

# CHARLESTOWN

## PATRIOT-BRIDGE

### BCB prepares to vote on Heritage Club license following hearing

By Seth Daniel

An animated Councilor Lydia Edwards harshly opposed the Heritage Club marijuana store application, and Mayor Martin Walsh pledged his office's support of that same application, in a very animated meeting on Thursday afternoon at the Boston Cannabis Board (BCB).

The matter was eventually taken under advisement for a potential vote this week, or a return to answer more questions.

It was, in fact, the first-ever hearing at the fairly new BCB for a Charlestown applicant. The Heritage Club is an equity applicant, and thus had their application expedited ahead of those that were non-equity, including a proposal for a boutique store a few blocks from Heritage brought by Charlestown's Jack Kelly – who does not yet have a hearing date with the BCB.

The hearing lasted more than 90 minutes and featured several interesting developments, including the comments of Councilor Edwards, the support of the mayor (which hasn't been standard for all applicants) and the lack of a traffic study having been completed by Heritage.

Owner Nike John began the day with a statement that indicated the opposition they've felt and have alleged was politically motivated by supporters of Kelly.

"Although it feels like a few people don't want us to succeed, we are here today and ready to succeed and excited for those who came out to support us today," she began.

After a run-down to the BCB of

(BCB Pg. 3)

### BLANKET DONATION



*This week, RSM dropped off 50 handmade blankets and more than 100 handmade masks to the Kennedy Center. The past two months RSM employees and their families made the blankets and masks through the Volunteer Month. Shown are Melissa Becker (RSM), Thara Fuller, Crystal Galvin, Colleen Boyce (RSM).*

### CAC studying major overhaul to programming, facilities

By Seth Daniel

The City and a group of Community Advisory Committee (CAC) members are looking to get a major study of the BCYF Charlestown Community Center on the radar of more residents as the group begins meeting and seeking input on what could end up being a brand new facility with updated programming in the Town.

The BCYF Charlestown Community Center is currently housed in Charlestown High School, but also includes the outdoor Clougherty Pool and the Golden Age Center on Main Street. All of them are successful in their programming and management, but the facilities and additional programming are being eyed for an upgrade from the City – a process that has played out successfully

already in the North End.

Mayoral Liaison Quinlan Locke said the need to upgrade the Community Center – and potentially build a new stand-alone building in the Town – was identified about 18 months ago in the Capital Improvements Plan.

He said the kick-off meeting for the CAC and the community took place on Monday night, and they got good participation, but would like to get this on the radar screen of more people.

"Charlestown is just getting started and is in the very early stages of the study," he said. "The first community meeting was Monday night and introduced the topic. The big thing that is being talked about is if Charlestown can have a stand-alone BCYF center and what it would look like. In a time of COVID-19 and so much going on, you'd like to think this is some good news in the Town. Charlestown might be getting its own, stand-alone community center."

Kim Mahoney, past president of the Bunker Hill Associates, said she is on the CAC as part of the

(CAC Pg. 3)

### Strong words

Heritage Club owners say they were 'slandered' by Councilor Edwards's comments

By Seth Daniel

When Councilor Lydia Edwards came out with strong words against the application and ownership of the Heritage Club marijuana store proposal, owners Nike John and Maggie Suprey were seemingly the last to know – and they said those harsh words relayed to the newspaper and the Boston Cannabis Board (BCB) were not just a rebuke of their proposal, but also a slander on their good name.

Councilor Edwards submitted a letter to the Board, gave an interview with the newspaper, and gave testimony at last Thursday's Board meeting saying the Heritage pro-

posal was incomplete. Now John and Suprey – who are expected to get an up or down vote from the Board this week – say they feel the need to defend themselves against what they said is an unwarranted and politically-motivated attack.

One of the sticking points is that Edwards indicated they have not reached out to her in a timely manner, but Suprey and John said they first reached out on July 13 about their plan, and feel that Edwards avoided them for most of the summer.

"Our first e-mail to her was July 13, and we sent another on July 27 – no response," said Suprey. "We

(WORDS Pg. 4)

### A Tribute to Bill Lamb from the community

Special section on Pages 8-11

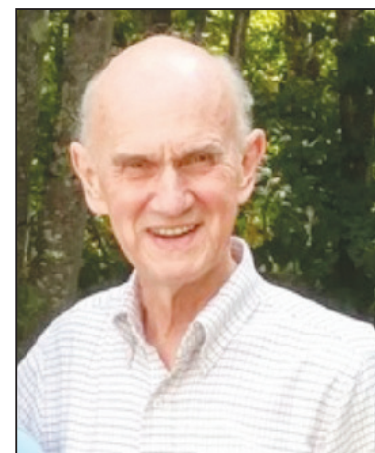
Staff Report

Bill Lamb loved the town of Charlestown, and so many loved him back for his caring, humanity and longing to preserve the character of the Town.

Lamb, 82, passed unexpectedly in a boating accident in Maine on Sept. 1, but his passing didn't come without an outpouring of support and remembrances from the community. From elected officials to preservationists to dear friends, a special section this week appears in the paper with so many memorable stories about Lamb and how he influenced decisions on preservation, highways, transportation and the Central Artery project – among countless others.

Lamb was a fixture at most every community meeting, and he always had a thoughtful suggestion, understood architecture and its importance, and played a major role in what Charlestown looks like today – having come out of the turbulent aesthetic times in the 1970s and 1980s.

In the inside pages, take a peek at the many thoughts and



Bill Lamb.

remembrances of Lamb, a project sponsored by the Charlestown Preservation Society (CPS) – where he was a member for decades.

"As you read these pages, you will hear stories from the early 1970s to his recent efforts to influence the design of One Charlestown," read a statement from CPS. "The Charlestown Preservation Society is proud to recognize Bill's lasting impact on our Town and his commitment to retaining its special character for generations to come."



**The Independent Newspaper Offices will be closed**  
**Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**The deadline for Thanksgiving week issues is Friday, Nov. 20**



# EDITORIAL

## VACCINES ARE COMING, BUT WE STILL HAVE A DUTY TO STOP THE SPREAD

The announcements in the past week that two vaccines have been shown to be remarkably effective in providing immunization against the coronavirus have given our nation hope that the pandemic might be brought under control.

Finally, there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

However, with 250,000 Americans already dead from the virus and the holiday season approaching, this is no time for any of us to let our guard down. The virus does not take a holiday and is spreading like wildfire across the country, leading even Republican governors to issue mask mandates and resulting in additional shutdowns of businesses that already were on the edge of permanent closure.

It is estimated that if we do not wear masks and maintain physical separation, at least 250,000 more Americans will be dead in the coming months.

Hospitals and healthcare workers already are stretched to the limit in many states. If the pandemic is allowed to spread further, there will be a total breakdown in the American healthcare system, endangering the lives not only of healthcare employees and coronavirus patients, but anybody else who needs hospitalization from accidents, heart attacks, strokes, and cancer.

In addition, we would note that even for those who recover from the coronavirus, there can be lasting damage to the heart, lungs, and other organs.

We urge all of our readers to listen to the warnings and directives of our public health officials and to consider how we can spend the holiday season with our loved ones in a safe setting, if at all.

A small wedding in Maine in August was linked to 178 COVID cases and eight deaths -- and none of those who died attended the wedding.

Our government leaders can urge us to protect ourselves and others, but COVID-19 safety this holiday season ultimately comes down to each and every American assuming personal responsibility to observe and obey the rules.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### THANK YOU GORMAN SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

I would like to thank the Gorman Scholarship Committee for awarding me one of the high school scholarships this year. It means so much to be a part of a town that remembers family that have gone before us and loved Charlestown. It will help with the cost of my sophomore year at Malden Catholic. School for Girls  
Thank you again.

Nora Reilly

### DON'T PASS AMENDMENT NUMBER 75

To the Editor,

The Catholic Church teaches that life itself starts at conception and ends with natural death.

The Massachusetts state legislature is currently debating the annual budget to fund state government for the balance of the fiscal

year. As part of that process many amendments are filed for consideration. House amendment number 759 will be considered by the full House in the coming days. This amendment would expand abortion access in the Commonwealth well beyond what is enshrined in state law.

While we acknowledge the amendment addresses some concerns that were raised about the deeply troubling provisions of the ROE legislation, the fact remains that abortion would remain an option under certain circumstances for the full term of the pregnancy. That fact alone is in direct conflict with Catholic teaching and must be opposed.

In addition, current law requires a young woman under the age of 18 years old to gain the consent of a parent, guardian or the court to have an abortion. The amendment under consideration would decrease the age of consent to 16 years old. In its simplest terms, a 16 or 17 year old girl would be deprived of the guidance and support of an adult at the time of

making this life changing decision.

Finally, although life-supporting equipment would be required to be in the room for abortions performed after 24 weeks, the specific language in the amendment is nuanced enough that the physician would not be required to use the equipment. Specifically, it would "enable" the physician performing the abortion to take appropriate steps, in keeping with good medical practice....to preserve the life and health of a live birth and the patient.

For these reasons we urge the full House of Representatives not to pass amendment number 759.

His Eminence  
Seán P. O'Malley,  
OFM, Cap.  
Archbishop of Boston  
Most Reverend  
Robert J. McManus  
Bishop of Worcester  
Most Reverend  
Edgar M. da Cunha,  
SDV, Bishop  
of Fall River



# CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

THE CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE,

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# CLERGY VIEWPOINT

FROM THE CHARLESTOWN CLERGY ASSOCIATION

## Thanksgiving - 2020

By Very Reverend James Ronan, VF – Pastor, St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parish

As the number of those diagnosed with COVID continues to rise and fear and worry pervade the land, next week we celebrate one of the most cherished of our national holidays, Thanksgiving. Yet, for all of us, things are different this year. There are restrictions on public gatherings and likely many family members cannot come together to share Thanksgiving. Many families have lost loved ones and many more face economic insecurity.

