



# CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

## Crossroads Resource Center celebrates grand opening

By Seth Daniel

Two Charlestown health centers have come together this summer and fall to collaborate on a drop-in resource center, particularly for those struggling with addiction and other such issues.

NEW Charlestown and the Charlestown MGH Health Center have collaborated on opening the Crossroads Resource Center within the NEW Health Center in Hayes Square. The space has been carved out of what was a conference room in the Health Center, and offers a five-day drop-in center that is staffed by personnel from both health centers.

Resource Specialist Gina Cardone said the Center offers recovery coaches, including

(CROSSROADS Pg. 7)

## BPDA looking to hear from the community on Navy Yard properties

By Seth Daniel

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) will be coming to the community this month to have a discussion about disposing of three key properties in the Navy Yard – including the condemned Pier 5 structure.

Devin Quirk of the BPDA said as part of the overall plan to activate the Navy Yard, the BPDA is now exploring some larger moves on properties in the Master Plan along the water.

That includes Pier 4 (Courageous Sailing), the vacant Pier 5 and the Pump House. The BPDA will be out to the community on Oct. 22 to hear ideas for all three.

Pier 5 probably presents the

(BPDA Pg. 11)

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

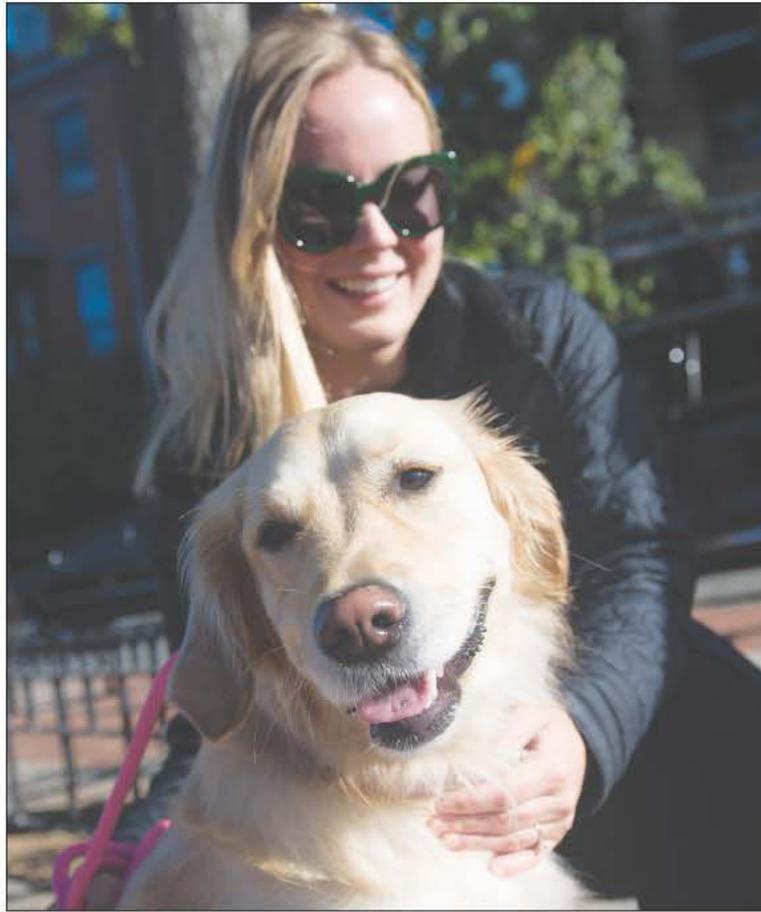


Photo by Katy Rogers

Abby Durland and her dog, Shyne, visited Thompson Triangle for a blessing on Sunday, Oct. 6, during the annual Blessing of the Animals in Thompson Triangle. Scores of pets and their owners were there to be blessed for the year. See Page 8 for more photos.

## Bye, Bye BRA? Councilor Wu presents plan to abolish BPDA

By Seth Daniel

In a meeting that packed the South End's Union United Church on Monday with residents from all over the city, Councilor Michelle Wu presented a bold, 75-page plan to abolish the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) – formerly the Boston Redevelopment Agency (BRA).

The meeting came together quickly, within about three days, and the report was released earlier on Monday. However, the movement she is tapping into goes back decades and generations as Bostonians old and new have expressed frustrations with the agency – particularly in the last few years as the Urban Renewal process is supposedly winding down. For Wu, the plan came out of that Urban Renewal process whereby

the Council granted the six additional years, and she has been chairing meetings with the BPDA on how that extension process is winding down – or not.

A recent report by the BPDA and submitted to the state, followed up by a meeting with Wu and the Council, seemed to suggest that many Urban Renewal Areas – including Charlestown and the South End (the two largest) – would not conclude by end of the six-year extension.

It seemed to be the last straw for Wu.

“Those extraordinary powers granted to them came with an expiration date of 40 years,” she told the crowd. “They expected 40 years would be a significant amount of time to exercise their

(BRA Pg. 4)

## Safe Injection

### Charlestown MGH to model SIFs in Mock-Up, hosts Panel

By Seth Daniel

In the battle against the opiate epidemic, the Charlestown MGH Health Center is taking a big step in creating a mock Safe Injection Facility (SIFs) at the High Street facility next week – putting together what a real SIF might look like and talking about the benefits of this controversial tool in the opioid fight.

SIFs are currently illegal in the United States, but are a popular treatment in several Canadian cities. They operate as a supervised area inside where intravenous drug users can come in with their drugs. Once there, they can inject in booths with clean supplies and medical supervision. They are allowed to stay there under supervision until they desire to leave.

“The idea is to show the public what it would look like,” said Dr. Mark Eisenberg, a long-time primary care physician in Charlestown and supporter of SIFs. “It’s to destigmatize and show the public what we’re supplying is a safer place for people

to use drugs rather than on a street corner or in an alleyway on Mass and Cass...We’re trying to familiarize the Charlestown community with the concept because obviously this epidemic has effected the community really hard.”

The mock SIF will be in a second-floor conference room and will be within a small tent. There will be an example of a booth that is used in Canada where there will be a mirror, supplies, clean water and staff that would supervise. The mock SIF has been toured to other places over three years, including Harvard Medical School, Northeastern University and Boston University Medical School – though this would be the first time it is open to the public.

The three-day open house will also include a panel discussion on Thursday, Oct. 19, about SIFs. That discussion will include Dr. Eisenberg, a student from the MGH Institute, DJ Michael ‘Smokey’ Cain, and Drug Users Union Secretary Aubrey Esters.

