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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2025



FREE

CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

BOSTON KICKS OFF THE HOLIDAYS



WITH ANNUAL TRELLIS LIGHTING

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

The Christopher Columbus Park Trellis was lit last week in a spectacular ceremony to kick off the holidays in Boston. The trellis will remain lit through April.

Shown left, Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer and Santa take the stage. See more photos on Pages 8 and 9.

Frozen Fire Festival 2025 to debut in Boston at the Anchor

Welcoming global fire and cirque performers in a one-of-a-kind winter spectacle

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Attendees will be immersed in mesmerizing fire and ice installations while taking in captivating fire and world-class cirque performances. This vibrant destination offers an unforgettable experience for the senses. Inspired by the region's creative culture and brought to life by The Anthem

Group, for the first time in its home city, the Boston waterfront will transform into the internationally recognized, Frozen Fire Festival – a must-see experience for all ages.

The festivities kick off with the highly anticipated return of The Anchor's Annual Winter Garden Tree Lighting on December 11th - a moment made even more meaningful after heartbreaking vandalism forced the cancellation of the 2024 display. This year, The Anchor team proudly relights its

(FROZEN FIRE FESTIVAL, Pg. 2)



Gardens for Charlestown to host annual Holiday Wreath and Ornament Sale

Staff Report

Gardens for Charlestown is inviting the community to its annual holiday sale on Sunday, December 7th, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event will take place at the gardens, located at 499 Main Street (at the intersection of Bunker Hill Street).

The organization will offer

(GARDENS FOR CHARLESTOWN, Pg. 3)



EDITORIAL

REMEMBER THOSE IN NEED ON YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING LIST

Americans already have been spending a record amount of money thus far this holiday season, spurred on by the extended “Black Friday” (we are using quotes because Black Friday sales began in early November), Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday shopping days.

However, amidst our zeal to find the “perfect” gifts for our family members and friends, we hope that our readers make the effort, no matter how small, to remember those in need this holiday season.

Homelessness is at an all-time high in this country. According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, the number of unhoused Americans jumped significantly from 2023 to 2024 by about 18%.

It is estimated that homelessness in New York City has reached the highest level since the Great Depression of the 1930s. This past August, 103,391 people slept each night in NYC shelters. Even more depressingly, according to the Coalition for the Homeless, almost one-in-eight New York City school children experienced homelessness during the most recent school year.

The most vulnerable members of our society -- including people with disabilities, children, and older adults -- are experiencing homelessness at increasingly-higher rates. In addition, the proposed cuts to social safety net programs are expected to make the problem even worse.

The simple reality is that for far too many of our fellow Americans, the holidays bring little or no joy.

There are countless ways by which each of us can make the holidays brighter for those who are less fortunate, ranging from toy drives to food banks to Salvation Army Santas. With Christmas fast approaching, we urge everyone who has the means to do so to make that small effort to help those for whom the holidays are just another day.

TRUMP DELIVERS ON GLP-1 DRUGS

Back in January, we wrote an editorial entitled, “GLP-1 weight-loss drugs should be made affordable for all Americans.”

We pointed out that the U.S. ranks among the most obese nations in the world -- an astounding 72 percent of Americans are deemed to be overweight. We also noted that the new GLP-1 drugs, which originally were designed to help persons with diabetes (by making sugary, salty, and high-fat foods less appealing), had the “side-effect” of bringing about significant weight-loss in the consumers of these drugs.

It also has been found that the GLP-1 drugs not only help to decrease users’ appetite for food, but also to reduce their cravings for harmful substances such as alcohol, drugs, and even cigarettes, and to reduce the “food noise” for those with eating disorders.

Researchers also have established that the GLP-1 drugs improve the health of our cardiovascular system, liver, brain, and kidneys, and even help with sleep apnea.

In short, the GLP-1 drugs offer the potential of a life-changing medicine that could benefit tens of millions of Americans.

However, as we noted in our editorial in January, the GLP-1 drugs were prohibitively expensive -- about \$1300 per month -- for those not eligible for a prescription for their diabetes, which is the only condition covered by most health plans and Medicare for the drugs.

That all changed this past month with an agreement forged by President Donald Trump with the makers of these drugs, Eli Lilly (Mounjaro and Zepbound) and Novo Nordisk (Ozempic and Wegovy), by which they agreed to reduce their prices by more than 50%. For some consumers (who had been eligible for a previous 50% reduction off the \$1300 sticker price), this has worked out to a greatly-reduced monthly rate of about \$350 per month.

In short, President Trump’s deal makes these drugs much more affordable for millions of our fellow citizens who now can begin to take advantage of this miracle medicine. Trump’s efforts not only will benefit the health of individual Americans, but also promise to reduce our national healthcare costs in the years ahead.

The Independent Newspaper Group reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The Independent Newspaper Group publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Independent Newspaper Group. Text or attachments emailed to editor@reverejournal.com are preferred.

FROZEN FIRE FESTIVAL (from pg. 1)

breathhtaking grove of more than 175 illuminated trees, transforming the waterfront once again into a sparkling winter wonderland.

The festival will continue throughout the weekend from December 12th – December 14th with daily programming including cirque-style fire performances, live music, glowing fire installations, holiday market vendors and make-your-own s’mores and hot chocolate garden. The celebration will also feature the lighting of The Anchor’s menorah lighting on December 14th, creating a warm and inclusive holiday atmosphere for the entire community and concluding the weekend event.

This year’s festival will host a lineup of national and international performers, including headliner Orissa Kelly from London, blended with regional and local Boston talent, delivering a high-energy roster across all three days.

Patrons will stay warm with heated glowing igloos, outdoor heat lamps, fire pits, cozy fleece blankets and a myriad of warm,

mulled and hot beverages. Guests are invited to explore several hospitality outlets, including the S’mores and Hot Chocolate Garden, The Anchor Kitchen and The Polar Bar, featuring a curated collection of local and international brews alongside a robust wine and specialty drink selection.

Anthem President Chris Sinclair shares, “We are thrilled to bring this beloved festival to The Anchor and showcase Boston as a vibrant winter destination. It brings together holiday shopping, unique all-ages activities and outstanding food and beverage. Yet the most special aspect is the performances - Boston has never seen anything like this event before.”


The Frozen Fire Festival will also feature curling rinks, providing all-ages fun and interactive play along the waterfront. Festival specials, preferred seating, and VIP Igloo Packages are available now.

Full details are available on Facebook and Instagram at @FrozenFireFestival and at www.frozenfirefestival.com.



COURTESY PHOTO

A firebreather wows spectators at a previous Frozen Fire Festival.



CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE

THE CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE,

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Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association honors individuals at the 2025 Law Enforcement & Corrections Awards Ceremony

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

The Suffolk County Sheriff's Department joined the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (MSA) in proud celebration of the outstanding achievements and unwavering commitment of law enforcement and corrections professionals at the 2025 Law Enforcement & Corrections Awards Ceremony on Thursday, November 13. The event, held at The Great Hall in the Massachusetts State House, honored recipients in 10 award categories for their exceptional dedication and service.

The awards ceremony highlighted stories of heroism, commitment, and innovation within the law enforcement and corrections communities across the Commonwealth.

"It is a privilege to celebrate the remarkable contributions of law enforcement and corrections professionals who go above and beyond in service to others," said Hampshire County Sheriff Patrick Cahillane, President of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association. "Their courage, innovation, and leadership make our correctional facilities and communities stronger and safer every day."

