and celebrate the talent and sportsmanship of the young athletes in our city of champions," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "The Mayor's Cup Tennis Tournament is a wonderful opportunity to activate our parks with healthy competition and friendly

rivalry."

The tournament will kick off on Monday, August 12, at 9:30 a.m., with games concluding on Thursday, August 15. Matches will take place at Carter Playground Tennis Courts, 709 Columbus Ave. The divisions are

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Hill Happenings

BY MAURICE 'MOSSY' MARTIN

Mission Hill lost a great one last month when John Todd passed away a month shy of his 94th birthday.

A father of four, grandfather of six and great-grandfather to five, John possessed uncanny wisdom, and was the recipient of his acuity going back 60 years when we both lived in the Mission Hill project.

John, who worked for the sheriff's department in Norfolk County, lived for decades on Calumet Street, where he enjoyed sitting on his porch, chatting with passersby and exuding goodwill. He also owned 'Maxie's,' a small grocery store at Calumet and Sachem streets, in the '60s.

In eulogizing his dad at the Mission Church Memorial Mass, Kevin Todd, recalled being a little boy in Maxie's one afternoon. A customer said she didn't have enough money to go to the Elm Farm Market, and she was a tad short in purchasing a box of pasta and tomato sauce.

"No problem at all," John told

her. "Grab a loaf of bread on the way out to fill up the kids' bellies."

A few years ago, John called me and told me to come by his house to see some memorabilia. John had stepped into another room, when Kevin, who was there visiting his father, bellowed out: "Dad, your son, Maurice, is here."

Mr. Todd was a second father to so many of us in Mission Hill.

I got a warm feeling upon the news that Naval Officer Joseph Keiley from Mission Hill was promoted to Naval Commander. Joseph is the son of terrific parents, the late Philip Keiley and his proud mother, Evelyn (Quinn) Keiley. The Keileys are a wonderful family who lived up the Hill for decades and I'm reminded of Joseph's grandfather, John "Abner" Keiley.

Abner was a great baseball player who played center field for Mission High School in the 1940s, and after retiring from the post office, I became close friends with him. He was the unofficial social director at my hangout, the Mission Hill Post,

organizing whist tournaments and poker tournaments. I spent hours in the back dingy card room at the Post with him and other old-timers.

Abner would be so proud of his grandson, Commander Joseph Keiley.

I attended the fifth annual Wayne Selden Basketball Camp last week at Madison Park, which was enjoyed by 200 kids.

Wayne, a pro basketball player from Mission Hill, is the main sponsor of the event, which included free haircuts for the kids, with three talented barbers on hand, as well as free shirts.

Thanks to Circle Pizza in Brighton for sending 50 delicious pizzas; N.E. Baptist Hospital for donating gift cards; and to Mike's Donuts for the tasty munchkins. Most important, the kids were enthralled, sharing the court and getting guidance from Selden.

The kids were also thrilled to meet special guest, Svi Mykhailiuk who was Wayne's teammate at Kansas U. Svi was a member of last year's Celtics championship team.

I've known Wayne since he was the batboy on our Mission Hill Liquors softball team, and he never forgot where he came from.

Condolences to the family of Claire King, who passed away last month.

A studious woman who graduated at the top of her 1958 Mission High class, Claire was among seven siblings who grew up on Calumet Street, and she loved Mission Hill. Claire was a gifted storyteller, and she enjoyed telling absorbing tales about the old days on the Hill. Claire will be deeply missed.

Mission Hill lost one of their oldest businesses last month when Sofia's Alterations & Cleaning closed. Talented seamstress, Sofia Marmanides, retired after decades working at her shop at 824 Huntington Ave.

Many years ago, Sofia's husband, the late Nick Marmanides, mended shoes at Sofia's, the last

Mission Hill cobbler to ply his trade.

I had occasionally been a customer at Sofia's, most recently when I brought in my 80-year-old baseball glove for lacing.

Sofia did excellent work, and enjoyed chatting with such a nice lady.

The Mission Hill Post 327 Golf Fundraiser will take place on Saturday, Sept. 21, tee-off at 11:30 a.m. This is a noble event, which raises money for our veterans and Mission Hill institutions.

Like every year, \$10,000 will be awarded to the golfer who scores a hole in one on the seventh hole.

If you are interested in playing, sponsoring a hole or donating a gift card for our post golf raffle, our M.H. Post Commander, Col. George Rollins can be contacted at 703-209-2124. Maurice can be reached at mossymartin2@gmail.com.

Mayor's Cup

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as follows:

- 8U singles
- 10U singles
- 12U doubles and singles
- 14U doubles and singles
- 18U doubles and singles

Registration is now open on <https://boston.gov/parks-sports>.

The Mayor's Cup Tennis Tournament is presented by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department in partnership with the Sportsmen's Tennis Club and Tenacity. P&G Gillette is the official sponsor of this year's tournament.

"Youth sports are such a mean-

ingful part of summer in Boston," said Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods. "We are thrilled to host this year's Mayor's Cup Tennis Tournament and hope you will come to cheer on the young athletes at Carter Playground."

For more information about Boston's parks, please visit

<https://Boston.gov/parks>. Stay updated with news, events, and design and construction work in Boston parks by signing up for our email list at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails and following our social channels @bostonparksdept on X, Facebook, and Instagram.



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JP

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Early registration ends on August 30th 2024

Fall season runs from Weds, Sept. 11th through Sun, Nov. 10th 2024

Registration costs \$25 - discounts are available.

The Fall season is 8 weeks long, every week we hold one 45 minute practice for each team, with available sessions on Wednesdays at 4pm, Saturday at 9, 10am and Sunday at 10am.

Volunteer Activity leaders (aka "coaches") are needed to support every team - no experience needed! See our website for more details or contact us directly at: contact@jpchildrensoccer.org

Para niños 3.5-6.5. El registro en línea ya está abierto en <https://bit.ly/jpcsoccer>

El temprano registro de la temporada regular finaliza el 30 de Agosto de 2024

La temporada de otoño se extiende desde el Miércoles el 11 de Septiembre hasta el Domingo 10 de Noviembre 2024. La inscripción cuesta \$25.00 — hay descuentos disponibles.

La temporada de otoño tiene una duración de 8 semanas, cada semana realizamos una práctica de 45 minutos para cada equipo, con sesiones disponibles los Miércoles a las 4 p.m., los Sábados a las 9, 10 a.m., o los Domingos a las 10 a.m.