How do we celebrate a day of thanks when so many are suffering, sick, grieving, lonely and fearful? The first Thanksgivings were in response to abundant harvests. Subsequent celebrations also seem to call forth lists of items for which we are grateful. Maybe this year we want to change our approach

to Thanksgiving by focusing not on what we have rather on who we are.

Each of us is a child of God, completely unique, precious and one-of-a-kind! We are the work of God's hands, created in love and for the purpose of love. Everything we are is gift, every breath, smell, sound and taste. The energy of our Creator is Love and the longing of our hearts is Love. A visceral response to this truth must be gratitude. To give thanks to God for who we are, rather than what we have, is the most fundamental and critical form of gratitude. Living in that gratitude our response to those around us is more naturally authentic, grateful and loving.

I recall Thanksgiving dinners with family and friends when the

host invited each person gathered to share one thing for which he/she was grateful. Those moments were always beautiful as young and old, college students and grandparents spoke eloquently and from the heart. Yet this year, because we have all been changed by this pandemic, we can do more.

Perhaps Thanksgiving, 2020 offers each of us a sober moment to take stock of the immense struggles all around and perhaps within us. The harshness of this time is inescapable and it can also be an opportunity to strip away any superficialities of this holiday and embrace a new and deeper prayer of thanksgiving for our very being and the love that surrounds us.

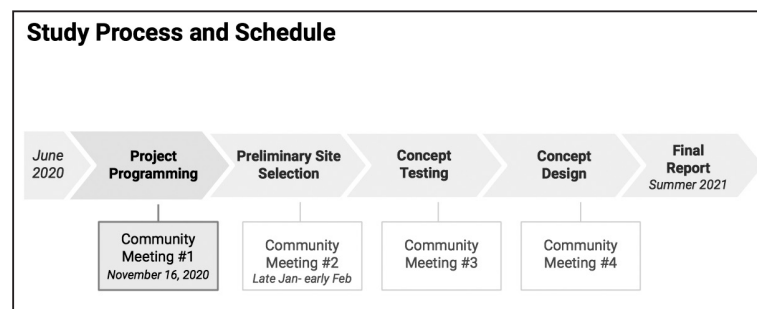
## CAC (from pg. 1)

Associates and considers it a pleasure to assist. She said she grew up in the Charlestown Community Center and wanted to participate in guiding it into the future – perhaps with a new building and expanded programming on top of the existing successful programming.

“This is something that should be on more peoples’ radar screens and the mayor really wants to take care of Charlestown and get input from everyone,” she said. “I’m going to be looking for a common sense space for them to land. We want to make sure we protect the integrity of programs already in place also. Finally, I’d like to see long-term more programs for teen-agers. We need peer leadership programs. When I was a teen, you were a peer leader at the Community Center and you got paid and produced a public service. You were out volunteering and cleaning up parks and bringing other kids together and serving the elderly...”

“To see it all come together and for the City to have this vision to put it under one umbrella in one building makes perfect sense,” she continued.

Locke said the official timeline features another meeting in late January or February where they will be talking about preliminary site selection for any new building.



*A timeline of the programming and site study for a potential new stand-alone Charlestown Community Center. The City kicked off a study in an online meeting on Monday night. The study will look at the Community Center at Charlestown High, the Clougherty Pool and the Golden Age Center.*

Already, in the North End, a space on City land has been identified for a place to build a new building. Locke said the City will be scouring the Town likewise to find a similar space.

“It doesn’t have to be a BCYF property or a City-owned property,” Locke said. “They will look at every possible property they could get to work on – whether City-owned, state-owned, public or private. They will look at that and really take it seriously.”

Further meetings would discuss the concept of the Center and the design. A final report from the study would be due in the summer of 2021, with action steps identified for the next step in the process.

For now, though, Locke and Mahoney said the City hopes to

get more input from the community over the next few months. That can be had by going to the Community Center website at [www.boston.gov/departments/boston-centers-youth-families/bcyf-charlestown](http://www.boston.gov/departments/boston-centers-youth-families/bcyf-charlestown).

“Right now what we’re really hoping for is to drive people to the website to fill out surveys and let BCYF know what the community is thinking,” he said. “This is a really good thing and we want as much participation as possible and as much community input as possible. We hope to get more public participation in the process. The first meeting went well, but we’re looking for a lot more participation at the next meeting because this could be a really good amenity for Charlestown.”

## BCB (from pg. 1)

the project basics, one of the biggest concerns that came out of the public meetings was voiced – that being about traffic. Traffic in the Lost Village has been an issue for some time, and there is grant funding in possession by the City and a preliminary plan to help ease some of the traffic problems. However, that was an issue commonly cited at Heritage Club community meetings, and something neighbors said would prevent them from supporting the project. That said, not having a traffic study in hand to present to the Board was definitely a part of Thursday’s conversation.

John told Commissioner Alejandra St. Guillen they plan to do one if they get to the next level in the licensing process, as they cost \$25,000 to \$30,000 and there might already be existing studies from last year they could work off of.

“We’re going to have one done and we’re looking at doing that if we get to the next level,” she said. “We are bootstrapping this with our own savings and we want to save on costs until we get to the next step. We do want to let the community know we’ve heard their concerns.”

That was not popular with a number of Lost Village residents, who continued to cite the issues with traffic in their neighborhood and the possibility the shop could make that situation worse.

John and Maggie Suprey said they have reached out to the City’s Boston Transportation Department (BTD) and BTD is committed to working with them.

On the matter of ownership, there was the first moment of clarity for the Heritage Club when they discussed with the Board the issue of their ownership and their potential investors.

While both testified that they are 100 percent owners and have been previously, they are talking to investors that include Bedford Investments, headed by Joseph and Mark Martines of Carlisle, and Green Dreams, which is headed up by Attorney William Moran of Beacon Hill.

John said New England Development is not involved as a company, but NED employee Scott Baker has been talking with the Club to potentially make a personal investment in the company.

John said investors would potentially get about a 40 percent stake in the company.

“We are still talking to investors,” she said. “We have submitted forms for the two that are best fit for us and that is contingent on the Host Community Agreement. Yes, right now we do own it but that will change...I don’t know

when, but those investments are contingent on getting an HCA.”

Commissioner Kathleen Joyce said that was common for many equity applicants, to only be able to get investments after an HCA. She also said any change in the ownership structure with investors would require a trip back to the Board.

Heritage attorney, Phil Silverman, said much has been done to malign the two women for seeking out the investment, including comments by Councilor Lydia Edwards.

“On paper, they own 100 percent now,” he said. “They are in discussions for 40 percent of the company. I think the councilor is trying to portray that in a light that isn’t fair when it was an attempt to be fully transparent. They’re working hard here and they deserve a license and I think fairness really requires it. If the Councilor couldn’t engage earlier, let her engage now.”

Edwards certainly engaged at the hearing, reciting much of what she told the newspaper last week in that the application by the two partners was incomplete, done lazily and lowering the standards.

“These applicants are not qualified for several reasons,” she said in an animated speech opposing the application. “On top of that, the application is half-baked.”

However, as steadfast as Edwards was against the proposals, Mayor Martin Walsh and his office supported the application. That is not a rubber stamp, as they mayor’s office frequently opposes cannabis applicants – including one applicant in the Fenway just prior to the Heritage hearing on Nov. 10.

“The Mayor’s Office is in support of this equity applicant,” said Mayoral Liaison Quinlan Locke.

At the end of the hearing, the BCB took the matter under advisement and scheduled a voting hearing for Nov. 18 – though it wasn’t certain if the matter would come to a vote due to some lingering questions by some Board members.

St. Guillen said she was still unclear on the ownership.

Meanwhile, Commissioner Lisa Holmes said she had too many questions to ask, and needed them to come back for an extended Q & A.

“I have a feeling they will have to come back,” she said. “There’s quite a bit I have to ask them...I have too many questions to ask.”

Heritage Club owners said their attorney had made contact with Edwards late last week to try to work out the issues she brought up.

# Councilor Wu says political battles over marijuana could be avoided by better planning

By Seth Daniel

Politics and marijuana seem like unlikely chums, but all across the city – including in Charlestown – the City’s licensing and siting process has become ultra-political and Councilor Michelle Wu said it could and should be fixed with better planning.

In Charlestown at the moment, two proposals have been shopped around the community over the last several months, and it has resulted in high drama, but that isn’t unusual. Wu said it could be

avoided by treating the industry like any other zoning matter.

“We should have set up this system based on planning, where the City could have identified the spaces or locations that make sense for this type of business to exist – just like should happen through the city-wide planning process on land uses of any kind and then codify that into the zoning code and let business people make their decisions based on that,” said Wu during a neighborhood news roundtable last Friday. “Instead there is a political competition that

is extremely costly where someone has to find a location that they are hoping will work, start to pay rent, then go through a community process with many, many meetings and no guarantees. Then they have to sit and wait for the black box of one office in the City to issue a Host Community Agreement.”

Wu said the system has been changing too much as well. What began as a buffer zone a half-mile around every dispensary – as well as some protections for schools and youth centers – has been subject to waiver and exception. That

has brought about fighting and uncertainty among neighbors and communities.

“It has put the burden unfairly on entrepreneurs and then put neighborhoods and communities in the position once again to fight something without any mechanism to give feedback on what a better alternative would be,” she said. “We’re seeing that playing out in Charlestown, and we’ve seen that happen in East Boston and Roxbury. All across the City it’s the same dynamic.”

In the end, Councilor Wu said

it’s much the same as high-stakes development meetings, and the new marijuana industry likely should not have fallen victim to the same pitfalls.

“The way that the cannabis licensing decisions have been made at the City – or lack thereof – are the perfect example of the problems with our planning and development and zoning processes,” she said. “It is opaque, it is political and it pits people against each other. It ultimately results in outcomes that aren’t in the best interest of our neighborhoods.”