(HEALTH CENTER Pg. 3)

## HELPING SMOKEY



Photo by Marianne Salza

DJ Smokey Cain with his children, Jackie and Jacob Pratt, during the Night for Smokey time on Friday, Oct. 4, as part of the Anthony's Dream Foundation. DJ Smokey – a fixture in Charlestown as the Town's DJ – is fighting cancer and the community came together to help him out. See Page 5 for more photos.

# EDITORIAL

## TAKE A HIKE THIS HOLIDAY WEEKEND

With all of the turmoil that is occurring both in our country and across the world today, it is no wonder that Americans are feeling more stressed out than at any time in our recent history.

Although the economy has been operating at full employment for quite a while, polls reveal that more Americans than ever are feeling financially insecure.

Psychologists tell us that we are living in an Age of Anxiety, attributable in large part to the way in which modern life is not good either for our mental or physical health. Life expectancy for white males in America actually has decreased in this decade for the first time since such records have been kept.

And more of our fellow Americans than ever are on some kind of medication, whether antidepressants (for mental health issues) or other drugs (for physical conditions) that have depression as a side effect.

A recent article in the New York Times suggested that attaining happiness in life under our present circumstances is an elusive goal. However, the writer suggested that instead of focusing on trying to figure out how to be happy, we should strive to attain moments of joy in our daily lives.

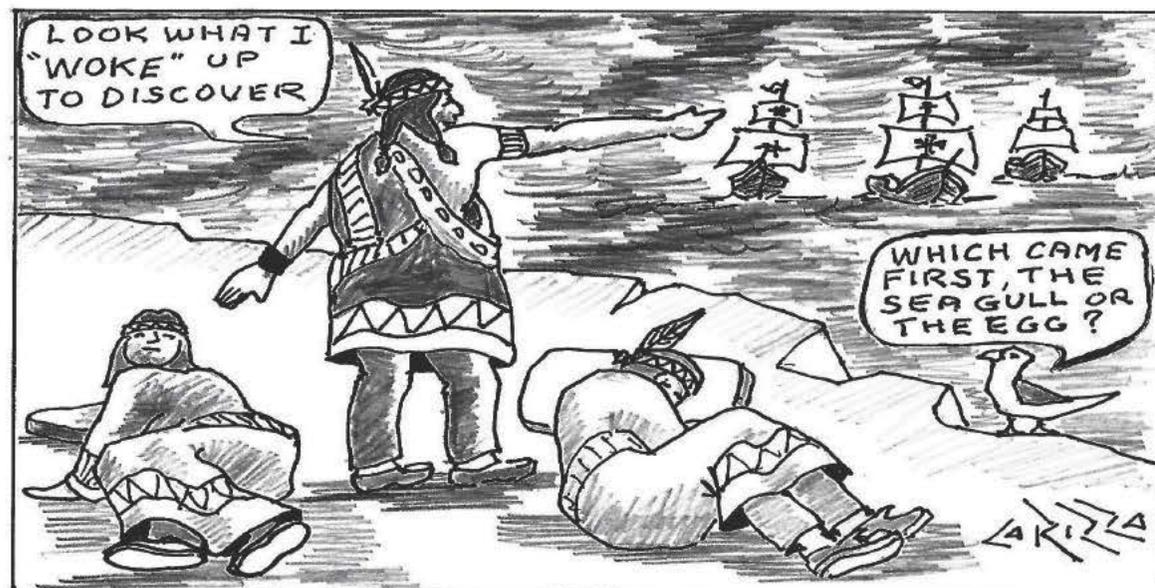
It struck us that this prescription is a version of the phrase *carpe diem* -- seize the day -- used by the Roman poet Horace to express the idea that one should enjoy life while one can.

So with the weatherman forecasting nice weather for most of the long, Columbus Day weekend, here's our Rx for de-stressing: Take a long walk, preferably a hike, whether along the shore, or in the mountains, or even as nearby as the Blue Hills.

We promise that just being outside and taking in the natural world in the crisp air, away from the noise of our daily lives, will do wonders for our emotional and physical well-being.

We wish all of our readers a joyful -- and stress-free -- Columbus Day weekend.

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## GUEST OP-ED

### In Boston, we defy stereotypes and we age strong

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Boston has always been known as a strong city. A lot of our strength comes from our older residents, who represent a broad diversity of cultures and backgrounds, and who helped to make our city what it is today. That's why we recently changed the name of the Elderly Commission to the Age Strong Commission. It better reflects the work we do, and the strong Bostonians we serve. We also launched the City's first-ever Age Strong public awareness campaign. It's an effort to combat negative stereotypes about aging, and highlight some of the incredible older adults showing what it means to age strong in our neighborhoods.

Older adults are one of our fastest-growing populations. In 2010, there were more than 88,000 residents over the age of 60 living in

Boston. By 2030, this number is expected to exceed 130,000. As our population changes, the way we think and talk about aging should, too.

We have all heard negative and inaccurate messaging about aging. In Boston, we are confronting harmful labels like senile, inactive, helpless, and frail. These words don't accurately describe Boston's older adults, so we decided to combat these stereotypes by highlighting the positive, empowering side of aging through a bold public awareness campaign.

This fall, you will see the faces and stories of older Bostonians displayed on bus shelters, at City Hall, in our libraries, and on social media. This campaign features older adults from throughout Boston's neighborhoods, including Sandra Harris, 68; Irene Morey, 103; Harry Pierre, 67; Vinny Marino, 83; Leo Romero,

84; Judy Yee, 70; Smiler Haynes, 86; and Rob Quinn, 59. These Bostonians have great stories to tell and important messages to share.

This is what I know about older Bostonians: they are leaders, changemakers, and problem solvers. They start trends and fight for causes they care about. Older residents contribute a lot to their communities, their families, and our city as a whole, and we are grateful for their energy and experience.

We invite everyone, of all ages, to join this conversation. Visit [www.boston.gov/age-strong](http://www.boston.gov/age-strong) to learn more, and share how you age strong. Together we can make Boston the most age-friendly city in America, where all generations are included, valued, and empowered.

*Mayor Martin J. Walsh is the Mayor of Boston.*

## LETTERS to the Editor

### ON PEACE PARK

Dear Editor:

I do not want to add to any animosity the Peace Park group feels from the neighborhood. I am very much of the opinion that, one, they have a noble cause, and two, that anyone that wants to put forth the effort to help clean up the plaza area should be allowed to. I genuinely feel that most of what happened to the Peace Park was not done maliciously.

I live on Mount Vernon and I have absolutely no issue with

what the Peace Park group has done with area at the end of the street, but there are quite a few things stated in [last week's] article that simply aren't true. First of which, as exemplified by me, there are people on Mount Vernon and Prospect that are in support of the what is being done with the plaza. That's not to say that there aren't people in the area that do not like the aesthetics of the changes made, but I think little attempt has been made to include those in the immediate area that are in support

of the Peace Park.