Necesitamos líderes voluntarios para apoyar a cada equipo, ¡no se necesita experiencia! Visite nuestro sitio web para obtener más detalles o contáctenos directamente en: contact@jpchildrensoccer.org.



CITY PAWS

Tips for a new dog or new to city life

BY PENNY & ED CHERUBINO

When people with common interests get to know one another, it's only natural to share tips and ask questions about that interest. So is the case with dog people. Informal doggie play groups and walking groups abound in urban areas. Inquire where locals gather with their dogs and join them. You'll make friends and have a great source of inside information.

Out and About

As you meet fellow dog guardians, ask their opinion on local veterinarians, groomers, walkers, and other services. Beyond those they recommend, ask about those they don't recommend and why.

On congested sidewalks, pups need observant and protective

friends. Put your pup between two people or close to you. City litter can be dangerous to paws. Guide your little one around broken glass, gum, fresh tar, and smoldering cigarette butts.

City drivers often cut corners and run traffic lights. In our area, it's not if anyone will come through the red light; it's how many will run the light. Stand well back from the curb and be sure all traffic has stopped before stepping onto the street. And, remember, a driver might not see your dog if she crosses a street ahead of you.

For years, we've used a trick to keep our dogs from jumping on someone or to keep them quietly by our side and under close control when we are distracted by a phone or taking a photo. We move our dog close to our side, ask for a sit, let the leash we are holding touch the ground

between us and the dog, and put a foot on it.

Finally, be sure that your dog has local identification on its collar, microchip, and, of course, a local license,

Beyond Basic Pet Supplies

We've always trained our Westies to use puppy pads inside. We suggest everyone keep a small supply of these pads for emergencies. They are very helpful any time your dog has a GI upset. At any sign of an upset tummy or diarrhea, we place a few around the house to swoop in and catch what the dog is ejecting. You can also take these on a walk for easier cleanup of loose bowel movements.

We have a red travel toiletry bag with backup supplies of items we always use for our dog Poppy. It also has her medications, dog-specific first aid supplies like her thermometer, pet bandages that stick to themselves, and curved scissors for trimming



To prevent your dog from jumping on people, keep her by your side with one foot on her leash while chatting with someone.

without nicking a squirmy dog.

Suppose you live where you have to use an elevator or several flights of stairs to take your dog outside. In that case, consider having a supply of doggie diapers or belly bands for male dogs if your dog has a urinary infection, GI upset, or incontinence.

Unless you have a salt-free yard for your dog in winter, consider adding boots to protect their paws from salt and other deicing chemicals. It may take some time to put these on and

play with your dog to gain acceptance, so don't wait until the snow flies to begin this process.

Thanks to the Tipsters

We wish we could credit the many friends and neighbors who have provided so many of the suggestions we share in these columns. There have been so many over the years that we can't remember who said what. We welcome any tips and suggestions readers may want to share at the email address below.



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Youth Development

Continued from page 3

awards will come with technical assistance and capacity building to help smaller organizations develop the skills needed to grow the program. These grantees will also be partnered with a mentor organization that can provide coaching in non-profit leadership.

"The Youth Development

Fund and the overwhelming support I received from the Office of Human Services were invaluable," said FY '24 grantee, Benjamin Diaz, founder of Fatherly Justice Association. "The lessons I learned over the last six months through the Emerging Organizations Learning Community are truly important to Fatherly Justice Association Corp and myself. I will always value the long-lasting partnerships that I was able to find with my fellow grantees."

Larger organizations, those with a budget greater than \$200,000 but less than \$5 million, are eligible for the Established Organization track. This grant opportunity is available to medium-to-large-sized youth development organizations with a strong track record of engaging young people and achieving successful outcomes. Grants in this category can go up to \$30,000.

This year, the Youth Development Fund grants focus on five categories of programming that are consistent with Mayor Wu's Connect, Learn, Explore commitment to providing opportunities for youth to explore and discover their passions. Organizations that present programming in the following areas will be prioritized:

- Sports, including swimming and biking
- Gardening, urban farming, and culinary arts
- Arts, including both visual and performing arts
- Other Youth development programming

In FY24, the YDF supported 88 grantees, including programming in every neighborhood that spanned sports, arts, academic support, after school programming, and entrepreneurship. Collectively, the FY 2024 YDF grantees served approximately 7,500 youth across Boston.

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BPDA Board approves White Stadium project

By MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR.

At its meeting last week, the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) Board approved a project that would renovate White Stadium through a partnership between Boston Unity Soccer Partners (BUSP) and the City of Boston.

As part of this project, BUSP was designated to renovate White Stadium through a request for proposals process that began in April of last year. BUSP was the sole respondent.

With the designation, BUSP will not only renovate the west grandstand, erect a new building south of the existing track to house aspects such as food and beverage service, and create an open space area for community activities called the Grove and more, but it will also bring a professional National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) team to the stadium.

In tandem with the above-mentioned improvements from BUSP, the city will conduct its own renovations.

Specifically, the city will construct a new east grandstand, extend buildings to accommodate offices and a strength and conditioning center, and install a new field surface and track, among other improvements.

According to the city's Chief of Operations, Dion Irish, the professional NWSL team would play up to 20 games per season, including championship games, as part of the partnership. Moreover, he stated that even in weeks when an NWSL game is scheduled, 90% of the facility's programmable hours would be for community and Boston Public Schools (BPS) programming.

"White Stadium is more than just a facility; it's a hub for athletic excellence, community gatherings, and cultural events. Our improvements will enhance visitor experience and preserve the stadium's legacy for future generations," said Irish.

"The concept of having a professional sports team share a home field with high school student-athletes and community members is an unprecedented one that excites us, especially because of how this partnership will dramatically increase stadium usage by Boston Public School student-athletes and members of the public," said BUSP's Controlling Manager Jennifer Epstein.

Not only was the above-mentioned information shared with the BPDA Board, but also the design process. During the project presentation, architects reviewed the design for the renovations of the entire stadium.

In speaking about design philosophy, Tamara Roy of Stantec Architecture said, "As designers, our mission is to respect all the eras that exist in the physical, historical, and social context here while using forms and materials that complement and blend them seamlessly together and being responsive to all of the comments that we've heard in the public process."

Moreover, Roy discussed the evolution of the design concept, which was previously asymmetrical due to differing program goals in the East and West.

After discussions with entities like the BPDA and architects who crafted the Franklin Park Action Plan, the design is more unified in that BPS programs are distributed more evenly, massing has been consolidated, and more.