The Massachusetts Sheriffs'

Association commended these exemplary individuals for their service, including the actions of Suffolk County Sheriff's Department Captain Mel Reed. Captain Reed and his colleagues' efforts continue to inspire positive change, improving outcomes for those individuals returning to our communities, and making the Commonwealth a more resilient state.

Captain Reed was recognized for his extraordinary courage, swift action, and unwavering commitment to public safety when he risked his own life to rescue an unconscious driver from a burning vehicle, demonstrating exceptional leadership, composure, and the highest ideals of the law enforcement profession.

"Captain Mel Reed's courage represents the very best of the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department," said Mark Lawhorne, Special Sheriff for the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department. "His swift, selfless actions in pulling an unconscious man from a burning vehicle saved a life and exemplifies the honor, bravery, and professionalism we strive for every day in our institutions and in our community. We are proud to see him recognized as the MSA 2025 Deputy of the Year."



More than 250 participants attended the 2025 Law Enforcement & Corrections Awards Ceremony on Thursday at the State House honoring exemplary individuals for their professionalism and service. Pictured here are (l-r) Hampden County Sheriff Nick Cocchi, Captain Mel Reed of the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department, and Suffolk County Sheriff's Department Special Sheriff Mark Lawhorne.

In addition to Suffolk County's Captain Reed, other award recipients from across the Commonwealth were honored for their service and professionalism

: Officer John Ballerino (Norfolk County) and Officer Nicholas Wojnar (Worcester County) were named Correctional Officers of the Year. Deputy Nicholas Fitz-

patrick (Barnstable County) and Lieutenant Benjamin Goody (Franklin County) received the Deputy Sheriff of the Year award. The awards ceremony also recognized Employee of the Year recipients Elizabeth Stetzel (Hampshire County) and Alyssa Perley (Bristol County), along with Supervisor of the Year recipients Lieutenant Scott Bishop (Barnstable County) and Captain Sam Rapoza (Bristol County). Other awards went to Training Officers Sergeant Christopher Cochran (Barnstable County) and Sergeant Charles Ober (Essex County), Jail Administrators Barbara Clarkson (Barnstable County) and Superintendent Antone Moniz (Plymouth County), the Older Adult Reentry Unit and the Family Support Services Unit (both Middlesex Sheriff's Office) for Innovation and Program of the Year, and the LEO Support Foundation/S.M.A.C. (Plymouth County) as Strategic Partner of the Year. The Sheriff Michael J. Ashe Award was presented to Stephen Amos (Chief of the Jails Division, National Institute of Corrections).

GARDENS FOR CHARLESTOWN (from pg. 1)

a limited number of fresh, double-sided balsam wreaths for sale. These festive decorations have been beautifully decorated by the talented members of Gardens for Charlestown.

In addition to wreaths, the sale will feature handmade crochet ornaments from Powder Hill Gifts, lovingly designed and crafted by a member of the organization.

Online Shopping & Pickup:

Gardens for Charlestown merchandise is also available for purchase via the organization's online shop. All items purchased on or before December 6th will be available for pickup at the Gardens during the event on December 7th.

All proceeds from the sale benefit Gardens for Charlestown, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving this unique green space.



City of Boston
Landmarks Commission



City of Boston
Mayor Michelle Wu

MONUMENT SQUARE LANDMARK DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE OUTREACH AND MEETINGS:

The Study Committee will identify the historic, architectural and archaeological significance of the resources located in the proposed district, and finalize the proposed district's boundaries. Current and future planning issues will be reviewed and discussed to formulate recommendations to preserve the unique historic character of the Monument Square neighborhood while encouraging contextually sensitive new development in appropriate areas.

Meeting: December 17 @ 6:30pm - Virtual:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1613171668>

(Meeting ID 161 317 1668)

Meeting: January 14, 2026 @ 6:30pm - Virtual:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1603630588>

(Meeting ID 160 363 0588)

All listed events are open to the public.

For more information visit: www.boston.gov/monumentsquare

CHA Cambridge Health Alliance WE ARE SEEKING

Healthy People or those Currently Receiving Buprenorphine (eg, suboxone, subutex or zubsolv), Methadone or Naltrexone (Vivitrol)

We are seeking participants for a clinical research study about buprenorphine, methadone or naltrexone. The study will include both individuals who use these opioids and a control group of individuals who do not.

If you are between the ages of 21 and 59, you may qualify for a research study at The Cambridge Health Alliance that focuses on how buprenorphine, methadone or naltrexone affect people's weight, blood sugar and pain.

The study involves:

- One up to 8-hour session
- Weight/height, waist measurement, body fat percent, a diet assessment, measurements of blood sugar and lipids, surveys and urine tests
- Up to \$60 provided for participation

617- 665-1177

delman@challiance.org

CambridgeHealthAlliance
CHA-IRB-21-22-75
Approved on 12-26-2024

Visit www.charlestownbridge.com

Revolutionary Spaces announces December Events, featuring free admission and Boston Tea Party commemoration

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Revolutionary Spaces, the organization stewarding the iconic Freedom Trail landmarks the Old State House and Old South Meeting House, invites visitors to experience a schedule of special events throughout December. Revolutionary Spaces was formed in 2020 by the merger of the Bostonian Society and the Old South Association.

Family-Friendly Events

Free Admission for Boston Families: In partnership with

Mayor Wu's Boston Family Days, Revolutionary Spaces offers free admission on Sunday, December 7 and 14, to Boston school-aged children with up to two family members or guests. Interested families can register through the City of Boston's program.

Family Hours: Join Revolutionary Spaces for a modern take on family fun at their historic sites with themed games, crafts, scavenger hunts, and music.

When: Sunday, December 14, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m..

Admission: Activities are

included in the price of general admission and are free for children ages 12 and under.

Sensory-Friendly Mornings: The Old State House hosts special early open hours on Saturday, December 20, designed for visitors of all ages who benefit from a quieter, more supportive museum experience, ideal for people with sensory needs or chronic illnesses.

Additional December Programming

• Boston Tea Party 252nd Anniversary Commemoration: Experience history where it happened on Tuesday, December 16, with an evening of powerful performances, immersive storytelling, and patriotic spirit bringing December 16, 1773, vividly to life.

• Revolutionary History Tours (Seasonal): These tours are free with joint museum admissions and take visitors inside the historic Freedom Trail sites.

• The "Slavery and Resistance in Colonial Massachusetts" tour runs daily at 2:00 p.m., exploring the untold history of slavery and defiance from figures like Scipio Gunney and Phillis Wheatley.

For more info and to purchase tickets visit revolutionaryspaces.org/



Shown above and below, families enjoying one of the past Revolutionary Spaces Family Hours





Now on Sale!

When this spirited puppy wanders too far from home in Charlestown, she finds herself on a big journey along the historic Freedom Trail. From the tall shadow of the Bunker Hill Monument to the masts of the U.S.S Constitution in the Navy Yard, Bea sniffs out surprises as she tries to find her best friend, Tom.

Find it on Amazon



All proceeds from this book support Harvest on the Vine Food Pantry in Charlestown

A Holiday Classic

Infused with the Rhythm of our City.



Ballet, hip hop, jazz, flamenco, tap and more.