## WORDS (from pg. 1)

got a response Sept. 9 and booked to meet with her three weeks out. Then when that meeting came around she was a no-show, that Sept. 22 meeting. To date, we’ve had a 30 minute conversation with her in October. We have not heard from her at all since then. She only responded when we hired an attorney recently...We’ve been actually trying to work with her and get feedback since July. For us to be delayed, it will be inequitable to continue delaying us.”

Said John, “If we have to hire counsel just to talk with her, how is that equitable? If we have to pay someone to get in touch with the City Councilor, then that’s not a level playing field. To date, she has yet to contact us directly. That’s not an equitable way to get feedback for us because hiring a lawyer is expensive. As soon as the attorney reached out, she responded...It was important that

happened. They keep saying it’s not political but if a tirade like that isn’t political, I don’t know what is. She referred to our opponent by first name.”

Suprey said their application was complete, and had it not been, the Board would have never let them go before them for a serious hearing. She said many have said their presentation has been professional and they have followed usual protocols. With that in mind, Suprey labeled Edwards’s comments “slanderous.”

“As for her slanderous comments, the Board went on record saying our presentation was thorough and our application was complete. That was completely opposite to how she slandered us.”

Nike John said as a Black woman, being called “lazy” in comments by a City Councilor hit pretty deep, particularly having

been the first in her family to go to a private school and to have graduated college. She said she has worked hard as a kid from the City to achieve high, her father and brothers not getting the same opportunities, and now she said to be called “lazy” for something she’s given her all on cuts to the bone.

“Her calling us lazy – speaking as a Black applicant, I find that very hard to hear coming from her and especially never saying it to our faces,” said John. “I just wonder is the Board is charge or is the councilor? We thought it was the Board. We’ll take what she has to say with a grain of salt, but we’ll defer to the Board.”

One sticking point has been the ownership, and both said they have been upfront about the fact that they are courting investors, including some executives from National Development who are

potentially looking for an investment opportunity. John said others in the industry have told them they are actually being “too honest” about their finances. She said they told Councilor Edwards they both own 100 percent of the business, and discussed briefly some percentages that could potentially emerge if they get investors on board. That was not a statement of ownership, both said, and they didn’t “lie” about anything to the councilor.

John said she owns 51 percent and that cannot change or they would lose their license, and both said they are not interested in “flipping” the license once it’s secured. They said they are in it for at least five years, and hopefully for a lifetime.

“We have no intention in flipping a license at any point,” said Suprey. “We want to retain ownership and control. A lot of equity applicants give up 49 percent of the business away very quickly to get the money early. There are a lot of vultures out there looking to make quick money, corporate investors who don’t care, and we’ve turned them away.

Added John, “(Councilor Edwards) is insulting our intelligence by saying we don’t understand.”

Both said they have been criticized by her vehemently for the letters of support they turned in, which were form letters they urged their supporters to turn in electronically and outside of their control.

Out of those, they had 105 people from Charlestown who sent their independent voice of support to the Board, Suprey said, in contrast to what Edwards said in her letter. John said they were trying to figure out how to convey their support in the safest way – which was electronically. If they had known that Edwards wanted personal, heartfelt letters, she said they could have done that as well – but they were never able to hear anything from her since July, she reiterated.

In addition to the 105 electron-

ic form letters or support, there were 72 from Boston residents outside of Charlestown, and 26 who were taxpayers in Boston living outside the city.

And as it comes to reputation, both said nothing has hit closer to home that the innuendo and whispers that the two women are not really “equity” candidates – that they are privileged and just taking advantage of their minority and sexual-orientation status to get ahead in the marijuana industry.

Both grew up in the city – John in Brookline and Dorchester and Suprey in South Boston – and had opportunities opened to them that they said they took advantage of, coming from humble backgrounds and trying to get ahead.

One of those opportunities was being able to get to Nobles & Greenough private school – an elite boarding school in Dedham. John said she participated in a unique program called Beacon Academy that helps inner-city kids get up to speed and entry into elite private schools. That was her path to success, her break, and one that her siblings did not get.

“My dad is an immigrant and my brothers are immigrants,” she said. “They didn’t get to go to college. I got opportunities they didn’t and we’re from the same family. We’re grateful for the opportunities we had and we understand not everyone got these opportunities and that why we want to give back. We took advantage of those opportunities because we knew how valuable and rare they are, and it’s concerning people would pull us down because of that.”

Suprey said she comes from a blue-collar family in Southie and Charlestown, and used ice hockey as a way to get entry into those same opportunities.

“I come from a proud, hard-working blue-collar, Boston family,” she said. “Sports opened a lot of doors for me, especially, in regards to educational opportunities, and I have been blessed with wonderful parents who guided me and sacrificed a lot in order for me to pursue those chances.”



bpda

## Virtual Presentation

# Building 108 RFP: Proposal Presentations

Thursday, December 3

6:00 PM - 7:45 PM

Zoom Link: [bit.ly/bldg108presentation](https://bit.ly/bldg108presentation)

Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 160 082 7451

### Project Description:

Join the Boston Planning and Development Agency for a presentation of the proposals in response to the RFP for redevelopment of Building 108 in the Charlestown Navy Yard.

Review the proposals at [bit.ly/building108](https://bit.ly/building108).

A minor modification to the Charlestown Urban Renewal Plan is being considered in regards to the project to allow Research and Development Uses.

mail to: **Morgan McDaniel**  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02201  
phone: 617.918.6250  
email: [morgan.e.mcdaniel@boston.gov](mailto:morgan.e.mcdaniel@boston.gov)

Close of Comment Period:

12/17/2020

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary



# Councilor Edwards calls for more time on Heritage Club application

By Seth Daniel

In a letter to the Boston Cannabis Board (BCB) following the extended public hearing on the Heritage Club's application for a marijuana store on Cambridge Street, Councilor Lydia Edwards is calling for the Board to defer the application and have them work more with her office.

The public hearing featured an animated rebuke of the license application by Edwards last Thursday, but it also featured the support of Mayor Martin Walsh and others. The license could be voted on as soon as this week, and is in competition with another proposal by Charlestown's Jack Kelly in the same general area – though that proposal is not a Boston equity candidate and sits behind several other proposals in line for a hearing at the BCB.

Edwards has issued letters of support for the proposal by Kelly.

Edwards told the newspaper that her second letter, issued on Friday, is an open door to the owners of The Heritage Club – Maggie Suprey and Nike John – for a second chance. She said the ball is now in their court to pull back and use more time to iron things out, or move forward with her strong opposition.

"Although I don't think this proposal is ready to receive a license from the Board next week, I do believe they can present a better application for future consideration," the letter read. "The Board should give the applicants another opportunity to postpone in order to better their application. The applicants can decide if they want to do the work or go forward. I hope they will see this as an opportunity for a second chance. If they don't or won't then I painfully ask that you reject their application for a license."

"I have been clear about my concerns, but again valuing equity as a core mission of this body I ask that the applicants be deferred and given the opportunity to earn support, provide clarity, and present a better application," she continued.

She said she hoped to use the time to do a traffic study/assessment; meet with her and bring the full ownership team and an attorney; and go back to the community with more clarity on traffic, ownership and community benefits.

In the four-page letter, Edwards identifies traffic, ownership, community support, time/communica-

tion and conclusions. She reiterated in her conclusions that the applicants haven't communicated well with her or her office – something the applicants vigorously dispute and have rebutted. Edwards, however, said it wasn't until the day of the hearing, Nov. 10, that the applicants reached out to her for her input.

"Communication from the applicants following their community outreach meeting focused almost exclusively on disparaging another application that's before the Board," she wrote. "It also questioned the transparency of the process and noted my call to Ms. Hawkins was an example of 'behind the scenes' communication. It was not until 4 p.m. on November 10 that the applicants (Ms. John) asked me for direct feedback on their proposal. By then, they had already made the

decision to appear before you yesterday despite my opposition. That email was sent near the end of business on the business day before they appeared before you. It was too late.

"As I mentioned during my testimony yesterday, it hurts me to oppose this application because I want to see equity applicants enter this industry," she continued. "But equity is about justice and healing. It is not about lowering standards."

The BCB was scheduled to have a voting meeting on Weds. afternoon, Nov. 18, beyond the newspaper's deadlines. A vote was potentially scheduled, but at the Nov. 10 hearing some members indicated they had several questions about the application. Were they to be approved, that would advance them to the state Cannabis Control Commission's process, which is also very involved.

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# Crime up 24 percent in Charlestown; residential burglaries and car breaks an issue

By John Lynds

In what will be the Boston Police Department's last crime stat report before the end of the year, the report shows overall crime is up in Charlestown's A-15 and residential burglaries and larceny from motor vehicles, or car breaks, continue to be a problem



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here according to BPD stats.

Part One Crimes, the more serious crimes the Boston Police track, are up 24 percent overall in the area when comparing Jan. 1 2020 through Nov. 8 2020 with the same time period last year.

The main culprits continue to be residential burglaries and larceny from a motor vehicle, which are up 44 percent and 69 percent respectively.

By this time in 2019 there were only 9 residential burglaries but that number has risen to 31 so far this year.

There were 69 reported car breaks by this point in 2019 but that number has increased to 117.

It seems the number of motor vehicle larcenies, an opportunistic crime that only takes seconds to pull off, is up all over Boston. Citywide the number has gone from 2,332 in 2019 to 2,932 so far in 2020, a 25.7 percent increase.

"The Department obviously takes great pride in the fact that arrests were made in all three incidents, we would, nevertheless, like to take this opportunity to remind community members to employ common sense preventative measures to protect items of value when exiting their vehicles," said the statement. "As simple as it may sound, protecting your motor vehicle from a break-in starts with

locking the doors and closing windows. Simple? Yes. But, highly effective."

In fact, simple steps can often spell the difference between your car being broken into and the would-be thief moving on to another, more desirable target.