Roy detailed design refinements as the presentation progressed and discussed some design nods to Frederick Law Olmsted — the man who designed Franklin Park — such as the facility canopies being inspired by his overlook building.

Later, Chris Bridle of Stantec Architecture highlighted the project's landscaping elements. He discussed trees at the site and plans for new plantings, removal of trees in poor health, stormwater management, grading, and more.

Bridle also provided transportation information on typical days and days when the NWSL team has a game.

"On a typical day, a new hierarchy of paths as recommended in the action plan [Franklin Park Action Plan] will promote pedestrians, bikes, and public transportation," said Bridle.

"This will be achieved in coordination with Boston Parks and BPS by reintroducing improved primary pedestrian [and] bike routes... a secondary path system... and a tertiary path system."

During game days, the stadium will be accessible through public transportation, shuttle service, ride-sharing, biking, and walking. Bridle also noted that the transportation plan will continue to be refined.

Also, the Boston Transportation Department will create a neighborhood-specific game day parking program for residents and visitors. Essentially, residents in the "White Stadium walk area" and their guests can park in areas where parking is not allowed on game day.

However, it should be noted that last week's presentation stated that people can get one resident sticker per vehicle registered to an address in the walk area and one visitor pass per residential unit.

Other aspects of the project to note are the creation of a BUSP annual \$500,000 community fund that could go toward investments in Franklin Park, local youth sports, and more; also, the new and improved White Stadium will be one of the first net-zero carbon stadiums in the country.

After the presentation, the floor was given to elected officials who commented on the project.

State Representative Samantha Montañó voiced her support for the project and called it transformative, praising city staff for working with the community to make the revitalization of White Stadium a reality.

At-Large City Councilor Henry Santana also supported the project, calling it a transformative investment in youth. However, he stressed the need for a "comprehensive" and "proactive" community process, citing letters of opposition and concerns from constituents.

"It is crucial that we ensure all voices are heard and that we work together to address any issues or questions that arise," he said.

"This project has the potential to positively impact our youth and our community, but it is essential that we proceed with transparency and active engagement from all stakeholders."

City Councilor Ben Weber urged the BPDA Board to approve the project in a statement detailing his pride in supporting the investment and addressing constituent concerns.

Weber spoke about a lack of trust in the fact that some folks do not believe the field will be as accessible for the community and BPS as proponents say and concerns that a public asset was being turned over to a private entity.

"There is nothing I have seen or heard, however, that supports these claims. Indeed, Superior

Court Judge Sarah Ellis found that this claim in particular or claims like this were not substantiated when she denied a request for a temporary restraining order," said Weber.

"In rejecting the claim that the terms of the project would hand over exclusive full-time use of the west grandstand to the soccer team, Judge Ellis wrote that this claim was refuted by the terms of the proposed lease agreement between the city and Boston Unity. I find the judges weighing of the facts and the law to be persuasive."

While the abovementioned elected officials expressed support, At-Large City Councilor Erin Murphy opposed the project, citing hearing "a lot of opposition."

Murphy indicated that she has heard from constituents who feel their voices are not being heard and that the process has been rushed. She thought that public funding could be found and used instead of including a private entity in BUSP.

Before the project went to a vote, BPDA Board Members made several comments. For example, BPDA Board Member Kate Bennett echoed Santana's remarks and stressed the need for continued community engagement.

In response, Diana Fernandez Bibeau, Deputy Chief of Urban Design at the BPDA, indicated that there is a commitment to ongoing dialogue. Epstein mentioned that a Neighborhood Advisory Council will be created comprised of elected officials and residents to keep lines of communication open.

Further, the Board's Chair, Priscilla Rojas, reviewed several concerns she had heard from residents and asked the project team for answers.

For example, a comment alluded to the idea that White Stadium, a public asset, is being transferred to a private company that would control it. However, Fernandez Bibeau noted that the

city would retain ownership.

Sammy Nabulsi, the city's legal counsel for the project, confirmed that the city would own the parcel and stadium and indicated that the NWSL team would use amenities such as the field through a licensing arrangement rather than a lease.

Another concern was that this process should not proceed with ongoing litigation, referring to a lawsuit filed by the Emerald Necklace Conservancy and other individuals to challenge the project.

However, Nabulsi indicated that in response to a request for a preliminary injunction, the Superior Court issued a decision in March that the plaintiffs "Were unlikely to succeed on the merits of any of their claims in this litigation."


He also stated, "In denying that preliminary injunction, the judge essentially carved out a path for the city to continue permitting, to continue entering into any contracts that it needs to pursue the project, and to move forward with the very public process that both the city and the soccer team have been on," before mentioning the hope is for the case to be done with no later than the Spring.

Other concerns addressed during the meeting included BPS' future use of the field, trust, plans if the project exceeds budget, and more.

After the project team addressed the abovementioned concerns, the proposal was put to a vote and unanimously approved by the BPDA Board.

To view a recording of the White Stadium presentation and the decision, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8klv5uLx-FiQ> and skip to 38:36.

It should also be noted that Weber and Murphy's testimony were taken out of order before the abovementioned discussion. To view their testimony, skip to 18:38.



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ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY IN MISSION HILL



Dance troop Estrellas Tropicales performs.

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

The 14th annual Family Fun Day was held by the Mission Main Tenant Task Force. It was

a Summer celebration of the Mission Main community where delicious barbecue, engaging activities, entertainment, and family fun were had by all.



Janeliz and Sahil are friends emitting their neighborhood's celebration.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu listens to Mission Hill resident Kimberly Edler.

Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll



ROCKY

Rocky is a very sweet boy who loves his people (but not other dogs). He enjoys his walks, is potty trained, and crate trained. (Note: Rocky does shed). He is about 1 year old and 32 lbs.

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Mission Main residents enjoy Family Fun Day.



Gift wrapped raffle prizes await to go to lucky residents at Mission Main.



Jessie Martinez with Earmi and Ari.jpg

ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY IN MISSION HILL



Tara Mosely with Rickayla and Kairo Strother.



Residents enjoyed the many recreational activities offered at Family Fun Day.



Family Fun Day was a celebration of the community.



Dance troop Estrellas Tropicales performs.



Mission Main residents line up for a fantastic Summer BBQ.



The Mission Main Tenant Task Force celebrates a vibrant community.

ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY IN MISSION HILL



Winn Companies CEO Gilbert Winn, Boston City Councilor Sharon Durkan, President of Mission Main Tenant Task Force Willie Pearl, Administrator of the Boston Housing Authority Kenzie Bok, volunteer Harry Smith, and Mayor Michelle Wu.



Volunteers offer residents an excellent Summer BBQ menu.

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President of Mission Main Tenant Task Force Willie Pearl and Administrator of the Boston Housing Authority Kenzie Bok.



Mayor's Office Photos by Jeremiah Robinson
Shown above, and left, Mayor Michelle Wu mingling with residents during the Family Fun Day.

FRESH AND LOCAL

Stand-By Salads

BY PENNY & ED CHERUBINO

One smart strategy for summer meals is to always have a hardy, filling salad ready in the refrigerator. These salads, packed with nutrients and accompanied by a side of protein, offer a practical and healthy meal option. They're a great way to achieve the goals of "five servings of vegetables and fruit a day" and "eating the rainbow."

A few of our favorite stand-by salads are tabouli, greek salad, Israeli salad, carrot salad, corn salad, and an Italian salad mix that we can add to lettuce when we serve it. This summer, we're adding a twist with more bean salads and a few that add fruit to the mix.

Mediterranean and Middle Eastern

Look for inspiration along the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. This region's diet is acclaimed for its healthy use of vegetables as the meal's centerpiece. Many of the offerings in the traditional mezze platter of dips and salads are sold pre-made in supermarkets, as take-out, or at Farmers' Markets. Obviously, these are all fine when made ahead.

Most are relatively easy to

make at home and personalize for your tastes. Tabouli recipes typically have parsley, tomato, bulgur, onion, olive oil, lemon juice, and salt as the main ingredients. However, as you move from one culture to another where this salad is a mainstay, you find variations. Pomegranate seeds are substituted for the tomato, or the ratio of grain to parsley is changed.

Moreover, using tabouli as a grain and herb salad allows creative cooks to experiment. Other grains are substituted for the bulgar, and peppers, cucumbers, and other vegetables are added. Our version adds chickpeas to the mix, which, when working with the grain, makes a complete protein when we have it stuffed in a pita or scooped up with lettuce leaves as a lighter meal.

The same is true for versions of the chopped salad often called Israeli salad but served throughout the region under other names. It contains tomato, onion, and cucumber and can also include pepper, carrot, scallion, and herbs dressed with lemon juice and olive oil. We find this is better when the ingredients have been together long enough for their flavors to merge.

From Near and Far

We don't use mayonnaise, so our potato salad and coleslaw recipes are made with oil and vinegar. This makes for a lighter and longer-lasting salad. We also use recipes for these "all-American favorites" from other cultures.

We love German potato salad, salad nicoise, and Asian coleslaw. Cabbage is easy to have on hand, and coleslaw can be a side dish or a sandwich topping and can take on dozens of profiles. Our favorite one has scallions, grated carrots, fennel, and a sprinkle of mustard seeds added to its apple cider vinaigrette.

Classic French grated carrot salad is wonderful with its standard mustardy dressing. However, we make versions with a tad more honey and some raisins added. Recently, we had a container of muhammara, the Middle Eastern red pepper and walnut dip on hand when making carrot salad and decided to mix that in to change the flavor profile. It was a smoky, spicy success.

Think about coming home on a hot summer day to a bowl of something cool and refreshing waiting to fill your dinner plate.



Here are four favorite "stand-by salads:" potato and egg, chickpea, tabouli, and classic French grated carrot salad.

Just add some protein from your freezer or left from another meal. Or, you could always pick up a bit of fish or a take-out kabob on the way home.

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

Wu announces 30+ public art initiatives to Reimagine Boston's monuments with city's artists and cultural leaders

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Mayor's Office of Arts & Culture (MOAC) have announced the selected artists and public art projects for year one of the City's "Un-monument | Re-monument | De-monument: Transforming Boston" program. With this funding, artists and local arts organizations will spark conversations about monuments through temporary public art installations, free public events, and interactive arts experiences.

This initiative is supported by a \$3 million grant—the largest investment into public art programming in Boston—as part of the Mellon Foundation's Monuments Project. The program aims to transform the nation's commemorative landscape to ensure collective histories are more completely and accurately represented. Boston is one of nine U.S.

cities to receive a grant. The City of Boston Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture will invite artists to submit proposals for year two of the grant in November 2024.

"Public art can help challenge, reflect, and celebrate our communities, and I am so thrilled to see the work of our grant recipients across our neighborhoods," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "This investment in public art programs is groundbreaking and will support our efforts to highlight the many cultures, talents, and histories of our residents. It is an honor to see this innovation through art."

The City's Un-monument program adopts a multifaceted approach to the discourse on monuments through temporary monuments, education, engagement, and public conversations. By providing various pathways of participation to artists, cultural organizations, and community members through a diverse

range of projects and engagements, the City expands the role of the public in shaping Boston's future monuments to sustain a cultural ecosystem for years to come.

In addition to the artists receiving grant funding, MOAC is inviting Joshua Bennett, Imani Perry, Kerri Greenidge, and other leading figures to speak at a series of public conversations at The Embrace with the Hutchins Center of African & African American Research.

"These selected public art projects celebrate diverse voices and perspectives, uplift democracy and justice, and uncover the city's rich history while examining the complexity of American stories," said Kara Elliott-Ortega, Chief of Arts & Culture for the City of Boston. "Emphasizing creativity and experimentation,

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Continued on page 12

LOCAL STUDENT EARNS ACADEMIC HONORS

BELANOFF HARMON ON DEAN'S LIST AT CLARK UNIVERSITY

Eve Belanoff Harmon, of Mission Hill, was named to second honors

on the Clark University Dean's List. This selection marks outstanding academic achievement during the Spring 2024 semester. Students must have a GPA of 3.8 or above for first honors or a

GPA between 3.50 and 3.79 for second honors. Founded in 1887, Clark University is a liberal arts-based research university that prepares its students to meet tomorrow's

most daunting challenges and embrace its greatest opportunities. Through 33 undergraduate majors, more than 30 advanced degree programs, and nationally recognized community part-

nerships, Clark fuses rigorous scholarship with authentic world and workplace experiences that empower our students to pursue lives and careers of meaning and consequence.

Un-Monument

Continued from page 11

this initiative features deep collaborations across Boston and beyond with artists, advisory committees, cultural organizations, and educational institutions."