ANTHONY WILLIAMS

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Urban Nutcracker

December 13-21

PLEASE JOIN

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 CONGRESSMAN STEPHEN LYNCH
 CONGRESSWOMAN AYANNA PRESSLEY
 GOVERNOR MAURA HEALEY
 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KEVIN HAYDEN
 MAYOR PATRICK KEEFE, JR.
 CHAIRMAN AARON MICHEWITZ
 REP. ADRIAN MADARO
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 REP. JEFF TURCO

HOST COMMITTEE

LOU ANTONELLIS, BUSINESS MANAGER IBEW 103
 BRIAN DOHERTY, GENERAL AGENT OF GBBTU
 CHRISSY LYNCH, PRESIDENT OF THE MASS AFL-CIO

FOR A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION HONORING

STATE SENATOR LYDIA EDWARDS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025 | 6:00 P.M.

VOLARE RESTAURANT
 388 BROADWAY
 REVERE, MASSACHUSETTS

SUGGESTED DONATIONS: \$45 \$100 \$200 \$500 \$1,000

KINDLY RSVP BY EMAIL TO [KELLIE@KCSTRATEGIES.NET](mailto:kellie@kcstrategies.net)

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT LYDIA EDWARDS
 PO BOX 15, BOSTON, MA 02137
 OR DONATE ONLINE AT
[HTTPS://SECURE.ACTBLUE.COM/DONATE/12.9.25](https://secure.actblue.com/donate/12.9.25)

WE ARE NOT ASKING FOR FUNDS FROM CORPORATIONS, LABOR ORGANIZATIONS OR FROM OTHER FEDERALLY PROHIBITED SOURCES.
 PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT LYDIA EDWARDS.

SCENES FROM THE WOMEN’S LUNCH PLACE HARVEST FESTIVAL AND AUCTION



NABB Homelessness Task Force co-chairs Elizabeth Morris and Kathy Young.



Sponsors Tim and Julie Paradiso.



Larry Lawfer and Emily Dreifus.



Artwork and crafts made by clients at the Women’s Lunch Place was available for purchase.



Berklee College Of Music a cappella group Treble Threat perform.



Artwork and crafts made by clients at the Women’s Lunch Place was available for purchase.



A Boston Bruins jersey autographed by #88 David Pastrňák is one of many items and experiences available in the silent auction.



Civic government was in attendance with Massachusetts State Rep Jay Livingstone and Boston City Councilor Sharon Durkan.



Paula and Charles Neckyfarow.

FREE HOLIDAY CONCERT

St. Mary–St. Catherine of Siena, and Friends of the Charlestown Library Present

The Beatrice MasterSingers

3:00 December 7th, at St. Mary’s Church, 55 Warren Street

(617) 242-4664 handicapped accessible www.stmarystcatherine.org

2026 Mini-Grant opportunities supporting mental health and violence prevention for youth

\$100,000 in total funding is available through the Mayor's Office of Women's Advancement

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

The Mayor's Office of Women's Advancement (MOWA) today announced the launch of two 2026 mini-grant opportunities totaling \$100,000 to support community-based organizations working to strengthen mental health, prevent violence, and promote the well-being of Boston's youth.

The Women and Girls Mental Health Mini-Grant and the Domestic, Sexual, and Gender-Based Violence (DSGBV) Prevention Mini-Grant are designed to invest in early-intervention, skill-building, and culturally responsive programming rooted in community expertise.

"Investing in the well-being and safety of our young people is an investment in Boston's future," said Mariangely Solís Cervera, Chief of Equity and Inclusion.

"These grants reflect our City's commitment to ensuring every young person—regardless of identity or background—has access to programs that strengthen mental health supports, promote connections and recognize the work of our community partners.

"Supporting the mental health and safety of women, girls, and young people requires collaboration, compassion, and strong community partnerships," said Dana Alas, Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Women's Advancement. "These grants are a direct response to what community organizations have shared with us: the need for more mental health resources, mentorship, and early-intervention programming that equips young people with the skills to build safe, healthy lives. We are proud to offer resources that help break down silos, promote innovation, and uplift the leaders already doing transformative work in our city."

Grant Opportunities

Women and Girls Mental Health Mini-Grant – \$50,000 Available

This grant supports programs

that foster mental well-being among young women and girls. Eligible activities include social cohesion, youth mentorship, mental health education, and other evidence-based approaches that strengthen resilience and emotional wellness.

Organizations may apply for up to \$9,999 individually. Collaborative applications—submitted by two partner organizations—may receive up to \$20,000 in combined funding. Collaborative proposals will receive additional consideration to encourage innovative, cross-organizational approaches to mental health.

Domestic, Sexual, and Gender-Based Violence Prevention Mini-Grant – \$50,000 Available

Recognizing that boys and young men must be part of the solution to ending violence, this grant funds early-intervention programming focused on healthy relationship skills, emotional literacy, and evidence-based violence-prevention strategies.

Organizations may apply for up to \$9,999. All funded programs must be open to Boston residents regardless of identity.

Timeline for Both Grants
Application Launch: November 17, 2025

Application Deadline: Wednesday, January 7, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

Review Period: January 2026

Award Notification: February 2026

Grant Period Ends: June 30, 2026

Applicants may apply to one or both opportunities.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must:

Be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit or work with a fiscal sponsor

Serve Boston residents

Demonstrate sufficient staff, experience, and programmatic capacity

Maintain equitable, culturally responsive outreach and service delivery

Be in good financial standing and able to collect impact data

Implement all activities by June 30, 2026

Collaborative applications (for the mental health grant) must include a lead applicant and a partner organization, each submitting an application requesting up to \$9,999.

How to Apply

Applications for both grants must be submitted through the City's grant portal no later than January 7, 2026, at 5 p.m..

Women and Girls Mental Health Mini-Grant: <https://www.boston.gov/departments/womens-advancement/women-and-girls-mental-health-mini-grant>

Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Prevention Mini-Grant: <https://www.boston.gov/departments/womens-advancement/domestic-sexual-and-gender-based-violence-prevention-mini-grant>

Detailed application instructions, required documents, and downloadable templates are available at each link above.

Applicants should ensure their organization or fiscal sponsor has a valid Supplier/Vendor ID before award processing.

For questions about eligibility, timelines, or application requirements, contact Emily Nasiff at (617) 635-2525 or bostonwom-en@boston.gov.

City launches enhanced language and communications access dashboard in Power BI

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

The Mayor's Office of Language and Communications Access (OLCA) is proud to announce the launch of a newly enhanced Language and Communications Access Dashboard, designed to

provide a clear, transparent, and user-friendly view of the city's efforts to provide language access accommodations. The dashboard, now live at boston.gov/lca, tracks the City's use of interpretation, translation, CART (Communi-

cation Access Realtime Translation), and American Sign Language (ASL) services from fiscal years 2022 through 2025. It also incorporates spending supported by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The dashboard is part of LCA's ongoing commitment to ensuring that all Boston residents regardless of the language they speak have meaningful access to City services and information.

Since Fiscal Year 2022, LCA has collected detailed data on how City departments use both on-demand interpretation and pre-scheduled language accommodations. The new dashboard brings this data together in one centralized platform built using Microsoft Power BI.

Key features include:

- On-Demand Interpretation Services
 - Usage data from the City's telephonic and video interpretation providers
 - Separated by Over-the-Phone Interpretation (OPI) and Video Remote Interpretation (VRI)
 - Tracks total expenditure, hours of service provided, number

of languages requested, and the top 10 requested languages

In total for FY25, City departments collectively supported constituents through more than 760 hours of live interpretation services — ensuring every interaction was linguistically accessible and supported by a qualified interpreter.