The other misrepresentation is that the park was suddenly vandalized. I pass through this park every day and have watched day-by-day the park slowly, over the course of over a year, transition from the way it looked at the dedication to the way it looks now. Over the course of those 18 months, weather contributed greatly to the degradation of the park. Again, I am not saying that none of

(LETTER Pg. 3)



**CHARLESTOWN**  
PATRIOT-BRIDGE

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# Councilor Edwards proposes overhaul of ZBA

Staff Report

Councilor Lydia Edwards filed legislation this week to modernize and reform Boston's Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA), an issue she has been championing since holding up ZBA appointments last spring.

The proposed legislation would change the membership, mandate, electronic notice and records policy, staffing and standards of review for the ZBA and require quarterly reports on the ZBA's activities. It would also improve the general public's ability to appeal zoning by enabling electronic appeals and establishing a community counsel to provide neutral advice to residents. Finally, it would require new financial disclosures from appellants seeking zoning relief and require appellants seeking variances on occupied buildings to discuss plans to prevent displacement.

"These changes protect against conflicts of interest, improve standards of review, ensure critical perspectives of tenants and environmental protection are represented, and modernize the Zoning Board of Appeal by providing 21st-century transparency for all residents," said Edwards. "This overhaul is a team effort, and I appreciate that Mayor Walsh is already calling for administrative changes. I am looking forward to working with Sullivan and Worcester to ensure we have a comprehensive conversation on ZBA reform. However, many changes will require a legislative revision of the board and this home rule petition is starting that necessary conversation."

The proposed changes include:

•**MEMBERSHIP:** Real estate interests would be removed from the board and no named organizations or interests would have a permanent seat. Members and alternate members (seven each)

of the ZBA would represent perspectives from affordable housing, civil rights and fair housing, environmental protection and climate change, urban planning, homeowners, renters, and expertise in zoning and the general laws.

•**STAFFING:** Staff for the ZBA would be prohibited from engaging in other permitting, planning, development or real estate functions, and prohibited from engaging in private business in these areas.

•**BETTER NOTICE AND RECORDS:** Records would be available electronically and in person at City Hall and 1010 Mass Ave. no later than seven days following a hearing. Notices of hearings would be posted and delivered electronically twenty days in advance. Contact information for the board would be posted electronically.

•**EXPANDED PUBLIC ACCESS:** Appeals could be filed

electronically, in person at city hall or at 1010 Mass Ave.

•**OFFICE OF COMMUNITY COUNSEL:** A new legal support office to provide neutral advice and guidance explaining standards, votes, procedures, the appeal process and other matters relevant to the board of appeal.

•**REGULAR REPORTING:** The ZBA would file a quarterly report on the number and type of conditional use permit or variance granted, by neighborhood and zoning district.

•**FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE:** The ZBA would require appellants to submit statements of financial interest.

•**ANTI-DISPLACEMENT PLANS:** The ZBA would require appellants seeking a variance for occupied or recently-occupied structures to submit plans to mitigate displacement and to provide information about any recent evictions.

•**ENHANCED STANDARDS:** The ZBA would be newly required to consider whether a variance would impact the city's goals for income-restricted housing, furthering fair housing, preventing displacement and addressing climate change, as well as consistency with neighborhood planning.

•**ADDITIONAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST PROTECTIONS:** People engaged in the construction, development, purchase or sale of real estate would be ineligible for membership on the ZBA. The City of Boston would be able to require as a condition of appointment that members will not be engaged in the business of real estate construction, development, purchase or sale within the city for up to five years after their term of service concludes. The ZBA would be required to publish additional regulations to prevent conflict of interest.

## HEALTH CENTER (from pg. 1)

Cain, who lost his son to a drug overdose some years ago, is one example of many parents who are supporting such a new concept.

Eisenberg said on Tuesday of this week, he and several supporters testified before a Committee in the State Legislature that is studying SIFs. Within that testimony – which included several medical professionals – were a number of parents of children who died of drug overdoses. Many grieving parents, Eisenberg said, are turning towards supporting SIFs due to the safety aspect.

"Those are the most powerful voices," he said. "It's obvious to them that the last time their son or daughter or sister or brother

used drugs, they did it in an unsafe place – whether their own bathroom or a parked car. If they'd have been somewhere safe with supervision they may still be alive today. For parents and everyone, the whole concept takes a step of getting used to and thinking about the whole enabling thing. I think when people process it and think about what happened to their child (or loved one), they realize this is a better alternative."

The event at MGH is a bit groundbreaking because it is within a long-established health center. Many examples of such a facility are stand-alones or located far from the population in desolate places. A recent train of thought is that if such things were to come to Boston, they should be in existing health facilities – such as a health center.

Eisenberg said his vision is that there would be many such SIFs all over the city that are convenient.

"Ultimately, my vision of the future is that people who plan to inject drugs don't really want to take two subways and travel 40 minutes because they are usually desperate," he said. "So, having them available locally in multiple sites throughout the city makes the most sense. We have to start with one and show the feasibility, demonstrate to the public it doesn't increase crime, and doesn't

honeypot. Once we have one or two on the ground, I think we can have them at multiple locations spread out across the city."

He said that model has worked in Canada, where such facilities are "spreading like wildfire," he said. There, they have brick and mortar SIFs and mobile vans as well. Such a combination, he said, might work well in Boston.

That said, Eisenberg was clear that the goal is to get people off of drugs, and that SIFs were one small tool in that overall fight. While they gather headlines and controversial opinions, they are not the overall solution.

"This is just a small little piece," he said. "I don't want anyone to think this is going to be the answer. My goal is to keep people safe and alive until such time they are ready to stop using drugs... We can prevent all of the major complications so people are well, and then when they're ready to stop using, it will be a place people naturally flock to when they need help."

"In general, drug users have had such negative experiences with doctors and hospitals, that is not the place they typically go to get help," he continued. "They go to a place like the AHOPE (needle exchange) and SPOT (at Boston Health Care for the Homeless) where they have peers that work

there...It's partly a gateway to treatment when they're ready as well as a safe place to use when they are not."

The mock consumption sites will be open to the public 9 a.m.

to noon, and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 16, 17, and 18. The panel discussion will take place from 5-7 p.m. on Oct. 17. All of the events will be at the Charlestown MGH Health Center on High Street.

## U.S. Attorney says 'no' to SIFs in state

While the general public is gathering information on SIFs and their plausibility for the opioid epidemic, U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling has made his opinion clear: they are illegal.

On Oct. 3, after a judge in Philadelphia ruled that SIFs there would be legal as a public health intervention, Lelling released a statement against the establishment of SIFs. He said opioid overdose deaths are down 11 percent from last year and a continued trend.