Through temporary public art installations that expand the traditional monument form, the Un-monument initiative aims to help residents reflect on and engage with monuments in Boston and the narratives they create. For 2024, artist-led temporary monuments were commissioned by an open call led by MOAC as well as through commissions by five curatorial partners. Artists and other community members were able to apply to participate in an augmented reality artist workshop, as well as an advisory team to provide community-thought partnership and offer feedback, connections, and recommendations for the duration of the Un-monument program, including on speakers invited to speak at The Embrace for a public conversation series.

"Un-monument builds on nearly a decade of the Boston community's collective work," said Director of Public Art for the City of Boston Karin Goodfellow, who is leading Un-monument. "I'm excited to continue this work with artists, cultural leaders, and residents across the city to explore how new works of art can reframe our experience of monuments and better connect our histories to the present."

Additionally, MOAC is broadening its impact through partnerships with the Boston Art Review and the Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MassArt). By fostering and supporting a new generation of art makers rooted in the city's cultural landscape, MOAC redefines monuments as more than just objects to encompass the larger dialogue around monuments as it pertains to signage and written language. The Boston Art Review will expand upon the work in Un-monument through research, writing, and publishing about monuments

in Boston. MassArt will create educational and interpretive materials, signage, and an online educational component.

TEMPORARY PUBLIC ART MONUMENTS

As part of the Un-monument program, new public art installations across the city will encompass temporary sculptural installations, murals, new media and augmented reality, theater, and socially and community-engaged practices. These projects include a commemoration of the weekly toll of gun violence in the U.S., an immersive sculptural installation of a large Mayan pyramid highlighting the resilience of immigrant communities in Massachusetts, and live painting by local graffiti-artists alongside community dance and music events across the city.

Selected Projects:

- "Spray It Loud, Display It Proud" Series: Monumental Manifestations of Community in the Medium of Graffiti by A Trike Called Funk with local graffiti artists
- Kinfolk Monuments Project by Kinfolk, led by Idris Brewster
- Future Monument to the Trees of the Public Garden by Katherine Farrington
- Generation Peace Poles by Ruth Henry
- We Were Here Too by Roberto Mighty
- Going to Ground by LaRissa Rogers and Zalika Azim
- The Gun Violence Memorial Project by Hank Willis Thomas and MASSDesign Group
- Boston Chinatown: Stories on The Streets by Alison Yueming Qu and The Lot Next Door by Jaronzie Harris

"Stone and bronze have been used for centuries to show what's important and who matters. Thankfully, those kinds of monuments are increasingly being erected to people whose accomplishments have been left out of our shared origin story. New media presents artists and commissioning bodies with exciting ways of creating monuments that are at once site-specific, instantly available worldwide, and finan-

cially within reach," said artist Roberto Mighty.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Eight additional artists were selected to receive grants to support research and development for future projects. These projects include a proposal honoring and uplifting the legacy of Ella Little Collins, Malcolm X's older sister; an interactive memorial that encourages personal and collective reflection on the Vietnamese diaspora experience; and a series of public interventions aiming to uplift the story of Crispus Attucks and the Boston Massacre.

- 1975: A Vietnamese Diaspora Memorial by Ngoc-Tran Vu
- Crispus in July: Requiem for a Revolutionary... aka A Series of Interventions and Meditations in Public Space to Contemplate Freedom Trails and Trials and Politicized Deaths of Coloured Citizens of the World, but in Particular, and Very Expressly, Those of the United States of America by lauren woods
- On The Prowl by Rixy
- Project inspired by A People's Monument by Cedric Douglas
- Project inspired by Roxbury Love by Ricardo Gomez
- Recognize Ella (Working Title) by Fatima Seck
- title in progress immigrant's monument by Tania Bruguera
- "ELEVAR LA CULTURA" by Victor Quiñonez

CURATORIAL PARTNERS

In addition to artist-led projects, MOAC is funding commissions led by five curatorial partner organizations with the intention of creating opportunities for more perspectives to join the conversation about what monuments could be in Boston. Commissioning local organizations to expand upon the Un-monument program supports Boston's creative ecosystem and allows for participation in this dialogue at multiple levels.

"No action is more urgently needed than rediscovering how to love ourselves and thus cancel violence in our communities. Artists help us visualize ways of doing that through creativity. We

discover ourselves as we create ourselves through music, spoken words, and visual exuberance. Just such rediscovery is the goal of Cancel Violence," said Barry Gaither, Director and Curator of the Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists.

The 5 curatorial partner organizations are:

- Emerson Contemporary, co-curated by Leonie Bradbury and Shana Garr
- Regarding Monuments: Visualizing Hidden Histories
- off the pedestal by Laura Anderson Barbata, New Red Order (NRO), Paula J. Wilson
- I have asked myself: "Can a sentence be haunted? And if so, by what?" by Kameelah Janan Rasheed,
- THIS IS AMERICA by Louis Cameron
- Transforming Boston: Hidden in Plain Sight with Sue Murad, Clareese Hill, and Elisa Hamilton
- North American Indian Center of Boston, co-curated by Janelle Pocowatchit and Jean-Luc Pierite
- Mother Earth Back: Landscapes of the Southwest by Geraldine Barney
- Portals: Mending in the Multiverse by Mea Johnson
- IndigiMarket: Indigenous Artist Exposition curated by Mea Johnson, Gloria Colon, and Janelle Pocowatchit
- Boston Indigenous Public Space Initiative, Meet and Greet on Cultural Use, curated by Robert Peters
- Boston Public Art Triennial, curated by Jasper Sanchez with Kate Gilbert
- TORII by Matthew Okazaki
- The Resurrection of Mark, Phillis, & Phebe by Ifé Franklin
- Gulf Stream by Hugh Hayden
- Pao Arts Center, curated by Lani Asunción
- Imagine Safety by Joanna Tam
- Abundance Among Us - Dragon & Friends by Maria Fong, Sheila Novak, Wen-hao Tien
- Ping Pong Tables of Chinatown: A Celebration of Diversity and Nature by Jennifer Duan, Stephanie Li, Kathlyn Lipton
- The Thousand Bloom - A

Chrysanthemum Grows in Chinatown by Anita Yip

- Healing Tofu Tricycle Performance & Workshops by Ying e
- National Center of Afro-American Artists, curated by Barry Gaither
- Cancel Violence: Artists Speak by Paul Goodnight, Robert "ProBlak" Gibbs, Robert Stull, L'Merchie Frazier, Laurence Pierce, Shea Justice, Hakim Raquib, and Johnetta Tinker.