City-Scheduled Language Accommodations

Tracks departmental requests for:

- In-person and virtual interpretation
- Written translation (including revisions)
- CART
- ASL
- Captures total spending, number of requests, number of languages, and the most requested languages annually

To support accurate insights and usability, LCA has integrated multiple data sources, created standardized metrics, and implemented robust filtering tools within the dashboard model.

"This dashboard reflects our Cabinet's commitment to embedding equity into the way Boston

delivers services," said Equity and Inclusion Cabinet Chief, Mariangely Solís Cervera. "By sharing this data openly, we're not only increasing transparency, but also creating the foundation for smarter decision-making about where resources are most needed. It's another step toward building a city government that meets residents where they are."

"This dashboard brings together years of data into one place, giving residents and City staff a clearer picture of how language and communication services are being used across Boston," said Jeniffer Vivar Wong, Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Language and Communications Access. "It's a practical tool that helps us understand current needs, identify gaps, and guide our ongoing work to expand access."

"This is the City's first multilingual dashboard, and it represents a major step forward in how we approach language access," said Erika Garcia, Research & Data Manager for LCA. "With this tool, we can clearly see where translation and interpretation services are

(DASHBOARD, Pg. 7)

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$195.00 per paper.

Includes photo.No word Limit.

Please send to

obits@reverejournal.com

or call 781-485-0588

LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

Boston College High School has announced that Charlestown students have made the Honor Roll for the first quarter at BC High for the 2025-2026 school year.

Seniors – Class of 2026

Thomson Soutter - High Honors
Patrick Sullivan - High Honors
Liam Cobb - Honors
William teDuits - Honors
Benjamin Thomas - Honors

Juniors – Class of 2027

Jack Belisle - Honors
Sawyer Burke - Honors
Daniel Chan - High Honors

Samer Farah - Honors
Jackson Greene - Honors
Colin Kurtz - High Honors
Heath MacLetchie - High Honors
Finneas Dowd - Honors
Luke Kelliher - Honors

Sophomores – Class of 2028

Henry Bullock Gonzalez - Honors
Aidan Carroll - Honors
John Hayden - Honors
Jake Silveira - Honors
Cavan White - High Honors

Freshmen – Class of 2029

Chase Burke - High Honors

John Chardavoyne - Honors
Robert Childs - High Honors
Reed Currie - Honors
John Fleming - Honors
Tyler Greene - High Honors
Nolan Kurtz - High Honors
Brendan Nehill - High Honors
Thomas Perkins - High Honors
Patrick Perreault - High Honors
Ashton Peterson - Honors
Ryan Signorelli - Honors
Patrick Simpson-Nairn - Honors
Barrett Tager - Honors
Michael Tinelli - High Honors
Jacob Buksbaum - Honors

Boston Parks and Recreation opens registration for free youth flag football league

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department has announced that registration is now open for the 2026 Boston Youth Flag Football League (BYFFL), a free co-ed sports program.

The league provides an inclusive environment for young athletes and runs from January 3 to February 7, 2026.

League Details

Location: Carter Playground Bubble, 709 Columbus Avenue, South End.

Schedule: Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m..

Divisions: Co-ed categories for 8U, 10U, and 12U, as well as a High School Girls division.

Season Length: The season

is five weeks long, with playoffs scheduled for the final week.

Coaches are encouraged to register their teams as space is limited by visiting boston.gov/parks-sports or joining the league online at <https://www.zortssports.com/join/league/23168>. For more information on the program, contact woodley.auguste@boston.gov or call (617) 961-3084.

DASHBOARD (from pg. 1)

most needed, how resources are being used, and where we can continue to improve. It's about making sure every resident has access to the information and services they deserve."

"Data can tell a story about the people and places around us," said Shin-pei Tsay, Chief Research and Data Officer, "we are proud to build tools that make information public and accessible. This window into how language access services are used across the City allows us to understand, improve, and deliver language access for every Bostonian. Our Data and Research Team, particularly Charles Sheils, Joseph Headley, and Jenna Flanagan, played a key role in understanding what our communities need and ensuring

the data dashboard directly supported OCLA's service."

The Language and Communications Access Dashboard is available to the public and city staff at boston.gov/lca. An instructional video is also available in all 11 languages to guide users in navigating the dashboard and exploring the data.

Shop

LOCAL

Business directory

Our readers are always seeking local resources.
Call for a great rate on a long term
COLOR campaign for your business.

Sioux Gerow
charlestownads@hotmail.com
781-485-0588 x106

Free holiday benefit concert is this weekend

Staff Report

On Sunday, December 7th at 3:00 at St. Mary's Church, 55 Warren Street, the Beatrice MasterSingers will bring another popular hour-long program of familiar carols and anthems in interesting arrangements, mostly by David Wilcocks and John Rutter. An organ solo, and the congregational singing in the carol Deck the Hall and the hymns "O' Come All Ye Faithful" and "Hark, The Herald Angles Sing," will once more ring in the festive season.

The concert is free with a suggestion of donations to Harvest on Vine Food Pantry.

The Beatrice MasterSingers, a distinguished ensemble within the Dee Opera Company, was founded by Artistic Director Stephanie Beatrice to bring a unique level of vocal artistry to the presentation of choral music. This professional choir of 24 voices is dedicated not only to musical excellence but also to creating a profound listening experience rooted in the fundamentals of choral artistry. Every performance is crafted to embody a seamless, unified sound that honors the music's intentions and captures an authentic expression of human connection.

The Woodberry and Harris organ, in place since St. Mary's consecration in 1892 will support the congregation with its sonorous tones. Denmark native Heinrich Christensen earned an

Artist Diploma in Organ Performance from the Boston Conservatory where his teacher was James David Christie.

St. Mary's Parish was formed in 1828 to serve the burgeoning Irish Population of Charlestown in 1892. The magnificent 1200 seat structure designed by P.C. Keely the Tudor-Gothic style was dedicated in 1892. The distinctive ceiling is of a hammerbeam design; above it, massive timber trusses obviate the need for columns and allow unobstructed views. The acoustics are also quite sumptuous. The large-scale brass light fixtures from the 1890's were originally designed to be used for gas or electricity because electric lighting was considered experimental at that time.

The Friends of the Charlestown Branch Library supports for the branch and programs for the community, underwriting purchases of needed books and equipment that fall outside city budget allocations. Through the Friends generosity historic paintings have been restored a piano purchased and chairs re-upholstered. The Friends also schedule evening programs every year, support the Reading is FUNdamental programs for children, and maintain the library's landscaping. The mission of the Friends remains today what it was in 1953: to serve as an advocacy and support group for the needs of the Charlestown Branch Library, its staff and users.

CHARLESTOWN GYM HOCKEY

STANDINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 11/22/2025

	W	L	T
Massport's Finest	8	2	2
Duce 2	6	3	2
A-1 Convenience	5	4	3
McCarthy Bros.	4	5	3
Halligan Club	3	6	3
YMCA	2	8	2

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK FOR 11/22/2025

A-1 Convenience - Bobby Beckwith, Henry Bruno

Duce 2 - Elena DeLeon, Dominic Reardon

Halligan Club - Aidan Collier, Billy Nugent

Massport's Finest - Georgiana LaPage, Jack McLaughlin

McCarthy Bros. - Parker Pruitt, Matty Masucci

YMCA, - Patrick Toboni, Martin Forbes

Early Registration for our 2026/2027 season at:

Charlestown Boys & Girls Club, 60 High St.

On Saturdays - December 13 & 20, and January 3, 2026

9 am to 11:30 am. Our ages are: 3 to 10 years old. Anyone who turns 11 years old before 1/1/2027 is too old to play.