"Now would not be the time to open a site for the purpose of making it easier to take heroin and fentanyl," he stated. "Despite the constant repetition by proponents of these sites, there are no reliable studies showing that they reduce overall numbers of overdose deaths or, more importantly, help addicts get clean. And, yes, people have died in drug injection facilities. Meanwhile, these sites are harmful to the communities that host them, as they attract

high concentrations of drug users, followed by drug dealers, and so an increase in crime."

He said the U.S. Attorney in Boston respectfully disagrees with the decision.

"As the Deputy Attorney General said..., efforts to open injection facilities, including here in Massachusetts, will be met with federal enforcement," he stated.

Dr. Eisenberg said there is precedent for allowing SIFs, and was encouraged by the Philadelphia decision.

"We're not encouraging drug use," he said. "We're trying to prevent harm through a public health intervention...There are all kinds of ways in which federal laws are not honored, such as with marijuana, which the federal government is choosing not to prosecute. Syringe exchanges are other things not prosecuted by the feds. We think this is a public health emergency. Based on that, we think the states' rights allow us the right to do this."

## LETTER (from pg. 2)

the damage was done maliciously, but I watched as wind and rain and snow would scatter the stones, and then state Department of Transportation (DOT) crews would come in and clean up the snow or leaves and would sweep up the scattered stones with the leaves or snow. I also watched as a DOT crew tried to use a piece of snow removal equipment that was too big for the space and hit the Peace Park sign and left it in pieces on the sidewalk. The article also makes it sound like vandals cut the trees down. The trees died and a DOT crew came in and cut them down.

Jeff Campbell

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# BRA (from pg. 1)

program...What happened is when an entity is created, it's hard to make it go away. We got to 2015 and they wanted another 10-year extension...In their most recent report, they've indicated the largest areas will not expire. The largest ones will likely seek an extension. The South End is the largest and Charlestown is the second largest."

The meeting was met with applause at many steps for Wu's presentation, which was done outside of her official City Council platform and paid for with campaign funds. Those in the audience came from Charlestown, the South End, South Boston, Dorchester,

Hyde Park, Downtown and East Boston. Some Councilors, like Michael Flaherty, were there in support - with him being a long-time advocate of abolishing the BPDA in favor of a stand-alone public planning department.

The meeting was, Wu said, the beginning of a dialog to abolish the BPDA and have the public begin to talk about what should replace it.

"This is nowhere near the stage of having a piece of legislation or a document to put up for a vote or approval or even a hearing," she said. "This is about reporting back what I've learned in an attempt to start a process that will hopefully model what should replace the

BPDA. It would be an iterative, inclusive, community-driven process. It really is left up to you all to shape what that is and what the processes would be to make sure everyone has a say in building this new organization."

But not everyone - particularly some in the Boston delegation at the State House and at the BPDA - prefer her idea.

State Rep. Dan Ryan said the report painted the City as a terrible place, and he said the important land covenants being worked out in the larger areas like Charlestown and the South End are important to preserve.

"Until I began reading Councilor Michelle Wu's report on abolishing the BPDA, I did not realize Boston was such a dire place to live and work," he said. "This document certainly didn't come out of the Committee on Travel and Tourism. I have a legislative obligation to maintain the hundreds, if not thousands, of affordable apartments and amenities created through BPDA land disposition agreements, deeds and other contracts. This is why I testified to grant the Urban Renewal extension four years ago. Mishawum, Newtowne - all of our elderly housing - could be in jeopardy if the right agreements are not in place to protect these units."

Likewise, the BPDA and Mayor Walsh responded to the meeting by touting the changes and accomplishments at the Agency since they took over.

Director Brian Golden said since 2014, the BPDA has created more than 100,000 jobs and more than 6,000 income-restricted units. They also created the 2017 Imagine Boston plan, which engaged 15,000 people.

"While there is still more work to do, I am proud of the progress that has been made to not only improve the development and

planning process within the agency, but modernize outdated operational functions internally and externally," he said. "Proposing to abolish the BPDA ignores the reality of the present day community-based planning agency, and discredits the hard working staff who are in our neighborhoods every single day engaging residents on how we prepare for Boston's future."

Mayor Walsh said he had serious concerns about the BPDA when becoming mayor, but believes that a community-driven process has been instituted.

"When I first ran for Mayor, I had serious concerns about how decisions were made at the then-Boston Redevelopment Authority," he said. "I immediately ordered an outside review of the BRA and put in place significant reforms to bring transparency, integrity and accountability to our development and planning processes across the city...Today, we have an agency that, for the first time, uses community engagement to guide growth that is inclusive and respects the history of each of our unique neighborhoods."

But people at the meeting, and many in the public square, seem to be fed up with the Agency.

"I've lived in the South End for 54 years," said Herb Hershfang. "I've seen firsthand what the BRA has done and none of it deserves commendation. They need to be abolished."

Said Councilor Flaherty, "People are meeting-ed out. You could be out two or three nights a week on development. They take the bait that their input will shape a project and then they find out they just aren't heard. They have given up. People have given up on this."

Ellen Kitzis from the Charlestown Preservation Society said the recent Master Plan process

with the BPDA has been frustrating, and another reason some other sort of planning agency should be considered.

"We're in the early process of it, but the BPDA says they have no inkling of how to do a Master Plan," she said. "They've said they don't do Master Plans. They do strategic plans. It has been a frustrating situation. The process didn't start well, and we're in it now."

That frustration wasn't lost on Wu.

"It has so long been identified as something that is not serving Boston to the best that residents can be served," she said. "In 1970, in 1983 and in 2013, the mayoral campaigns really included and focused on this as a point to want to change the structure, but what I hope my report highlights is explaining why it hasn't happened."

Wu said the first reason she found was because the City is so dependent on property tax - particularly commercial taxes. With 71 percent of last year's revenues coming from the property tax, she said there is pressure to keep feeding the development pipeline for new revenues as the demand for City services increases.

Another key step, she said, is to begin to unwind the Agency by transferring its assets - the property it owns and the leases it holds - back to the City. That income stream could fund a group of planners who could then go out and really create Master Plans for the city.

"The BPDA holds assets and property, whether buildings with leases or garages or the Marine Industrial Park, the BPDA holds property in the city and off the City books," she said. "It's what funds their operations. Step one would be to transfer that property back to the City books and with Council oversight on the budget side. That would also create the revenues that would grow and transfer the planning staff to build out an infrastructure that leads to a Master Plan of all these issues."

Finally, a key step for Wu, is to end Urban Renewal - the one thing that likely triggered her desire to present the report so publicly and with such a splash.