FREE PUBLIC PROGRAMMING

Working with The Hutchins Center for African & African American Research at Harvard University, the Friends of the Public Garden, and Embrace Boston, the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture will host a series of public conversations at The Embrace about democracy and justice, inviting people to think about interconnections between monuments, public memory, and daily lives.

"Monuments aspire to tell our stories of shared peoplehood, pay homage to our losses, and reflect society's highest aspirations back to us," said Dr. Brandon Terry, the John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Social Sciences and curator of public conversations at The Embrace. "The hope is to remind people that memorialization is just the beginning of an ongoing conversation about what matters that we must all take part in if our fragile democratic experiment is going to reflect our most significant concerns."

Public programming will kick off with:

- July 31 at 5:30 p.m.: Poetry, Public Art, and the Politics of Memory
- Speakers: Professor Joshua Bennett and Professor Imani Perry
- August 21 at 5:30 p.m., Ideas of America/New England
- Speaker: Kerri Greenidge

- September 25 at 5:30 p.m.
- Topic and speakers TBA

To learn more about Un-monument and the grantees, visit boston.gov/un-monument.

WHERE TO FIND THE GAZETTE?

Name.....	Address.....	Business.....	Address.....
7-Eleven Store.....	415 Center / Huntingtin Ave	Puddingston Tavenen.....	1592 Tremont St
Levinson Bldg.....	835 Huntington Avenue	Tremont House Of Pizza.....	1590 Tremont St
Neville Building.....	Huntington Avenue	Subway Sandwiches.....	1578 Tremont St
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Udb Uq.....	738 Huntington Ave	Laundromat.....	1460 Tremont St
Halal Indian Cuisine.....	766 Huntington Ave	Dunkin Donut.....	1631 Tremont St
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Brighman Circle Chines.....	728 Huntington Ave	Mission Hill Liquors.....	1623 Tremont St
The Mission Pub.....	724 Huntington Ave	Flann O'brien 'S.....	1621 Tremont St
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Walgreens.....	Tremont And Huntington	Mission Hill Properties.....	1607 Trewmont St
J P L Ick's.....	Tremonte And Huntington	Mission Hill Post Office.....	1575 Tremont St
Bank Of America.....	Tremonte And Huntington	1575 Longwood Street Apts.....	1575 Tremont St
Citizens Bank.....	Tremonte And Huntington	Needham Bank.....	Tremont St
		Bruggels Bakery.....	375 Longwood Ave

Jamaica Plain/Mission Hill Gazette

2024 Publishing Calendar

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JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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Mission Hill Gazette

Jamaica Plain Gazette



EDITORIAL

A real-life Twister struck Revere 10 years ago this week

It was 10 years ago this week on Monday morning, July 28, that the neighboring community of Revere made national news when a tornado touched down at Mill Creek at the Chelsea line and tracked up Broadway to Brown Circle, leaving a trail of destruction in its wake that can only be described as something that one might see in a war zone.

When area residents awoke Monday and set out on their business for the day, there was no sign or warning of what Mother Nature would have in store for them at 9:34 that morning. But in the course of approximately five terrifying minutes, an F2 tornado -- in all its fury and unpredictability -- swept down Broadway and adjacent streets, causing tremendous damage to businesses, buildings, and homes.

An excerpt from the front page story of our sister newspaper, the Revere Journal, described the scene in the immediate aftermath this way:

"The sound of a freight train resounded outside the windows of Broadway businesses and homes in the immediate surrounding neighborhoods, a telltale sign of a tornado. Heavy things that aren't supposed to fly around like plastic bags were swirling; the opposite side of Broadway was invisible from one side to the other. The lights went out. The winds howled. Dumpsters were moved several yards. The skating rink roof was ripped off and deposited on Taft Street. City Hall windows on the south side were blown out like bombs had burst -- even computer screens and interior windows burst under the pressure of winds that tossed roofs like Frisbees and tore down granite blocks from the chimneys....Many people, who had no warning of the approaching storm, were outside or driving. They were blown in the winds, emerging from the whirlwind terrified and shaking, hardly able to relay to the Journal what had just happened to them. Just minutes after the storm passed, people who had been outside got up from where they were or emerged from their cars in a zombie-like daze."

Revere's public safety personnel were on the scene within minutes of the tornado's strike, doing everything they could to restore calm and order and to assist residents, almost all of whom had never witnessed a tornado in their lifetimes and who were in a shell-shocked state. In addition, the outpouring of assistance from Revere's neighboring communities and their public safety personnel in the aftermath of the tornado was heartwarming.

The workers of the city's Department of Public Works labored around the clock to clean the debris that resulted from the tornado and quickly restored a sense of normalcy to neighborhoods that were strewn with wires, trees, branches, and metal objects.

For those who were in the path of the F2 tornado, it is something that they will never forget. Miraculously, despite the immense destruction caused by the twister, which lifted roofs off buildings, uprooted large trees, and tossed cars around like Lego toys, nobody was killed and there were no serious injuries.

The Revere Tornado of 2014 now is a chapter in the history of our area. It will stand alone as an incredible weather event, a reminder of the havoc that Mother Nature can wreak in literally just a few minutes, the likes of which we hope we will never witness again.

Congratulations, Mayor Wu

We would like to offer our congratulations and best wishes to Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, who recently announced that she is expecting her third child in January.

Mayor Wu has told the press that she does not plan on taking maternity leave and fully intends to seek re-election next year.

We have no doubt that the mayor's husband, Conor Pewarski, will play a huge role on the homefront, given the incredible demands of the office of mayor.

We wish the mayor and her family all the best in the coming months and we look forward to greeting Boston City Hall's first-ever First Baby!

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.

Please include address and telephone number for verification purposes.

Anonymous letters will not be published.

More information: 617-524-7662

Op-Ed

On our State Budget

By MAURA HEALEY

I signed a groundbreaking new budget for our state.

This budget delivers on our shared priorities. It drives our state forward with urgency and purpose.

Massachusetts is the best place in the world to live, work, raise a family, and grow a business. But we face challenges, so we aren't resting. We're going on offense.

We're investing in the areas where we're already leading. But we're not just pushing forward on our #1 ranked schools and our nation-leading childcare policy. We're also tackling our biggest challenges by lowering more household costs and improving transportation.

And we're doing all of this responsibly -- staying within our means and focusing every taxpayer dollar on making life better for everyone who lives and works in our state.