You do not have to live in Charlestown to play. We welcome kids from all communities!

ANNUAL TRELLIS LIGHTING CEREMONY AT CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS PARK



The trellis is lit and the Holiday Season has begun.



Even with all of the civic leaders and luminaries on the stage, help was needed from the kids in the audience to light the trellis. The kids did not disappoint.



Boston City Council President Ruthzee Louijeune shows her musical side.

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

One of the first events of the Holiday Season is the trellis lighting at Christopher Columbus Park. There were complimentary treats, musical performances, and

visits from Holiday Season stars like The Grinch, Rudolph The Red Nose Reindeer, and Santa Claus himself. Be sure to check for the Enchanted Trolley Tour making it's way through the neighborhoods of Boston on Dec 6 and Dec 7.



Anna Samoilava meets Santa and The Grinch.



City of Boston Director of Park Maintenance Nate Hinchcliffe, Deputy Director of Neighborhoods Ciara D'Amico, and Boston City Council President Ruthzee Louijeune.



City of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu and her daughter Mira take a photo with members of the Northeastern University a capella group Pitch Please.



Anna Samoilava conducts the NEMPAC Holiday Community Choir. Comprised of residents from the North End and Charlestown, they sang Jingle Bells and We Wish You A Merry Christmas.

ANNUAL TRELLIS LIGHTING CEREMONY AT CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS PARK



Instructor Michael Semanic conducts a choir comprised of NEMPAC and Charlestown Working Theater Troupe members. They sang Jingle Bell Rock and My Favorite Things.



The Christopher Columbus Park Trellis will be lit through April.



Friends Of The Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) President Joanne Hayes-Rines speaks. The FOCCP worked with the City to make this special event happen.



Monica and Mary Stack were excited to meet The Grinch.



Interim Commissioner of the City of Boston Parks Department Cathy Baker Eclipse speaks.



Photon Gaiwad meets Santa.



Massachusetts State Rep Aaron Michlewitz, Rudolph The Red Nose Reindeer, FOCCP President Joanne Hayes-Rines, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu and her daughter Mira, Santa Clause, and Boston City Council President Ruthzee Louijeune.



The Santana Family from Dorchester meets Santa Claus.

small
works

sale &
exhibition

**WINTER 2025
SMALL WORKS
EXHIBITION**

exhibition dates:
December 6th & 7th 10:00 - 4:00
December 13th & 14th 12:00 - 5:00

OPEN STUDIOS
December 6th and 7th
10:00 - 4:00

**StoveFactory
Gallery**

523 Medford Street Charlestown, MA
www.ArtistsGroupofCharlestown.com

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION HOLDS GARLANDS & GREENS EVENT

Photos & Story by Marianne Salza

What began as a fundraising concept that Tom Kershaw had written on a cocktail napkin at Harvard Gardens has developed into a three decade-long tradition to preserve the historic charm of the holiday season on Beacon Hill.

The Garlands & Greens benefit, presented by the Beacon Hill Civic Association (BHCA), and hosted by Tom Kershaw at the Hampshire House, was held on November 19 to support decorating the 1,100 gas lamps throughout the neighborhood. The celebration included raffles, hor d'oeuvres, and live music performed by the

Beacon Hill Jazz Quartet.

“Tom Kershaw is important to all of us,” exclaimed Patricia Tully, Executive Director, BHCA. “He does good things for so many people. We are blessed to have him in our community.”

Councilor Sharon Durkan, and a representative from Senator Lydia Edwards’s office, also presented Tom Kershaw with citations in gratitude of his 30th anniversary of hosting Garlands & Greens.

Holiday decorating begins December 6-7. Contact the BHCA office at (617) 227-1922 to volunteer.



Melissa, Mary, and Alden .



Sarah Teczar and Krysztof Mroczkowski.



Chris and Kaitlyn Turner.



Beacon Hill Jazz Quartet vocalists AJ Rubin and Soriah Wertman, with drummer, Chris DiBona, bassist, Noah Harrington, and pianist, Jesse Mattisen.



Patricia Tully, Executive Director, BHCA, with Colin Zick, President, thanking members for supporting BHCA in maintaining the neighborhood and creating a sense of community.

Wu announces youth job applications open for 2025-2026 school year

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity (YEO) have announced that youth job applications are now open for the 2025-2026 School Year.

The program currently has over 2,000 employment opportunities available for Boston youth and young adults ages 14-24.

Program Highlights

Application: Youth can apply online at futureBOS, the centralized hub for all City employment opportunities, including the flagship SuccessLink program.

Funding: The City provided \$23.3 million in its FY26 budget for youth jobs, leveraging an additional \$10.5 million in external funds.

Career Pathways: The program connects youth to employment in high-demand industries, including the new Boston Climate Youth Corps, which hired over 200 youth last summer for jobs focused on climate resilience and sustainability.

Partnerships: YEO partners with over 300 entities, including City agencies, non-profits, and educational institutions, and continues to collaborate with Boston Public Schools (BPS) to fulfill the Youth Jobs Guarantee.

Financial Education: YEO partners with Bank On Boston and the Center for Working Families to provide financial education, workshops, and access to safe, no-fee bank accounts.

How to Apply

Job applications are accepted on a rolling basis, and youth are strongly encouraged to apply early by December 15, 2025.

Online Guide: A step-by-step application guide is available online at <https://www.boston.gov/departments/youth-employment-and-opportunity/landing-summer-job-or-internship>.

In-Person Help: Youth can visit the YEO office in person at 1483 Tremont Street in Roxbury, Monday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., or call 617-635-4202 for assistance.



Beacon Hill residents gathering at the Hampshire House to raise funds for holiday decorating.


From the State House

DIDOMENICO CELEBRATES FORMER SENATE PRESIDENT CHANDLER

Senator Sal DiDomenico joined colleagues and friends for former Senate President Harriette Chandler's official portrait unveiling at the State House. "Senate President Chandler spent her illustrious career fighting to improve public health, education, and our Commonwealth for every resident and we will all continue to benefit from her contributions for years to come," said DiDomenico. "President Chandler was a mentor and

someone I looked up to as a new member of the State Senate. She was so kind to me and my staff, and I was proud to serve on her leadership team during her time as our President."

Senator Chandler represented the 1st Worcester District in the Senate for over 20 years. She also served in the House of Representatives as a member from 1995 - 2001.



Sen. DiDomenico with former Senate President Harriette Chandler in front of her official portrait in the Senate reading room.



Former Senate President Harriette Chandler's official portrait is unveiled for the first time.

Boston Legacy Football Club launches ticket donation initiative for BPS students

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Boston Legacy Football Club is teaming up with fans to bring the next generation of supporters to the stadium. Following a launch on Giving Tuesday, the club is currently running a ticketing initiative designed to open the door for more fans to discover the love of the game and connect with their community.

For every two tickets purchased to the club's home opener on Saturday, March 14, Boston Legacy FC is donating one additional ticket to a Boston Public Schools (BPS) student.

The initiative is part of an ongoing effort to ensure BPS students have an exciting, memorable experience at the historic first home game. In addition to the public buy-one-give-one model, the club's season ticket holders can purchase BPS-allotted tickets at a preferred rate using a promotional code. The program will

remain open until 24 hours before the home opener.

The club is collaborating with the City of Boston and Boston Public Schools to facilitate ticket distribution.