"If you look at a map, most of these URAs don't line up with the places we are finding difficulty in jump-starting development or seeing revitalization," she said. "And, many of the places where there is a lot of development aren't covered by these areas. So, it's really a mismatch of Boston's needs today and the conditions that were put in place when this agency was created decades ago."

Wu indicated there would be follow ups to the report, but for now, she has let it sink into the minds of folks all over the city.

## CHARLESTOWN GYM HOCKEY

### Weekly Standings October 5, 2019

	W	L	T
Bryan's Pals	4	0	0
MPTA	2	2	0
A/1 Zume's	1	3	0
Duce 2	1	2	0

#### Players of the week for 10/5/19

A-1/Zume's - Maya Garant, Declan Melendy

Bryan's Pals - Ki Ali, Quinn Hennessy

Duce 2 - Callen Kelley, Stephen Herrick

MPTA - Cameron Copithorne, Luca Kaluski

#### Players of the week September 29

A-1/Zume's - Ceagan Collier, Ethan Kuncho

Bryan's Pals - London Ortega, August Adamonis

Duce 2 - Jan Plewa, Eli Miller

MPTA - Braydon Bonnell, Alijah Murph



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# TASTE of Charlestown

Harvest on Vine  
Food Pantry  
Fundraiser

Date.....Thursday, October 24  
 Time.....7 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m.  
 Location.....Knights of Columbus, 475 Medford St.  
 Entertainers.....Tony U - Steve Sweeney - The Bunker Hillbillies  
 DJ Michael "Smokey" Cain  
 Tickets.....\$35 per person, table of 10 \$350  
 (\$300 before October 7th)  
 Contact.....kathy.gio46@gmail.com or call 617-447-1406

Dinner prepared by some of Charlestown's renowned restaurants

# DJ SMOKEY FUNDRAISER

Photos & Story by Marianne Salza

Anthony's Dream Foundation, established to financially assist Charlestown residents bat-

ting catastrophic illnesses, held a fundraiser for Michael Cain, DJ Smokey, to aid in defraying the cost of his cancer treatments. The Oct. 4 comedy night at the

Knights of Columbus featured entertainment by Steve Sweeney, who shared stories about growing up in Charlestown and serving as an altar boy.

"Smokey has helped a lot of people in the recovery field," said Sweeney about his friend. "Smokey is one of the greats."



Mark and Shannon White, Sarah Coughlin, and Scott Green.



Christine Fitzpatrick, Ginny McLaughlin, Joann Ellington, and Mary Gillen.



DJ Smokey with Marie and Jack Alves, Mo Gillen, and Kathleen and Dan Noonan.



Jacob and Jackie Pratt, DJ Smokey, and Janice and Dan Murphy.



Comedian, Steve Sweeney.



Maryanne Hurley, Kelly Mahoney, Bridget Buckley, Joanne Murray, and Marian Callahan.



Katie O'Leary, Joe McGonagle, and Bill Spencer.



State Rep. Dan Ryan and Chelsea Councillor Leo Robinson.

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# FALL ART Exhibition

## October 11-13, 2019

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Opening Reception Friday 6pm-9pm  
**October 11, 2019**

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artistsgroupofcharlestown.com

# FRIENDS OF THE CHARLESTOWN TRAINING FIELD FLEA MARKET

Photos & Story by Marianne Salza

Friends of the Charlestown Training Field held a flea market on Oct. 5, to benefit the Christmas Decoration Fund. Neighbors gathered in search of furniture, clothing, and pocketbooks, while children played together with their new toys on a park bench. Other friends sold chocolates and mugs to raise money for the Battle of Bunker Hill Parade, and Friends of the Charlestown Elderly.



Judith Madeiros and Mary Carroll selling the World's Finest Chocolate to raise funds for Friends of the Charlestown Elderly.



Denise Barry, Paul J. Lane, and Gayle Sweeney.



Neighbors enjoying the Friends of the Charlestown Training Field Flea Market.



Candace Griffin, Shannon Hennessy, and Kathleen Mahan.



Pat and Sean Tagen with Lola Saviano.



Myliissa Ortiz, Janelle Greatorex, and Paula Rose, of Scentsy.

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday's  
**ACTIVITY NIGHTS**  
 at the  
 "e" inc. **SCIENCE EMPORIUM**

CHILDREN AGES 5 TO 7 ARE INVITED TO COME EXPLORE A NEW TOPIC EACH MONTH WITH HANDS-ON SCIENCE ACTIVITIES, GAMES, ART ACTIVITIES, STORY TIME, AND MORE AT "E" INC.'S SCIENCE EMPORIUM.

**Endangered Animals**  
 October 17<sup>th</sup>  
 6pm - 7:30pm

**\$5** SPACE IS LIMITED - REGISTER ONLINE. REGISTRATION FEE COVERS ACTIVITIES, ART PROJECTS, AND A SNACK.

[WWW.EINC-ACTION.ORG](http://WWW.EINC-ACTION.ORG)



Bill Durette, Dan Noonan, Katie Gill, Linda Durette, Kathleen Noonan, Alexandra Taieb, and Erin Woods raising funds for the Battle of Bunker Hill Parade.

CROSSROADS (from pg. 1)

Shannon White from MGH and Lorraine Fitzgerald from NEW Charlestown. Additionally, it offers people who are patients or just community members a place to relax, to get help with things like job applications, to use computers or to simply get a cup of hot coffee while having a conversation.

“People are feeling really comfortable here and there has been a big change since we first opened in May,” she said.

The idea was born by the Centers’ two medical directors – MGH’s Jim Morrill and NEW Health’s Anne Murray Chiriboga – who felt that the Town needed a Center for people to come to. Space was available at NEW Charlestown in the underutilized conference room, and they figured – why not work together?

“There was this hesitation to break the boundaries and work at this together,” Morrill said. “But we think this is a great idea, and we did this together. Any hesitations there might have been actually didn’t exist.”

Said Chiriboga, “We’re all in this together. There’s so much work to be done. If we work together, there’s so much more we can do.”

Crossroads is open Monday to Friday, 12:30-3:30 p.m. and is staffed with those offering recovery resources, and other resources like social service and housing matters. They have coffee, snacks and computer access as well.

One thing that has been important, both doctors said, was to let the clients and Recovery Coaches define what the space would be. That means it is constantly evolving with the needs of those using it – but always with a strong recovery theme to it.

At the grand opening on Monday outside the center, several City and state officials were there for the celebration, including Health Chief Marty Martinez, State Rep. Dan Ryan and Councilor Lydia Edwards.

“It was the health centers that were in the community when this epidemic first hit and were asking people like me for ideas,” said Rep. Ryan. “At the time, the charge was for us to ‘Just Say No.’ We thought that was it. Now we are 25 years later and it’s so much more than ‘Just Say No.’ You can only ‘Just Say No’ so many times. Good luck to those who ‘Just Say No.’ The rest of us need an entire community. That’s what we have here in this space.”