"More than anything else, thieves look for the easy score," said the police. "So, don't make it easy. If you have items of value, be it a cell phone, charger, money or iPad, take them with you when you exit your car. Because if a thief can see it, you can be sure he or she will do everything they can to steal it."

As for other Part One Crimes

in A-1 there have been 2 reported Homicides for 2020, up from zero last year; Rape or Attempted Rape is down from 3 to 2; Robbery or Attempted Robbery is up from 4 to 11; Domestic Aggravated Assault is down from 26 to 14; Non-Domestic Aggravated Assault is down from 26 to 21; Commercial Burglaries are up from 3 to 5; other Larcenies are up from 118 to 134; and Auto Theft is down from 26 to 15.

So far this year there have been a total of 352 Part One Crimes, up from the 284 reported during the same time period in 2019.

## Lost Village traffic plan, funding already in the works

By Seth Daniel

Traffic has been brought up time and again in the discussion on two marijuana applicants in the Lost Village and Sullivan Square areas of Charlestown, but lost in the shuffle of that heated

and right discussion is grant funding and a plan that came through last summer.

In late June, the Massachusetts Gaming Commission approved large grants for traffic mitigation that would help implement plans by the Boston Transportation

Department (BTD) for easing traffic and making changes to streets. That \$295,000 grant was approved by the MGC, and is on the docket at City Hall to be accepted and approved at a meeting on Nov. 30.

At the time of the grant award,

which was reported in the July 2 Patriot Bridge, Boston Chief of Streets Chris Osgood said the grant was a key to the Go Boston 2030 plan, particularly the area of the Lost Village and Sullivan Square.

"The Walsh Administration has prioritized investing in our neighborhood streets to improve safety, accessibility and quality of life," he said at the time. "These are top priorities in Go Boston 2030, the Mayor's transportation plan, and we appreciate the support from the Massachusetts Gaming Commission to help us advance these goals in this neighborhood."

According to the grant request, which asked for \$533,900 and got \$295,000, the changes would help ease overall congestion, and particularly the trips to the casino.

The project would specifically focus on geometric changes at the

(VILLAGE Pg. 14)

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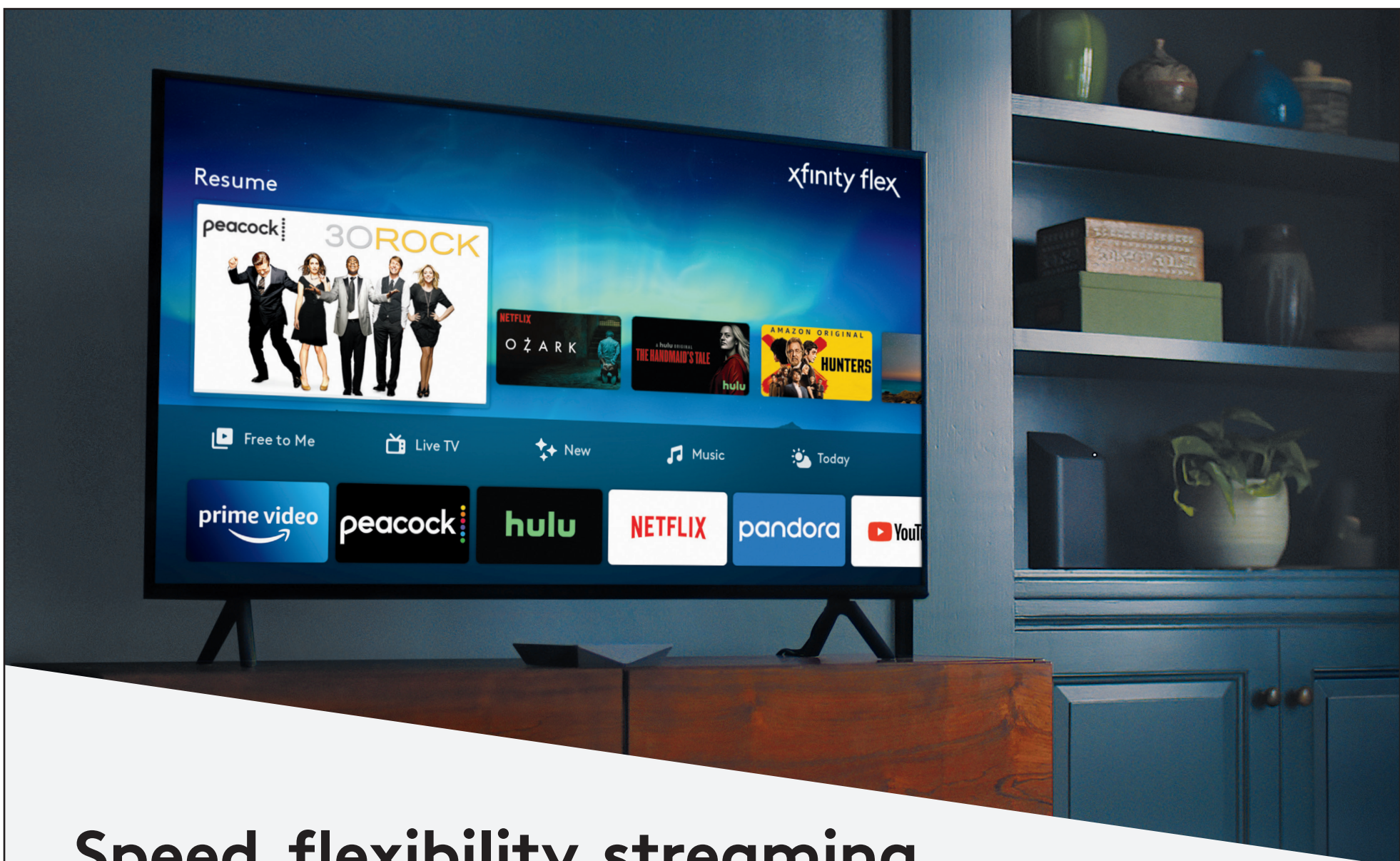


Mayor Martin J. Walsh

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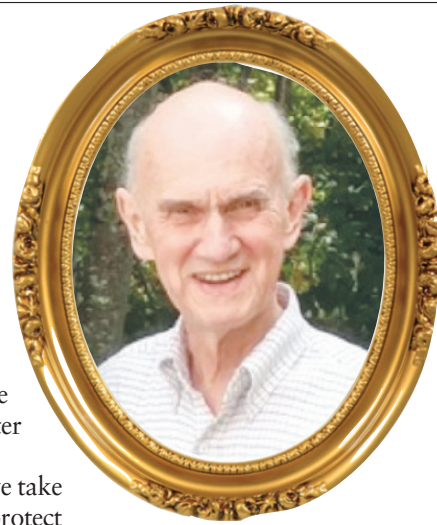
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# The Charlestown Community Remembers

## Bill Lamb



The recent passing of Bill Lamb is a tremendous loss not only to his family and friends but to historic preservation and the entire community of Charlestown. Bill was a tireless advocate for Charlestown, working for over forty years to preserve Charlestown’s historic buildings, landmarks and unique architectural character.

As you read these pages, you will hear stories from the early 1970s to his recent efforts to influence the design of One Charlestown. The Charlestown Preservation Society is proud to recognize Bill’s lasting impact on our Town and his commitment to retaining its special character for generations to come.

As the longtime leader of the CPS Design Review Committee, Bill had an impact on so many. Bill left us all amazing gifts that we enjoy as we take a morning run, push a stroller up the street or drive to the supermarket. Often without realizing it we are experiencing his tireless efforts to protect and preserve our Town from City Square to Sullivan Square, from Main Street to our short side streets, and from the Hurd Building to Memorial Hall.

Everywhere we walk in Charlestown, we are likely experiencing a building that Bill helped to restore or advocated to preserve. And for the thousands of visitors who come to Charlestown every year, Bill’s efforts show on their faces as they admire our fine facades, stop to take pictures of our restored buildings or simply enjoy a few quiet moments in a park.

For those of us who saw him at town meetings, hearings or community events, Bill was that gentle but persistent voice reminding us that we have a legacy to preserve for Charlestown, for Boston and for our country.

Bill has left us a tremendous inheritance that we will work hard to honor as we work to retain Charlestown’s historic character for years to come. Please join us in celebrating Bill’s life.

~ Charlestown Preservation Society Board

Bill Lamb was above all a gentleman whose quiet demeanor belied a political toughness. He was a patient advocate, ever present at community meetings on the transformative issues facing Charlestown. When the meetings were heated, it was Bill’s voice that was heard over the din.

Bill put in the work. Long after the pundits were done, the bomb-tossers had beaten a path to the door and the chairs were back under the tables, Bill would still be in the hall, making his pitch on behalf of the community he loved.

This was such an effective, underestimated tool. His breadth of knowledge, passionately shared, was best appreciated in these crucial minutes after the crowds had gone home.

His effective advocacy will be sorely missed, as will his demeanor in the face of tough conversations. Charlestown is a better place because he walked our streets and even planned a few of them!

~ Dan Ryan is Representative for Charlestown in the Massachusetts House.



Dan Ryan, Bill Lamb, and his wife Carol Bratley.

Bill Lamb was a kind and caring man, a thoughtful designer and an architect who was incredibly generous in lending his expertise to improve Charlestown’s built environment.

The next time you visit City Square, pause and reflect on how this beautiful space is an example of Bill’s legacy, manifest in a most tangible way.

We can carry on this legacy by seeking to embody his spirit of collaboration, respect and humility in our own lives. In this way we can honor his extraordinary service to his neighbors and his neighborhood.

~ Ted Schwartzberg, AICP is Senior Planner in the Boston Planning & Development Agency.



Bill Lamb receiving the CPS Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Community

“We deeply appreciate this wonderful tribute to Bill and his love of history, architecture and his beloved Charlestown. I’m sure Bill would be slightly embarrassed by all the attention, but my family and I are pleased to see his lifetime of work recognized”

~Carol A. Bratley



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Our mission includes advocating for responsible development, sponsoring major preservation projects and educating people about Boston’s oldest neighborhood.