"Our ticketing initiative is just one of the ways we've committed to giving back to our community," said Boston Legacy president Jennifer van Dijk. "Having BPS students there is going to add incredible energy for our first ever home game. We want the next generation of fans to come to our games—and for the next generation of players to be able to watch the best athletes in the best women's soccer league in the world."

Boston Legacy FC will add to Boston's winning legacy as the 15th team in the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) starting play in 2026. For more information, please visit boston-legacyfc.com or its social media platforms.

Massachusetts House passes Supplemental Budget to close FY25

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

The Massachusetts House of Representatives have passed a supplemental budget to address deficiencies, to make new necessary investments, and to close the books on Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25). The legislation appropriates \$2.25 billion in gross spending, at a net cost to the state of \$750 million, representing a reduction of almost \$200 million from the Governor's original proposal.

"This supplemental budget closes the books on FY25, and aims to fortify the Commonwealth's finances, bolster economic development, and ensure continued access to critical health care services," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "In the face of unrelenting attacks from the Trump Administration that will strip health insurance coverage from millions of Americans and deny access to lifesaving vaccinations, this supplemental budget will help vulnerable residents prepare for, and avoid, a lapse in coverage, and ensure continued access to vaccines for every child

in Massachusetts. I want to thank Chairman Michlewitz for his hard work, and all my colleagues in the House for recognizing the importance of the investments that are included in this legislation."

"This supplemental budget will close the books on FY25 in a balanced and fiscally responsible manner. By making critical investments into much needed programs in healthcare, education, and housing to name a few, the Commonwealth will be in a strong fiscal position for FY 26 and beyond," said Representative Aaron Michlewitz, Chair of the House Committee on Ways & Means (D-Boston). "I want to thank Speaker Mariano for his dedication to these issues, as well as all my House colleagues for supporting this initiative."

"This supplemental budget closes the books on FY25, allocating important funds to programs that will help our residents," said Representative Adrian Madaro (D - East Boston). "In the face of devastating cuts and inaction from the federal government that

(BUDGET, Pg. 13)

The weather outside is frightful... ♪♪

♪♪. But your budget can still be delightful! ♪♪



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An Appetite for Art The Future of Art in Boston

By Arielle Appleby

Doors to the stately brick-walled SoWa Power Station opened to a maze of contemporary art booths on a nippy Thursday night in October. The smell of fresh paint lingered, ambient jazz cushioned a buzz of voices and laughter, while the signature sound of cocktail shakers prepped drinks for an edgy young crowd.

Many members of Boston's new generation say they are hungry for art, and perhaps for the first time, their appetite was satiated at the Affordable Art Fair held in October, a world-traveling exhibition that caps the price of creative work at \$10,000.

Boston's show featured 50 local artists, attracted 6,000 visitors, and generated approximately \$2 million in sales, according to Erin Schuppert, founder of the event.

"We are really excited about the positive energy and reception that we received in Boston," she said. "A lot of what I've been hearing is that people are excited to see contemporary art being presented in this way, and that Boston really needs this."

Founded in London in 1999, the art fair has expanded to 15 cities worldwide. Organizers said the price cap for artwork makes it more accessible while supporting creative professionals. The Affordable Art Fair's goal is to open the door to contemporary art for the

public. "The dead artists don't need the money," said Will Ramsey, the event's co-founder.

In a city where art is a pillar of its history, expressed in the iconic personal gallery of Isabella Stewart Gardner and the collections of early colonial art in the Museum of Fine Arts, many say the resurgence of artistic interest and the arrival of the Affordable Art Fair are key to preserving that legacy.

The local art market differs from that of other American cities, according to Jameson Johnson, founder and editor of the Boston Art Review.

Unlike New York City's vibrant and energetic art scene, she said Boston lacks a robust network of commercial contemporary galleries operating on a national or international scale. "People aren't going out of their way to buy or indulge in art," Johnson said.

The city also lacks blue-chip galleries — prestigious, high-end spaces with exclusive access that creates mystery and intrigue — which suppresses the artistic reputation of Boston. Johnson founded the Boston Art Review in 2017 while she was an undergraduate student at Northeastern University. She said the magazine works with writers from all stages, and their team of writers aspire to advance a world conversation about art.

Many Boston organizations work to make art accessible,



Shown are scenes of the SoWa Power Station's Affordable Art Fair.

beyond the constraints of price. One of these organizations that was present at the event was Gateway Arts, a nonprofit that supports nearly 100 artists with disabilities, helping them develop a professional presence in the visual arts.

"A disability should not be a barrier to the professional growth and opportunity for artists," said Gregory Liakos, director of Gateway Arts. "We believe that our artists are creating art that is as vibrant and creative, and as valuable as anything in contemporary art today." Liakos believes sustained momentum from events like the Affordable Art Fair could make art fairs a staple in the city.

"Boston's art community is growing, diversifying, becoming more contemporary," Liakos said, "and also more public."

Arielle Appleby is a student in the Boston University Journalism program. This story is a partnership between Charlestown Patriot Bridge and the Boston University Journalism program.



COURTESY PHOTOS



DiDomenico acts to protect transit workers

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Senator Sal DiDomenico took action to support public transit workers by advocating for and passing a bill that steps up penalties for people who assault them while they are on duty. DiDomenico is a co-sponsor and spoke on the Senate floor advocating for An Act relative to assault and battery upon a transit worker, S.2697, which responds to an increased number of assaults targeting workers on Massa-

chusetts' public transportation systems by ensuring a heightened minimum punishment.

"I was proud to co-sponsor and fight for the passage of the transit worker protection bill in the Senate," said Senator DiDomenico. "Transit workers have been increasingly targeted by assaults while on the job, and this bill ensures that these essential workers are explicitly protected while bringing people to their jobs, doctor appointments, schools, grocery stores, and keeping our com-

munity connected."

This bill has been enacted in the Senate and Rep. McGonagle's bill has been enacted in the House, which means it now advances to the Governor for her signature.

Jim Evers, President, Boston Carmen's Union Local 589

"This is a significant victory for everyone who rides or operates public transit. We are thankful for the Senate and the House for supporting this common sense legislation and look forward to Governor Healey signing it into law. Our MBTA bus and train operators deserve to be safe on the job and commuters deserve to know that public transportation is safe. This bill will ensure that those who assault public transit workers will be held accountable and that our valued transportation employees are protected. Our transit workers keep Boston moving every day and deserve our utmost respect. This legislation adds transportation personnel to the list of public employees who need extra protections so they can do their job safely and efficiently and improve our communities for all."

On the MBTA alone, work-



Sen. DiDomenico celebrating with Boston Carmen's Union members and Keolis workers outside the Senate Chamber after passing the bill through the Senate.

ers in 2024 were targeted by 33 assaults with weapons and 72 physical assaults, according to testimony heard by the Legislature at a recent public hearing. The bill ensures that all transit workers are covered, including those who are not directly employed by the state, such as workers employed by Keolis, the state's contracted commuter rail operator.

Workers on the MBTA, commuter rail lines, regional transit authorities, and other public transit systems also face possible assault with bodily fluids, such as saliva. MBTA workers were targeted by 38 bodily fluid assaults in 2024. This legislation explicitly holds individuals accountable for bodily substance assaults in addition to other types of assaults."



Senator DiDomenico hugging Bill Berardino, Vice President of the Boston Carmen Union Local 589, after passing the bill through the Senate.