Said Councilor Edwards, “This is what we do in Charlestown. We meet people where they are

because we know they will grow tremendously if we help them... What an amazing model we have here in Charlestown.”

The Crossroads Resource Center is open weekdays, Monday through Friday, 12:30-3:30 p.m., 15 Tufts St.



Councilor Lydia Edwards.



State Rep. Dan Ryan.



Charlestown’s Lorraine Fitzgerald (right) will be one of the Recovery Coaches in the Crossroads Resource Center.

PEACE PARK REBUILD

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

Help us make a difference in the lives of our neighbors and rebuild our Peace Park!

**DROP BY MOUNT VERNON STREET PLAZA AT 10AM SATURDAY OCT. 12TH AND VOLUNTEER WITH FIRST CHURCH IN CHARLESTOWN**



Dr. Anne Murray-Chiriboga and Dr. Jim Morrill explain the partnership to City Health Chief Marty Martinez.



MGH's Dr. Jim Morrill and NEW Charlestown's Dr. Anne Murray-Chiriboga in the Crossroads Resource Center on Monday.

The Anchor October Event Schedule



Weekly Events

Movies On The Harbor

\*Start time: 8:15PM

- Dirty Dancing - October 4th
- Rudy - October 11th
- Lion King - October 14th (Kid friendly - 7PM Start)
- Star Wars Trilogy - October 14th, 15th & 16th
- Nightmare Before Christmas - October 18th
- Ghostbusters/Beetlejuice - October 26th (6PM Start)

Live Music

- Charity Brady - October 2nd, 8th, 16th, & 30th
- Sarah Clavijo - October 4th, 9th, 13th, & 23rd
- Josh Skelly - October 5th & 12th
- Natalie Joly - October 27th
- Bob Kramer Band - October 27th

Trivia Tuesdays

Every Tuesday @ 6:30PM

Pat's Game Watches

- October 6th - Redskins
- October 10th - Giants
- October 21st - Jets
- October 27th - Browns

Notre Dame Game Watches

- October 5th - Bowling Green
- October 12th - USC
- October 26th - Michigan

Special Events

Spooky Succulent Party  
October 17th 6PM-8PM

Pumpkin Painting Party  
October 26th 12PM-3PM

Pet Costume Contest  
October 20th 2PM-3PM

Fall Market  
October 27th 12PM-5PM

Halloween Jam Sesh - Katey Venn  
October 20th 2PM-5PM

Dia De Los Muertos Paint Party  
October 29th 6PM-8PM

The Juice: Thriller Edition  
October 25th 3PM-9PM

Fall Dessert Festival  
November 2nd 12PM-4PM

Halloween Waffle Bar  
Every Sunday 11AM-3PM

Halloween @ The Anchor  
October 31st 6PM-11PM

# BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS AT THOMPSON TRIANGLE

Photos by Katy Rogers

Rev. James J. Ronan and Fr. Thomas E. Conway invited pet owners to gather at Thompson Triangle in Charlestown on Sunday morning, Oct. 5, to bless their animals. A quaint ceremony was held, and holy water was sprinkled on the pets. Owners received a certificate to indicate that their pets were blessed.



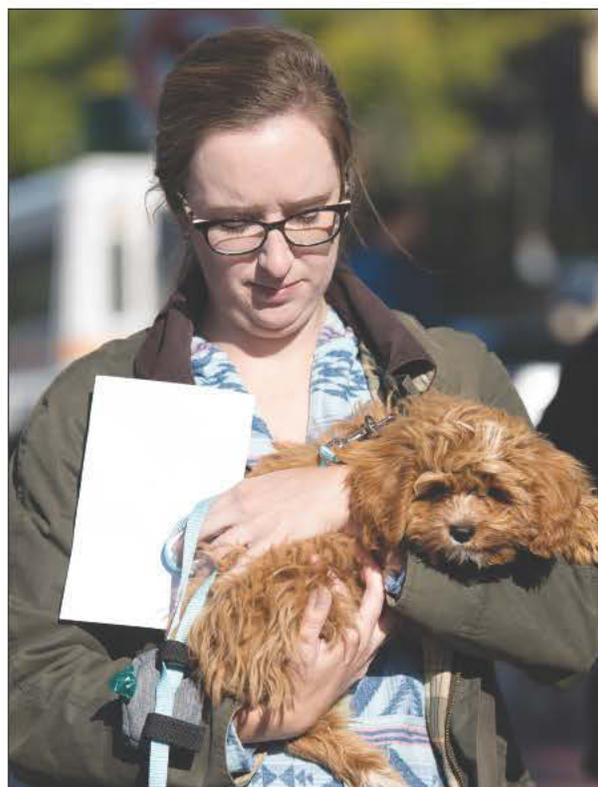
Cheryl Foley and her dog, Bowie, attended the blessing of the animals on Sunday morning.



Fr. Thomas E. Conway welcomed pet owners to the blessing ceremony.



Wendell and Chelsea were blessed at Thompson Triangle in Charlestown on Sunday.



Kara Crowley and her pup, Bode, participated in the blessing of the animals.



Janet Huetteman and her pup Ginger were blessed on Sunday.

  
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SCHOOL



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DISCOVER  
BECOME**

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**TODDLER-GRADE 6**      **Open House:**  
 PRESCHOOL: ONE PARK STREET      October 16    9:00-11:00 a.m.  
 ELEMENTARY: 67 BRIMMER STREET    October 28    6:00-7:30 p.m.  
 617-523-7577 • PARKSTREETSCHOOL.ORG    November 19   9:00-11:00 a.m.

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Knights of Columbus - Medford St.  
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*Plus!*  
**LIGHT REFRESHMENTS & CASH BAR**

*Raffle Tickets available at the Hall*



Rev. James J. Ronan sprinkled the crowd of pets with holy water.

## TOWNIE SPORTS

### FALL SPORTS

#### •TOWNIES

In high school action in the pool, Boston Latin senior Jolie Doherty (who also took first place in the 50 freestyle) and junior Victoria Taieb helped the 200 Free Relay team capture first place but it wasn't enough as the Lady Wolfpack (3-2) lost 98-83 to Belmont...In college hockey action, Northeastern sophomore wing Micaela Sindoris rifled a shot on net in the Lady Huskies 5-0 thumping of Union.