## CHARLESTOWN REMEMBERS BILL LAMB

The Charlestown community mourns the loss of our friend and neighbor Bill Lamb. We will remember him as an activist at the heart of every fight in the Town. We will never forget his legacy shaping our one-square-mile for the better.

Bill was uncompromising when it came to holding outside interests to the standards he believed the Town deserved. He shepherded conversations towards productive resolutions while holding developers accountable.

We'll miss his perspective as we develop a master plan that will define Charlestown for decades to come. Bill helped us get to this point: we've learned so much from him, and now it's our turn to carry on his legacy. When fighting to preserve a thriving Charlestown, I will do so in memory of Bill.

*~ Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards is the district councilor for Charlestown, East Boston and the North End.*

It seems I always knew Bill. I first worked with him on the North Area Task Force. It took a while before I realized who was the task force anchor, making sure the project happened.

Make it happen: that's the phrase I associate with Bill. He did the hard work of research, and then he communicated with proponents and opponents alike. Bill listened really really well. He knew all the ins and outs of zoning, and we benefited mightily from his wisdom.

Bill's dogged pursuit of the best for Charlestown made us realize the value of the amazing group of architects, designers and residents that Bill drew into the Charlestown Preservation Society's Design Review Committee, which serves as a resource and sounding board for us all. I must remind people of a time when the Design Review Committee consisted of Bill and me. I readily tell you that it was not me who kept it going.

In the late 1990s we were occupied with a much-needed rezoning effort. There were public meetings for each of our seven precincts, and the only public that arrived to hear all the debates and speak up for the betterment of our town was none other than our Bill Lamb.

We have a lot to live up to, but he showed us the way.

*~ Margaret Bradley is a member of the Charlestown Neighborhood Council and the Design Review Committee.*

Bill had a special gift, imbuing the Charlestown Preservation Society's Design Review Committee with gravitas and professionalism. Because the DRC provides advisory architectural review and has no regulatory authority, we encourage, cajole and nudge project proponents to respect Charlestown's historic character as best they can.

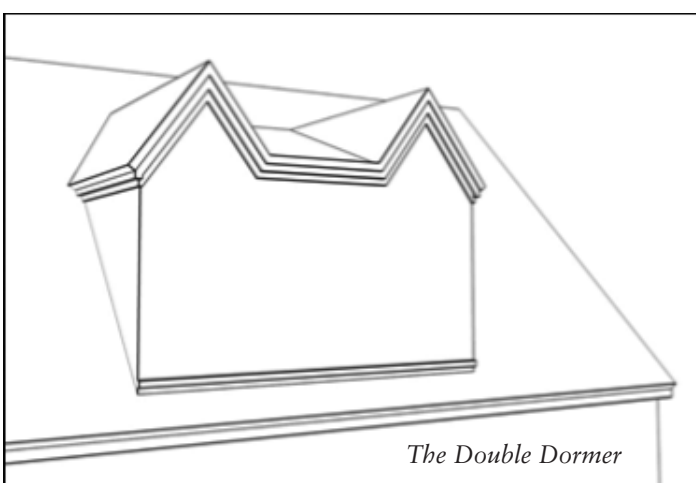
Bill suffered the slings and arrows of outrageous proposals with appropriate guidance and suggestions gently delivered. He defied the characterization of the Committee as "those preservation folks" and reminded us that what's truly important is high-quality architecture and urban design. He facilitated design review as a way to manage change, not an attempt to freeze time.

Bill may or may not have introduced the connected double-dormer motif to Charlestown, but he promoted it as a respectful way to capture additional floor area without destroying roof and cornice lines. This solution was among the tools Bill employed for "getting to yes."

*~ Jack Glassman, AIA, LEED AP is a Design Review Committee member.*



*Mock up of Thompson Square Fountain, Annette Tecce and Bill Lamb (center).*



*The Double Dormer*

In Bill Lamb's eyes, Charlestown was a special place that required little intervention. He gave decades of service and architectural knowledge to protect our heritage and ensure that inevitable change fit seamlessly into the fabric of this historic neighborhood.

I will miss seeing Bill walking our streets monitoring change, taking in our history and enjoying his community. I honor him for the gift he bestowed upon us: the preservation of this beautiful historic neighborhood for future generations.

*~ Amanda Zettel is president of the Charlestown Preservation Society.*



*Bill leads a walking tour through Charlestown*

How does one capture a lifetime in a few short paragraphs? It's not possible, especially considering the immense contributions Bill Lamb made to our community.

His life's work shaped what has been built (or not built) in Charlestown. It was rare to attend a community meeting when he was not in attendance. He had a quiet, gentlemanly manner, but he was a fierce advocate for our community, its fabric and architectural character.

Bill was the ultimate professional, and his work for the community was a personal passion. When I come home to Charlestown now I feel the emptiness: part of its soul is missing.

The architect Ludwig Mies Van der Rohe said "God is in the details." In Charlestown, Bill is in the details. His professional hand and heart will live on forever in Charlestown.

*~ Heather Taylor, AIA, LEED AP BD+C is former president of the Charlestown Preservation Society and member of the CPS Design Review Committee.*

Bill Lamb was a quiet and gentle soul who will be remembered as a giant in the story of preservation in Charlestown. For 40 years he left his mark here, from the development of City Square Park to the ongoing fight for a more livable solution for Rutherford Avenue and Sullivan Square.

When I met Bill in 2005, little did I know that he would become my mentor. I learned from him in real time the importance of zoning laws and Article 80 processes, but more importantly the role of citizen involvement in preserving historic Charlestown.

As Charlestown Preservation Society president, I worked with Bill on the fight for the right development for One Charlestown and Hood Park and on our early efforts to document critical historic homes in Charlestown.

I can't think of a time when Bill was not present at a meeting that might affect development in Charlestown. He was the steady voice for the CPS Design Review Committee and well-respected by everyone from city planners to the Mayor.

I will miss my friend Bill. I remember coming back from a Boston Preservation Alliance meeting on the T and discovering it was pouring rain as we walked home. I had no hat or umbrella and Bill had just the fisherman's cap he wore. He offered me his hat.

That is just the kind of guy Bill was. We will miss him.

*~ Ellen Kitzis is former president of the Charlestown Preservation Society.*

We were greatly saddened by the recent passing of our friend Bill Lamb. I say friend because at an event one night he told me he loved Memorial Hall and asked if he could explore a bit. That resulted in many visits that cemented our friendship while we explored the old widow frames, molding and trim examples from the 1790s to 1890s.

His knowledge of historic architecture was extensive. And he was the quintessential gentleman, always well-mannered and eager to share his knowledge. Charlestown has lost a great asset to the community.

*~ Joe Zuffante is President of Memorial Hall Inc.*



## CHARLESTOWN REMEMBERS BILL LAMB

Bill Lamb had many hats and wore them all – tan knit, wide brimmed and tennis – as he walked the streets of town. In the four decades I knew Bill I don't think I ever saw him drive. He absorbed the streetscapes, the high-style buildings, the proud worker's cottages and commodious tenements, all in patterns set centuries ago.

Bill saw Charlestown with x-ray vision and knew what was authentic and might be replaceable but still please the buildings' owners. Bill's architectural training enabled his understanding of our dense and varied character.

This translated into his own private practice (my rear el benefited from his redesign) and his role as neighborhood advocate in every circumstance possible.

Little-known is his cheerleading for the tiny single-family dwellings that have housed Charlestown families since the mid-1800's along new streets laid out on pastureland.

Bill and Carol were a team of can-do Charlestown residents. They lent their talents and voices to make Charlestown better for the coming centuries.

*~ Judith McDonough is the former executive director of the Boston Landmarks Commission and the Massachusetts Historical Commission.*



*Preservation Park pre-construction with Bill Lamb, Jeffrey Schiff (artist) and Professor Paul Tucker*

Charlestown has lost an important advocate and neighbor with the passing of Bill Lamb. His down-to-earth manner and willingness to find solutions to difficult design problems were critical in bringing improved projects to fruition.

I first saw Bill's calm resolve during the Big Dig when he participated in the "Scheme Z" Charles River Crossing debate. It was named Scheme Z because it was the 26th proposal by highway planners and the 26th letter of the alphabet, and it brought on the ire of residents and businesses alike.

It was also called the "Spaghetti Transit Solution" because of the negative impacts on Charlestown of the many ramps, huge structures, barriers, noise and pollution. Instead Bill saw the opportunity to create a bridge that allowed the connection of the Charles River Parks to Boston Harbor and a smaller, more elegant series of ramps and barriers.

To say that Bill had vision and the long view is an understatement. He sat through endless meetings with highway designers, city planners, and business and community leaders. And his persistence, thoughtful suggestions and advocacy resulted in a better solution. New parks were created as well as the Leonard Zakim Bunker Hill Bridge, an icon of 21st century Boston and a source of pride to Charlestown.

Bill spent endless volunteer hours working for the betterment of his community while establishing his own successful architectural practice. I can personally attest to his handling of difficult clients: he redesigned my kitchen with a wonderful end result, helping me to see the potential instead of the limitations of a difficult space.

Bill and his wife Carol are part of the fabric of Charlestown. Their work made Charlestown a more attractive and livable neighborhood. Yet I am sure Bill would tell us all "There is so much more to do."

*~ Antonia Pollak is the former Director of the Boston Preservation Alliance and the City of Boston Environment Department, and former Commissioner of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department.*

On hearing of Bill's tragic loss, my thoughts went to his wife Carol and his family. Then I thought of Charlestown and its loss, for Bill was totally dedicated to our community.

Let me tell you one story. It was a cold winter day thirty years ago when my partner Dan Kovacevic and I received an urgent call from Bill. He had noticed a problem in the drawings for the City Square tunnel then under construction: one of the tunnel's exhaust towers was to be built right on the corner of City Square, obstructing the view of cars turning off the square.