BUDGET (from pg. 11)

will strip health insurance, take away access to care, and impact the quality of life for many across the Commonwealth, the funding in this bill ensures that our residents will be protected and covered, while providing resources for everything from housing, to school meals, to clean water and snow removal this winter. I'm proud of the steady, responsible approach Massachusetts continues to take to ensure our priorities are funded".

The bill passed today appropriates \$10 million for Health Care for All to conduct a public awareness campaign, and to conduct health coverage enrollment assistance for communities at risk of losing health care coverage as a result of the new Medicaid reporting requirements that were put in place by President Trump and Congress through the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. It invests \$10 million for the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center, and includes \$5 million in grants to reproductive health care providers. It also invests \$15 million for a new Sports and Entertainment Fund

grant program, for which \$10 million will be set aside for the events related to the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

The bill passed today also includes a policy section which authorizes the Department of Public Health Commissioner to determine routine childhood immunizations and vaccination schedules, rather than relying on the recommendations of the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

In addition to the appropriations, the bill also invests in the state's future by depositing the remainder of the funds to an escrow account (\$337.7 million), to support pensions (\$18.8 million), and to the Other Post-employment Benefits Trust Fund (\$18.8 million).

Additionally, the House accepted an amendment from Chair John Lawn that updates and restructures existing assessments on Massachusetts hospitals used to fund the Health Safety Net and related hospital support trust funds. The changes modernize financial data used in the assessment, increase

the amount hospitals contribute, and adjust how the resulting funds are distributed among hospitals.

The bill also addresses budget deficiencies, including:

- \$1.67 billion in gross spending (\$303 million net cost) for MassHealth
- \$60.7 million for snow and ice removal

- \$35 million for HomeBASE
- \$14 million for the Section 35 program
- \$12.5 million for no-cost calls
- \$12 million for Universal School Meals
- \$7.2 million for Department of Correction (DOC) Facilities operations
- \$6.8 million for the

Clean Water Trust Fund

- \$3.5 million for State Police operations
- \$700,000 for the Suffolk County District Attorney

The bill passed in the House of Representatives by a vote 141-14, and now goes to the Senate for its consideration.

Discover
craft
artisans
community
classes
NBSS

Open House Dec. 5-6
nbss.edu/openhouse



See BUDGET Page 13

Charlestown Patriot-Bridge Pick-Up Locations	
Newtowne Market	87 Medford St.
Community Center	255 Medford St.
365 Convenience Store	275 Medford St.
Annas Café	275 Medford St.
Jenny's Pizza	320 Medford St.
Waverly Café	229 Bunker Hill St.
Bunker Hill Liquors.....	200 Bunker Hill St.
Kennedy Center	55 Bunker Hill St.
McCarthy's Liquors.....	9 Moulton St.
Bunker Hill Cleaners	Moulton St.
Police Station	20 Vine St. Hayes Sq.
Santander Bank	437 Rutherford Ave.
7/11 Store	269 Main St.
Zelma Lacey House.....	9 W School St.
Gatehouse Apartment.....	75 W School St.
Ace Hardware	Bunker Hill Mall
CVS	Bunker Hill Mall
Citizens Bank.....	Bunker Hill Mall
Whole Food Market.....	Bunker Hill Mall
MGH Health Care Center.....	73 High St.
7/11 Store	Thompson Sq.
Charlestown Liquors	Thompson Sq.
Starbucks.....	Thompson Sq.
Cambridge Savings	Thompson Sq.
Warren Tavern.....	2 Pleasant St. & Main St.
Constellation Wharf Condos	1 Constellation Wharf
Harborview	250 First Ave.
Basilica.....	106 13th St.
Anchorage Apartment	103 13th Ave.
Parris Landing	42 Eighth St.
Tuttles Clevergreen Cleaners	197 Eighth St.
Flagship Wharf	197 Eighth St.
Style Café.....	197 Eighth St.
Building 104	104 First Ave.
Building 110	110 First Ave.
MGH Institute	26 First Ave.
7/11 Store	1 First Ave.

Healey-Driscoll Administration releases statewide high school graduation framework

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

The Healey-Driscoll Administration has released an initial statewide graduation framework designed to set nation-leading expectations and prepare all students for success after high school, regardless of their chosen career path. This framework, developed with the K-12 Statewide Graduation Council, represents the state's most robust education standards ever.

Key Principles and Changes

The new system moves away from reliance on a single high-stakes test. Key changes include:

- **Phasing Out 10th Grade MCAS:** The 10th Grade MCAS exam would be phased out as part of the new framework.
- **No Single Barrier:** No single test will represent a barrier to graduation for any student.
- **Comprehensive Approach:** Massachusetts will be the first state to implement such a comprehensive approach to setting high educational standards.

Seven Elements of the Framework

Bright Futures
This element focuses on future planning and literacy:

- Students create their own plan for college or career.
- Students must complete the FAFSA or MASFA (financial aid application).
- Students learn financial literacy.
- Students can earn seals of distinction, such as the State Seal of Bilingualism.

Stakeholder Engagement and Next Steps

This initial framework is the first step, following significant feedback from over 400 people who attended listening sessions, 6,615 respondents to a statewide online survey, and 103 district administrators.

The administration will continue to seek input from communities to refine the recommendations and work toward a final report next year. This work builds on the administration's existing "Reimagining High School Initiative," which includes expanding access to programs like Early College, Innovation Career Pathways, and MyCAP.

Proven Skills
To show mastery of course content, students will complete:

- A limited number of end-of-course (EOC) assessments.

EOCs are a more targeted and relevant approach than the current high school MCAS.

Students do not have to pass an EOC to graduate.

- A capstone or portfolio.

Capstones are cumulative projects, typically including research, a written assignment, and a final presentation.

Portfolios are a collection of a student's best work demonstrating mastery in one or across content areas.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
Docket No. SU25P2567EA
Estate of: Evelyn Mary Collier
Date of Death: 12/16/2023
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Robert C. Collier, Jr. of Boston MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Robert C. Collier, Jr. of Boston MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/16/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 14, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate
12/5/25
CT

LEGAL NOTICE
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, Section 5-304
Docket No. SU25P2619GD
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston MA, 02114
In the matter of: Andrea Seiff of: Boston, MA

RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Mass Dept. of Mental Health of West-borough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Andrea Seiff is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM on the return date of 12/19/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 21, 2025
Stephanie Everett, Register of Probate
12/4/25
RR

FRESH AND LOCAL

Inspired by street food

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

December is when entertaining friends and family adds to an already busy schedule. We suggest you choose to serve a meal inspired by street food. You could select a street food specialty that reflects your family's culture, features a family favorite, or honors a guest.

Food designed for last-minute preparation, served from a cart,

food truck, or small stall, is usually limited in ingredients and makes great party food. As a bonus, most street food can be eaten out of hand, from disposable serving items, with fingers or wooden spoons and forks.

You can have one or two people play chef and prepare each person's choice to order. Or, make it self-serve. Set up a table of optional ingredients so your guests can be their own chefs.

Menu Suggestions

We consulted local food truck menus and drew on our favorite items from the past to offer menu suggestions for your street food party. We also looked for items you could purchase if you have time to shop but not to cook.