#### •TOWNIE ROOTS

In high school football action, Billerica senior QB Nolan Houlihan tossed a TD in the Indians 32-8 pummeling of Dracut...In college gridiron action, Assumption senior wideout Justin Assad hauled in 2 passes for 18 yards in the Greyhounds 45-42 OT triumph over Bentley...On the ice, UMass-Lowell junior wing Connor Sodergren blasted 3 shots on net in the River Hawks 3-1 victory over Alabama-Huntsville.



**CHARLESTOWN FC AT 3-1.** Charlestown Football Club is knee-deep into their fall season, and as of now things are looking good for the Townies as they progress in the quest to climb to Division 4 of the Massachusetts Over The Hill Soccer league (OTHSL). The Townies are 3-1 so far and are very proud to have a team that is 90 percent Charlestown residents. There is plenty of soccer talent in this town. The fearless players also coach all age groups for Charlestown Youth Soccer Association and are turning the Town into a soccer powerhouse. If anyone has an early Sunday Morning free, find your way down to support the team during home games at the High School Field. Charlestown FC would like to thank the Charlestown Youth Football and Cheerleading program for sharing the High School field with them.

Upcoming Home game schedule:

- 10/20 vs. NH Freedom. Charlestown High School 8 a.m.
- 10/27 vs. North Andover Charlestown High School 8 a.m.
- 11/10 vs. Hampstead Hurricanes Charlestown High School 8 a.m.



# TAKE ON TUESDAY

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 150 Third Avenue, Boston, MA 02129

YMCA OF GREATER BOSTON

## Cemetery Crawl highlights extraordinary past, will help fund Peace Park rebuild

By Seth Daniel

If anyone thought an historic cemetery lacks excitement, they've not run into Charlestown's Tim Riordan or Julie Hall of the Charlestown Historical Society (CHS).

The Society is combining with the Charlestown Preservation Society to plan a fun look at the historical burial grounds in the Town on an Oct. 19 walking tour of St. Francis, Bunker Hill and Phipps Burial Grounds in a fundraiser that will help the Society, and also have part of the funds go to the rebuilding of the Peace Park. The event costs \$19 and there will be a gathering after the tour at Monument Restaurant on Main Street.

"We wanted to do something special to highlight the cemeteries and what we came up with was a Cemetery Crawl that will start at St. Francis and move to the Bunker Hill cemetery and stroll on down to Phipps," she said.

Riordan is an old time Townie who moved away for 30 years to Maryland where he was the cura-

tor of an historic cemetery there. Since he's moved back to Pearl Street, he's taken a big interest in Charlestown's cemeteries - which were overgrown and off-limits to him as a child.

He will lead the discussion on Oct. 19, and he said there is a lot of interesting things at the first stop - St. Francis.

While it's known for its importance in the history of the Irish American immigrants, it was also a cemetery long before St. Francis bought it.

Riordan said it was subject of a major legal proceeding that went all the way to the Supreme Judicial Court from 1831 to 1837.

"When many of the traditional Charlestown people learned that Papists were going to be buried there, they passed an ordinance that said you had to live in Charlestown to be buried there," he said. "They took the Town selectman to court and in 1837 the state supreme court ruled they could bury people there. While that was in process, interestingly it

(CRAWL Pg. 11)

## North Washington Street Bridge (Charlestown Bridge) Construction Look-Ahead:

### TRAVEL IMPACTS

•Inbound: One of two lanes open with all turn movements available from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on most weekdays and overnight from 9 p.m.-6 a.m. from Monday night, 10/7 through Friday morning, 10/11.

•Outbound: One of two lanes open and all turn movements available from 7 a.m.-2 p.m. on some weekdays.

•Columbus Day: No work or lane closures associated with this project will occur on Monday, October 14 in observance of the Columbus Day holiday.

•Orange Line Service Changes: Beginning Fridays at 8:45 p.m., MBTA shuttles will replace Orange Line service between Sullivan Square and Haymarket for 6 weekends. Diversions will begin on the weekend of October 4th with bus shuttle service over the North Washington Street Bridge. For more information about the Orange Line Service Changes, please visit the MBTA website.

### PAUL REVERE PARK PLAYGROUND OPENING

DESCRIPTION: The Paul Revere Park Playground has been modernized and relocated nearby to a quieter section of the park further away from the roadway. The new playground opened to the public at 3 p.m. on Friday, October 4, and includes new structures for 2-5 and 5-12 year olds, new fencing and landscaping, and new play surfaces.

### TEMPORARY BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

DESCRIPTION: Construction of bridge spans and supports for the temporary pedestrian and vehicle bridge and utility bridge. Utility work includes running cables underground and installing conduits and gas and water pipes.

WORK HOURS: Daytime (6 a.m.-3 p.m.) on weekdays and overnight (9 p.m.-6 a.m.) from Monday night, 10/7 through Friday morning, 10/11.

### TRAVEL TIPS

PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS: The bridge's eastern

sidewalk is open and available to all pedestrians and cyclists with crossings at both Keany and City Squares. Please be advised that the DCR-controlled Charlestown locks can provide another alternate route, but may close without warning and beyond control of this project. During Tudor Wharf walkway closures, pedestrian access will be provided via the Water Street underpass and guidance signage will be provided.

The contractor is coordinating with the TD Garden and local police to provide awareness and manage traffic impacts during events. For your awareness, during this look-ahead period, the following days include events scheduled at the TD Garden:

•Bruins: 10/12 at 7 p.m. (season home opener), 10/14 at 1 p.m.

•Celtics: (preseason) 10/13 at 3 p.m.

•Concerts: 10/10 at 7 p.m., 10/11 at 8 p.m., 10/15 at 7:30 p.m., 10/17 at 7 p.m., 10/18 at 7 p.m.

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## Documentary on 'Orchestrating Change' to show in Charlestown

"Orchestrating Change," a new documentary film about the Boston- and Burlington-based Me2/Orchestra - the first music organization for people living with mental illnesses and people who support them - will be screened for free in five Boston-area communities this fall. Each screening aims to raise awareness of mental health issues and is followed by discussions with the filmmakers, orchestra representatives and players, and behavioral health experts.

"Orchestrating Change" follows the triumphs and challenges of the orchestra created in 2011 by Music Director Ronald Braunstein, whose rising career as a world-class conductor was cut short when he was diagnosed with bipolar disorder. Along with his wife, Me2/ Executive Director Caroline Whiddon, Braunstein created the organization with outposts in Boston and Burlington, building a stigma-free zone for musicians like him.

Dates, times, locations and guest details for each free screening are below.

•BACK BAY -- Saturday, Oct. 12 at 2 p.m.

Rabb Hall, Boston Public Library Central Branch, 700 Boylston St.

The film's co-directors Margie

Friedman and Barbara Multer-Wellin will be joined onstage for a post-screening discussion by Me2/Orchestra Music Director Ronald Braunstein and Executive Director Caroline Whiddon, a musician from the orchestra, and Aubry D.