So why is this budget going to make such a big difference? Let me give some examples.

We're making strides on education.

This budget funds Literacy Launch, our plan to provide high-quality, evidence-based reading instruction to every student from age 3 to grade 3.

We're fully funding the Stu-

dent Opportunity Act, continuing to provide free breakfast and lunch for every public school student in the state, and fully phasing in the tax cuts we passed last year -- which for families now means the most generous, universal child and dependent tax credit in the nation, at \$440 per child.

We're funding a historic expansion of college access in our state. Building on the success of MassReconnect, which eliminated tuition and fees for students over 25, we're establishing MassEducate.

Massachusetts will now have the most comprehensive free Community College program in the United States.

We'll save money for students and families. We'll open the doors of higher education and career opportunity. And at a time when community colleges are critical partners on workforce training, it will help us build the workforce we need in climate technology, healthcare, advanced manufacturing, and more.

This budget also levels up our work to make transportation both more reliable and more affordable in our state.

It doubles our operating support for the MBTA, and funds the T's reduced fare program for low-income riders. It funds

Continued on page 15

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

Mission Hill GAZETTE

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Patricia DeOliveira
Advertising Manager

Sandra Storey
Founder/Publisher Emerita 1993-2011

Patricia@jamaicaplaingazette.com

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Stephen Quigley, *President* stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com

Debra DiGregorio, *Director of Marketing* ads@jamaicaplaingazette.com

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Op-Ed

How would you spend the city's money?

BY RENATO CASTELO

How would you spend \$2 million of the city's money to benefit your community? That's the question we're asking Boston residents as the City heads into its first-ever city-wide Participatory Budgeting process this July.

But first, what is Participatory Budgeting?

When Mayor Michelle Wu announced the Office of Participatory Budgeting in late 2022, she called it an opportunity for "direct civic engagement to shape our budget." The office was created following a ballot initiative to provide a new way for residents' voices and ideas to be represented.

Originally developed in Porto Alegre, Brazil in 1989, Participatory Budgeting is a civic engagement process that empowers community members to decide how to spend part of a city's budget. The Brazilians' idea was to "Democratize democracy" by bringing more equitable participation in public spending, particularly for marginalized communities.

This comes at a critical time when record numbers of people nationwide report feeling distrust toward the government. According to the Harvard Kennedy School's 2024 Youth Poll, trust in major public institutions has fallen by up to 50 percent over the past decade.

Participatory Budgeting can provide an opportunity to combat this mistrust as residents come together and connect with local government in a meaningful way.

Since its development, Participatory Budgeting has been adopted by more than 1,500 cities worldwide, including by our neighbors in Somerville and Cambridge.

Now in its tenth year of Participatory Budgeting, Cambridge residents recently voted to fund projects ranging from free menstrual care dispensers, to smart recycling compactors, to public toilet upgrades.

While these are not the massive government programs we are used to, they are practical ideas that come from the community and benefit people at a grassroots level.



The idea submission deadline has been extended to August 15. Scan here to visit the City of Boston's website to learn more and submit your ideas.

I was honored to be named the first director of the Office of Participatory Budgeting for Boston by Mayor Wu, and look forward to administering our first \$2 million process in concert with our External Oversight Board. Our mission is to help create accessible spaces for civic engagement, collect ideas, and ultimately put these ideas in action.

As a native of Ecuador who

made Boston my home several years ago, I understand the challenges many immigrants and newcomers face in accessing government due to mistrust in public institutions, civic apathy, and language and cultural barriers. That's why we are ensuring this engagement is done in partnership with local community groups and is multilingual and accessible to people from all walks of life.

Boston's 'Youth Lead the Change' initiative has run a youth Participatory Budgeting process since 2014. Building on that, we will also include the opportunities for youth to participate in the citywide process, which can plant the seeds for lifelong civic engagement.

July is Idea Collection Month

This July, the City will co-host a series of public forums in collaboration with non-profit partner organizations where people can propose and discuss their project ideas. Residents can also engage via an online portal, phone line, and via Participatory Budgeting corners at Boston Public Library locations.

Eligible ideas could include funding for programs to strengthen mental health among Boston youth, digital literacy classes for older adults, or workforce training for those reentering society after incarceration. Infrastructure projects are also eligible, such as expanding the City's free Wi-Fi networks or enhancing public art and green spaces.

Our office will work with residents to develop the top ideas into a 15-proposal ballot, and in

January of 2025, we will open up the process for voting and in the spring we'll begin implementation of the winning proposals.

As we embark upon our inaugural year of Participatory Budgeting in Boston, I invite you to join us this July. Visit www.Boston.gov/participate to share your project ideas online or find an Idea Collection Workshops nearby. Participants may also call the PB Phone Line at (617) 635-3059 or visit a PB corner at

your local Boston Public Library branch.

We look forward to putting your ideas in action and helping inform our City's future budget investments.

Renato Castelo is director of the Office of Participatory Budgeting in Boston. He holds a Masters in Education Policy from Harvard University and nearly 15 years of civic engagement experience.

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Op-Ed

Continued from page 15

fare-free bus service at our 15 statewide Regional Transit Authorities.

We're using \$250 million of Fair Share funding to leverage \$1 billion of investment capacity for transportation infrastructure – including roads, bridges, and rails. That could mean as much as \$300 million, right away, for the MBTA Rail Enhancement Program that will accelerate our progress eliminating slow zones.

We're doubling down on our commitment to lead on climate. Last year we made history by investing a full 1% of our state's

budget into Energy and Environment. This year, we're doing that again.

Our communities are deeply impacted by climate change already. We saw it in the floods last summer – and this month. So many communities dealt with serious damage. So this budget establishes the permanent Disaster Relief Fund.

These investments make us more competitive for employers to stay and grow here. They make it easier for people to afford to live and work here. And we have so much more coming.

Today's budget was possible due to our incredible partnership with the Speaker, Senate President, and the work of the entire

legislature.

And we're going to get so much more done together. Right now, the Legislature is working hard to complete more major bills, including on housing costs and economic development.

I know we are going to continue the incredible progress we are making. And we're going to do it in the way we know how – by coming together and delivering.

In a country that is so divided, that sense of partnership is what makes us so special. It makes us Massachusetts.

Maura Healey is the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Boston Public Market awards local women-owned businesses opportunity to join The Market rent-free

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The Boston Public Market has announced the winners of their second annual Entrepreneurship Forum Incubator Competition, powered by Citizens. Upon completion of the six-seminar series, and small business pitch contest, three local women-owned businesses, were awarded the opportunity to join the market rent-free for up to one year.