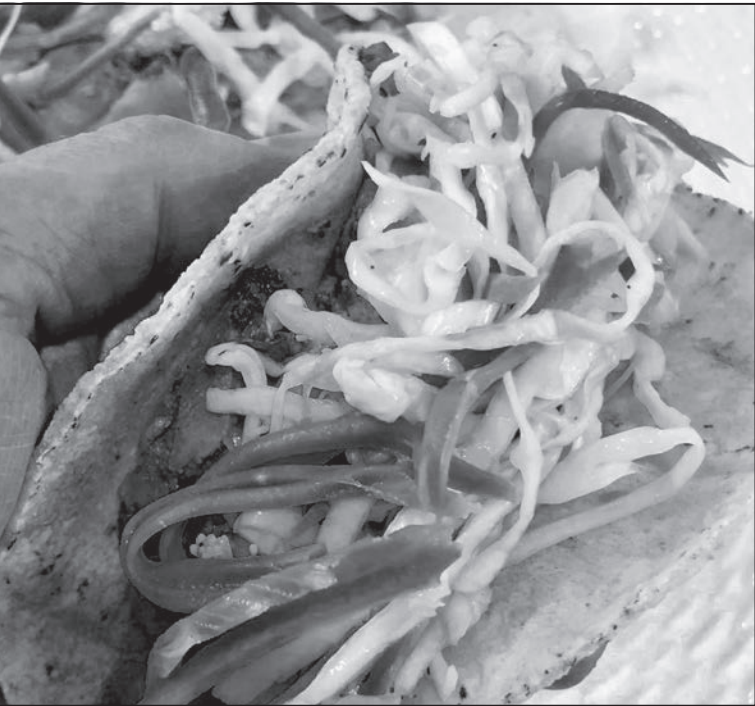
If we were hosting a Vietnamese street food party, we would serve fresh rolls, bon mi sandwiches, and a big bowl of bun thit nuong (a noodle salad). Anyone who can build a sandwich can make a bon mi, and we have based parties around teaching friends to make fresh rolls. The preparation for this menu is mostly shopping and chopping.

One of our favorite food trucks, Mei Mei, has turned its menu into a dumpling business. You can buy their excellent products frozen and serve a selection of dumplings and sauces. Round out your menu with a takeout order from your favorite Asian restaurant.

Pennypackers is another well-loved food truck famous for its porchetta sandwiches. If you are a good home cook, you could make your porchetta in advance and surround it with a basket of bread, a tray of antipasto, and a big Italian salad.

Taco trucks are what sparked

(FRESH & LOCAL, Pg. 16)



A fill-it-yourself taco party could be a perfect theme for feeding a crowd.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A VIRTUAL DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING
Project Description: Somerville/Cambridge – McGrath Boulevard Construction
Project File Number: 607981

A Virtual Design Public Hearing will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed project in Somerville and Cambridge, MA.
WHEN: 6:30-8pm, Tuesday, December 9th, 2025
PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed project. All

views and comments submitted in response to the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.
PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of reconstruction of McGrath Highway (Route 28) between Broadway in Somerville and Third Street in Cambridge. The current design proposes to remove the McCarthy Overpass (MassDOT bridge # S-17-039) and replace it with a surface boulevard-style roadway with at-grade signalized intersections. The project does not include removal or replacement of any other bridges along the corridor. The project focuses on improving community connectivity between neighborhoods and accommodation for all roadway users through the provision, expansion,

and enhancement of pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities. The project also includes safety improvements, increased green space, physical separation of bicycles and pedestrians from motor vehicles wherever feasible, and the removal of a major physical and visual barrier (the overpass) within the community. A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisitions will be presented in the hearing. Project inquiries, written statements and other exhibits regarding the proposed undertaking may be submitted to Car-

rie E. Lavallee, P.E., Chief Engineer, via e-mail to massdotmcgrathblvd@dot.state.ma.us or via US Mail to Suite 7210, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Major Projects, Project File No. 607981. Statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the hearing transcript must be emailed or postmarked no later than ten (10) business days after the hearing is hosted. This hearing is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (e.g. interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, live captioning, videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact

MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), TTD/TTY at (857) 266-0603, fax (857) 368-0602 or by email (MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us). Requests should be made as soon as possible and prior to the hearing, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten business days before the hearing. This hearing will be hosted, or a cancellation announcement posted, on the MassDOT website at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events>.
JONATHAN GULLIVER
CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, P.E.
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR
CHIEF ENGINEER
11/21/25, 12/5/25
CT

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Explore, Shop, and Celebrate: Artists' Group of Charlestown hosts annual Open Studios this weekend

Staff Report

The Artists' Group of Charlestown (AGC) invites the community to explore the vibrant world of local art at the StoveFactory Artists' Open Studios 2025. Spanning three floors of the historic StoveFactory building, this annual "open house" offers the public a unique chance to step inside working studios, meet the artists, and view a diverse array of creative works.

Visitors can look forward to live demonstrations across various disciplines, including antique letterpress printing, hands-on papermaking using recycled pulp, and unique mixed-media techniques involving oils, ground marble, and glass. The featured artwork covers a wide spectrum of media, from ceramics, wood, and plant-based fibers to encaustic, watercolor, and

acrylic painting.

Small Works Sale & Exhibition Coinciding with Open Studios is the 2025 Winter Small Works Sale & Exhibition in the StoveFactory Gallery. This year's show was co-juried by Jeanne Finnerty of Jeanne Finnerty Interior Design, along with AGC members and StoveFactory artists Dara Pannebaker and Julie Alailima.

Event Schedule:

Open Studios & Exhibition Kickoff: Saturday, Dec. 6 and Sunday, Dec. 7, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Exhibition Continued: Saturday, Dec. 13 and Sunday, Dec. 14, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Festivities and Community Support Admission is free for all attendees. To celebrate the launch, complimentary beverages will be served by a bartender on Saturday,

December 6th, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

In the spirit of the season, the AGC is hosting a food drive to benefit Harvest on Vine. Guests are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to donate during their visit.

Location and Parking Free parking is available in the adjacent lot at 511 Medford Street (please use marked spaces only), and free two-hour on-street parking is available on weekends. The StoveFactory is also accessible via public transit, located just a ten-minute walk from the Sullivan Square Orange Line station.

The Artists' Group of Charlestown extends its gratitude to this year's sponsors: Cenotech Solutions, Hood Park, Jeanne Finnerty Interior Design, RSM Boston Foundation, and Trinity Financial.



Barbara Torrey will be hosting encaustic demos during Open Studios.

FRESH & LOCAL (from pg. 15)

the street food scene in this country, and a taco party could be the perfect theme to feed a crowd. Even when we make tacos for two, we set up our dining bar as a taco assembly line. You could offer a hot plate of fillings, including vegetarian and vegan options. Add salsas, shredded lettuce, cheese, and creamy toppings. Let everyone decide whether they want hard, flour, or whole-grain tacos, and fill them as they wish.

If you have a crew of less adventuresome eaters, you could have a grilled cheese menu inspired by Roxy's Grilled Cheese truck. We

geek out on grilled cheese by making them with an assortment of flavored breads from When Pigs Fly bakery. Or, you could duplicate Roxy's support of local businesses by choosing your ingredients from the vendors they proudly display on their website. Don't forget to have a simmering crockpot of tomato soup for dipping.

Do It Yourself or Have It
Catered

One final note on this topic, many local restaurants and food trucks offer catering services. You could support a small busi-

ness and have someone who's an expert in creating a popular street food menu handle the food for the party. The three who cater, mentioned here, are Mei Mei, Pennypackers, and Roxy's. If you have a favorite place for a favorite food, ask if they can cater your event. Small businesses can use the income and exposure, and you can use the free time!

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

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Hanson, Harry D	Powers, Christopher	51 Sullivan St	\$2,550,000



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