We made our way through the cold and slush to the project engineers' office and worked for hours to reposition the tower. I'm not sure if this saved lives. But I do know that it stopped accidents.

Bill was a thoughtful leader who achieved positive changes for Charlestown. He was also a true gentleman, and he always respected what I said. That was not always the case for a woman in the 1970's.

Bill's gift to Charlestown will be seen throughout our community for many generations. He was a true talent and a gift to Charlestown.

*~ Annette Tecce is a member of the Design Review Committee and a former Governor of the Friends of City Square Park and member of the North Area Task Force, and former President CPS.*

*"I knew Bill personally, and I also am very grateful for his important architectural and civic contributions to Charlestown. We in the neighborhood will miss him enormously."*

*~ Maura Healey,  
Massachusetts Attorney General*

Bill Lamb was a home creator. He renovated our 1860s Greek Revival home, and his sensitivity to the history of the house was reflected everywhere.

He created a sun-filled kitchen that opened onto the back garden, added working fireplaces, designed a beautiful library for our many books, and expanded the bathrooms. At the same time he made sure we kept the original doors, woodwork, marble surrounds and mantels. He got the broken dumb waiter to function. And he educated us on architectural history, sometimes pushing us in his ever-gentle way.

In the end he created a lovely home that made us feel we were going back through history. Our children could roller blade from the back garden through the kitchen and play intense ice hockey games in that same garden in winter while we were warm inside, watching them through the wall of windows.

We recently left this house after 35 years. But for us and our children it will always be home.

*~ Jane Philippi is the former president of the Charlestown Preservation Society.*

*"The way I remember Bill was his calm personality when facing individuals on the other side of the debate. He was extremely polite. Second, Bill knew how the city worked and often knew the history behind a decision and the back story. He also knew when to compromise on one issue to improve our position on another issue."*

*~ H. David Hennessey, Charlestown resident and CPS Board Member*



*City Square Park Committee celebrating opening Bill Lamb, Tom Slaman, Annette Tecce and Ken Stone*



## CHARLESTOWN REMEMBERS BILL LAMB

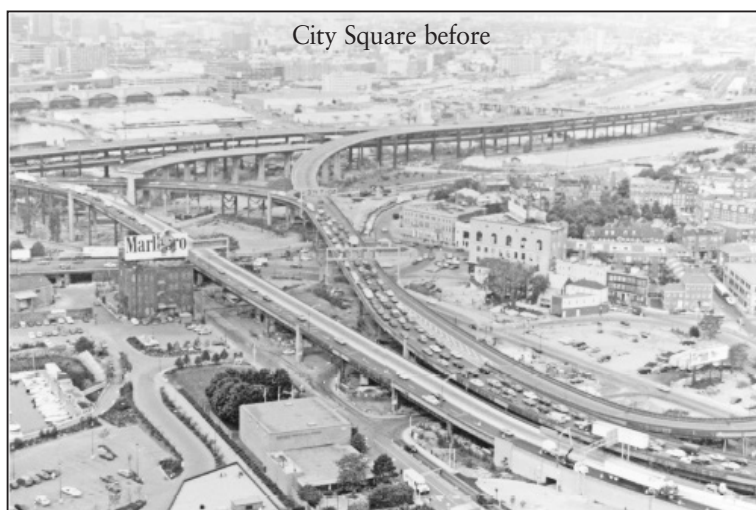
Bill Lamb was an urban visionary. His creativity and persistence led directly to Charlestown's most dramatic improvements in appearance and livability.

In the mid-1970s City Square was crisscrossed by the elevated Orange Line and the Tobin Bridge, leaving virtually nothing remaining of the park that once anchored Charlestown. At lightly-attended public meetings, Bill urged the state to depress part of the bridge in a tunnel beneath City Square to re-emerge away from the core of the neighborhood.

This, Bill argued, would reunite the former park, re-connect Charlestown with the its harbor, open up the entrance to the neighborhood and create community pride and rejuvenation. State officials were skeptical: Charlestown in the '70s seemed an unlikely place for innovative infrastructure improvements. But Bill's logic and quiet drive eventually won them over.

Bill then participated in the successful lobbying efforts of Charlestown's North Area Task Force to obtain Congressional legislation authorizing federal funds for what became the Central Artery North Area project.

It's remarkable that Bill's idea eventually inspired a federal law that opened up \$100 million in national highway funding, made his underground design possible and accomplished his goals for depressing part of the Tobin Bridge.



City Square before

*City Square as a transportation corridor/1970 which caused the destruction of Charlestown's community fabric and made it unsafe for pedestrians.*

We now have a fabulous park in City Square that is an inviting gateway to Charlestown and a centerpiece of family and civic activity. Bill's farsighted concept enabled City Square to regain the preeminence it enjoyed in the 19th century. It's fair to say that virtually the entire City Square area bears his imprint.

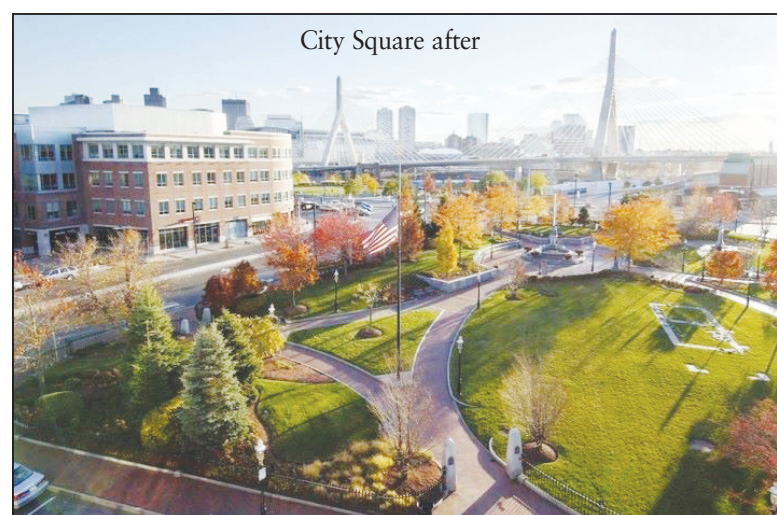
But Bill wasn't finished. As a member of the Bridge Design Review Committee, established to determine how the Central Artery Project -- the Big Dig -- would cross the Charles River, he tirelessly advocated for a Charlestown-friendly design that resulted in the signature Zakim Bridge.

Over the years Bill and I attended hundreds of public meetings. Despite his busy professional practice, he almost never missed a relevant meeting. And while he was

the unquestioned catalyst -- and hero -- of the underground tunnel project, he never acted as though he deserved more credit than other advocates.

Besides his bold big-picture concepts, Bill paid close attention to minute and necessary design details. And notwithstanding the passion of his convictions, I never recall him raising his voice or resorting to intemperate arguments. He relied instead on his mastery of the facts and polite persuasiveness to convince government officials and dubious residents that his positions made sense.

We owe Bill lasting gratitude for helping to will into being the transformation of a key part of our neighborhood. Imagine what Charlestown would feel like if Bill had not pressed for his long-shot



City Square after

*City Square today after many years of community advocacy, creating a safe walk-through for pedestrians and a strong business climate.*



*The entrance to City Square Park.*

idea to depress part of the Tobin Bridge -- and the state had simply rebuilt the bridge overhead in City Square. Thank you, Bill, for your imagination and masterful advocacy.

*Rich Johnston was co-chairman of the North Area Task Force, a Charlestown representative on the Bridge Design Review Committee, and an original Director of the Friends of City Square Park.*

Boston archaeology will forever be indebted to Bill Lamb. His work in the 1970s resulted in the Central Artery passing under and not over City Square, the historic heart of Charlestown and the site of the 1629 John Winthrop Great House.

The archaeological surveys that preceded the tunnel recovered hundreds of thousands of 17th and 18th century artifacts that form the backbone of the City of Boston's archaeological assemblages.

Without Bill's voice we might never have documented the foundations of John Winthrop's house, Grace Parker's 18th century woman-owned pottery, and cannonballs recovered from the charred ruins of buildings burned in the Battle of Bunker Hill.

But Bill did not stop there. He and the Charlestown Preservation Society made possible an archaeological survey of the Charlestown Training Field which documented



*The foundation of the John Winthrop house.*

multiple historic sites, including a fire house, gun house, historic fountain and two intact pre-1629 Massachusetts Native use areas.

I first met Bill during public talks on Charlestown archaeology. Before I knew he was the Bill Lamb I knew him as the tall, kind gentleman in the audience with the

permanent and encouraging smile.

Bill leaves behind a blueprint for how to contribute to community activism, historic preservation and neighborhood kindness.

*~ Joe Bagley is the City Archaeologist for the City of Boston.*

*"He was a man of integrity, intellect, and gentleness who gifted us time and sincerity. He was a special blessing to Charlestown"*

*~ Kent Edward, Charlestown resident and CPS Board Member*

*"Bill Lamb's gift to Charlestown will be seen throughout our community for many generations."*

*~ Annette Tecce*

*"We have a lot to live up to, but he showed us the way."*

*~ Margaret Bradley*



# COVID positive test rate comes down a bit in Charlestown; rapidly spreading throughout Boston

By John Lynds

The COVID-19 positive test rate in Charlestown decreased 5 percent last week according to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC).

Of the 8,492 Charlestown residents tested for the virus 7.4 percent were found to be positive by last Friday. This was a decrease of 5 percent from the 7.8 percent that tested positive two Fridays

ago. The citywide positive test rate average was 9.6 percent--a 35 percent percent increase from the 7.1 percent that tested positive two weeks ago.

The data shows that overall since the pandemic began 4.3 percent of Charlestown residents tested were found to be COVID positive.

At his daily press briefing on Tuesday, Mayor Martin Walsh reiterated the City's priority in this crisis.