The Entrepreneurship Forum, launched in partnership with Citizens in 2022, is a two-part program aimed at increasing education, opportunity, and access to the downtown stage for women and minority-owned small businesses. This year's cohort of 39 small businesses – 77% women-owned and 72% minority-owned – participated in a six-seminar series focused on building entrepreneur's financial and business development acumen.

The Forum culminated in a pitch competition, where small

business owners shared their products and business plan with a panel of judges, which included the participation of Citizens' business bankers.

Tiny Farmhouse, AIRI Jewelry & Gallery and Bluebird Bouquets, three women-owned businesses were recognized as this year's winners, receiving up to a year of free rent to sell their products at the Boston Public Market.

Tiny Farmhouse, owned by artist Amy McCoy, is all about cheery, environmentally responsible stationery, home goods, and accessories featuring Amy's whimsical original illustrations and patterns. Each design is inspired by life at Amy's tiny farmhouse in Rehoboth, Massachusetts, and is from original artwork created in watercolor, pen and ink, or gouache. Tiny Farmhouse was awarded one year of full-time rent-free space within the Boston Public Market starting in early fall 2024.

AIRI Jewelry & Gallery,

owned by artist Maya Alia produces handmade jewelry, vibrant art prints, and culture-inspired apparel. AIRI is known for award-winning wire earrings (BEST of Boston 2023), thoughtfully designed to balance minimal and modern elegance with creative features that make for an unforgettable statement. AIRI is a woman- and black-owned business. AIRI Jewelry will pop up year-round on weekends at the Boston Public Market.

Bluebird Bouquets, owned by Haley Cormier, shares meaningful moments with others through thoughtfully crafted floral pieces for life's special moments. Bluebird Bouquets will participate in the seasonal Boston Public Market on the Greenway, located weekly on Thursdays through October across from the New England Aquarium.

"We are thrilled to welcome this next generation of women-owned small businesses and shepherd their success through

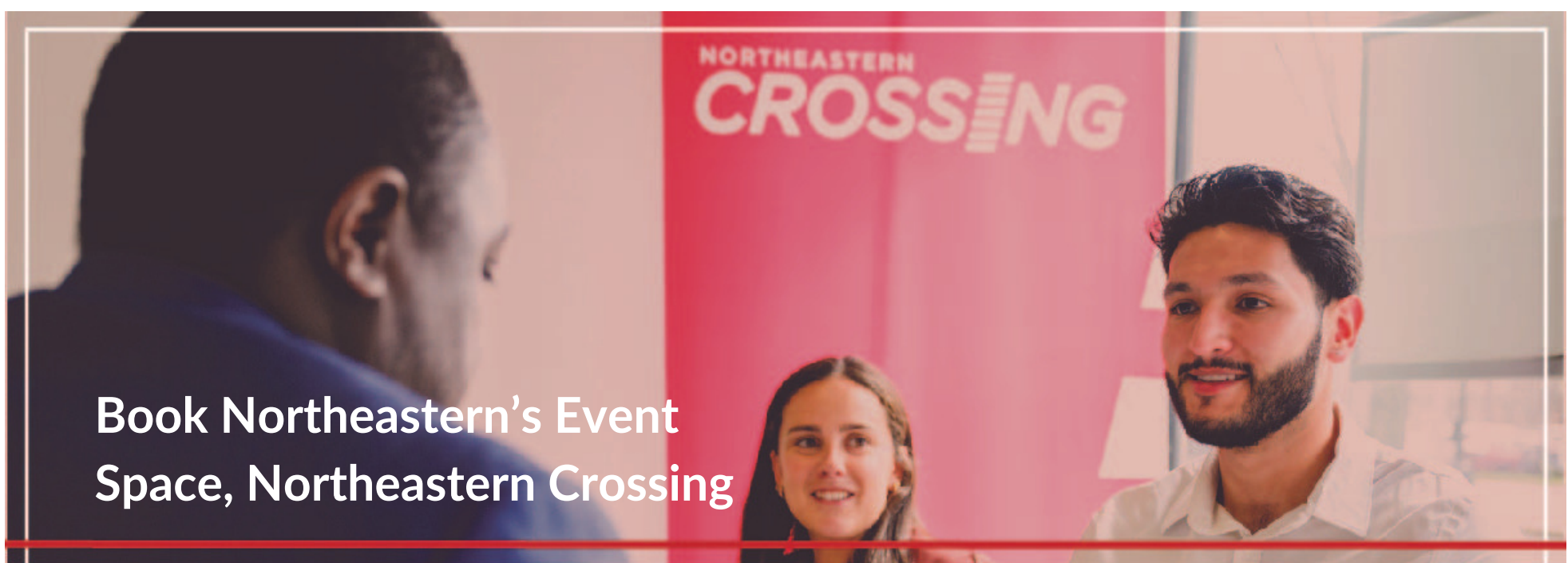
ongoing mentorship, collaboration, and guidance," said Cheryl Cronin, CEO of Boston Public Market. "We are immensely grateful to Citizens for their ongoing partnership, support, and dedication to developing local entrepreneurship, which continues to be a cornerstone in making the Market a unique, vibrant, and mission-driven institution in Downtown Boston."

The Entrepreneurship Forum has proven to be a high touch opportunity for local entrepreneurs to fine-tune their business concept to a hyper-relevant market with low overhead costs and ongoing assistance from the Boston Public Market Association team. Last year's inaugural winner Lifebloom, a Boston-based co-owned small business that identifies as woman, Black, and immigrant led, encountered such success selling their handmade candles on the floor of the Market during the last year, that they will be continuing as a permanent vendor at the Boston Public

Market.

"At Citizens, we recognize that small businesses are the heartbeat of our community, providing valuable goods and services and creating local jobs," said Lisa Murray, Massachusetts President at Citizens. "We are honored to partner with the Boston Public Market to support our local entrepreneurs and recognize this year's winners. We know this opportunity will be transformational to their businesses and encourage everyone to check out the market and the thoughtfully crafted products and offerings these talented women are bringing to Boston."

The third annual Entrepreneurship Forum powered by Citizens will launch in fall of 2024. Applications will open on July 17, 2024, with a submission deadline of September 9, 2024. Those interested are encouraged to apply at bostonpublicmarket.org/entrepreneurship.



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