Threlkeld, Assistant Professor of Education at Endicott College.

•CHARLESTOWN -- Wednesday, October 16 at 6 p.m.

Bunker Hill Community College, Charlestown.

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**CRAWL** (from pg. 10)

didn't stop the church from burying people there anyway. The first burial was in 1831 and they continued to bury people there during the litigation period."

Riordan will also discuss at length the Bunker Hill cemetery, which started out as a pauper's cemetery, and the Phipps Burial Ground, one of the oldest in the area.

For ticket information please direct people to either of our websites: [www.CharlestownPreservation.org](http://www.CharlestownPreservation.org) or [www.CharlestownHistorical-Society.org](http://www.CharlestownHistorical-Society.org). Tickets are \$19 per person.



An image of the Phipps Burial Ground in Charlestown. The Charlestown Preservation Society and the Charlestown Historical Society will have a Cemetery Crawl on Oct. 19 to benefit their organizations and to help re-build the Peace Park.

**BPDA** (from pg. 1)

most interesting possibilities as it has long been eyed for something unique and interesting. Those fun thoughts were derailed last year when the BPDA reported that underwaters surveys showed the pier was unusable for anything – and needed to be taken down at a cost of up to \$10 million.

Now, Quirk said the BPDA would like to hear ideas from the community about what to do with the property – with potentially a public-private partnership for floating housing.

"It's a condemned pier," he said. "The cost to remove the pier exceeds \$10 million, but we're interested in talking about if there is any type of potential public-private partnership... We would have to pay attention to climate resiliency so any development would be a very resilient development project.

We're thinking it might be floating housing. We want to talk about that. It wouldn't interrupt people's sight lines so much."

Such a plan has been floated before during the previous administration, and it has been brought up several times since in private conversations. Now, the BPDA would like to hear from the community about the idea.

Any floating housing would be governed by strict rules for Pier 5 to be used as 51 percent open space, so a significant portion of any development would be open.

"This would really be an open space development with a housing component," he said. "There is no guarantee, but we want to have an initial discussion about it."

On Pier 4, which is now leased to Courageous Sailing Center, Quirk said the Center has asked

for a long-term lease so they can fund-raise and make major improvements to the Pier. Before any of that can happen, Quirk said they want to be transparent and offer other providers the opportunity to try to secure such a lease on Pier 4.

The final piece of the conversation is the Pump House that sits near Pier 4.

The odd building could be any number of things, and Quirk said the BPDA is totally open to suggestions about what the community would like to see there.

"We want to preserve it," he said.

The meeting will take place in Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital on 1st Avenue, and will be on Oct. 22 from 6-8 p.m.

**For the Record**

•Warren Prescott School Dates:

\*Oct. 14: Columbus Day – No School.

\*October 16: School Site Council Meeting

•Harvard Kent School Dates:

\*Oct. 14: Columbus Day – No School.

\*Oct. 17: Parents Fall Social and Fundraiser at Blackmoor Bar & Kitchen.

• **D E M O L I T I O N DELAY:** 16 CHAPPIE STREET, CHARLESTOWN

Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC) received a complete application to demolish the residence at 16 Chappie St. BLC staff has 10 days from receiving an application to make a determination about historical, architectural, cultural, or urban design significance. If you have input about the significance of this property, please send to [blc@boston.gov](mailto:blc@boston.gov).

•From the Oct. 10 Public Improvement Commission meeting, 10 a.m., City Hall Rm. 801: 40 Warren Street, Henley Street; Charlestown – Discontinuances, Specific Repairs, Projection License – On a set of petitions by RECP V 40 Warren Owner LLC.

•**CULTURAL COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITY FUND**

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture announced the 2020 applications for Boston Cultural Council Organizational Grants and the Opportunity Fund are now open. Building on Mayor Walsh's commitment to expanding and supporting arts in Boston, this year's round of funding marks the largest ever with more than \$800,000 available to artists and arts organizations.

"In the City of Boston, we recognize the importance of investing in the arts, and the profound impact creative expression can have on public safety, community engagement, and overall well-being," said Mayor Walsh. "It's exciting to be able to support the incredible talent and hard work of Boston's local artists and arts organizations in this way, and I look forward to seeing every neighborhood benefit from these programs."

•From the Oct. 9 License

Board meeting, City Hall:

TRIANGLE RESTAURANT, LLC (Mooncusser Fish House); 304 STUART St., Bay Village. Holder of a Common Victualler 7 Day Wines and Malt Beverages License has petitioned to transfer the license and location from the above - To: Black Owl, LLC d/b/a Black Owl 1 6th Street Charlestown. In one room on first floor, with deli service area near entrance with occupancy of 30, bar with 26 seats and table seating of 68, with bathrooms in rear; outdoor seasonal (April - October) patio on private property with 40 seats 10 p.m. Closing Hour. Basement with additional bathrooms, office and storage. Michael Cooney, Manager. Midnight Closing Hour.

•Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing

Charlestown Applicants: When: Tuesday, Oct. 17, 5:00pm

Where: 1010 Mass Ave, Boston

Proposals: 31 Prospect St.

•From the Oct. 8 Zoning Board of Appeals hearing, City Hall:

8-14 Monument Ave. Applicant: Timothy Burke

Purpose: Renovate interiors to install new stair and elevator. Install new kitchen and bathroom. Construct addition on Third Floor. Install new finishes and associated mechanical and electrical work.. Confirm occupancy as a 2 family no record of occupancy.

•**HOW TO REPORT A PROBLEM PROPERTY**

Since taking office in 2014, Mayor Walsh has made fixing quality of life issues a priority in his administration. From investing in Public Works to making sure community policing is a staple in every neighborhood, we are making sure every neighborhood is clean, safe and a great place to live and work in. Unfortunately some properties in Boston need more help than others, and that's why we are here. If you know of a property that fits one of the following criteria: multiple calls to 911, one that's blighted or just a general concern, we encourage you to reach out to your neighborhood liaison.

**Real Estate Transfers**

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Spinney, Robert F	Warren, Lindsay	68 Baldwin St #14	\$775,000
Colbert, Katharine M	Macdonald, Douglas C	9 Belmont St #9	\$1,380,000
Eldridge, Joshua	Briones, David B	435 Bunker Hill St	\$1,331,500
Thibaut-DeMaisieres, Marc	7 Hancock LLC	7 Hancock St	\$1,399,000
Ahmed, Mehran	Byrne, Miles M	47 High St	\$2,515,000
Laverty, Kristen A	Christine M Rinaldi T	30 Monument Sq #302	\$950,000
Farber, Nina	Driscoll, Susan	33 Washington St #1	\$1,295,000

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