"To keep people safe and con-

tain this virus, we have to follow the science and we have to follow the data," said Walsh.

What that means, the Mayor explained, is that city public health experts collect comprehensive testing data and hospital data. They analyze it to understand how and where the virus is spreading, and the impact it is having.

"We shape our responses and our guidance based on what the data indicates," said Walsh.. "And, we share the data with the public, so you can be armed with knowledge to help keep yourself, your family, and your community safe. That's a process of continual feedback and learning because, just as this epidemic evolves and its impact on our neighborhoods evolves, our knowledge about it must evolve as well. We need to adapt and update our understanding of COVID spread in the community."

The Mayor announced that, starting this week, the City will be publishing a total of six key metrics relating to test results and hospital usage. The goal, he said, is to give residents the most current and comprehensive picture of the virus as they can.

"The more we know, and the more you know, the better informed and prepared we can all

be," he said.

The Mayor emphasized that every metric right now is telling city officials that we are in the midst of a significant and concerning increase in COVID activity in the city.

"The daily case increases we are seeing are starting to look like numbers that we saw near our peak, in April and May," said Walsh. "Hospital admissions are not at that level, but they have increased over time. We all must be focused on turning this trend around."

The Mayor said that the City is looking closely at what steps we can take to further limit the risk of transmission.

"We have taken a cautious approach throughout this pandemic, making safety our priority," said Walsh. "We pulled back on in-person learning in the Boston Public Schools. This week we were able to bring back 150 students with the highest needs, who desperately need in-person services. The Mayor thanked the families and teachers for making that possible. We have kept our limits on gathering sizes low. Private, indoor gatherings are limited to 10 people, and private outdoor gatherings to 25 people. For events in public spaces, the

limit is 25 people indoors and 50 people outdoors. We've worked with the state to limit restaurant hours and retail hours, and put in place a Stay-at-home advisory for the hours between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m."

However, the Mayor cautioned, if these case numbers continue to go up, the city will have to go further but added that he is mindful of the impact that restrictions have on the local economy and small businesses.

"But we must put the health of our community first because, in the end, there is no economic recovery without public health," he said.

The COVID-19 infection rate in Charlestown increased 10.6 percent last week but still remains below the citywide average.

According to the latest BPHC data released last Friday the neighborhood's COVID infection rate went from 164.8 cases per 10,000 residents to 182.3 cases per 10,000 residents. The citywide average is 341.4 cases per 10,000 residents.

Over the week 34 more Charlestown residents became infected with the virus bringing the total number of cases in the neighborhood to 354.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 1 percent last week and went from 24,159 cases to 24,393 cases.

Five more Boston residents died from the virus and there are now 889 total deaths in the city from COVID.

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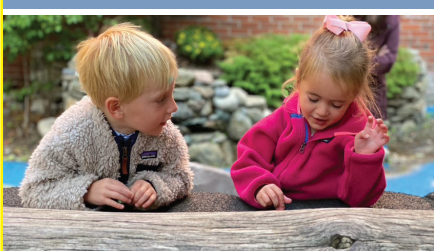


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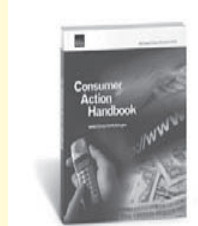
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# Water transport could be challenged with ferry cuts

By Seth Daniel

Advocates for water transportation, and Spaulding patients and commuters, are pushing back on the idea of cutting the Charlestown Ferry service – part of a larger plan by the MBTA to address ridership and revenue losses due to COVID-19.

Alice Brown, chair of Policy and Planning for Boston Harbor NOW, said they have made extraordinary progress in promoting water transportation over the last few years – and they’ve used existing ferry services like that in Charlestown to build on their plan to make water just as important as asphalt for getting around the city.

“I think Boston Harbor NOW has been pushing for new ferry service,” she said. “So, this is a major blow to that effort. If there

is no ferry service, there is nothing to build on...The time has finally come for ferries and it’s crucial not to let the T take a big step back from this moment.”

The T is ending the service in March, according to its Forging Ahead plan, and would continue to have it closed until further notice and until ridership numbers return after COVID-19 (hopefully) eases. The alternative plan is to route people to the 93 bus, which stops in the Navy Yard and travels across the North Washington Street Bridge to Haymarket.

Already there has been great success with docking options coming online in East Boston, and other water transport agreements in the works.

Brown said the Charlestown ferry is made up of people going to work, or coming to work from the

Navy Yard, but is heavily subsidized and used by tourists coming to the historic attractions in the Navy Yard and Charlestown.

“The ferry is subsidized by tourists,” said Brown. “The local riders are a combination of Navy Yard residents and those coming there to work. It’s also people visiting places like the USS Constitution and the Freedom Trail. Considering tourism is down, it’s no surprise that ridership is down on the ferry, but that’s not a metric for it’s essential nature.”

At Spaulding, they said they do have general usage by patients and staff especially in the summer and they said for people with wheelchairs it can be a more accessible direct transportation than taking the 93 bus and switching to another train.

Spaulding President David Storto said such a decision should be made with an understanding of the impact to underserved and vulnerable populations.

“Access to public transportation is vital for all communities including for Spaulding’s patients and staff,” he said. “While these are challenging times requiring difficult choices, we expect any decisions are made with a full review of the impact to underserved and vulnerable populations such as persons with disabilities who depend on public transportation to go to work and appointments. We will work closely with all the agencies involved to share the concerns of our community and the impact to our hospital of possibly losing ferry services.”

Brown said the time is now to advocate for the service, even for

those in Charlestown that might not use the ferry, but perhaps in the future would benefit from an expanded water transit network.

She said when services are cut, they often don’t come back.

“It’s essential people in Charlestown realize this could go away and that they could share our vision,” she said. “The T is having a series of forums for the Forging Ahead plan...It’s easy to say it doesn’t affect me and I won’t be part of it...You can’t eliminate a service and not also find a way to measure how to bring it back.”

Online meetings for the entire system will be on Nov. 19 at 6 p.m. and on Dec. 2 and 6 p.m.

Residents can also provide comments via email at [publicengagement@mbta.com](mailto:publicengagement@mbta.com). Please submit feedback by 5 p.m. on December 4, 2020.

## BPS analyzing new state metrics to safely move to in-person learning

By Seth Daniel

As some special education students returned to schools in-person this week, Supt. Brenda Cassellius said they are taking a hard look at Gov. Charlie Baker’s call to return students to school, and just how new metrics might work in helping that happen.

Across the district, parents – including a group in Charlestown – have grown weary of remote learning. The most vulnerable special education students on Monday

returned to the Carter School (South End), the McKinley School (South End) and the Horace Mann School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (Allston), and Cassellius said they could have an update soon on a plan to move forward with all students.

We continue to meet with School Leaders and district and union leadership to discuss the best way to return to in-person learning,” she wrote in a letter to parents. “We have heard from many of you that while remote learning

has greatly improved, for many students in-person learning is the best approach. We are committed to reopening school buildings as soon as we can, in collaboration with the City and our partners. We have launched a Task Force—which includes School Leaders, Boston Teachers Union (BTU), parent, student, and district representatives—that is advising on plans for safely reopening schools. We remain in close contact with BPHC as we continue working to ensure our health and safety read-

iness matches all emerging science and updated guidance.”

That Task Force and the district will look at new guidance from the state that was released almost two weeks ago and changed up how high-risk, or red, communities were calculated.

“Governor Baker, Secretary Peyser, and Commissioner Riley released new guidelines on Friday afternoon that outlined the state’s new approach to calculating and reporting public health data,” she wrote. “They also challenged

school districts to return as many students to in-person learning as quickly as possible.”

She said the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is closely reviewing the state’s new approach to measuring infection rates and their impact on a school’s ability to welcome students and staff into the building.

“We still have work to do to fully understand their new calculation,” she wrote.

An update is expected sometime this week, or early next week.

## OBITUARIES

### Daniel Dollosa Of Charlestown

Daniel F. Dollosa of Charlestown died suddenly on November 12.

Danny was born in Boston on January 7, 1976, the son of Marcial Delvalle and Janice Dollosa/Delvalle (O’Malley). He was the brother of David Dollosa and his wife, Judy of Dorchester, Marc Delvalle and his wife, Gina of Charlestown and is also survived by his daughter, Kynnley Dollosa of Billerica. He was the long time friend of Rachel Black and their son, Bryson Dollosa, step dad to Camron Vasquez of Fall River and is loved by his nephews: David, Cameron, Colin and Owen and also by his niece, McKenzie.



Due to Covid restrictions, there will be a private family memorial ceremony on November 25.

Sent from my iPhone

## Real Estate Transfers

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Buco, Jason	Jodoin, Amanda J	65 Baldwin St #3	\$575,250
Beaudouin, Tate E	Cooper, Samuel	287 Bunker Hill St #1	\$899,000
Lamarre, Robert D	Eskenazi, Steven	294 Bunker Hill St #1	\$875,000
Harwood, Kylie E	Esselman, Scott P	9 Elm St #3	\$962,250
Keegan, Charles	Ganski, Kate M	52 Harvard St	\$1,080,000
Linsky, Robert	Brady, Ryan J	443 Main St #3	\$805,000
Boscha, Anand K	Burke, William P	71 Pearl St	\$877,500
Meggison, Andrew H	Barry, Greg J	17 Salem St #3	\$785,000
Howard FT	Jiser, Michael E	1 Warren St #208	\$1,135,000
Friedman, Lawrence H	Longo, Christina M	27 Warren St #27	\$1,699,000

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## For the Record

### •SUPER SITES FOR BPS MEALS

Beginning October 26, BPS Super Sites open for Mondays through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. BPS families can pick up free breakfasts and lunches. Some locations also provide free toiletries and free groceries on select days.

\*Edwards Middle School – 28 Walker St.

\*Harvard/Kent Elementary – 50 Bunker Hill St.

**COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED:** The comment period has been extended for the Bunker Hill Housing Redevelopment to Friday, November 20.

**CITY COUNCIL** Nov. 19, 10 a.m., **COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS WORKING SESSION:** Ordinance restricting the use of chemical crowd control agents and kinetic impact projectiles. This matter was sponsored by Councilors Ricardo Arroyo and Andrea Campbell. It was referred to the Committee on June 17, 2020.

From the Nov. 19 Zoning Advisory Board meeting, 5 p.m., Online:

•7-9 Putnam St. Applicant: Jeffrey M. Wolf. Purpose: Work at Unit 9: Renovate entire home according to attached plans and contract: New wall, insulation, electrical and plumbing, HVAC, Appliances, Floors, Fixtures, Paint, Windows and Doors, Bathrooms and Kitchen.

•43 Cook St. Applicant: Matthew

Wicker. Purpose: Install dormer in the rear and patio/deck in the rear yard as per plans.

•78 Washington St. Applicant: Patrick Myers. Purpose: Change occupancy from a two family to a one family. The proposed project includes the renovation & expansion of an existing garage and mudroom, while incorporating a new roof deck above the garage, a kitchen extension above the mudroom and a new staircase to connect first floor and garden level. (Previously separate apartments).

**CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE** Nov. 23, 5 p.m., **ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION HEARING:**

A joint committee hearing to discuss speeding cars as a public health emergency and infrastructure improvements and pedestrian safety, traffic enforcement, and Vision Zero. These matters were sponsored by Councilors Ed Flynn, Frank Baker, Kim Janey, and Kenzie Bok

•The Mayor announced an extension of the Outdoor Dining Program beyond its original end date of October 31. Restaurants using private outdoor space can continue to do so for the duration of the public health emergency. And restaurants using public space on streets and sidewalks can continue until December 1. The City will also waive application fees for the use of outdoor propane heaters in

dining areas. Restaurants will still need a permit from the Fire Department, and safety regulations around their use will remain in place. Restaurants can use electric heaters without a permit, as long as no cords are crossing sidewalks.

### •REPORTING WORKPLACE SAFETY CONCERNS

Workers in any size organization have options if they feel they are being pressured into an unsafe situation. Attorney General Maura Healey has created resources for workers to report safety concerns during reopening. They include an online form at the Attorney General's website and a dedicated Fair Labor hotline at 617-727-3465. People can also find those resources by calling 311.

### •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.

## Whole Foods Markets to support medically tailored meals program

Until Thanksgiving, Whole Foods Market stores throughout Massachusetts will be selling specially baked apple and pumpkin pies to support Community Servings, a nonprofit provider of medically tailored meals and nutrition services. As part of its sponsorship of the 28th annual Pie in the Sky bake sale-style fundraiser, Whole Foods will donate \$5 from each pie sale to provide a day's worth of nourishing meals to neighbors in need during the holiday season. For more information, visit [www.pie-inthesky.org](http://www.pie-inthesky.org).

### VILLAGE (from pg. 6)

intersection of Cambridge and Brighton Streets.

BTD and the Mayor's office engaged the community in a process prior to requesting the grant. In addition to the transformative project that this funding is for, the City recently did a major upgrade to the street lighting in the Lost Village. The Public Works Department, Street Lighting Division, installed 42 new acorn street lights in the Lost Village earlier this year.

Residents have repeatedly called for a new traffic pattern for the neighborhood streets – such as Brighton Street – so they would be resident-only traffic and prevent commuters from cutting through. That is already the case just down the road on the Somerville side where the streets are protected by a network of one-ways and such. It isn't certain if the grant funded project would also bring in that new street configuration.

## COVID-19 won't cancel the annual Thanksgiving meals for Sweeney

By Seth Daniel

Bob Sweeney and his dedicated crew of cooks and delivery folks haven't taken a break on Thanksgiving for 35 years – always preparing hot, fresh meals for seniors and vulnerable residents every Thanksgiving and delivering to their homes – but COVID seemed to be a barrier to all that this year, until he heard how great the need is.

Typically, Sweeney and his volunteers cook up about 30 turkeys, prep everything in the American Legion Hall with the help of the Boys & Girls Club members and then get it out to those in need with a network of delivery drivers that showed up faithfully every

Thanksgiving. However, with COVID guidelines, the American Legion Hall wasn't going to be available, and the volunteers wouldn't be able to help in the numbers they did before.

So, sad as it was, Sweeney thought 2020 might be a year off.

Then he heard the need.

"We would have way more than 50 people just on the Wednesday for the preparation and there was just no way it could happen with the guidelines," he said. "I figured we would take a year off and pick back up in 2021. Then I talked to Paul Sullivan (Ferrin Street) and Meghan Murray (Golden Age) and they told me there was a bigger need than ever. The I realized we had to figure out a way to do it."

Sweeney said they are looking at needing to put out more than 225 hot meals this year, the biggest ever by far – plus they have to do it in a socially distanced way. It won't be easy, but he said they are ready.

"This is the biggest year as it turns out," he said. "We can do it, but it won't be as easy. This year – the need is just tremendous."

They plan to work longer and use a kitchen at a private club in Stoneham and keep the numbers of volunteers down to 10. Using their network of delivery drivers, they are going to get the dinners out from the Golden Age Center on Thanksgiving. He said they think they have it covered, but might be able to use more delivery people.

"We might need volunteers on the delivery end of it and donations would be nice too," he said. "We do it all by donation and this is actually the first time I've ever asked for donations. Usually my friends and I just do it, but this year the numbers are over the top. It's more than 200 dinners."

Sweeney began the dinners in the early 1980s when he operated a fish market on Bunker Hill Street. He partners with many community leaders to keep the dinner going, including the late Patriot owner Jim Conway. Even after the store closed, he continued and hasn't stopped right through this year.

To volunteer or donate, contact Sweeney at (781) 526-9004.

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# NEIGHBORHOOD ROUND UP

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All the funds “e” inc. collects at the Emporium are used for its mission to teach children and youth the science driving the planet and the skills to make a difference. “e” inc. students have been helping the planet for over 15-years. Your gift shopping supports this local non-profit.

Visit the “e” inc. Emporium online at: [www.einc-action.org](http://www.einc-action.org).

Click on the Science Emporium on the “e” inc. home page and you’re there!

## WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

As temperatures drop, please help people in need. In Memory of John Collier, Sr., The Charlestown Coalition and Turn it Around are having a winter clothing drive. There will be a donation box at Monument Restaurant & Tavern, 251 Main St. until November 28th. Collecting: hats, scarves, gloves, socks, masks and toiletries. Please only make donations of brand new items.

## FREE FALL STORY AND ART FOR CHILDREN

The Charlestown Branch of the Boston Public Library and Essem Art Studio are happy to present a FREE Fall Story + Art series. Children’s Librarian, Mrs. Eileen Whittle will read a selected book and local artist, Sophia Moon, will present a family/sibling friendly art project that can be modified for little artists as young as 2 years old (with adult guidance). Every Wednesday at 10am, the installation will launch on the Facebook page of the Charlestown BPL, and on Essem Art Studio’s virtual Art Studio ([tv.essemartstudio.com](http://tv.essemartstudio.com)).

## FREE VIRTUAL ART STUDIO TRIAL

Essem Art Studio launches a virtual art studio with monthly subscriptions to continue sparking joy and cultivating creative power in little artists (age 2-10) and families with young children. The virtual art studio provides engag-

ing virtual art labs and resources for parents and families who are looking for ways to introduce more art and creative practices at home. Every week, new art labs and creative prompts are added to the growing online catalog. You can enjoy a free 7 day trial of the virtual art program now. Visit [essemartstudio.com](http://essemartstudio.com) for more information!

## MICRO HOCKEY IS BACK!

Charlestown Youth Hockey has opened registration for Micro Hockey, which is a Learn-to-Play Hockey program for boys and girls that are five to eight years of age, who have not yet played organized team hockey. Only basic skating skills are necessary. Younger players may qualify after a coach evaluation. For Discounted Equipment Package, you must register ASAP. The program will run on Saturdays from 10:15am to 11:45am. The first session will begin on November

14th and run until March. Space is limited. To register, go to [WWW.CYHA.COM](http://WWW.CYHA.COM) and click on the MICRO HOCKEY tab. Email questions to [MICROHOCKEY@CYHA.COM](mailto:MICROHOCKEY@CYHA.COM).

## LEARN TO SKATE!

Charlestown’s Learn-to-Skate program begins November 14th and runs to mid-March. The program is on Saturdays from 12:25pm to 1:15pm. It is open for children ages 3 and up. On ice instruction will be staffed by Charlestown Youth Hockey volunteers. For more information and to sign-up, visit the Charlestown Youth Hockey website at [WWW.CYHA.COM](http://WWW.CYHA.COM) and click on the Learn-to-Skate tab.

## HARVEST ON VINE FOOD PANTRY APPEAL

The Food Pantry has had a great need at this time as it has been very busy serving many more residents in town and providing more

frequent distributions. Donations of all non-perishable foods are greatly appreciated. Donations drops are: Food Pantry, 49 Vine St. (Hayes Square), The

Cooperative Bank - 201 Main St. or the Parish Center - 46 Winthrop St. (by the Training Field). Or donate by sending checks to: Harvest on Vine, Parish Center, 46 Winthrop St., Charlestown, MA

02129. They are also looking for volunteers to assist with distribution. For more information, call Tom

MacDonald 617-990-7314.

## THE ANCHOR IS OPEN!

The Anchor, in The Charlestown Navy Yard, is now open 7 days a week. The Anchor has an enhanced garden and waterfront patio, over 300 new pieces of furniture, brand new menu, rotating brews and curated wine and bubbly. With ample room and different styles of seating, social distancing is easy in its outdoor and breezy environment. Now offering a Sunday Jazz & Soul Brunch

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